

# Going Viral: LSU ID NOLA Newsletter

LSU Infectious Diseases  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
Summer 2024



**Graduation Celebration 2024** — The LSU ID Section celebrated the graduation of Hope Oddo-Moise on June 27, 2024 at Ralph's on the Park. She was a great ambassador for the LSU ID Fellowship and Section. She will be joining the LSU Department of Medicine as an Associate Program Director for the Internal Medicine Residency Program, (see Graduation Celebration page 2)

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## Graduation Celebration 2024 (continued from page 1)

and staffing the Internal Medicine inpatient ward teams at UMC and Touro. Hope will keep her toe in the Infectious Diseases waters by staffing the LSU ID Fellows Clinic and the ID Consult Service at UMC.





**Graduation Celebration 2024 at Ralph's on the Park**— Was also a welcoming celebration for the incoming ID Fellows for the 2024-2025 academic year, and a good-bye celebration for Yussef Bennani, who leaves LSU in July to join Virginia Commonwealth University Division of Infectious Diseases in Richmond, VA.



**Heartfelt Good-Bye  
to Yussef Bennani —**  
He will be joining Virginia  
Commonwealth University  
Division of Infectious Dis-  
eases in Richmond, VA as an  
Associate Professor. We  
wish him and his family  
well.



# LSU ID Faculty Spotlight

## LSU Leadership Academy Inaugural Class of 2023

Congratulations to the ID Faculty who were among 34 in the inaugural class of the LSU Leadership Academy. This year-long learning focused on skills needed to be a strong leader including self-management, conflict management, building and working in teams as well as a variety of other topics.

- ◆ Victoria Burke
- ◆ Lee Engel
- ◆ Julio Figueroa
- ◆ Mike Hagensee
- ◆ Fred Lopez



### LSU Penicillin Allergy Testing Trial Highlighted in NIAID blog

“Approximately 15% of people attending STI clinics report an allergy to penicillin, which prevents them from using the preferred BPG treatment. However, previous studies have shown more than 95% of people who self-reported penicillin allergy could safely use the antibiotic, according to allergy test results. Rebecca Lillis, M.D., (Infectious Diseases) from the Louisiana State University School of Medicine, shared a validated process for determining penicillin allergy status in an STI care setting, which would enable providers to safely clear people who previously reported penicillin allergy for use of BPG. [www.niaid.nih.gov](http://www.niaid.nih.gov)

Dr. Meredith Clement (Infectious Diseases) and her collaborators were recently awarded a \$480,000 4-year award from the CDC. Project PrOVIDE will evaluate implementation strategies to address barriers and increase uptake of and persistence on PrEP among Black cis-gender women in six distinct EHE priority counties. Dr. Clement will be also be a subrecipient with Tulane on a 2<sup>nd</sup> CDC Application entitled STIIRC RPTOP: Egocentric Sexual Network Study to Inform HIV, Mpox and other STI. Activities conducted are intended to produce the research needed to increase knowledge about sexual activity and sexual networks among diverse groups to inform the content and methods for interventions related to achieving STI prevention and health equity impact.



Great job, Dr. Clement.

## New Orleans ID Citywide Conference

On Friday August 18, 2023, we welcomed Tom Chiller, MD, MPHTM from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to give the conference in person at LSU. The title was: **Fungus Among Us: Emergence of *Candida auris***. The conference was well-received.



From Left: Will Russell (Tulane ID Fellow), Hope Oddo-Moise, Victoria Burke, Tom Chiller, Meredith Clement, Fred Lopez, Joanne Maffei

### LSU Health Sciences Center White Coat Ceremony 10/20/23

Taking part in this year's ceremony from the Infectious Diseases Section—Yussef Bennani, Victoria Burke, and Paula Seal





Dr. Julio Figueroa (Infectious Diseases) has been appointed by the Infectious Diseases Society of America Board of Directors as the Vice Chair of the Quality Measurement & Improvement subcommittee for a two-year term.

Congratulations, Dr. Figueroa!



Dr. Lauren Richey (Infectious Diseases) was selected to serve as the vice chair for the HIVMA Ryan White Provider Community of Practice. This will include 2 years as vice chair followed by 2 years as chair.

Congratulations, Dr. Richey!



