KUDOS KORNER

Congratulations to Ken Paris, MD and Jay Hescock, MD who were promoted to Associate Professor as of July 1, 2012. Two members of the department’s gratis faculty were also promoted. Karen Williams, MD was promoted to Professor of Clinical Pediatrics and Albert Gutierrez, MD was promoted to Clinical Associate Professor.

Numerous Pediatrics faculty members were listed as Top Doctors in New Orleans Magazine’s annual list of best local physicians:

Robert Ascuitto, MD  Staci Olistier, MD
Diego Aviles, MD  Duna Penn, MD
Brian Barkemeyer, MD  Dana Rivera, MD
Raynorda Brown, MD  Nancy Ross-Ascuitto, MD
Stuart Chalew, MD  Ricardo Sorensen, MD
Bonnie Desselle, MD  Aluizio Stopa, MD
Gary Duhon, MD  Sarah Stender, MD
Renee Gardner, MD  V. Matti Vehaskari, MD
Abraham Gedalia, MD  Maria Velez, MD
Ricardo Gomez, MD  Lolie Yu, MD

DEPARTMENT REMINDER

The administrative staff would like to thank all faculty members for completing administrative work on a consistent basis. Timesheets, compliance, and other paperwork take time out of your busy day but are important parts of the administration puzzle. Please continue to comply with the business managers’ requests and complete the necessary paperwork on a monthly basis.

AAP CONFERENCE

The Pediatrics Department will have a strong presence at this year’s AAP conference being held in New Orleans October 20-23 at the Convention Center. Below is a list of speakers from the department. Please support them if you can. You are also welcome to attend the Quiz Bowl on Tuesday, October 23 at 12:30.

Blood or Protein in the Urine: How Much of a Workup Is Needed?  
Diego Aviles, MD  
10/22 7-8am Convention Center Room 206  
10/23 7-8am Convention Center Room 206

Technology in Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus: What the General Pediatrician Needs to Know  
Ricardo Gomez, MD  
10/23 8:30-10am Convention Center Room 264

Initial Evaluation & Management of the Child with Suspected Rheumatological Disease  
Amanda Brown, MD  
10/20 2-3:30pm Convention Center Room 235-236  
10/20 4-5:30pm Convention Center Room 235-236

APLS: The Pediatric Emergency Medicine Course  
Bonnie Desselle, MD, Costa Dimitriades, MD, Amy Creel, MD, and Raghubir Mangat, MD  
10/22 7:30a-6pm Hilton Riverside Grand Salon PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Prevention and Management of Pediatric Obesity in the Physician's Office: Practical Solutions  
Stewart Gordon, MD and Melinda Sothern, PhD  
10/21 4-5:30pm Convention Center R08

Confidentiality: To Tell or Not to Tell  
Ryan Pasternak, MD MPH  
10/21 2-3:30pm Convention Center 264

When Should I Consider Immunodeficiency in Patients With Recurrent Infections?  
Ricardo Sorensen, MD  
10/22 8:30-10am Convention Center 255

Problem-Solving Type 1 Diabetes  
Alfonso Vargas, MD  
10/22 4-5:30pm Convention Center 244

Technology in Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus: What the General Pediatrician Needs to Know  
Alfonso Vargas, MD  
10/23 8:30-10am Convention Center 264

Medical Student Plenary Discussion: Expert Panel on Pediatric Residency (1pm-2pm), Rachel Dawkins, MD  
Pediatrics 101 (2pm-2:45pm), Rachel Dawkins, MD  
10/20 1-2:45 Hilton Riverside Grand Ballroom D
FOND FAREWELL

The Pediatrics Department would like to wish a most happy retirement to **Malektaj Yazdani, MD** as she leaves LSU after many years of service. Dr. Yazdani is one of the senior neonatologists in our area, highly respected as a compassionate clinician. Her work has influenced the lives of thousands of newborn babies and their families. She has led the development of a very solid clinical care site at East Jefferson General Hospital. In addition to her clinical work, Dr. Yazdani has been active in the education of residents and students at various hospitals in the area and published in the field of caffeine metabolism. While her calm bedside manner and expertise will be missed, her retirement is well-deserved and we wish her well.

The Pediatrics Department would like to wish a fond farewell to **Judi Zatarain, MD** as she leaves LSU after over 18 years of service in the Division of Neonatology. Dr. Zatarain is a graduate of the LSU School of Medicine and was an outstanding pediatric resident and neonatology fellow at LSUHSC. Dr. Zatarain has spent the majority of her career at LSU providing neonatology coverage at Northshore Regional Medical Center and Slidell Memorial Hospital, where she has served as NICU medical director. While Dr. Zatarain is leaving LSU, she won't be retiring and won't be going far away as she provides neonatology coverage at St. Tammany Hospital, closer to home and closer to her family. We wish her well and look forward to ongoing work together.

