



The LSUHSC School of Medicine electronic news

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Month: August 2017

[Upcoming Events](#)

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Pediatrics:

6th JMC-LAPIN SYMPOSIUM: Pulmonary Infections, Immunodeficiencies and Inflammation
November 17 – 18, 2017 Harrah's New Orleans Hotel, 228 Poydras Street. For more information and registration see www.jmcnola.org

Cardiovascular Center of Excellence:

Presenting the 2018 Cardiovascular Seminar Series:
https://www.medschool.lsuhs.edu/cardio_center/2018seminarseries.aspx

Cardiovascular Seminar series:

November 20 – Rinku Majumder, Ph.D., Associate Professor/LSUNO, CSRB 563, 12-1pm.

December 5 – Douglas Mann, M.D., Professor of Cell Biology and Physiology Lewin Professor and Chief, Cardiovascular Division Cardiologist-in-Chief, Barnes Jewish Hospital Medical Director, Heart and Vascular Center, Barnes Jewish Hospital Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, CSRB 563, 12-1pm.

Special Seminars:

November 29 – Sarah Lindsey, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmacology, Tulane University School of Medicine, CSRB 752, 12 – 1pm.

December 6 – Joy Lincoln, Ph.D., Principal Investigator, Center for Cardiovascular Research, Nationwide Children’s Hospital Research Institute Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics, The Ohio State University Associate Director, Center for Faculty Development, Nationwide Children’s Hospital, MEB S14, 12 – 1pm.

Cardiovascular Works-in-Progress Series:

November 9 – Rima Chattopadhyay, Ph.D., Postdoctoral Researcher, LSUNO Biochemistry, CSRB 563, 10:30am – 12pm.

December 14, Matthew Lammi, Ph.D., Associate Professor – Clinical, LSUNO, CSRB 563, 9:30 – 11am.

Physiology:

Seminars:

Nov 2nd 12:00pm MEB7267: Tony L Yaksh, PhD, UC San Diego

Nov 16th 12:00pm MEB7267: Nancy B. Swartz, PhD University of Chicago, Increasing Diversity in Graduate Education

Nov 30th 12:00pm MEB7267: Laura O’Dell, PhD University of Texas-El Paso

Dec 14th 12:00pm MEB7267: Kejie Yin, MD, PhD University of Pittsburgh, SOM

Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery:

Dr. Melda Kunduk, Clinical Assistant Professor will present at the ASHA Annual Convention, “Predicting Swallowing Outcomes from Objective Videofluoroscopic Timing & Displacement Measures in Head/Neck Cancer Population” in Los Angeles, California, November 9-11, 2017.

Dr. Melda Kunduk, Clinical Assistant Professor will present a poster at the ASHA Annual Convention, “Reliability of Videofluoroscopic Objective Timing and Displacement Measures for Head & Neck Cancer Patients” in Los Angeles, California, November 9-11, 2017.

2017 LSU Temporal Bone Microsurgery and Dissection Course, Moises Arriaga, MD, Course Director, Visiting Guest Instructor, Alejandro Rivas, MD, Vanderbilt Bill Wilkerson Center for Otolaryngology, Lions Building, Center for Advanced Practice, New Orleans, LA, November 10, 2017

Cricothyrotomy Day for the L1’s, November 17, 2017 ENT

Resident Interview Day, December 4-5, 2017

SUO/AADO/OPDO Combined Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, November 10-11, 2017

Cardiovascular Works in Progress Series

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The NIH COBRE “Mentoring in Cardiovascular Biology” and the LSUHSC Cardiovascular Center of Excellence are pleased to announce a new Works in Progress Series, which will provide a forum for brief, informal presentations relating to ongoing prepublication research.

The purpose of these talks is to provide a collaborative forum for brainstorming to benefit both presenters, as well as participants; to provide feedback, spark questions, and create an interactive environment to benefit all present.

The Works in Progress series is open to all members of the LSUHSC community and will take place on a monthly basis. These talks will be held at 10:30am in CSRB Room 563. We look forward to creating an open and stimulating forum of exchange for the LSUHSC community.

