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

- **Gadi Alon**, PT, PhD, Associate Professor Emeritus, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, attended the 22nd Annual Conference of the International Functional Electrical Stimulation Society (IFESS), August 28–31, where he presented a workshop titled “FES in Pediatrics.”

- **Tracy Bale**, PhD, Professor, Department of Pharmacology and Director, Center for Epigenetic Research in Child Health and Brain Development, was a plenary speaker at the 22nd Biennial Meeting of the International Society for Developmental Neuroscience, held in Nara, Japan, May 22–25. Dr. Bale’s talk was titled “Parental Stress and Epigenetic Programming of Offspring Neurodevelopment.” In addition, Dr. Bale presented a lecture titled “Novel Role of Epithelial Extracellular Vesicles in Signaling Paternal Stress” at the 2018 Gordon Research Conference on Mammalian Reproduction, held in Bartaga, Italy in August.

- **James Borrelli**, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, presented the poster: “Permutation-Evoked Lateral Steps in Older Adults: Why Take Two Steps When One Will Do?” at the American Society of Bioengineering (ASB) Conference in Rochester, MN, August 8–12. Mary Rodgers, PT, PhD, FAPTA, FASB, FISB, Professor Emeritus, also from the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science and an ASB Fellow, presented at the women in science session, and co-authored the poster: “Mechanical Disabilities Proposed on the Shoulder During Propulsion in the Community” at the ASB Conference.

- **Natalie Davis**, MD, MMSc, Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, was an invited speaker at the annual “Kid-in-Motion” National Child Passenger Safety Conference held in Boulder, CO, on August 29, where she ran a workshop related to her research on child passenger safety in the hospital setting.

- **Vasken Dilsizian**, MD, Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, was the internal medicine grand rounds speaker at Medstar Harbor Hospital in Baltimore, where he presented “Everything You Need to Know: Myocardial Viability, Sarcoïdosis, Inflammation, Infection Imaging” on August 10. In addition, Dr. Dilsizian, delivered an oral presentation entitled “PET Applications in Cardiac Implantable Device Infections and for Guiding Arhythmia Management,” and chaired the plenary session entitled “Frontiers in the Application of Nuclear Techniques,” at the American Society of Nuclear Cardiology Annual Scientific Sessions, which was held in San Francisco, CA, on September 9.

- **Reha Erzurumlu**, PhD, Professor, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, gave a talk on “Somaticsensive Circuit Alterations in Neurodevelopmental Disorders,” at an international symposium in honor of Professor Patricia Gaspar at the Hôpital Universitaire Pitié-Salpêtrière in Paris, on October 19.

- **Robert Gallo**, MD, the Homer & Martha Gudelsky Distinguished Professor in Medicine, Director, Institute of Human Virology, presented the keynote lecture entitled “HIV Today and Beyond: Perspectives from the Past and Prospects for the Future,” at the 2018 National Conference on HIV/AIDS hosted by the Chinese Association of STD/AIDS Prevention and Control (CASAPC). The meeting was held in Kunming, China, September 27–29.

- **Brian Mathur**, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmacology, presented as a Plenary Session speaker at the Annual Meeting for the Brazilian Society for Neurosciences in Behavior in Santos, Brazil in August. The title of his talk was “Cracking Crick’s Claustrum: Elucidating the Role of the Brain’s Mystery Nucleus.”

- **Andrea Meredith**, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Physiology, led the ‘Power Hour’ at the Ion Channels Gordon Research Conference (GRC) at Mt. Holyoke College, South Hadley, MA, on July 9. The GRC introduced the Power Hour at its conferences to give all attendees the opportunity to discuss challenges women face in science and to support the professional growth of women by providing an open forum for discussion and mentoring.

- **Braxton Mitchell**, PhD, MPH, Professor, and Jeffrey O’Connell, DPhil, Associate Professor, both from the Department of Medicine, are hosting the Cohorts for Heart and Aging Research in Genomic Epidemiology (CHARGE) Investigator meeting in Baltimore, October 11–12.

