

What's the buzz?

Self-Reported News from the School of Medicine Community



APPOINTMENTS



We applaud our colleagues on their recent appointments!

► The **Department of Emergency Medicine** is proud to announce the following academic promotions: **Benjamin J. Lawner, DO, EMT-P, Sara B. Scott, MD, and Michael K. Abraham, MD, MS**, to the rank of clinical assistant professor, **Ellen F. Lemkin, MD, PharmD**, to assistant professor, **Robert L. Rogers, MD**, to associate professor, and **Amal Mattu, MD**, to professor with tenure.



J. Kristie Johnson, PhD

► **J. Kristie Johnson, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Pathology, is now a certified Diplomate of the American Board of Medical Microbiology (ABMM). Dr. Johnson received her PhD from the University of Maryland. To earn the ABMM credential, Dr. Johnson first met rigorous educational and experiential eligibility requirements and then passed a comprehensive written examination. She has demonstrated the knowledge and skills necessary to direct laboratories engaged in the microbiological

diagnosis of human disease. The ABMM was established in 1959 and is one of three boards of the American College of Microbiology administering highly stringent certification programs. Certification by the ABMM is recognized by federal and state governmental agencies as a significant component toward meeting licensure requirements for high complexity laboratory directors and is recognized under the final rule of the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments.

► **Kathryn Schaivone, MPA**, clinical instructor and manager, Clinical Education and Evaluation, Office of Medical Education, was appointed as an accredita-



Robert L. Rogers, MD

tion site reviewer for the Council for Accreditation of Healthcare Simulation Programs by the Society for Simulation in Healthcare. Her tenure begins January 2011.

► **Nanette Steinle, MD**, assistant professor, Department of Medicine, has assumed the role of interim chief of the Baltimore VA Medical Center's Endocrine Section. She is a graduate of the Medical College of Ohio and completed her residency and endocrine fellowship at the University of Maryland Medical Center. From 2002 to 2007, she served as director of the Joslin Diabetes Center at Baltimore Washington Medical Center, after which she returned to the UMB campus full time. In addition to her clinical activities in diabetes and general endocrinology, Dr. Steinle has been a champion of nutrition science and education at the medical school. In addition, she plays a leadership role in the NIH-funded Mid-Atlantic Nutrition and Obesity Research Center. Her research interests include genetics of metabolic syndrome and hypertension. Most recently she has begun to work on the gut microbiome and taste receptor biology. Dr. Steinle will lead the clinical endocrinology and diabetes effort at the Baltimore VA and the Veterans Integrated Service Network as well as assist in building the clinical endocrinology and research programs at the VA.

► **Robert Sterling, MD**, has been promoted from assistant professor to associate professor within the Department of Orthopaedics.

► **Barney J. Stern, MD**, professor, Department of Neurology, was appointed to the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education Review Committee for Neurology at its June 2010 meeting.



Nanette Steinle, MD



Barney J. Stern, MD

NEW FACULTY



We welcome our new faculty!



Arnob Banerjee, MD, PhD

▶ **Arnob Banerjee, MD, PhD**, joined the Department of Medicine as an assistant professor in May 2010. Dr. Banerjee also will work in the Center for Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine and the University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Cancer Center. He obtained his MD and PhD degrees from Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. He then completed a residency in internal medicine as well as a medical oncology/hematology fellowship and a post-doctoral laboratory fellowship in immunology at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, where he eventually was appointed instructor in the Department of Medicine's Division of Hematology and Oncology. Dr. Banerjee's primary research interests are in the regulation of gene expression in T lymphocytes during anti-tumor responses and in the development of T cell malignancies.



Trishna Goswami, MD

▶ **Trishna Goswami, MD**, joined the Department of Medicine as an assistant professor in August 2010. She also is the Paul Calabresi Clinical Oncology Training Program Scholar. Dr. Goswami obtained her MD from Drexel University College of Medicine. She completed her residency in internal medicine at Georgetown University Hospital and then her medical oncology/hematology fellowship, where she served as chief fellow, at Georgetown's Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center. Her research focus is drug development and clinical trials in multiple myeloma.

