FROM THE CHAIR

As we come upon the winter break and the New Year, it is a natural time to reflect on the year and celebrate friendship, family and colleagues. Whatever your beliefs and traditions, I hope that you find joy, gratitude and hope in the days ahead. Here are ten things about USF Peds that I am thankful for:

- Our entire faculty — clinical faculty, clinical and basic science, resident advisors, and voluntary faculty.
- Our new faculty who are bringing fresh ideas and talent to our department.
- A FABULOUS MATCH for our residents going into fellowships!
- Dr. Ringenberg and her new Community and Alumni Division!
- All the residents and their investment in our program, and for their taking such care and interest during interview season.
- Our staff who man our many clinic sites— STC and their amazing decorating skills, CMS and their EPIC force, 17 Davis and their Halloween costumes, OCC and YYC for trying to stay ahead of the curve and under the radar!

KUDOS

USF General Pediatrics was awarded the designation of Patient-Centered Medical Home by the National Committee for Quality Assurance. This most impressive achievement was made possible through the dedication of Dr. Lana Soylu, who championed the effort, along with Drs. Christina Pelaez, Janet Hess and Carol Lilly. Many other Peds faculty, Rene Exposito and the clinic staff also helped us achieve this award. Dr. Terri Ashmeade facilitated the application submission through USFPG; her leadership and all of the support from the practice plan were invaluable.

Dr. Sean Butler won the Resident of the Month Award for November!

Dr. Adam Lewin was elected to the Board of Directors of the American Board of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology.

Dr. Andrew Galligan earned his M.S. in Medical Sciences from the University of Florida in August. His research focus was childhood cancer survivorship, patient-reported health outcomes, and social supports/networks.

Drs. Mandel Sher, Carol Lilly, Verena Jorgensen, Henry Rodriguez, Dorothy Shulman, Carina Rodriguez, Alfonso Campos, Valerie Panzarino, Diane Straub, Tanya Murphy, Terri Ashmeade, Michael Fant, Akhil Maheshwari, Ronald Sutsko, Sharon Dabrow, Denise Edwards, John McCormick, Mudra Kumar, Luis Maldonado and Jennifer Takagishi were listed in the Tampa Bay Metro’s 2015-16 list of Best Doctors in Tampa Bay, based the Best Doctor’s in America database.

Drs. Patricia Emmanuel, Maria Gieron, Vinita Kiluk, Carol Lilly, John McCormick and Tanya Murphy were listed in Tampa Magazine’s Top Doctors List, based on a survey of Bay area physicians.

Dr. Jennifer Leiding received the Schiff Research Award at the International Forum on Immunology Research held in Berlin, Germany on Oct 9.
Letter continued from page 1

- Our administrative teams – both from central peds and each division – they really care.
- Our partners.
- The wonderful partnership with the Ronald McDonald House Charities and our lease of the RMD van. For the commitment of general peds faculty and staff, especially Jeannette Fleischer, for keeping the van active all these years.
- All of the beautiful healthy additions to our pediatric family this year – and to the faculty, staff and trainees who shared their lovely photos of their new additions. It helps to reaffirm the importance of family and what a privilege we all have to be part of so many infants’ and children’s lives.

I wish you much joy during this holiday season and plenty of time to spend with friends and family.

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

FACULTY IN THE NEWS

Dr. Carina Rodriguez was interviewed by Mira TV on December 1 regarding the commemoration of World AIDS Day. Dr. Rodriguez spoke to the Latino community about HIV, including prevention efforts and milestones in its diagnosis and treatment.

Dr. Patricia Emmanuel was interviewed by Fox 13 News on November 21 about the use of pre-exposure prophylaxis to prevent or control the spread of HIV.

Dr. Luis Maldonado was interviewed by News Channel 8 on Nov 9 about the Mother of All Baby Showers held at Glazer Children’s Museum on November 13.

Dr. Ulla Uusitalo’s article published with co-authors in JAMA Pediatrics in November has been widely cited on national media outlets including Medpage Today, Drugs.com., Newsmx, WebMD, The Health Cast, Health24 and Biospace. The authors reported that early supplementation with probiotics may reduce the risk of developing type 1 diabetes among children with genetic factors that put them at high risk for developing the disease.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Many thanks to the STC 2nd Floor for making the clinic so festive with your Christmas around the World!
PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Isabel Gross presented a poster titled *Stridor and Bloody Emesis: Could This Be Child Abuse?* at the AMA Conference held in Atlanta in November. Her co-author was Dr. Laleh Bahar-Posey.

Dr. Carina Rodriguez presented a grand rounds lecture titled *HIV and the Millennials: Change in the Landscape of HIV Infection in Children and Youth* at St. Joseph's Children Hospital on Nov 12.

Dr. Mark Ballow presented *Development of a Patient-Reported Outcome (PRO) Survey for Patients with Antibody Immune Deficiency* at the International Forum on Immunology Research held in Berlin, Germany on Oct 9.

Nicole McBride presented a poster titled *Prevalence and Clinical Differences of Suicidal Ideation in a Sample of Youth Receiving Treatment for Anxiety* at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies held in Chicago in November. Co-authors included Drs. Johnco, Lewin, and Storch.

