

what's the buzz?

Self-Reported News from the School of Medicine Community

GRANTS &

CONTRACTS



Congratulations to our very productive faculty on their recent grants and contracts!



Cynthia Bearer, MD, PhD

► **Cynthia Bearer, MD, PhD**, the Mary Gray Cobey Endowed Professor, Department of Pediatrics, received a two-year, \$275,000 grant from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) for “The Role of Lipid Rafts in Bilirubin Neurotoxicity.”

► **Thomas Blanpied, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Physiology, received a one-year, \$53,900 administrative supplement from the National Institute of Mental Health for “Internal Dynamics of the Postsynaptic Density.”

The supplement will support an upcoming joint US/Japan workshop awarded under an NIH program entitled the US–Japan Brain Research Cooperative Program (BRCP). The meet-

ing is titled “Current Trends and Future Directions of Synaptic Plasticity Research,” and will be held in the SMC Campus Center June 22–25. Half of the workshop’s invited participants will come from the United States and half from Japan.

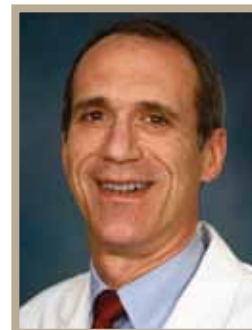
► **Rebecca Brotman, PhD, MPH**, Assistant Professor of Epidemiology & Public Health, Institute for Genome Sciences, received a five-year, \$3,653,629 award from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) for “Lubricant Use and the Vaginal Microbiome.” The project began



Rebecca Brotman, PhD, MPH



Thomas Blanpied, PhD



Michael Donnenberg, MD

in February. **Jacques Ravel, PhD**, Professor of Microbiology & Immunology and Associate Director, Institute for Genome Sciences; **Fauzia Vandermeer, MD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine; and **Katrina Mark, MD**, Instructor, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, all from the School of Medicine; and **Xin He, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Biostatistics, University of Maryland College Park, are co-investigators on this project.

► **Michael Donnenberg, MD**, Professor, Department of Medicine, received a two-year, \$302,684 grant from the National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) for “Secretin Architecture.”

► **Ricardo Feldman, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, received the first annual John Barranger Memorial Research Grant, worth \$100,000, from the Children’s Gaucher Research Fund for “A Novel iPSC-Based System to Elucidate the Molecular Mechanisms Leading to Neuronopathic Gaucher Disease.”

► **Linda Horn, PT, DScPT, MHS, GCS, NCS**, Assistant Professor and DPT Program Director for Academic Affairs, and **Laurie Neely, DPT**, Assistant Professor, both from the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, along with **Cherokee Layson-Wolf, PharmD, CGP, BCACP, FAPhA**, Associate Professor, School of Pharmacy, have received funding for their IPE Seed Grant proposal “Improving the Health of Homeless Individuals Diagnosed with Diabetes Mellitus through Interprofessional Student Activities.”



Ricardo Feldman, PhD

GRANTS & CONTRACTS *continued*



Emmanuel Mongodin, PhD

► **Emmanuel Mongodin, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Microbiology & Immunology, Institute for Genome Sciences, is part of a joint team—led by **Amy Sapkota, PhD** from the University of Maryland School of Public Health at College Park and the Center for Health-Related Informatics and Bioimaging (CHIB)—that was awarded a four-year, \$10 million grant from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture for a new Center of Excellence dedicated to Sustainable Water Reuse.

► **Arthur Nam, MD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery, and **Richard Pierson, III, MD**, Professor of Surgery and Director of Clinical Research, Program in Lung Healing, were awarded a \$35,000 grant by the Living Legacy Foundation to study “Allotransplantation of Vascularized Thymus-Sternal Composite Tissue in Baboons.” The Living Legacy Foundation is administered by the Department of Surgery. Applications are reviewed by a committee consisting of four internal and three extramural senior academicians representing medicine, surgery, and basic science disciplines.



Richard Pierson, III, MD

► **Mark Rizzo, PhD**, Associate Professor, and **W. Gil Wier, PhD**, Professor, both from the Department of Physiology, received a four-year, \$1,543,438, multi-PI award from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) for “Creation of Optical Biosensor Mice for Longitudinal Studies of Vascular Function.”

► **Sanford Stass, MD**, Professor and Chair, Department of Pathology, was awarded a five-year, \$2.25 million U24 from NCI for “University of Maryland, Baltimore Biomarker Reference Laboratory.”

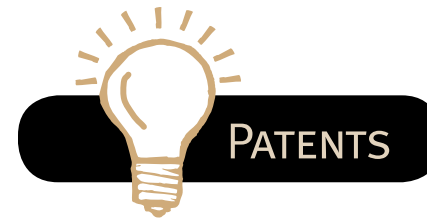


Mark Rizzo, PhD



Sanford Stass, MD

► **Elizabeth Woytowicz**, PhD Student, Department of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science, was awarded a \$5000 Doctoral Student Research Grant from the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) Foundation for her proposal “Interlimb Coordination of Complementary Bilateral Arm Movements in Young and Old Individuals.”



We applaud the innovators among us!



