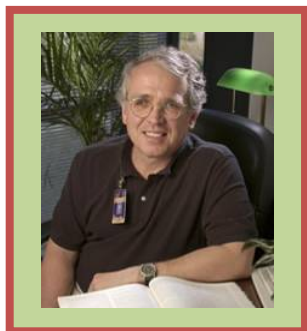




# Departmental News

Department of Pediatrics ~ LSUMC New Orleans

## KUDOS KORNER



James Hempe, PhD



Seth Pincus, MD



Kenneth Paris, MD



Mary Breslin, PhD

Kudos to five faculty members who have received grants in the last few months. **James Hempe, PhD** was awarded over \$305,000 for his project titled "Impact of Biological Variation in A1c on Mortality, Cardiovascular Events, and Hy". Dr. Hempe is collaborating with Vivian Fonseca, MD of Tulane on this NIH-supported grant.

The Discovery Program of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has awarded Children's Hospital and **Seth Pincus, MD** a grant in the amount of \$100,000 to support his project titled "Depletion of CD45RO+ cells to eliminate the latent reservoir of HIV".

**Pinki Prasad, MD** received a Hyundai Hope on Wheels grant totaling \$100,000. The grant will support her goal of starting a Late Effects Clinic at Children's Hospital. The Hyundai Hope on Wheels program funds 71 pediatric cancer research projects and programs at Children's Oncology Group institutions across the country.

**Mary Breslin, PhD** received an extension of current funding from The Diana Helis Henry Medial Research Foundation for her project titled "INSM1 promoter driven Herpes Simplex Virus thymidine kinase transgene cancer gene therapy for the treatment of neuroendocrine tumors".

**Kenneth Paris, MD** received a publication and research grant from CSL Behring. He was awarded \$4,500 for his program titled "Use of Plasma Derived Inhibitor in a 5 Yr Old Patient with HAE Type 1". Congratulations to all of our grant recipients!

**Stuart Chalew, MD** and **James Hempe, PhD** were interviewed by Meg Faris of WWL-TV back in October. The two discussed the new SCOUT DS machine by VeraLight, Inc that shines a light through a child's forearm to see if they are at risk for diabetes. The machine also allows doctors to see just how much damage these harmful sugar and protein molecules are doing. You can see the full report at:

<http://www.wwltv.com/news/health/With-just-a-light-local-doctor-can-see-if-youre-at-risk-to-diabetes-132287288.html>

## WELCOME NEW FACULTY

**Lorna Seybolt, MD, MPH** joined the Infectious Diseases Division last month as Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics. Before moving to New Orleans, Dr. Seybolt was an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Tufts University School of Medicine, teaching at Maine Medical Center. She graduated from the University of Connecticut School of Medicine in 1998. She completed her Pediatrics Residency at Maine Medical Center in 2001 and her Pediatric Infectious Diseases Fellowship at Boston University School of Medicine: Boston Medical Center in 2004. Dr. Seybolt is board certified in both Pediatrics and Pediatric Infectious Diseases. Her clinical/research interests include viral hepatitis, travel medicine, and international adoption.



A familiar face has joined the Allergy/Immunology Division. Former fellow **Tammy Harvey, DO** is now an Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, working part-time with the division. Dr. Harvey finished her A/I fellowship last June. Prior to the fellowship, she was a Medicine Pediatrics

Resident, graduating in 2009. She received her DO from Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences. Her research interests include the clinical effects of pneumococcal booster vaccination on humoral immunity and the use of this vaccination in the treatment of recurrent infections.

The Emergency Medicine Division has welcomed **Mamatha Ananth, MD** to their Bogalusa Medical Center outpatient and inpatient service. Dr. Ananth took over as Director of the Inpatient Unit and Nursery after Kathryn Beatty, MD moved to the Hospitalist Division. Dr. Ananth is familiar with BMC, having worked within the LSU Healthcare System at BMC in the past. She received her Medical Degree from Kempegowda Institute of Medical Sciences in India. She completed her Pediatrics Residency at Rush Presbyterian St. Luke's Medical Center in Chicago. Dr. Ananth also completed some fellowship training in Pediatric Nephrology at Tulane University Medical Center. Welcome to all of our new faculty!

## PUBLICATIONS, PRESENTATIONS AND MEETINGS

**Stuart Chalew, MD** was an invited symposium speaker at the 37th Annual Meeting of the International Society for Pediatric and Adolescent Diabetes (ISPAD) in Miami on October 20, 2011. The title of his talk was "Mean blood glucose independent variation in glycosylated hemoglobin and complications of diabetes."

Back in October, three RIC investigators coauthored a paper in *Public Library of Science*. **Marcella Zozaya, PhD** of Dr. Ferris' lab, **Christopher M. Taylor, PhD**, UNO faculty and RIC Principal Investigator, and **Michael J. Ferris** published "Exploring the diversity of *Gardnerella vaginalis* in the genitourinary tract microbiota of monogamous couples through subtle nucleotide variation." Other authors included AM Eren, SE Dowd, and DH Martin.

**Jamal T. Stie**, a Postdoc in Dr. Cutler's lab, wrote "Blood-brain barrier invasion by *Cryptococcus neoformans* is enhanced by functional interactions with plasmin." He co-wrote the article with DS Fox. It was published in *Microbiology* in October.