▶ **Eugene Y. Koh, MD, PhD**, joined the Department of Orthopaedics as an assistant professor in September 2010. With his strong background in research, he is an important addition to the department's spine team and is currently studying nerve regeneration after spinal cord injury. Dr. Koh comes to Maryland from the Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta, Georgia, where he completed an orthopaedic spine fellowship. He earned his MD from Harvard University and a PhD from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Additionally, he completed a residency in orthopaedic surgery and a fellowship in orthopaedic trauma at Brown Medical School.

IN THE NEWS



A job well done to all who have kept us in the media spotlight!

▶ **Amal Mattu, MD**, professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, is quoted in an article entitled "Reevaluating CPR as Life-Saving Technique," published at www.PopularMechanics.com. The article discusses current thinking regarding the initial response to patients with primary cardiac arrest. A growing number of studies show that cardiocerebral resuscitation (giving chest compressions at a rate of 100/minute without rescue breathing for the first five to 10 minutes) gives better patient outcomes than traditional cardiopulmonary resuscitation (combining breathing with cardiac compression).

▶ **William J. Weiner, MD**, professor and chair, Department of Neurology, was quoted in a March 16, 2010, article on HealthCanal.com about new guidelines from the American Academy of Neurology for treating non-motor symptoms of Parkinson's disease.



Amal Mattu, MD

NEW STAFF



We welcome new staff!

▶ **Irene Amoros** joined the Office of Development in November 2010 as associate director of Annual Giving. Ms. Amoros comes to the School of Medicine from the University of Maryland School of Nursing, where she held the position of assistant director of Development, and was responsible for their stewardship efforts, scholarship program and phonathon. Prior to coming to UMB, Ms. Amoros was with Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, first as a development associate and then as the annual and planned giving coordinator. While there, she created and implemented the annual and planned giving programs, visited prospects, coordinated annual appeals and maintained the database. Ms. Amoros received her degree in communications from Queens College, part of the City University of New York system.



Irene Amoros

EVENTS, LECTURES

& WORKSHOPS



Kudos to our colleagues who are experts in their fields and give their all to represent the School of Medicine!



John W. Cole, MD, MS

► **John W. Cole, MD, MS**, associate professor, **Marcella A. Wozniak, MD, PhD**, associate professor, **Barney J. Stern, MD**, professor, **Steven J. Kittner, MD**, professor, all from the Department of Neurology, presented a poster entitled “Rare Variants in the Factor 5 Gene and the Risk of Ischemic Stroke” at the American Neurological Association’s 135th Annual Meeting in San Francisco in September 2010. Also in September, Dr. Cole presented “Genetics of Early Onset Stroke (GEOS): Exome Pilot Study” at the Gene, Environment Association Studies (GENEVA) Consortium steering committee meeting in Washington, DC.

► **Timm-Michael Dickfeld, MD, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Medicine, presented “Risk Assessment Using MRI and Other Imaging Modalities,” “Using PET-CT to Image the Scar” and “Integrated 3D MRI Scar Characteristics of Successful VT Ablation Sites in ICD Patients” at the 2010 Meeting of the Heart Rhythm Society in Denver in May 2010. In addition, Dr. Dickfeld gave grand rounds, entitled “Scar Characterization for VT Ablation” at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City in August 2010.

► **Howard M. Eisenberg, MD**, professor and chair, Department of Neurosurgery, was an invited First Alumni Visiting Professor at Brigham and Women’s Hospital/Harvard Medical School’s Department of Neurosurgery in September 2010. Dr. Eisenberg’s presentation was entitled “A Novel Treatment for Traumatic Brain Injury.”



Daniel Farber, MD

► **Daniel Farber, MD**, assistant professor, Department of Orthopaedics, traveled to China as an invited lecturer in September 2010. He presented “Orthopaedic Medical Education in the United States” to the Shanghai Foot and Ankle Symposium at Sixth Peoples Hospital in Shanghai and “Lisfranc Injuries: Controversies and Contraptions” to the Chinese Foot and Ankle Association in Wenzhou.

