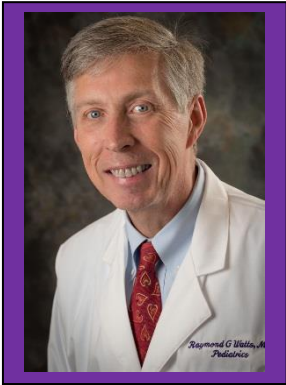


PEDS NEWS

LSU DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS

FROM THE CHAIR



Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, Happy Hanukkah, and a safe holiday season. I suspect the last week of

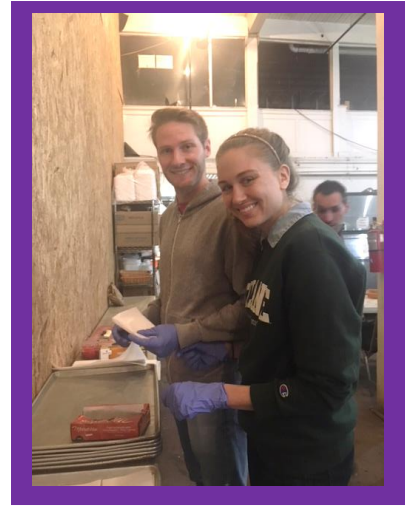
December will find many of us spread far and wide with families and friends while other members of our team work to carry on our patient care and educational missions during the holiday period. Thanks to all of you, no matter your role.

2017 was an exceptional year for the LSU Department of Pediatrics. I shared many highlights at the November 17th, "State of the Department" faculty meeting. If you were unable to attend that meeting, I encourage you to visit our Department webpage and the "Past/Archived Faculty Meetings Section" to review slides from that presentation. I am so proud of all you have accomplished in 2017.

This month's newsletter highlights even more faculty activities. Take time to review what your colleagues are accomplishing in areas of research, scholarship, education and advocacy.

2018 promises to challenge us. Challenge us to be leaders of the transformation which CHNOLA is

HEALTHY TIGERS VOLUNTEER



Members of the department volunteer at the New Orleans Mission.

Several residents and faculty members represented the department well at the New Orleans Mission recently as part of one of the many efforts organized by The Healthy Tigers. Chairman Raymond Watts, Ryan Pasternak, his wife Merisa and son Hayden, Staci Olistter, Raynorda Brown, Rachel Herdes, Stephanie Graebert, Madeline Lemoine, Amanda Glinky, Tyler Kingdon and fiancée Joie Stoopack, Victoria Habet, and Allyson Schreiber served dinner to the homeless and rehabilitated earlier this month.

BOOK DRIVE

The Healthy Tigers also organized a Holiday Book Drive to help supply our Tiger Care clinic with books to give patients. The group will continue to collect new and gently used books for kids of all ages (don't forget those adolescents!) until the beginning of the new year. Collection boxes are located in the Pediatrics Administrative Office on the State Street Campus (next to the mailboxes), the Pediatric Residency Lounge (off 4C) and in the Doctor's Lounge (First floor of the hospital). Please take some time to donate this season and "give the gift of reading!". Thank you to Rachel Herdes, Amanda Glinky and their team of residents for organizing the book drive and volunteer night at the mission! And thanks to the donors:

Money Donations (received a total of \$165): Michelle Botello, Jamie Wiggins, Hyang Lee, Amanda Glinky, Rahul Kamut, Brittany Casey

Book Donations: LSU Pediatrics Faculty, Staff and Residents, Children's Hospital Staff, Blue Cypress Books, LASPCA, Phi Mu of Tulane University, Friends of New Orleans Public Library, Sirens of New Orleans

undergoing. We will need to lead the implementation of the EPIC electronic medical record system, lead reorganization of our clinical activities, lead changes to medical staff governance to empower physicians to use their expertise to make our hospital even better, lead a positive response to construction challenges (parking) and lead the cultural changes moving forward under John Nickens' new leadership.

