

what's the buzz?

Self-Reported News from the School of Medicine Community

EVENTS, LECTURES



& WORKSHOPS

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

► **Carissa Baker-Smith, MD, MS, MPH, FAAP, FAHA**, Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, co-chaired the session “Coming Attractions: Guidelines, Registries, and Quality” at the American College of Cardiology Scientific Sessions in March.



Marcus Chibucos, PhD

► **Marcus Chibucos, PhD**, Research Associate, Department of Microbiology & Immunology and Institute for Genome Sciences, presented “Genome Annotation: Going From Raw Sequence to Functional Prediction for Downstream Applications” at the Oomycete Bioinformatic Training Workshop at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in Blacksburg, VA, on June 2.

► **Joana Carneiro Da Silva, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Microbiology & Immunology, Institute for Genome Sciences, presented “Genome Re-Annotation and Putative Antigens in *Theileria parva*” at the Workshop on Improved Vaccines for the Control of ECF in Cattle in Africa, held Feb 9–11 at the International Livestock Research Institute in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

► **Howard Dubowitz, MBBS, MS, FAAP**, Professor, Department of Pediatrics, presented two lectures at the international conference of the Helfer Society in Savannah, GA, in April: “A Global View of Child Protection” and “Trauma Informed Care: The Safe Environment for Every Kid (SEEK) Model.” He also presented Pediatric Grand Rounds at Cohen’s Children’s Medical Center in New York on May 8, on the topic of “Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect: A Role for Pediatricians.”



Howard Dubowitz, MBBS,
MS, FAAP

► **Jennifer Guyther, MD**, Assistant Professor; **Roger Stone, MD, MS**, Clinical Assistant Professor and Medical Director, Montgomery County Division of Fire and Rescue Services; and **Benjamin Lawner, DO, MS, EMT-P**, Assistant Professor and Deputy Medical Director, Baltimore

City Fire Department, all from the Department of Emergency Medicine, along with **D. Chimene Richa, MD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Ophthalmology, were faculty members for EMS Care 2015, held in Ocean City, MD, from April 30–May 3. This popular annual event, sponsored by the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems, drew 250 pre-hospital care providers to its hands-on workshops, pre-conferences, lectures, and small group seminars. Dr. Guyther presented a lecture on the management of pain in children in the field. Dr. Stone co-led a case review of on-scene communications and presented a session on the pitfalls of downgrading from advanced to basic life support. Dr. Lawner presented the keynote address, covering recent articles in the EMS literature and the application of their findings to long-standing protocols, and gave a lecture on the use of resuscitation fluids in trauma patients. Dr. Richa described techniques for managing ophthalmologic emergencies in the pre-hospital setting.

► **Erin Hager, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, gave an invited Keynote Address on “Home and School Environments Predict Children’s Dietary Choices” at the Children’s Environmental Health Network Pediatric research Conference in Austin, TX in February. She was also invited to present data from the ongoing CDC/Maryland/DHMH-funded “Maryland Wellness Policies and Practices Project” to the Maryland State School Board in March. Dr. Hager presented findings from schools and school systems throughout the state that supported the need for Wellness Teams in every school to promote healthy eating and physical activity for students.



Erin Hager, PhD

EVENTS, LECTURES & WORKSHOPS *continued*

Additionally, she gave an invited keynote speech at the University of Cincinnati Academic Health Center Community Engagement Research Day on “Innovative Partnerships: Integrating Research and Policy to Improve Health in Communities” in Cincinnati, OH, on May 5.



Jennifer Hopp, MD

► **Jennifer Hopp, MD**, Associate Professor, Department of Neurology, presented “Update in Epilepsy,” which was part of the Annual Course “Neurology Update II” at the 67th American Academy of Neurology (AAN) meeting in Washington DC, in April.

