



# What's the buzz?

A self-reported addition to SOMnews for the School of Medicine community to share their successes.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

SOMnews

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## EVENTS, LECTURES



## & WORKSHOPS

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

► **Institute for Genome Sciences:** Scientists at the Institute for Genome Sciences held three-day Genomics Training Workshops in July, September and November 2009. Multiple institutes at the National Institutes of Health fund the workshops, which are held four times a year at IGS. The workshops include detailed instruction on genome sequencing, annotation and analysis. The workshop is organized and in part taught by **Michelle G. Giglio, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine. Additional instructors are all from the Institute for Genome Sciences and include **Jennifer Wortman**, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine; **Marcus C. Chibucos, PhD**, **Heather Huot-Creasy**, **Sean Daugherty**, and **Brandi Cantarel, PhD**, Bioinformatics Analysts; **Luke J. Tallon**, Scientific Director and **Lisa Sadzewicz, PhD**, Administrative Director, Genomics Resource Center; **Joshua Orvis** and **Kevin Galens**, Bioinformatics Engineers.

► **Maureen Black, PhD**, the John A. Scholl, MD & Mary Louise Scholl, MD Professor of Pediatrics, chaired a session on Nutrition and Cognition and was invited to give two talks at the International Congress of Nutrition in Bangkok, Thailand, in October 2009. She presented "Nutrition and Cognition in Children: Possible Mechanisms of Action, Impact on Public Health: Will Insights Lead to More Children Reaching Their Developmental Potential?" and "Development of Responsive Feeding Indicators for Young Children." Dr. Black was also one of only 12 conference delegates invited to have lunch with Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn of Thailand's royal family.

► **Brian Browne, MD**, professor and chair, and **Amal Mattu, MD**, associate professor, both of the Department of Emergency Medicine, were invited speakers at the Second Administration and Management Fellowship at Erasmus Medical Center in Rotterdam,

The Netherlands, in May 2009. The Third Dutch North Sea Emergency Medicine Conference was held in Egmond aan Zee in tandem with the fellowship in early June. Emergency Medicine faculty attending that meeting included Dr. Mattu, **Siamak Moayedi, MD**, assistant professor; **Stephen M. Schenkel, MD**, assistant professor and **Robert Rogers, MD**, assistant professor. **Terry Mulligan, DO**, part-time clinical assistant professor, was the course organizer for the fellowship and a speaker at the conference.

► **Kevin Chen, PhD, MPH**, associate professor, Department of Family & Community Medicine and Center for Integrative Medicine, gave a lecture at NIH-NCCAM on October 5, 2009, titled "Introduction to Medical Qigong—Mysteries & Wonders of Chinese Medicine."

► **Margaret Chesney, PhD**, professor, Department of Medicine, and associate director, Center for Integrative Medicine, gave a presentation at a meeting sponsored by the Grantmakers in Health and Fannie Ripple Foundation at Jefferson University in Philadelphia, PA, on September 21, 2009. Her presentation was entitled "Integrative Medicine: Translating Public Interest into Evidence-Based Practice."



Brian Browne, MD



Margaret Chesney, PhD

## EVENTS, LECTURES & WORKSHOPS *continued*



John W. Cole, MD, MS

► **John W. Cole, MD, MS**, associate professor, Department of Neurology, was an invited speaker at the 12th Annual Force Health Protection Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, held from August 1–14, 2009, at the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine. His presentation was entitled “Cigarette Smoking and the Risk of Cerebrovascular Disease: New Insights Across the Age Spectrum.” Dr. Cole also gave a talk at the Delaware Stroke Initiative’s 9th Annual Stroke Education Conference on October 3, 2009, entitled “Stroke in the Young.”



Steven Czinn, MD

► **Steven Czinn, MD**, professor and chair, Department of Pediatrics, was invited to present “Vaccine development to prevent or eradicate *H. pylori* infection: an update” at the 15th International Workshop on Campylobacter, Helicobacter and Related Organism (CHRO), which was held in Niigata, Japan, from September 2–5, 2009.

► **Howard Dubowitz, MD**, professor, Department of Pediatrics, was an invited lecturer at the plenary sessions of the South American Conference on Child Maltreatment in Bogota, Columbia on September 24–25, 2009. His presentation was “Child Neglect: A Child’s Perspective, a Public Health Approach to Preventing Child Maltreatment.”



Howard Dubowitz, MD



Richard Lichenstein, MD

► **Richard Lichenstein, MD**, associate professor, Department of Pediatrics, chaired the Topic Symposia for the Pediatric Academic Societies (PAS) Annual Meeting, held in Baltimore, May 3, 2009. The symposia, “Keeping Teens Safe on the Road—What’s Known, How to Do It and What the Future Holds” focused on the fact that nationwide, motor vehicle collisions are the leading cause of death in teenagers ages 16–20, accounting for more than 5,500 deaths annually. The Checkpoints Parent Teen Driving Agree-

ment has been found to be an effective intervention to prevent accident-related injury, but regular implementation of such contracts is rare. Dr. Lichenstein is a principal investigator on a grant building a school-based and police department program aimed at decreasing teen-related crashes by highlighting the Parent Teen Driving Agreement. Dr. Lichenstein also presented “Teen Driving—Kids at Risk” at the meeting.

