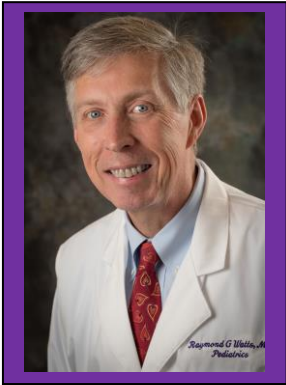


PEDS NEWS

LSU DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS

FROM THE CHAIR



I just returned from two academic meetings. First, was the American Society of Pediatric Hematology Oncology (ASPHO)

meeting and then, about a week later, the Pediatric Academic Societies (PAS) meeting. Several things struck me about both meetings. First, LSUHSC-New Orleans Department of Pediatrics was well represented. At ASPHO, many of our Pediatric Hematology Oncology faculty and trainees participated. Two fellows, Valerie Cruz and Hope Wilson, received prestigious trainee travel grants, while Dr. Dana LeBlanc shared a podium with researchers from the highest profile Pediatric Academic Medical Centers to present her work on pain models in sickle cell mice. At the PAS meeting, LSUHSC was well represented by several faculty and trainees including Drs. Diego Aviles and Isa Ashoor, Dr. Amanda Dumas, Vincent Devlin, Julie Gallois and incoming faculty member, Amanda Messer (hospitalist) (and maybe others that I missed).

My second take-home-point from both meetings was one of real excitement. So many Pediatric academic physicians are studying so many innovative and important things. The meetings, of course, highlighted really cool and complex genetic

Continued on next page

DEPARTMENT AWARDS AND APPOINTMENTS



Paul Hyman, MD receives the Research Mentor Award at Digestive Disease Week.

The American Gastroenterological Institute Council selected **Paul Hyman, MD** as the recipient of the 2017 Growth, Development & Child Health Section Research Mentor Award at Digestive Disease Week in Chicago earlier this month. Dr. Maria Oliva-Hemker of Johns Hopkins School of Medicine presented the award and shared her introduction of Dr. Hyman:

How appropriate that for this research mentor award that Dr. Hyman was nominated by one of his current 3rd year fellows Dr. Neha Santucci. We received supporting letters from 3 of his former fellows--Dr. Javier Monagas, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Children's Hospital of San Antonio, as well as 2 individuals that are quite well known to many in this room, Dr. Carlo DiLorenzo, Division Chief at Nationwide Children's, and Dr. Manu Sood, Division Chief at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin.

All of these individuals bring to light the fact that Dr. Hyman is the individual who is most credited with establishing the field of pediatric neurogastroenterology and motility in the United States. And in his over 35-year career Dr. Hyman continued to focus his research and clinical practice on pediatric functional GI disorders and chronic visceral pain. He was a founding member of the Pediatric Rome Group. He has more than 120 published articles and more than 60 chapters and has given numerous invited talks. Dr. Hyman is a physician who has promoted the biopsychosocial model of medicine and has been a strong advocate for the need to limit diagnostic procedures in children with functional disorders.

He has mentored 33 GI fellows and just as many residents, medical students and undergrads. Dr. Hyman was described in the nominating letters as "a quintessential research mentor". His mentees and colleagues repeatedly describe him as a passionate and enthusiastic educator, a person who is selfless, kind and caring with an infectious intellectual curiosity that he passes on to his mentees. So, it is with great pleasure that I present the 2017 GDCH award to Dr. Paul Hyman.

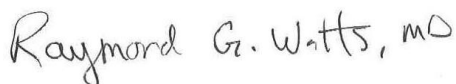
manipulations and high intensity science, but the overwhelming majority of work involves clinical research, translational research, quality and safety research, cost improvement and cost-containment research and physician wellness initiatives. These are all areas that LSUHSC Department of Pediatrics can contribute towards.

So, as we begin the 2017-2018 academic year in July, I encourage all to re-energize. Plan to attend a national or regional scientific meeting, either the global meetings such as the Southern Society for Pediatric Research meeting which is in New Orleans or the national PAS meeting. Alternatively, if you can learn more and make better contacts and collaborations from a sub-specialty meeting, such as the ASPHO meeting for hematologists, take that approach. Attendance at meetings offers so many opportunities. Take advantage. We have much to offer.