- **Kathleen Morrison**, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Pharmacology, presented a lecture at the 12th Annual meeting of the Organization for the Study of Sex Differences, held in Atlanta, GA, in May. The topic of the talk was “Pubertal Stress Reprograms the Paraventricular Nucleus and HPA Axis Responsiveness in a Sex-specific Manner.”

- **Mark Rogers**, PT, PhD, FAPTA, the George R. Hephburn Dynasplint Professor, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, gave an invited presentation at the Progress in Clinical Motor Control: Neurorehabilitation Conference, which was held at Penn State University, July 23–25. His presentation was titled, “Posture-Locomotion and Clinical Motor Disorders Started Off Balance: A Physiological Conflict in Aging.”

- **Andrea Meredith**, PhD, Professor, Department of Pharmacology, presented as a Plenary Session speaker at The National, which is the Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Podiatric Medical Association, held in National Harbor, Maryland in July. The titles of his presentations were “Lisfranc Fracture Dislocation, A Practical Approach to the Management of Charcot Deformity” and “The Rigid Pes Planus.” Separately, Dr. Wynes, presented “Mini-Open Ankle Arthrodesis” and “Rheumatoid Foot and Pain Metatarsal Head Excision” at the Texas Podiatric Medical Association Annual Conference in Galveston, Texas, in June.
Selwan Abdullah, MD. Fourth-year Resident and Jane Kim, MD. Assistant Professor, both from the Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, were among the co-authors of “Is the Scout Out? The Utility of Scout Radiographs in the Pediatric Upper Gastrointestinal Exam,” published in the Journal of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition on August 1, 2018.

Nabeel Akhter, MBBS, Assistant Professor, and Vahid Erezadi, MD, Assistant Professor, both from the Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, were among the co-authors of “Correlation of Radiation Dose and Activity with Clinical Outcomes in Metastatic Colorectal Cancer After Selective Internal Radiation Therapy Using Yttrium-90 Resin Microsphere,” published in Nuclear Medicine Communications on August 17, 2018.

Abdulaziz Alburaih, MD, Adjunct Assistant Professor, and Michael Witting, MD, MS, Professor, both from the Department of Emergency Medicine, published the article titled “Effectiveness of a Rural Emergency Department (ED)-Based Pain Contract on ED Visits Among ED Frequent Users” in the September 2018 issue of The Journal of Emergency Medicine.

Neha Amin, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was a co-author of “Radiation Oncology, Hyperthermia: Target Delineation in Radiation Oncology,” published in Seminars in Radiation Oncology on June 28, 2018.

Wengen Chen, MD, PhD, Associate Professor, and Vasken Dilsizian, MD, Professor, both from the Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, co-authored “FDG PET/CT for the Diagnosis and Management of Infective Endocarditis: Expert Consensus vs Evidence-Based Practice,” published in the Journal of Nuclear Cardiology on August 14, 2018.

J. Isabelle Choi, MD, Assistant Professor; Amit Sawant, PhD, Assistant Professor; and Charles Simone, II, MD, Associate Professor; all from the Department of Radiation Oncology and, Rao Gullapalli, PhD, MBA, Professor, and Wengen Chen, MD, PhD, Associate Professor; both from the Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, were among the authors of “Use of PET and Other Functional Imaging to Guide Target Delineation in Radiation Oncology,” published in Seminars in Radiation Oncology on June 28, 2018. In addition, Drs. Choi and Simone, were among the authors of “How to Optimize the Treatment Strategy for Patients with EGFR-Mutant Stage IA Lung Adenocarcinoma: An International Multidisciplinary Team,” published in the June 2018 issue of the Journal of Thoracic Oncology.

Carl Soderstrom, MD, Assistant Professor; and Jeffrey Hirsch, MD, Assistant Professor, both from the Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, were among the co-authors of “New and Emerging Patient-centered CT Imaging and Image-guided Treatment Paradigms for Maxillofacial Trauma,” published in Emergency Radiology on June 20, 2018.

