

**University of Pittsburgh
School of Medicine**

The Tenth Annual A. Julio Martinez Memorial Lecture

GUEST SPEAKER

David Ellison, MD, PhD
Professor of Pathology
Chair, Department of Pathology
Director of Neuropathology
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
Memphis, Tennessee

Molecular Classification of Pediatric Brain Tumors

Wednesday, February 18, 2015

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
Lecture Room 5, Scaife Hall
University of Pittsburgh
School of Medicine
3550 Terrace Street
Pittsburgh, PA



David Ellison is Chair of Pathology, Director of Neuropathology, and Joan and Roy Gignac Endowed Chair of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. After studying for an M.A. at the University of Oxford, he graduated in medicine from the University of Cambridge, UK. Clinical training in general medicine and neurology preceded a Wellcome Trust research fellowship at Harvard University / Massachusetts General Hospital, where neurotransmitter alterations in neurodegenerative diseases were the focus of his research. Encouraged by his studies in Boston to train in Neuropathology, he returned to England and positions in Oxford and Southampton. A developing academic interest in pediatric brain tumors led to appointment as Professor in Neuropathology at the University of Newcastle and subsequent recruitment to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Dr. Ellison's studies on medulloblastoma were the first to demonstrate the distinct biological behavior of WNT subgroup tumors, and he subsequently developed stratification schemes and diagnostic approaches for the molecular classification of the disease. Current research interests surround the molecular classification of low-grade gliomas and ependymomas and the development of clinical genomics. Dr. Ellison is an editor of two neuropathology textbooks: Greenfield's Neuropathology and Neuropathology, a reference text of CNS pathology, and he is a senior advisor to the editorial team that is updating the current WHO classification of CNS tumors.