2018 also promises opportunities to lead re-invention of our educational programs and research opportunities. I know many of you have great ideas and initiatives to try. Get ready for 2018.

I am confident that we will meet all of these challenges and more in 2018. Have a rejuvenating holiday break with those you love. Return in early January ready to power forward.

Raymond G. Watts, MD

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

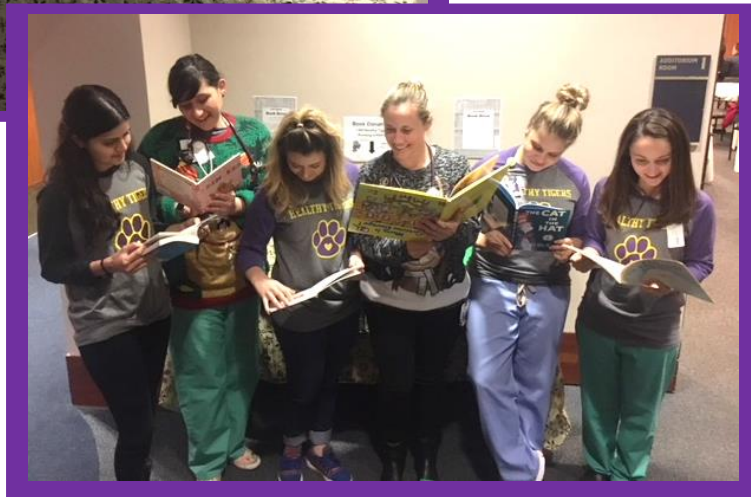
December 25 –	Holiday
January 2	Break
January 15	MLK Holiday
February 13	Mardi Gras
February 16 – 18	PESTOLA
February 22 – 24	SSPR
March 16	Match Day

EDITOR:

Kelly Allerton, kslumb@lsuhsc.edu
 Please email submissions for the next issue and include photos.



Some members of the Healthy Tigers preview a few of the books donated to their Holiday Book Drive.



DEPARTMENT AWARDS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



Congratulations to Joseph M. LaRoche, PharmD, BCPPS, FCCP (pictured left), Gratis Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatrics, who was recently inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy. In addition to his new status, he received the Chair's Award of the Pediatric Practice and Research Network for sustained and significant contributions to Pediatrics. Marcia L. Buck, PharmD, President of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy, presented the award.

Several Pediatrics Fellowship programs recently matched for the upcoming 2018-2019 academic year. Program Director **Kenneth Paris, MD, MPH** will welcome current Medicine/Pediatrics chief resident **Elizabeth Smith, MD** as Allergy/Immunology Fellow. **Ricardo Gomez, MD** and the Endocrinology division will welcome **Jaya Bhat, MD** who is currently completing residency at the University of South Alabama Children's and Women's Hospital in Mobile. **Dana Rivera, MD** and the Neonatology fellowship program matched LSU SOM graduate **Peter Joslyn, MD**. He is currently completing his third year of residency at the University of Texas Southwestern in Dallas. And earlier this year, Hematology/Oncology Program Director **Maria Velez, MD** matched two applicants in Hematology/Oncology. **Gisela Marrero-Rivera, MD** is currently a Chief Resident at the University of Puerto Rico Pediatric

Hospital in San Juan. The program also matched **Vincent Whelan, MD** who completed his residency at UCSF Fresno. Program Director **Kelly Gajewski, MD** and the Cardiology division matched two candidates as well for 2018. **Sanchitha Guruchandrasekar, MD** is currently finishing her third year of residency at University of Florida in Pensacola and **Musunkumuki Kadochi, MD** is a resident at Western Michigan University Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine in Kalamazoo, MI.

Pediatrics Residency Program Director **Chelsey Sandlin, MD** congratulates **Monica Hajirawala, MD** and **Jordan Lim, MD** who will serve as chief residents in the 2018-2019 academic year. Dr. Sandlin commented that these two residents have consistently exhibited excellent clinical skills and interpersonal communication abilities. They are both interested in teaching and helping to further develop our program. Congratulations to our two new leaders!