Sarah Dubbs, MD, Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, served as a guest.
Charles White, MD

Publications

Imaging

Correct Interpretation and Risk Factors for
of "Radiologist Performance in the Detection
Nuclear Medicine, were among the co-authors
Professor, both from
J
Jeffrey Galvin, MD

Circuits in the CNS," published in a special issue of
Neurobiology, was a co-author on "Development of Tactile Sensory
Reha Erzurumlu, PhD

J
Professor, Department of Anatomy and
Medicine and Internal Medicine.
Warren D’Souza, PhD, MBA

J
Assistant Professor, both from the Department of Diag nostic Radiology and
Nuclear Medicine, were among the co-authors of

Rao Gullapalli, PhD, MBA

Professor; and
Charles White, MD

Professor; all from the Department of Diag nostic Radiology and
Nuclear Medicine, were among the co-authors of

Jon Hirshon, MD, MPH, PhD, Professor, Departments of Emergency Medicine and Epidemiology & Public Health, participated in a research collaboration between Duke University Medical Center and Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Center in Moshi, Tanzania. The purpose of this NIH-funded study was to assess attitudes and practices among emergency care providers in Tanzania regarding the use of interventions for their alcohol-abusing patients. The findings will be applied to the design of educational programs for medical personnel and strategies to reduce alcohol consumption among people who seek emergency medical care. Observations from this study were published in the September 2018 issue of Alcohol.

Riydhwana Hossain, MD, Assistant Professor; Jean Jeudy, MD, Associate Professor; Aletta Frazier, MD, Clinical Professor; and
Charles White, MD, Professor; all from the Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, were among the co-authors of "A Sensitive Approach to Diagnosing Cardiac Aneurysms, Pseudoaneurysms and Common Mimickers," published in the Journal of Thoracic Imaging on August 14, 2018.

Eldin Jasevic, PhD

Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Pharmacology, and
Tracy Bale, PhD, Professor, Department of Pharmacology, were lead and corresponding authors of "Effect of Maternal Vaginal Microbiome Partially Mediates the Effects of Prenatal Stress on Offspring Gut and Hypothalamus," published in Nature Neuroscience on July 9, 2018. Kathleen Morrison, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Pharmacology, and Christopher Howard, Research Specialist, Department of Pharmacology, were also among the co-authors. In addition, Dr. Bale was corresponding author on "Placent al H3K27me3 Establishes Female Resilience to Prenatal Insults," published in Nature Communications on July 2, 2018.

Gaurav Jindal, MD, Associate Professor; Timothy Miller, MD, Assistant Professor; Dong Chen, PhD, Assistant Professor; and Dheeraj Gandhi, MBBS, Professor; all from the Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, were among the co-authors of "Functional Independence After Stroke Thrombectomy Using Thrombolysis in Cerebral Infarction Grade 2c, a New Aim of Successful Revascularization," published in World Neurosurgery on August 10, 2018.

Megan Kirk, MD, PGY3; Leen Abialhdeh, MBBS, MIA, Clinical Instructor; Zachary Deeman, MD, MS, MS, Assistant Professor; and Laura Bontempo, MD, MEA, Assistant Professor; all from the Department of Emergency Medicine, were authors of "65-Year-Old Female with Cardiac Arrest and Return of Spontaneous Circulation," published in the July 2018 issue of Clinical Practice and Cases in Emergency Medicine.

Anthony Koroukakis, MD, Resident, and Manuj Agarwal, MD, Assistant Professor, both from the Department of Radiation Oncology, were the authors of "Anatomy, Lymphatic Drainage, Neck," published in StatPearls on July 5, 2018.

Theodore Manson, MD, Associate Professor; Marcus Scialdin, MD, Professor; Jason Nacone, MD, Associate Professor; and Robert O’Toole, the Hansjörg Wyss Medical Foundation Endowed Professor in Orthopaedic Trauma; all from the Department of Orthopaedics, were among the co-authors of "Predictors of Unplanned Reoperation After Operative Treatment of Pelvic Ring Injuries," published in the July 2018 issue of the Journal of Orthopaedic Trauma. Dr. Mason, Scaldini, Nascone, and O’Toole were also among the co-authors of "Risk Factors for Early Reoperation After Operative Treatment of Acetabular Fractures," published in the July 2018 issue of Journal of Orthopaedic Trauma.

