FROM THE CHAIR

Here we are once again in the last few weeks of the academic year. It’s hard to believe, especially during resident graduation celebrations where it feels like the third year residents were all just at intern orientation! It is my wish that we all end the year strong—much like a runner who finds a “kick” at the end of the race. The runner’s kick is part physical, but much of it is mental: motivation and mental tenacity are key components. So, in addition to coming to our various celebrations this month, consider contributing to the faculty-staff campaign so we can end with a strong kick. Any amount is significant – it is our participation that matters. Your contributions demonstrate our commitment and belief in our department and college. I want to congratulate the divisions that have 100% participation! They are listed on page 5. I also want to thank Chris Curran and Judy Ranells for their incredible dedication as campaign chairs. They have taken

DEPARTMENT KUDOS

Pediatrics is very proud to have 100% of our Medical Assistants certified as National Registered Certified MAs. Most recently, Angela Escoto, RCMA, passed her certification exam. We are the FIRST department to have all of our MAs certified. Congratulations!

Congratulations to Jaime Flores-Torres, MD who passed his Neonatology boards!

The Newborn Hearing Program at Tampa General Hospital received another Award of Excellence from the Florida Department of Health. The award was for their Audiology Outpatient Follow-up Program which follows infants who do not pass the inpatient hearing screen. Last year the team received an award for excellence in newborn inpatient hearing screening. Dr. Janet Sullivan is director of the program.

Dr. Juan Fuentes, a second year fellow in neonatology, received an Outstanding Abstract Award by the Endocrine Society for his abstract that will be presented as a poster presentation at the 16th International Congress of Endocrinology to be held June 21-24 in Chicago. The award includes a $500 travel grant to attend the conference. The title of Dr. Fuentes’ abstract is Plac1 (Placenta-specific 1) Silencing Is Associated with Abnormal Brain Development and Function and is co-authored by Jacob Bourgeois, Xiaoyuan Kong, Marcia Gordon and Michael Fant.
Kudos continued from page 1

Dr. Carina Rodriguez was awarded $15,000 from the Florida Department of Health for her project titled Family Planning Outreach. JaDawn Wright and Cristian Chandler are co-investigators on the project. Please see article below regarding "Blueprint for Health" for more details about this exciting project.

Dr. Lisa Bateman, a graduate student in psychology working with Drs. Kathleen Armstrong and Jennifer Takagishi successfully defended her dissertation this month. In August she will begin work as a post-doctoral student at the Rothman Center, where she will work with Dr. Eric Storch.

The following faculty were listed as Best Doctors in the March issue of Tampa Style Magazine: Alfonso Campos, Sharon Dabrow, Denise Edwards, Jorge Lujan-Zilbermann, Verena Jorgensen, Mudra Kumar, Carol Lilly, Luis Maldonado, Tanya Murphy, Valerie Panzarino, Sharon Perlman, Carina Rodriguez, Henry Rodriguez, Allen Root, Mandel Sher, Jennifer Takagishi.

PEDS IN THE NEWS

Dr. Diane Straub’s interview with Bay News 9 aired May 29. Dr. Straub was asked to respond to a recent report that ranks the Tampa/St. Petersburg area as #16 in the nation in the number of HIV cases. In Dr. Cameron Tebbi’s interview with the Tampa Tribune, published June 3, he discussed his research related to the eventual development of a vaccine for hematological cancer.

CLINICAL RESEARCH STUDIES

Dr. Bruce Schnapf’s 12-week asthma study will assess the efficacy and safety of beclomethasone dipropionate delivered via breath actuated or metered dose inhaler. Children aged 5-11 years with persistent asthma are eligible. Contact Emma Gonzalez for more information (egonzal2@health.usf.edu)

Dr. Heather Agazzi’s study of parent-child interaction therapy is currently enrolling mothers of children aged 2-7 who have an autism spectrum disorder. The study will investigate the efficacy of this therapy on reducing maternal-reported stress and symptoms of anxiety and depression. Contact Heather at hcurtiss@health.usf.edu for more information.
FAREWELLS

We are very sad to lose two outstanding employees this month. **Cati Hinton, RN**, clinical nurse manager of outpatient clinics at 17 Davis and STC will be moving to West Palm Beach to be closer to family. She will be Director of Pediatrics for Palms West Children’s Hospital. Cati has done an outstanding job organizing the clinics and has been a champion for her staff and patients. We wish her the best of luck in her new role.