Dr. Bradford Miller presented a poster titled *Compassionate Use of D-Mannose in a Pediatric Patient with Congenital Disorder of Glycosylation Type Ik* at the Second Annual Pediatric Medical Student Research Forum held in Orlando in Sept. Dr. Amarilis Sanchez-Valle was senior author.

Dr. Kersti Linask was an invited speaker at the Conference on Effects of Alcohol on the Developing Embryo held in Estonia on November 25 at Tallinn University; her visit was supported by grants from Norway and the Social Services Ministry of Estonia. On Nov 26, she and 3 other speakers took part in a round-table discussion with various directors at the Social Services Ministry. Since returning from her Fulbright Fellowship in Estonia 3 years ago, Dr. Linask has been working with others toward developing awareness of the effects of alcohol exposure on early human development, and the need to diagnose and develop a support network for children in Estonia with fetal alcohol spectrum disorders.

RESEARCH NEWS

**Investigator:** Panida Sriaroon, MD  **Title:** Evaluation of hypoallergenicity of a new extensively hydrolyzed formula.  **Sponsor:** Nestec, Ltd.

**Investigator:** Carina Rodriguez, MD  **Title:** A phase 1, open-label, multi-center study to determine the pharmacokinetics and safety of solithromycin as add-on therapy in adolescents and children with suspected or confirmed bacterial infection.  **Sponsor:** Duke University
RESIDENCY NEWS

Residents enjoyed their holiday party at the Epicurean Hotel on December 5.

Residents collected toys for the Champions for Children Charity.

NEW & NOTEWORTHY

CLINICAL TEAM MEMBER OF THE MONTH

USF Pediatrics is pleased to announce the Clinical Team Member of the Month for December 2015 is Theresa Barrett-Bruno. Theresa, a phlebotomist at the CMS clinical location, received three outstanding nominations and was exceedingly well recognized for her performance and dedication to our department. Please join us in congratulating Theresa for an incredible job well done as a valued member of our department and the USF CMS clinical team! Way to go Theresa!!! Here are some of the comments from the nominations we received:

Theresa is: extremely consistent in going above and beyond the call of duty to ensure a job is thoroughly done from start to finish; extremely detail-oriented and very meticulous; very reliable, responsible, and dedicated to ensuring each pediatric patient has a professional and calm lab experience; a true asset to the CMS staff, providers, patients and families. She has: a very friendly, welcoming and kind approach in the lab setting; helped with the transition to EPIC in the lab setting; made the clinic lab workflow almost seamless with minimal patient wait times; been instrumental in providing optimal patient care in the lab during procedures; helped implement several great pain management initiatives. Patients choose to come to Theresa for her talent, skills and knowledge of phlebotomy and her ability to perform very difficult and challenging venipunctures. Her great qualities have prevented potential lab errors, improved lab work flows, and identified best practice initiatives. Theresa works closely with the nursing staff to ensure everyone is trained in performing venipunctures and processing lab specimens. Parents and patients have commented on her gentle approach to their child with special healthcare needs. Patients, parents and providers commend her – not only her phlebotomy skills – but also her for pleasant and professional attitude.
NEW EMPLOYEES

Kristy Campbell, ARNP; Nephrology
Mariela Moreno-Jimenez, Medical Assistant; Med Peds
Chitra Palanivel, Post-doc; Neonatology
Tanjing Song, Senior Biological Scientist; Neonatology

ADDITIONS

Dr. Felipe Rico and his wife welcomed Lara Priya Rico, Nov 11!

Dr. Melinda Murphy delivered Andrew Patrick on November 30!

PUBLICATIONS

Drs. Ulla Uusitalo, Liu, Yang, Butterworth and Krischer are authors on a study titled Association of early exposure of probiotics and islet cell autoimmunity in the TEDDY Study. JAMA Pediatr Nov 9: 1-9, 2015.


HAPPENINGS

The Rothman Center team hosted the 2nd Annual Southeastern Regional Tourette Association Center of Excellence meeting on November 19 and 20. The meeting included experts from the Universities of Florida, South Carolina, Alabama-Birmingham, and Emory University.

USF Bay Area Early Steps is seeking donations for new or gently used board books, in English and Spanish, for children from birth to age 3. Contact Alex DeMolina (ademolin@health.usf.edu)

A festive holiday celebration was enjoyed during the faculty meeting/holiday reception!

SCIENTIFIC REVIEW

Please remember that investigator-initiated protocols need to be submitted to the Chair’s office for scientific review at least 2 weeks prior to being submitted to the IRB. Jane Carver is available to make editorial suggestions to improve clarity of the writing, and Branko Miladinovic is available to provide support for study design, database management and data analysis. Content expertise will be identified as needed. This process should significantly strengthen the proposals, and help to ensure that they are readily approved by the IRB and ultimately result in scholarly publications.

Please note that this review process does not apply to pharmaceutical study proposals that are written by the sponsoring companies, or to cooperative, multi-center federal trials.

The protocols should be submitted to Jane at jcarver@health.usf.edu