

what's the buzz?

Self-Reported News from the School of Medicine Community

EVENTS, LECTURES

& WORKSHOPS



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



Carissa Baker-Smith, MD,
MS, MPH

► **Carissa Baker-Smith, MD, MS, MPH**, Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, recently presented “Healthy Start to a Healthy Heart” at an event sponsored by the Maryland Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics on June 25. The seminar, entitled “The Role of the Pediatric Subspecialist in Obesity Care,” was held at the Handelman Conference Center of the Beacon Institute in Columbia, MD.

► **Maureen Black, PhD**, Professor, Department of Pediatrics, presented “Common Feeding and Behavioral Problems in the Toddler Years” to the Latin America Pediatric Society in Guatemala City, Guatemala, on May 28. She also presented “Micronutrient Effects on Cognition: State of Knowledge in Low-Resource Cultures” at the Micronutrient Forum in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on June 3. Dr. Black and **Renee Fox, MD**, Executive Director, The Institute for a Healthiest Maryland, and an Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatrics, and **Erin Hager, PhD**, Assistant Professor, also from the Department of Pediatrics, hosted a state-wide school wellness conference in collaboration with partners at the Maryland State Department of Education and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. The conference, entitled “Making Wellness Work: One School at a Time” was attended by over 150 representatives from nearly every school system in Maryland. At the conference, Dr. Hager formally released a new guide to school-level wellness policy implementation that was prepared through



Maureen Black, PhD

this academic-agency partnership, based on data collected through the CDC-funded Maryland Wellness Policies and Practices Project. Dr. Black and Dr. Hager, along with **Laura Hungerford, DVM, MPH, PhD**, Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, and **Kirstin Hurley, PhD, MPH**, Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, all presented on “Food Swamps and Food Desserts: Associations with Obesity and Diet among Urban Adolescent Girls” at the International Society for Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity in San Diego, CA, on May 22.

► **Alena Egense, MGC, CGC**, Genetic Counselor, Department of Pediatrics, presented “Quality of Life for Families With a Child With CdLS: Differences Between Families Based on the Child’s Primary Residence Location” at the 6th National Cornelia de Lange Syndrome (CdLS) Scientific & Educational Symposia, held in Costa Mesa, CA, in June.

► **Samer El-Kamary, MB, ChB, MPH**, Associate Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, was invited to present “Randomized, Placebo-Controlled, Multi-Center Trial Evaluating the Safety and Efficacy of Oral Silymarin in Acute Hepatitis” at The 2nd Silibinin Workshop in Cologne, Germany, on May 23. He was also invited by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) at the NIH to present “Risk-Based Screening Versus Universal Screening for Hepatitis C Virus Infection” at Endemic and Emerging Viral Diseases of Priority in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA)—A Scientific Workshop, which was hosted by NIAID and NIH; Weill Cornell Medical College-Qatar; and the Qatar National Research Fund of the Qatar Foundation. The conference was held in Doha, Qatar, from May 26–29.



Samer El-Kamary, MB,
ChB, MPH

► **Michelle Giglio, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine; **W. Florian Fricke, PhD**, Assistant Professor; **Hervé Tettelin, PhD**, Associate Professor; and

EVENTS, LECTURES & WORKSHOPS *continued*



Michelle Giglio, PhD

David Rasko, PhD, Associate Professor, all from the Department of Microbiology & Immunology; **Heather Huot Creasy**, Bioinformatics Analyst; **Sonia Agrawal**, Bioinformatics Software Engineer, Senior; **Cesar Arze**, Bioinformatics Software Engineer II; and **Yang Song, MS**, Postdoctoral Fellow, all from the Institute for Genome Sciences, hosted the “WS-16 Do-It-Yourself Microbial Genome Sequence Analysis” workshop at the 114th American Society for Microbiology General Meeting in Boston, MA, in May.

