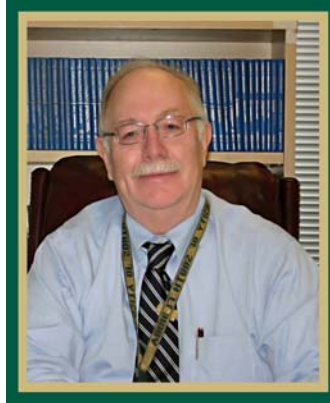


## A Message from the Chairman



July is a month of change for the Department. The start of the new fiscal year is particularly challenging as we close-out the previous year and transition to a new budget period. I would like to thank my administrative team for all their hard work during this transition period.

It is always a pleasure to welcome our new residents in July. This month nineteen pediatric and five internal medicine-pediatrics residents join our pediatric family. Please visit the USF Pediatrics Residency website to view a photo gallery of our residents and pictures from the welcome party that Linda and I hosted last month:

<http://health.usf.edu/medicine/pediatrics/residency/index.htm>

I would like to welcome our new faculty members Drs. Brian Knox, Maya Balakrishnan, Sereka Bollepalli, and Karoline Dembinski who joined the department in July.

I wish all of you a most enjoyable summer and safe travels on your vacations!

## Spotlight—Dr. Bernard Pollara



On June 24, 2010, Dr. Paula Dees (2nd year resident) presented Dr. Bernard Pollara a plaque and gift certificate from all the residents. The residents showed their appreciation and gratitude for Dr. Pollara's dedication to educating the next generation of pediatricians.

### Inside this Issue:

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## Visitors from Foreign Lands



Dr. Nelson captured the images of two vessels recently docked at the Tampa Convention Center, Gloria from Colombia (left photo) and the Capitan Miranda from Uruguay (right photo).

## Weinstein Cardiovascular Development Conference May 2010

Dr. Linask attended the Weinstein Cardiovascular Development Conference in Amsterdam, Netherlands in May 2010. The annual meeting is for scientists investigating normal and abnormal development of the heart and vasculature as it may ultimately relate to human disease. It is a free-standing meeting, unaffiliated with any society or parent organization.

The intent of the meeting is to advance the overall field of cardiovascu-

lar development through the sharing of information and the facilitation of collaborative investigations. Investigators in any relevant area that can provide contributions to our understanding of heart and vascular development are welcome to contribute.

Dr. Linask hosted the 2006 annual Weinstein Conference in Cardiovascular Development here in St. Petersburg.

Dr. Linask's cardiovascular research lab presented the abstract:

Garita, Barbara, Mingda Han, Michael W. Jenkins, Steven H. Seeholzer, Chao Zhou, Michael VanAcker, Andrew M. Rollins, Michiko Watanabe, James G. Fujimoto, and Kersti K. Linask. 2010. Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT) of the Looping Embryonic Heart: Mechanosensing Mechanisms.

## XXII European Congress of Perinatal Medicine May 26-29, 2010

Dr. Linask attended the XXII European Congress of Perinatal Medicine in Granada, Spain from May 26-29. The European Congress is primarily a scientific event to exchange scientific information and challenge between scientists and clinicians from the different countries.

Dr. Linask presented an oral presentation of the lab's research: **Authors:** Serrano, M., P. Brinez, M. Han, and K. K. Linask. **Title:** Folate Protection of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Related Cardiac Defects by Modulation of Wnt/ $\beta$ -Catenin Signaling.



## New faculty

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### Dr. Brian Knox

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Dr. Brian Knox is originally from Winchester Kentucky, where his family still resides. He recently joined the Internal Medicine/ Pediatric division as an Assistant Professor after completing his residency training (June 2010) in Internal Medicine & Pediatrics here at USF.

He completed his undergraduate training at University of Kentucky and received a BS degree in Biology and a BA in Chemistry in 2002.

In 2006, Dr. Knox received his MD with distinction and was inducted into Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society (AOA) from University of Kentucky College of Medicine.

Dr. Knox patient care interests include primary care in both general pediatrics, and general internal medicine. Other patient care interests include wellness and weight management.

### Dr. Maya Balakrishnan

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Dr. Maya Balakrishnan is originally from Inverness, Florida. She recently joined the Neonatology division as an Assistant Professor.