► **Gary Fiskum, PhD**, professor and vice chair for Research, Department of Anesthesiology, presented invited lectures at the National Neurotrauma Society’s annual symposium in Las

Vegas in June 2010, and the Advanced Technology Applications for Combat Casualty Care Conference in St. Pete Beach, Florida, in August 2010. His topic for both lectures was “Brain Injury Caused by Blast-Induced Hyper-acceleration.”



Martin Flajnik, PhD

► **Martin Flajnik, PhD**, professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, was a “Distinguished Speaker/Immunology Guru” at the National Institutes of Health Immunology Interest Group Retreat, held in Cambridge, Maryland, in September 2010.

► **Benjamin J. Lawner, DO, EMT-P**, clinical assistant professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, presented a lecture on use of the GRADE process to assess pre-hospital care publications to the Pediatric Emergency Medicine Advisory Committee of the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems in November 2010.

► **Amal Mattu, MD**, professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, traveled to the Hong Kong College of Emergency Medicine in September 2010 to serve as the external examiner for the college’s exit examination and to speak at its 2010 Scientific Assembly on Emergency Medicine. He presented the assembly’s keynote lecture, “Ten Things You Must Consider in the Crashing Patient: Beyond A-B-C and ACLS,” and led a four-hour workshop on advanced ECG interpretation. Additionally in September, Dr. Mattu, and **Robert L. Rogers, MD**, associate professor, Departments of Emergency Medicine and Medicine, were invited faculty members to the 2010 Scientific Assembly of the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) in Las Vegas. Dr. Mattu spoke on the topics of “Subtle ECG Manifestations of Deadly Cardiac Disease,” “Myths and Pitfalls of Wide Complex Tachydysrhythmias,” and “Pitfalls in the Diagnosis of the Acute MI” and led a two-hour advanced ECG workshop. Dr. Rogers’ lectures were entitled “New Cardiac Drugs” and “Aortic Disasters: Are You Missing Them?” He also gave a presentation entitled “Top Mistakes Emergency Medicine Applicants Make and How to Prevent Them” during the



Gary Fiskum, PhD

EVENTS, LECTURES & WORKSHOPS *continued*

Medical Student Symposium sponsored by the Emergency Medicine Residents Association and held in conjunction with the ACEP symposium.

▶ The **Office of Postdoctoral Scholars** hosted a coffee break for postdocs and their mentors to celebrate **National Postdoc Appreciation Week** (now officially recognized by the US House of Representatives) on Friday, September 24, 2010. The event honored the research accomplishments of UMB postdoctoral scholars and was attended by over 70 postdoctoral fellows and faculty advisors.



Brian M. Polster, PhD

▶ **Brian M. Polster, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Anesthesiology, presented “Calpain Proteases and Mitochondrial Dysfunction in Cortical Neuron Injury” at the 9th International Conference on Brain Energy Metabolism held in Budapest, Hungary, in July 2010. Additionally in July, Dr. Polster presented “Visualizing Calpain/Bioenergetic Interactions in Neuronal Injury” at the 2010 FASEB (Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology) Summer Research Conference: The Biology of Calpains in Health and Disease” held in Carefree, Arizona.

▶ **Wendy Sanders, MA**, assistant dean for Research Career Development, gave a Grant Writing Workshop at the Association of American Medical Colleges’ Annual Career Development Conference for Minority Faculty in San Diego in September 2010.

▶ **Thomas M. Scalea, MD, FACS**, Francis X. Kelly Professor of Trauma Surgery, and director, Program in Trauma, presented “Damage Control,” and moderated two panels entitled “Cranial and Maxillofacial Trauma” and “Damage Control for Abdominal, Skeletal and Combat Related Injuries” at the Congress on Management of Trauma in a Combat Zone at Nunziatella Military School in Naples, Italy, in September 2010.



Thomas M. Scalea, MD, FACS

▶ **Rosemary A. Schuh, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Neurology, was an invited speaker at the 26th Annual International Neurotoxicology Conference in Portland, Oregon, in June 2010, presenting “Mitochondrial Dysfunction in an APP/PS1 Transgenic Mouse Model of Alzheimer’s Disease.” Dr. Schuh was awarded a travel fellowship to attend.