► **Erik Lillehoj, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics, was an invited speaker at the Seventh Annual NIH/FDA Glycosciences Research Day in Bethesda, MD, on May 19, where he presented “NEU1 Sialidase Increases Shedding of MUC1 Ectodomain as a Decoy Receptor for *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, Decreasing Bacterial Adhesion to Human Airway Epithelia.”

► **Terrence Mulligan, DO, MPH**, Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, was a faculty member for the 12th Middle East Emergency Medicine Congress, held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, in early June. He presented two lectures: “Building a Geriatric Emergency Department” and “Literature Review for Pediatrics.” He also traveled to Muscat in the Sultanate of Oman to present three hours of Grand Rounds lectures on clinical emergency medicine topics at Sultan Qaboos University.

► **William Regine, MD**, the Isadore & Fannie Schneider Foxman Chair and Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, presented “Management of Brain Metastases” as a visiting professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology at the University of Nebraska (Omaha) in June. While at the University of Nebraska, he was also an invited speaker at the Fred and Pamela Buffett Cancer Center, where he presented “Adjuvant Therapy for Pancreatic Cancer: Where Have We Been and Where Are We Going?”

► **Yan Wang, MD, DrPH**, Assistant Professor; **Erin Hager, PhD**, Assistant Professor; **Raquel Arbaiza**, Research Assistant Clinical; and **Maureen Black, PhD**, Professor, all from the Department



William Regine, MD

of Pediatrics; along with **Larry Magder, PhD**, Professor, and **Samantha Wilkes**, Epidemiology Assistant II, both from the Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, presented “Support in Relation to Physical Activity in Urban African American Adolescent Girls: A Multi-Informant Model” at the International Society for Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity in San Diego, CA, on May 22.

► **Cedric Yu, Dsc**, Clinical Professor; **Elizabeth Nichols MD**, Assistant Professor; **Steven Feigenberg MD**, Professor; and **Yildirim Mutaf, PhD**, Associate Professor, all from the Department of Radiation Oncology, gave three presentations at the Radiosurgery Society’s Stereotactic Radiosurgery/Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy Scientific Meeting in Minneapolis, MN, on May 8. The presentations focused on the new GammaPod system developed at Maryland for breast radiation treatment.

► Three Department of Emergency Medicine faculty members presented lectures at EMS Care 2014, the annual continuing education conference in Ocean City, MD, sponsored by the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS) in May. **Jennifer Guyther, MD**, Instructor, presented “Sticks and Stones and Broken Bones: Pediatric Injuries.” **Roger Stone, MD, MS**, Clinical Assistant Professor, presented a breakout session on “Crew Resource Management: It’s Not Just a ‘Fire Thing!’” **Ben Lawner, DO, MS, EMT-P**, Assistant Professor, presented “Controversies and Conundrums in Trauma Care” and delivered the closing keynote address “EMS Darwin Awards: Perfectly Good Calls Gone Bad.”



Cedric Yu, Dsc

APPOINTMENTS & CERTIFICATIONS



We applaud our colleagues on their recent appointments!

► **Michael Grasso, MD, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Departments of Medicine and Emergency Medicine, has been certified in clinical informatics by the American Board of Preventive Medicine. He is one of 432 people in the United States to pass the inaugural certification examination.



PUBLICATIONS

Hats off to those who have been published!



Soren Bentzen, PhD, DMSc

► **Soren Bentzen, PhD, DMSc**, Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, was among the co-authors on “Radiotherapy for Breast Cancer, the TARGIT-A Trial” in *The Lancet*, 2014 May 17;383 (9930):1716-7. He was also among the co-authors on “Interactive Decision-Support Tool for Risk-Based Radiation Therapy Plan Comparison for Hodgkin Lymphoma in the *International Journal of Radiation Oncology, Biology, Physics*, 2014 Feb 1;88 (2): 433-45; “Towards Individualized Dose Constraints: Adjusting the QUANTEC Radiation Pneumonitis Model for Clinical Risk Factors,” in *Acta Oncologica*. 2014 May;53(5):605-12; “A Genome Wide Association Study (GWAS) Providing Evidence of an Association Between Common Genetic Variants and Late Radiotherapy Toxicity,”

