



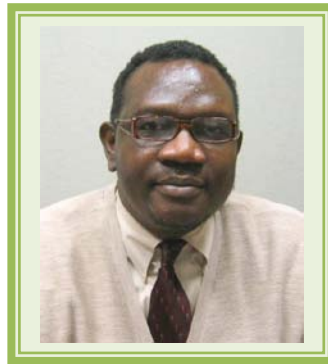
Departmental News

Department of Pediatrics ~ LSUMC New Orleans

KUDOS CORNER



Diego Aviles, MD



Oluwatoyin Bamgbola, MD

Ricardo Sorensen, MD has nominated two Nephrology Faculty members for Endowed Professorships. **Diego Aviles, MD** was nominated for the Alan Robson, MD – Pediatric Nephrology Endowed Professorship. Dr. Sorensen also nominated **Oluwatoyin Bamgbola, MD** to be appointed to the Percy Rosenbaum, MD Professorship in Pediatrics.

Duna Penn, MD and the Neonatology Fellowship Program received some great news recently. The ACGME has re-accredited the program for a three-year cycle. All current Neonatal-Perinatal fellows will graduate from a fully accredited program.



Kelly Kennett, MD

Congratulations to **Kelly Kennett, MD** who has been nominated by Bonnie Desselle, MD and the Department of Pediatrics for the LSU Intern of the Year Award given by LSU Interim Hospital. Dr. Desselle says Kelly has received the utmost praise on the monthly evaluations from all of her supervisory faculty throughout this year. The Intern of the Year will be announced at a luncheon on June 3rd at the Windsor Court Hotel.

PEDIATRIC RAPID RESPONSE TEAM

We are proud to report that the pediatric rapid response team at Children's Hospital of New Orleans, the Prevent A Code Team (PACT), has been in service for over one year to better serve our pediatric patients. The PACT is comprised of a team of healthcare providers with expertise in critical care who are available at all times to quickly respond to the clinically deteriorating patient and provide support in stabilization, therapeutic planning, and transfer to the intensive care unit, if necessary. Healthcare providers in the hospital who are concerned about the clinical condition of their patients can request a PACT consultation by calling extension 3228 at any time. Any questions or concerns regarding PACT use can be addressed to Dr. Costa Dimitriades.

NEW GI MOTILITY LAB OPENS

In February the Gastroenterology Division opened a motility laboratory on the second floor of Children's Hospital near the special procedures unit. The motility lab equipment was specially designed to test the pressures and movements of the digestive tract from top to bottom and everything in between. The diagnostic studies are especially useful for children, adolescents and adults with unexplained symptoms or conditions that do not respond to treatments as expected. In its first month, the GI lab evaluated not only children from New Orleans, but also Shreveport, Chapel Hill, Salt Lake City, Grand Rapids, and Vancouver. "It's very exciting to be part of this team because we are providing a service like no other in this region. Dr. Hyman gives hope and answers to patients and caregivers who thought their situations were hopeless," said Lisa Labat, Nurse Manager of the Short Stay Unit, Special Procedures Unit, and Sedation Unit.

MATCH RESULTS

We are pleased to announce that our Residency Match of 2009 was successful, and all positions were filled. A warm LSU welcome to our new Pediatrics interns, listed on the next page.

NEW INTERNS

| | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| Catherine Boudreaux | LSU-Shreveport |
| Katie Bruno | LSU-New Orleans |
| Hitesh Chheda | LSU-New Orleans |
| Melanie Cooper | Kansas City University |
| Leah Douglas | Univ of South Alabama |
| Stewart Hill | University of Alabama |
| Suzy Kingston | LSU-New Orleans |
| Dana LeBlanc | LSU-New Orleans |
| Nicole McMahon | Duke University |
| Adrienne Musumeche | LSU-New Orleans |
| Quynh-Anh Nguyen | LSU-New Orleans |
| Jessica Patrick | LSU-Shreveport |
| Kathy Ramsey | Univ of North Texas |

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Stephen Sanches | LSU-New Orleans |
| Chelsey Sandlin | LSU-New Orleans |
| Emily Simon | LSU-Shreveport |
| Hollie Stewart | Univ of South Alabama |

Med/Peds Interns:

| | |
|--------------------|------------------------------|
| Katie Brown | Univ of South Alabama |
| Caroline Burton | Medical Univ of the Americas |
| Moneef Hauter | St. Matthews University |
| Kalyan Muppavarapu | Andhra Medical College |
| Faisal Musa | University of Damascus |
| Arif Shahzad | Saba University |

IN THE NEWS: LUKE'S HOUSE

The Times Picayune ran a cover story on March 12 featuring Luke's House, a free primary care clinic run by LSU Med/Peds Residents and **Sue Berry, MD**, who serves as the Medical Director. The residents provide medical coverage at the clinic every Tuesday night from 6pm – 8pm as part of their ambulatory experience. Each week a Med/Peds faculty member and two residents donate their time to staff the clinic which serves a largely homeless population and adults without health insurance. No one is turned away. The clinic is a joint venture of Mt. Zion and Rayne Memorial United Methodist churches and is supported by the Louisiana Methodist Health Services Foundation. It is located inside the fellowship hall of Mt. Zion United Methodist Church at 2700 Louisiana Avenue. Faculty members **Betty Lo-Blais, MD** and **Diana McDermott, MD** volunteer as attending physicians. They are also quoted in the article which is printed on the last page of this newsletter.