▶ The University of Maryland’s chapter of the **Student National Medical Association (SNMA)** hosted its 8th annual health fair, **CommUNITY Fest**, in September 2010 at Lexington Market in West Baltimore. The theme was “Healthier Families, Healthier Baltimore.” The SNMA chapter worked with over 20 healthcare and non-profit organizations in the Baltimore area to provide free health screenings, social service and health insurance resources for all age groups as well as health, nutrition and spiritual education and counseling. They also provided outdoor games and face-painting stations for families to enjoy and provided school-aged children an opportunity to win a free book-bag or utensil case filled with school supplies through its “Build-A-Backpack” program. The chapter worked with students from UMB Dental, Pharmacy and Nursing schools—this unity was key in effectively reaching out and serving the Baltimore community at this event. The fair was a great success, impacting an estimated 1000+ individuals in a single day.



(L-R) Second-year medical students and SNMA members Latey Jones, community service co-chair, Novlette Akinseye, SNMA president, and Kevin Affum, community service co-chair, at CommUNITY Fest 2010.



Horea Rus, MD, PhD

▶ **Horea Rus, MD, PhD**, associate professor, **Cosmin Telga, PhD**, postdoctoral fellow, and **Susan Judge, PhD**, assistant professor, all from the Department of Neurology, and **Violeta Rus, MD, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Medicine, presented “Voltage Gated Potassium Channel Kv1.3 Mediate C5b-9 Induces Oligodendrocyte Proliferation” at the 14th International Congress of Immunology in Kobe, Japan, in August 2010.

▶ **Richard Y. Zhao, PhD**, associate professor, Institute of Human Virology and Department of Pathology, co-chaired a session on “Cellular Factors Affecting Viral Replication and Pathogenicity” at the First World Congress on Virus and Infections, in Busan, Korea, in August 2010.



Violeta Rus, MD, PhD



PUBLICATIONS

Hats off to those who have been published!

- ▶ **Karen E. Anderson, MD**, assistant professor, Department of Neurology, co-authored an article entitled “Comorbidities of Obsessive and Compulsive Symptoms in Huntington’s Disease” in the *Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease*, Vol. 198, Number 5, May 2010.
- ▶ **Adam Brenner, MD**, third-year emergency medicine/internal medicine resident, and **Robert L. Rogers, MD**, associate professor and director of undergraduate medical education, Department of Emergency Medicine, co-published an article on warfarin-induced skin necrosis in the Images in Emergency Medicine column of the July 2010 issue of *Annals of Emergency Medicine*.
- ▶ **Rose M. Chasm, MD**, assistant professor, and **Michael D. Witting, MD**, associate professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, published an article on emergency physicians’ ability to predict MRSA skin and soft tissue infections in the July 2010 issue of *The Journal of Emergency Medicine*.
- ▶ **Mark Eppinger, PhD**, research associate, Institute for Genome Sciences, and **Jacques Ravel, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, and associate director of Genomics, Institute for Genome Sciences, co-authored “*Yersinia pestis* Genome Sequencing Identifies Patterns of Global Phylogenetic Diversity” in *Nature Genetics*, October 31, 2010 [Epub ahead of print].
- ▶ **Mary Forte, PhD, DC**, assistant professor, Departments of Epidemiology & Public Health and Orthopaedics, was the lead author of “Ninety-day Mortality After Intertrochanteric Hip Fracture: Does Provider Volume Matter?” a peer-reviewed article published in the April issue of the *Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery, American Volume* 2010;92(4):799-806, and the lead author of “Provider Factors Associated with Intramedullary Nail Use for Intertrochanteric Hip Fractures,” a peer-reviewed article published in the May issue of the *Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery, American Volume* 2010;92(5):1105-1114.
- ▶ **Steven R. Gambert, MD, AGSF, MACP**, professor, Departments of Medicine and Surgery, and co-director, Division of Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine, is the author of the book *Be Fit For Life: A Guide to Successful Aging*, published by World Scientific Press.
- ▶ **Daniel Gelb, MD**, associate professor, **Steven Ludwig, MD**, associate professor, and **Jacqueline E. Karp, MD**, resident, all from the Department of Orthopaedics, co-authored “Successful Treatment of Thoracolumbar Fractures with Short-

Segment Pedicle Instrumentation,” a peer-reviewed article published in the July issue of the *Journal of Spinal Disorders and Techniques* 2010;23(5):293-301.