in *Radiotherapy and Oncology*, 2014 May;111(2):178-85; “Locoregional Control of Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer in Relation to Automated Early Assessment of Tumor Regression on Cone Beam Computed Tomography,” in *International Journal of Clinical Oncology, Biology, Physics*, 2014 Jul 15;89(4): 916-23; “Comparison of Radiation-Induced Normal Lung Tissue Density Changes for Patients From Multiple Institutions Receiving Conventional or Hypofractionated Treatments,” in *International Journal of Clinical Oncology, Biology, Physics*, 2014 Jul 15;89(4): 626-32; “Radiogenomics: Radiobiology Enters the Era of Big Data and Team Science,” in *International Journal of Clinical Oncology, Biology, Physics*, 2014 Jul 15;89(4): 709-13; and “Hypofractionated Radiation Therapy for Prostate Cancer: More Food for Thought From Recent Trial” in *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 2014 Jun 10;32(17):1852-3.

► **Maureen Black, PhD**, Professor, Department of Pediatrics, was among the co-authors on “Reassessing the Value of Vaccines” in *Lancet Global Health*, May 2014; 2:e251-2.

► **Rebecca Brotman, PhD, MPH**, Assistant Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health; **Pawel Gajer, PhD**, Research Associate, Department of Microbiology & Immunology; and **Jacques Ravel, PhD**, Professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, all also from the Institute for Genome Sciences, where Dr. Ravel is Associate Director of Genomics, were among the co-authors on “Interplay Between the Temporal



Rebecca Brotman, PhD, MPH

Dynamics of the Vaginal Microbiota and Human Papillomavirus Detection” in the *Journal of Infectious Diseases*, 2014 Jun18 [Epub ahead of print].

► **Christina Boulton, MD**, Assistant Professor, and **Robert O’Toole, MD**, Professor, both from the Department of Orthopaedics, were among the co-authors on “Tibial and Fibular Shaft Fractures,” a chapter in *Rockwood and Green’s Fractures in Adults*, 8th edition, published by Lippincott Williams & Wilkins in September 2014.



Michael Chuong, MD

► **Michael Chuong, MD**, Assistant Professor; **D. Hunter Boggs, MD**, Resident; **Kruti Patel, MD**, Resident; and **William Regine, MD**, the Isadore & Fannie Schneider Foxman Chair and Professor, all from the Department of Radiation Oncology, were among the authors on “Adjuvant Chemoradiation for Pancreatic Cancer: What Does the Evidence Tell Us?” in the *Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology*, 2014 Jun;5:166–177.



Christina Boulton, MD

► **Vasken Dilsizian, MD**, Professor; **Jane Kim, MD**, Assistant Professor; and **Wengen Chen, MD, PhD**, Assistant Professor, all from the department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, along with **Erika Feller, MD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, were among the co-authors on “FDG PET-CT Imaging for Left Ventricular Assist Device Associated Infections” in the *Journal of American College of Cardiology Cardiovascular Imaging*, 2014 Aug;7(8):839-842.

► **Jack Guralnik, MD, PhD, MPH**, Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, was among the co-authors on “Effect of Structured Physical Activity on Prevention of Major Mobility Disability in Older Adults: The LIFE Study Randomized Clinical Trial,” in the *Journal of American Medical Association*, 2014 May 27 [Epub ahead of print].