► **Philip Mackowiak, MD, MACP**, Professor Emeritus, Department of Medicine, and the Carolyn Frenkil and Selvin Passen History of Medicine Scholar-in-Residence, hosted a webinar on June 15 for the American College of Physician’s

Centennial Circle Series on the topic of “Booker T. Washington and the Secret of Hypertension in African Americans.” He also gave a plenary presentation entitled “Beethoven and the Sound That Failed” at the 2015 Aspen Allergy Conference on July 19.

► **Mark Rogers, PT, PhD, FAPTA**, Professor & Chair, Department of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science, was an invited speaker at the UK Physiological Society Meeting Symposium “Ageing and Degeneration: A Physiological Perspective” in April, where he presented “Stepping for Stability: A Physiological Protection Against Falls in Ageing.”

► **Bernadette Siaton, MD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, presented “Rheumatology Teaching: The US Experience” at the 16th Annual European Congress of Rheumatology, held in Rome, Italy, in early June.

► **Hervé Tettelin, PhD**, Associate Professor of Microbiology & Immunology, Institute for Genome Sciences, presented “Comparative Genome Analyses” at the WS-16 Do-it-Yourself Microbial Genome Sequence Analysis workshop, and “Genomycobacteriology to the Rescue: Applications for the Clinical Laboratory” at the Next Generation Mycobacteriology session, both at the



Philip Mackowiak, MD, MACP

115th American Society for Microbiology General Meeting, held in New Orleans, LA, from May 30–June 2.

► **Laura Yergis-Armstrong, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, presented “Genome Wide Association Analysis with Amine Metabolites Reveals Novel Loci Impacting Human Metabolomic Profiles” at the Metabolomics 2015 meeting in San Francisco, CA on June 30.

► **Chris Wells, PhD**, Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science, presented “Early Mobility Program: An Interdisciplinary Approach” at the American Geriatric Society in May.

► Members of the **Department of Radiation Oncology**, led by the Medical Physics Division, authored more than 40 collaborative scientific and educational podium and poster presentations at the 57th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) in Anaheim, CA, July 12–16. Abstracts of their presentations were published in the June issue of AAPM’s official journal, *Medical Physics*.



Chris Wells, PhD

COMMUNITY



ENGAGEMENT

Thanks to those who selflessly donate their time, talent and resources. Your goodwill does not go unappreciated.

► **Michelle Giglio, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine and the Institute for Genome Sciences, coordinated a day-long Saturday STEM program in genomics and bioinformatics for a group of high school students participating in the Center for Talented Youth (CTY) programs. Dr. Giglio, **Emmanuel Mongodin, PhD**, and **Joana Carneiro Da Silva, PhD**, both Assistant Professors of Microbiology and Immunology, Institute for Genome Sciences, each led a teaching module. CTY is an organization that coordinates innovative educational opportunities hosted by academic research centers, museums, and other sites to develop the talents of highly motivated students.



Michelle Giglio, PhD



PUBLICATIONS

Hats off to those who have been published!

- ▶ **Jennifer Albrecht, PhD**, Assistant Professor (first author); **Denise Orwig, PhD**, Associate Professor; **Jay Magaziner, PhD, MS Hyg**, Professor and Chair; **Michael Terrin, MDCM, MPH**, Professor; **Erik Barr, BA**, Data Analyst; **Jessica Brown, PhD**, Assistant Professor; and **Ann Gruber-Baldini, PhD**, Professor, all from the Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, were among the co-authors on “Stability of Postoperative Delirium Psychomotor Subtypes in Individuals with Hip Fracture” in *Journal of the American Geriatric Society*, 2015 May;63(5):970-6.
- ▶ **Maureen Black, PhD**, the John A. Scholl, MD, and Mary Louise Scholl, MD, Professor in Pediatrics, Department of Pediatrics, authored “Integrating Nutrition and Child Development Interventions” in *Journal of Pediatric Psychology*, 2015;40(4):398-405. She was also among the co-authors on “Genetic Causes of Intellectual Disability in a Birth Cohort: A Population-Based Study” in *American Journal of Medical Genetics Part A*, 2015 Jun;167(6):1204-14, and “Homelessness During Pregnancy: A Unique, Time-Dependent Risk Factor of Birth Outcomes” in *Maternal Child Health Journal*, 2015;19(6):1276-83. She and **Prasanna Nair, MD**, Professor, Department of Pediatrics, were among the co-authors on “Prenatal Drug Exposure to Illicit Drugs Alters Working Memory-Related Brain Activity and Underlying Network Properties in Adolescence” in *Neurotoxicology and Teratology*, 2015;48:69-77.
- ▶ **Mary Beth Bollinger, DO**, Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics, was among the co-authors on “Factors Associated with High Short-Acting Beta2 Agonist (SABA) Use in Urban Children with Asthma” in *Annals of Allergy Asthma and Immunology*, 2015 May; 385-92.