► **Istvan Mercenthaler, MD, PhD, ScD**, professor, Department of Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine, presented at the 20th Annual Meeting of the American Menopause Society in San Diego, CA, on October 2, 2009. His talk was titled “A novel brain-selective prodrug of estradiol alleviates symptoms of menopause (hot flashes and depression) and neuronal cell death in animal models without exhibiting uterotrophic activity.”

► **Wendy Sanders, MA**, Assistant Dean for Research Career Development, gave a grant writing workshop at the Association of American Medical Colleges’ annual conference for minority faculty in Puerto Rico on September 11, 2009, and another at the World Stem Cell Summit in Baltimore on September 21, 2009.

► **Kevin Sheth, MD**, assistant professor, Department of Neurology, was chosen to participate in the NINDS/ANA Career Development Symposium and Junior Faculty Development Course on Oct. 10–11, 2009. These programs immediately preceded the 134th Annual Meeting of the American Neurological Association (ANA) at the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront Hotel.

► **Dr. Samba Sow, MD**, adjunct professor, Department of Medicine and Center for Vaccine Development (Mali), hosted and served as Course Director for the Second International Course on Training Techniques at the Hotel Salam in Mali in October 2009. The course brought together 16 participants from France, Lebanon, the Netherlands, Madagascar and Mali and focused on improving the quality of immunization activities. The five-day course supported the Expanded Program on Immunization of the various countries concerned and was organized in collaboration with the World Health Organization, the Center for Vaccine Development and the Merck Foundation.



Wendy Sanders, MA



Kevin Sheth, MD



## PUBLICATIONS

*Hats off to those who have been published!*



Maureen Black, PhD

► **Maureen Black, MD**, the John A. Scholl, MD & Mary Louise Scholl, MD Professor of Pediatrics; **Sarah Overlander**, fellow; and **Howard Dubowitz, MD**, all from the Department of Pediatrics, were among the authors of “Sexual Intercourse Among Adolescents Maltreated Before Age 12: A Prospective Investigation,” published in *Pediatrics*, 2009; 124: 941-949.

► **Hugo Gonzalez-Serratos, PhD**, professor, Department of Physiology, is the principal author of chapter 49, entitled “Skeletal Muscle,” in the latest edition of the Best & Taylor textbook *The Physiological Basis of Medical Practice*.

► **Peter Gorman, MD**, associate professor, Department of Neurology, co-authored “Prophylactic Inferior Vena Cava (IVC) Filter Placement May Increase the Relative Risk of Deep Venous Thrombosis after Acute Spinal Cord Injury” in the *Journal of Trauma* 66(3): 707-712 (2009).

► **Shay-Whey Koh, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Ophthalmology & Visual

Sciences, authored a chapter entitled “Vasoactive intestinal peptide acting in concert with ciliary neurotrophic factor to promote the survival of corneal endothelium under oxidative stress” in *Neuropeptides in the Eye*, 2009. In addition, Dr. Koh co-published “Restoration of functional CNTF receptor  $\alpha$  subunit (CNTFR $\alpha$ ) in corneal endothelial cells in stored human donor corneas by recombi-



Peter Gorman, MD



Shay-Whey Koh, PhD

nant CNTFR $\alpha$ : connexin-43 upregulation” in *Investigative Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences*, 2009;50:1801-7. She also co-published an article entitled “VIP down-regulates the inflammatory potential and promotes survival of dying (neural crest-derived) corneal endothelial cells *ex vivo*: necrosis to apoptosis switch and up-regulation of Bcl-2 and N-cadherin in the *Journal of Neurochemistry*, 2009;109:792-806.

► **Robert Koos, PhD**, professor; **Armina A. Kazi, PhD**, post-doctoral fellow; and **Kristin Happ Molitoris, BA**, doctoral student, all from the Department of Physiology, co-authored a paper entitled “Estrogen Rapidly Activates the PI3K/AKT Pathway and Hypoxia-Inducible Factor 1 and Induces Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor A Expression in Luminal Epithelial Cells of the Rat Uterus” in the journal *Biology of Reproduction*, August 2009, 81 (2) 378-387. Additionally, the trio co-authored a paper entitled “Inhibition of Hypoxia-Inducible Factor-1 $\alpha$  Degradation with Cobalt Chloride Unmasks 17 $\beta$ -Estradiol Induction of Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor Expression in Endometrial Cancer Cells *in Vitro*” that was published in the December 2009 issue of *Endocrinology*.



Robert Koos, PhD

► **Judy LaKind, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine, published several papers recently, including “Perspective on serum dioxin levels in the United States: An evaluation of the NHANES data” in the May 2009 issue of *Journal of Exposure Science and Environmental Epidemiology* 2009;19:435-441; and “Public health interpretation of trihalomethane blood levels in the U.S.: NHANES 1999-2004” in the June issue of the same journal. Dr. LaKind also had published letters to the editor in *Breastfeeding Medicine*—“Response to Geraghty et al.” 4(2):127—and the August issue of *Environment International*—“Human milk biomonitoring of phthalates: Expanding our understanding of infant exposure is compatible with supporting breastfeeding.” 35:994-995. In addition, Dr. LaKind co-published an article entitled, “Conclusions and key research recommendations from the Workshop

## PUBLICATIONS *continued*

on Advancing the Science: Childhood Asthma and Environmental Exposures at Swimming Pools” in *Environmental Health Perspectives* 2009;117:500-507; and “Science Selections: Widening the Pool of Factors Studies Needed to Assess Asthma” in *Swimming*, p. A162.