► **Seth Kligerman, MD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, was among the co-authors on “The Clinical Staging of Lung Cancer Through Imaging: A Radiologist’s Guide to the Revised



Seth Kligerman, MD

PUBLICATIONS *continued*

Staging System and Rationale for the Changes” in *Radiologic Clinics of North America*, 2014;52(1):69-83. He and **Wengen Chen, MD, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, along with **Hao Zhang, PhD**, Instructor; **Warren D. D’Souza, PhD, MBA**, Associate Professor; **Mohan Suntharalingam, MD**, Professor; and **Wei Lu, PhD**, Assistant Professor, all from the department of Radiation Oncology, were among the co-authors on “Modeling Pathologic Response of Esophageal Cancer to Chemoradiation Therapy Using Spatial-Temporal 18F-FDG PET Features, Clinical Parameters, and Demographics” in the *International Journal of Radiation Oncology, Biology, Physics*, 2014;88:195-203.

► **Linda Orkin Lewin, MD**, Associate Professor; **Erin Giudice, MD**, Assistant Professor; **Jason Custer, MD**, Assistant Professor; **Robert Habicht, MD**, Assistant Professor; and Chief Residents **Olga Charnaya, MD**, and **Jennie Hart, MD**, all from the Department of Pediatrics, and **Leah Millstein, MD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, were among the co-authors on “Implementation of a Monitored Educational Curriculum and Impact on Pediatric Resident In-Training Exam Scores” in the *Journal of Graduate Medical Education*, 2014 Jun;6(2):377-8.

► **Joshua Lewis, PhD**, Assistant Professor; **Laura Yerges-Armstrong, PhD**, Assistant Professor; **Amber Beitelshes, PharmD**, Assistant Professor; **Richard Horenstein, MD**, Assistant Professor; **Alan Shuldiner, MD**, the John L. Whitehurst Professor of Medicine, Director of the Program in Pharmacogenomics and Genomic Medicine, and Associate Dean for Personalized Medicine, all from the Department of Medicine and Program for Personalized and Genomic Medicine, were among the co-authors on “Pharmacometabolomics Reveals that Serotonin is

Implicated in Aspirin Response Variability” in *CPT Pharmacometrics and Systems Pharmacology*, 2014 Jul 16 [E-pub ahead of print].

► **Erik Lillehoj, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics, was among the co-authors on “IL-17A Regulates *Eimeria tenella* Schizont Maturation and Migration in Avian Coccidiosis” in *Veterinary Research*, 2014;45:25-33. He was also among the co-authors on “Comparison of Live *Eimeria* Vaccination With In-Feed Salinomycin on Growth and Immune Status in Broiler Chickens” in *Research in Veterinary Science*, 2014 Aug;95(1):110-4.



Erik Lillehoj, PhD



Jay Magaziner, PhD, MSHyg

► **Jay Magaziner, PhD, MSHyg**, Professor and Chair, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, was among the co-authors on “Survival and Functional Outcomes Among Nursing Home Residents With Hip Fracture” in the *Journal of the American Medical Association Internal Medicine*, 2014 Aug 1;174(8):1273-80.

► **Daniel Morgan, MD**, Associate Professor, and **Michelle Shardell, PhD**, Professor, both of the Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, were among the co-authors on “Improving Hand Hygiene Compliance With Point-of-Use Reminder

Signs Designed Using Theoretically-Grounded Messages” in *Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology*, 2014 May;35(5):593-594. Dr. Morgan and **Lisa Pineles, MA**, Research Associate, were among the co-authors on “Survey of Infection Prevention Informatics Use and Practitioner Satisfaction in US Hospitals” in *Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology*, 2014 July;35(7):891-3. Dr. Morgan and **Anthony Harris MD, MPH**, Professor, were co-authors on “The Gap in Patient Protection for Outpatient Cosmetic Surgery” in the *Journal of the American Medical Association Internal Medicine*, 2014;174(7):1142-1143.

► **Casey Overby, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, was among the co-authors on “Estimating Heritability of Drug-induced Liver Injury from Common Variants and Implications for Future Study Designs” in *Scientific Reports*, 2014, Jul 21;4:5762.

