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

- Christine Barnabic, MS, Education Program Management Specialist, Center for Integrative Medicine, was featured in The Daily Record on March 25, with a “Tech Tip” about utilizing Google’s platforms and tools.

- Brian Browne, MD, Professor and Chair, Department of Emergency Medicine, presented testimony to the US Sentencing Commission in December. Dr. Browne was one of several experts invited to testify during a hearing on fentanyl, fentanyl analogs, and synthetic cannabinoids. Dr. Browne described a growing trend of fentanyl in the illicit drug trade; the addition of fentanyl to heroin packing by “street pharmacists”, and its impact on ambulances and emergency departments as they respond to overdoses. Zachary Dezman, MD, MS, Assistant Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, assisted Dr. Browne with the preparation of his testimony and attended the hearing.

- Vincent Conroy, PT, DScPT, Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, Jon Hermansen, Katlin Bieele, and Aanchal Domalapally (DPT students), were invited to represent the Physical Therapy program at the UMB Interprofessional Professional Fair on March 10. This fair provided an opportunity to meet an interprofessional team of students and professionals.

- Dr. Conroy and Li-Qun Zhang, PhD, Professor, also from the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, hosted 26 students from Baltimore City middle and high school students from Baltimore City.

- Separately, Dr. Conroy and Li-Qun Zhang, PhD, Professor, also from the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, presented “Medical Event Reporting and Impact Committee on the Medical Uses of Isotopes of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission” at the American Physical Therapy Association 67th Annual Scientific Sessions, which was held in Orlando on March 12.

- Roy Film, PT, MPT, DPT, OCS, FAAMPT, Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, presented “Chasing the Dragon: Preventing Pain from Becoming Chronic in the Age of Opioids” at the American Physical Therapy Association of Maryland’s Mini Combined Sections Meeting & Spring Chapter Meeting, which was held at Howard Community College on March 24. Separately, Dr. Film presented at the University of Maryland Rehabilitation Network Annual Conference at the Sheppard-Pratt Conference Center on March 24. Dr. Film’s presentations included “Evidence Based Manual Therapy Techniques for the Lower Extremity” and “State of Crisis: How You Can Make a Difference in Maryland’s Opioid Epidemic.” Victoria Marchese, PT, PhD, Associate Professor, also from the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, presented “Gait and Exercise Participation Consideration for the Pediatric and Adult Cancer Survivor.”

- Jon Mark Hirshon, MD, MPH, PhD, Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, and a member of the Board of Directors of the American College of Emergency Physicians, participated in a roundtable discussion held by the Health Subcommittee of the Ways and Means Committee of the US House of Representatives on March 22. The purpose of the discussion was to present strategies for alleviating Medicare red tape burdens for patients and health care providers.

- Brian Johnson, OTR/L, PhD Candidate and Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, participated in the American College of Sports Medicine’s (ACSM) Capitol Hill Day in Washington, DC, on March 7. While there, members of the ACSM and celebrity athletes met with policy makers to advocate for new health care legislation.

- Dean Mann, MD, Professor, Department of Pathology, participated in discussions at the South Tyrol Museum of Archeology in Italy. The topics included Dr. Mann’s HLA typing studies of the Tyrolean Ice Man.

- Victoria Marchese, PT, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, presented “In-Active Lifestyle in Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia Childhood Cancer Survivors: Interventions to Improve Balance, Coordination, and Physical Activity” at the Johns Hopkins University’s Center for Dynamic Health, “Exercise As Medicine” symposium on April 13.

- Laurie Neely, PT, DPT, NCS, Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, along with Michelle Gorman, PT, DPT, OCS, Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Therapy, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, taught a CEU on Medical Licensee Patient Safety Culture,” to the Commission Briefing panel members of the NRC on March 12 in Rockville, MD. Separately, Dr. Dilsizian, delivered a presentation titled “Diagnosis of Prosthetic Valve Endocarditis and Device Infections,” at the American College of Cardiology 67th Annual Scientific Sessions, which was held in Orlando on March 12.