Derik Davis, MD

- ▶ **Derik Davis, MD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, published “Voriconazole-Related Periostitis Presenting on Magnetic Resonance Imaging” in *Clinical Cases in Mineral and Bone Metabolism*, 2015, Jan-Apr;12(1):78-81.
- ▶ **Scott Devine, PhD**, Associate Professor of Medicine, **Claire Fraser, PhD**, Professor of Medicine, Microbiology & Immunology, and **Hervé Tettelin, PhD**, Associate Professor of Microbiology & Immunology, all from the Institute for Genome Sciences, which Dr. Fraser directs, were among the co-authors on “Pulmonary Nontuberculous Mycobacterial

Infection: A Multisystem Multigenic Disease” in *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine*, 2015 Jun 3 [Epub ahead of print]

- ▶ **Vasken Dilsizian, MD**, Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, was a co-guest editor of a journal supplement dedicated to “Advances in Myocardial Perfusion Imaging” in *Progress in Cardiovascular Diseases*, 2015 Jun.
- ▶ **Howard Dubowitz, MBBS, MS, FAAP**, Professor, Department of Pediatrics, co-authored “Report Questioning Shaken Baby Syndrome Seriously Unbalanced” with Dr. Errol Alden in *American Academy of Pediatrics News*, 2015 May 1;36(5):1. The article responded to media stories challenging the science regarding abusive head trauma.
- ▶ **Rao Gullapalli, PhD, MBA**, Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, was among the co-authors on “TH-CD-207-07: Prostate Cancer Foci Detection and Aggressiveness Identification Using Multi-Parametric MRI/MRS and Supervised Learning” in *Medical Physics*, 2015 Jun;42(6):3736.
- ▶ **Edward Herskovits, MD**, Professor, and **Rong Chen, PhD**, Assistant Professor, both from the Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, were among the co-authors on “Edge-Centered DTI Connectivity Analysis: Application to Schizophrenia” in *Neuroinformatics*, 2015 Jun 16 [Epub ahead of print].
- ▶ **Tracy Hazen, PhD**, Research Associate and **David Rasko, PhD**, Associate Professor of Microbiology & Immunology, both from the Institute for Genome Sciences, were among the co-authors on “Insights Into the Environmental Reservoir of Pathogenic *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* using Comparative Genomics” in *Frontiers in Microbiology*, 2015 Mar 24;6:204.
- ▶ **Scott Jerome, DO**, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, was among the co-authors on “How Do Noninvasive Imaging Facilities Perceive the Accreditation Process? Results of an Intersocietal Accreditation Commission Survey” in *Clinical Cardiology*, 2015 Jun 13 [Epub ahead of print].
- ▶ **Xiaofeng Jia, BM, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Neurosurgery, was the senior author on “Early Quantitative Gamma-Band EEG Marker is Associated with Outcomes after Cardiac Arrest and Targeted Temperature Management” in *Neurocritical Care*, 2015 Jul 1 [Epub ahead of print].



