We welcome Dr. Olga Klinkova to the Division of Infectious Disease. Dr. Klinkova joins the faculty as Assistant Professor and an attending at Tampa General Hospital, Moffitt Cancer Center and Florida Hospital-Tampa. Dr. Klinkova grew up in Russia. She received her MD and completed her Internal Medicine Residency at Omsk State Medical Academy in Russia. She received her MS Degree from the University of South Dakota and completed an additional IM Residency at the University of Buffalo - SUNY. In 2017, she completed her Infectious Disease Fellowship with the Division of Infectious Disease.

ID Faculty and Fellows Attend IDWeek

(Pictured (L-R): Beata Casanas, DO - Faculty, Anteneh Addisu, MD - Fellow, Sadat Aslam, MD - Faculty)
On October 2-6, 2017, USF ID faculty and fellows attended the annual IDWeek presented by the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA). The week long event which was held in San Diego, CA is the combined annual meeting of the IDSA, SHEA, HIVMA, and PIDS and brings together infectious disease professionals across the nation to meet, share experiences, share research, and develop collaborations. This year, there were five faculty members and six fellows who authored five research posters and one oral presentation that was presented at the conference. Several other ID faculty attended and participated in the conference.

(ID Fellow, Dr. Robert Castro, presents "Major Risk Factors for Leprosy in a Non-Endemic Area of the United States". Other authors include Dr. Jellyana Peraza, Dr. Beata Casanas, Dr. Andrew Makaei, and Dr. Sadaf Aslam.)

ID Fellow, Dr. Anteneh Addisu, discusses his research poster with a conference attendee.
Congratulations to ID Faculty on Their Recent Promotions!

Ulyee Choe, DO was promoted to Associate Professor.

Dr. Choe is Director of the Florida Department of Health—Pinellas County. He completed his ID Fellowship with our Division in 2011 and became a member of our faculty that same year.
Lynette Menezes, PhD
was promoted to Associate Professor.
Dr. Menezes is Assistant VP for International - USF Health and Assistant Dean for International - Morsani College of Medicine. She has been a faculty member with the ID Division since 2005.

Richard Oehler, MD was promoted to Professor.
Dr. Oehler is an attending faculty at James A. Haley VA Hospital and the Director of ID Clinical Education. He is also the co-creator and webmaster for IDPodcasts.net. He has been with the Division since 2002.

Congratulations to the CLASS OF 2017 Infectious Disease Fellowship Program Graduates!

(From L-R) Robert Castro, MD (2017), Olga Klinkova, MD (2017), Beata Casanas, DO (Program Director), Shuchi Pandya, MD (2017), Marijesmar Gonzalez, MD (2017), Tammy Grice (Fellowship Coordinator), Manuel Castro, MD (2017)
Graduating ID Fellows presented an appreciation plaque to Fellowship Program Director, Beata Casanas, DO. The plaque thanked Dr. Casanas for her “passion to teach, unconditional commitment, unwavering support and enduring dedication”.

2017 ID Fellowship graduates, Dr. Shuchi Pandya, and Dr. Olga Klinkova were presented awards at the post-graduation dinner. Dr. Pandya was selected as this year’s recipient of the Jeffrey P. Nadler Award for Excellence in Research. Dr. Klinkova was presented the Outstanding Infectious Disease Fellow award from the James A. Haley VA Hospital ID Faculty.

Shuchi Pandya, MD (L), Olga Klinkova, MD (R)

Congratulations to ID Faculty Member Dr. Todd Wills!

May 8, 2017 marked the start date for the charter class of the Physician Assistant Program at USF Health. Dr. Wills is the assistant dean and founding director of the program. We know the program will be a great success!

Read the USF Health full story here.

https://hscweb3.hsc.usf.edu/blog/2017/05/10/usf-health-welcomes-charter-class-physician-assistant-program/
ID Podcasts Presents “IDPodcaster Awards” in Celebration of IDPodcasts 10-Year Anniversary!

Click here to see the winning podcasts!

$1.2 Million Zika Clinical Research Network (ZiCRN) Grant Awarded to USF

The Florida Department of Health’s Zika Research Initiative Program has awarded a large grant in the amount of $1,117,413 to the University of South Florida, led by Dr. Thomas B. Casale, Professor of Allergy and Immunology. This grant was written as collaboration between the USF College of Medicine Division of Allergy and Immunology and the Division of Infectious Diseases and International Medicine and the College of Public Health Global Health Infectious Disease Research Program. Principal Investigator Dr. Thomas Casale, professor and expert in the field of immunology, will be collaborating with key faculty from the USF College of Public Health, Dr. Wilbur Milhous and Dr. Thomas Unnasch, as well as key faculty from the Division of Infectious Diseases including Dr. Douglas Holt, Dr. Jamie Morano, Dr. Charurut Somboonwit, Dr. Beata Casanas, and Dr. Seetha Lakshmi. Dr. John Sinnott, Chairman of USF College of Medicine, also serves on the senior board of senior advisory directors.

The Grant is entitled “University of South Florida Integrated Clinical Trial Network Structuring and Enhancement for Execution of Zika Virus Vaccine and Diagnostic Clinical Trials, and testing of other Emerging Infectious Disease (EID) Solutions for Florida.” Taken directly from the grant aims, this initiative will serve to create a nexus of scientific and medical expertise to increase research programs for Zika virus as well as to improve the relationship between clinical investigators and basic research investigators involved in infectious disease research, and thus enhance translational research. It will also strive to increase cross-school collaborations in clinical infectious diseases and especially ZIKV research both within USF and throughout Florida. It will also engage residents, graduate students and pre-doctoral students in clinical investigations so as to foster the development of the next generation of physician scientists and healthcare researchers.

ID Podcasts Celebrates its 10th Anniversary!

The Division of Infectious Disease’s groundbreaking educational podcast platform, ID Podcasts, is celebrating its 10th anniversary. Founded in 2007, at the dawn of the podcast era (YouTube was founded in 2005, TED Online in 2006), as a collaboration between current chairman of the Department of Internal Medicine, Dr. John Sinnott, and Associate Professor, Dr. Richard Oehler, the platform originated as a website (http://www.idpodcasts.net) in 2007. We posted our first podcast, “A Tour of the Medical Wing of the London Museum of Science,” on June 29th, 2007.

Over the past ten years, we have expanded to include iTunes podcast series (2007), Smartphone and Tablet apps (Apple and Android, 2009), and Youtube, Facebook and Twitter sites (2012 to present).

We now offer over 200 podcasts in multiple disciplines of medical and infectious disease practice, including the history of medicine, HIV/AIDS care, public health, tropical medicine, hospital-acquired infections, STDs, infections in the immunocompromised, and others.

The best part about IDPodcasts for its listeners is that all resources are FREE and available to all! This is due to the passion for teaching and a commitment to share knowledge on the part
of its founders, and especially, the infectious disease faculty and affiliated presenters who contribute to our expanding library.

In 2017, we released new state of the art apps for smartphones and tablets for both Apple and Android users. For 2018, we are initiating new international language podcasts, including two newly created episodes in collaboration with the Universidad CES in Medellin, Colombia. This should include the inauguration of our new “ID Podcasts International” YouTube Channel.

Our IDPodcasts Youtube Channel currently has amassed nearly 600,000 lifetime views and more than 3,000 subscribers from more than 200 countries and principalities across the globe!

Click here to view a recent USF Health article on our podcast site.

https://hscweb3.hsc.usf.edu/blog/2017/03/22/infectious-disease-podcast-series-celebrates-10th-anniversary/