- ▶ **Daniel Gold, DO**, resident, Department of Neurology, co-authored “Clinical Reasoning: An 18-year-old Man with Sub-acute Mental Status Change” in *Neurology*, 2010; 74:e83-e86.
- ▶ **Amal Mattu, MD**, professor, Department of Emergency, led a team of five editors and 18 associate editors in the publication of *Avoiding Common Errors in the Emergency Department*, a 398-chapter book published by Lippincott Williams & Wilkins in May 2010. **George C. Willis, MD**, and **Alisa Gibson, MD, DMD**, visiting instructors, Department of Emergency Medicine, contributed the chapters on cholangitis and facial fractures, respectively.
- ▶ **Andrei Medvedev, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, published “Involvement of TLR2 and TLR4 in Cell Responses to *Rickettsia akari*” in the *Journal of Leukocyte Biology*, 2010, Jul 9 [Epub ahead of print]. He also published an article entitled “Activation of Cytokine-producing and Antitumor Activities of Natural Killer Cells and Macrophages by Engagement of Toll-like and NOD-like Receptors” in *Innate Immunity*, 2010, Aug 3 [Epub ahead of print].
- ▶ **Robert V. O’Toole, MD**, assistant professor, and **W. Andrew Eglseder Jr., MD**, associate professor, both from the Department of Orthopaedics, co-authored “Early Motion Protocol for Select Galeazzi Fractures after Radial Shaft Fixation,” a peer-reviewed article published in the *Journal of Surgical Orthopaedic Advances* 2010;19(2):104-108. Additionally, Dr. O’Toole, along with **Jason W. Nascone, MD**, assistant professor, and **Marcus F. Sciadini, MD**, assistant professor, both from the Department of Orthopaedics, co-authored “Surgeon Variability in the Treatment of Pelvic Ring Injuries,” a peer-reviewed article published in the October issue of *Orthopedics* 2010;33(10):714.
- ▶ **Raymond A. Pensy, MD**, assistant professor, and **W. Andrew Eglseder Jr., MD**, associate professor, both from the Department of Orthopaedics, co-authored “Posterior Sternoclavicular Fracture-Dislocation: A Case Report and Novel Treatment Method,” a peer-reviewed article published in the June 2010 issue of the *Journal of Shoulder and Elbow Surgery* 2010;19(4):e5-e8. In addition, Dr. Pensy wrote “Traumatic Brachial Plexus Injuries,” an invited review article published in July 2010 by *Current Orthopaedic Practice* as a Special Focus online article.
- ▶ **Horea Rus, MD, PhD**, associate professor, and **Cosmin Tegla, PhD**, postdoctoral fellow, both from the Department of Neurology, **Violeta Rus, MD, PhD**, associate

PUBLICATIONS *continued*

professor, Department of Medicine, and **Hegang Chen, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, co-published “Epigenetic Modifications Induced by RGC-32 in Colon Cancer” in *Experimental and Molecular Pathology*, 2010;88:67-76.

▶ **Kevin N. Sheth, MD**, assistant professor, Department of Neurology, is the series editor of the first book in a new series, *Dx/Rx: Neurology*, published by Jones & Bartlett Publishers. The book is called *Dx/Rx: Brain Tumors*.

▶ **Hervé Tettelin, PhD**, associate professor, and **Julie Hotopp Dunning, PhD**, assistant professor, both from the Department of Microbiology & Immunology and Institute for Genome Sciences, and **Samuel Angiuoli**, bioinformatics software manager, Institute for Genome Sciences, co-authored “Structure and Dynamics of the Pan-genome of *Streptococcus pneumoniae* and Closely Related Species” in *Genome Biology*, October 29, 2010, Volume 11, R107.