Edward Herskovits, MD

PUBLICATIONS *continued*

► **Stephen Kavic, MD, FACS**, Associate Professor, Department of Surgery, recently published *Surgery for Crohn's Disease*, which provides an overview to the history, medical management, surgical treatment, surveillance, and overall support of the patient with Crohn's disease. The information on medical diagnosis and management of Crohn's disease was reviewed by UMSOM gastroenterologists, including **Raymond Cross, MD**, Associate Professor; **Mark Flasar, MD**, Assistant Professor; **Leyla Ghazi, MD**, Assistant Professor; **Leon McLean, MD, MPH, PhD**, Assistant Professor; **Sandra Quesada, MD, MS**, Assistant Professor; and **Seema Patil, MD**, Assistant Professor, all from the Department of Medicine. Surgical management is thoroughly discussed by **Andrea Bafford, MD**, and **Jonathan Chun, MD**, both Assistant Professors in the Department of Surgery, as well as Dr. Kavic. This 270-page book is available from Nova Science Publishers (www.novapublishers.com) and is also listed on amazon.com.



Seth Kligerman, MD

► **Seth Kligerman, MD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, was among the co-authors on "SU-C-BRA-04: Use of Esophageal Wall Thickness in Evaluation of the Response to Chemoradiation Therapy for Esophageal Cancer" in *Medical Physics*, 2015 Jun;42(6):3196.

► **Allan Krumholz, MD**, Professor; **Ana Sanchez, MD**, Assistant Professor; **Arif Kabir, MD**, Assistant Professor; **Jennifer Hopp, MD**, Associate Professor; and **Justin Martello, MD**, Fellow, all from the Department of Neurology, and **Aisha Liferidge, MD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, were among the co-authors on "Evidence-Based Guideline: Management of an Unprovoked First Seizure in Adults" in *Neurology*, 2015 Apr 21;84(16):1705-13.

► **Erik Lillehoj, PhD**, Associate Professor, and **Wei Guang, MD, PhD**, Research Associate, both from the Department of Pediatrics, along with **Avelino Verceles, MD**, Assistant Professor; **Irina Luzina, MD, PhD**, Associate Professor; **Sergei Atamas, MD, PhD**, Associate Professor; and **Simeon Goldblum, MD**, Professor, all from the Department of Medicine, were among the co-authors on "NEU1 Sialidase Regulates Membrane-Tethered Mucin (MUC1) Ectodomain Adhesiveness for *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and Decoy Receptor Release" in *Journal of Biological Chemistry*, 2015 Jul 24;290(30):18316-31.

► **Monica McArthur, MD, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, and **Robert Edelman, MD**, Clinical Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics, both from the

Center for Vaccine Development, co-authored the invited editorial "A Promising, Single-Dose, Live Attenuated Tetravalent Dengue Vaccine Candidate" in *The Journal of Infectious Diseases*, 2015 Sep 1;212(5):681-3.

► **Ram Miller, MDCM**, Adjunct Assistant Professor; **Denise Orwig, PhD**, Associate Professor; and **Jay Magaziner, PhD, MS Hyg**, Professor and Chair, all from the Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, and **Marc Hochberg, MD, MPH**, Professor, Department of Medicine, were among the co-authors on "Asymmetry in CT Scan Measures of Thigh Muscle Two Months After Hip Fracture: The Baltimore Hip Studies" in *Journals of Gerontology: Medical Sciences*, 2015 Jun;70(6):753-6.

► **Fred Moeslein, MD, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, was among the co-authors on "WE-AB-204-02: Molecular-Imaging Based Assessment of Liver Complications for Yttrium-90 Microsphere Treatments: Can Existing NTCP Models Explain Clinical Outcomes?" in *Medical Physics*, 2015 Jun;42(6):3659, and "Pelvic Local Recurrence in a Patient with Muscle-Invasive Bladder Cancer Treated with Interstitial Thermal Therapy and Interstitial Brachytherapy" in *Practical Radiation Oncology*, 2015 Jun 5 [Epub ahead of print].

► **Robert Moralews, MD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, was among the co-authors on "Superior Epigastric Artery Perforator (SEAP) Flap: A Novel Approach to Autologous Breast Reconstruction" in *Journal of Plastic, Reconstructive, and Aesthetic Surgery*, 2015 Apr;68(4):519-24.