Patricia Langenberg, PhD

► **Patricia Langenberg, PhD**, professor, and **Laura Hungerford, DVM, MPH, PhD**, professor, both of the Department of Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine, in conjunction with **Manhattan Charurat, PhD, MS**, assistant professor, and **William Blattner, MD**, professor, both of the Department of Medicine, co-authored, “The

use of supplementary techniques to increase recall of sex partners in a network-based research study in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil” in *Sexually Transmitted Diseases* 35(7):674-8. In addition, Dr. Hungerford co-authored “Association between *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. *paratuberculosis* infection among offspring and their dams in nondomestic ruminant species housed in a zoo” in the *Journal of Veterinary Diagnostic Investigation* 21(1):40-7. Also, she and **David Smith, PhD**, adjunct assistant professor in the Department of Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine, co-authored “Optimally timing primaquine treatment to reduce *Plasmodium falciparum* transmission in low endemicity Thai-Myanmar border populations” in *Malaria Journal* 8:159.

► **Richard Lichenstein, MD**, associate professor in the Departments of Pediatrics and Emergency Medicine, co-authored “Identification of children at very low risk of clinically-important brain injuries after head trauma: a prospective cohort study” in *The Lancet*, 2009, Volume 374, 9696:1160-1170. The complete text can be found at [http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(09\)61558-0/fulltext](http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(09)61558-0/fulltext).



Manhattan Charurat, PhD, MHS

► **Michael Makley, MD**, assistant professor, Department of Neurology, published “Return of memory and sleep efficiency following moderate to severe closed head injury” in *Neurorehabilitation and Neural Repair* 23(4): 320-6 (2009).

► **Eric Manheimer, MS**, research associate, Center for Integrative Medicine and director, Cochrane CAM Field Database, and **Brian Berman, MD**, professor, Department of Family & Community Medicine and director, Center for Integrative Medicine, published “Evidence from the Cochrane Collaboration for traditional Chinese medicine therapies” in the *Journal of Alternative & Complementary Medicine*. 2009 Sep;15(9):1001-14.

► **Cecelia Melendres, MD**, assistant professor, Department of Pediatrics, co-authored “Obstructive Sleep Apnea in Adults with Down Syndrome,” published in the September issue of the *Journal of Clinical Sleep Medicine*.



Eric Manheimer, MS



Istvan Merchenthaler, MD, PhD, ScD

► **Istvan Merchenthaler, MD, PhD, ScD**, professor, Department of Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine, and **Eugene Albrecht, PhD**, professor, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences, co-authored “Estrogen Promotes of Germ Cell and Seminiferous Tubule Development in the Baboon Fetal Testis” in the August issue of *Biology of Reproduction*, 81(2):406-14. Dr. Merchenthaler was also co-author of “Catecholaminergic input to the oxytocin neurosecretory system in the human Hypothalamus,” published in the July issue of *Journal of Chemical Neuroanatomy*, 37:229-233, 2009. In addition, he co-authored “Temporal profile of estrogen-dependent gene expression in LHRH-producing GT1-7 cells” in the February 2009 issue of *Neurochemistry International*, 54:119-134, 2009, and authored a chapter and was co-editor of the book, “*Neuropeptides and Peptide Analogs*,” published in 2009 by Research Signpost in Kerala, India.

## PUBLICATIONS *continued*

► **Ram Miller, MD, CM**, assistant professor; **Michelle Shardell, PhD**, assistant professor; **Gregory Hicks, PT, PhD**, adjunct assistant professor; **William Hawkes, PhD**, assistant professor, and **Jay Magaziner, PhD**, professor and chair, all from the Department of Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine, co-published, “Repeat falls and the recovery of social participation in the year post-hip fracture” in *Age and Ageing* 2009;38(5):570-575. The faculty above, along with **Gordon Smith, MB, ChB, MPH**, professor; **Colin Stine, PhD**, associate professor; and **Anthony Harris, MD, MPH**, associate professor, all from the Department of Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine, also co-published, “The Role of Patient-to-Patient Transmission in the Acquisition of Imipenem-resistant *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* Colonization in the Intensive Care Unit” in the *Journal of Infectious Disease* 200:900-5 2009.



Ram Miller, MD, CM



David Rasko, PhD

► **David Rasko, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology and Institute for Genome Sciences, co-published articles entitled “Outbreak Caused by cad-Negative Shiga Toxin-Producing *Escherichia coli* O111, Oklahoma” in *Foodborne Pathogens and Disease*, September 2009 and “The QseC adrenergic signaling cascade in Enterohemorrhagic *E. coli* (EHEC)” in *PLoS Pathogens*, August 2009.

► **Luis Rubio, PhD**, postdoctoral fellow; **Joel Pinczewski, MD**, resident; and **Cynthia Drachenberg, MD, PhD**, professor, all from the Department of Pathology, and **Richard Zhao, PhD**, associate professor, Departments of Pathology, Microbiology & Immunology and Institute of Human Virology, co-published “A multiplex real-time PCR method



Cynthia Drachenberg, MD, PhD

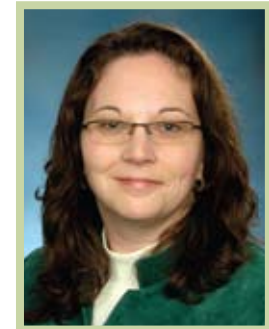
for quantification of BK and JC polyomaviruses in renal transplant patients” in *Diagnostic Molecular Pathology*. The method they discussed in this article is now offered at the Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory at the University of Maryland Medical Center for use in monitoring renal transplantation.