In the remainder of the newsletter you will see the great work and many awards coming to our faculty and trainees. Congratulations to all. Thanks also to Dr. Jerussa Aita-Levy and her many colleagues for continuing to emphasize physician wellness. Their work is crucial to our full success as a Department and as individual physicians, spouses, parents and children.

Finally, if you have not already made plans to attend, mark your calendars for Pediatric Research Day (and Yves Lacassie's retirement celebration) on Friday, June 9th, the Bonnie Desselle Celebration of her time as Residency Program Director on Saturday, June 10th and the Residency Program Hello-Goodbye Event on Friday, June 16th.

Thank you for all you do. I am proud of you and your work.



Raymond G. Watts, MD
Professor and Head
Department of Pediatrics
LSUHSC School of Medicine – New Orleans
William H. Stewart, MD Chair in Pediatrics

Congratulations to **Corey Hebert, MD** of the Ambulatory Division who received the 2017 Faculty Assembly Outstanding Service to the Community Award which acknowledges selfless acts by individual faculty members for the benefit of others served by either the SOM community and/or humanity in general.

Michael Lan, PhD received an LSU LIFT2 grant award this year for his research titled "Targeted Oncolytic Virus for Neuroendocrine Tumor Therapy and Diagnostics."

Kudos to two Hematology/Oncology fellows, **Hope Wilson, MD** and **Valerie Cruz-Flores, MD** who received Travel Awards from the American Society of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Diversity Special Interest Group. They used the award to attend ASPHO's international meeting in Montreal back in April. Program Director **Maria Velez, MD** says this is a very competitive award for trainees. The two fellows were both chosen based on their CV, accomplishments, letters of recommendation and personal statements.

After a revision of the LSUHSC School of Medicine Promotion and Tenure Guidelines and Criteria recently, Department Head **Raymond Watts, MD** and Hematology/Oncology Division Head **Lolie Yu, MD** have restructured the department's Promotion and Tenure Committee. Dr. Watts said the work of the past committee has been exceptional over the years, but with the new guidelines, this is an ideal time to introduce more diversity of background, gender and experience to the committee.

The following appointments took effect in 2017:

Committee Chair: Lolie Yu, MD

Vice Committee Chair: Brian Barkemeyer, MD

Full Professor Members: Bonnie Desselle, MD, Michael Lan, PhD, Betty Lo, MD, and Rodolfo Begue, MD

Associate Professor Members: Gary Duhon, MD, Ryan Pasternak, MD, Jay Hescocock, MD, Dana Rivera, MD and Suzanne Lefevre, MD

Congratulations to Endocrinology Fellow **Mahmoud Hamdan, MD** who became board certified in Clinical Lipidology. He is the first Pediatric Endocrinologist in the state of Louisiana and one of few in the country to receive the certification. He was also selected by the Pediatric Atherosclerosis Prevention and Lipidology Group, which is part of the National Lipid Association, to be an author of a tear sheet about metabolic syndrome in the pediatric/adolescent population.

In residency news, both Pediatrics and Medicine/Pediatrics Program Directors recently made announcements regarding their programs' chief residents. **Bonnie Desselle, MD** congratulates **Rachel Herdes, DO** and **Leah Nuss, MD** who will serve as 2018-2019 Pediatric Chief Residents. Dr. Desselle commented that both have demonstrated outstanding clinical, teaching and leadership skills and will most certainly serve our program well as chief residents.



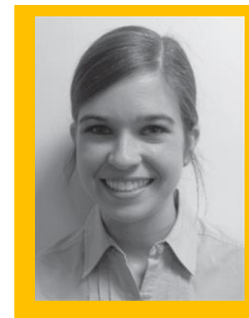
Rachel Herdes, DO



Leah Nuss, MD



Shannon Palombo, MD

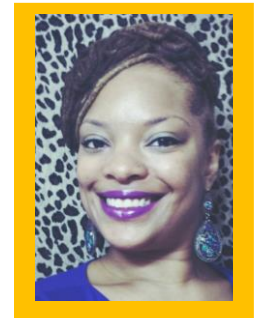


Elizabeth Smith, MD

On the Med/Peds side, Program Director **Betty Lo, MD** announced **Shannon Palombo, MD** and **Elizabeth Smith, MD** will become the 2017-2018 chief residents. She thanked outgoing chiefs **Ellen Chang, MD** and **Jane Beck, MD** for their hard work and leadership this past year and wished them continued success in their personal and professional endeavors.