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

Lolie Yu, MD presented a poster titled "Human Placenta-Derived Stem Cells Augment Transplantation with Umbilical Cord Blood" at the Annual BMT Tandem Meeting. Dr. Yu also presented "Alternative Sources of Stem Cells for Transplantation" at the Leukemia/ Lymphoma symposium on March 6 at Ochsner Medical Center.

Tammuella Singleton, MD published "Emergency Department Care for Patients with Hemophilia and von Willebrand Disease" back in August 2008. The article ran in the *Journal of Emergency Medicine*.

Yves Lacassie, MD presented the following at the Annual Meeting of the American College of Medical Genetics in Tampa last month:

- "Application of array comparative genomic hybridization findings to genetic counseling in a complex family with four rare genomic abnormalities and a widely variable phenotype" in conjunction with Robin R. McGoey, Shyam Sathyamoorthi, Juan J. Gershanik, Olivier Thelin
- "Diagnostic Problems in Clinical Genetics – Recognizable Difficulties for Quality Improvement"
- "Clinical and Molecular Difficulties in the Diagnosis of a Family with Coffin-Lowry Syndrome Inherited from the Mother and Apparent Shah-Waardenburg Syndrome Inherited from the Father" in conjunction with Srirangan Sampath, Wanguo Liu, Kelly Allerton

Dr. Lacassie also co-authored a paper with **Jaime Morales, MD**, Assistant Professor in the Hematology/Oncology Division. "Array analysis and molecular studies of INI1 in an infant with deletion 22q13 (Phelan-McDermid syndrome) and atypical teratoid/rhabdoid tumor" was published in *The American Journal of Medical Genetics*. Other co-authors include S Sathyamoorthi, J Bermudez, L McBride, Robin McGoey, N Oates, S Hales, and JA Biegel.

Victoria Dimitriades, MD, Allergy/Immunology Fellow, recently presented a poster at the Academy of Allergy and Immunology conference in Washington, DC titled "Arginase I is Decreased in Pediatric Atopic Dermatitis Patients." Dr. Dimitriades also traveled to Boston to give an oral presentation titled "Interstitial Lung Disease in Dermatomyositis" at the Clinical Immunology Society Conference for Autoimmune Diseases.

ATTENTION RESIDENTS:

BIOETHICS COURSE IN UDINE, ITALY

The LSUHSC Department of Pediatrics announces the International Intensive Course in Medical Bioethics to be held in Udine, Italy from July 13 to 25, 2009. There are four slots assigned to each of the 12 participant universities by the organizers and co-organizers. LSUHSC plans to send two residents and two medical students. Applicants must write a short essay, 1 to 2 single-spaced pages describing their motivations, reasoning, why they are to be considered worthy candidates, and how they plan to use and apply their new knowledge. Please send submissions to John Estrada, MD (jestra@lsuhsc.edu), Alfonso Vargas, MD (avarga@lsuhsc.edu) and Kelly Allerton (kslumb@lsuhsc.edu) by **April 20, 2009**. Selected candidates will be notified by April 30, 2009. Costs of the course, boarding, and lodging (housing and meals) will be covered by a Grant of the European Union to the local organizers (Italy). LSUHSC Department of Pediatrics will subsidize traveling expenses up to US\$1,000 to selected residents in its programs.

GRAND ROUNDS – APRIL 15, 2009

Maria Trozzi, M.Ed., a Guest Faculty Professor, will present “Children and Stressful Life Events: A Developmental Perspective” on Wednesday, April 15, 2009 from 8-9am in the auditorium at Children’s Hospital. She is an internationally recognized expert, prolific author, and clinical researcher in child/adolescent bereavement. She is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Boston University School of Medicine and the Director of the Good Grief Program at Boston Medical Center. Mrs. Trozzi also happens to be the mother of our new faculty member Melissa Nass, MD.

NEONATAL SCREENING WORKSHOP TO BE HELD IN MAY

Dr. Sorensen and Dr. Pincus would like to invite all faculty, fellows, residents and students to a Neonatal Screening Workshop for Primary Immunodeficiency Diseases (PID) to be held in the auditorium at Children’s Hospital on Monday, May 4th from 2:00p.m. to 5:30p.m. Jack Routes, MD, who initiated the first program of neonatal screening for PID in Wisconsin more than a year ago, will be the guest speaker at the workshop. Drs. Sorensen and Pincus feel that conditions are very favorable for starting a new generation neonatal screening program in Louisiana. To register, contact Kelly Allerton.



