From The Chairman

Thank you everyone for your continued enthusiasm and hard work. I wish you and your family a very special Thanksgiving Day.

~ Bob Nelson

New ACH Hospital Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Dr. Sharon Perlman, USF Nephrology and ACH Chief of Staff; St. Petersburg Mayor Rick Baker, Claudia Sokolowski, Chair ACH Health System Board, Congressman Bill Young, St. Petersburg Mayor Elect Bill Foster; Gary Carnes, ACH CEO, Dr. Roberto Sosa, Chief Neonatology and PPS, and Tim Strouse Project Manager for the new hospital and 4 decade ACH employee.

Senior Vice President USF Dr. Steven Klasko, Louise Brown, Mr. John Ekarius Chief Administrator Liaison to VP USF Health; and Colleen Wyse enjoy the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new hospital.

The Pediatrics family celebrated Halloween!
Faculty Update

Publications


**Accomplishments**

Mandel Sher, MD, Elena Perez, MD, PhD and Morna Dorssey, MD, MMSc listed as best doctors 2009 [http://www.tampabaymetro.com/Best_Doctors_09.html](http://www.tampabaymetro.com/Best_Doctors_09.html)

Carla Duff, RN BSN CCRP was invited to give a lecture on Advance Practice Techniques for Problem Solving with SCIG Therapy at the 3rd Annual Advanced Practicum for Healthcare Professionals Providing Immunoglobulin Therapy: IVIG and SCIG in Cleveland, Ohio on October 24, 2009.

Dr. Abraham Salinas is featured on a DVD that is given to new mothers at St. Joseph’s, Brandon Regional, TGH and University Community, which is part of a campaign sponsored by Healthy Start Coalition, to prevent infant deaths due to shaken baby syndrome, SIDS, and caregivers. New mothers receive a gift bag, which includes the DVD, commitment letter to protect baby, onesies that have logo and “this end up while sleeping” on front, and a guide for Health and Safety of Babies. Abraham speaks specifically to fathers, about coping with crying and keeping babies safe.

AAP Conference 2009

**Dr. Jeannine Del Pizzo**

**Dr. Del Pizzo** presented her poster entitled "Pseudocyesis in a Teenager With Bipolar Disorder". The poster was a case presentation of a 14 year old girl who had pseudocyesis (her belly looked pregnant and she had lost her period but when tested she was not pregnant). It is a rare but fascinating diagnosis. The poster was part of the clinical case competition in which residents, medical students, and fellows from across the country can submit interesting cases. Dr. Del Pizzo was one of the ten finalists.

Dr. Del Pizzo was selected as the District X Coordinator (the AAP divides the country into 10 districts and district X includes Florida, Georgia, Alabama, and Puerto Rico). She will be coordinating and representing the residents in District X. Additional duties include monthly conference calls, national meetings, reviewing scholarship applications, making recommendation for section liaisons, newsletters, and contributing to the Resident Report.

**Dr. Beesan Agha**

**Dr. Agha** also presented her poster titled "Preoperative Screening in Patients with Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome". Our institution perform cranial ultrasounds, renal ultrasounds and chromosome analysis in an effort to risk stratify patients undergoing Norwood Palliation. Our retrospective chart review found that kids with hypoplastic left heart syndrome (HLHS) can have associated congenital anomalies such as abnormal chromosomes, renal abnormalities, and central nervous system abnormalities. These congenital abnormalities may increase the overall morbidity and mortality in patients undergoing Norwood palliation for HLHS.
Dr. Barry Bercu joined the USF faculty in 1984. He is recognized for his scientific work in the areas of neuroregulation of growth hormone secretion (and the description of the clinical entity of Growth Hormone Neurosecretory Dysfunction (GHND) and sexual development. Dr. Bercu described the clinical and molecular abnormalities in a unique child and kindred with generalized resistance to thyroid hormone (also known as the “Bercu” patient in the textbook, Thyroid). He is the holder of seven patents in the medical field and author of over 180 articles (143 since 1984) in scholarly journals and book chapters. He has organized forty international/national/regional symposia in various scientific areas and bioethics. He has been recognized annually in the national edition of The Best Doctors in America. In 1998, he was honored for his academic accomplishments and service to the University with the Professional Excellence Program (PEP) Award.

Dr. Patricia Emmanuel joined the USF faculty in 1989 following her residency here at USF. Her first ward attending was Dr. Barnes! She is currently the Associate Dean for Clinical Research and founder and Division Chief of Pediatric Infectious Disease Division. Her passion has been in the treatment and prevention of HIV. She has been the Medical Director for the USF HIV Program for children and adolescents since 1994. The USF Program provides primary and specialty care to children and adolescents in Southwest Florida. Dr. Emmanuel is principle investigator for the USF Adolescent Trials Network, the Title IV Youth Initiative and the International Maternal Pediatric Adolescent AIDS Clinical Trials Group and several HRSA grants. Research interests include antiretroviral drug treatment for HIV, community perinatal HIV prevention methods and long-term complications of HIV. Dr. Emmanuel participates in HIV policy making at the national level as a member of the Committee on Pediatric AIDS for the AAP and the HIV Medicine Association.