► **Aruna Panda, BVSc, PhD, MPH**, Assistant Professor; **Ivan Tatarov, DVM**, Research Associate; **Annabelle Crusan, DVM, MS**, Research Veterinarian; **Michael Lipsky, PhD**, Professor; and **Louis DeTolla, VMD, PhD, DACLAM**, all from the Department of Pathology, as well as the Program in Comparative Medicine, which Dr. DeTolla directs, along with **Myron Levine, MD, DTPH**, Director, Center for Vaccine Development and Professor, Departments of Pediatrics and Microbiology and Immunology, were among the co-authors on “A Rabbit Model of Non-Typhoidal *Salmonella* bacteremia” in *Comparative Immunology, Microbiology and Infectious Diseases*, 2014 Jul 3 [Epub ahead of print].



Aruna Panda, BVSc, PhD, MPH

NEW FACULTY



PUBLICATIONS *continued*



Kelly Westlake, PT, PhD

► **Kelly Westlake, PT, PhD**, Assistant Professor, and **Elizabeth Woytowicz, BS**, Graduate Student, Department of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science, were contributing authors on, “Capturing Subject Variability in Data-Driven fMRI Analysis: A Graph-Theoretical Comparison” in *Proceedings of the Conference on Information Sciences and Systems (CISS)*, which was held in Princeton, NJ, in March.

► **Junfang Wu, BM, PhD**, Assistant Professor; **Bogdan Stoica, MD**, Assistant Professor; and **Alan Faden, MD**, Professor, all from the Department of Anesthesiology, along with **Boris Sabirzhanov, PhD**, and **Zaorui Zhao, PhD**, both Postdoctoral Fellows in the Center for Shock, Trauma & Anesthesiology Research

(STAR), which Dr. Faden directs, were among the co-authors on “Isolated Spinal Cord Contusion in Rats Induces Chronic Brain Neuroinflammation, Neurodegeneration and Cognitive Impairment: Involvement of Cell Cycle Activation” in the *Journal of Neuroscience*, 2014 Jun 25;13(15) [Epub ahead of print]. Drs. Sabirzhanov, Zhao, Stoica, Wu and Faden, along with the Department of Anesthesiology’s **David Loane, PhD**, Assistant Professor, and **Susan Dorsey, PhD, RN**, were among the co-authors on “Down-Regulation of miR-23a and miR-27a Following Experimental Traumatic Brain Injury Induces Neuronal Cell Death Through Activation of Pro-Apoptotic Bcl-2 Proteins” in the *Journal of Neuroscience*, 2014 Jul 23;34(30):10055-71.

► **Laura Yerges-Armstrong, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine and Program in Personalized and Genomic Medicine, was among co-authors on “Genetic Evidence For a Normal-Weight ‘Metabolically Obese’ Phenotype Linking Insulin Resistance, Hypertension, Coronary Artery Disease and Type-2 Diabetes” in *Diabetes*, 2014 21 Jul [E-pub ahead of print]. She and **Patrick McArdle, PhD**, Assistant Professor, and **Elizabeth Streeten, MD**, Associate Professor, also from the Department of Medicine and Program in Personalized and Genomic Medicine, were among co-authors on “Parent-of-Origin-Specific Allelic Associations Among 106 Genomic loci For Age at Menarche” in *Nature*, 2014 July 23 [E-pub ahead of print].

We welcome our new faculty!

► **Adrian Holloway, MD**, has been appointed as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Pediatrics’ Division of Critical Care. He received a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, VA, in 2002. Dr. Holloway was awarded a Doctor of Medicine Degree from the Medical College of Virginia/Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine in Richmond, VA, in 2006. He completed a residency in Pediatrics in 2009 at Shands/University of Florida Children’s Hospital, Gainesville, FL. He did an internship in Pediatrics (2007) at Shands/University of Florida Children’s Hospital in Gainesville, FL. He is board certified in Pediatrics. He is a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics, Society of Critical Care Medicine and Student National Medical Association. Before coming to SOM, he did a fellowship in Pediatrics Critical Care-Medicine at Children’s National Medical Center at George Washington University in Washington, DC.

► **Yuji Zhang, PhD**, was appointed as an Interim Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, effective July 14.