Andrea Meredith, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Physiology, together with collaborators at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, co-authored "Glutamate-Activated BK Channel Complexes Formed with NMDA Receptors," published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences on September 4, 2018.

Michael Miller, BA, Student, University of Maryland School of Medicine; Lindsay O’Meara, CRNP, Department of Surgery; Lindsay Hessler, MD, Chief Resident, Department of Surgery; Paulesh Shah, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery; and Daniel Haase, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, published a case report, "Woman with Abdominal Pain," in the Images in Emergency Medicine section of the September 2018 issue of Annals of Emergency Medicine.

Siham Moayedi, MD, Assistant Professor; Michael Witting, MD, MS, Professor; Jon Mark Hirshon, MD, PhD, Professor; and Stephen Schenkel, MD, MPP, Associate Professor; all from the Department of Emergency Medicine, were authors of "Prospective, Randomized Controlled Comparison of a Flash-Tip Catheter and a Traditional Intravenous Catheter in an Urban Emergency Department," in the July 2018 issue of The Journal of Vascular Access. Nicholas George and Alise Burke, both students at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, were co-authors of the article.

Jason Molitoris, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was among the authors of "Effect of Targeted Therapies on Prognostic Factors, Patterns of Care, and Survival in Patients with Renal Cell Carcinoma and Brain Metastases," published in the International Journal of Radiation Oncology Biology Physics on July 15, 2018. Michael Naslund, MD, Professor, Department of Surgery; Adeeel Kaiser, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology; and Mehran Mad Minaj Sadidiq, MD, Associate Professor, Department
of Surgery, were among the authors of “Evaluation of Cancer-Specific Mortality with Surgery Versus Radiation as Primary Therapy for Localized High-Grade Prostate Cancer in Men Younger Than 60 Years Old,” e-published in the Journal of Urology on July 27, 2018.

- Danilo Perrotti, MD, PhD, Professor, and Giovanni Silvestri, PhD, Research Associate, both from Department of Medicine, were among the co-authors of “BCR-ABL1 Mediated M2R-150 Downregulation Through MYC Contributed to Myeloid Differentiation Block 2 and Drug Resistance in Chronic Myeloid Leukemia,” published in Haematologica on July 26, 2018.

- Yannick Poirier, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was among the authors of “Radiation Therapy for Deep Periurethral Cancer Treatments When Protons are Unavailable: Is Combining Electrons and Orthovoltage Therapy Beneficial?” e-published in the Journal of Radiation Research on July 25, 2018.

- William Regine, MD, FACR, FACRO, the Isadore & Fannie Schneider Foxman Chair and Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was the senior author of “Carl Mansfield, MD, ScD, FACR, FASTRO (1928–2018),” published in the International Journal of Radiation Oncology Biology Physics on July 15, 2018.

- Charles Simone, II, MD, Associate Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was the senior author of “Exploratory Analysis Using Machine Learning to Predict for Chest Wall Pain in Patients with Stage I Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancer Treated with Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy,” e-published in the Journal of Applied Clinical Medical Physics on July 10, 2018. In the same journal, Dr. Simone was also among the authors of “Validation and Clinical Implementation of an Accurate Monte Carlo Code for Pencil Beam Scanning Proton Therapy,” e-published on July 30, 2018. In addition, Dr. Simone was among the authors of “A Preclinical Model to Investigate the Role of Surgically Induced Inflammation in Tumor Responses to Intraoperative Photodynamic Therapy,” published in the July 2018 issue of Lasers in Surgery and Medicine. Separately, Dr. Simone was among the authors of “Acute Hospital Encounters in Cancer Patients Treated with Definitive Radiation Therapy,” published in the International Journal of Radiation Oncology, Biology, Physics on July 15, 2018. Additionally, Dr. Simone was among the authors of “Chemoradiation Versus Chemotherapy Alone for Unresected Intrahepatic Cholangiocarcinoma: Practice Patterns and Outcomes from the National Cancer Data Base,” published in the June 2018 issue of the Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology.

