FROM THE CHAIR

For the past few weeks I have been working on our budget for next year and have been somewhat discouraged. There have been dark moments as I have reviewed payer mix, days in accounts receivable, managed care contracts and collection rates. The business of medicine is something we cannot ignore if we want to continue to do good work, but my perspective has been skewed by too many financial spreadsheets.

Reviewing this month’s newsletter, however, got me out of my funk. I am so proud of all of the work we do. This month we highlight many awards, recognitions and presentations. From our most senior member of the department taking on an important leadership position in the state to our residents’ being inducted into AOA.

The diversity of our department, its missions and locations coupled by the diversity of the patients we serve make this an amazing place to work, and enable us to make a difference in our community and our world. It is with this passion and expertise that we can solve any problem.

This time of the year reminds us why we are here— we are first and foremost an educational institution. Last month I watched as 172 medical

KUDOS

Happy Nurses WEEK!! A word of thanks to all of our wonderful nurses, ARNPs, LPNs and MAs who staff our many clinics and specialty programs. You are so special and essential to our mission.

Dr. John Curran has been appointed Deputy Secretary for Children’s Medical Services (CMS). Dr. Curran takes the helm amidst a myriad of important issues that need urgent attention, including CMS’s controversial eligibility screening tool that was introduced last May, and planning for children’s health in the managed-care environment. Dr. Curran is a former president of the Florida Chapter of the AAP, has worked with CMS since 1974 and has been the CMS Medical Director for the Tampa Bay Region since 1986. He is further distinguished as a founding faculty member of USF MCOM, founding Director of the NICU at TGH and of USF’s Fellowship Program in Neonatal/Perinatal Medicine, and was instrumental in establishing regionalization of neonatal care in Florida. We are very proud to have Dr. Curran as a member of the USF Pediatrics family! He shared with us this poignant comment: I am indeed privileged to work with all of you, my pediatric friends and advocates, to make the State of Florida recognized again as “tops in the Nation” in caring for and about children, their mothers and families in very challenging times. Thank you, Dr. Curran, and congratulations on this most important appointment!

Dr. Terri Ashmeade is a recipient of a Women’s Health Collaborative seed grant for her proposal titled Automated Neonatal Pain Assessment. Dr. Ashmeade’s co-investigators include Dr. Denise Maguire from the College of Nursing, and Drs. Sun, Goldgof, Kasturi and Miladinovic from the College of Engineering.

Dr. Sharon Perlman received the Johns Hopkins/All Children’s Councill C. Rudolph award this month. The award, named for Dr. Rudolph, Pinellas County’s first pediatrician, honors physicians who have demonstrated excellence and compassion in caring for children in the community and region. Dr. Perlman is an advocate for the special needs of children with renal disease in the Tampa Bay region and nationwide.
students received their degree. Our clinician educators were recognized for their excellence—Dr. Brian Knox was chosen by the class to be a “hooder” and Dr. Vinita Kiluk was given the Outstanding Advisor Award for 2016. Next month we will graduate our residents and fellows and present a number of resident and faculty awards. The greatest award we can receive is seeing our patients get better and measuring improvements in our community’s health. Having a vibrant Health Sciences Center in a city improves the health of the area—we provide workforce development, continuing improvement, and access to research and innovation. We cannot forget what we bring to a community—there is still much work to be done to achieve the kinds of pediatric outcomes we aspire to. Infant mortality in Hillsborough County, at 7.3 per 1,000 live births, is still higher than the state of Florida. In Hillsborough County last year, there were 184 infants under 1 year of age who were killed or injured in a motor vehicle accident and 16 unintentional drownings. Every day, we diagnose too many sexually transmitted diseases in youth who are 13-18 years of age. So despite our pride in our achievements and our celebrations and transitions—we need to remember that there is still much work to be done. But I am rooting for us—we are Pediatric STRONG!

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

Kudos continued from page 1

Dr. Kelsey Schuette has been chosen by the Class of 2017 to receive the Humanism and Excellence in Teaching Award. The award is given to 5 residents who demonstrate compassion and empathy in the delivery of care to patients and who serve as an approachable and accessible role model and teacher to students and colleagues. Congratulations, Kelsey!

