**Events, Lectures & Workshops**

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

- **Thomas Blanpied, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Physiology, presented a symposium titled, “Molecular Nanopositioning and Alignment Control: Synaptic Function” at the 62nd Annual Meeting of the Biophysical Society, held in San Francisco in February.  
- **Robert Edelman, MD, FACP**, Clinical Professor, Department of Medicine and Pediatrics and Director of the Clinical Research Training and Mentoring Program, University of Maryland Baltimore, conducted Department of Radiation Oncology Grand Rounds on January 23, and Department of Medicine Cardiology Grand Rounds on February 1. The one-hour presentations and discussion were both titled, “Responsibilities of the Principal Investigator: Clinical Research.”
  
- **Cara Felter, PT, DPT, MPH**, Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, co-facilitated a breakout session at the UMB Faculty Interprofessional Education Faculty Development Day with **Isabel Rambob, DDS**, University of Maryland School of Dentistry. The title of the breakout session was, “Cultural Competence for Health and Human Service Professionals.” The sixth annual event was held on January 31 at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy.
  
- Students from the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science’s Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) Class of 2019, along with students from the School of Pharmacy, provided health screens at the Weinberg Housing and Resource Center on January 17. This event was part of an UMB Interprofessional Education Grant received by **Laurie Neely, PT, DPT, NCS**, Assistant Professor, and **Linda Horn, PT, MHS, DScPT, GCS, NCS**, Assistant Professor, both from the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science; and **Cherokee Layson-Wolf, PharmD**, CGP, BCACP, FAPHA, from the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy.
  
- As part of ICE 2, students from the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science’s Doctor of Physical Therapy Class of 2019 also participated in a Rehabilitation Interprofessional Collaboration Lab at Towson University on January 31 with students from Occupational Therapy, Speech and Language Pathology, and Audiology. Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science faculty facilitators included: **Laurie Neely, PT, DPT, NCS**, Assistant Professor; **Rachel Skolky, PT, MSPT, DP**, Instructor; and **Vincent Conroy, PT, DScPT**, Assistant Professor.
  
- **Karen Kotloff, MD**, Professor, Department of Pediatrics and Head of the Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases and Tropical Medicine, was a visiting professor and gave a seminar at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health in the Department of Epidemiology, Center for Communicable Disease Dynamics in Boston on February 22. The seminar was titled “The Epidemiology of Diarrheal Diseases in Low Income Countries.”
  
- **Steven Troppello, MD, MS**, Clinical Instructor, Department of Emergency Medicine, presented “Coaptive Ultrasound: A Novel Procedural Technique Applicable in Acute Care Settings” at the Society for Critical Care Medicine Annual Congress in San Antonio, February 25-28.
  
**Grants & Contracts**

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

- **Alan Cross, MD**, Professor, Department of Medicine and **Robert Ernst, PhD**, Professor, University of Maryland School of Dentistry, received a two-year, $424,875 grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, NIH, for their project “Novel Vaccine for Multidrug-Resistant Gram-negative Bacterial Infections.”
  
- **Vincent Njar, PhD**, Professor of Medicinal Chemistry & Pharmacology, Department of Pharmacology, Head, Medicinal Chemistry Section, Center for Biomolecular Therapeutics (CBIT), was awarded a five-year, $2,242,090 R01 grant from the National Cancer Institute for “Development of Next Generation Galectone Analogues for Prostate Cancer Therapy.” Co-Investigators are **Nicholas Ambulos, PhD**, Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, Director, Center for Innovative Biomedical Resources; **Yiji Zhang, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health; and **Maureen Kane, PhD**, Associate Professor, Executive Director, Mass Spectrometry Center, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Maryland School of Pharmacy.
  
- **Toni Pollin, MS, PhD, CGC**, Associate Professor and **Linda Jens, MD, PhD**, Associate Professor, both from the Department of Medicine, received a three-year, $277,537 grant from the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health & Human Development (NICHD) for “Genomic Clinical Variant Expert Curation Panel for Monogenic Diabetes: A Gateway to Precision Medicine in Diabetes Mellitus.”
  
