March 30, 2009 marked another big step in the initiative by USF Health and Tampa General Hospital to transform research and treatment for newborns receiving care in the Tampa Bay area. Joined by physicians, nurses and hospital and university officials, Pam and Les Muma, whose generous gift helped fund the initiative, kicked off construction of the newly-designed, state-of-the-art neonatal intensive care unit at TGH. For coverage of the ceremony, see the story on the USF Health homepage at the link below.

http://hscweb3.hsc.usf.edu/health/now/?p=5062

Thanks to the efforts of Ellen Fiss, Media Relations at TGH, we had great coverage on WUSF's Florida Focus television show on the NICU Construction kick-off. Please watch at the link below.

http://blip.tv/file/1941784

**From the Chairman’s Desk**

I want to update you on the Budget. We will finalize the major portion shortly. We have had to prepare a Budget with a 15% cut of state support which is ~$300,000. The good news is that the Department, through all of your hard work, is in the black significantly for the first 9 months of this fiscal year. We are also keeping our fingers crossed that rumors of infusion of Stimulus dollars into Florida will blunt some of these cuts. The Legislature ends in 2 weeks. We will not learn actual changes until shortly after that date. I want to thank Heather, Dayla, Barry and Chris for their hard work on the budget; despite all of our challenges you continue to accomplish. As this newsletter demonstrates there are exciting developments in education (winning the senior class award for the Internal-Medicine/Peds clerkship), Clinical (the start of the Muma NICU) and research (see all of publications and Dr. Sleasman’s appointment).

Keep up the good work and Thank You!  

**Bob Nelson**
April Birthdays: Amanda Schall (Apr 3); Alastair Hutchison (Apr 5); Laura Haubner (Apr 7); Heather Saavedra (Apr 8); Jorge Lujan-Zilbermann (Apr 10); Brandy Bonafede-Gore (Apr 11); Carolyn Kelly (Apr 11); Betsy Gebert (Apr 14); Sandy Rogers (Apr 17); Michael Abbondondolo (Apr 21); Rachel Stewart-Campbell (Apr 22); Hye-Seung Lee (Apr 23); Pia Lamoureux (Apr 26); Rene Ruiz-Nieves (Apr 26); Neha Beharry (Apr 28); Robert Nelson (Apr 28); Linda Shanker (Apr 28); Maryann Maloy (Apr 29); Sharon Dabrow (Apr 30)

Faculty News Reviews / Accomplishments

Al Campos, MD: Was recently notified that the Class of 2009 has selected the Integrated Internal Medicine-Pediatrics Clerkship as the recipient of the Outstanding Junior Clerkship Award. The award will be presented to him at the Annual Student/Faculty Awards Ceremony on Thursday, May 7, 2009 at 3:00 pm in the USF Health Auditorium. Up to one thousand dollars is being awarded to Dr. Campos through a fund administered by the Office of Educational Affairs to be used for faculty development or educational initiatives. Congratulations!

Tanya Murphy, MD and Eric Storch, Ph.D: Recently received a Tourette Syndrome Association Grant (around $72,000) for their research on improving adjustment and outcomes for youth with tic disorders through behavioral treatment. Many youth with tic disorders experience distress about having tics and how others may perceive them. Such symptoms are often more impairing and distressing than the tics themselves and negatively impact self-concept, functioning, and quality of life. Drs. Murphy and Storch propose to develop and pilot a cognitive-behavioral therapy program that seeks to promote coping and resiliency among youth with tics to minimize the impact of their diagnosis on quality of life and functioning.


In addition, Dr. Takagishi was recently informed that her MedEdPORTAL submission, MEP 1649: USF Business of Medicine Modules, has been accepted for publication. The authors also included Rani Gereige, Sharon Dabrow and Lori Bowers. At Drexel, they also worked with Paul Matz and Robert Bonner. Congratulations!

www.aamc.org/meded/mededportal

In the current Florida Pediatric Society newsletter, Dr. Sharon Dabrow was noted for her residency involvement in advocacy:

The Florida Pediatric Society is getting national recognition for its work with Pediatric Residents to assist them with their advocacy projects and incorporating them into the activities of the chapter. Credit goes to Dr. Sharon Dabrow and Dr. Cristy Pelaez for their outstanding work.
Faculty News Reviews / Accomplishments con’t

The Genetics Division presented multiple posters at the American College of Medical Genetics Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting, Tampa, FL, last month.