Dr. Fred A. Lopez (Infectious Diseases) and Dr. Cynthia J. Brown were recently invited to direct the American College of Physicians (ACP) Rapid Board Review 2024 Pre-Course at its Annual Session in Boston, MA on April 16-17, 2024.



Dr. Michael E. Hagensee (Infectious Diseases) will serve as the Interim Director of the Office of Research Services. In this role he plans to focus on increasing research in all the Schools at LSUHSC, to work with our affiliate hospitals and local institutions to promote research endeavors and to increase the growth of the clinical trials office. Dr. Hagensee has served as the Vice Chair for Research for the Department of Medicine for many years, and we have benefitted from his knowledge of research and clinical trials.

Congratulations, Dr. Hagensee, on your new role!



## LSU Section of Infectious Diseases IDWeek Boston October 11—15, 2023

Dr. Meredith Clement has 2 talks, a State-of-the-Art HIV Care and Prevention lecture titled "Diagnosis of HIV in People on Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis" and an HIV Management: Clinical Case Conundrums – A Wheel of Knowledge Challenge.



Several posters are also being presented:

1. *Weight Gain and Weight Loss Attempts among People with HIV(PWH) in Louisiana.* Authors included Dr. Lauren Richey, Dr. David Welsh (Pulmonary/Critical Care) and colleagues.
2. *Evaluation of comparative HIV care continuum outcomes following three years of program implementation of the PositiveLinks smartphone intervention among people with HIV with and without substance use.* Authors included Dr. Lauren Richey, as well as colleagues from the University of Virginia.
3. *ID Fellow Quality Improvement Project Shows Gains in Oral Health Exams for People with HIV.* Authors included Dr. Terrence Park (ID Fellow), Dr. Lauren Richey, and Dr. Paula Seal.
4. *Promising Changes in Antibiotic Utilization Associated with Implementation of Rapid Multiplex Polymerase Chain Reaction Testing For Bloodstream Infection.* Authors included: Dr. Tat Yau, Dr. Michelle Blyth, and Dr. Julio E. Figueroa.
5. *Compliance with Human Papillomavirus Vaccination At the HIV Out patient Program in New Orleans, Louisiana.* Authors included Dr. Tat Yau, Dr. Maria Frontini, and Dr. Michael Hagensee.



# LSU Section of Infectious Diseases

## IDWeek Boston October 11–15, 2023



1172

**Compliance With Human Papillomavirus Vaccination At The HIV Outpatient Program In New Orleans, Louisiana**

Tat Yau MD, MPH; Marla Frerichs MD, MSc, MPH; Michael Hagenesse MD, PhD  
Louisiana State University Health New Orleans School of Medicine, New Orleans, Louisiana

**Section of Infectious Diseases, Department of Internal Medicine, Louisiana State University Health New Orleans School of Medicine, New Orleans, Louisiana**

**Introduction**

- Guidelines recommend the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine.
- All adults through age 26
- Shared clinical decision-making for those aged 27 through 45 years
- The intent of this study is to evaluate HPV vaccination rates at the HIV Outpatient Program (HOP) at University Medical Center in New Orleans.

**Methods**

- Immunization records from patients aged 18 through 45 years seen at the HIV/AIDS infectious diseases fellows' clinic in 2022 were reviewed.

**Results**

- Among patients under age 27: 16 of 21 visits (71%) had completed HPV vaccine series
- 4 visits (19%) had incomplete series
- 2 visits (10%) did not have any HPV vaccines record
- Among patients aged 27 through 45: 49 of 174 visits (28%) had completed HPV vaccines
- 4 visits (19%) had incomplete series
- 34 visits (19%) had partial vaccination records
- 81 visits (47%) had no records

**Conclusion**

- Vaccination compliance among the LSU HOP clinic is suboptimal.
- Only 71% of visits for patient aged to 26 years old at the HOP clinic had completed HPV vaccine series.
- Only 39% of visits for patients aged 27 through 45 years old were fully vaccinated with HPV vaccines.
- Patients in this age group are often labeled "aged out" of the clinic, meaning they are no longer considered to be at high risk for HPV infection.
- These results lead to the institution of a new quality improvement intervention to encourage vaccination and health maintenance in this age group.
- This intervention will focus on the following: 1) education about the vaccination requirements for this age group, 2) health maintenance and 3) education about the importance of vaccination.