Rosangela Mezghanni, PhD

► **Rosangela Mezghanni, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, and **Marcelo Szein, MD**, Professor of Pediatrics, both from the Center for Vaccine Development and the Institute for Global Health, and former SOM Professor **Alessio Fasano, MD**, now Professor at the Massachusetts General Hospital for Children, were issued a U.S. Patent for “A Multicellular Organotypic Model of Intestinal Mucosa (Patent #9,200,258)” in December 2015. This patent discloses a method for preparation of a multi-cellular three-dimensional model, which includes fibroblasts, endothelial cells, lymphocytes and epithelial cells. This model represents an important tool in the development and evaluation of new oral drugs and vaccine candidates. This model will enable future studies aiming to model diseases and therapeutics of the intestine and complement insights gained from other model organisms.

► **Richard Thompson, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology and **Graham Franke, MS-II**, were among the co-inventors on “Bioluminescent Metal Ion Assay,” which was awarded US Patent #9,193,990 B2 on November 24, 2015.



Richard Thompson, PhD



PUBLICATIONS

Hats off to those who have been published!



Joshua Abzug, MD

► **Joshua Abzug, MD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Orthopaedics, co-authored the following book chapters for American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons Instructional Course Lectures, Volume 65: “Avoiding Errors in the Management of Pediatric Polytrauma Patients” “Current Strategies for the Management of Pediatric Supracondylar Humerus Fractures: Tips and Techniques for Successful Closed Treatment”; “Open Reduction Techniques for Supracondylar Humerus Fractures in Children”; “The Difficult Supracondylar Humerus Fracture: Flexion-Type Injuries”; “Transphyseal Distal Humerus Fracture”; “Common Errors in the Management of Pediatric Supracondylar Humerus Fractures and Lateral Condyle Fractures”; and “Pediatric Monteggia Fracture-Dislocations: Avoiding Problems and Managing Complications.”

► **Maureen Black, PhD**, the John A. Scholl, MD, and Mary Louise Scholl, MD, Professor of Pediatrics, Departments of Pediatrics and Epidemiology & Public Health, was among the co-authors on “Maternal Mental Health Symptoms are Positively Related to Emotional and Restrained Eating Attitudes in a Statewide Sample of WIC Participants” in *Maternal and Child Nutrition*, 2016; Feb 22 [Epub ahead of print].

► **Rong Chen, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, was among the co-authors on “Altered Cerebellar White Matter Integrity in Patients with Mild Traumatic Brain Injury in the Acute Stage” in *PLoS One*, 2016 Mar 11;11(3):e0151489 [eCollection 2016].

► **Natalie Davis, MD, MMSc**, Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, was the senior author on “Routine Fecal Occult Blood Testing Does Not Predict Necrotizing Enterocolitis in Very Low Birth Weight Neonates” in *Journal of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine*, 2016, Volume 9, issue 1.

► **Vasken Dilsizian, MD**, Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, authored an Editorial Comment entitled “Transition From



Maureen Black, PhD

SPECT to PET Myocardial Perfusion Imaging: A Desirable Change in Nuclear Cardiology to Approach Perfection” in *Journal of Nuclear Cardiology*, 2016 Jun;23(3):337-8.



Ricardo Feldman, PhD

► **Ricardo Feldman, PhD**, Associate Professor, and **Ola Awad, PhD**, Research Associate, both from the Department of Microbiology & Immunology, along with **Paul Fishman, MD, PhD**, Professor, Department of Neurology, were among the co-authors on “A Peptide-Linked Recombinant Glucocerebrosidase for Targeted Neuronal Delivery: Design, Production, and Assessment” in *Journal of Biotechnology*, 2016 Mar 10;221:1-12. Dr. Feldman and **Leelamma Panicker**, Research Associate, were among the co-authors on “Differential Gene Expression in Human, Murine, and Cell Line-Derived Macrophages Upon Polarization” in *Experimental Cell Research*, 2015 Oct 20.



Steven Fisher, MD

► **Steven Fisher, MD**, Professor, Department of Medicine, had a summary of his research on “Novel Models to Study Effect of High-Altitude Hypoxic Exposure and Placental Insufficiency on Fetal Oxygen Metabolism and Congenital Heart Defects” highlighted on the *Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs* website in support of American Heart Month in February. This important work was funded by the U.S. Department of Defense Peer-Reviewed Medical Research Program, and can be found at <http://cdmrp.army.mil>.

► **Aletta Frazier, MD**, Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, was the author of “Two Classic Patterns of Pediatric Renal Neoplasia” in *Radiographics*, 2016 Mar-Apr;36(2):498.

► **Peter Gorman, MD**, Associate Professor of Neurology; **Kevin Chen, PhD**, Associate Professor of Family & Community Medicine; and **Brian Jackson, LAc**,



Vasken Dilsizian, MD

PUBLICATIONS *continued*



Peter Gorman, MD

Acupuncturist, all from the Center for Integrative Medicine, were among the co-authors on “Auricular Acupuncture for Spinal Cord Injury Related Neuropathic Pain: A Pilot Controlled Clinical Trial” in *Journal of Spinal Cord Medicine*, 2016 Feb 15:1-7 [Epub ahead of print].