Please contact Dr. Andreas Papapetropoulos in the Cardiovascular Center of Excellence (apapa1@lsuhsc.edu) for more information and to suggest other presenters.

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Dean's Seminar Series

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The monthly Dean's Research Seminar Series is an important conference, the purpose of which is to highlight clinical or basic research in order to link LSU research and clinical efforts. This seminar is held on the second Wednesday of every month during the academic school year at 4pm in CSRB room 563. The

seminar series was created to highlight clinical and basic research, promote translational research, and identify common threads/interests to foster collaborations. The series also facilitates opportunities for faculty, students, residents, fellows and postdoctoral researchers to communicate about research topics, while encouraging young faculty to become involved in research teams. The Dean's Seminar Series has launched a new user-friendly website at <http://www.medschool.lsuhsu.edu/deanseminar> containing information and presentations from past seminars. Upcoming seminar speakers include Dr. Augusto Ochoa on September 13 and Dr. Jayne Weiss on October 11.

Finally, we would like to thank Dr. Kathleen McDonough for her many years organizing and conducting the Dean's Research Seminar Series and wish her well in retirement! If you have questions about the Dean's Seminar Series or wish to propose a speaker, please contact Dr. Judy Crabtree at jcrabt@lsuhsc.edu.

Welcome Newcomers!

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We'd like to extend a warm welcome to the following faculty members who have joined the School of Medicine Family between May 1 – June 30, 2017!

Dermatology

Elizabeth Grieshaber, M.D. – Clinical Assistant Professor

Family Medicine

Paula Brantly, M.D. – Associate Professor, Research

Med-Cardiology

Andreas Papapetropoulos, M.D. – Visiting Professor

Ophthalmology

C. Lucy Borne, M.D. – Clinical Assistant Professor

Lena Al-Dujaili, M.D. – Clinical Assistant Professor

Kevin Kirchner, M.D. – Clinical Assistant Professor

Pediatrics

Shubho Sarkar, M.D. – Assistant Professor, Clinical

UMC Medicine

Daniel Stout, M.D. – Assistant Professor, Clinical

New Appointments

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Paula Gregory, Ph.D. has been appointed as Assistant Dean for Medical Student Research at LSUHSC School of Medicine in New Orleans. Her PhD research was carried out at Tulane University on cancer cytogenetics. For her postdoctoral work, she trained at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and did further training with Dr. Francis Collins at the University of Michigan. Dr. Gregory worked at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and then at The Ohio State University College of Medicine prior to joining the Department of Genetics at LSUHSC. She has three NIH grants to fund summer research internships for medical students and is the Career Development Core Co-Director for LACaTS and a COBRE award. Dr. Gregory has been the Director of the Office of Faculty Development for the past eight years. She will continue to teach in medical school courses.

This position was created within the Office of Student Affairs to offer the training and resources that medical students, residents and clinical faculty need to be involved in research. The goal is to expand opportunities for research and maximize participation among our students.

SOM Faculty Publications

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Congratulations to the following individuals for the publication of their work in respected journals from July 1 – August 31, as reported to The Pulse by individual departments:

Cardiovascular Center of Excellence:

Decoding the Tripping Brain:

<http://www.the-scientist.com/?articles.view/articleNo/50209/title/Decoding-the-Tripping-Brain/>

Is Cardioprotection Dead? – <http://circ.ahajournals.org/content/136/1/98.long>

Journal of Vascular Surgery The Premier International Journal of Medical, Endovascular, and Surgical Care of Vascular Diseases. – (published journal for Dr. Lefer) [http://www.jvascsurg.org/article/S0741-5214\(17\)31831-1/pdf](http://www.jvascsurg.org/article/S0741-5214(17)31831-1/pdf)

Family Medicine:

Preventing Falls in Older Person. LV Moncada, L Glen Mire. American Family Physician, 2017;96(4):240-247

Genetics:

Dai L, Bai A, Smith CD, Rodriguez PC, Yu F *, Qin Z *. ABC294640, a novel sphingosine kinase 2 inhibitor induces oncogenic virus infected cell autophagic death and represses tumor growth. Mol Cancer Ther. 2017, in press.