POSTERS:


T Ferlita, EJ Prijoles, JD Ranells, R Ortega, E Kleinman, DP Dumont, MJ Sutcliffe. “Unraveling a Complex Cryptic de Novo Translocation by aCGH.”

J. Ranells, T. Ferlita, E. Prijoles and J. Tepperberg “Interstitial deletion of 16q12.1q12.2 including the SALL1 locus and duplication of 16q13q21 in a boy with previously unrecognized Townes-Brock syndrome.”

EJ Prijoles and M. Adam. “Mowat-Wilson Syndrome with Associated Dysphagia.”

Sutcliffe, M.J. (USF and ACH) and Batanian, J.R.(St Louis Univ, St Louis, MO). “Array CGH - Is there a Role for Microarray Analysis in Pediatric Oncology? “ Poster

ABC television documentary program “20/20” visited Sutcliffe, M.J. at All Children’s Hospital on 1st April, 2009 to film the Cytogenetics and Molecular Cytogenetics Laboratory and review microarray testing further to the publication co-authored by Sutcliffe, M.J. regarding “A Case Study of Disorganized Development and Its Possible Relevance to Genetic Determinants of Aging” that was recently published in “Mechanisms of Aging and Development”. The subject of the publication was a patient enrolled in Sutcliffe, M.J.’s research microarray project in 2006.

Patricia P. Gilliam, ARNP, PhD(c) and Diane M. Straub, MD, MPH: Recently had an article published in the Journal of the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care. The title of the article was “Prevention with Positives: A review of Published Research, 1998-2008.” Vol. 20, No. 2 March/April 2009, 92-109.

Dr. John Sleasman was invited to participate as a member of the Stage 1 Panel to review grant applications in response to the NIH Challenge Grants in Health and Science Research (RC1) which are part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. NIH has received new funds for Fiscal Years (FYs) 2009 and 2010 as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act). NIH has designated at least $200 million for a new initiative called the NIH Challenge Grants in Health and Science Research (see http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/challenge_award/). This new program will support research on topic areas which address specific scientific and health research challenges in biomedical and behavioral research that would benefit from significant 2-year jumpstart funds. NIH Institute and Centers have selected specific Challenge Topics within each of the Challenge Areas. The research in these Challenge Areas should have a high impact in biomedical or behavioral science and/or public health.
“Items of Excellence”

By now everyone has probably seen the email publication of “Items of Excellence”. This publication will run every two weeks.

**What:** Items of Excellence (IOE) are summaries of wins and accomplishments that support the vision and strategic goals of the HSC, the College and the department – timely items that we would like everyone to know about. Examples include announcements of recently awarded federal grants, recent recent publication in a major peer-reviewed journal or presentation at a national research conference, top-level appointments and honors, collaborative/team initiatives and accomplishments by departments or colleges, etc. – all leading to national prominence.

**Who Can Submit:** Anyone at the HSC – deans, chairs, faculty, staff and students.

**How:** Please report your IOEs to your department or college under the following five categories. Be concise – just the basic facts needed:

- Creative Educational Models (emphasis on national prominence, interdisciplinary collaboration)
- Research Really Matters (emphasis on national prominence, interdisciplinary collaboration)
- Entrepreneurial Academic Practice (successful clinical practice and community outreach programs/projects, collaborations with community partners– e.g. TGH, Moffitt, VA, ACH, outpatient sites).
- Operational/Financial Innovation (streamlining of clinic operations resulting in greater efficiency and profit – scheduling, patient flow, medical records, billing, etc)
- People Excellence – Items that demonstrate the Winning Spirit, Creativity and Accomplishments of the people at HSC

### HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATES

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carolyn Kelly</td>
<td>NICU Nurse Practitioner</td>
<td>Neonatology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Claire Farnell</td>
<td>NICU Nurse Practitioner</td>
<td>Neonatology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kristen Ruffalo</td>
<td>MA STC 2nd Floor</td>
<td>General Pediatrics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jessica Fuller</td>
<td>Telephone Scheduler</td>
<td>ACH Clinics</td>
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Please join us in welcoming the above employees to the USF Health Pediatrics team!