► **Petr Hausner, MD, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, wrote the chapter “Adoptive Cellular Immunotherapy of Cancer” in the textbook *Oncologic Immunology*, published in the Czech language by MF (Prague, Czech Republic) in 2015.

► **Fu (Peter) Hu, PhD**, Associate Professor, Departments of Anesthesiology and Surgery; **Shiming Yang, PhD**, Research Associate, Department of Anesthesiology; **Stephen Bartlett, MD**, the Peter Angelos Distinguished Professor & Chair, Department of Surgery; **Thomas Scalea, MD**, the Francis X. Kelly Professor in Trauma Surgery and Director, Program in Trauma; and **Deborah Stein, MD, MPH**, the R Adams Cowley Professor in Shock and Trauma, Department of Surgery, were among the co-authors on “Automated Continuous Vital Signs Predict Use of Uncrossed Match Blood (UnXRBC) and Massive Transfusion (MT) Following Trauma” in *Journal of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery*, 2016 Jun;80(6):897-906.



Stephen Bartlett, MD

► **Hong Kim, MD, MPH**, Assistant Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, was lead author on “Reversal of Opioid-Induced Ventilatory Depression Using Low-Dose Naloxone (0.04 Mg): A Case Series” in *The Journal of Medical Toxicology*, 2016 Mar;12(1):107-10.

► **Erik Lillehoj, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics, was among the co-authors on “*Pseudomonas Aeruginosa* Stimulates Tyrosine Phosphorylation of and TLR5 Association with the MUC1 Cytoplasmic Tail through EGFR Activation” in *Inflammation Research*, 2016 Mar;65(3):225-33.



Erik Lillehoj, PhD



Amal Mattu, MD

► **Amal Mattu, MD**, Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, was among the co-authors on “The Electrocardiogram in the ACS Patient: High-Risk Electrocardiographic Presentations Lacking Anatomically Oriented ST-Segment Elevation” in *The American Journal of Emergency Medicine*, 2016 Mar;34(3):611-7. In this article, Dr. Mattu and his colleagues from the University of Virginia School of Medicine and Madison County EMS in Virginia reviewed five electrocardiographic patterns (“STEMI equivalents”) caused by occlusion of an epicardial coronary artery, which threatens the left ventricle and thus heightens the risk of poor patient outcome without prompt recognition and intervention.

► **Dirk Mayer, Dr rer nat**, Associate Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, was among the co-authors on “Brain Metabolite Levels in Recently Sober Individuals with Alcohol Use Disorder: Relation to Drinking Variables and Relapse” in *Psychiatry Research*, 2016 Apr 30;250:42-9, and “Hyperpolarized 13 C-lactate to 13 C-bicarbonate Ratio as a Biomarker for Monitoring the Acute Response of Anti-vascular Endothelial Growth Factor (anti-VEGF) Treatment” in *NMR Biomedicine*, 2016 May;29(5):650-9.



Dirk Mayer, Dr rer nat



Gaurav Jindal, MD

► **Timothy Miller, MD**, Assistant Professor; **Gaurav Jindal, MD**, Assistant Professor; and **Dheeraj Gandhi, MBBS**, Professor, all from the Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, were among the co-authors on “Use of Pipeline Flex is Associated with Reduced Fluoroscopy Time, Procedure Time, and Technical Failure Compared with the First-generation Pipeline Embolization Device” in *Journal of Neurointerventional Surgery*, 2016 Mar 9 [Epub ahead of print].

► **Fred Moeslein, MD, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, was among

PUBLICATIONS *continued*



Fred Moeslein, MD, PhD

the co-authors on “Prognostic Significance of Neutrophil-Lymphocyte Ratio and Platelet-Lymphocyte Ratio in Patients Treated with Selective Internal Radiation Therapy” in *Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology*, 2016 Apr;7(2):269-77.

► **Darren Perkins, PhD**, Research Associate, and **Stefanie Vogel, PhD**, Professor, both from the Department of Microbiology & Immunology, co-authored several invited reviews, including “Inflammation: Species-Specific TLR Signaling—Insight Into Human Disease” in *Nature Reviews: Rheumatology*, 2016 Mar 23;12(4):198-200; “Epigenetic Mechanisms Governing Innate Inflammatory Responses” in *Journal of Interferon & Cytokine Research*, and a commentary in *Nature Reviews Rheumatology*.



Darren Perkins, PhD



Jacques Ravel, PhD

► **Jacques Ravel, PhD**, Professor of Microbiology & Immunology & Associate Director, and **Bing MA, PhD**, Research Associate, both from the Institute for Genome Sciences, were among the co-authors on “Functional Interactions of Archaea, Bacteria, and Viruses in a Hypersaline Endolithic Community” in *Environmental Microbiology*, 2016 Feb 23 [Epub ahead of print].

► **William Rollow, MD**, Assistant Professor of Family & Community Medicine and Director of Clinical Services, Center for Integrative Medicine, co-authored “Achieving Value in Primary Care: The Primary Care Value Model” in *Annals of Family Medicine*, 2016 Mar;14(2):159-65.