- Melissa Vfyhuis, MD, PhD, Resident; Nasarache Onyenku, MD, Resident; Sina Mosaalebi, PhD, Assistant Professor; Neha Amin, MD, Assistant Professor; Pranshu Mohindra, MD, MBBS, Assistant Professor; and Charles Simone II, MD, Associate Professor; all from the Department of Radiation Oncology, were among the authors of “Advances in Proton Therapy in Lung Cancer,” published in Therapeutic Advances in Respiratory Disease on July 17, 2018.

- Tristan Weir, MD, and Timothy Costales, MD, Residents; Ebrahim Paryavi, MD, MPH, Assistant Professor; Nathan O’Hara, MHA, Research Associate; Daniel Gelb, MD, Professor; Eugene Koh, MD, PhD, Associate Professor; and Steven Ludwig, MD, Professor; all from the Department of Orthopaedics, were among the co-authors of “Postoperative Deep Vein Thrombosis, Pulmonary Embolism, and Myocardial Infarction: Complications After Therapeutic Anticoagulation in the Patient with Spine Trauma,” published in the July 2018 issue of Spine.

- Michael White, PhD, and Brian Mathur, PhD, Assistant Professor, both from the Department of Pharmacology, were among the co-authors of “Claustrum Circuit Components for Top-Down Input Processing and Cortical Broadcast” and “Frontal Cortical Control of Posterior Sensory and Association Cortices Through the Claustrum,” published in the August 2018 and July 2018 issues of Brain Structure and Function, respectively.

Community Outreach

- On July 20, several students from the YouthWork’s Summer Bio-science Internship Program (SBIP), at the University of Maryland, Baltimore, visited the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science. Nicole Willhide, MS, Director of Student Services, along with UMB graduate student and SBIP program coordinator Devona Quasie-Wood, coordinated the visit which included a 20-minute video about the profession and a tour during an anatomy class where first-year physical therapy students were dissecting cadavers.

- The DPT Class of 2020, in the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, has been busy with community service during their Medical Issues Block. Students recently performed community health screenings at a variety of locations: St. James Terrace Apts (Baltimore City), Mount Clare Overlook Apts (Baltimore City), Patapsco Overlook (Baltimore County), Hollins House (Baltimore City) and Catonsville Senior Center (Baltimore County). The health screenings included vital signs, balance screenings, foot screenings, musculoskeletal screenings, gait and functional mobility screenings, as well as whatever the participant needed. All of the health screenings took place in July and there were 99 participants screened.

Honors & Awards

- Kathleen Morrison, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Pharmacology, was honored in September with a Society for Neuroscience Trainee Professional Development Award. Additionally, Dr. Morrison was honored with the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology Travel Award in June.

- Mohammad Minhaj Siddiqui, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery, was named a 2018 Baltimore Business Journal “Top 40 under 40” Awardee.

- Paul Welling, MD, Professor, Department of Physiology, was named the Donald Seldin Lecturer at the American Heart Association (AHA) Annual Meeting on Hypertension in Chicago, IL on September 8, 2018. This is the highest honor of the AHA council on the Kidney and Cardiovascular Disease. Dr. Welling’s lecture described his group’s discoveries of a pathway that explains the profound effects of dietary potassium on blood pressure, and it’s implications for public health, and the development of new therapeutic strategies for hypertension, disorders of potassium balance, and kidney disease.

Congratulations to the following who have received honors!
Congratulations to our very productive faculty on their recent grants and contracts!

Brittany Aicher, MD, Resident, Department of Surgery, Center for Vascular and Inflammatory Diseases, received a two-year, $127,539 postdoctoral fellowship grant from National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) for “Mesenteric Vasculopathy in LRP1 Deficient Mice.”

Kathryn Hughes Barry, PhD, MPH, Assistant Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, received a five-year NCI K07 Career Development grant for “Epigenomic and Transcriptomic Markers of Aggressive Prostate Cancer Among African-American Men.”

Roy Film, PT, MPT, OCS, FAAOMPT, Kathryn Hughes Barry, PhD, MPH, Assistant Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, received a three-year R01 grant totaling $796,201 from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS/NIH) to study “CRCNS: Real-time Neural Decoding for Calcium Imaging.”