Dr. Judith Ranells joined the faculty at USF in 1989, working part-time in the Genetics Division with Dr. Boris Kousseff until his retirement in 2004. Shortly thereafter, she became the Division Chief and oversaw the unification of the Genetics services in Tampa and at All Children's Hospital. Her primary focus is providing clinical genetics services to pediatric, prenatal and adult patients, and she participates actively in genetics education of undergraduates, medical and nursing students, residents and fellows.
Dr. Patricia Emmanuel

The Department of Pediatrics would like to congratulate Dr. Emmanuel on her new research project titled “Program in Adolescent HIV/AIDS Research Training (PAHRT)”

USF in collaboration with Vadodara Medical College (VMC) has been training researchers in India through the AIDS International Training and Research Program (AITRP) for the past two years. The focus of the training is to strengthen and sustain, through collaborative research, the capacity of Indian scientists at VMC, and surrounding institutions in Gujarat, India to undertake HIV research in treatment and prevention with a focus on adolescents.

The goal of this award is to facilitate interaction and enhance active collaboration among trainees and investigators and strengthen research capacity through the developmental of a web portal and data management system. We plan to address these goals by building a web portal using an enterprise web portal software product. This Vertical Enterprise Portal (VEP) will deliver organization-specific information in user-centric way. We also plan to revise an existing modifiable database structure and develop standardized data collection tools for HIV studies that can be utilized by AITRP trainees and investigators. An online training course on data collection and management will also be created. The web portal will be utilized to store all forms and de-identified datasets.

In summary, the proposed web portal will help increase inter-researcher and trainee engagement by providing a platform for discussion, access to course materials and lectures with single sign-on access. Research capacity will be strengthened through the data management component.

Dr. Kersti Linask

The Department of Pediatrics would like to congratulate Dr. Linask on her new research project titled “Investigating the Early Embryonic Murine Heart Using Optical Coherence Tomography”

The funded study will contribute to our understanding of cytoskeletal mechanisms by which tissues recognize mechanical properties as substratum stiffness in their environment and contribute to tissue bending or looping. The collaborative studies draw strength from an interdisciplinary approach with Dr. Rollins an engineer at Case Western Reserve University to analyze the relationship of blood flow dynamics and myocardial wall movements simultaneously to define properties of cardiac morphogenesis. Using Dr. Rollins’s modifications of gated 4-D high resolution optical coherence tomography (4D-OCT) technology, this will allow us to visualize for the first time blood flow at high speed and resolution and to model fluid mechanical forces in the functioning mammalian heart during normal and abnormal development.
The Intern Retreat was held at Hilton Clearwater Beach and it was successful.
## Upcoming Events

### Events

**Start! Heart Walk**  
**When:** Nov. 14, 2009 at 8AM  
**Where:** Raymond James Stadium

**Wine Tasting Event**  
**When:** Nov 21, 2009 at 6PM-8PM  
**Hosted:** Pete Leonardo & Malcom Jones (813)258-3815  
**Where:** 3003 West Estrella Street Tampa, FL  
**Purpose:** Please help the Children’s AIDS Foundation of Tampa Bay support children and families in need this holiday season  
**Note:** Hors d’oeuvres compliments of Bailey’s Restaurant  
Wine Tasting provided by Wine Styles, Owner Cheryl Mellon

**HIV/AIDS Walk**  
**When:** Dec. 12, 2009 at 7AM-9AM  
**Where:** USF Tampa Campus  
**Purpose:** To support further research on HIV/AIDS  
**Contact:** Todd Wells(rjoseph1@health.usf.edu; twells1@health.usf.edu).

**Children’s Gasparilla Parade**  
**When:** Jan. 23, 2010

### Grand Rounds

Lectures are from 8:00 - 9:00 AM at MacInnes Auditorium - TGH and videoconference to the ACH/USF CRI 1st floor conference room & CMS Building, Room 2004

**December 3:**  *The Burden of Respiratory Syncytial Virus*  
Bruce Schnapf, DO  
USF Pediatrics

**December 10:**  *Those Who Can, Do.....What Makes a Good Teacher*  
Jennifer Takagishi, MD

**December 17:**  *Palliative Care*  
Laura Drach, DO, MSN  
All Children’s Hospital  
Cory Brown, MD  
USF Medicine and Pediatrics Resident

### Editor

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“Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.” - Mark Twain