Dai L, Lin Z, Jiang W, Flemington EK, Qin Z *. Lipids, lipid metabolism and Kaposi's sarcoma-associated herpesvirus pathogenesis. Virologica Sinica, 2017, in press.

Chin J, Sinha S, Nalaparaju A, Yam J, Qin Z, Ma L, Liang Z, Lu L, Bhattacharjya S, Yang L *. Pseudomonas aeruginosa Psl exopolysaccharide interacts with the antimicrobial peptide LG21. Water, 2017, in press.

Rakesh K. Srivastava, Ph.D. Yu W, Ma Y, Shankar S, Srivastava RK. Sci Rep. 2017 Sep 8;7(1):10939. doi: 10.1038/s41598-017-05458-y.

Sierra RA, Trillo-Tinoco J, Mohamed E, Yu L, Achyut BR, Arbab A, Bradford JW, Osborne BA, Miele L, Rodriguez PC. Anti-Jagged Immunotherapy Inhibits MDSCs and Overcomes Tumor-Induced Tolerance. Cancer Res. 2017 Sep 13. doi: 10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-17-0357. [Epub ahead of print] PMID:28904063.

Fortini F, Vieceli Dalla Sega F, Caliceti C, Aquila G, Pannella M, Pannuti A, Miele L, Ferrari R, Rizzo P. [Estrogen receptor \$\beta\$ -dependent Notch1 activation protects vascular endothelium against tumor necrosis factor \$\alpha\$ \(TNF \$\alpha\$ \)-induced apoptosis.](#) J Biol Chem. 2017 Sep 11. pii: jbc.M117.790121. doi: 10.1074/jbc.M117.790121. [Epub ahead of print] PMID:28893903.

Ancestry as a potential modifier of gene expression in breast tumors from Colombian women.

Serrano-Gómez SJ, Sanabria-Salas MC, Garay J, Baddoo MC, Hernández-Suarez G, Mejía JC, García O, Miele L, Fejerman L, Zabaleta J. PLoS One. 2017 Aug 23;12(8):e0183179. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0183179. eCollection 2017. PMID:28832682.

Microbiology, Immunology, and Parasitology:

Nabi R, Moldoveanu Z, Wei Q, Golub ET, Durkin HG, Greenblatt RM, Herold BC, Nowicki MJ, Kassaye S, Cho MW, Pinter A, Landay AL, Mestecky J and Kozlowski PA. (2017). Differences in serum IgA responses to HIV-1 gp41 in elite controllers compared to viral suppressors on highly active antiretroviral therapy. PLoS One. Jul 3;12(7):e0180245.

Dehon PM, McGowin CL. (2017) The Immunopathogenesis of Mycoplasma genitalium Infections in Women: A Narrative Review. Sex Transm Dis. Jul;44(7):428-432.

Byerley LO, Samuelson D, Blanchard E 4th, Luo M, Lorenzen BN, Banks S, Ponder MA, Welsh DA, Taylor CM. (2017) Changes in the Gut Microbial Communities Following Addition of Walnuts to the Diet. J Nutr Biochem. Jul 9;48:94-102. PMID: 28797931.

Samuelson DR, Burnham EL, Maffei VJ, Vandivier RW, Blanchard EE, Shellito JE, Luo M, Taylor CM, Welsh DA. (2017) The Respiratory Tract Microbial Biogeography in Alcohol Use Disorder. Am J Physiol Lung Cell Mol Physiol. Aug 31:ajplung.00277.2017. PMID: 28860145.

He J, Melnik LI, Komin A, Wiedman G, Fuselier T, Morris CF, Starr CG, Searson PC, Gallaher WR, Hristova K, Garry RF, Wimley WC (2017). Ebola virus delta protein is a viroporin. Journal of Virology 91 e00438-17. PMID: 28539454.