Horea Rus, MD, PhD

► **Horea Rus, MD, PhD**, associate professor, and **Cosmin A. Tegla, MD**, post-doctoral fellow, both from the Department of Neurology; and **Violeta Rus, MD, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Medicine, co-published “Neuroprotective effects of the complement terminal pathway during demyelination: Implications for oligodendrocyte survival” in the *Journal of Neuroimmunology*, 2009, 213, 3-11.

► **Lynn Schriml, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine and Institute for Genome Sciences, was lead author of “GeMInA, Genomic Metadata for Infectious Agents, a geospatial surveillance pathogen database,” published in an advanced online version of *Nucleic Acids Research* (2009:1-11) on October 22, 2009 and in NAR’s January Database Issue. Other contributors included **Owen White, PhD**, professor, Department



Lynn Schriml, PhD



Owen White, PhD

of Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine, and director of Bioinformatics, Institute for Genome Sciences; and **Cesar Arze**, **Suvarna Nadendla**, **Anu Ganapathy**, **Victor Felix**, **Anup Mahurkar**, **Aaron Gussman** and **Sam Angiuoli**, all staff at the Institute for Genome Sciences.

## PUBLICATIONS *continued*



Lisa Shulman, MD

► **Lisa Shulman, MD**, professor, Department of Neurology, co-published “Determinants of the Timing of Symptomatic Treatment in Early Parkinson’s Disease: The National Institutes of Health Exploratory Trials in Parkinson Disease (NET-PD) Experience” in *Archives of Neurology*, 2009;66 (9): 1099-1104.

► **Colin Stine, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine, co-authored a paper, “Relation of Candidate Genes that Encode for Endothelial Function to Migraine and Stroke: The Stroke Prevention in Young Women Study” in *Stroke* Aug 6, 2009.

► **George Wittenberg, MD, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Neurology, published “Experience, Cortical Remapping, and Recovery in Brain Disease,” in *Neurobiology of Disease*, 2009 Sep 18; “Motor mapping in cerebral palsy,” in *Developmental Medicine & Child Neurology*, 2009 Oct;51 Suppl 4:134-9; “Neural plasticity and treatment across the lifespan for motor deficits in cerebral palsy” in *Developmental Medicine & Child Neurology*, 2009 Oct;51 Suppl 4:130-3; “The neural basis of constraint-induced movement therapy” in *Current Opinion in Neurology*, 2009 Sep 5; and co-published with **Christopher T. Bever, Jr., MD, MBA**, professor, Department of Neurology, “Multicenter Randomized Trial of Robot-Assisted Rehabilitation for Chronic Stroke: Methods and Entry Characteristics for VA ROBOTICS” in *Neurorehabilitation and Neural Repair*, 2009 Oct;23(8):775-83.



George Wittenberg, MD, PhD

## NEW FACULTY



*We welcome our new faculty!*

► **John Cottrell, MS**, joined the Department of Pediatrics as an assistant professor in October 2009. Mr. Cottrell received his MS from the University of Maryland, Baltimore. Prior to joining the Department of Pediatrics, he was a member of the Department of Pathology and manager of the University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Cancer Center’s Tissue Bank. In addition to his role as tissue coordinator with the Department of Pediatrics, Mr. Cottrell will teach human brain anatomy to staff, fellows and technicians.

► **Laide Jinadu, MD**, joined the Department of Pediatrics as an assistant professor in September 2009. Dr. Jinadu received her MD from the University of California Los Angeles School of Medicine and completed an internship/residency in Pediatrics at Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center. Dr. Jinadu also recently completed a Pediatric Nephrology Fellowship at Cedars Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, California.

► **Christian Lachner, MD**, joined the Department of Psychiatry in October 2009 as an assistant professor. Previously, Dr. Lachner worked at the Department of Psychiatry at CIMA Hospital in San Jose, Costa Rica, where he was a member of the Medical Executive Committee as well as the Ethics Committee. Dr. Lachner was also an honorary professor of psychiatry at the University of Costa Rica School of Medicine, from which he graduated in 1998. Dr. Lachner completed residency training in psychiatry at the University of Maryland/Sheppard Pratt in Baltimore and then sought fellowship training in Geriatric Psychiatry at the University of Pittsburgh/Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic in Pittsburgh. He is currently a part of the Division of Geriatric Psychiatry, where he is involved in patient care, research and residency training.

► **Andree Lessard, PhD**, joined the Department of Psychiatry in September 2009 as an instructor and as director of the Maryland Brain Collection at the Maryland Psychiatric Research Center. Previously, Dr. Lessard worked at the Department of Neurology and Neurosciences at Weill Cornell Medical College (New York, NY) as a postdoctoral associate (2003–2006) and instructor in neuroscience (2006–2008). Dr. Lessard completed BSc, MSc and PhD programs at Université de Sherbrooke (Sherbrooke, Canada, 1993), Université Laval (Québec City, Canada, 1997) and Université de Montréal (Montréal,

## NEW FACULTY *continued*

Canada, 2003). Her main research interests include neurophysiology of stress, neuroanatomy of G protein-coupled receptors using high resolution electron microscopy and psychiatric diseases.