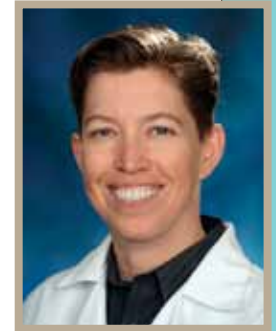
► **Thomas Scalea, MD**, the Francis X. Kelly Professor in Trauma Surgery and Director, Program in Trauma; and **Deborah Stein, MD, MPH**, the R Adams Cowley Professor in Shock and Trauma, Depart-



Thomas Scalea, MD

ment of Surgery, along with the PROPPR Study Group, were among the co-authors on “Damage-Control Resuscitation and Emergency Laparotomy: Findings From the PROPPR Study” in *Journal of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery*, 2016 Apr;80(4):568-575. Dr. Stein and **Fu (Peter) Hu, PhD**, Associate Professor, Departments of Anesthesiology and Surgery were among the co-authors on “The Role of Cardiac Troponin I in Prognostication of Patients with Isolated Severe Traumatic Brain Injury” in *Journal of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery*, 2016 Mar;80(3):477-83.

► **Kathirkama Shanmuganathan, MBBS**, Professor; **Alexis Boscak, MD**, Assistant Professor; **Clint Sliker, MD**, Associate Professor; **Uttam Bodanapally, MBBS**, Assistant Professor; **Krystal Archer-Arroyo, MD**, Assistant Professor; **Lisa Miller, MD**, Assistant Professor; **Thorsten Fleiter, MD**, Associate Professor; and **Stuart Mirvis, MD**, Professor, all from the Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, were among the co-authors on “Diagnostic Accuracy of Triple-Contrast Multi-detector Computed Tomography for Detection of Penetrating Gastrointestinal Injury: A Prospective Study” in *European Radiology*, 2016 Mar 16 [Epub ahead of print].



Alexis Boscak, MD



Taehoon Shin, PhD

► **Taehoon Shin, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, was among the co-authors on “CNR Improvement of MP2RAGE from Slice Encoding Directional Acceleration” in *Magnetic Resonance Imaging*, 2016 Mar 12 [Epub ahead of print].

► **Kari Ann Shirey, PhD**, Assistant Professor; **Mira Patel, PhD**, Post-doctoral Fellow; **Jorge Blanco, PhD**, Adjunct Associate Professor; and **Stephanie Vogel, PhD**, Professor, all from the Department of Microbiology & Immunology, were among the co-authors on “Novel Strategies for Targeting Innate Immune Responses to Influenza” in *Mucosal Immunology*, 2016; Jan 27 [Epub ahead of print].



Kari Ann Shirey, PhD

PUBLICATIONS *continued*

► **Douglas Sward, MD**, Clinical Assistant Professor; **Kinjal Sethuraman, MD, MPH**, Assistant Professor; and **Robert Rosenthal, MD**, Professor, all from the Department of Emergency Medicine, were among the co-authors on “Carbon Monoxide and ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction: Case Reports” in *Undersea and Hyperbaric Medicine*, 2016 Jan-Feb;43(1):63-9.



Sharon Tennant, PhD

► **Sharon Tennant, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Medicine, and **Marcela Pasetti, PhD**, Professor of Pediatrics, both from the Center for Vaccine Development and the Institute for Global Health, were co-authors on “Highlights of the 8th International Conference on Vaccines for Enteric Diseases: The Scottish Encounter to Defeat Diarrheal Diseases” in *Clinical and Vaccine Immunology*, 2016 Apr 4;23(4):272-81. Dr. Pasetti was also the author of “Springtime for CVI” in *Clinical and Vaccine Immunology*, 2016 Apr 4;23(4):247.

► **Hervé Tettelin, PhD**, Associate Professor of Microbiology & Immunology, Institute for

Genome Sciences, was among the co-authors on “Genome Stability of *Propionibacterium acnes*: A Comprehensive Study of Indels and Homopolymeric Tracts” in *Scientific Reports*, 2016 Feb 9;6:20662.

► **Tonya Webb, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, was among the co-authors on “Human Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma–Associated Semaphorin 4D Induces Expansion of Myeloid-Derived Suppressor Cells” in *The Journal of Immunology*, 2016 Feb;196(3):1419-1429.



Tonya Webb, PhD

► **Chris Wells, PT, PhD, CCS, ATC**, Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science, was a contributing author on “Optimizing Function and Physical Activity Post Trauma: Overcoming System and



Hervé Tettelin, PhD

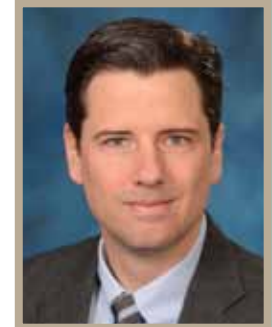


Chris Wells, PT, PhD, CCS, ATC

Toxicology (Philadelphia). They were reacting to a case description in the October issue of the same journal, in which a patient’s uvular edema was linked to MDMA and treated with icatibant. Drs. Wilkerson and Hayes advised caution about the assumption that the drug induced the angioedema and about the use of such an expensive medication when a causative link is questionable.