**Kejing Song, DVM, MS** of Dr. Pincus' Lab attended an Optical Microscopy course at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Massachusetts.

## JEFFREY MODELL FOUNDATION EVENTS

The Jeffrey Modell Diagnostic Center for Primary Immunodeficiencies in New Orleans sponsored several important events at The Ritz-Carlton during the month of November focused on primary immunodeficiency diseases. **Ricardo Sorensen, MD** hosted a special forum on Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup>. Allergy/Immunology experts from around southeast Louisiana met to discuss raising awareness of Primary Immunodeficiency Diseases in Louisiana. After discussing topics such as target and awareness education, message content and warning signs, PIDD awareness by patient group (newborns, adolescents, adults, etc), and tools or ways to create awareness, the group concluded the forum by implementing several action plans to establish their awareness campaign.

On Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, **Kenneth Paris, MD** hosted the 6<sup>th</sup> annual JMF symposium titled Primary Immunodeficiency Diseases for the General Practitioner: Primary Immune Deficiencies in Adults. The symposium aimed to improve the diagnostic and management skills of primary care physicians as well as other specialists. Participation provided the primary care physicians with useful information that will help them in their day-to-day practice.

After receiving the bill for the event, the department learned that a generous donor from the Ritz-Carlton paid the department's parking fees. The catering manager at the hotel said the donor is an LSU alumnus and a huge Tigers



fan who requested anonymity. Dr. Sorensen called the action quite moving, saying it renews our pride of belonging to the great LSU family. We hope to one day thank our Secret Santa in person!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars for the following events set for the new year:

**John Estrada, MD, Alfonso Vargas, MD and Gary Duhon, MD** are organizing the Bioethics Symposium set for Saturday, March 24, 2012 in Children's Hospital's Auditorium. This year's meeting is titled "New Therapies and Other Ethical Challenges in Everyday Practice". All LSU faculty, fellows, residents and students are invited to participate free of charge. Check the LSU Pediatrics website in the next few weeks for more details and registration information: [www.medschool.lsuhschool.edu/pediatrics/](http://www.medschool.lsuhschool.edu/pediatrics/).

The Southern Regional Meetings are set for February 9-11, 2012 at the Hotel Intercontinental. The meetings are sponsored by several organizations including the Southern Society for Clinical Investigation, Southern Society for Pediatric Research and the Academic Pediatric Association. A brochure and registration form has been emailed to the department. Contact Kelly Allerton if you did not receive it ([kslumb@lsuhsc.edu](mailto:kslumb@lsuhsc.edu)).

The 2012 Pediatric Fellows Educational Scholarship Workshops, sponsored by the LSU Department of Pediatrics and the Office of Medical Education Research and Development, will be held on the following Tuesdays from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. in the Tower 2 Conference Room. Sessions are available to all LSUHSC-NO Faculty, Residents, Fellows and Doctoral Students.

### January 10

"Writing for Publication"

Sheila W. Chauvin, PhD, MEd

### February 28

"Clinical Research"

Stephanie Sonnier, MBA, BSN, CCRC;

"Clinical Research Development"

Ricardo Sorensen, MD

### March 13

"Curriculum Vitae and Educator Portfolio Development"

Sheila W. Chauvin, PhD, MEd

### April 10

"Dealing with Data in your Educational Scholarship Project and Beyond"

Sheila W. Chauvin, PhD, MEd

## NEW ADDITION

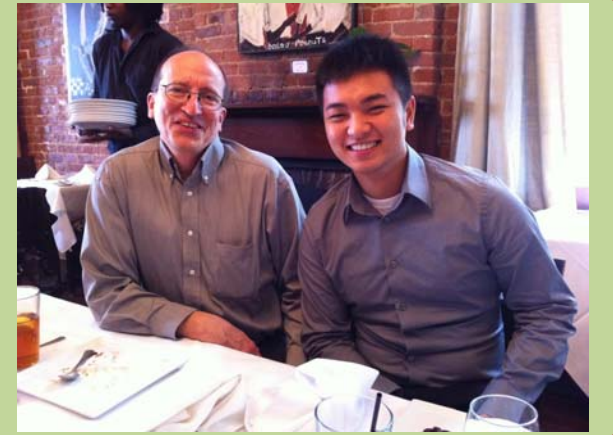


**Carmen Sulton-Villavasso, MD** and her husband Stephen welcomed a new baby girl to their family on November 9, 2011. Rachel Denease Villavasso weighed 6 lbs, 5 oz. and measured 18¾ inches. Rachel joins her two proud big sisters, Ana and Sara. Congratulations to the Villavasso family!

## LSU PEDIATRICS CALENDAR

<b>December 26- January 2</b>	Christmas/New Year's Holidays
<b>January 16</b>	Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
<b>January 20</b>	Faculty Meeting @ noon, Auditorium
<b>February 17</b>	Faculty Meeting @ noon, Auditorium
<b>February 21</b>	Mardi Gras
<b>March 16</b>	Faculty Meeting @ noon, Auditorium
<b>March 24</b>	Bioethics Symposium





HAPPY  
HANUKKAH



MERRY  
CHRISTMAS