NEW HIRES

The Division of Neonatology welcomes **Raegan Wetzel Gupta, MD** as a member of their division providing clinical care at Children's Hospital, Touro Infirmary, East Jefferson General Hospital, and Slidell Memorial Hospital. Dr. Gupta is a graduate of LSU School of Medicine, UT-Southwestern Pediatric Residency, and the LSU Neonatology Fellowship program. While a fellow in Neonatology, Dr. Gupta was honored for her research in the effects of H2 blockers on fecal microbiota and chosen outstanding teaching fellow for the 2011-12 academic year.

**Dania Felipe, MD** joined the Endocrinology Division in September as Clinical Assistant Professor. Dr. Felipe is a familiar face, having completed both her residency and fellowship within the department. Her research will focus on diabetes while her clinical interests include thyroid dysfunction, adrenal insufficiency, CAH, DM type 1, DM type 2, and precocious puberty.

GOOD-BYE TO GRADUATING FELLOWS...

**Erin Pratt, MD**, Allergy/Immunology  
**Karen Kaufman, DO**, Allergy/Immunology  
**Shreepal Shah, MD**, Endocrinology  
**Carrie Firestone Baum, MD**, GI/Nutrition  
**Ofelia Crombet, MD**, Hematology/Oncology  
**Raegan Gupta, MD**, Neonatology

...HELLO TO NEW FELLOWS

**Heena Shah, MD**, Allergy/Immunology  
**Alberto Mendoza Paredes, MD**, Cardiology  
**Pooja Desai, MD**, Cardiology  
**Liladhar Kashyap, MD**, Endocrinology  
**Abdulhameed Al Saheel, MD**, Endocrinology  
**Stanton Malowitz, MD**, GI/Nutrition  
**Dana LeBlanc, MD**, Hematology/Oncology  
**Chittalsinh Raulji, MD**, Hematology/Oncology  
**Jessica Patrick, MD**, Neonatology  
**Janice Crespo-Salgado, MD**, Nephrology

NEW PEDIATRIC INTERNS

**Sarah Black**  
Medical College of Georgia  
**Danielle Eggie**  
LSU - New Orleans  
**Julie Gallois**  
LSU - New Orleans  
**Kevin Gipson**  
LSU - New Orleans  
**Elizabeth Lindley**  
LSU - Shreveport  
**Nabila Malik**  
Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine  
**Casey McAtee**  
University of Alabama  
**Anna McFarlin**  
University of South Florida  
**Amanda Messer**  
LSU - New Orleans  
**Megan Murphy**  
Tulane University  
**Katie Price**  
LSU - Shreveport  
**Hope Pritchett**  
University of South Alabama  
**Amy Prudhomme**  
Kansas City University  
**Lauren Raney**  
Medical College of Georgia  
**Paul Remedios**  
LSU - New Orleans  
**Alison Saulog**  
Southern Illinois University  
**Elizabeth Wisner**  
LSU - New Orleans

NEW MED/PEDS INTERNS

**Aman Dulai**  
Ross University  
**Lori Gautreaux**  
LSU SOM Shreveport  
**Jennifer Krauland**  
A.T. Still University, School of Osteopathic Medicine  
**Kieran Leong**  
Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine  
**Mallory Smith**  
Ross University  
**Alex Wright**  
LSU - Shreveport
PUBLICATIONS


PRESENTATIONS

Comparative Analysis of the Transduction Efficiency of Five AAV Serotypes and Lentiviral Vectors in Lung Cancer Cells
Chiachen Chen, Victoria Akerstrom, James Baus, Michael Lan, Mary Breslin

Racial variation in the hemoglobin glycation index
Shuqian Liu, James Hempe, Leann Myers, Robert McCarter, Vivian Fonseca
72nd Annual Meeting, American Diabetes Association, June 8-12, 2012, Philadelphia, PA

Ubiquitously localized proteins on cell wall/surface of fungal pathogen Candida albicans profiled by metabolic 15N labeling and LC-MS/MS
Arjun Sharma, Jim Cutler, Yang Cai
ASMS Conference on Mass Spectrometry and Allied Topics (60th) May 20-24, 2012 Vancouver, Canada


Rachel Dawkins, MD has been invited to take part in a panel discussion of the childhood obesity epidemic. Karen DeSalvo, MD, MPH, MSc, New Orleans’ Commissioner of Health, will be the keynote speaker at the event which will be held on Tuesday, October 9 at the New Orleans Bioinnovation Center on Canal Street.