She completed her Pediatrics training at the University of Florida/ Health Science Center in Jacksonville, Florida, and her neonatology fellowship training at the Warren Alpert School of Medicine at Brown University. During her fellowship, she was primary investigator of a randomized control trial researching

neurodevelopmental outcomes associated with early protein administration in very low birth weight infants.

Dr. Balakrishnan served as the chief fellow in neonatology during her final year at Brown University.

Dr. Balakrishnan's research interests are focused on neonatal nutrition.

## Publication

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Wallet MA, Wallet SM, Guiulfo G, **John Sleasman**, IFN- $\gamma$  primes macrophages for inflammatory activation by high molecular weight hyaluronan. Cellular Immunology. March 2010. V262 I2 84-88.

Linask, K.L. and **Linask, K.K.** Calcium channel blockade in embryonic cardiac progenitor cells disrupts normal cardiac cell differentiation. Stem Cells and Development. (doi:10.1089/scd.2010.0192)

**Lujan Zilberman J** Phase I/II, open-label trial of safety and immunogenicity of meningococcal (groups A, C, Y, and W-135) polysaccharide diphtheria toxoid conjugate vaccine in human immunodeficiency virus-infected adolescents. Pediatric Infectious Disease

**Sleasman J, Duff C**, Dunaway, T, Rojavin, M, Stein, M. Tolerability of a new 10% liquid immunoglobulin for intravenous use. Privigen® at different infusion rates. Journal of Clinical Immunology. March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

Wallet, M.A., C.A. Rodriguez, L. Yin, , S. Saporta, S. Chinratanapisit, W. Hou, **J.W. Sleasman**, and M.M. Goodenow. Microbial translocation induces persistent macrophage activation unrelated to HIV-1 levels or T cell activation following therapy. AIDS, 24:1281-90, 2010. PMID: 2888494

Wallet MA, Rodriguez CA, Yin L, Saporta S, Chinratanapisit S, Hou W, **Sleasman JW**, Goodenow MM. Microbial translocation induces persistent macrophage activation unrelated to HIV-1 levels or T-cell activation following therapy. AIDS: 1 June 2010 - Volume 24 - Issue 9 - p 1281-1290

Serrano, M., Brinez, P., Han, M., Las-tra-Vicente, R., and **K.K. Linask**. Fetal Alcohol Syndrome: Cardiac birth defects and prevention with folate. American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology. 203(1):75.e7-75.e15.

**Agazzi H, Armstrong A**, Bradley-Klug K L, BMI and Physical Activity Among at-Risk Sixth- and Ninth-Grade Students, Hillsborough County, Florida, 2005-2006. Preventing Chronic Disease and Policy Health Research, Practice and Policy. Volume 7. No. 3

**Storch, E. A., Murphy, T. K., Goodman, W. K., Geffken, G. R., Lewin, A. B., Henin, A., Micco, J. A., Sprich, S., Wilhelm, S., Bengtson, M., & Geller, D. A.** (in press). A Preliminary Study of D-Cycloserine Augmentation of Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy in Pediatric Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder. Biological Psychiatry.

## New Awards

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**Dr. Robert Nelson** received a twelve-month (7/1/10- 6/30/11) award from Hillsborough Kids Inc. entitled, *Hillsborough Kids HK1125*.

**Dr. Patricia Emmanuel** received a twelve-month (11/27/09-11/26/10) award from the Social Scientific Systems entitled, *International Maternal Pediatric Adolescent AIDS Clinical Trials Group*.

## Florida Allergy, Asthma and Immunology Society Conference

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Florida Allergy, Asthma and Immunology Society (FAAIS) conducts a scientific meeting in June of each year to educate both the physicians and their staff on asthma and allergies. Continued Medical Education (CME) credits are earned by each attending physician and *Contact Hours* are earned by nurses and office staff.

Many faculty members from Allergy Immunology Rheumatology (AIR) division attended this annual meeting from June 18-20, 2010 in Bonita Spring, Florida.

Dr. Longley presented an abstract of her research:

**Title:** The Use of Dihydrorhodamine Testing to Assess Granulocyte Function Following Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation for Autosomal Recessive Chronic Granulomatous Disease.

**Authors:** MM Longley, A Petrovic, EE Perez, JW Sleasman, MJ Dorsey.

**Description:** Immunologic testing (DHR) is an invaluable method of assessing granulocyte function in Chronic Granulomatous Disease patients in the post transplant period and correlates well with current conventional methods of monitoring immune reconstitution.