Derik Davis, MD, Associate Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine received a $323,000, two-year diversity supplement grant from National Institute on Aging for “Quantitative MRI of the Shoulder in Older Adults: a Pilot Study to Determine Rotator Cuff Intramuscular Fatty Infiltration and Activities of Daily Living following Non-operative Treatment of Painful Full-thickness Rotator Cuff Tears.”

Jay Magaziner, PhD, MS哲Aff, Professor and Chair, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, is the principal investigator for this study.

Roy Film, PT, MPT, DPT, OCS, FAAMPT, Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, received funding by the Interprofessional Faculty Development Institute as a co-investigator on: “A Better Way to Manage Pain: An Interprofessional Student Symposium on Pain Management and Mitigating Risk for Opioid Misuse and Addiction.”

Principal Investigators also include: Meredith McHugh, PhD, MSW, Assistant Professor, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology; Christopher Welsh, MD, Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry; Katherine Fornili, DNP, MPH, RN, CARN, FAAAN, School of Nursing; and Mary McPherson, PharmD, MA, BCPS, CPE, Professor, School of Pharmacy. The grant was submitted through University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB), Center for Interprofessional Education, which will allow this team to represent UMB at a biannual conference workshop designed to facilitate the future of healthcare education via interprofessional educational experiences.

The Department of Pediatrics has been accepted as a pilot site for the new Mitochondrial Care Network (MCN). Under the leadership of Carol Greene, MD, FAAP, FACMG, Professor, Department of Pediatrics, this new program involves clinicians in many departments including Elizabeth Streteen, MD, Clinical Professor, also from the Department of Pediatrics; Marcella Wozniak, MD, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Neurology; Nicholas Pietris, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics; and William Regenold, MDCM, Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry. The MCN is a joint effort of the Mitochondrial Medicine Society (MMS), the United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation (UMDF), MitoAction and Foundation for Mitochondrial Medicine (FMM) to formally unify clinicians who provide medical care to individuals with mitochondrial disease; to define, design and implement best practices in mitochondrial medicine; building on current consensus guidelines for mitochondrial diagnosis and care; and to optimize management and care to improve patient outcomes.

Rao Gullapalli, PhD, MBA, Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine; Neeraj Badjatia, MD, MS, Professor, Department of Neurology; and Jerry Prince, PhD, Professor, Department of Biomedical Engineering, Johns Hopkins, are MPIs on a NIH R01 grant studying longitudinal sub-thalamic structure and functional alterations in mild traumatic brain injury. The five-year grant from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke has a total budget of $3,064,343. The team will develop novel MR imaging and multi-modal feature classification methods to segment the thalamus into its individual nuclei and test the hypothesis that post traumatic alterations in the structural and functional integrity of the thalamic nuclei will be associated with progression of specific neuropsychological and cognitive symptoms after mild traumatic brain injury.

Anthony Harris, MD, MPH, Professor; Surbhi Leekha, MBBS, MPH, Associate Professor; and Daniel Morgan, MD, Associate Professor; all from the Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, received a two-year, $657,465 cooperative agreement from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for “Epidemiology of CRE and MRSA Transmission: Patient and Organism Factors.”

Edward Herskovits, MD, Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, received a two-year $424,875, R21 grant to study “Connectivity and Genetic Associations in Parkinson’s Disease.” Dr. Herskovits and his team will apply sophisticated methods for analyzing complex data sets, to help researchers understand the underlying changes in genes and brain structure in patients with Parkinson’s disease. They also will apply robust methods for automatically detecting subtypes among people with Parkinson’s disease, based on brain connectivity as revealed by MRI, or by genetic differences.

Achsah Keegan, PhD, Professor of Microbiology and Immunology, Center for Vascular and Inflammatory Diseases, received a five-year, $1,931,250 grant from National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID). Dr. Keegan’s study, “Role of Semaphorin 4A in Allergic Inflammation,” will analyze how the cell surface protein Semaphorin 4A suppresses the inflammatory response induced by inhaled allergens. This process is important to understand because allergic inflammation can initiate and amplify the symptoms of asthma. It is anticipated that data generated from this study will identify new targets for the treatment of asthma.