Patient Challenges” in *International Journal of Orthopedic and Trauma Nursing*, 2015 Nov;19(4):194-206. She was also among the co-authors on “Length of Hospital Stay and Discharge Disposition in Older Trauma Patients” in *Geriatric Nursing*, 2015;36(2 Suppl):S3-9.

► **R. Gentry Wilkerson, MD**, Assistant Professor, and **Bryan Hayes, PharmD**, Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, published a letter in the March issue of *Clinical*



R. Gentry Wilkerson, MD

► **Michael Witting, MD, MS**, Associate Professor, and **Siamak Moayedi, MD, CDEM**, Assistant Professor, both from the Department of Emergency Medicine, were among the co-authors on “Advanced Intravenous Access: Technique Choices, Pain Scores, and Failure Rates in a Local Registry” in *The American Journal of Emergency Medicine*, 2016 Mar;34(3):553-7. Their investigation, supported by a grant from the Maryland Emergency Medicine Network, found that external jugular vein cannulation was established quicker, with fewer skin punctures and a lower rate of post-insertion failures, than ultrasound-guided cannulation of a peripheral vein. Their co-authors were **Zhaoxin Yang, MD**, Class of 2016, then a student, and **Cheryll Mack, MPA, BS, RN**, who worked in the adult emergency department at the University of Maryland Medical Center at the time of the study.



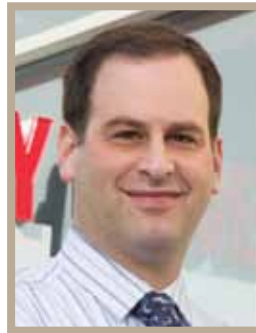
Michael Witting, MD, MS



Kudos to our colleagues who are experts in their fields and give their all to represent the School of Medicine!

► **Maureen Black, PhD**, the John A. Scholl, MD, and Mary Louise Scholl, MD, Professor of Pediatrics, Departments of Pediatrics and Epidemiology & Public Health, was invited to present, “Early Child Development: Assessing Parent-Child Interaction and Caregiving Context” at the All Children Thriving conference at the African Academy of Sciences in Nairobi, Kenya, on February 22.

► **Ken Butler, DO**, Associate Professor, and **Ben Lawner, DO, MS, EMT-P**, Assistant Professor, both from the Department of Emergency Medicine, presented a full-day emergency airway management course for prehospital care providers on February 3. The course was sponsored and organized by Bradford County Emergency Services in Florida and funded in part by an educational grant from the Florida Department of Health. The 22 participants included emergency medical technicians, paramedic trainers, and quality assurance personnel from emergency medical services programs in Jacksonville and Gainesville, FL, who traveled to Baltimore for the training. The didactic portion of the course was followed by a hands-on session in the Anatomy Board lab. Dr. Lawner and **Kevin Seaman, MD**, Executive Director, Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems, were panelists at “EMS Today: The JEMS Conference and Exhibition,” which was held in Baltimore in late February. Their topic was the emerging public health threat of designer drugs such as MDMA (Ecstasy) at music festivals. Dr. Lawner was also a faculty member for the 23rd Annual Conference of the National Collegiate Emergency Medical Services Foundation in Philadelphia in late February, which more than 1200 college-based EMS providers attended. Dr. Lawner led a workshop on “Delirium, Designer Drugs, and Teen Death: Electronic Dance Music Festivals,” which focused on patient encounters during Moonrise Festivals at Pimlico Race Course. He also narrated scenarios for a trauma skills competition and led a skills lab on resuscitation after cardiac arrest. In a roundtable discussion, Dr. Lawner reviewed recent articles on resuscitation, airway management, and trauma care, and he participated as a panelist in the final plenary session, describing how he combines his



Benjamin Lawner, DO, MS, EMT-P

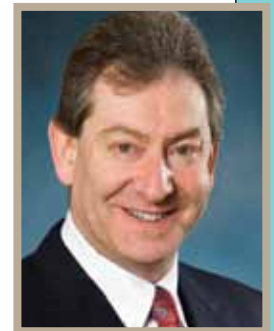
passion for EMS with his career in emergency medicine. In addition to his appointment on the emergency medicine faculty, Dr. Lawner is the Deputy Medical Director for the Baltimore City Fire Department and provides medical oversight to several paramedic programs. Dr.

Lawner and **R. Gentry Wilkerson, MD**, Assistant Professor, and **Jenny Guyther, MD**, Instructor, both also from the Department of Emergency Medicine, were faculty members for the national paramedic refresher course hosted by UMBC in late February. The respective titles of their lectures were “Resuscitation Review: Articles You’ve Got to Know!”; “Disaster Response/Preparedness”; and “Pediatrics.” More than 50 veteran prehospital care providers from across the country earned continuing education certificates at this four-day event.

► **Natalie Davis, MD, MMSc**, Assistant Professor, and **Colleen Hughes Driscoll, MD**, Assistant Professor, both from the Department of Pediatrics, organized the 8th Annual Baltimore Washington Virginia Perinatal Consortium (BWVPC) conference, held February 23–24 at the Airlie Convention Center in Warrenton, VA. This conference was started by **Cynthia Bearer, MD, PhD**, the Mary Gray Cobey Professor of Neonatology, Department of Pediatrics. The conference brings together faculty and fellows from the seven regional academic Neonatology fellowship programs and provides a forum for trainees and junior faculty to present their research, practice moderating sessions, as well as network and collaborate with other researchers in the region.