- Vasken Dilsizian, MD, Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, member of the Advisory Committee on the Medical Uses of Isotopes of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), presented “Medical Event Reporting and Impact UMB Wellness Fair
Events, Lectures & Workshops continued

course titled “Mentoring Collaborative Healthcare Providers for the Future” at the Sentara Healthcare System” on March 28. Over 75 therapists attended.

David Rasko, PhD, Professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, Institute for Genome Sciences, shared his research on comparative bacterial genomics on the American Society for Microbiology (ASM) podcast “Meet the Microbiologist” on March 28.

Rachel Resoli, PT, DPT, NCS, PhD Student, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation, presented her poster “How Do You Rehabilitate Balance When Vision, Sensation, and Vestibular Systems Are Impaired: A Case Study” at the American Physical Therapy Association Combined Sections Meeting, that was held in New Orleans, February 21–24. Ms. Resoli, was also recognized at the Meeting for receiving her Neurologic Specialty Certification.

Terez Shea-Donohue, PhD, Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, presented “The Alternative Life of Macrophages” on March 12 to the Division of Biomedical Sciences at the University of California, Riverside.

On February 14, students from the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, along with several faculty members, participated in the American Physical Therapy Association of Maryland’s Advocacy Day in Annapolis.

The University of Maryland, Baltimore’s Graduate Student Association (GSA) sponsored their 40th Annual Graduate Research Conference (GRC) on March 15. The event provides students and postdoctoral fellows opportunities to present their research to the campus community. Among the presenters were many faculty and students from the Department of Physical Therapy And Rehabilitation Science, including:

Mark Rogers, PT, PhD, FAPTA, George H. Hepburn Distinguished Professor and Chair; Brian Johnson, OTR/L, PhD Candidate, Graduate Research Assistant; Kelly Westlake, PhD, MSC, PT, Assistant Professor; Wan-Wen Liao, PhD Candidate; Jill Whitall, PhD, Professor; Joseph Barton, PhD, PE, Assistant Professor; Sandy McCombe Waller, PT, PhD, MS, NCS, Associate Professor; Ornell Sanders, PhD Candidate; Hao Yuan Hsiao, Postdoctoral Fellow; Douglas Savin, PT, PhD, Assistant Professor; and Robert Creath, PhD, Assistant Professor.

Hats off to those who have been published!


Lyndsay O’Hara, MPH, Research Fellow, and Kerri Thom, MD, Associate Professor, both from the Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, were among the co-authors on “Update to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee Guideline for the Prevention of Surgical Site Infection (2017): A Summary, Review, and Strategies for Implementation” in the American Journal of Infection Control, 2018 Mar 7.

David Marozzi, MD, MHS-CL, FACEP, Associate Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, was the lead author on “Trends in the Contribution of Emergency Departments to the Provision of Hospital-Associated Health Care in the USA” in the International Journal of Health Services, 2018 Apr. Nicole Baechi, Emergency Medicine Healthcare Program Analyst, and Brian Browne, MD, Professor and Chair, also from Department of Emergency Medicine, were co-authors.

Micheal Mazzefi, MD, Associate Professor, Department of Anesthesiology, and Magali Fontaine, MD, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Pathology, were among the authors on “Intraoperative Red Blood Cell Transfusion, Delayed Graft Function, and Infection After Kidney Transplant: An Observational Cohort Study” in the Journal of Anesthesia, 2018 Mar 20. Drs. Mazzefi and Fontaine were also among the authors on “Five-Year Trends in Perioperative Red Blood Cell Transfusion From Index Cases in Five Surgical Specialties: 2011 to 2015” in Transfusion, 2018 Mar 14. Separately, Dr. Fontaine was among the authors on “Silk Biomaterial Improves Ileal Cell Function and Modulates Cell Surface Glut2 Expression” in Cellular Immunology, 2018 Apr.
Mark Mishra, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was among the authors on “Targeting Tumor Metabolism with Statins During Treatment for Advanced-Stage Prostate Cancer” in the American Journal of Clinical Oncology, 2018 March 5. Dr. Mishra was also among the authors on “Online Advertising and Marketing Claims by Providers of Proton Beam Therapy: Are They Guideline-Based?” in Radiation Oncology, 2018 Mar 15.