► **Aimee McCullough, PsyD**, joined the Department of Pediatrics as an assistant professor in September 2009. Dr. McCullough received her PsyD in clinical psychology from Drexel University in Philadelphia. Her pre- and post doctoral internships were at the Devereux Institute for Clinical Training and Research in Villanova, PA. Prior to her recruitment to Maryland, Dr. McCullough was chief psychologist with Children's Services of Ireland.

► **Trevor Valentine, MBBS**, joined the Department of Pediatrics as an assistant professor in September 2009. Dr. Valentine received his MBBS. from the University of the West Indies Faculty of Medicine. He completed a pediatric residency and a fellowship in child psychiatry at the University of Miami School of Medicine, followed by a fellowship in Developmental & Behavior Pediatrics at the Georgetown University School of Medicine. Prior to his recruitment, Dr. Valentine was director of Developmental Pediatric Services and medical director of the Lead Clinic at Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital in Baltimore.

## HONORS



## & AWARDS

*Congratulations to the following who have received honors!*

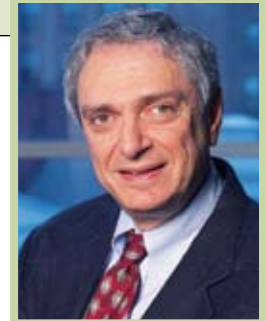
► **Maureen Black, PhD**, the John A. Scholl, MD & Mary Louise Scholl, MD Professor of Pediatrics, was awarded the Annual Logan Wright Research Award from the Society of Pediatric Psychology at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association in Toronto August 6–9, 2009. Recipients of the award are selected in recognition of their excellence in child psychology research.

► **Mordecai Blaustein, MD**, professor, Department of Physiology, will receive the 2010 Distinguished Service Award from the Biophysical Society for his many years serving as Society Treasurer. The award will be presented at the Annual Biophysical Society meeting February 20–24, 2010, in San Francisco. Dr. Blaustein was also featured in the Biophysicist in Profile section of the Biophysical Society Newsletter, September 2009, pages 4–5.

► **Curt Civin, MD**, associate dean for Research, director, Center for Stem Cell Biology & Regenerative Medicine, and professor, Department of Pediatrics, was recognized for his revolutionary research discoveries, receiving the Karl Landsteiner Memorial Award, and being chosen to give the Landsteiner lecture at the American Association of Blood Banks (AABB) Annual Meeting in New Orleans in October 2009. The prestigious Karl Landsteiner Memorial Award and Lectureship was initiated by the AABB in 1955 to honor Karl Landsteiner, MD, whose Nobel Prize-winning discoveries of the ABO and Rh blood group antigens laid the foundation for modern blood transfusion therapy. AABB's Landsteiner Award recognizes a scientist whose original research resulted in an important contribution to the body of scientific knowledge

and who has an international reputation in blood transfusion medicine or a related field. Dr. Civin received the Landsteiner Award for his pioneering research discoveries relating to the cellular and molecular biology of the stem and progenitor cell, including the identification and isolation of the CD34+ blood-forming stem-progenitor cell, which dramatically improved cellular therapies and bone marrow transplantation.

► **Stephen Jacobs, MD**, professor, Department of Surgery, was awarded the 2009 Gold Cane Award by The American Urological Association (AUA). The award is presented annually to a senior urologist who has made outstanding



Mordecai Blaustein, MD



Curt Civin, MD



Dr. Jacobs (left) was presented the Gold Cane Award by American Urological Association President Dr. John Barry at the 2009 Annual Meeting in Chicago.

## HONORS & AWARDS *continued*

contributions to the profession and to the AUA. Dr. Jacobs was cited for innovation and leadership in the field of laparoscopic donor nephrectomy and in resident education.

► **Virginia Keane, MD**, associate professor, Department of Pediatrics, was awarded the Pediatrician of the Year Award by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) at their annual awards dinner on September 17, 2009. This award is given to a pediatrician who is also a Fellow of the AAP and a member of the Maryland Chapter and whose career has exemplified the ideals of pediatrics in service, advocacy and contribution to organized pediatrics in Maryland.

► **Misbah Khan, MD, MPH**, clinical professor, Department of Pediatrics, was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Maryland chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics at their annual awards dinner September 17, 2009. This award was voted on by her peers and recognizes Dr. Khan for her lifelong contributions to the health and well-being of Maryland children and to educating medical students and residents.

► **Wendy Lane, MD, MPH**, assistant professor, Department of Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine, received a Special Achievement Award from the American Academy of Pediatrics for her work on developing a statewide health care system for foster youth. Dr. Lane's clinical and research work is focused primarily on child maltreatment, with specific interests in abusive abdominal trauma, child abuse prevention, physician identification and reporting of maltreatment, and race and class differences in the identification and reporting of maltreatment.

Wendy Lane, MD, MPH

► **Homan Mohammadi**, a senior student in the Department of Medical and Research Technology, was awarded first prize in the Biological Sciences Category, Section II, Division H for his poster presentation entitled, "Double and Triple Fusion Peptidoglycan Hydrolases as Novel Antimicrobials" at the 12th Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium, held October 10, 2009, at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. Mohammadi's classmates Chun-Yuan Cheng and Christopher Larrimore also presented posters at the Research Symposium; all three poster abstracts were published in the Symposium proceedings.



