FROM THE CHAIR

As I finish off a number of student recommendation letters, I am struck by how engaged our students are in the community. CV after CV describes experiences at Bridge Clinic, Street Medicine, YYC, trips to the Dominican Republic and Haiti, tutoring, volunteering at hospitals—they do it all. Our faculty, residents and staff are instrumental in ensuring that these opportunities are meaningful; their presence allows true clinical care to occur. These experiences cannot be measured in RVUs or even EVUs, but they are essential to our students’ growth and our department’s role in improving the health of our community. I want to thank all the faculty and residents who participated in health fairs and other activities this back-to-school season. I want to encourage all of us to use our talents and look for opportunities to participate in service activities to advance child health.

RESIDENCY NEWS

Dr. Sharon Dabrow and residents participated in the Plant City Health Fair (left), while Dr. Carol Lilly and residents participated in the Blake High School Health Fair (right).

PUBLICATIONS


Letter continued from page 1
As a department, we are working to further expand our community engagement by starting with the medical community and strengthening connections with our resident alumni and community pediatricians. Many of you know Lynn Ringenberg, emeritus Professor of Pediatrics and previous program director for the pediatric residency program. Lynn will be returning in an official capacity to oversee an initiative to improve connection and communication with the Tampa Bay community of pediatricians. Those of you who know Lynn know that she has boundless energy and enthusiasm for education and is well connected with her previous trainees. Lynn continues to be very active—not only with local locum work, but as the President of Physicians for Social Responsibility. She has always embraced community engagement—so we could not ask for a better person to assist us with this initiative. We welcome your ideas on how we can expand our connection with the community. Happy Fall!

Patricia J. Emmanuel, M.D.
Chair, Department of Pediatrics

WELCOME NEW FACULTY

We are very pleased to welcome Dr. Akhil Maheshwari to USF Pediatrics! Dr. Maheshwari has been appointed to the Pamela and Leslie Muma Endowed Chair in Neonatology and will also serve as Chief of the Division of Neonatology and Assistant Dean, Graduate Medical Education. In his GME role, he will have oversight over GME-sponsored faculty research and will work with program directors on proposals and publications. Dr. Maheshwari earned his medical degree from the Institute of Medical Sciences, Varanasi, India, completed his residency in pediatrics at the University of Florida, and completed his fellowship training in neonatology at USF. After his faculty appointment at the University of Alabama, Birmingham he served as neonatology division chief at the University of Illinois, Chicago. Dr. Maheshwari’s clinical and research interests are focused on necrotizing enterocolitis, which is a leading cause of morbidity and mortality in premature neonates, and on neonatal immunology. He has authored more than 100 original manuscripts and book chapters, and has edited a textbook on neonatal hematology, immunology and infectious disease. He holds several patents on novel anti-inflammatory agents. His research lab will be housed in the MDC building. His work is supported by the NIH, the American Heart Association, and the Pamela and Leslie Muma Endowed Chair in Neonatology Fund.

This month we also welcome Dr. Melinda Murphy to USF Peds. Dr. Murphy completed her appointment as USF Peds chief resident in June, and joins the faculty as an assistant professor in the Division of General Pediatrics. Dr. Murphy received her BS and MD degrees from USF, and completed the USF Pediatric residency program in 2013. Dr. Murphy has been the recipient of numerous academic honors and awards, and has been actively engaged in activities and training related to leadership. Her interests are resident education, novel approaches to engaging 21st century learners and in-patient quality improvement initiatives. She is working as a hospitalist at TGH and also sees patients at the 17 Davis Pediatric clinic.
NEW EMPLOYEES

Desiree Bonnet, ARNP; Child Protection Team

Holly Murch, RN; Hematology Oncology

Sim Yin Tan, Graduate Assistant; Child Development

Lisa Bateman, PhD, Postdoctoral Scholar; Neuropsychiatry

Heather Smith-Schrandt, PhD, Postdoctoral Scholar; Neuropsychiatry

Kopperuncholan Namachivayam, PhD, Postdoctoral Scholar; Neonatology

Welcome New Faculty continued from page 2

Dr. Lynn Ringenberg, an Emeritus Professor in the Department, has re-joined our team on a part-time basis. Dr. Ringenberg’s charge is to help us develop the new Division of Community Pediatrics, which aims to better engage our alumni and community pediatricians. We are excited to welcome Dr. Ringenberg back to our department.

NEW ADDITIONS

Drs. Chak and Panida Sriaroon welcomed Benn Sriaroon on August 28

PEDIATRICS IN THE NEWS

The Rothman Center was featured in the Digital Journal in an article titled Op-Ed: Overcoming Tourette Syndrome. The article was posted August 18. www.digitaljournal.com/life/health/op-ed-overcoming-tourette-syndrome/article/397559

Dr. Carol Lilly participated in an August 21 meeting related to Shriner’s Hospitals for Children and the American Academy of Pediatrics Co-Management Project Expert Group. The group focuses on developing quality measures related to communication between Shriner’s surgical specialists and primary care nationally – including opportunities to evaluate co-management activities.

Dr. Carol Lilly was the statewide representative for the Child Protection team at the August 28 Florida Statewide Child Abuse Death Review Committee meeting. The Committee, established by statute in 1999, conducts detailed reviews of the facts and circumstances surrounding child deaths reported to the child abuse hotline and accepted for investigation. The committee’s purpose is to: develop a community-based approach to address child abuse deaths and contributing factors; achieve a greater understanding of the causes and contributing factors of deaths resulting from child abuse or neglect; identify gaps, deficiencies or problems in service delivery to children and families by public and private agencies that may be related to child abuse deaths and to develop data driven recommendations for reducing child abuse and neglect deaths.
HAPPENINGS

Dr. Kersti Linask is course director for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders: A Focus on Congenital Heart Defects, which will be held at the CRI on November 4. Current information will be presented on the effects of alcohol on the developing cardiovascular system, neural effects, and its social impact. Register online at www.cme.hsc.usf.edu

KUDOS

Research and Markets is the world’s largest resource for market research information. Thanks to the Rothman Center’s activities they recently listed USF as one of the top 10 organizations globally that conducts research on obsessive compulsive disorder.

Katina McClain, RMA, recently received her medical assistant degree and registered medical assistant credentials. Katina works in the pediatrics specialty clinic at the CMS building.

PRESENTATIONS

Sonia Farooqi and Sruthi Sarangarajan presented a poster titled Case Report: Cortisol-secreting Adrenal Adenoma in a 2 Year Old Presenting with Poor Head Growth and Linear Growth Failure at the Pediatric Medical Student Research Forum held at the University of Florida in August. Their co-author and mentor is Dr. Dorothy Shulman.

PEDIATRIC RESEARCH NEWS

Effective October 1, all industry-sponsored human subjects studies will be reviewed by 1 of 3 independent IRBs, with which the IRB contracts. Investigator-initiated and other FDA-regulated research will continue to be reviewed by the USF IRB. Contact the USF IRB for more information (813-974-5638).

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT

A workshop titled Advocacy: The Critical Ingredient of Academic Pediatrician Leadership will be held on October 30 from 9:30 to 11:30 AM in STC 5050. This session will include a brief history of pediatric lobbying in Florida, a "how to" discussion and a further discussion of how to impact the system in these changing times. RSVP to Jane Carver (jcarver@health.usf.edu)