▶ **William J. Weiner, MD**, professor and chair, Department of Neurology, had a letter to the editor published in the *Annals of Neurology*, Volume 68, No.1. Dr. Weiner’s piece was entitled “Flexible Residency Program.”

▶ **Larry D. Weiss, MD, JD**, professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, and immediate past president of the American Academy of Emergency Medicine, is a co-author of “The Future of Emergency Medicine,” which summarizes a discussion among the leaders of 10 national emergency medicine organizations who met last year during the Future of Emergency Medicine Summit in Dallas. The article, which addresses issues facing the emergency care workforce, was co-published during the summer of 2010 in *Annals of Emergency Medicine*, *Academic Emergency Medicine*, *The Journal of Emergency Medicine*, *The Journal of Emergency Nursing*, and *The Pulse* (from the American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians).

▶ **James Robert White, PhD**, bioinformatics software engineer II, Institute for Genome Sciences, co-authored an article entitled “Gut Microbial Gene Expression in Mother-Fed and Formula-Fed Piglets” in *PLoS ONE*, August 27, 2010; 5(8):e12459.

▶ **Richard Y. Zhao, PhD**, associate professor, Institute of Human Virology and Departments of Pathology and Microbiology & Immunology, and **Ge Li, PhD**, postdoctoral fellow, Department of Pathology, co-published an article in *PLoS ONE* on “Anti-cancer Effect of HIV-1 Viral Protein R on Doxorubicin Resistant Neuroblastoma.”

HONORS & AWARDS



Congratulations to the following who have received honors!

▶ **Majid Cina, MD**, assistant professor, **Mangla Gulati, MD**, assistant professor, **Kathryn Silva, MD**, assistant professor, and **Robert Habicht, MD**, assistant professor, and **Elizabeth Lamos, MD**, chief resident, and **Ryan Scilla, MD**, resident, all from the Department of Medicine, and **Jon Furuno, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, received the First Place Award for Outstanding Poster at the 4th Annual Patient Safety Symposium of the Center for Advancement in Patient Safety at the University of Maryland Medical Center (CAPSUM) for their poster “The HALT Prediction Tool to Identify High-Risk Patients before Inter-hospital Transfer.”

▶ **Robert L. Rogers, MD**, associate professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, is the recipient of the 2010 Excellence in Teaching Award from the Emergency Medicine Residents’ Association. The award was presented during the Scientific Assembly of the American College of Emergency Physicians, held in September 2010 in Las Vegas. This is the third national teaching award for Dr. Rogers and the 14th national teaching award presented to University of Maryland emergency medicine faculty.

▶ **John Sorkin, MD, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Medicine, was honored by the National Institute on Aging (NIA) with a Distinguished Achievement Award for his teaching excellence and almost two decades of service as a senior faculty member of the NIA’s Summer Institute on Aging Research.

▶ **Susan D. Wolfsthal, MD**, Celeste L. Woodward Professor of Medicine, and director, Internal Medicine Residency Program, was awarded one of 10 Picker Institute/Gold Foundation Challenge Grants to develop an innovative project that integrates successful patient-centered care initiatives and best practices into the education of future practicing physicians. Her study, “Empowering Patients to Optimize Their Medication Regimens: A Multidisciplinary Approach,” will provide residents with a curriculum in drug management in the current economic and insurance climate and partner with a clinical pharmacist to evaluate residents in the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education competencies as they care for patients in their continuity medical clinics.



John Sorkin, MD, PhD

GRANTS &

CONTRACTS



Congratulations to our very productive faculty on their recent grants and contracts!



Toby C. Chai, MD

► **Toby C. Chai, MD**, John D. Young, Jr. Professor of Surgery, received a two-year \$484,000 P20 grant from the National Institutes of Health for his work entitled “University of Maryland, Baltimore Interdisciplinary Research Center in Benign Urology,” which will study bladder urothelial biology in the context of urge urinary incontinence. The goal of this grant to is to establish the bona fides for a subsequent P01 grant application. This is a multi-site study and co-PI’s include **Susan Keay, MD, PhD**, professor, Department of Medicine.