NEW HIRE

The Ambulatory Division welcomed **Jamilla Webb, BSN, RN** recently. She is a registered nurse with several years of experience working in reproductive and sexual health as well as with adolescents. She joins the division as part of the expanding Reproductive Education + Advocacy Louisiana or "REAL" program (link on webpage). She will be working with our Adolescent Medicine providers, patients and families in a number of clinical settings. We are excited to have Jamilla and her great smile on-board! Please welcome Jamilla.



Jamilla Webb, BSN, RN

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

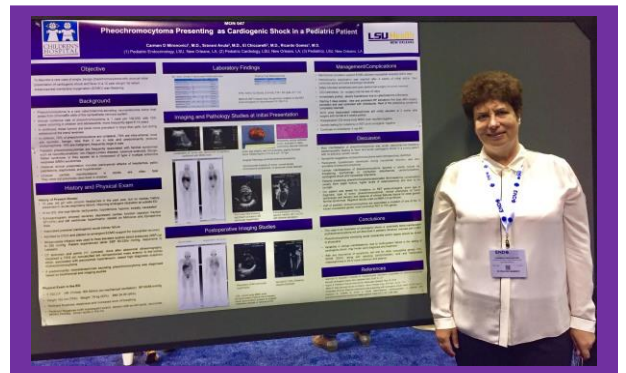
Marble M, Guillen Sacoto MJ, Chikarmane R, Gargiulo D, Juusola J. Missense variant in *UBA2* associated with aplasia cutis congenita, Duane anomaly, hip dysplasia and other anomalies: A possible new disorder involving the SUMOylation pathway. *Am J Med Genet. A*, DOI:10.1002/ajmg.a38078, 2017.



Luke Wall, MD, Ricardo Sorensen, MD and Kenneth Paris, MD, MPH

Luke Wall, MD, Ricardo Sorensen, MD and Kenneth Paris, MD, MPH spoke to patients at the Immune Deficiency Foundation Educational Meeting in Baton Rouge back in March. Each gave a presentation and participated in a Q&A forum (pictured to the left) for patients and families living with Primary Immunodeficiencies.

Endocrinology fellow **Carmen Mironovici, MD, PhD** presented a poster titled "Pheochromocytoma Presenting as Cardiogenic Shock in a Pediatric Patient" at the Endocrine Society meeting in Orlando back in March.



Carmen Mironovici, MD, PhD

Endocrinology fellow **Mahmoud Hamdan, MD** will present for the third year in a row at the American Diabetes Association meeting in San Diego next month. His poster titled *Does Iron Status Explain Racial Disparity in Mean Blood Glucose Independent HbA1c Outcome for Children with Type 1 DM?* was also authored by **Ricardo Gomez, MD** and **Stuart Chalew, MD**.

SOUTHERN SOCIETY for PEDIATRIC RESEARCH

The LSU Department of Pediatrics made a strong showing at the annual meeting of the Southern Society for Pediatric Research (SSPR) in February. Presentations included:

Oral Presentations:

Survivorship Analysis for Pediatric Wilms' Tumor: A Children's Hospital of New Orleans Experience, L Raney and D Leblanc

Paroxysmal Nocturnal Hemoglobinuria: A 5-Year Institutional Review, HP Wilson, S Moss, M Stark and MC Velez

Prevalence of Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders in Infants and Toddlers According to the Rome IV Criteria, S Robin, C Keller, R Zwiener, P Hyman, S Nurko, M Saps, C Di Lorenzo, R Shulman, J Hyams, O Palsson and M van Tilburg

Poster Presentations:

Pheochromocytoma Presenting in Cardiogenic Shock, S Avula, C Mironovici and EN Chiccarelli