Save
the
Date

The Brain Science Research Consortium Unit (BSRCU) Retreat **Wednesday, October 8**

8:30 am–5:30 pm

University of Maryland Southern Management Corporation Campus Center
621 West Lombard Street, Conference Room 349

The Brain Science Research Consortium Unit (BSRCU) invites researchers and physician-scientists across the School of Medicine who are interested in neuroscience research to attend its inaugural retreat on October 8. The retreat will provide a stimulating and engaging scientific platform of talks and panel discussions to encourage researchers to join the efforts of the BSRCU, and will focus on three themes: (1) the use of non-invasive focused ultrasound for therapeutic and neuromodulatory purposes, (2) neuroinflammation, and (3) neuropsychiatric/affective/reward processing disorders. By uniting efforts in various neuroscience departments and centers across the SOM, the BSRCU aims to increase SOM’s profile of trans-disciplinary and translational research, a move that will ultimately lead to important new discoveries in the field. For more information visit <http://medschool.umaryland.edu/BSRCU/>.

GRANTS &

CONTRACTS



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

- ▶ **Vicki Gray, MPT, PhD**, Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science, received a two-year, \$154,000 grant from the American Heart Association for “A Comparison of Reactive and Voluntary Lateral Step Training to Reduce Falls and Improve Balance in Persons Post-Stroke.”
- ▶ **W. Jonathan Lederer, MD, PhD**, Professor, Department of Physiology, and Director of The Center for Biomedical Engineering and Technology (BioMET), received a \$3.55 million grant from NIH/NHLBI for “Multi-scale Spatiotemporal Modeling of Cardiac Mitochondria.” The grant combines advanced computer modeling with state-of-the-art imaging and electrophysiology.
- ▶ **Linda Orkin Lewin, MD**, Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics, received a one-year, \$22,165 grant from the University of Maryland, Baltimore’s Center for Community Based Engagement and Learning for “Improving

CORRECTION:

An item in the August issue regarding a paper published in *Glycobiology* listed an incorrect senior author.

The correct senior author on this paper was **Nicholas Stamatos, MD, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine and Institute of Human Virology.

The item should have read:

- ▶ **Nicholas Stamatos, MD, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine and Institute of Human Virology, was the lead author on “Changes in Polysialic Acid Expression on Myeloid Cells During Differentiation and Recruitment to Sites of Inflammation: Role in Phagocytosis” in *Glycobiology*, 2014 Sep;24 (9):864-879 [Epub ahead of print May 27]. **Alan Cross, MD**, Professor; **Lei Zhang, MD**, Lead Research Specialist; and **Wilbur Chen, MD**, Associate Professor, all from the Department of Medicine and the Center for Vaccine Development, and **Kim Hankey, PhD**, Research Associate, Department of Radiation Oncology, were among the co-authors.

the Health of the Children of Upton/Druid Heights: A Unique Collaboration to Motivate and Educate Families through Health Learning Parties.”

- ▶ **Myaing Nyunt, MD, PhD, MPH**, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine and the Center for Vaccine Development, received a seven-month, \$15,633 grant, with one additional potential year, from the Regents of the University of California San Francisco, sponsored by the National Institutes of Health, for “Antimalarial Pharmacology in HIV Co-infected Children and Pregnant Women.” Initiated in 2010, this grant supports an ongoing clinical study in a rural site, Tororo, Uganda, to evaluate the impact of pregnancy and age on antimalarial pharmacokinetics and treatment outcomes. She also received a \$399,845 grant from The Open Society Foundation for assisting in the optimization and reform of Myanmar’s medical and public health systems by inclusive cooperation and coordination of diverse scientific communities, using malaria and bioethics as catalysts for social transformation. Success in the first year of this grant will lead to further support from the Open Society and other institutions promoting health forces in the non-governmental and civil society based organizations.
- ▶ **Glenn Ostir, PhD**, Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, has received a one-year, \$5,000 service agreement from Ammonett Pharma, LLC.
- ▶ **Sarah Ransom, BS**, a PhD student in the Department of Physiology working in the lab of **Thomas Blanpied, PhD**, Associate Professor, received a two-year, \$74,584 NIH Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) F31 individual training grant from the National Institute of Mental Health for “Regulation of NMDA Receptor Activation by Postsynaptic Nanostructure.”
- ▶ **J. Kathleen Tracy, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, has received a three-year, \$4,972,000 contract with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene for “Research and Evaluation for the Maryland Center of Excellence for Problem Gambling.”
- ▶ **Min Zhan, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, has received a one-year, \$13,557 service agreement with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs for statistical consulting services.