- **Zeljko Vujaskovic, MD, PhD**, Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, and Director, Division of Translational Radiation Sciences, received $59,000 in funding from E. Elson for “Elucidation of the Anti-Tumor Effect of Magnetic Pulse Stimulation in a Syngeneic Mouse Model of Pancreatic Cancer.”
Hats off to those who have been published!

Bridget Armstrong, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow and Maureen Black, PhD, the John A. Scholl, MD and Mary Louise Scholl, MD Professor, Department of Pediatrics, were co-authors on “Linking Biology to the Environment: Novel Methods for Understanding Pediatric Obesity” in the *Journal of Pediatric Psychology*, 2018 Jan 19.

Philip Balzano, Al Cunningham, and Christen Grassel, Research Specialist, all from the Center for Vaccine Development, and Eileen Barry, PhD, Professor, Department of Medicine, authored “Deletion of the MFS Transporter fptB Alters Host Cell Interactions and Attenuates the Virulence of Type A *Francisella tularensis*” in *Infection and Immunology*, 2018 Jan 8.

Brian Berman, MD, Professor, Department of Family and Community Medicine and Director of the Center for Integrative Medicine, was among the co-authors on “Advanced Metrics for Assessing Holistic Care: The ‘Epidaurus 2’ Project” in *Global Advances in Health and Medicine*, 2018 Feb.

Kavita Bhalla, PhD, Assistant Professor, and Ronald Gartenuhaus, MD, Professor, both from the Department of Medicine, were co-authors on “Role of Hypoxia in Diffuse Large B-cell Lymphoma: Metabolic Repression and Selective Translation of HK2 Facilitates Development of DLBCL” in *Scientific Reports*, 2018 Jan 15.

Maureen Black, PhD, the John A. Scholl, MD and Mary Louise Scholl, MD Professor, Department of Pediatrics, and Elizabeth Parker, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Integrative Medicine, were co-authors on “Diet Quality Measures in Association with Chronic Disease Risk Among Low-Income, African American Urban Youth in Baltimore, Maryland” in the *Journal of the American College of Nutrition*, 2018 Jan 9.

Sarah Boudova, PhD, Fourth-Year Medical Student, authored “Risk-based Hepatitis C Screening in Pregnancy is Less Reliable Than Universal Screening: A Retrospective Chart Review” in *Open Forum Infectious Diseases*, 2018 Feb 17.

Qi Cao, BM, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, was among the co-authors on “Prenatal Exposure to Diesel Exhaust PM2.5 Causes Offspring β Cell Dysfunction in Adulthood” in the *American Journal of Physiology-Endocrinology and Metabolism*, 2017 Dec 26. Additionally Dr. Cao, along with Xu Xu, PhD, Associate Professor, and Michael Morris, MD, PGY 5, also from the Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, were among the co-authors on “Decreased Tauine and Creatine in the Thalamus May Relate to Behavioral Impairments in Ethanol-Fed Mice: A Pilot Study of Proton Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy” in *Molecular Imaging*, 2018 Jan.

Wilbur Chen, MD, MS, Associate Professor, and Justin Ortiz, MD, Associate Professor, both from the Department of Medicine, were among the co-authors on “Report on WHO Meeting on Immunization in Older Adults: Geneva, Switzerland, 22–23 March 2017” in *Vaccine*, 2018 Jan 11.

Arpit Chhabra, MD, Visiting Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was among the authors on “In Reply to Royce” in the *International Journal of Radiation Oncology Biology Physics*, 2018 Feb 1.

Lauren Cehee, MD, Instructor, and Miriam Laufner, MD, Associate Professor, both from the Department of Pediatrics, were among the co-authors on “Pilot Study of the Addition of Mass Treatment for Malaria to Existing School-Based Programs to Treat Neglected Tropical Diseases” in *American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*, 2018 Jan.

Emily Draeger, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow, Haijian Chen, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow, and Jerimy Polf, PhD, Associate Professor, all from the Department of Radiation Oncology, were among the authors on “3D Prompt Gamma Imaging for Proton Beam Range Verification” in *Physics in Medicine and Biology*, 2018 Jan 30.

David Dreizin, MD, Assistant Professor, and Uttam Bodanapally, MBBS, Assistant Professor, both from the Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, were among the co-authors on “Multidetector CT of Midfacial Fractures: Classification Systems, Principles of Reduction, and Common Complications” in *Radiographics*, 2018 Jan–Feb.