Dr. Terri Ashmeade was accepted into the Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine (ELAM) program sponsored by Drexel University and AAMC. This year-long leadership program is highly competitive and valued. Over ⅓ of all female chairs and deans are ELAM graduates. As part of this program, Dr. Ashmeade will be working on an institutional project around the practice plan’s quality program.

The Florida Perinatal Quality Collaboration was given the Blue Foundation’s $50,000 2016 Sapphire Award for the Outstanding Organization. The group was selected from among 120 nominees and 13 finalists around the state, and was honored for its work to improve Florida’s maternal and infant health outcomes through the delivery of high quality, evidence-based perinatal care. Dr. Maya Balakrishnan is the FPQC Quality Improvement Director.

Dr. Mohan Krishan was a recipient of the Pediatric Academic Societies (PAS) Travel Awards Program for Young Investigators, which provided $500 and complimentary meeting registration for him to attend the PAS Annual Meeting held in in Baltimore.

Vaccines for Children, a federally-funded program that provides vaccines to children at no cost, recently made a compliance visit to the CMS office in Tampa. The office was commended for a “practice that is so dedicated to the health and well-being of its patients” and commented that their “overall excellence in vaccine storage and handling, documentation and adherence to VFC standards is commendable.” Kudos to Sandra Leck, RN, Nursing Supervisor, for a job well done!

Drs. Ken Visalli and Isabel Gross were inducted into USF’s Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society at an installation banquet held April 19 at the Tampa Club.
PUBLICATIONS

Drs. Jolan Walter and Krisztian Csomos are authors on *Ligase-4 deficiency causes distinctive immune abnormalities in asymptomatic individuals*. J Clin Immunol. 2016 Apr 11.


Dr. Rani Gereige is co-editor of the AAP’s 7th edition of School Health Policy and Practice. Dr. Gereige and Dr. Sharon Dabrow co-authored the introduction, titled *School Health and Medical Education*. Dr. Gereige completed his residency program at USF, served as USF Peds faculty member from 2001 to 2010, and delivered the first annual Bernard Pollara Lecture in 2016.

NEW ADDITIONS

Dr. Christian Tan, one of our new peds interns, and his wife welcomed Lily on April 28.

Christie Dilorenzo, ARNP, and her husband Robert welcomed Mason on April 21. Congratulations!

Peds Administrator, Desiree Brown, and her husband Scott welcomed Amelia on April 27th.

PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Carol Lilly presented two lectures at Child Abuse and Neglect: A Training Program for Professionals in the Field, held April 28/29 through the University of Florida, Jacksonville. The lectures were *Failure to Thrive and Child Development*.

At the FPQC meeting held in Tampa in April, Dr. Maya Balakrishnan moderated a panel discussion titled *Promoting a Hospital Quality Improvement Culture* and led a breakout session titled *QI Methodology in Action*.

Dr. Maya Balakrishnan and Karen Baum were the faculty presenters at an American Association of American College’s Teaching for Quality Faculty Development Program held at the University of Florida, May 12-13. She was the lead presenter for 5 sessions and co-leader for 3.

Dr. Janet Hess presented *My Health Care: Health Literacy, Communication and Self-Advocacy for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities* at the Health Care Transition and Disease Self-Management Special Interest Group meeting during PAS in Baltimore, and at the VISIONS XXII Transition Planning Institute held in Lake Mary, FL.

Dr. Isabel Gross presented *Development of an Antibiotic Dispensing Decision Making Chart for a Bio Terrorism Attack with Bacillus Anthracis* at the USF College of Public Health’s Global Health Poster Presentation Day on April 20. Co-authors were Ryan Pedigo and Robert Tabler from the Dept. of Health.

Dr. Tanya Murphy presented *Immuno-inflammatory Hypothesis – EMTICS Project, PANDAS & PANS: Antibiotic Treatment in PANS, Panacea or Not?* at the Therapies in Childhood Tic Disorders meeting held on May 3 in Rome, Italy, and she presented *Illuminating the Scientific Process: Innovation, Replication and Paradigm Shifts in Biological Psychiatry* at the Society of Biological Psychiatry’s 71st Annual Scientific Meeting held May 12-14 in Atlanta.