GRANTS

A $75,000 Hyundai Hope on Wheels Scholar Grant was awarded to Ofelia Crombet, MD for her project “Mechanisms of resistance of ALL cells to the pegylated Arginase I therapy”.

Stuart Chalew, MD received a $25,000 intramural award for “The Role of Growth Hormone and Cortisol in Pediatric Type 2 Diabetes”.

Diego Aviles, MD was awarded a $25,000 grant for his project “Single nucleotide polymorphism and glomerular expression of microRNA in children with FSGS”.

Seth Pincus, MD is the Children’s PI for the NIH/NIGMS Louisiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Center (LA CaTS) which totals $548,035.

WORKPLACE WELLNESS: YOGA

The LSUHSC Wellness Center hosts a weekly yoga session at Children’s Hospital every Tuesday from 12:15-1:00pm. All LSUHSC employees and their spouses are welcome. One of the regular participants, Department Business Manager Hyang Lee, highly recommends the sessions, saying “The low-intensity workout is a great mid-day exercise. No strenuous movements required yet participants end up with more energy which enables them to take on the rest of their day.” All October classes will be held in the Auditorium. If you have any questions, contact Kelly Allerton for more information.
RESEARCH DAY 2012

The Children's Hospital Auditorium was a scene of lively scientific activity on Research Day, June 22. Natasha Haynes, MBA, CRA, Assistant Vice President of Research at Children’s Hospital, moderated the event while Chairman Ricardo Sorensen and Dean of the School of Medicine Steve Nelson, MD presented awards for the Best Research Day Presentation in four categories. The winning researchers were:

**Ryan Craig, MS**
Engineering Dual Variable Region Antibodies Specific for HIV gp120 and gp41
*Microbiology/Immunology/Parasitology*
**Best Presentation by a Student**

**Jackie Matijasec, MD**
The Significance of *C. albicans*-IgE in Allergic Airway Diseases and Chronic Candida Infections
*Pediatrics, Allergy-Immunology, and ENT*
**Best Presentation by a Resident**

**Jeffrey R. Mock, PhD**
Auditory Responsiveness During a Delayed Naming Paradigm In Adults Who Stutter
*Department of Neurology*
**Best Presentation by a Fellow or Postdoc**

**Tracey A. Knaus, PhD**
Gestural Effects on Language Learning in Young Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder
*Department of Neurology*
**Best Presentation by Jr. Faculty or Research Professional**

**Deidre Devier, PhD**
OnabotulinumtoxinA Plus Rehabilitation Improves Functional Outcome in Post-stroke Upper Limb Spasticity: A Single-blind, Randomized Trial
*Department of Neurology, Division of Research*
**Best Oral Presentation**

Thank you to our 2012 judges:

- Oluwatoyin Bamgbola, MD
- Rodolfo Begue, MD
- Michael Ferris, PhD
- Paula Gregory, PhD
- Peter Kulakosky, PhD
- Christopher Taylor, PhD
- Regina Zambrano, MD
- Arnold Zea, PhD

Thank you to all who participated and especially to Mead Johnson Nutrition for providing refreshments for the event.

DEPARTMENT CALENDAR

October 12  Southern Regional Meetings Submission Deadline
October 19  Faculty Meeting @ noon, Auditorium
October 20-23  AAP Conference
November 16  Faculty Meeting @ noon, Auditorium
November 22-23  Thanksgiving Holidays
December 1  JMF Annual Conference
December 21  Faculty Meeting @ noon, Auditorium
December 25-January 1  Christmas and New Year’s Holidays

Wayne Backes, PhD, Natasha Haynes, MBA, CRA, Janis Letourneau, MD, Paula Gregory, PhD, and Ricardo Sorensen, MD

Nephrology Fellow Mahmoud Kallash, MD and Research Associate Tyrus Stewart present their poster.
RESEARCH DAY 2012

Ryan Craig, MS, Best Presentation by a Student

Jim Hempe, PhD, Michael Lan, PhD, Stuart Chalew, MD, Michael Ferris, PhD and Shreepal Shah, MD

Tracey Knaus, PhD, Best Presentation by Jr. Faculty or Research Professional

Simone Lawson, MD and Courtney Austin, MD present their research.

Deidre Devier, PhD, Best Oral Presentation

Jeffrey Mock, PhD, Best Presentation by a Fellow or Post-Doc

Jackie Matijasec, MD, Best Presentation by a Resident