RESEARCH DAY RESCHEDULED

Research Day 2009 has been moved to **June 19, 2009**. It was originally scheduled for May 8, 2009 but has been pushed back to allow more time for abstract submission. All faculty, fellows, research associates, residents and students of the Department of Pediatrics and Research Institute for Children are invited to submit abstracts. All presentations will be given as posters and a small number of abstracts will be selected to be presented orally based on scientific review of the abstract. Posters should be no larger than 4 ft x 4 ft (we will accept a larger poster that was recently presented at another meeting). Abstracts should be 300 words or less. Please contact Kelly Allerton for an abstract submission form. Completed forms should be emailed to her (kslumb@lsuhsc.edu) by **Friday, June 5, 2009**.

DEPARTMENT CALENDAR

Mark your calendars for all upcoming events. All Faculty Meetings begin at 12:00 noon and lunch is served.

- April 10** Good Friday (Holiday) 
- April 15** Grand Rounds
- April 17** Faculty Meeting, Tower 2 Center
- April 20** Deadline to submit applications for Bioethics Course in Italy
- May 4** Neonatal Screening Workshop
- May 15** Faculty Meeting, Tower 2 Center
- June 19** Faculty Meeting, Auditorium
Research Day
- June 20** Hello Good-bye, The Ritz-Carlton



Prayers for medical help answered

By Marilyn Stewart, *Times Picayune*, March 12, 2009

At a clinic called Luke's House, bed sheets and PVC pipe create examination rooms while folding massage beds become examining tables for a group of LSU doctors bringing medical care to those in need.

The free clinic is open on Tuesdays from 6-8 p.m. at the fellowship hall of Mt. Zion United Methodist Church at 2700 Louisiana Ave. The church's sanctuary is being renovated, so the fellowship hall doubles as a worship center. The four-room clinic can be tucked away in a hall closet when the need arises.

"That closet just seems to be getting bigger and bigger," said Jiselle Bock, a Tulane medical student who served as executive director at the clinic's opening about a year ago. "I can't believe all the stuff we can get in there."

Bock was hired to oversee the clinic's startup. Her ability to make-do comes from public-health clinic experience in the former Soviet Union.

"They told me we had 8 weeks" to set up the New Orleans clinic, Bock said. "So, I said, 'Let's do it!'"

With \$100 worth of plastic pipe and fittings, wall frames took shape by "fitting together like Legos," Bock said. Her sewing machine whirred and converted donated hotel bed linens into walls.

With minimal equipment, doctors treat patients of all ages with acute, but non-emergency needs. On-site lab tests include strep swabbings, urine tests and glucose readings. Patients receive prescriptions, but medicine is not provided or dispensed at the clinic.

Tom Grissom, the executive

director, said the mission is to provide treatment and then connect patients to comprehensive mental and physical healthcare providers, regardless of the patient's ability to pay. "We are not a medical home, but we provide medical care," Grissom said.

The all-volunteer staff includes a pharmacist, a physical therapist, mental health counselors, support personnel and clergy for spiritual and pastoral counseling. The clinic is a joint venture of Mt. Zion and Rayne Memorial United Methodist churches and is supported by the Louisiana Methodist Health Services Foundation.

Doctors in residency see patients under the supervision of the LSU School of Medicine faculty. **Diana McDermott**, a medicine and pediatrics faculty member, said the clinic is a win-win situation for patients and residents.

"Especially since the storm, there is a subset of people that, for economic reasons, can't get to us," McDermott said. "And the residents see cases they don't see in their training."

Sue Berry, the clinic's medical director and an LSU pediatric faculty member, said that when her pastor, the Rev. Carol Winn Crawford of Rayne, told her about plans for the portable clinic, she thought it was a pipe dream.

"I knew the logistics involved and knew how hard it would be," Berry said.

Berry's emails to busy colleagues with multiple scheduling commitments generated one positive response. **Betty Lo-Blais**, director of the LSU residency

program for Medicine and Pediatrics, jumped at the idea when she read Berry's letter.

"Betty said 'yes' when all we had was the commitment of a fellowship hall in a church," Berry said.

Within three weeks of the clinic's opening, Lo-Blais had a year's rotation schedule in place for residents and attending doctors. Internal surveys show the clinic to be a favorite among the residents.

Carolina Urbizo, a third-year resident in internal medicine and pediatrics, said she enjoys the stress-free schedule at the clinic, where there are no time constraints with patients.

"Being part of a patient's life is what being a physician is about," Urbizo said. "We're doing this from our hearts."

Second-year resident Meagan Shepherd agrees. "Here, I feel like I've done more than simply treat them and write a prescription," Shepherd said. "I'm able to educate them."

One patient struggling with diabetes praised the residents and doctors, saying "They have helped me help myself."

Rob Anderson, chairman of the Luke's House board, said the clinic has been a rewarding experience for all, including himself. Despite a demanding schedule. "I can't wait to get back to the clinic," Anderson said.

Hygiene items, healthy snacks and a clothes closet are available at the clinic. Vouchers for homeless-shelter assistance are written during clinic hours beginning at 4:30 p.m. For information, contact Luke's House at 504.444.7879.