Nicole Cimino-Fiallos, MD, Emergency Medicine Resident (2017 graduate), and Wan-Tsu Chang, MD, Assistant Professor, Laura Bonstempo, MD, Med, Assistant Professor, from the Department of Emergency Medicine, were co-authors on “54-Year-Old Female with a Syncopeal Episode” in *Clinical Practice and Cases in Emergency Medicine*, 2018 Feb.

Aloke Finn, MD, Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, was the senior author on “CD163+ Macrophages Promote Angiogenesis and Vascular Permeability Accompanied by Inflammation in Atherosclerosis” in the *Journal of Clinical Investigation*, 2018 Feb 19.

Anuj Gupta, MD, FACC, FSCAI, Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, and Renu Virmani, MD, Adjunct Professor, Department of Pathology, were co-authors on “Decreased Taurine Reduction, and Common Complications” in *Frontiers in Immunology*, 2018 Feb 1.

The February issue of *Cardiology Clinics*, titled “Emergency Cardiology: From ED to CCU,” was guest edited by Amal Mattu, MD, Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, and the following articles were written by faculty members:
• Cardiogenic Shock”—Sema Tewele, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, Stanley Liu, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Internal Medicine, and Michael Winters, MD, Associate Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine

• “Acute Valvular Heart Disease”—Varun Maheshwari, MD, Cardiology Fellow, Department of Medicine, Brian Barr, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine and Mukta Srivastava, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine

• “Cardiovascular Emergencies in Pregnancy”—Tala Al-Talib, MD, Clinical Instructor, Department of Medicine, Stanley Liu, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Internal Medicine, and Mukta Srivastava, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine

• “Blunt Cardiac Trauma Review”—Maite Huis in ’t Veld, MD, Instructor, Department of Emergency Medicine, Colin Craft, MD, Cardiology Fellow, Department of Medicine, and Robert Hood, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine.

• Dr. Mattu also co-authored “Evolving Electrocardiographic Indications for Emergent Reperfusion” in this issue.

• Vincent Njar, PhD, Professor of Medicinal Chemistry & Pharmacology, Department of Pharmacology, Head, Medicinal Chemistry Section, Center for Biomolecular Therapeutics (CBT), and his lab personnel: Vidya Ramamurthy, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow, and Senthilmurugan Ramalingam, PhD, Research Associate, were among the co-authors on “The Retinamide VNLG-152 Inhibits IAR/AR-V7 and MNK-eIF4E Signaling Pathways to Suppress EMT and Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer Xenograft Growth” in the FEBS Journal, 2018 Jan 11.

• Thomas Ptak, MD, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, was among the co-authors of “Similarity of Chest X-ray and Thermal Imaging of Focal Pneumonia: a Randomised Proof of Concept Study at a Large Urban Teaching Hospital” in BMJ Open, 2018 Jan 5.

• Jacques Ravel, PhD, Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, and Associate Director, Institute for Genome Sciences, co-authored four publications: “Associations Between Sexual Habits, Menstrual Hygiene Practices, Demographics and the Vaginal Microbiome as Revealed by Bayesian Network Analysis” in Front Cell Dev Biol, 2018 Jan 24; “Postmenopausal Breast Cancer and Oestrogen Associations with the IgA-coated and IgA-noncoated Fecal Microbiota” in Breast Cancer Research, 2018 Jan 23; “Vaginal Microbiota Composition and Association with Prevalent Chlamydia trachomatis Infection: A Cross-Sectional Study of Young Women Attending a STI Clinic in France” in Sexually Transmitted Infections, 2018 Jan 22; and “The Implausible ‘in vivo’ role of Hydrogen Peroxide as an Antimicrobial Factor Produced by Vaginal Microbiota,” in Microbiome, 2018 Feb 6.

• David Serre, PhD, Associate Professor, and Matthew Cannon, PhD, Research Associate, both from the Department of Microbiology and Immunology and Institute for Genome Sciences, co-authored “Genomic Analyses Reveal the Common Occurrence and Complexity of Plasmodium vinckei Reclipses in Cambodia” in MBio, 2018 Jan 23.