► **Sanjay Rajagopalan, MBBS, FACC, FAHA**, the Melvin Sharoky Endowed Professor in Cardiovascular Medicine, and **Jixin Zhong, MD**, Assistant Professor, both from the Department of Medicine, were among the co-authors on "Dpp4 Inhibition as a Therapeutic Strategy in Cardiometabolic Disease: Incretin-Dependent and -Independent Function" in the *International Journal of Cardiology*, 2015 Jun 27;197:170-179 [Epub ahead of print]. Dr. Rajagopalan was also among the co-authors on "Rapid Assessment of Quantitative T1, T2 and T2* in Lower Extremity Muscles in Response to Maximal Treadmill Exercise" in *NMR in Biomedicine*, 2015 Jun 28 [Epub ahead of print]. Dr. Rajagopalan, **Zhekang Ying, PhD**, Assistant Professor; **Minjie Chen, PhD**, Postdoctoral Fellow; and **Xiaoke Wang, PhD**, Postdoctoral Fellow, all also from the Department of Medicine, were among the co-authors on "Exposure to Concentrated Ambient Particulate Matter Induces Reversible Increase of Heart Weight in Spontaneously Hypertensive Rats" in *Particle and Fibre Toxicology*, 2015 Jun 25;12(1):15.



Sanjay Rajagopalan,
MBBS, FACC, FAHA

PUBLICATIONS *continued*



Jacques Ravel, PhD

► **Jacques Ravel, PhD**, Professor of Microbiology & Immunology, and Associate Director, Genomics, Institute for Genome Sciences, was among the co-authors on “Investigation of the Association Between the Fecal Microbiota and Breast Cancer in Postmenopausal Women: A Population-Based Case-Control Pilot Study” in *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*, 2015 Jun 1;107(8), and on “Fine-Scale Analysis of 16S rRNA Sequences Reveals a High Level of Taxonomic Diversity Among Vaginal *Atopobium spp*” in *Pathogens and Disease*, 2015 Jun;73(4).

► **Benjamin Remo, MD**, Clinical Assistant Professor; **Anastasios Saliaris, MB Bch BAO**, Assistant Professor; **Vincent See, MD**, Assistant Professor; **Stephen Shorofsky, MD, PhD**, Professor; and **Timm-Michael Dickfeld, MD, PhD, FACC, FHRS**, Associate Professor, all from the Department of Medicine; and **Mark Smith, PhD**, Associate Professor; **Wengen Chen, MD, PhD**, Associate Professor; and **Vasken Dilsizian, MD**, Professor, all from the Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, were among the co-authors on “Three-Dimensional 123I-Meta-Iodobenzylguanidine Cardiac Innervation Maps to Assess Substrate and Successful Ablation Sites for Ventricular Tachycardia: Feasibility Study for a Novel Paradigm of Innervation Imaging” in *Circulation: Arrhythmia and Electrophysiology*, 2015 Jun;8(3):583-91.



Mary Rodgers, PT, PhD,
FAPTA, FASB

► **Mary Rodgers, PT, PhD, FAPTA, FASB**, the George R. Hepburn Distinguished Professor, Department of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science, was lead author on “Recent Advances in Wearable Sensors for Health Monitoring” in *IEEE Sensors Journal*, 2015 June 15(6): 3119-3126. Dr. Rodgers was also co-author on “Understanding the Cellular and Molecular Mechanisms of Physical Activity-Induced Health Benefits” in *Cell Metabolism*, 2015 Jul 7;22(1):4-11.

► **Clint Sliker, MD**, Associate Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, was among the co-authors on “Initial Screening Test for Blunt Cerebrovascular Injury: Validity Assessment of Whole-Body Computed Tomography” in *Surgery*, 2015 Jun 8 [Epub ahead of print].