**Dixie Reynolds, ARNP** with the Pulmonary Division and Coordinator of the CF program will be heading to the West coast and taking a position in Seattle. Dixie has been an amazing asset to the division and has grown very close to many CF families; we will miss her smiling face and great energy.

PRESENTATIONS

USF Pediatrics made a great showing at this year’s Pediatric Academic Society Meeting held in Vancouver in May:

Posters:
- Martinez-Lopez DG, **Dishaw L, Luciano AA.** Distinct Cord Blood T Cell and Inflammatory Characteristics in Preterm Infants Who Developed NEC, BPD or Late Onset Sepsis.

Platforms:
- **Fuentes-Guerra JM, Kong X, Fant M.** Plac1 (Placenta-Specific 1) Is Essential for Normal Neuronal and Axonal Development.

Session Chairmanship:
- **Dorothy Shulman** was co-chair of a session titled Stimulants, Steroids and Sweat Chloride: Statural Growth in 3 Common Pediatric Conditions.

GRAND ROUNDS

There will be no grand rounds during July and August. The first lecture of the 2014/15 academic year will be given by Dr. Emmanuel on Sept. 4.

Dr. **Omar Rahman** gave two lectures at the Congress of the Association of Psychology and Psychiatry for Adults and Children held in Athens, Greece in May: Habit Reversal Training for Treatment of Hair Pulling in Youth, co-authored by Dr. **Adam Lewin**, and Evidence-based Treatment of Obsessive Compulsive Disorder.
NEW EMPLOYEES

LaShona Frazier
Medical Assistant

RESIDENCY NEWS

Congratulations to Drs. Lauren Friedman and Kristen Currie who both got married in May!

Presentations continued from page 3

Dr. Angel Luciano was co-author of a platform presentation titled *Hand Biomechanics of Skilled Pianists and Preventive and Rehabilitative Strategy for Pain and Injury* presented at the American Osteopathic Academy of Sports Medicine meeting held in Tampa in March.

Dr. Carina Rodriguez gave a lecture titled *Challenges in Pediatric Communicable Disease Health Care* at the Department of Public Health Laboratory on May 16. The lecture was sponsored by the Hillsborough County Department of Health’s Tuberculosis Clinic. Dr. Rodriguez also gave a lecture titled *Working Toward Elimination of Mother-to-Child Transmission: Practical Aspects for the Perinatal Team* at the Florida/Caribbean Aids Education and Training Center’s conference held in Orlando in May.

PUBLICATIONS

Toufexis M, Deoleo C, Elia J, Murphy TK. *A link between perianal strept and pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorder associated with streptococcal infection (PANDAS).* J Neuropsychiatry Clinical Neurosciences April 1, 2014.


Dr. Jose Ferreira is an author of a manuscript titled *6q22.1 microdeletion and susceptibility to pediatric epilepsy.* Eur J Hum Genet May 14, 2014.

SAVE THE DATE

June 15
Resident graduation

June 25
Faculty meeting with Dean Lockwood

June 27
Resident welcome party

August 29-31
FCAAP meeting in Orlando
FACULTY & STAFF CAMPAIGN

Eight divisions have 100% participation so far:

♦ Administration
♦ Adolescent Medicine
♦ Genetics
♦ Hematology/Oncology
♦ Mason Endowed Chair
♦ MedPeds
♦ Neurology
♦ Pulmonology

The USF Office of Development has congratulated Peds for its amazing “game changing” performance - participation has nearly doubled compared with last year. Let’s rally!! Only 3 weeks left—donate today!

HAPPENINGS

Dr. Eric Storch and graduate student Robert Selles gave a talk on peer pressure in El Salvador, with the nearly $4000 in proceeds raised going to the Tin Marin Children’s Museum in San Salvador.

The recently funded “Blueprint for Health – Tampa Bay” will expand outreach in the local community to promote family planning services for youth aged 13 to 24, including those who are LGBTQ. The team reaches youth through many venues, including high schools and hotspots of youth nightlife in the Tampa area, encouraging them to attend a family planning clinic. Those who attend are given $20 gift card incentives. The services provided also include testing for sexually transmitted infections and counseling, physical exams, health screenings, referral services, and health education. The team is reaching many youth in need of these valuable resources, most of whom are unaware that family planning services are available to them. Kayla Kieninger, Dennis Lemmerman, and Michetta Andre recently joined USF’s Division of Infectious Diseases to be part of this project.

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Caroline Murphy

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Please email submissions for next month’s issue by July 1st