FROM THE CHAIR

It is the time of year for celebrating student and resident accomplishments and sending another class of doctors off into the world. We wrapped up a very successful MATCH day for Peds and Med-Peds. The list of new interns is included in the newsletter and we will have a welcome party for them on June 20th. Many thanks to the education office, faculty and residents who worked so hard during recruiting season; the payoff comes this July with a great group of interns joining Pediatrics. I am very excited to work with our new group. Our senior residents are wrapping up their time here, and we will celebrate their accomplishments on June 16 at the resident graduation. We are so proud of the work they have done.

We also celebrate our faculty who achieved promotion this year. While we work to manage our busy schedules, the accomplishments of Drs. Agazzi, Knox, Kumar and Sriaroon remind us that our efforts to achieve excellence in service, teaching and scholarly activity are recognized and appreciated.

Each year we build our alumni base, and this year we are re-connecting with our many alumni throughout the

KUDOS

Dr. Isabel Gross was accepted to membership in the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, the oldest all-disciplines honor society in the U.S. Members must be in the top 10% of graduate students. Dr. Gross is earning her master’s degree in global health from the USF COPH. The induction ceremony and banquet will be held on April 19th.

Dr. Eric Storch was awarded a USF Outstanding Faculty Award on March 24 for his research on childhood anxiety and related conditions, and for his receipt of a Fulbright Scholar award.

Ana Santos was honored as the 2015 Distinguished Alumna at Fredonia’s Educational Development Program’s annual awards ceremony held on March 11. Ana graduated from Fredonia, State University of New York, in 2004 and is currently working on her master’s degree in public health and biostatistics at USF COPH.

Dr. Kersti Linask has been named a Fellow of the American Association of Anatomists, who are considered to be in the top 10% tier of all eligible members.

Kendall Deloatche successfully defended her PhD dissertation on parent-child interaction therapy as a treatment for ADHD in early childhood. Kendall completed her doctoral internship at 17 Davis and CMS clinics. Dr. Kathleen Armstrong was a member of her dissertation committee.

Dr. Barbara Hansen was inducted as a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science on March 22.

FACULTY & STAFF CAMPAIGN

The Genetics, Pulmonary and Adolescent Medicine divisions have reached 100% Participation in this year’s Faculty & Staff Campaign. Congratulations!
HAPPENINGS

USF Bay Area Early Steps would like to thank the Early Steps staff, Early Steps provider agencies, USF College of Public Health, and USF Health for their support in the *Books for Our Baby Bulls Book Drive*. Over 700 books were donated and given to Early Steps families in Hillsborough and Polk counties during March - National Reading Month.


The four Florida Chairs of Pediatrics and the President of the Florida Chapter of the AAP are hosting a Florida Pediatrics Reception on Sunday, April 26 from 7:30 to 9:00 at the Hilton San Diego Bayfront. Please attend if you are at the meeting!

The MedPeds team wore blue on April 2 in support of World Autism Awareness Day!

RESEARCH NEWS

Dr. Patricia Emmanuel is the principal investigator for a new research study, *Project Y-MATCH*, which is enrolling young men between the ages of 16 - 24. The purpose of the study is to learn about the health status and risk behaviors of participants and the possible effects of stress on their health. Contact Milagro Porter (mgonzal6@usf.edu) 813-974-8714 or Manuel Mayor (mmayor@usf.edu) for more information.
MATCH DAY

Match Day was held at Hula Bay on March 20. We are thrilled to be welcoming an outstanding class of residents in 2015! See the list in this newsletter.

2015 BERNARD POLLARA, MD, PHD LECTURE

The First Annual Bernard Pollara Resident Lecture was held on March 19 at Tampa General Hospital. This lectureship will provide education and training opportunities for USF pediatric and medicine-pediatric residents. The inaugural speaker was Rani Gereige, MD, MPH, who completed three years of pediatric residency at USF and one year as chief resident. While at USF he held the positions of Pediatric Clerkship Director, Pediatric Residency Program Associate Director, and General Academic Pediatric Fellowship Director. Since 2010 Dr. Gereige has been the Director of Medical Education at Miami Children’s Hospital. He is very active in the American Academy of Pediatrics, and was recently appointed as a member of the Pediatric Residency Review Committee of the Accreditation Council of Graduate Medical Education.

Dr. Pollara, who earned his MD and PhD degrees at the University of Minnesota, joined USF in 1994 as the John E. and Aliese Price Professor of General Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine after serving as Chair of Pediatrics at the Medical College of Albany for 15 years. He served as Chief of the Division of General Pediatrics from 1994 to 2005 and as Interim Chair from 1999-2001. Dr. Pollara has extensive expertise in immunology, having trained with Dr. Robert A. Good at the University of Minnesota. He led the department’s clinical research initiatives, and was PI for dozens of studies related to the safety and efficacy of childhood vaccines. Dr. Pollara was also dedicated to student and resident training, and was awarded several HRSA grants related to pediatric primary care, residency training, and faculty development.

A fund to support the Bernard Pollara Lectureship will be used for a pediatric or med/peds resident to attend a national conference or training opportunity, or will be used to support the invitation of a nationally recognized visiting professor. Donations are payable to the USF Foundation, Inc. Please include in the memo line: Bernard Pollara, MD, PhD Resident Lectureship-Pediatrics.