**Figure 1. HPV vaccine status (by number of visits) at LSU ID fellows' clinic for those aged under 27 in 2022.**

**Figure 2. HPV vaccine status (by number of visits) at LSU ID fellows' clinic for those aged between 27 and 45 in 2022.**

**LSU Health NEW ORLEANS**

**RESULTS**

**BACKGROUND**

**RESULTS**

**Table 1: Patient Demographic Data**

Characteristic	Number	Percentage
Age (years)	25	37%
Sex	Female	53%
Race	White	73%
Education	High school or less	44%
Employment	Full-time	37%
Health Insurance	Private	53%
Employment	Full-time	37%
Health Insurance	Private	53%

**Table 2: HIV Primary Care Patients Seen in the HIV Dental Clinic during the Intervention Period**

Year	Percentage
2022	37%

**Table 3: Dental Referrals and Visits for HIV Primary Care Patients**

Time Period	Number of Referrals	% of those seen in HIV clinic	Number of Visits	% of those seen in HIV clinic	Total number of dental visits	Avg. number of visits per patient
Pre-Intervention	242	38%	285	44%	517	1.8
Post-Intervention	346	56%	329	47%	586	1.8

**CONCLUSIONS**

Early results indicate an improvement in the referrals and an increase in oral health exams with the quality improvement intervention. Outcomes were limited by the small sample size and lack of COVID vaccine and testing data. However, the average number of dental visits per patient was higher during the intervention period.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Contact: Lauren E. Rickey, MD, MPH, lauren.rickey@lsuhsc.edu



Fred A. Lopez, MD, MACP, Professor of Medicine and Vice Chair of Education in the Department of Internal Medicine, has been appointed by the American College of Physicians as a Deputy Editor of the Medical Knowledge Self-Assessment Program (i.e., MKSAP), the "most trusted resource in continuous learning for internal medicine physicians and residents."



## Positive results for pivotal phase 3 trial of a first-in-class antibiotic for gonorrhoea

Dr. Stephanie Taylor, Dr. Rebecca Lillis (Infectious Diseases) and other members of LSU STI Research team were involved in this complicated and important phase 3 trial of a new antibiotic treatment for gonorrhea. Our LSU STI Clinic was a site and during the first few years of the trial our clinic was the highest enroller in a trial with international sites.



Great job Team!

You can read the press release at:

<https://gardp.org/positive-results-announced-in-largest-pivotal-phase-3-trial-of-a-first-in-class-oral-antibiotic-to-treat-uncomplicated-gonorrhoea/>

Dr. Nabil Essajee (4th year Medical student), Dr. Hope Oddo-Moise (ID Fellow), and Infectious Disease faculty Dr. Michael Hagensee, Dr. Rebecca Lillis, Dr. Joanne Maffei, and Dr. Meredith Clement recently published in *AIDS Research and Human Retroviruses* in a special issue on Mpoxy and HIV. Great job, ID Team!



The 27th Edition of Cecil's Textbook of Medicine (edited by Lee Goldman and Kathleen A. Cooney) has recently been published. Drs. Fred A. Lopez (LSU) and Karen C. Bloch (Vanderbilt University) are co-authors of a chapter entitled, "Tularemia and other Francisella Infections".



Dr. Rebecca Lillis (Infectious Diseases) and colleagues recently published in *Post-graduate Medicine*, this paper on STI diagnoses presenting as lower GU symptoms. The team used de-identified insurance claims data and showed delayed STI antibiotic treatment and low rates of testing, which suggests late STI consideration and suboptimal diagnosis. Nice work, Dr. Lillis!



POSTGRADUATE MEDICINE  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/0832541X.2023.280439>

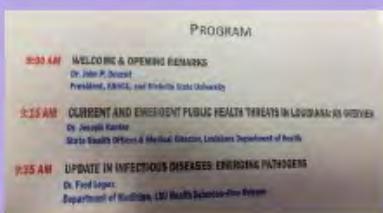
Taylor & Francis  
Taylor & Francis Group

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

OPEN ACCESS

Potential delayed and/or missed STI diagnoses among outpatients presenting with lower genitourinary tract symptoms: a real-world database study

Louis Kurnitzky  , Zume Huynh  , Rodney Arcenas  , Avneet Hansra  , Roma Shah  , Baiyu Yang  , and Rebecca Lillis  



Dr. Joseph Kanter (Emergency Medicine) and Dr. Fred Lopez (Infectious Diseases) recently spoke at the *Infectious Diseases and Louisiana : Impact and Current Medical Knowledge* meeting sponsored by the Environment and Health Council of Louisiana at the University of New Orleans.

