



Departmental News

Department of Pediatrics ~ LSUMC New Orleans

KUDOS CORNER

Congratulations to **Michael Ferris, PhD** who was promoted to Associate Professor of Pediatrics with tenure, and to **Ronald Wilcox, MD** who was promoted to Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine.

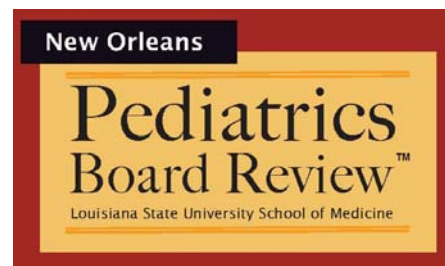
Eduardo Davila, MD received some great news recently. His R01 grant application titled "*TLR2 Engagement on Tumor-Specific T Cells: Mechanisms of Constimulation*" was funded by the National Institutes of Health. Specifically, this grant will be supported by the National Cancer Institute for 5 years. Research sponsored by this grant is focused on understanding how the stimulation of specific receptors (toll-like receptors) on tumor-specific T lymphocytes lead to improved destruction of established tumors. Members of his research team include Dr. Degui Geng, **Dr. Cori Morrison** (Hem/Onc Fellow), technicians Nicole Asproditis, Lily Zhen, and Angela Keen.

Rachel Dawkins, MD was recently elected to serve as a member of the executive committee of the Section on Young Physicians for the American Academy of Pediatrics. As the District VII Coordinator she will represent Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas, Arkansas and Oklahoma. She will serve a 3-year term.

Robin English, MD was invited to give a workshop entitled "Teaching Clinical Reasoning" at the University of Utah School of Medicine in Salt Lake City back in April. The audience consisted of selected faculty members in the "Master Scholars Program" at the University of Utah.

Paul Hyman, MD spoke to the Dysphagia Research Society in April about "Rumination" at their annual meeting here in New Orleans.

Tri Tran, MD, MPH has published "Race-Specific Trends in Infant Mortality: Contributions of Birth-Weight Distribution and Birth-Weight-Specific Mortality, Louisiana 1991-2002" in the July/August issue of the *Journal of the Louisiana State Medical Society*.



If you are nearing your recertification date by the American Board of Pediatrics and would like to brush up on pediatrics essentials for the Board Exam, you will be pleased to know that our faculty will receive a reduced rate of attendance to the **New Orleans Pediatrics Board Review™** (August 3-8, 2009).

Registration:

On or before July 6th - \$500

After July 6th - \$600

On-site - \$700

The registration fee includes tuition, course handouts, two evening sessions, Radiology CD-ROM, continental breakfast and refreshments during breaks. Presenters at the Board Review will, as always, receive tuition free of charge. The 2009 brochure and registration information is posted on the department's website:

www.medschool.lsuhschool.edu/pediatrics

All are invited to attend the Fowler Memorial Lecture on Wednesday, August 5 at 4:10pm at the Hotel Intercontinental. **John Udall, MD, PhD** will present "Crohn's Disease: The New Orleans Connection." Dr. Udall is fondly remembered as Chief of the Pediatric Gastroenterology Division for over 10 years. There is no fee to attend this lecture and all are welcome.

NEWS FROM THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH...

The Louisiana Maternal and Child Health data books have been published at the following web addresses:

2001-2005:

<http://www.dhh.louisiana.gov/offices/reports.asp?ID=267&Detail=651>

2005-2006:

<http://www.dhh.louisiana.gov/offices/reports.asp?ID=267&Detail=500>

RESEARCH DAY 2009



Faculty Coordinator Seth Pincus, MD addresses the crowd at Research Day 2009.

The Children's Hospital Auditorium was a scene of lively scientific activity on Research Day, June 19. Fifty participants submitted posters describing their research. Eight oral presentations were chosen to represent a cross-section of the type of research sponsored by The Research Institute for Children and the LSU Department of Pediatrics. The oral presentations included:

Rachel Dawkins, MD

Novel Professionalism Curriculum for a Pediatric Residency Program

Luke Wall, MD

Fulminate Neonatal Cardiorespiratory Collapse Caused by Coxsackievirus B1 Myocarditis

Christopher M. Taylor, PhD

Analyzing DNA Replication Timing in the Human Genome

Amy Whittington

Study of RGS Protein Function Using the Murine Model of Cryptococcosis

Shyam Sathyamoorthi

Application of Array Comparative Genomic Hybridization Findings to Genetic Counseling in a Complex Family with Four Rare Genomic Abnormalities and a Widely Variable Phenotype

Aja Sanzone, MD, MPH

Changes in Rotavirus Genotypes in the Era of Immunizations

Caroline Straatmann, MD

100% Success with Plasmapheresis Treatment for Recurrent Focal Segmental Glomerulosclerosis in Kidney transplant Patients

Faisal Razzaqi, MD

Co-Transfer of Dendritic Cell Precursors to Accelerate Immune Recovery Following Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant



Awards for the **Best Research Day Presentation** in four categories were bestowed upon the following researchers:

Harold Jimenez

Examination of Difficulties with School Reentry in Cancer Survivors

Division of Hematology/Oncology

Student

Luke Wall, MD

Fulminate Neonatal Cardiorespiratory Collapse Caused by Coxsackievirus B1 Myocarditis

Department of Pediatrics

Resident

Faisal Razzaqi, MD

Co-Transfer of Dendritic Cell Precursors to Accelerate Immune Recovery Following

Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant

Division of Hematology/Oncology

Fellow/Postdoctoral

Christopher M. Taylor, PhD

Analyzing DNA Replication Timing In The Human Genome

Division of Research

Faculty/Professional

Thank you to all who participated and especially to Genentech and Community Coffee for sponsoring this event. If you were unable to attend and would like a copy of the program (which includes all abstracts submitted), please email Kelly Allerton at kslumb@lsuhsc.edu. More pictures from Research Day are printed on the last page of this newsletter.