► **Irina Timofte, MD**, Assistant Professor; **Darryn Potosky, MD**, Assistant Professor; **Gautam Ramani, MD**, Assistant Professor; and **Robert Reed, MD**, Associate Professor, all from the Department of Medicine, were among the co-authors on “Diaphragmatic Herniation Due to Massive Hepatomegaly in a Patient with Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension” in *BMJ Case Reports*, 2015 Jun 10 [Epub ahead of print].

APPOINTMENTS



We applaud our colleagues on their recent appointments!

► **Philip Mackowiak, MD, MACP**, Professor Emeritus, Department of Medicine, and the Carolyn Frenkil and Selvin Passen History of Medicine Scholar-in-Residence, has been appointed to the Editorial Board of *Pharos*, the national publication of the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society.

► **Tom McHugh, MS**, Program Administrator for the Center for Innovative Biomedical Resources (CIBR) and the Graduate Program in Life Sciences (GPILS) and co-director of the Office of Postdoctoral Scholars, has been elected as the new co-vice chair of the National Postdoc Association’s (NPA) Advocacy Committee. Mr. McHugh will work with other leaders in academia, industry and government to advocate on behalf of postdocs and to help inform policy decisions related to postdoc benefits, compensation and standards of training.

► **Kevin Pereira, MD, MS(ORL)**, Professor, Departments of Otorhinolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery and Pediatrics, has been appointed as a consultant to the Medical Devices and Drugs Committee for the American Academy of Otolaryngology for a two-year term beginning October 1.

► **Lisa Shulman, MD**, The Eugenia Brin Professor in Parkinson’s Disease and Movement Disorders and The Rosalyn Newman Distinguished Scholar in Parkinson’s Disease, Department of Neurology, has been elected to a second term as Treasurer of the American Academy of Neurology (2015–2017). She will continue to serve on the Board of Directors of both the American Academy of Neurology and the American Brain Foundation.



Lisa Shulman, MD



Congratulations to the following who have received honors!



Carissa Baker-Smith, MD,
MS, MPH, FAAP, FAHA

► **Carissa Baker-Smith, MD, MS, MPH, FAAP, FAHA**, Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, was recognized by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the Department of Education for her significant contribution to AAP's "EQIPP: Hypertension Identification and Management" course, which launched on May 15.

► **Jennifer Bai, MS-II**, was selected to receive a 2015 American Society of Hematology "Opportunities for the Next-Generation of Research Scientists (HONORS)" Award to support her research with **Xiaochun Chen, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, and **Curt Civin, MD**, Associate Dean for Research, Director of the Center for Stem Cell Biology & Regenerative Medicine, and Professor of Pediatrics and Physi-

ology. The award consists of \$5,000 to support her summer lab research in the Center for Stem Cell Biology & Regenerative Medicine, plus two \$1,000 travel awards to attend the 2015 and 2016 American Society of Hematology Annual Meetings.

► **Howard Dubowitz, MBBS, MS, FAAP**, Professor, Department of Pediatrics, was honored in April with the 2015 Ray E. Helfer Society Award for Distinguished Contributions to the Field of Child Abuse and Neglect from the Helfer Society, an honorary, international group of physicians working in the field of child maltreatment.

► **Jennifer Hopp, MD**, Associate Professor, Department of Neurology, was honored in August with Fellow Membership in the American Academy of Neurology in recognition of her contributions to the Academy and to the neurology community.

► **Mark Mishra, MD**, has been named as the 2015 recipient of the ASTRO/ROI Comparative Effectiveness Award from the American Society of Radiation Oncology for his proposal "Reducing Patient-Relevant Adverse Events Following Prostate Irradiation: A Patient-Focused Comparative Effectiveness Evaluation of 3D-CRT and IMRT." The award carries career and research support of \$100,000 over two years.