► **Stephen Davis, MBBS**, Professor & Chair; **Matthew Weir, MD**, Professor; **Emerson Wickwire, PhD, ABPP, CBSM, FAASM**, Assistant Professor; **Steven Prior, PhD**, Assistant Professor; **Rana Malek, MD**, Assistant Professor; **Lina Melhem, MD**, Clinical Assistant Professor; **Braxton Mitchell, Jr., PhD, MPH**, Professor; **Kashif Munir, MD**, Assistant Professor; **Toni Pollin, PhD**, Associate Professor; and **Ava Port, MD**, Assistant Professor, all from the Department of Medicine, participated as either a lecturer or roundtable discussant at the American Diabetes Association’s 2nd Annual Diabetes Research Summit, held at the Sheppard Pratt Conference Center in Towson on March 5.

► **Martin Flajnik, PhD**, Professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, presented “The Origins of the Adaptive Immune Response” at the Hopkins Marine Station of Stanford University in Pacific Grove, CA in January.



Stephen Davis, MBBS

EVENTS, LECTURES & WORKSHOPS *continued*



► **Janine Good, MD**, Associate Professor, Department of Neurology, and **David Stewart, MD**, Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Family & Community Medicine, recently completed training and certification from the Population Health Academy at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia. The Population Health Academy is a 40-hour, continuing education credit (CME, CNE) program that provides an overview of basic concepts in population health. The five-day series is designed for health system leaders and key administrators seeking a comprehensive introduction to the subject. Through case studies and real-life workplace applications, participants in the Population Health Academy review and analyze key areas of Population Health, including U.S. Health Care Organization and Administration; Overview of Population Health; Healthcare Quality and Safety; Health Economics and Population Health; Data Analytics; and Prevention and Chronic Disease Management.

► **Rao Gullapalli, PhD**, Professor, and **Chandler Sours, PhD**, Graduate Student, both from the Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, along with **David Seminowicz, PhD**, Assistant Professor, School of Dentistry, and **Luiz Pessoa, PhD**, Professor, University of Maryland, College Park, and several of Dr. Gullapalli's students, hosted a one-day Maryland Neuroimaging Retreat on April 12 in the SMC Campus Center. This is the fourth year that Dr. Gullapalli has organized the event. This year's theme was "Neuroimaging in the Era of Big Data." The goal of the retreat was to bring together Baltimore-Washington area neuroimaging researchers, students and post docs. The keynote speaker was Dr. Paul Thompson, who directs the ENIGMA Center for Worldwide Medicine, Imaging & Genomics. In addition to Dr. Thompson, nine other well-known neuroimaging specialists and two selected post docs presented their research, and about twenty poster presentations were highlighted.

► **Sandra Quezada, MD, MS**, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, gave a presentation on Colorectal Cancer Screening in Spanish to the Latino population in downtown Baltimore. The March 5 presentation was given in the High-



Sandra Quezada, MD, MS

landtown area, in collaboration with the Baltimore City Cancer Prevention program.

► **William Regine, MD**, Professor and the Isadore & Fannie Schneider Foxman Chair, Department of Radiation Oncology, presented "Proton Radiotherapy Clinical Trials: Challenges and Hope for the Future" as part of the Visiting Professor Lecture Series in the Department of Radiation Oncology at Medstar Georgetown University Hospital, Washington, DC, on February 26.



William Regine, MD



Deborah Stein, MD, MPH

► **Deborah Stein, MD, MPH**, the R Adams Cowley Professor in Shock and Trauma, Department of Surgery, presented Grand Rounds for the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma (AAST) on March 16, via webcam from the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center's Simulation Center. Attendees included the membership of the AAST and fellowship programs nationwide, including Shock Trauma faculty and fellows. The topic of her talk was "Neuro-Trauma and Neuro-Critical Care: Update 2016."

► **Samuel Tisherman, MD**, Professor of Surgery and Director of the Division of Critical Care and Trauma Education, Program in Trauma, presented the Gelfand Lecture, sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh Chapter of Phi Delta Epsilon, on April 2. His topic was "Saving Dying Trauma Patients: The Big Chill."

► **Stefanie Vogel, PhD**, Professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, was invited to the 6th Lorne Infection and Immunity Conference in Lorne, Australia, where she presented work from her lab entitled "Novel Strategies for Targeting Innate Immune Responses to Influenza."

► **Emerson Wickwire, PhD, ABPP, CBSM, FAASM**, Assistant Professor, Departments of Psychiatry and Medicine, presented a webinar for the Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Consortium on March 10. The presentation, co-authored with Dr. Michael Yochelson, Medical Director of the National Rehabilitation Hospital, was entitled "Sleep Disorders and Concussion."



Stefanie Vogel, PhD

HONORS

& AWARDS



Congratulations to the following who have received honors!



Carissa Baker-Smith, MD

► **Carissa Baker-Smith, MD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, has been accepted into the Program to Increase Diversity in Cardiovascular Health Related Research (PRIDE-CVD), which will take place at SUNY Downstate Medical Center in New York in July.