GOOD-BYE TO GRADUATING FELLOWS...

Victoria Dimitriades, MD, Sandhya Mani, MD and **Annette Fiorillo, DO** completed fellowships in Allergy/Immunology.

Arlette Soros, MD completed an additional year in Advanced Pediatric Endocrinology research.

Faisal Razzaqi, MD will complete his Hematology/Oncology fellowship in October.

...HELLO TO NEW FELLOWS

Carrie Firestone Baum, MD – GI
Raegan Wetzel, MD – Neonatology
Ofelia Crombet, MD – Hematology/Oncology
Tammy Harvey, DO – Allergy/Immunology
Jamie Jackson, MD – Forensic Medicine



RESIDENT AND FELLOW AWARDS

The following awards were presented to graduating residents and Pediatrics faculty at Hello/Good-bye on Friday, June 18:

Hitesh Chheda, MD received the *LSU Pediatrics Alumni Award*.

Steven Smith, MD received the *Outstanding Medicine/Pediatric Resident Award*.

Caroline Straatmann, MD received the first annual *Outstanding Fellowship Teaching Award*.

Amy Creel, MD received the *Nicholas Gagliano, MD Outstanding Faculty Award*.

Melissa Roy, MD received the *Gretchen Life, MD Award*.

Dinesh Thekke Karumathil, MD received the *Outstanding Teaching Resident Award* and the *Penny Scurto, MD Outstanding Pediatric Resident Award*.

FOND FAREWELL TO ALL GRADUATES:

Pediatric Residents:

Natalie Ball Evans
Urvashi Barua-Nath
Brandace Hider
Jamie Jackson
Jeong Nam Kim-Judd
Athena Lefort

Andi Ocmund (will be chief)

Erin Pratt

Ricky Pratt

Melissa Roy (will be chief)

Neel Shah

Dinesh Thekke-Karumathil

Mia Weber

Med/Peds Residents:

Carl Burkland
Chris Oubre
Carolina Salas
John Steen, Jr.

A few residents will graduate off-cycle. **Veronica Garibaldi** completes her residency in March 2010, **Alberto Orioles** in October 2009 and **Mikah Sheridan** in January 2010. **Jessica Gautreaux** finished her 2nd year of residency and will start in Child Neurology in July.

WELCOME TO NEW RESIDENTS:

New Pediatric Residents:

Catherine Boudreaux
Katie Bruno
Hitesh Chheda
Melanie Cooper
Leah Douglas
Stewart Hill
Suzy Kingston
Dana LeBlanc
Nicole McMahon
Adrienne Musumeche
Quynh-Anh Nguyen
Jessica Patrick
Kathy Ramsey
Stephen Sanches
Chelsey Sandlin
Emily Simon
Hollie Stewart

New Med/Peds Residents:

Katie Brown
Caroline Burton
Moneef Hauter
Kalyan Muppavarapu
Faisal Musa
Arif Shahzad



UPCOMING EVENTS

July 3	Independence Day Holiday
July 17	Faculty Meeting, Auditorium
August 3-8	Pediatrics Board Review
August 21	Faculty Meeting, Auditorium
September 18	Faculty Meeting, Auditorium
October 16	Faculty Meeting, Auditorium

FOURTH OF JULY HOLIDAY

Administrative offices will be closed on Friday, July 3 in observation of Independence Day.



JULY SUBMISSIONS

Please send your submissions for the next issue of the newsletter to Kelly Allerton. You can reach Kelly by telephone (896-9800), fax (896-2720), or email (kslumb@lsuhsc.edu).

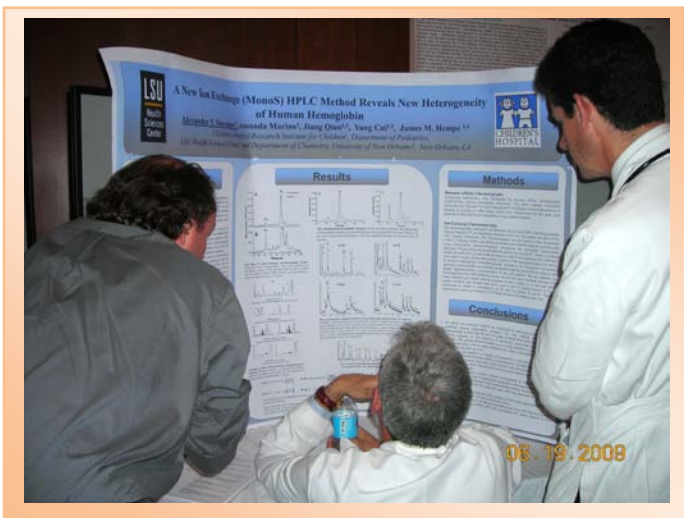
RESEARCH DAY 2009



Gital Karamchandani, MD, Luke Wall, MD, Cori Morrison, MD and Faisal Razzaqi, MD



Lily Leiva, PhD and Halina Sadowska-Krowicka, MD, PhD



Alexander Stoyanov, PhD, Stuart Chalew, MD and Ricardo Gomez, MD



Arleen Williams, BSN, CCM and Alfonso Vargas, MD