J. Kathleen Tracy, PhD

HONORS & AWARDS



Congratulations to the following who have received honors!



Gad Alon, PT, PhD

► **Gad Alon, PT, PhD**, Associate Professor Emeritus, Department of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science, has been awarded the John H. P. Maley Lecture Award for 2015 from the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA). This honor is awarded to physical therapists who have made distinguished contributions to the profession of physical therapy in any area of clinical practice. Dr. Alon will deliver the John H.P. Maley Lecture at the general session of NEXT (formerly the APTA Annual Conference), which will be held in National Harbor, MD from June 3–6, 2015.

► **Andrew Hanna, MS-IV**, and **Duc Nguyen, MS-III**, are the recipients of the 2014 Radiation Oncology Research Scholarship Awards. Each recipient received a \$1,250 scholarship, to go toward their medical school tuition. Mr. Hanna's work with the Department of Radiation Oncology has contributed to three scientific presentations and one peer-reviewed article. His project "What Predicts for Volumetric Increase Following Stereotactic Radiosurgery?" has been accepted for presentation at the 2014 American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO) annual meeting in San Francisco, CA, this fall. Mr. Nguyen has worked with department faculty mentors **France Carrier, PhD**, Associate Professor; **Navesh Sharma, MD**, Assistant Professor, and **Young Kwok, MD**, Associate Professor. He has presented on his basic science research at ASTRO, the American Association for Cancer Research, and other venues. His work has contributed to one peer-reviewed article from Dr. Carrier's lab.

► **Daphne Katz, MS-II**, is the recipient of the 2014 Department of Radiation Oncology Summer Fellowship Award. The fellowship program, funded by an Endowment Fund for Academic Excellence in Radiation Oncology, provides either a mentored research practicum in radiobiology or a clinical research project in medical (clinical) physics or clinical radiation oncology. Daphne received her undergraduate degree from Georgetown University and spent a year as a research fellow at the National Cancer Institute. She will spend her 10-week fellowship period completing a clinical research project, will receive a \$2,500 stipend, and will present her work at this year's Student Research Forum.

► **Devinder Singh, MD**, Associate Professor, Department of Surgery, earned 3rd place at the annual Abdominal Wall Reconstruction conference in Washington DC, in June, for his research project "Novel Technique for Inner-vated Abdominal Wall Vascularized Composite Allotransplantation: A Separation of Components Approach." His award was presented by **Vasilios Mavrophilipos, MS-III**



Devinder Singh, MD

IN THE NEWS



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

► **Maureen Black, PhD**, Professor, and **Renee Fox, MD**, Associate Professor and Director, Institute for Healthiest MD, both from the Department of Pediatrics, were among the co-authors of the op-ed "Support Science, Not Potato Special Interests" in *The Baltimore Sun* on May 16.

► **Claire Fraser, PhD**, Professor, Departments of Medicine and Microbiology & Immunology, and Director, Institute for Genome Sciences, was interviewed in the June issue of *Scientific American* in the article "How Gut Bacteria Help Make Us Fat and Thin."

► **Elijah Saunders, MD**, was a guest on the Kingdom Culture WPGR (World Power Gospel Radio) show *The Voices of Inspiration, Power & Information* on June 14. The month of June was International Men's Month and Men's Health Month. During the interview they highlighted Dr. Saunders' contribution to the medical field and also discussed minority health concerns, particularly as they relate to men.