Dr. Tat Yau, Dr. Meredith Clement (Infectious Diseases) and UNC colleagues have a poster at the upcoming Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections titled “Persistent HIV-1 Plasma Viremia in Patients on Therapy Caused by Macrophage-Tropic Lineage”

Strong work!



The LSU Internal Medicine Clerkship received the highest ranking of “Excellent” from the Aesculapian Society for the 2022—2023 academic year. Dr. Victoria Burke is one of the clerkship leaders. She also helped with teaching physical exam to the first-year medical students

December 1<sup>st</sup> is World AIDS Day 35 and the HOP Clinic and Infectious Diseases section has been involved in week-long activities at UMC including a lunch & learn by Dr. Paula Seal (Infectious Diseases) titled “HIV in New Orleans and Louisiana: The road behind us and path forward”.

## NOLA HIV Awareness Week

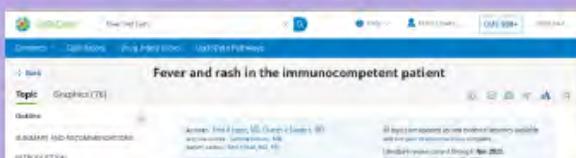
Presented by the HOP Clinic



### HOP World AIDS Day Activities 2023



Drs. Bo Sanders and Fred Lopez (Infectious Diseases) recently updated their chapter on Fever and Rash in the Immunocompetent Patient for the UpToDate electronic textbook.



Dr. Paula Seal (Infectious Diseases) was recently interviewed by WGNO about the one-year anniversary of the New Orleans Bounce to Zero campaign. Bounce to Zero, a Ryan White Services and Resources campaign under the New Orleans Health Department, aims to raise awareness about HIV prevention, testing and treatment in New Orleans. The interview and story can be viewed here: [https://wgno.com/news/louisiana/orleans-parish/new-orleans-bounce-to-zero-marks-one-year-in-fight-against-hiv/](https://wgno.com/news/louisiana/orleans-parish-new-orleans-bounce-to-zero-marks-one-year-in-fight-against-hiv/)



**Tina Q. Tan, MD, FAAP, FIDSA, FPIDS**  
**Dascomb Lectureship December 15, 2023**

**An Update on Vaccines Routinely Recommended  
for Adults and New Vaccines in Development:  
What, When and How**



The Harry Emerson Dascomb, M.D. Lecture-ship—is given in honor of Harry Emerson Dascomb, M.D., whose compassion, clinical acumen, and dedication to the care of the total patient inspired all who have known him as a friend, scholar, and physician.

**Tina Q. Tan, MD, FAAP, FIDSA, FPIDS**

Medical Director, International Patient and Destination Services Program, Vice-President, Lurie Medical/Dental Staff Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, Professor of Pediatrics, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, President-elect, Infectious Diseases Society of America Board of Directors



Infectious Diseases Team with Dr. Tan after Dascomb Lectureship

## **Dascomb Lectureship Continued**



Dr. Tan met with Medical Students, Residents, Infectious Diseases Fellows and Faculty in several small group sessions with the focus of career development in Infections Diseases. Dinner was celebrated at Brennan's Restaurant in the French Quarter



**LSU Medical School  
Class of '88 Represent!!!**  
Classmates pose for selfie before the lectureship. From Left—  
Stephanie Taylor, Stephen  
Kantrow, Tina Tan, and Joanne  
Maffei. Nice mini-reunion.



Dinner at Brennan's Restaurant. From Left: Victoria Burke, Paula Seal, Yussef Bennani, Julio Figueroa, Tina Tan, Joanne Maffei, Lauren Richey

## Dascomb Dinner Continued



Everyone enjoyed the dinner at Brennan's. Top photo From Left: Meredith Clement, Jane Martin, David Martin, Fred Lopez and M. Jacques Nsuami



Dr. Stephanie Taylor (Infectious Diseases) is a co-author of Chapter 275 in the second volume "Neisseria gonorrhoeae Infections" published in the 27th Edition of the Goldman-Cecil Medicine textbook.