► **Cherisse Berry, MD**, Clinical Instructor Fellow, Department of Surgery, was awarded the 2016 Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma (EAST) Trauma Research Scholarship for “Prospective Evaluation of Cerebral Autoregulation and Cerebral Vasospasm in Patients with Traumatic Brain Injury Using Near-Infrared Spectroscopy (NIRS).”

► **Laura Buchanan, MD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery, was elected by the medical students in the Class of 2016 to receive the Student Council Award for Best Clinical Faculty. The award was presented at their graduation on May 19.

► **Colleen Hughes Driscoll, MD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, was honored on March 4 with the 2016 Intelligent Health Association Award for Improving Patient Care and Health Delivery. Dr. Driscoll led the University of Maryland Medical Center team that transitioned to wireless technology for resuscitation communication and patient alarms in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. The team also won the Intelligent Health Association Grand Award. Dr. Driscoll received the award at the 2016 Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society Conference in Las Vegas.



Colleen Hughes Driscoll, MD

► **David Gens, MD**, Professor, Department of Surgery, was elected by the medical students in the Class of 2016 to receive the Golden Apple Award for Best Clinical Faculty. The award was presented at their graduation on May 19.

► **Elizabeth Parker, PhD, RD**, Assistant Professor of Family & Community Medicine and Researcher, Center for Integrative Medicine, was awarded the “Recognized Young Dietitian of the Year 2016” by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics on March 18.

► **Samuel Tisherman, MD**, Professor, Department of Surgery, was honored with the Society of Critical Care Medicine (SCCM)



Samuel Tisherman, MD

Distinguished Service Award, which recognizes SCCM members who have made exceptional leadership contributions that have furthered the vision and mission of SCCM over a period of time.

► The following faculty in the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science received recognition at the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) annual Combined Sections Meeting (CSM) in Anaheim, CA, in February: **Linda Horn, PT, DScPT, MHS, GCS, NCS**,

Director of Academic Affairs and Assistant Professor, as a Geriatric Certified Specialist; **Sandy McCombe Waller, PT, PhD, MS, NCS**, Director for Educational Affairs and Associate Professor, as a Clinical Specialist by the Neurologic Specialty Council; and **Roy Film, PT, DPT, OCS, FAAOMPT**, Assistant Professor, at the Ceremony for Clinical Specialists for his membership on the Specialization Academy of Content Experts (SACE).



Roy Film, MPT, DPT, OCS, FAAOMPT



Primary Care Day

We applaud our colleagues on their recent appointments!

- ▶ **Cherisse Berry, MD**, Clinical Instructor Fellow, Department of Surgery, has been appointed to the Society of Black Academic Surgeons, Research and Education Committee's Shock Trauma Center Research Committee.
- ▶ **William Blackwelder, PhD**, Professor of Medicine, Center for Vaccine Development and Institute for Global Health, has been elected a Fellow in the Society for Clinical Trials.



Samuel Galvagno, DO, PhD

▶ **Samuel Galvagno, DO, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Anesthesiology, has been named a Fellow of the American College of Critical Care Medicine (ACCM). Fellows must make significant contributions to the perception, delivery, or management of the critically ill in the three areas of program development, scholarly contributions, and leadership.

▶ **Myron Levine MD, DTPH**, the Simon and Bessie Grollman Distinguished Professor of Medicine and Associate Dean for Global Health, Vaccinology and Infectious Diseases, Center for Vaccine

Development and Institute for Global Health, has been selected as a member of the World Health Organization's Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization (SAGE) Working Group on Typhoid Vaccines.

- ▶ **Terrence Mulligan, DO, MPH**, Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, was elected to the Board of Directors of the American Academy of Emergency Medicine at the organization's 22nd Annual Scientific Assembly, held in Las Vegas in late February. He also chairs the organization's International Emergency Medicine Committee and its Government Affairs Committee.



Edward Sausville, MD, PhD

▶ **Edward Sausville, MD, PhD**, Professor, Department of Medicine, has been appointed to the Editorial Board for *Cancer Research* by The American Association of Cancer Research.

▶ **Samuel Tisherman, MD**, Professor, Department of Surgery, has been appointed to the Society of Critical Care Medicine Council.



Myron Levine, MD, DTPH

Rain could not put a damper on the Primary Care Track's jubilation on April 28. In celebration of its first graduating class and the program's many achievements throughout its five-year history, the first annual Primary Care Day was held at historic Davidge Hall.

The event brought together students, faculty, and administration to congratulate the first graduating class from the Primary Care track and to recognize the successful growth of the program. Among the attendees were the directors of the Maryland AHECs, which aid the program in placing Primary Care Track students in their first year in an 80-hour rotation with a preceptor in rural Maryland. This is one of two preceptor opportunities within the program, with students also being assigned a local preceptor whom they shadow once per month during their regular academic year.

In addition, representatives from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) were there. Both organizations have been key players in supporting the efforts of the Primary Care Track. The event also included messages from the Primary Care Track's Course Masters: **Drs. Richard Colgan** (Family & Community Medicine), **Mozella Williams** (Family & Community Medicine), **Adam Spanier** (Pediatrics), and **Nikkita Southall** (Internal Medicine).

