presented while students are dissecting those structures in the lab. During second year, radiology lectures are interspersed throughout the curriculum so students learn to use images to identify disease processes.

A new radiology component was also added to the third year: Case Oriented Radiology Education (CORE), a computer-based program. Students read a fictional case, choose the appropriate imaging modality, and interpret the images. There are CORE cases during the eight-week rotations in surgery, inpatient medicine, pediatrics, and obst-gyn-women’s health.

More: Lewis’s hope is that students are “exposed to radiology in an interesting way.” Indeed, students have found the field so intriguing that more have chosen residencies in radiology since Lewis took over the electives—from an average of 6% a year in the 10 years before she became director to more than 8% a year in the almost 10 years since—60% higher than the national average of 5%. (A 10-year DMS average gives the truest picture, since the absolute numbers are so small that the percentage fluctuates from year to year.)

“Any time you interact with doctors that are enthusiastic and passionate about their work, . . . it has the potential to turn students on to something they might not have otherwise seen,” Anderson says. He’d previously planned to go into emergency medicine but is now applying to residencies in radiology. “I’m a convert,” he adds.

Amanda Thornton

IN V E S T I G A T O R

In this section, we highlight the human side of biomedical investigation, putting a few questions to a researcher at DMS-DHMC.

James Gorham, M.D., Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Pathology and of Microbiology and Immunology

Gorham studies autoimmune hepatitis in mice, looking at how T-helper cells develop, get into the liver, and release an inflammatory protein that causes liver damage. He’s also a board-certified clinical pathologist and spends 20% of his time on the transfusion service. He joined the DMS faculty in 1998.

How did you decide to become a researcher?
As a boy, I was always interested in science. In college I decided to pursue biomedical research. But I didn’t want to be just a “lab rat,” so I pursued my dream of getting an M.D. and a Ph.D.—at New York University School of Medicine—and, well, here I am. Clinical work is a great counterbalance to the pace and tenor of the lab.

What got you interested in immunology?
As I was completing my M.D. training at Bellevue, I realized that many patients suffered from ailments that had, at their core, an immune system that had “gone wrong”—being either underactive (as in AIDS) or overactive (as in autoimmune diseases). I decided that if my work was to make a difference in people’s lives, immunology was a good subject.

What do you ultimately want to discover?
The hows and whys of autoimmune disease.

What nonwork activities do you enjoy?
Tennis and downhill skiing. On most winter Sundays, I’m at the Dartmouth Skiway teaching 5-year-olds in the Team Spectra Program. I also love watching pro baseball and football; it’s easy this year to be an avid Red Sox and Patriots fan. I also like to read and spend time with my kids.

Finish this sentence: If I had more time I would . . .
Develop a better net game in tennis to complement my good serve.

What are your favorite books and movies?
I like to read mysteries and science fiction. Orson Scott Card is my current favorite sci-fi author. I like all sorts of movies. Some of my favorites are The Sting, the Godfather series, and L.A. Confidential.

Hollywood is doing a movie of your life. Who plays you?
Jeff Goldblum. He makes a convincing scientist-type, and he’s a lot taller than I am.

What about you would surprise most people?
I’m a pretty good trumpet player. I used to play in a five-piece klezmer band with another doc from DHMC, an M.D.-Ph.D. student, and two Dartmouth undergraduates. The undergrads got their diplomas and moved on, the other doc moved away, and, alas, we broke up. But, hey, so did the Beatles.

What is the greatest frustration in your work?
The decline of federal funding for biomedical research. Unless we restore funding soon, the research infrastructure that was so carefully cultivated over the last 30 years will decay; then major advances, leading to quantum leaps in the understanding and treatment of disease, will be a thing of the past.

Are there any common misconceptions about your field?
Many people confuse autoimmune hepatitis with viral hepatitis (like hepatitis C or B). “Hepatitis” refers to inflammation in the liver, which can be caused by infections, autoimmunity, toxins, alcohol, etc.

What is a talent you wish you had?
Painting. When I walk down the hall at DHMC and see the beautiful work by local artists, I’m awed at the talent. I can’t draw a straight line.