Congratulations, Dr. Taylor



Dr. Victoria Burke (Infectious Diseases) LSU-NO Clerkship Site Director for Internal Medicine, and Infectious Diseases Fellowship Director was recently selected to become a member of the 10-member national American College of Physicians Council of Early Career Physicians. This important committee is focused on increasing engagement, professional development, local chapter activities, and promotion of the ACP's strategic plan among early physicians.

Congratulations Dr. Burke!



Dr. Julio Figueroa (Infectious Diseases) was recently interviewed for an article titled "Two cases of measles in kids confirmed in the New Orleans metro area; first since 2018" that appeared in NOLA.com on the recently identified cases of measles at Children's Hospital.

You can read the interview here:



[https://www.nola.com/news/healthcare\\_hospitals/measles-cases-confirmed-in-new-orleans-la/article\\_d1159f5c-d0f7-11ee-a249-276944af65a1.html?utm\\_source=email&utm\\_campaign=nolafrontpage&utm\\_medium=newsletter&utm\\_content=read%20more#uid=4ac67ba6be5dc7bf451f7092d13b22bf](https://www.nola.com/news/healthcare_hospitals/measles-cases-confirmed-in-new-orleans-la/article_d1159f5c-d0f7-11ee-a249-276944af65a1.html?utm_source=email&utm_campaign=nolafrontpage&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_content=read%20more#uid=4ac67ba6be5dc7bf451f7092d13b22bf)

In collaborative efforts from LSU ID, School of Medicine and Orthopedics, along with Tulane colleagues from Pathology, Dr. Tat Yau and Dr. Ashaur Azhar (Infectious Diseases) along with Bennet Franz an LSU medical student, recently published this fascinating case report.

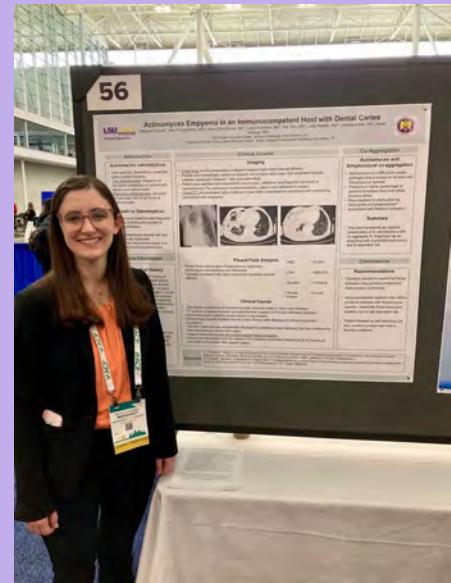
Bad to the bone. Not all bone tumors are cancer: Case of long bone osteomyelitis - ScienceDirect



## LA ACP Resident and Student Meeting January 2024—ID Participation:

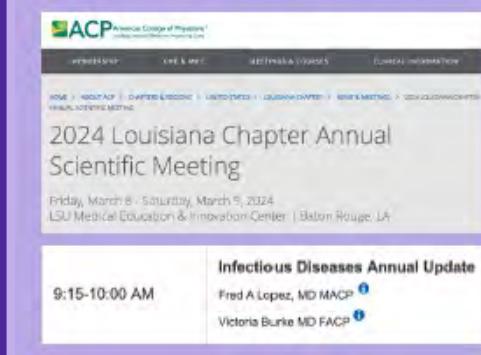
- ◆ Vasterling M, Gilbert D, and Burke V. "An Eye-Popping Twist: Unusual Ocular and Cerebral Manifestations of Lemierre Syndrome." Louisiana ACP 2024 Annual Resident Student Meeting. 27 January 2024. Oral Presentation
- ◆ Conrad M, Frangenberg A, Oddo Moise H, Hutchins L, Tran H, Shellito J, Burke V, and Holmes D. "Actinomyces Empyema in an Immunocompetent Host with Dental Caries" Louisiana ACP 2024 Annual Resident Student Meeting. 27 January 2024. Poster Presentation

**Judges:** Hope Oddo-Moise (ID Fellow), Yussef Bennani (ID Faculty), Lee Engel (Hospital Med), Mohammed Ziada (Hospital Med)



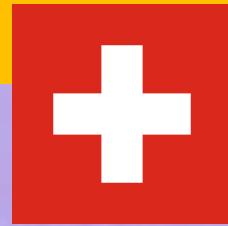
Medical Student Margaret Conrad with her poster at LA ACP Meeting

The Louisiana Chapter of the American College of Physicians recently held its annual meeting in Baton Rouge. Dr. Victoria Burke and Dr. Fred Lopez (Infectious Diseases) presented the Infectious Diseases Annual Update on March 9, 2024.