► **Jeffrey Fink, MD, MS**, associate professor, Department of Medicine, received a five-year \$1.8 million R01 grant from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases for his work entitled “Does Underrecognition of Kidney Disease Affect Patient Safety?”

► **Mary Forte, PhD, DC**, assistant professor, Departments of Epidemiology & Public Health and Orthopaedics, and **Andrew N. Pollak, MD**, professor, Department of Orthopaedics, and chief, Division of Orthopaedic Traumatology, have been awarded the \$20,000 Foundation for Orthopaedic Trauma Grant for 2010. The foundation strives to influence and enhance orthopaedic traumatology through education, mentorship and research. The research project, “Factors Associated with Early Mortality among Nursing Home Patients Who Sustain Hip Fractures,”

aims to assess Medicare data to determine whether pre-fracture physical and/or cognitive impairment predicts early mortality among surgically-treated elderly patients who sustain hip fracture while residing in nursing homes.

► **Claire Fraser-Liggett, PhD**, professor, Departments of Medicine and Microbiology & Immunology, and director, Institute for Genome Sciences, received a three-year \$1,952,759 grant from the National Institutes of Health for her work entitled “Metagenomic Analysis of the Structure and Function of the Human Gut Microbiota.” Dr. Fraser-Liggett’s award is for Phase II of her research for the Human Microbiome Project.

► **Julie Dunning Hotopp, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology and Institute for Genome Sciences, received a five-year

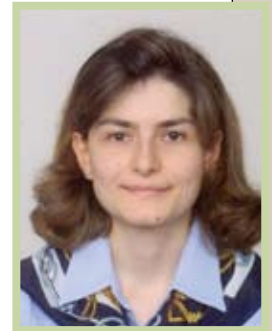


Jeffrey Fink, MD, MS

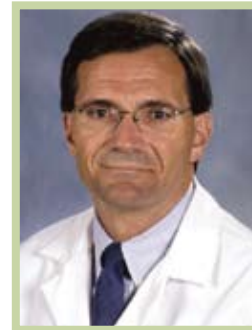
\$2,250,000 grant from the National Institute of Health’s Director’s New Innovator Program for her work entitled “Impact of Bacteria-Animal Lateral Gene Transfer on Human Health.”

► **Ayse Mindikoglu, MD, MPH**, assistant professor, Department of Medicine, received a five-year \$916,000 K23 grant from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases for her work entitled “Gender Disparity in Liver Transplantation.”

► **Robert V. O’Toole, MD**, assistant professor, Department of Orthopaedics, is the principle investigator in a multi-center, randomized, controlled trial, “Novel Therapy to Reduce Infection after Operative Treatment of Fractures at High Risk of Infection.” He was awarded a four-year \$2,453,872 grant sponsored by the Department of Defense Peer Reviewed Orthopaedic Research Program of the Office of the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs. The goal of the research is to evaluate new treatments to reduce infection. The hypothesis is that the use of antibacterial plate sleeves, manufactured by Synthes, Inc., in West Chester, Pennsylvania, for fractures at high risk for infection will reduce infection rates and thereby improve outcomes compared with treatment without the sleeves. The results of this trial have the potential to reduce surgical site infection in the military and civilian sectors and thereby improve patient outcomes from these potentially devastating injuries.



Ayse Mindikoglu, MD, MPH



Vincent D. Pellegrini Jr., MD

► The **Department of Orthopaedics** is one of six high-volume centers participating in a study to accurately assess critically important quality-of-life improvements achieved through hip and knee replacement surgery. The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality has awarded the University of Massachusetts Medical School a \$12 million grant for this multi-center study. **Vincent D. Pellegrini Jr., MD**, James Lawrence Kernan Professor and Chair of the Department of Orthopaedics, is the principle investigator for the University of Maryland site. The number of total joint replacements is expected to increase by 600 percent during the next 20 years as the population ages and the prevalence of obesity increases. As a part of this

GRANTS & CONTRACTS *continued*

study, the department will contribute to the proposed national database of more than 33,000 diverse patients treated by 130 orthopaedic surgeons from all regions of the U.S. and various types of practice settings.