Mail checks to:
USF Health Development & Alumni Relations
12901 Bruce B. Downs Blvd, MDC 70
Tampa, FL 33612-9986
Or donate online: https://usffdn.usf.edu/apps/
Click on USF Health College of Medicine - Fund #: 250265
SAVE THE DATE

April 17
Morsani College of Medicine Commencement

April 18
Annual Softball/Kickball Tournament

April 23-24
FPQC Annual Conference

April 25-28
PAS Annual Meeting

April 26
Florida Pediatrics Reception, PAS

May 8
Student Clinician Ceremony

June 16
Resident Graduation at Rusty Pelican

WELCOME NEW PEDIATRIC RESIDENTS

USF PEDIATRICS
Michelle Blanco, USF Morsani College of Medicine
Ashley Collins, Lincoln Memorial University College of Osteopathic Medicine
Thomas Cristofo, Nova Southeastern University
Michael Dressing, Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine
Sonia Farooqi, USF Morsani College of Medicine
Erin Greenup, Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine
Jillian Hagerman, Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine
Holly Martin, Louisiana State University School of Medicine
Kinjal Patel, Florida Atlantic University
Christa Root, Touro University College of Osteopathic Medicine
Kelsey Schuette, University of Minnesota Medical School
Lauren Swanson, Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine

USF INTERNAL MEDICINE-PEDIATRICS
Matthew Baron, University of Massachusetts Medical School
Danielle Jordan, East Carolina Brody School of Medicine
Colleen Maier, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine
Stephen Mayper, USF Morsani College of Medicine
Michelle Rosario, USF Morsani College of Medicine
Megan Spiewak, USF Morsani College of Medicine

EPIC CORNER

Three and ½ months till GO LIVE! Each one of our specialties has assigned a physician and administrative champion to help with the EPIC transition. Champions are meeting with the design team and the Epic build is underway. There are numerous lunch and learn sessions through April and May that can help you become familiar with the outpatient notes and flow. Classroom sessions will begin mid-June and will run through the August go-live date. The scheduling support teams will adjust the open schedules according during the weeks of Go Live. Please be sure that your clinical team is communicating with the champion.

We are now starting to schedule templates to prepare for the transition. Scheduling and billing will also transition with the move to EPIC. The practice is also starting a major initiative that will improve access for patients. This means many previous scheduling rules will be eliminated. As the transition to EPIC moves forward we will need to monitor its impact and communicate with each other. Please stay tuned for more information from department administration or your division chief.

FACULTY IN THE NEWS

Dr. Amarilis Sanchez-Valle was interviewed by Bay News 9 on Feb 21 about the life of a geneticist, and by their Spanish news program InfoMas about hereditary disorders.

NEW EMPLOYEES

Melissa Hand, LPN
Infectious Disease

Rosalie Mancini
Staff Assistant;
Child Protection Team

Sara Gabriela
Medical Assistant;
All Children’s Hospital
PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Amarilis Sanchez- Valle is an author on a poster titled A Randomized, Placebo-Controlled, Double-blind Study of Sapropterin to Treat Symptoms of ADHD and Executive Dysfunction in Children and Adolescents with Phenylketonuria, which was presented at the March meeting of the Society of Inherited Metabolic Disorders in Salt Lake City.

McCallum K., Parsley F., Smith S., Gaughan K and Armstrong K presented Evaluation of Interventions Utilized in IEP Counseling in the Hillsborough School District at the 28th Annual Research and Policy Conference, Child, Adolescent, and Young Adult Behavioral Health held on March 23 in Tampa. Dr. Armstrong is mentor to McCallum, Parsley and Smith, who won an award for their research completed as scholars in the Institute for Translational Research in Adolescent Behavioral Health.

YYC SCAVENGER HUNT

The YYC held their 2nd annual Slam Dunk Scavenger Hunt on March 21st. Over 150 participants and volunteers came out to support the Ybor Youth Clinic. Tampa Police Chief Jane Castor helped get the event started and participants competed by solving clues and doing challenges as they worked their way through Ybor City. Many thanks to all those who came out to support the YYC!

WELCOME PEDIATRIC SURGEONS

Drs. Carrie Laituri and Noor Kassira recently joined the staff of the USF/TGH Division of Pediatric Surgery. We are pleased to welcome them and look forward to working with them to expand pediatric surgical services to our families.

Dr. Laituri earned her BS in biology and kinesiology at the University of Minnesota and attended graduate school at Johns Hopkins where she studied perfusion science. After working as a certified clinical perfusionist at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, she attended medical school at Ross University School of Medicine, and completed general surgery training at the University of Kansas School of Medicine. Dr. Laituri developed a keen interest in pediatric surgery and outcomes research during residency, and completed a clinical research fellowship as a research scholar at Children’s Mercy Hospital in Kansas City, MO. Her pediatric surgery fellowship training was completed at the Indiana University School of Medicine. Her clinical interests include neonatal surgery, surgical management of intestinal malabsorption and short bowel syndrome, trauma and injury prevention, and extracorporeal circulatory support.

Dr. Kassira earned her BS in biology, with summa cum laude distinction, from the University of Miami. She completed medical school at the University of Miami and a general surgery residency at the University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Hospital. Her fellowship in pediatric surgery was completed at Philadelphia’s St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children/Drexel University College of Medicine. Dr. Kassira’s clinical interests include neonatal surgery, minimally invasive surgery, and pediatric trauma. She is happy to return to the Sunshine state and warm weather!

FACULTY PROMOTIONS

We congratulate Drs. Agazzi, Knox, Kumar and Sriaroon for their faculty promotions!

Mudra Kumar, MD
Professor

Heather Agazzi, PhD
Associate Professor

Panida Sriaroon, MD
Associate Professor

Brian Knox, MD
Associate Professor