• Nubia Seyoum, MD, Cardiology Fellow, Semhar Tewele, MD, Assistant Professor, and Zachary Desman, MD, MS, Assistant Professor, all from the Department of Emergency Medicine, were among the co-authors on “Male with Severe Hypertension and Dyspnea” in the Visual Diagnosis in Emergency Medicine column in the Journal of Emergency Medicine, 2018 Jan.

• Minhaj Siddiqui, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery, and So Conan, BSc, Third-Year Medical Student, co-authored “Urothelial Carcinoma” in the New England Journal of Medicine, 2018 Feb 1.

• Charles Simone, II, MD, Associate Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was the senior author on “Trends in Cardiac Mortality in Patients with Locally Advanced Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancer” in the International Journal of Radiation Oncology Biology Physics, 2018 Feb. Dr. Simone was also among the co-authors on “Treatment Approaches for Nasopharyngeal Adenoid Cystic Carcinoma” in Head & Neck, 2018 Jan 11. In addition, Dr. Simone was also among the co-authors on “Effect of Prophylactic Cranial Irradiation on Overall Survival in Metastatic Small-Cell Lung Cancer: A Propensity Score-Matched Analysis” in Clinical Lung Cancer, 2017 Dec 14. Separately, Dr. Simone was the senior author on “Palliative and Stereotactic Radiation Therapy, Patient-Centered Care, Genetic Biomarkers, and Pain” in the supplement to Annals of Palliative Medicine, 2018 Dec. He was among the authors of “Society for Palliative Radiation Oncology: Report from the Fourth Annual Meeting (2017),” also in the December supplement to Annals of Palliative Medicine. Dr. Simone was also among the co-authors of “Chemoradiotherapy Versus Chemotherapy Alone for Unresected Nonmetastatic Gallbladder Cancer: National Practice Patterns and Outcomes” in the Journal of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network, 2018 Jan. In addition, he was among the authors of “ASTRO Evidence-Based Guideline Committee for Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy (SBRT) for Early-Stage Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer. The Value of Collaboration Between Thoracic Surgeons and Radiation Oncologists While Awaiting Evidence in Operable Stage I Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer” in the Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery, 2018 Jan.

• Samba Sow, MD, MS, Adjunct Professor, Department of Medicine and Director General, Center for Vaccine Development in Mali; Karen Kotloff, MD, Professor, Department of Pediatrics and Head, Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases and Tropical Medicine; Myron Levine, MD, DTIHP, the Simon and Besie Großmann Distinguished Professor of Medicine and Associate Dean for Global Health, Vaccinology and Infectious Diseases; and O. Colin Stine, PhD, Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, were among the co-authors on “Direct Detection of Shigella in Stool Specimens by Use of a Metagenomic Approach” in the Journal of Clinical Microbiology, 2018 Jan 24.

• Milagritos Tapia, MD, Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics, was among the co-authors on “Small for Gestational Age: Case Definition & Guidelines for Data Collection, Analysis, and Presentation of Maternal Immunization Safety Data” in Vaccine, 2017 Dec 4. Separately, Dr. Tapia was among the co-authors on “Improving Rotavirus Vaccine Coverage: Can Newer-Generation and Locally Produced Vaccines Help?” in Human Vaccines and Immunotherapeutics, 2017 Dec 21. In addition, Dr. Tapia was among the co-authors of “Mammary Inflammation Immunization and Prevention of Severe Clinical Pneumonia in Young Infants: Analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials Conducted in Nepal, Mali, and South Africa” in The Pediatric Infection Disease Journal, 2018 Feb 13.

• Alexander Tai, PhD, from the Graduate Program in Molecular Medicine, Melissa Vythuis, MD, PhD, Resident, Martha Francis, NP, and William Regine, MD, the Isadore & Fannie Schneider Foxman Chair, all from the Department of Radiation Oncology; and Fikru Merechi, MD, Resident, and Allen Burke, MD, Clinical Professor, both from the Department of Pathology, were among the authors on “Radiation-induced Undifferentiated Pleomorphic Sarcoma of the Heart: A Case Report” in Practical Radiation Oncology, 2017 Nov 4.