Virginia Keane, MD



## APPOINTMENTS



*We applaud our colleagues on their recent appointments!*

► **Miriam Blitzer, PhD**, professor and head of the division of Human Genetics, Department of Pediatrics, has been appointed the executive director of the American Board of Genetics (ABMG) effective September 1, 2009. As executive director, she will represent the ABMG on the American Board of

Miriam Blitzer, PhD

Medical Specialties, as well as other organizations representing the genetic community. In addition, she will represent the ABMG at appropriate public and governmental venues and work closely with the Board of Directors to coordinate board activities, provide administrative oversight and manage internal committee activities.

► **Carol Carraccio, MD**, professor, Department of Pediatrics, has been appointed chair-elect of the Board of Directors of the American Board of Pediatrics for a one-year term beginning January 2010. In 2011, she will serve as chair of the board for one year, and in 2012 she will serve as immediate past-chair for another year.

► **Shannan Dixon, MS, CGC**, assistant professor, Department of Pediatrics, was appointed vice-chair of the National Society of Genetic Counselor's Annual Education Conference, held November 12–15, 2009, in Atlanta, GA.

► **Jon Furuno, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine, has been appointed associate editor for the journal, *BMC Public Health*.

► **Ann Gruber-Baldini, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine, has been appointed a fellow in the Gerontological Society.



Shannan Dixon, MS, CGC



Jon Furuno, PhD

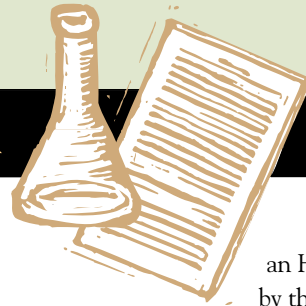


Ann Gruber-Baldini, PhD



## GRANTS &

## CONTRACTS



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

► **Maureen Black, PhD**, the John A. Scholl, MD & Mary Louise Scholl, MD Professor of Pediatrics, was awarded a \$2,000,375 grant from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development for “Toddler Feeding Styles.” The grant covers the period September 30, 2009 to August 31, 2011.

► **Manhattan Charurat, PhD, MHS**, assistant professor, Department of Medicine and Institute of Human Virology, received a four-year \$2,858,656 grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases for his work entitled “Acute HIV Infection and Pregnancy.” The goal of this research is to investigate the impact of HIV acquisition during pregnancy on mother-to-child transmission (MTCT) of HIV in Nigeria.

► **Kevin Chen, PhD, MPH**, associate professor, Department of Family & Community Medicine and Center for Integrative Medicine, received an Independent Investigator Award of \$100,000 from NARSAD, The Brain and Behavior Research Fund, for his clinical investigation on “Integrative meditation for the treatment of co-occurring anxiety disorders among heroin dependent patients: a randomized controlled study to establish feasibility and efficacy.”

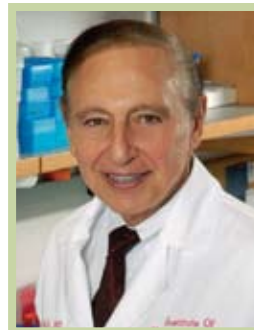


Kevin Chen, PhD, MPH

► **Jon Furuno, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine, received a two-year \$50,000 K01 grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases for his work entitled “Epidemiology of resistant bacteria in acute-care and long-term care facilities.” This funding is supported by

the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 instituted by the Obama Administration.

► **Robert Gallo, MD**, professor, Department of Medicine, and director, Institute of Human Virology, received a two-year \$936,985 grant from the National Cancer Institute for his work entitled “FLSC Combined with Tat Toxoid as



Robert Gallo, MD

an HIV Prophylactic Vaccine.” This funding is supported by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

The goal of this research is to evaluate in a rhesus macaque SHIV model whether a combination of the Full Length Single Chain (FLSC) and Tat toxoid can potentially be preventative vaccine for AIDS and AIDS malignancies.

► **Alfredo Garzino-Demo, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology and Institute of Human Virology, received a five-year \$1,687,500 grant from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke for his work entitled “A Novel Anti-HIV Activity of CCR6 via APOBEC3G: Relevance to CNS Infection.” The goal of this research is to investigate the mechanism of inhibition of HIV by a cellular receptor called CCR6. These studies are highly relevant to prevention and treatment of HIV infection because they will contribute knowledge that can be used to develop novel anti-HIV drugs that will target CCR6.



Alfredo Garzino-Demo, PhD

► **Alonso Heredia, MD**, assistant professor, Department of Medicine and Institute of Human Virology, received a two-year \$150,000 grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases for his work entitled, “Control of HIV Drug Resistance in Older Patients.” This funding is supported by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The goal of this research is to control HIV drug-resistance by targeting cellular components required in the HIV life cycle. The objective is to determine the mechanism by which R5 HIV resistant to CCR5 antagonist regains sensitivity at reduced CCR5 density.

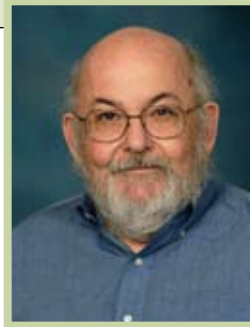


Alonso Heredia, MD

► **Shay-Whey Koh, PhD**, associate professor, Departments of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences and Physiology, received an award under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 for additional funding of grant RP1EY011607 in the amounts of \$44,046 & \$148,230, to support her project “Neurotrophic Factor Modulation of Corneal Endothelium.”