SAVE THE DATE

June 6
Skit Night

June 12
Resident Graduation

June 14
Promotion/Tenure Workshop

June 18
Resident Welcome Party
CLINICAL TEAM MEMBER OF THE MONTH

Adrienne Nguyen, LPN, is this month’s Clinical Team Member of the Month! Adrienne, a float nurse, was commended for her great attitude, ready willingness to help, excellent clinical and critical thinking skills, and willingness to go “above and beyond to make sure that everything is taken care of”. She receives many compliments from patients and families, and nominators commented that they love it when she comes to their clinic!

GRAND ROUNDS

June 2
The New Dietary Guidelines: What We Know and What We Don’t
Barbara Hansen, PhD

June 9
Modern Approaches to Neuroinflammatory Disorders
Mike Pranzatelli, MD

June 16
Osteogenesis Imperfecta
Danielle Gomez, MD

June 23
The Pediatric Patient with Nephrotic Syndrome: Comprehensive Management
Frank Ayestaran, MD

June 30
Diabetes Update 2016, A Brave New World
Henry Rodriguez, MD

Presentations continued from page 3
USF Peds had 4 poster presentations at the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics Meeting held in Tampa in March:
Sanchez-Valle A, Chawla V, O’Steen D, Racobaldo M, Gonzalez-Peralta RP. Hereditary Fructose Intolerance Presenting as Nephrotic Syndrome in a Four Year Old Male.

Robles J, Sanchez-Valle A. A 2-year Old with Congenital Intrinsic Factor Deficiency Presenting with Methylmalonic Acidemia and Megaloblastic Anemia. This abstract was ranked as a top score abstract!
Lastra Vicente R, Fernandez R, Sanchez-Valle A. Obtaining Whole Exome Sequencing for Rare Mendelian Disorders

Dr. Amarilis Sanchez-Valle moderated a session titled Evidence Based Medicine at the Society of Inherited Metabolic Disorders meeting held in Ponte Vedra, FL in April, and she was an author on 2 poster presentations: Interim Results From an Open-label Phase 2 Study to Assess Safety and Clinical Effects of Investigational UX007 (triheptanoin) in Subjects with Long-chain Fatty Acid Oxidation Disorders and National Study to Assess Current Practices of the Management of Phenylketonuria.

Dr. Francisco Flores presented 3 lectures at the Curso Internacional de Pediatría del Presente y del Futuro held in Cuenca, Ecuador, March 18-19: Hypertension and Treatment in Pediatrics; Acute Renal Failure, Medical Management and Dialysis; and Congenital Abnormalities of the Kidney and Urinary System. He presented 2 lectures at the XXXIV Congreso Nacional de Pediatría CONAPEME held in Cancun, Mexico, April 24-25: Treatment of Hypertension in Pediatric Patients and Diagnostic Approach for a Child with Hematuria.

The Division of Allergy/Immunology made 11 presentations at the Clinical Immunology Society’s Immune Deficiency and Dysregulation North American Conference, held in Boston, April 14-17. Dr. Mark Ballow made an oral presentation titled Disease-specific health-related quality of life outcomes in patients with antibody immune deficiency. Dr. Jolan Walter was senior author on 9 abstract presentations and contributing author on 1, and her post-docs Krisztian Csomos and Boglarka Ujhazi were authors on 6,
Presentations continued from page 4

serving as first and second authors on 3: Fatal hyperinflammation in murine model of leaky SCID/Omenn syndrome: Innate overactivation localized in small and large intestines; Emerging role of type-2 innate lymphocytes (ILC2) in Th2 skewing of leaky SCID/Omenn syndrome; Features and mechanisms of mucosal immune dysregulation in a mouse model of leaky SCID due to hypomorphic Rag mutations; Clinical spectrum and outcome of treatment for autoimmune cytopenias in RAG deficiency; Rituximab and hypogammaglobulinemia – comparative outcomes at Massachusetts General Hospital; Inflammatory bowel disease in X-linked agammaglobulinemia; Understanding autoimmune pathology in activation-induced cytidine deaminase (AID) deficiency, a case report of systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) with evidence of pathogenic autoreactive IgM; Tertiary care patients with common variable immune deficiency (CVID) are at similar risk for noninfectious complications: a comparative cohort analysis between partners-affiliated hospitals in Boston, MA and the USIDNET national registry; IgA deficiency is associated with pediatric obsessive compulsive disorder; Significant immunologic abnormalities in asymptomatic individuals mutated in LIG4.