A Survey About Fever Knowledge and Attitudes Among Parents, M Caffery, M Hiller and RE Begue

A Case of Persistent Neutropenia Without Recurrent Infections, VP Devlin and A Rubinstein

Recrudescence of Malarial Infection in a Recently Immigrated Pediatric Patient, R Herdes, S Graebert, M Shapiro and RE Begue

An Intriguing Case of Microcytic Anemia In A Pediatric Patient: Collagenous Gastritis, R Herdes, R Arrouk and M Stark

A Neonate with Congenital Facial Palsy and Thrombocytopenia, M Hills and J Patrick-Esteve

Unusual Presentation of Henoch Schonlein Purpura (Hsp), MC Gaston

Vertebral Compression Fractures as a Unique Presentation of Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia in a 3-Year-Old Male, KM Gleditsch and R Gardner

Untreated Hypothyroidism Resulting in Myxedema Coma And Heart Failure, R Kamat, B Ford, E Sowell, LS Engel and R McCarron

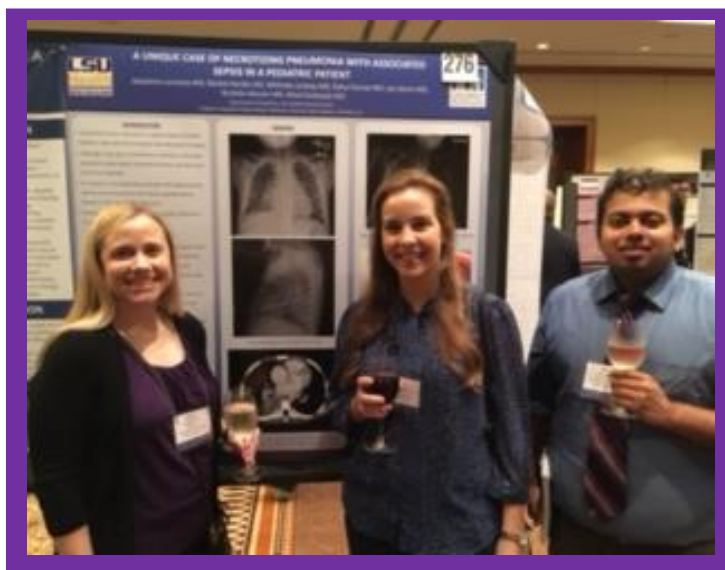
Cavernous Malformation as A Unique Mimicker of Transverse Myelitis. R Kamat, R Herdes, M Lemoine, W Lindsey and G Duhon

Respiratory Failure in an Infant with Spondyloepiphyseal Dysplasia Congenita, M Knecht, J Gallois and S Olister

A Unique Case of Necrotizing Pneumonia with Associated Sepsis in a Pediatric Patient, M Lemoine, R Herdes, W Lindsey, R Kamat, J Storm, R Monier and N Godiwala

Nutritional Rickets: A Rare Case of Renal Rickets, WJ Lindsey, R Herdes, R Kamat, SJ Beck and I Ashoor

Translocation Associated Renal Cell Carcinoma as a Secondary Malignancy in a Pediatric Patient Previously Treated with Allogeneic Stem Cell Transplant for Philadelphia Chromosome Positive Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia, H Menghani, M Stark, D Aviles, M Haymon and L Yu



Rachel Herdes, DO, Madeline Lemoine, MD and Rahul Kamat, MD present a poster at the Southern Regional Meeting in February.

Response to Enzyme Replacement Therapy, T Nguyen, S Avula, M Marble and C Lilje

Occult Epidural Abscess Presenting as Fever of Unknown Origin, L Nuss, B Casey, A Prudhomme and D Leblanc

Not Your Ordinary Coagulopathy, L Raney and R Gardner

An Unusual Complication of Influenza, MJ Sims and A McFarlin

A Syndrome to Not Overlook: Joubert Syndrome, MC Steinhardt, C Mumphrey, M Marble and J Surcouf

The Prevalence of Donor Breast Milk Usage in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, JL Steinkampf and S Olistier