## GRANTS & CONTRACTS *continued*

► **George Lewis, PhD**, professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology and Institute of Human Virology, received a two-year \$850,866 grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases for his work entitled “Broad Neutralizing Monoclonal Antibodies from HIV Controllers.” This funding is supported by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The goal of this research is to identify novel monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) that broadly recognize the HIV-1 envelope glycoprotein (Env) and block infection *in vitro* to guide vaccine development.



George Lewis, PhD

► **Michaela K. Mathews, MD**, assistant professor, Department of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences, received a \$170,502 Clinician-Scientist Award from the National Eye Institute for her project entitled “Lipoprotein (a) in Vascular Diseases of the Eye.”

► **Gregory Melikian, PhD**, professor in the Department of Microbiology & Immunology and Institute of Human Virology, received a two-year \$375,000 grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases for his work entitled “Functional Characterization of the Hepatitis C Virus E1-E2 Glycoproteins.” This funding is supported by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The goal of this research is to examine the rates of HCV uptake and fusion by single-particle tracking and to test the receptor-priming requirement for low pH-induced E1E2 refolding and characterize intermediate stages of HCV fusion.

► **Istvan Merchenhaller, MD, PhD, ScD**, professor, Department of Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine, received a two-year \$705,517 grant from the National Institute of Aging for “Novel Treatment of Menopausal Hot Flashes with an extradiol Prodrug.” This funding is supported by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.



Michaela K. Mathews, MD



Gregory Melikian, PhD

► **Dave Pauza, PhD**, professor, Department of Medicine and Institute of Human Virology, received a four-year \$1,238,776 grant from the National Cancer Institute for his work entitled “Mechanisms for depleting tumor immunity in AIDS.” The goal of this research is to investigate intracellular signaling pathways that control cell functions, to uncover defects associated with HIV infection. Knowledge of these defects and potentially understanding the viral proteins responsible for these defects, is proximal to designing new therapy approaches to recover gd T cells in persons with HIV disease.



Dave Pauza, PhD

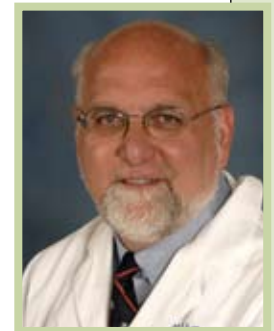
► **Eli Perencevich, MD, MS**, associate professor, Department of Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine, received a one-year \$75,000 grant from the Association of American Medical Colleges for his work entitled, “Automated Methods for Tracking Compliance with Infection Control Measures.”



Christopher Plowe, MD

► **Christopher Plowe, MD**, professor, Department of Medicine and chief of the Malaria Section, Center for Vaccine Development, was awarded a three-year \$1.5 million contract (and a two-year option of \$1 million) from the United States Agency for International Development Regional Development Mission/Asia to support molecular surveillance of drug-resistant malaria in the Greater Mekong Subregion-Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam, and (possibly at a later date) Burma. This award is a collaboration with Mahidol University Faculty of Tropical Medicine in Bangkok, Thailand, and Global Scientific Solutions for Health in Baltimore.

► **Robert Redfield, MD**, professor, Department of Medicine and associate director, Institute of Human Virology, received a five-



Robert Redfield, MD

## GRANTS & CONTRACTS *continued*

year \$8,050,000 President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) grant through the Centers for Disease Control National Center for HIV, STD and TB Prevention. The grant, entitled "Partnership for Advanced Clinical Education Strengthening Pre-Service and In-Service HIV Training in the Republic of Kenya," will enable the University of Maryland to work with the government of Kenya to assess and strengthen HIV training for key medical personnel. This unique grant, the first of its kind to be funded through PEPFAR, will integrate pre-service HIV education and in-service HIV training to ensure that the country of Kenya has a sustainable system for educating and continuously developing healthcare providers through the entire continuum of care delivery. The grant is expected to expand within Kenya during the funding time period, and will act as a model for other HIV-affected countries seeking to streamline HIV education by linking education and service delivery.

► **Mark Rogers, PT, PhD**, professor and acting chair, Department of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science, has been awarded a two-year \$1,156,662 National Institute on Aging R01 grant to study "Lateral Stability and Falls in Aging." This is the first R01 grant ever awarded to the department.



Mark Rogers, PT, PhD

► **Fabio Romero, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Medicine and Institute of Human Virology, received a two-year \$421,129 grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases for his work entitled "A New Insight into HIV-1 Latency Through a Novel *In Vitro* System." This funding is supported by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The goal of this research is to determine the gene expression profile of *in vitro*-generated latently infected cells isolated by fluorescence activated cell sorting and to test the hypothesis that CCR5- and CXCR4-tropic HIV-1 strains show different propensities to establish and re-emerge from latency.



Fabio Romero, PhD

► **Maria Salvato, PhD**, professor, Department of Medicine and Institute of Human Virology, received a two-year \$984,910 grant from the National Institutes of Health for her work entitled "Protection of vaccine immunity by inhibiting Fas/FasL signaling." The goal of this research is to test inhibitors of cell-death signals that would have short-term effects and highly-specific targets, yet would not interfere with the development of strong responses against cancers or infections.