Dr. Sleasman gave a presentation on “The Use and Abuse of Intravenous Immune Globulin (IVIG)” and Eng gave a presentation on the “Spectrum of Phagocyte Defects”.



## Congratulations!

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Dr. Idia Binite Thurston, formerly of Immunology and Child Development at her dissertation defense on June 18. She will be completing postdoctoral fellowship at Harvard, and is part of an NIH grant which will take her to South Africa to help children and families affected by AIDS/HIV.

Jenean Van Manen (the Fiscal & Business Specialist for the Division of Infectious Diseases) has been chosen to serve on the USF Staff Senate

**FY2011-2012 Chief Residents**-They will rotate between a scholarly project or clinical responsibilities for 4 months; ACH chief for 4 months and TGH chief for four months. The scholarly project or clinical responsibilities will be designed to fit their academic and educational needs. The three chiefs are:

Tracy Burton MD

Jennifer Kim MD

Jennifer Pesce MD

## New Employees

Name	Position	Division
Laura Dill	Human Services Practitioner	Child Protection Team
Sheryl Merkin	ARNP	Epidemiology
Anna Jones	Student Assistant	Neuropsychiatry
Brian Knox	Assistant Professor	Internal Medicine/Pediatrics
Lindsay Brauer	Technical & Paraprofessional	Neuropsychiatry
Edward Kelly	Human Services Practitioner	Developmental Medicine
Karolina Dembinski	Assistant Professor	Internal Medicine/Pediatrics
Maya Balakrishnan	Assistant Professor	Neonatology
Jeremy Phillips	Applications Developer	Epidemiology
Sureka Bollepalli	Assistant Professor	Epidemiology

## New Residents

Residents				
Anthony Sochet	Garrett Alderfer	Dayna Moore	Melania Poonacha	Katie Newell
Joanna Coonradt	Pilar Brinez	Deanna Indriolo	Melanie LetoBarone	Daniel Bui
Cary Aungst	Mary Baker	Elizabeth Cannella	Melanie Youschak	Krystle Balduzzi
Catherine Kubiak	Mary Chrisochos	Haley Howard	Melinda Murphy	Scott McKinley
Erika Pasciuta	Stacey Keller	Katherine Byra	Richard Lion	

## August 2010– Birthdays

Name	Day
Brenda Marshall	1
Lori Bowers	2
Kathleen Paulus	3
Sarah Kelley	3
Daniel Leonard	4
Jeffrey Krischer	5
Melissa Salazar	5
Carine Stromquist	6
Maite Mcleod	6
Deborá Dubois	7
Jessica Trotter	8
Jaime Dickerson	8
Cristanna Dudeck	8
Lashawn Calhoun	8
Carlos Callegari	9
Haryjoivid Boyd	9
Barry Bercu	10
Lorena Garrido	10
Mary Anne Larrobis	10



Name	Day
Robert Williams	11
Debra Brown	11
Maya Balakrishnan	12
Christine Ortiz	13
Dayna Moore	13
Priyanka Marisarla	15
Jinin Ginem	15
Anthony Sochet	15
Viraine Weerasooriya	18
Brennan Calkins	18
Nancy Elliot	18
Mayer Eisenfeld	19
Tionna Peak	19
Emma Gonzalez	19
Christina Candy	20
Reshad Brown	20
Jason Salemi	20
Karolina Dembinski	21



Name	Day
Susanne Odelskog	22
Cristina Burroughs	22
Sherie Collins	22
Brenda Abell	23
Tara Ochoa	24
Haley Howard	24
Linda Stephenson	26
Gail Lewis	26
Latha Kumaraswamy	26
Bruce Gainer	27
Lori-Le Daniels	28
Linda Spiegel	28
Patricia Newkirk	29
Christopher Bingham	29
Peter Nasser	29
Peter Orobello	30
Raghuram Royyuru	30
Catherine Wesley	30
Marissa Hitchcock	31

## Farewell –Best Wishes From Everyone in Pediatrics!

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Silvia Callejas ACRN, CCRC will be relocating to Los Angeles, California and will be working at the Cedars-Sinai Medical Center. We wish her much success!



Former child development Graduate Assistant, Ariz Rojas Cifredo will start her internship in July 2010 at Boston Children's Hospital.

## Announcements

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# Staff Appreciation Event

## Staff Appreciation Event

When: August 14, 2010  
Where: Tropicana Field



## Editor

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