The screenshot shows the ACP Louisiana Chapter website for the 2024 Annual Scientific Meeting. The main content area displays the agenda for the "Infectious Diseases Annual Update" on Friday, March 8, and Saturday, March 9, 2024, at the LSU Medical Education & Innovation Center in Baton Rouge, LA. The agenda includes sessions for "Infectious Diseases Annual Update" with speakers Fred A Lopez, MD MACP, and Victoria Burke, MD FACP.





**Dr. Rebecca Liliis (Infectious Diseases)** was invited to present at the upcoming World Health Organization's Integrated Global Action Plan (I-GAP) on Drug Resistance for HIV, Viral Hepatitis and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs): STI Stakeholder Consultation, in Geneva, Switzerland.

## **Southern Society of Clinical Investigation February 2024 Southern Regional Meeting**

Edwards B, Oddo H, and Burke V. "A Case of Severe Pulmonary Blastomycosis in an Immunocompetent 39-year old male." 2024 Southern Regional Meeting of Southern Society of Clinical Investigation. 22 February 2024.

Gilbert D, and Burke V. "A Pain in the Neck: A Dramatic Presentation of Lemierre Syndrome." 2024 Southern Regional Meeting of Southern Society of Clinical Investigation. 22 February 2024.



Danielle Gilbert SSCI Poster Presentation

**On July 23, 2024, Leandro Mena, MD gave a presentation titled:  
Addressing Disparities and Inequities in STIs: A Syndemic Approach**



From Left: Julio Figueroa, Leandro Mena



**Dr. Meredith Clement (Infectious Diseases)** presented at the annual Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections on March 4, "Cabotegravir Maintains Protective Efficacy in the Setting of Bacterial STIs: HPTN 083"

# Welcome New LSU ID Fellows!!!

## **Maren Bell-Do**

Hi, I'm Maren Bell-Do and I grew-up in Los Angeles, CA. I got my undergraduate degree in Cellular and Developmental Biology at UC Santa Barbara and got some ID exposure on global trips to Honduras and Ghana. I then decided to come to New Orleans for my Master's program in genetics at Tulane. I fell in love with the city and decided to complete both medical school and IM residency at LSU New Orleans. The infectious pathology in this area is unmatched and I am so excited to do my training in Infectious Diseases here at LSU New Orleans. I met my husband on Mardi Gras Day and I became an official New Orleanian! We spend all our time off playing with our three cats and exploring the city (especially the food). It's now decade later and there is still so much more to see!



Maren and her husband at the Red Dress Run



## **Christopher Hayden**

Hey everyone, I am Chris Hayden and am stoked to be here as one of the first-year trainees in Infectious Disease at LSU New Orleans. I am lovingly called the “old man” of the program as I worked in EMS 15 years prior to attending medical school. I went to undergrad in Texas at the University of Texas at Arlington and made my way to Louisiana from Florida after attending medical school at American University of the Caribbean. I completed residency at LSU New Orleans in the combined Internal Medicine and Emergency Medicine Residency program, none of which would have been possible without my incredibly supportive wife and our three loving children. I continue to choose LSU because the city, the people, pathology, and faculty are

incredible. I look forward to getting to meet all of you.

## **De'Angellica G. Vaughn-Allen**

Hello, I am De'Angellica Vaughn-Allen, and I am from Melville, LA. I attended Xavier University of Louisiana for my undergraduate studies where I received my Bachelor of Science in Biology with minors in both chemistry and history. Prior to getting accepted into medical school, I taught school for two years – Algebra II Honors and ACT preparatory class, then 5th-8th grade special education math and resource the following year. I attended medical school at LSUHSC New Orleans as a Rural Scholar and Internal Medicine Residency at LSU Lafayette Program. After completing residency, I was honored to be chosen

## Welcome New LSU ID Fellows!!! (continued from page 19)

### De'Angellica G. Vaughn-Allen (continued)

as a 4th year Chief Resident. Outside of medicine, I enjoy traveling and spending time with my family.