► **Luke Tallon**, Scientific Director, Genomics Resource Center, Institute for Genome Sciences, was interviewed in *BioIT World* about the PacBio User's Meeting during the week of June 19.



Elijah Saunders, MD

Spotlight on Science: ACCEL-Med

ACCEL-Med (Accelerating Innovation and Discovery in Medicine) is a crucial component of **Vision 2020 for UM Medicine** and encapsulates the research vision for the School of Medicine.

It's September, the start of a new academic year and a new season, so here are the five things you need to know about ACCEL-Med for your new month:

1. The **Brain Science Research Consortium Unit (BSRCU)** has been very productive. They've selected three areas in which to focus their efforts: studies using high intensity focused ultrasound for neuromodulation; work to understand neuroinflammation; and research on neuropsychiatric disorders. They've set their

inaugural research retreat for Wednesday, October 8th in the SMC Campus Center. And they've issued their first newsletter.

- Registration for the **Second Annual Festival of Science**, which will be held in the HSFII Auditorium on **December 12th**, opens this month. Check your email for the link to the registration page, or visit the SOM Festival of Science 2014 Website to sign up to attend this year's symposium.
- Year two of the **Foundations of Research and Critical Thinking** course has started for the Class of 2017. Already, 157 second-year students have selected mentors for their independent projects and feedback has been very positive.
- Under the direction of the SOM Program in Personalized and Genomic Medicine and the Center for Innovative Biomedical Resources,

the **UM BioBank** will open later this year. The BioBank, funded through a \$1.6 million NIH grant, will store patient samples for use in future research that may lead to new and improved methods of diagnosing, treating and preventing a myriad of diseases and chronic conditions.

Last, but certainly not least,

- The recipients of the **Dean's Challenge Award** will be announced later this month. The reviewers had the unenviable task of narrowing down the 19 submissions to a final 6, and, from this group, the winners were selected. Check your Inbox for a special announcement from Dean Reece soon.

Visit the ACCEL-Med Website for updates and more on this important initiative for the School of Medicine at <http://medschool.umaryland.edu/ACCEL-Med/>.

Research Communications Network

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:
Leslie Fitzpatrick

Anesthesiology: Pamela Earle-Jackson

Biochemistry & Molecular Biology:
Qun Zhou

Dermatology: Betsy Satosky

Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine: Brigitte Pocha

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: Penelope Birkhead

Neurosurgery: Mari Jo Pohlner

Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences: Robin Kissinger

Ophthalmology: Chinneta Pettaway-Willis

Orthopaedics: Dori Kelly

Otorhinolaryngology: Bryan Ambro

Pathology: Rob Christenson

Pediatrics: Denise Hansen

Pharmacology: Stacey Lukasik

Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science: Monica Martinez

Physiology: Ken Fahnstock

Psychiatry: Vee Porter-Brown

Radiation Oncology: Jill Rosenberg

Surgery: Meghan Scalea

Program in Comparative Medicine:
Deborah Sanchez

Program in Genetics & Genomic Medicine: Ruth Cosentino

Program in Minority Health & Health Disparities: Carol Shelton

Program in Neuroscience: Tom McHugh

Program in Oncology: Robert Mitchell

Program in Trauma: Jane Anderson

Center for Health Policy & Health Services Research: TBD

Center for Integrative Medicine:
Rebekah Owens

Center for Mucosal Biology Research (MBRC): Pam King

Center for Research on Aging:
Kara Longo

Center for Shock, Trauma and Anesthesiology Research (STAR-ORC):
Gabriela Felton

Center for Stem Cell Biology & Regenerative Medicine:
Fuliscia Morrison

Center for Vaccine Development:
Carey Martin

Center for Vascular & Inflammatory Diseases: Talia Bailey

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Institute of Human Virology:
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