[**LGBT+Allies Organization for Cultural Understanding the Health Sciences \(LOCUS\)**](#)



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Ayesha Umrigar and Mirandy Li
Co-Presidents

LGBT + Allies Organization for Cultural Understanding in the Health Sciences (LOCUS) held two events in the month of October:

We are pleased to announce that another Safe Zone training session was made available for students. The student-focused training was held on Saturday, October 28th from 1-4 at the LSUHSC downtown campus. Safe Zone training was developed to foster culturally competent work and school environments for LGBTQ individuals. These training sessions provide participants with the awareness, knowledge, and skills to advocate for their LGBTQ peers, family members, friends, coworkers, and for themselves. To date, 27 faculty members have undergone Safe Zone training. They can be identified by the Safe Zone sticker attached to their office nameplate, as well as being listed on our website (see link below). Additional training sessions for faculty will be offered in the near future.

We also facilitated a “Coffee Talk” with the New Orleans Advocates for GLBT Elders (NOAGE) on October 14 at the New Orleans Healing Center (2372 St. Claude Ave.). This talk focused on the role of genetic testing in providing patient care. Three student volunteers conducted a simple experiment to demonstrate how genetic testing is performed in the laboratory. If you’d like to participate in future Coffee Talks or any of our other volunteer opportunities, please visit our website (<https://www.medschool.lsuhschool.edu/cmhe/locus/>) where you can subscribe to our email list.

If you have any questions about LOCUS or volunteer opportunities, please contact Co-Presidents Mirandy Li (mli2@lsuhsc.edu) and Ayesha Umrigar (aumrig@lsuhsc.edu).

M.D./Ph.D. Program

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A few updates for the MD/PhD program – Dr. Kathleen McDonough has retired after 38 years as a faculty member at LSUHSC New Orleans. She was the Director of the MD/PhD program since 2003. She was preceded by Dr. Adele Spence who was instrumental in initiating the expansion of the program to its current status. Dr. McDonough will continue to assist the students in the program and new Program Director, Dr. Angela Amedee, Professor of Microbiology, Immunology and Parasitology (MIP).

Dr. Amedee has served as the graduate coordinator for the MIP department for a number of years and has trained several MD/PhD students including Drs. Jessica Thomas, currently a faculty member and Associate Medical Director of the Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory at Houston Methodist Hospital and Whitney Nichols, currently a first year pediatrics resident at the University of Mississippi in Jackson,

MS. Spencer Robichaux completed his PhD this past May under Dr. Amedee's mentorship, was funded by an F30 grant from the National Institutes on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism and is currently a third year medical student. The program is very fortunate to have Dr. Amedee as its new director.

Rahul Mehta, M.D., Reaches New Milestone

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Rahul Mehta, MD, Assistant Professor in the LSU Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery has successfully performed more than a hundred cases of total endoscopic ear surgeries. Dr. Mehta has the largest series of total endoscopic ear surgeries in Louisiana. He offers this approach to his patients at University Medical Center New Orleans (UMC) and LSU/Our Lady of the Lake Hearing and Balance Center in Baton Rouge. Only a few centers in the United States offer this minimally invasive approach for fixing ear problems like perforated eardrum, conductive hearing loss, cholesteatoma, etc. Instead of making a large cut at the back of the ear, a small incision is made in the ear canal and a pencil size rigid endoscope is used to visualize the deeper ear structures and to operate via ear canal. With endoscopes, difficult to view areas in the ear can be seen easily and clearly as the attached camera projects the magnified image of the ear on big screens in the operating room. UMC has state of the art operating rooms available with special ear endoscopes, the latest 3 chip cameras, and special endoscopic ear surgery instruments to perform this type of minimally invasive surgery. The LSU Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery team at UMC includes Dr. Mehta, Dr. Rohan Walvekar and Dr. Laura Pelaez (Co-Directors of the UMC site), Dr. Celeste Gary, and Dr. Daniel Nuss.