Karen Kotloff, MD, Professor of Pediatrics, Associate Director for Clinical Research, Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, was awarded $556,171, effective July 2019, to conduct Vaccine and Treatment Evaluation Units (VTEU) overall administration, clinical operations support and concept and protocol development, implementation and assays task area.

Wendy Lane, MD, MPH, Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, received a one-year, $30,000 grant from the Maryland Department of Health for “B’More for Peaceful Motherhood.”

Dean Mann, MD, Professor, Department of Pathology and Microbiology and Immunology, received a $393,068 grant from the Hasumi International Research Foundation to develop dendritic cell based vaccines for cancer.
Grants & Contracts
continued from page 5

> Erin O’Connor, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, along with James Becker, PhD, a Professor of Psychiatry, Psychology, and Neurology from the University of Pittsburgh, received a two-year reentry supplement grant from the National Institute on Aging for “Cardiovascular and HIV/AIDS Effects on Brain Structure/Function and Cognition.” The total budget is $264,779.

> Charlene Quinn, PhD, RN, FAAN, Associate Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, received a one-year, $100,000 grant from the Maryland Industrial Partnerships and IC Med, LLC for “Older Adult/Caregiver Mobile Support Solutions.”

Jacques Ravel, PhD, Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, and Associate Director, Institute for Genome Sciences, received a two-year, $370,657 grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases to study “The Interaction Between Vaginal Microbiota, Immunogenetics and C. Trachomatis Susceptibility,” which is in collaboration with investigators from Institut Pasteur, Paris, France.

> Saima Riazuddin, PhD, MPH, MBA, Professor, Department of Otorhinolaryngology Head & Neck Surgery, received a five-year, $2,945,055 NIH R01 grant from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS/NIH) for “Genetics and Functional Studies of Autosomal Recessive Neurological Disorders.” Thomas Blanpied, PhD, Associate Professor of Psychiatry, Psychology, and Neurology from the University of Pittsburgh, received a two-year, $300,000 grant from the American Heart Association. Dr. Zhang’s study, “A Novel Radiation-Resistant CD11b- Expressing Leukocyte Population with Atheroprotective Activities,” will elucidate a novel resident macrophage population with atheroprotective activities. The mechanistic insights obtained from this study will also be used to design new therapeutic strategies for more effective intervention of atherosclerosis.

Institutes

- Institute of Stem Cell Biology
- Institute for Biomedical Engineering and Technology (BiBET)
- Institute for Human Virology (IHV)
- Institute of Genome Sciences (IGS)
- Institute for Clinical & Translational Research (ICTR)
- Institute for Integrative Medicine
- Institute for Cancer Research (STAR-ORC):

> Mary Stevens, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmacology, are co-investigators on this project.

> Mark Rogers, PT, PhD, FAPTA, the George R. Hepburn Dynasplint Professor in the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, received two years of funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for “Neuromuscular and Biomechanical Control of Lower Limb Loading in Individuals with Chronic Stroke.” Dr. Rogers also received a NIH R01 grant award for “Hip Muscle Power, Lateral Balance Function, and Falls in Aging.”

> Kelly Westlake, PhD, MSc, PT, Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, received funding from the National Institutes of Health for “Influence of Attentional Control on Protective Arm Responses to Balance Perturbations in Older Adults.”

> Jill Whitall, PhD, Professor Emeritus and Sandy McCombe Waller, PT, PhD, MS, NCS, Associate Professor, both from the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, have been awarded a one-year, Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) grant (NIH STTR R41/R42) in collaboration with Stacy Lammers (PI) from Verstride. The project title is “Veristrde STEP-R: An Interactive Verbal/ Auditory Gait Trainer.”

> Li Zhang, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Physiology and Center for Vascular and Inflammatory Diseases, received a three-year, $300,000 grant from the American Heart Association. Dr. Zhang’s study, “A Novel Radiation-Resistant CD11b-Expressing Leukocyte Population with Atheroprotective Activities,” will elucidate a novel resident macrophage population with atheroprotective activities. The mechanistic insights obtained from this study will also be used to design new therapeutic strategies for more effective intervention of atherosclerosis.