► **Lynn Schriml, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine, received a two-year \$501,909 R01 grant from National Center for Research Resources, in collaboration with Northwestern University, for her work entitled "DO: An Open Biomedical Ontology for Disease." This funding is supported by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

► **Michael Terrin, MD, CM, MPH**, professor, Department of Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine, received a seven-year \$30,729,138 grant from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute for the establishment of a Progenitor Cell Biology Consortium Administrative Coordinating Center. The goal of this initiative is to develop a highly interactive and synergistic consortium of investigators who will share ideas, data and resources to move the field of progenitor cell biology forward.



Michael Terrin, MD, CM, MPH



Lai-Xi Wang, PhD

► **Lai-Xi Wang, PhD**, professor, Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology and Institute of Human Virology, received a one-year and nine month \$525,000 grant supplement from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences for his work entitled "Convergent Chemoenzymatic Synthesis of Glycopeptides and Glycoproteins." This funding is supported by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The goal of this research is to develop new methods for the efficient synthesis of glycoproteins for structural

## GRANTS & CONTRACTS *continued*



Ron Zielke, PhD

and functional studies. The information gained will be valuable for development of glycoprotein-based therapeutics.

► **Ron Zielke, PhD**, professor, Department of Pediatrics, with strong support from his staff, received a five-year \$7,150,000 contract for the continued operation of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) Brain and Tissue Bank for Developmental Disorders. **Kathleen Currey, MD**, clinical assistant professor, and **Ling Li, BM**, assistant professor, both of the Department of Pediatrics, contributed greatly to this successful

competitive renewal. The NICHD Brain and Tissue Bank serves as a human tissue repository for research to benefit individuals with hundreds of different developmental disorders. The Bank has collected brain and systemic tissue from over 3,000 donors throughout the US and Canada; over 710 researchers in 20 countries have received tissue from the Bank, resulting in more than 800 publications.

## IN THE NEWS



Anne Reicherter, PT, DPT, PhD

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

► **Anne Reicherter, PT, DPT, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science, was featured in the November 30, 2009, issue of *Woman's Day* magazine. She offered her expert advice in an article about getting rid of holiday knee pain.

► **Thelma Wright, MD**, assistant professor, Department of Anesthesiology, was featured on the December 30, 2009, broadcast of Fox 45 Baltimore's "Your Health Matters." Dr. Wright, who is also director of the University of Maryland Pain Management Center, discussed methods of pain management for chronic pain.

## Buzz Contacts

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

**Anatomy & Neurobiology:**  
Carolyn Craighead

**Anesthesiology:** Betsy Burcham

**Biochemistry & Molecular Biology:**  
Bruce Reinecke

**Dermatology:** Betsy Satosky

**Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine:** Nan Knight

**Emergency Medicine:**

Linda Kesselring

**Epidemiology & Preventive**

Medicine: Yimei Wu

**Family & Community Medicine:**

NO DESIGNEE

**Medical & Research Technology:**

Cynthia Stambach

**Medicine:** Molly Lutz

**Microbiology & Immunology:**

Teri Robinson

**Neurology:** Paula Gilley

**Neurosurgery:** Terry Roberts

**Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences:** Chris Whitley

**Ophthalmology:** Nancy Cook

**Orthopaedics:** Mary Zadnik Newell

**Otorhinolaryngology:** Bryan Ambro

**Pathology:** NO DESIGNEE

**Pediatrics:** Bonnie Winters

**Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics:** Anne Nourse

**Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science:** Caelie Haines

**Physiology:** Ken Fahnestock

**Psychiatry:** Vee Porter-Brown

**Radiation Oncology:** Jill Rosenberg

**Surgery:** NO DESIGNEE

**Program in Comparative Medicine:**  
Deborah Sanchez

**Program in Complementary Medicine:**  
Kat Farber

**Program in Genetics & Genomic Medicine:** Pam Shinnick

**Program in Minority Health & Health Disparities:** Claudia Baquet

**Program in Neuroscience:** Tom McHugh

**Program in Oncology:** Stephen Long

**Program in Trauma:** Cynthia Rivers  
**Center for Health Policy & Health Services Research:** Shiraz Mishra

**Center for Integrative Medicine:**  
Kat Farber

**Center for Mucosal Biology Research or MBRC:** Pam King

**Center for Research on Aging:**  
Kara Longo

**Center for Stem Cell Biology & Regenerative Medicine:**  
LaRondi Flowers

**Center for Trauma and Anesthesiology Research:** Jane Anderson

**Center for Vaccine Development:**  
Gloria Smedley

**Center for Vascular & Inflammatory Diseases:** Vanessa Foreman

**Institute for Genome Sciences:**  
Renée Nathaniel

**Institute of Human Virology:**

Nora Grannell

**MD/PhD Program:** Nancy Malson

**Office of Admissions:** Mickey Foxwell

**Office of Development:** Emily Cooke

**Office of Information Services:**  
Jim McNamee

**Office of Policy & Planning:**  
Claudia Baquet

**Office of Faculty Affairs & Professional Development:**  
Stacie Small

**Office of Public Affairs:**  
Heather Graham Phelps

**Office of Student Affairs:**  
Dawn Roberts

**Office of Student Research:**  
Jordan Warnick

**Office of Research & Graduate Studies:** Tom Hooven

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://medschool.umaryland.edu/Public\\_Affairs/buzz.asp](http://medschool.umaryland.edu/Public_Affairs/buzz.asp)