Over the next few years, I hope to broaden my conceptual knowledge of Infectious Diseases. Most importantly, I hope to gain a greater understanding of how diseases impact different patient populations and how I can utilize that information to improve patient care and outcomes. I am extremely excited to be able to return to LSUHSC New Orleans where my medical journey first began to train as an Infectious Diseases specialist.



### Lynn Besch Enjoying Retirement!!!



Above, Lynn traveled to Jordan Pond, a glacially-carved lake in the Acadia National Park, Maine. She represented LSU ID well there with her Jacket!!! While in Maine, she visited an LSU ID Fellowship classmate, Malcolm Rosenson. She also enjoys babysitting her grandchildren.

## Lynn Besch Enjoying Retirement!!! (continued)



Lynn finally was able to celebrate her retirement after some COVID delays. She traveled to Italy with her family. Here she is in Venice in a garden near the Jewish ghetto and on the balcony of the apartment they stayed in overlooking a canal.

Dr. Lauren Richey (Infectious Diseases) and Dr. Hope Oddo-Moise (Hospital Medicine) recently presented at the International Association of Providers of AIDS Care (IAPAC) CONTINUUM 2024 Conference in Puerto Rico. Dr. Richey presented "Corrective Strategies and Adaptive Benefits to Address Maladaptive Thoughts and Reduce Internal HIV Stigma in Individuals with Trauma Histories" and "Best Practices Learned from PEPFAR HRSA Skills-Sharing Program in Jamaica." Dr. Oddo-Moise presented her CQI project: "Rapid Re-Entry into Care."



Strong work!

## American College of Physicians National/International Meeting in Boston, MA— LSU ID Participants:

- ◆ Victoria Burke—Meet the Professor—Common Outpatient Bacterial Infections, and Update in Infectious Diseases
- ◆ Rebecca Lillis—Meet the Professor—Sexually Transmitted Infections in Primary Care
- ◆ Fred Lopez—ACP Board Review 2024 and Update in Infectious Dis-

**The Louisiana State University School of Medicine Pre- Commencement Ceremony occurred on May 15, 2024.**

The Department of Medicine was well-recognized by the senior medical students. Recognitions included the following:

Fred Lopez was chosen to be part of the hooding ceremony.



Dr. Ashaur Azhar (Infectious Diseases) recently presented "Prosthetic Joint Infections Management- From an Infectious Diseases Physician Perspective" at the Joint Replacement Didactic Sessions for LSUHSC Orthopedic residents here in New Orleans. Way to collaborate, Dr. Azhar!



## LSU ID Faculty Promotions Effective 7/1/2024

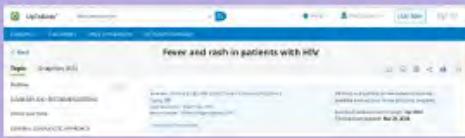


- ◆ **Yussef Bennani Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine**

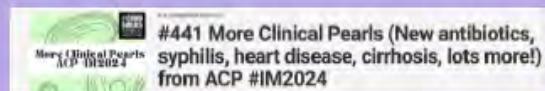


- ◆ **Rebecca Lillis Professor of Clinical Medicine**

Dr. Victoria Burke, Dr. Charles "Bo" Sanders and Dr. Fred Lopez (Infectious Diseases) recently updated their chapter on "Fever and Rash in Patients with HIV" for the UpToDate textbook.



In Infectious Diseases, Dr. Victoria Burke and Dr. Fred Lopez's Infectious Disease Update presentation at the American College of Physicians Annual Session in Boston was highlighted in a recent "The Curbsiders" podcast. Way to go!



## LSU Department of Medicine Research Day 2024—LSU ID Section Participation and Honors

- ◆ Organized by Michael Hagensee
- ◆ Judges—Lee Engel, Meredith Clement, Michelle Blythe, Lauren Richey, Yussef Bennani

### Winners Oral Presentation:

- ◆ Hope Oddo Moise—QI—Rapid Re-Entry into Care: A Trainee Initiative

### Winners Poster Presentation:

- ◆ Danielle Gilbert—CV—Claudication or Something More Sinister: A Case of Endovascular Infection Due to *Campylobacter Coli*
- ◆ Blane Edwards (IM) with Julio Figueroa—CV—A case series of *Shewanella* Bacteremia