• Rezwunwal Wahid, MBBS, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Marcelo Sztein, MD, Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Franklin Toapanta Yanchapaxi, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, were among the co-authors on “A Clinically Parameterized Mathematical Model of Shigellosis Immunity to Inform Vaccine Design” in Plos One, 2018 Jan 5.

• Charles White, MD, Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, was among the co-authors on “JOURNCL: Computer-Aided Detection of Lung Nodules on CT with a Computerized Pulmonary Vessel Suppressed Function” in American Journal of Roentgenology, 2018 Jan 16. Dr. White was also one of the authors on “Differences in the CT Findings between Vulnerable Plaque and Culprit Lesion in the Acute Coronary Syndrome” in Journal of Cardiovascular Computed Tomography, 2018 Jan 5.

• Claudia Witt, MD, MBA, Professor, Department of Family & Community Medicine, was among the co-authors on “Effectiveness of an Ayurveda Treatment Approach in Knee Osteoarthritis—A Randomized Controlled Trial” in Osteoarthritis and Cartilage, 2018 Feb 7.
New Faculty

We welcome our new faculty!

Thomas Patak, MD, PhD, MPH, joined the Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine as an Associate Professor in the trauma section. He is also the Vice Chair of Community Affairs for the department. Dr. Patak holds a PhD in nuclear and radiochemistry from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, a Medical degree from Albany Medical College of Union University, and a Master of Public Health degree from Harvard School of Public Health. Prior to joining the department, Dr. Patak was an Assistant Professor, Department of Radiology and Imaging Sciences, at Emory University School of Medicine.

Honors & Awards

Congratulations to the following who have received honors!

Gadi Alon, PT, PhD, Professor Emeritus, Roy Film, PT, MPT, DPT, OCS, FAAMPT, Assistant Professor; and Vicki Gray, MPT, PhD, Research Associate; all from the Division of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science have each been selected as an “Elite Reviewer” for the Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation for 2017. This selection as one of the top reviewers by the editors reflects the number, timeliness, and quality of reviews completed for the Archives in 2017 as well as critical thinking and effective participation in the process of peer review. The designation as an Elite Reviewer recognizes “individuals whose contributions to the Archives have been of extraordinary magnitude and quality.”

Appointments

We applaud our colleagues on their recent appointments!

Delia Chiararamonte, MD, Assistant Professor, Departments of Family & Community Medicine and Epidemiology & Public Health, Associate Director and Director of Education, Center for Integrative Medicine, and Chris D’Adamo, PhD, Assistant Professor, Departments of Family & Community Medicine and Epidemiology & Public Health, Director of Research, Center for Integrative Medicine, have been selected to serve on the editorial board of Global Advances in Health and Medicine, a peer-reviewed, open-access journal.

Kevin J. Cullen, MD, Professor, Director, Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center, Department of Medicine, has been named 2018 Chair of the Board. He will serve as chair from January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018.

Vasken Dilsizian, MD, Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, was selected to serve as a member of the Board of Scientific Counselors of the Clinical Center of the National Institutes of Health. The Board consists of a set of permanent members who serve for four-year terms (2018-2022), and their mission is to review the scientific output of Clinical Center investigators, assess progress, and make important recommendations for appropriate resources, personnel, and space.

Kevin Pereira, MBBS, MS, Professor, Department of Otorhinolaryngology–Head & Neck Surgery and Director of Pediatric Otolaryngology, was appointed Adjunct Professor of Otolarhynolaryngology–Head & Neck Surgery at the Kasturba Medical College, Manipal University, India. The appointment will involve an academic partnership in teaching, clinical research and faculty mentorship in the Department of Otorhynolaryngology–Head and Neck Surgery.

Gad Alon, PT, PhD

Delia Chiararamonte, MD

Roy Film, PT, MPT, DPT, OCS, FAAMPT

Vicki Gray, MPT, PhD

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 here) that you would like to see in the Buzz to the appropriate person within your department, program, center or office.

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Attention all SOM Medical, Allied Health and Graduate Students! Buzz Information Link for Students

A hyperlink is available on the School of Medicine Website for you to submit information to the Buzz to acknowledge honors, prizes, presentations, leadership positions and other noteworthy accomplishments. Go to:

http://medicalschool.umaryland.edu/Public_Affairs/buzz.asp