Emmanuel Mongodin, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, and Institute for Genome Sciences, and Claire Fraser, PhD, the Dean’s Endowed Professor and Director, Institute for Genome Sciences, were among the co-authors on “Primordial Origin and Diversification of Plasmids in Lyme Disease Agent Bacteria” in BMC Genomics, 2018 Mar 27. Separately, Dr. Mongodin was among the co-authors on “Plasticity in Early Immune Evasion Strategies of a Bacterial Pathogen” in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 2018 Apr 2. In addition, Dr. Mongodin was among the co-authors on “Advances in Serodiagnostic Testing for Lyme Disease Are at Hand” in Clinical Infectious Diseases, 2018 Mar 19.

Amit Sawant, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was the first author on “Treatment Planning Based on Lung Functional Avoidance is Not Ready for Clinical Deployment” in Medical Physics, 2018 Mar 23.

Mohammad Siddiqui, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery, was among the co-authors on “A Magnetic Resonance Imaging-Based Prediction Model for Prostate Biopsy Risk Stratification” in JAMA Oncology, 2018 Feb 22.

Charles Simone, II, MD, Associate Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was the senior author on “Practice Patterns and Outcomes of Chemoradiotherapy Versus Radiotherapy Alone for Older Patients with Nasopharyngeal Cancer” in Cancer Medicine, 2018 Mar 30. Dr. Simone was also the senior author of “Histology Significantly Affects Recurrence and Survival Following SBRT for Early Stage Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer,” in Lung Cancer, 2018 Apr. In addition, Dr. Simone was among the authors on “Patterns of Care for Stage IA Cervical Cancer: Use of Definitive Radiation Therapy Versus Hysterectomy” in the International Journal of Gynecological Cancer, 2018 Mar 20; and “Photons, Protons or Carbon Ions for Stage I Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer: Results of the Multicentric ROCOCO in Silico Study” in Radiotherapy and Oncology, 2018 Mar 12. Separately, Dr. Simone was among the authors on “Pilot Study for Supervised Target Detection Applied to Spatially Registered Multiparametric MRI in Order to Non-Invasively Score Prostate Cancer” in Computers in Biology and Medicine, 2018 Mar 1; and “Analysis of the Relationship Between Response to Chemotherapy and Response to Radiation Therapy in Patients With Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer Receiving Sequential Treatment” in the American Journal of Clinical Oncology, 2018 Apr.

O. Colin Stine, PhD, Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, was a co-author on “Meta-Analysis of the Lung Microbiota in Pulmonary Tuberculosis” in Tuberculosis (Edinb), 2018 Mar 1.

Mohan Suntharalingam, MD, the Marlene & Stewart Greenebaum Professorship in Radiation Oncology, and President and CEO of the University of Maryland Medical Center, was the first author on “Questions About a Clinical Trial Evaluating the Addition of Ceruximab to Definitive Chemoradiation Therapy with Paclitaxel and Cisplatin for Patients With Esophageal Cancer—Reply” in JAMA Oncology, 2018 Mar 29. Separately, Dr. Suntharalingam, was among the co-authors on “Utility of the ACE Inhibitor Captopril in Mitigating Radiation-Associated Pulmonary Toxicity in Lung Cancer: Results from RTOG Oncology RTOG 0123” in the American Journal of Clinical Oncology, 2018 Apr.