Pneumococcal Protection, Not Atopy, S Sussman, LE Leiva and LA Wall

Bell's Palsy and Encephalitis in an Adolescent with Epsteinbarr Virus Mononucleosis, T Tarro and RE Begue

Raf1 Mutation Causing Severe Biventricular Hypertrophy in a Preterm Infant, DE Thompson, J Patrick, J Surcouf and D Rivera

Influenza Vaccines Effectiveness 2013-2016, A Test-Negative Study in Children, HL Valdin and RE Begue

DEPARTMENT WELLNESS WEEK

The Wellness Committee presented the first annual Department of Pediatrics Wellness Week last month (see pictures on right). The schedule of events included lots of activities:

- Resident aerobics class
- Mindfulness training/yoga session
- Physician burnout and wellness Grand Rounds by **Stuart Slavin, MD, MEd** of St. Louis University
- "Heal the Healer" event which was very well attended
- Resident Baby Cakes baseball game
- Healthy treats in the resident lounge and administrative office

Stay tuned for more activities from the Wellness Committee in the new academic year!



IN THE NEWS

Our own **Alfonso Vargas, MD** was the subject of a recent Medical Watch story by Meg Farris of WWL-TV Channel 4. The story, titled "Al Copeland's Legacy Helped Connect Local Man with New Cancer Drug" can be seen here:

<http://www.wwltv.com/news/health/al-copelands-legacy-helped-connect-local-man-with-new-cancer-drug/409072238>

Dr. Vargas thanks LSUHSC Director of Information Services **Leslie Capo** for organizing the interview, helping to promote the LSUHSC Cancer Center, and disseminating news of their fantastic work of both clinical and basic research. Dr. Vargas says the Copeland Family has been fantastic and extremely supportive of him. He remains highly optimistic with a very positive attitude (exactly what we would expect of him!).

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please mark your calendars for the several department events planned for the next month:

The department will dedicate **2017 Pediatrics Research Day** to **Yves Lacassie, MD** on Friday, June 9. His retirement celebration begins at 11:00am in the Children's Hospital Auditorium. Lunch will follow at 12:00pm and Research Day at 1:00pm. If you have not submitted an abstract yet, you have till midnight on Sunday, May 21 to participate. All faculty, fellows, research professionals, residents and students (LSU undergraduate, graduate and medical students working with LSU Pediatrics faculty mentors) of the Department of Pediatrics and Research Institute for Children are invited to submit abstracts. Please check your email for the official announcement regarding abstract submission.

Be sure to purchase your ticket for the social event of the year! The **Pediatrics Resident Reunion Honoring Dr. Bonnie Desselle** will be held Saturday, June 10 from 7pm – 10pm at the Bourbon Vieux at 501 Bourbon Street. All faculty, fellows, residents and staff of the department are invited to attend the reunion which will also recognize the many years Dr. Desselle served as Pediatrics Program Director. The planning committee has been working hard to make the reunion extra special. They ask that you purchase your tickets by May 31. Click here to purchase your ticket: <https://give.lsuhealthfoundation.org/desselle>. At Dr. Desselle's request, all proceeds will benefit the LSU Pediatrics Residency Program.



Bonnie Desselle, MD

Finally, please plan to attend the **Hello/Good-Bye** ceremony on Friday, June 16 in the Children's Hospital Auditorium. Graduating Residents and Fellows will be honored as we also welcome the new 2017-2018 interns.

Faculty are asked to set aside time away from clinic to attend upcoming faculty meetings on May 19th and July 21st. Each will be held on Friday at noon in the Children's Hospital Auditorium. A link to past faculty meeting presentations can be found on the department website. The website link requires an email and password to enter. The data stored on that site is for our use only and not for general distribution.

SAVE THE DATE

May 19	Faculty Meeting, Auditorium
May 24	Spring Fellowship Match Day
June 9	Research Day, Auditorium
June 10	Resident Reunion Honoring Dr. Desselle, 501 Bourbon St
June 16	Hello/Good-Bye, Auditorium
July 21	Faculty Meeting, Auditorium



Dr. Watts welcomed a Mardi Gras Indian to the hospital back in February!