Monica Hajirawala, MD



Jordan Lim, MD

NEW FACULTY



Jason Turner, MD

The Cardiac Intensive Care Division welcomed **Jason Turner, MD** as an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics earlier this month. Dr. Turner is well known to the LSU and Children’s Hospital family. He earned his undergraduate degree at LSU and completed medical training at the University of Queensland, School of Medicine. After completing Pediatric Residency and Pediatric Cardiology Fellowship in our Department, he sought additional training in Pediatric Cardiac Critical Care completed at the University of Alabama at Birmingham in 2016. Jason was the first Pediatric Cardiac Intensive Care physician to work in the Cardiac ICU. He now joins Dr. Kurt Piggott’s team working to strengthen the peri-operative and post-operative multi-disciplinary care to children with complex heart defects at Children’s Hospital.

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Yves Lacassie, MD published an article titled “New Ocular Finding in Baraitser-Winter Syndrome” in the *European Journal of Medical Genetics* back in October. Other authors include LSU medical student **Natalie Rall**, Ophthalmologist **Alejandro Leon, MD**, **Ricardo Gomez, MD** and **Jessica Daroca**.

The Gastroenterology Division made a strong showing at the annual meeting of the North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition (NASPGHAN) in Las Vegas last month. Fellow **Russell Zwiener, MD** gave an oral presentation while Fellow **LaQuatre Rhodes, DO**, Residents **Amanda Glinky, MD** and **Rachel Herdes, DO** presented posters.



Top Left: **Russell Zwiener, LaQuatre Rhodes, Amanda Glinky, Raynorda Brown and Elizabeth Alonso.**

Top Right: **LaQuatre Rhodes, Russell Zwiener and Former Fellow Stan Malowitz.**

Bottom Left: **Raynorda Brown and LaQuatre Rhodes.**

Bottom Middle: **Rachel Herdes.**

Bottom Right: **Russell Zwiener.**

The Allergy/Immunology Division recently hosted their annual symposium sponsored by the Jeffrey Modell Center and the Louisiana Primary Immunodeficiency Network (JMC-LAPIN). Symposium Chairs **Ricardo Sorensen, MD** and **Kenneth Paris, MD, MPH** invited local and national speakers to lecture about the event's focus, Pulmonary Infections, Immunodeficiencies and Inflammation. The division's faculty and fellows participated with oral presentations.

UPCOMING CONFERENCE

The Endocrinology Division will be hosting the annual regional meeting of the Pediatric Endocrine Society of Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana and Arkansas (PESTOLA) February 16 – 18, 2018 at the Doubletree Hotel downtown. All are welcome to view the agenda and register to attend the conference at www.pestola.org.

Participants interested in presenting an oral presentation or poster presentation are invited to submit an abstract. All abstracts will undergo peer review by the Abstract Review Committee and may be accepted for oral and/or poster presentation. Participants are particularly invited to submit cases regarding ethics. Abstract submission information is also on the PESTOLA website. The deadline for receiving abstracts is Sunday, December 31, 2017.

NEW ADDITIONS



Gabriella Lucía Cervantes-Moll

Medicine/Pediatrics Residency Coordinator **Vilma Cervantes** and her husband Ashley welcomed their baby girl, Gabriella Lucía Cervantes-Moll, on November 22, 2017. A few weeks later, Chief Resident **Rayne Schexnayder, MD** and her husband Marc welcomed baby girl Quinn Renée Schexnayder on December 8, snow day in Louisiana!



Quinn Renee Schexnayder

Jazz Half-Marathon



RESIDENCY FUN



Halloween Board Review



Left: Samantha Harder, Stephanie Graebert and Meghan Murphy rented a pedicab as a Christmas gift for their favorite Residency Coordinator, Susan Wack. The four of them took turns riding around the Children's Hospital campus.