Hervé Tettelin, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, James Munro, PhD, Bioinformatician Analyst, and Adonis D’Mello, a graduate student in molecular medicine, all from the Institute for Genome Sciences, were among the co-authors on “Haemophilus Influenzae Genome Evolution During Persistence in the Human Airways in Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease” in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 2018 Apr 3.

Zeljko Vujaskovic, MD, PhD, Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was among the authors on “Post-irradiation Treatment With a Superoxide Dismutase Mimic, Mtnhnea-2-Ppy5+, Mitigates Radiation Injury in the Lungs of Non-Human Primates After Whole-Thorax Exposure to Ionizing Radiation” in Antioxidants, 2018 Mar.

Amelia Wnorowski, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, was the first author on “Outcome of Liver Lesions Indeterminate for Malignancy on Ultrasound: the Role of Patient Age, Risk Status, and Lesion Echogenicity” in Abdominal Radiology, 2018 Mar 28.

Vincent Njar, PhD, Professor, and Puranik Purushottamachar, PhD, Research Associate, both from the Department of Pharmacology, were among the co-inventors for Australian patent #2014247941 “Androgen Receptor Down-Regulating Agents and Uses Thereof,” effective February 6.

Todd Crocco, MD, joined the Department of Emergency Medicine, as a Professor and will serve as its Director for Pre-Hospital Care and Telemedicine. In his previous position, he was Chief Business Development Officer at West Virginia University Health Sciences Center and Medical Director of WVU’s Clinical and Pharmacologic Research Center. Dr. Crocco received his medical degree from the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and completed the emergency medicine residency and an emergency medical services fellowship at the University of Cincinnati/University Hospital.
Congratulations to our very productive faculty on their recent grants and contracts!

- Erik de Leeuw, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, was awarded $103,000 from the Center for Maryland Advanced Ventures (CMAV) Life Sciences Fund for his work on the development of Small Molecule Lipid II Inhibitors.
- Magali Fontaine, MD, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Pathology, received a voucher support for “The Role of Platelets in the Pathophysiology of Allergic Transfusion Reactions” from the University of Maryland, Baltimore Institute for Clinical & Translational Research (ICTR) Voucher Program.
- Denise Orwig, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, received a two-year, $10,000 contract from Pluristem, LLC for “Validation of the Short Physical Performance Battery (SPPB).”

HONORS & AWARDS

Congratulations to the following who have received honors!

- Ana Lia Graciano, MD, FAAP, FCCM, Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics, was awarded the Society of Critical Care Medicine (SCCM) Presidential Citation award. This award honors SCCM members who have made outstanding contributions to critical care and to the mission of the Society of Critical Care Medicine.
- In Hamon, MD, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry, won the American Psychiatric Association’s Carol Davis ethics award for a book she co-authored titled Commited: The Battle over Involuntary Psychiatric Care. The book describes the experience of forced care and addresses many topics relevant to mental illness and gun violence. The award was presented at the American Psychiatric Association’s annual meeting in New York, May 5-9.
- Linda Horn, PT, DScPT, MHS, GCS, NCS, Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, is a recipient of the Lucy Blair Service Award. This award honors physical therapy therapists or physical therapist life members whose contributions to the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) are of exceptional quality. Dr. Horn will be recognized at an awards ceremony during the APTA’s annual conference in June.
- Brian Johnson, OTR/L, PhD Candidate and Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, is the recipient of the Lucy Blair Service Award. This award honors physical therapy therapists or physical therapist life members whose contributions to the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) are of exceptional quality. Dr. Horn will be recognized at an awards ceremony during the APTA’s annual conference in June.
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- Osamah Saedi, MD, Associate Professor, Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Science, was awarded the Heidelburg Engineering 2018 Xueme Research Award for his work on the visualization of ocular blood flow.

Research Communications Network

Many thanks to the following who serve as your liaison within your department, program, center, or office.

If you would like to acknowledge an award, presentation, publication, or other noteworthy accomplishments, please send the information to this liaison within your department, program, center, or office.

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