



Office of Faculty Development

Pathology & Immunology



Dr. Suzanne (Suzie) Thibodeaux was born and raised in New Orleans, Louisiana. She began her undergraduate studies at Louisiana State University; however, upon being selected for a competitive scholarship, she transferred to Tulane University. During her time at Tulane, she worked as a research assistant at Tulane University School of Medicine in the lab of Dr. Tyler Curiel and coached competitive cheerleading at local schools. She graduated from Tulane University in 2005 with a B.S. in cell and molecular biology and a minor in history.

In August 2005, Suzie started her medical education at Tulane University, and life changed in more ways that she could have anticipated. Instead of August 29th, 2005 being the day of her very first exam of medical school, it became the day the levees broke. She found herself in another city with a few days' clothes frantically trying to learn of the status of separated family members and wondering what was next after Hurricane Katrina ravaged the place she called home. Amongst the unknowns was the status of her medical education and by extension potentially her entire future. The next day she attended a job fair and gained temporary employment with a local pathology group to help sustain the period of uncertainties. The various members of the pathology group took time and effort to share their knowledge and passion for pathology (in addition to spare scrubs), and her first experience with pathology from a perspective other than a patient left a lasting impression. Arrangements were made to relocate to Houston, TX in October 2005 to continue medical school for the remainder of the year, but this experience cemented the concept of pathology as a potential professional and personal career choice as she continued her medical education. She subsequently earned a Ph.D. in 2011 under the mentorship of Dr. Tyler Curiel, and earned her M.D. in 2013, both from the University of Texas Health Sciences Center in San Antonio.

She then moved to Philadelphia, PA where she saw, for the first time, leaves turn in the autumn. She completed residency in Clinical Pathology in 2016 followed by fellowship in Blood Banking and Transfusion Medicine in 2017, both at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. In August 2017, she joined the faculty of Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine as an Assistant Professor in the Division of Laboratory and Genomic Medicine in the Department of Pathology and Immunology. She serves as Medical Director of the Cellular Therapy Laboratory, Assistant Medical Director of Transfusion and Blood Banking Medicine, attending physician on the transfusion medicine service at Barnes-Jewish Hospital and Laboratory Medical Director Barnes-Jewish West County Hospital. She is actively involved in multidisciplinary and collaborative approaches to patient care, lab medicine and transfusion medicine education, and clinical and translational research.

Suzie and her husband Ernie have two sons. Coen (almost 9 years old) just started third grade, and Rex (almost 6 years old) just started kindergarten, both at Keysor Elementary School in Kirkwood, MO. Frequent family shenanigans include exploring parks around the area, playing board games, and discovering great food (especially ice cream). Suzie enjoys a variety of activities in her spare time in the name of enjoying life, including but certainly not limited to knitting, hiking, reading (including audiobooks and out loud to her sons), cooking and baking, and generally making herself and those in her general vicinity laugh (whether intentionally or unintentionally).