► **Amber Mueller**, a second-year PhD candidate in the Molecular Medicine Program, training under **Robert Bloch, PhD**, Professor, Department of Physiology, won the 2nd Annual Hugo Gonzalez-Serratos Award for her poster "Neuromuscular



Patrick Desmond and
Amber Mueller

Electrical Stimulation Promotes Development in Mice of Mature Human Muscle From Immortalized Human Myoblasts" at the Training Program in Integrative Membrane Biology and the Training Program in Interdisciplinary Muscle Biology retreat on April 10. At the same retreat, **Patrick Desmond**, a Program in Molecular Medicine student also training in Dr. Bloch's lab, won the inaugural Dr. Mordecai Blaustein award for his talk "Identification of Small Ankyrin 1 as a Novel SERCA1 Regulatory Protein in Skeletal Muscle." Both awards include a \$100 prize and are supported by a gift from the Gonzales-Serratos Fund and an anonymous donor.

► **Elijah Saunders, MD, FACC, FAHA, FASH**, the late Professor and Head of Hypertension in the Department of Medicine, who passed away in April, was honored on June 12 at Martin's West in Baltimore. The event celebrated his life and legacy and raised funds for the professorship being planned in his name.

► **Kalpesh Vakharia, MD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Otorhinolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, has achieved Board certification from the American Board of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery.



Kalpesh Vakharia, MD

NEW FACULTY



We welcome our new faculty!

► **Brian Barr, MD**, was appointed as Assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine in July. Dr. Barr has been a Cardiovascular Disease fellow with the University of Maryland, Baltimore for the last three years.

► **Stanley Liu, MD**, was appointed as Assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine in July. Dr. Liu has also been a Cardiovascular Disease fellow with the University of Maryland, Baltimore for the last three years.

► **Ryan Miller, MD, FAAP**, has joined the Department of Pediatrics as an Assistant Professor in the Division of Pediatric Endocrinology. Dr. Miller received his MD in 2000 from Albany Medical College. He did his Internship and Residency in Pediatrics at the University of Virginia Health System from 2000 to 2003. He followed this with a fellowship in Pediatric Endocrinology at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine from 2003 to 2006. He is Board certified with the American Board of Pediatrics and sub Board certified in Pediatric Endocrinology.

GRANTS &

CONTRACTS



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



Randy Disney, R.E. Grand Commander (left), and Spyridon G. Treklas, Eminent Grand Generalissimo (right), of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Maryland present Dr. Janet Alexander with the grant award.

▶ **Janet Leath Alexander, MD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences, received a one-year, \$60,000, Career-Starter Research Grant from the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. in May for “Anterior Segment Ultrasound Biomicroscopy Findings and Implications in Children with Congenital, Aphakic, and Pseudophakic Glaucoma.”

▶ **Wilbur Chen, MD, MS** (Study PI), Associate Professor of Medicine; **Karen Kotloff, MD** (Contract PI), Professor of Pediatrics; and **Marcelo Sztejn, MD** (Lab PI), Professor of Pediatrics, all also from the Center for Vaccine Development (CVD), were awarded \$2,722,822 for a task

order to perform “A Phase 1 Double-Blind, Placebo-Control, Dose Escalating Study to Evaluate the Safety and Immunogenicity of Double Mutant Heat Labile Toxin LTR192G/L211A(dmLT) from Enterotoxigenic *Escherichia coli* (ETEC) by Oral, Sublingual, and Intradermal Vaccination in Adults Residing in an Endemic Area” as part of the National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases Vaccine and Treatment Evaluation Unit (VTEU) contract.

▶ **Alan Cross, MD**, Clinical Professor, Department of Medicine, received a two year, \$422,125 grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) for “Development of a Prototype *Klebsiella* O Polysaccharide Conjugate Vaccine.”

▶ **Michael Donnenberg, MD**, Professor, Department of Medicine, received a two-year, \$420,520, R21 grant from NIAID for “Novel Antimicrobials Targeting Type IV Pilus and Type 2 Secretion Systems.”