Keynote speaker **Winston Liaw, MD, MPH**, Medical Director for the Robert Graham Center for Policy Studies in Family Medicine and Primary Care, spoke of the changing technology of our era and what this means to Primary Care.

Thirty-five students from the University of Maryland School of Medicine's Class of 2016 successfully completed this extracurricular program. Out of these students, two thirds of them have gone on to match into Primary Care specialties, an exciting achievement for the program. There are now 193 students, approximately one third of the student body, enrolled in the PCT in years one through four.

Graduating fourth-year PCT students were required to write a capstone project to reflect on their time in the Primary Care Track. **Melanie Bryant-Connah**, who penned the select essay for this year, shared her moving experience and spoke about the difference it made to participate in this extracurricular throughout her time in medical school. Her essay was selected for publication by the Maryland Academy of Family Physicians (mdafp.org).



Primary Care Track course leaders Drs. Nikkita Southall, Mozella Williams, Richard Colgan, Adam Spanier and Coordinator Ms. Barbara Perez (L-R, in the front row) are joined by some of the students in the Primary Care Track program, in front of Davidge Hall.



The Class of 2016 received their **doctoral hoods** in a special graduation ceremony at the Hippodrome Theater on May 19. Hundreds of family, friends and faculty were there to cheer on the 159 graduates as they officially transitioned from students to doctors. “You have been trained at a top-tier medical institution. You have been trained by a dedicated faculty that is amongst the very best in the world,” said **E. Albert Reece, MD, PhD, MBA**, Vice President for Medical Affairs, University of Maryland, and the John Z. and Akiko K. Bowers Distinguished Professor and Dean, University of Maryland School of Medicine. “Therefore, in the words of philosopher Ralph Waldo Emerson, go confidently in the direction of your dreams. You are ready.”



“I feel inspired to be part of this group who will serve our patients, champion our communities, and tackle our society’s injustices.”

Class President **Edgar Petras, MD**, and his classmates seemed to agree. “We’re going from ‘I want to be a doctor’ or ‘I am going to be a doctor’ to ‘I am a doctor’ and that’s exciting,” he said, to a chorus of cheers from the crowd. “And while we all know the hard work is over, days like today are a good time to stop and reflect about why we wanted to be doctors.”

In an inspirational keynote speech, **Leana Wen, MD, MSC**, reminded the graduates that even though they have received top-notch training, not everything that determines length of life and quality of health is about healthcare. She encouraged them to ask about the lives of their future patients outside of the emergency room or hospital or doctor’s office, to find out about factors that might be contributing to health issues, including their living situations, the safety of their environments, their access to healthy foods, and addiction. She challenged them to think of every interaction as a chance at intervention.

“As physicians, we are entrusted with a special privilege: to identify inequalities, call them out, and close the gap of disparities,” said Dr. Wen. “It will only happen once—the day you go from being medical student to doctor. I feel inspired to be part of this group who will serve our patients, champion our communities, and tackle our society’s injustices.”

Michael Cryor, President of the Cryor Group and Chair of the School of Medicine Board of Visitors, was also inspired by the class. “The world awaits your talent, your passion and your dedication,” he said. “I encourage all of you to take the time to truly appreciate your accomplishment, which is truly worthy of celebration. Know that all of your hard work means so much to so many people, not only in this room, but across the city and the world.”

Faculty speaker **Bennie Jeng, MD, MS**, Professor and Chair of the Department of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences, reminded students that “you are being given the privilege of taking care of patients,” he said. “Don’t forget that behind every eyeball or what’s under the drape is a person, that the cough you’re hearing is coming from a person, that behind that x-ray is a person. Treat each of them with the utmost care and compassion.”

In doing so, graduates will truly be the doctors we want them to be. Dean Reece encouraged the future doctors to realize the impact they can have. “Graduates, you must pause from time to time to really soak in the difference you are making in people’s lives,” he advised. “Do not take this for granted, for they do not. Whether you are treating patients, unlocking mysteries of health and disease, or mentoring the next generation of physicians and scientists, you are changing lives.”

Farewell...
(continued)



Graduation ceremonies were also held on May 19 for the Department of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science, the Department of Medical and Research Technology (DMRT), the Masters in Genetic Counseling program, and the Graduate Program in Life Sciences (GPILS). The Department of Epidemiology & Public Health and the Masters in Public Health program had their graduation exercises on May 20.



Research Communications Network

Many thanks to the following people who serve as your liaisons for the information you see in *What's the Buzz?* Please send information (within the realm of the categories listed here) that you would like to see in the *Buzz* to the appropriate person within your department, program, center or office.

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Anesthesiology: Pamela Earle-Jackson

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Emergency Medicine:
Linda Kesselring

Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine: Yimei Wu

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Attention all SOM Medical, Allied Health and Graduate Students!

Buzz Information Link for Students

A hyperlink is available on the School of Medicine Website for you to submit information to the *Buzz* to acknowledge honors, prizes, presentations, leadership positions and other noteworthy accomplishments. Go to: http://medschool.umaryland.edu/Public_Affairs/buzz.asp