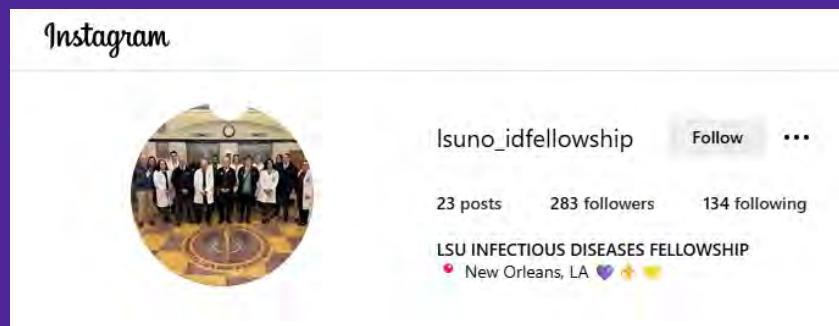
Above—tulips around City Park lagoon

Far Right—ID Girl Power—From left Hope Oddo Moise, Victoria Burke, and Danielle Gilbert

Right—Nisha Aravindakshan-Patel and Mike Hagensee



## LSU ID INFLUENCERS!



The LSU ID New Orleans Instagram account is continuing to flourish as the fellows share their experiences and love for all things ID. Please feel free to text De'Angelica Vaughn-Allen (337-331-6580) or email at [dvaugl@lsuhsc.edu](mailto:dvaugl@lsuhsc.edu) with any photos of interesting cases, presentations/conferences, social events, etc.

**Karen S. Ingersoll, Ph.D., ABPP  
Dascomb Lectureship April 19, 2024**

**Evidence-based mhealth Intervention for HIV  
Care from Concept to Dissemination**



From Left: Paula Seal, Hope Oddo Moise, Tat Yau, Karen Ingersoll, Lauren Richey, Danielle Gilbert, Julio Figueroa, Shafay Shams

The Harry Emerson Dascomb, M.D. Lectureship—is given in honor of Harry Emerson Dascomb, M.D., whose compassion, clinical acumen, and dedication to the care of the total patient inspired all who have known him as a friend, scholar, and physician.

**Karen S. Ingersoll, Ph.D., ABPP**

**Inaugural Director, Precision Health Initiative, University of Virginia Health**

**Department of Psychiatry and Neurobehavioral Sciences**

She discussed the evolution of mhealth interventions for HIV care over a decade, along with the theoretical underpinnings of the mHealth intervention, PositiveLinks. She also reviewed the evidence for the PositiveLinks intervention from development to dissemination across Virginia and elsewhere and the promise of adaptations for HIV prevention, STI prevention, Opioid Use Disorder, and Cervical cancer prevention

# CONGRATULATIONS !!!

## LSU ID Faculty Appointed to National Leadership Roles

- ♦ **Meredith Clement NIH Study Section**
- ♦ **Michael Hagensee NIH Study Section**

## LSU ID Faculty Selected Best Doctors 2024

- ♦ **Meredith Clement**
- ♦ **Paula Seal**

## Newly Endowed Chairs or Professorships

- ♦ **Lee Engel**

## UMC Unveiled the Spirit of Charity History Wall



## Asian Pacific American Medical Student Association (APAMSA) Interest Group at LSU—ID Participation



At Dr. Seema Walvekar's home in November 2023. Blane Edwards (3rd year medicine resident and ID Applicant), Tat Yau, and Hope Oddo Moise are on the left of the last row.

### In the spirit of giving...

For the grateful graduate of our program interested in supporting future LSU ID Fellows: did you know that you can earmark donations within the institution to our Infectious Diseases Fellowship Program? All donations generously given to the LSU Health Foundation can be preferentially directed to the LSU ID Fellowship Program account to support our trainees. We utilize these funds to help defray costs for our ID Fellows to attend professional conferences to present their work by covering conference registration fees, travel, and lodging expenses. Foundation funds helped send both of our ID fellows to IDWeek in Washington DC in 2019 for this purpose to present their clinical research. All donations are tax-deductible through this non-profit entity and can even be used to acquire TAF points for the avid LSU sports fan.

For more information, please visit the Foundation website <https://www.lsuhealthfoundation.org>.

Send us your thoughts on the COVID-19 Pandemic, MPOX, the changing face of the HIV Epidemic, or anything else you want to share. Let us know how you, your family and your practice are doing. Next issue of Going Viral is the Fall/Winter issue—please send items by November 15, 2024 to be included.