▶ **Stephen Gottlieb, MD**, Professor, Department of Medicine, received a \$15,943 grant from Bayer HealthCare, LLC for “LEPHT” and a \$4,832 grant from the Cardiovascular Clinical Science Foundation for “Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo Controlled Study of the Short Term Clinical Effects of Tolvaptan in Patients Hospitalized for Worsening Heart Failure.”

▶ **Rao Jaladanki, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Surgery, received a four-year, \$947,000 VA Merit competitive renewal award for “Surgical Studies on Mucosal Homeostasis.”

▶ **Huishan Li, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Institute of Human Virology, received a two-year, \$422,125 R21 grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) for “Gag-Mediated Autophagy in HIV Persistence.”

▶ **Erik Lillehoj, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics, received a one-year, \$5,011 UM Ventures Seed grant for “MUC1 Ectodomain and Peptides Thereof for Treatment of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* Infections.”

▶ **Vincent Njar, PhD**, Professor of Pharmacology and Head of the Medicinal Chemistry Section, Center for Biomolecular Therapeutics (CBT), has recently been awarded three grants: A nine-month, \$100,000 Maryland Innovative Initiative (MII) Phase I grant from the Maryland Technology Development Corporation (TEDCO) for “Development of VNLG-152 as a Novel Targeted Therapy for Triple Negative Breast Cancer”; a six-month, \$55,000 Pilot Grant from the Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Cancer Center (Philanthropic Funds) for “Targeting the Androgen Receptor Axis in Prostate Cancer”; and a one-year, \$15,000 UM Ventures Seed Grant Program grant from the University of Maryland, Baltimore Office of Research and Development for “Effects of Novel Retinamides/Retinoic Acid Metabolism Blocking Agents (RAMBAs) on Dermatological Diseases.”

▶ **Michael Quon, MD**, and **Simeon Taylor, MD**, both Professors in the Department of Medicine, received a three-year, \$611,678 training grant from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) for “Diabetes and Its Metabolic Complications.” Dr. Taylor also received a two-year, \$422,125, R21 grant from NIDDK for “Pharmacogenomics of SGLT2 Inhibitor: Pilot & Feasibility Study.”

▶ **Jean-Pierre Raufman, MD**, Professor, Department of Medicine, received a five-year competitive renewal of a \$1,827,283 T32 training grant from NIDDK for “Research Training in Gastroenterology.”



Rao Jaladanki, PhD



Vincent Njar, PhD

GRANTS & CONTRACTS *continued*

► **Mark Rogers, PhD, PT, FAFTA**, Professor and Chair, Department of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science, has been awarded a \$36,000 Health Personnel Shortage Incentive Grant (HPSIG) from the Maryland High Education Commission. The grant provides funds to Maryland postsecondary education institutions to enhance or expand academic programs that produce graduates eligible for national licensure, certification or registration in health personnel shortage areas certified by the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH).



Scott Thompson, PhD

► **Stephen Shorofsky, MD, PhD**, Professor, Department of Medicine, received a \$6,180 grant from Boston Scientific Corporation for “LSS OF 4-SITE: Longitudinal Surveillance Study of the 4-SITE Lead/Header System Clinical Study.”


► **Scott Thompson, PhD**, Professor and Chair, Department of Physiology, received a five-year, \$1,909,535 competing renewal award from the National Institute on Mental Health for “Stress, Depression and Effects of Novel Antidepressants on Excitatory Synapses.”

► **Owen White, PhD**, Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, received a one-year, \$524,868 award from

Stanford University to study “Longitudinal Multiomics Microbial Profiling in Healthy and Diseased Individuals.”

► **Zhekang Ying, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, received two \$70,000 grants from the American Heart Association, National Center, for “The Role of IKK2 in Blood Pressure Regulation: Is IKK2 a MLC Kinase?”

► **Jin Zhang, PhD, MD**, Associate Professor, Department of Physiology, received a two-year, \$154,000 Grant in Aid from the Maryland Affiliate of the American Heart Association for “Arterial Na/Ca Exchanger, Sympathetic Nerve Activity and Hypertension.”



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