USF Peds made a great showing at the Pediatric Academic Societies Annual Meeting held April 30- May 3 in Baltimore:

Althouse MH, Namachivayam KC, Krishnan MK, Maheshwari A. Murine Nec-like Injury is Associated with Increased Expression of Decorin, a TGF-β Binding Small Leucine-rich Proteoglycan, in the Intestine

Takagishi J, Dabrow S, Lilly C. Continuity Clinic (CC) and Family Support Collaboration: Improving Early Childhood Developmental and Mental Health


Abraham D, Sapp K, Dabrow S. Effectiveness of Peer Mentoring: The Big and Little Resident Sibling (BLRS) Program

Krishnan MK, Namachivayam K, Song T, Maheshwari A. Severe Anemia Disrupts Gut Barrier Function and Promotes Bacterial Translocation in the Murine Neonate

Fant ME, Fuentes JM, Bourgeois J, Kong X. Plac1 (Placenta-Specific 1) Modulates Genes Essential for Placental and CNS Development

Queliz-Pena TO, Mohankumar K, Flores-Torres J, Maheshwari A, Luciano AA. Determinants of PD-1 Modulation in Neonates

Krishnan MK, Namachivayam K, Chapalamdugu K, Tipparaju S, Maheshwari A. Loss of Voltage-Dependent Potassium Channels in Macrophages Sensitizes These Cells to Bacterial Products During NEC

Namachivayam K, Ayad AB, Krishnan MK, Maheshwari A. Eleutheroside, a Phenol Propanoid Glycoside, Can Suppress LPS-Inducted Inflammatory Signaling in Macrophages.

Diego A, Beesems G, Krishnan MK, Namachivayam K, Maheshwari A. Murine NEC-Like Injury in Previously Healthy Pups Results in Low Bacterial Diversity, Loss of Lactobacilli, and Emergence of Enterococci in 3in the Bowel Lumen: Is Dysbiosis the Cause or Effect of Pre-Existing Perinatal Bowel Injury?
HAPPENINGS

New and old friends gathered at the Florida PAS reception!

More than 9000 people participated in the 2016 Tampa Bay Autism Speaks walk held on April 23, where the Rothman Center had a table.

The latest edition of Small Steps, the USF Bay Area Early Steps newsletter, is now available at http://health.usf.edu/medicine/pediatrics/early-steps/index.htm

NEW EMPLOYEES

Lynette Claude, Administrative Specialist; Allergy/Immunology

Presentation continued from page 4


Dr. Dorothy Shulman moderated an endocrinology platform session and facilitated a poster session, Dr. Patricia Emmanuel was co-moderator for a session on neonatal infections, and Dr. Sharon Dabrow was co-leader for a workshop titled Aceing Aces in Continuity Clinic: How to Identify and Address Social Determinants of Health and Adverse Childhood Experiences. Dr. Akhil Maheshwari co-chaired a session titled Mouse Models of NEC: What is Available and Why They are Essential to Understand the Disease during which he also presented TNBS-Induced NEC, and he was an author on Low Platelet Counts and Low Mean Platelet Volume (MPV) Values Over Time Predict Death or the Need for Surgery in Preterm Infants With Stage II or III Necrotizing Enterocolitis (NEC).

RESEARCH NEWS

USF Neonatology will be participating in FPQC’s next neonatology project titled Mother’s Own Milk (MOM) Initiative which will be conducted from 6/2016 through 12/2017. Dr. Maya Balakrishnan is the physician lead. The goal of the project is to improve the use of mother's own milk among very low birth weight infants.

FACULTY IN THE NEWS

Dr. Heather Agazzi was an invited expert on the Good Day Tampa Bay (Fox 13) show on April 18, during which she discussed how parenting has changed in the last 40 years.

EDITORS: Jane Carver & Caroline Murphy
Email: pedicom@health.usf.edu
Please email submissions for next month’s issue by June 1st