► **Vincent D. Pellegrini Jr., MD**, James Lawrence Kernan Professor and Chair, Department of Orthopaedics, is the principle investigator for “Heterotopic Ossification after Extremity Blast Amputation: An Animal Model in the Sprague-Dawley Rat: Heterotopic Ossification in a Survival Animal Extremity Blast Model,” which has been awarded a four-year \$598,144 grant sponsored by the Department of Defense. The ultimate goal of the project is to gain a



Raymond Penn, PhD

greater understanding of heterotopic bone development in the residual limbs of the survivors of extremity blast amputations. In addition, Dr. Pellegrini received a one-year \$25,000 grant sponsored by the Orthopaedic Trauma Association to develop an animal model for the project “Heterotopic Ossification in an Animal Extremity Amputation Blast Model.”

► **Raymond Penn, PhD**, professor, Department of Medicine, received a four-year \$1.2 million R01

grant from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute for his work entitled “Arrestin Selectivity for GPCRs in Airway Smooth Muscle.”

► **Wayne Chienhwa Wang, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Medicine, received a five-year \$1.8 million R01 grant from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute for his work entitled “Novel Mechanisms of Smooth Muscle Beta2-receptor Regulation Relevant to Asthma.”



Wayne Chienhwa Wang, PhD

ANNOUNCEMENT



► **Mary Rodgers, PT, PhD, FAPTA**, George R. Hepburn Dynasplint Professor and Chair, Department of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science (PTRS), returned on September 1, 2010, from a one-year sabbatical as an American Association for the Advancement of Science Fellow with the National Institute of Bioimaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB). For another year, Dr. Rodgers will continue to work for NIBIB one day per week to follow-up on initiatives she worked on over the past year.



Mary Rodgers, PT, PhD, FAPTA

Buzz Contacts

Many thanks to the following people who serve as your liaisons for the information you see in *What's the Buzz?* Please send information (within the realm of the categories listed above) that you would like to see in the *Buzz* to the appropriate person within your department, program, center or office.

Anatomy & Neurobiology:
Carolyn Craighead

Anesthesiology: Betsy Burcham

Biochemistry & Molecular Biology:
Bruce Reinecke

Dermatology: Betsy Satosky

Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine: Nan Knight

Emergency Medicine:
Linda Kesselring

Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine: Yimei Wu

Family & Community Medicine:
Karen Webster

Medical & Research Technology:
Cynthia Stambach

Medicine: Molly Lutz

Microbiology & Immunology:
Teri Robinson

Neurology: Paula Gilley

Neurosurgery: Terry Roberts

Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences: Chris Whitley

Ophthalmology: Nancy Cook

Orthopaedics: Dori Kelly

Otorhinolaryngology: Bryan Ambro

Pathology: Carmen Wooden

Pediatrics: Bonnie Winters

Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics: Anne Nourse

Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science: Krista Nazelrod

Physiology: Ken Fahnestock

Psychiatry: Vee Porter-Brown

Radiation Oncology: Jill Rosenberg

Surgery: Daniel Zhu

Program in Comparative Medicine:
Deborah Sanchez

Program in Genetics & Genomic Medicine: Pam Shinnick

Program in Minority Health & Health Disparities: Claudia Baquet

Program in Neuroscience: Tom McHugh

Program in Oncology: Stephen Long

Program in Trauma: Cynthia Rivers

Center for Health Policy & Health Services Research: Shiraz Mishra

Center for Integrative Medicine:
Harry Bosk

Center for Mucosal Biology Research or MBRC: Pam King

Center for Research on Aging:
Kara Longo

Center for Stem Cell Biology & Regenerative Medicine:
LaRondi Flowers

Center for Shock, Trauma and Anesthesiology Research or STAR-ORC:
Jane Anderson

Center for Vaccine Development:
Gloria Smedley

Center for Vascular & Inflammatory Diseases: Vanessa Foreman

Institute for Genome Sciences:
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Institute of Human Virology:
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Institute for Autoimmunity and Inflammation: Susie Flaherty

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