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

- **Christy Chang, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Medicine, and Sridhar Hannenhalli, PhD, associate professor, Center for Bioinformatics and Computational Biology and Department of Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics at the University of Maryland, College Park received a one-year $75,000 2011 UMCP-UMB Seed Grant for their proposal “Combining Genome-Wide Association Studies, Comparative Genomics and Genomic Annotation to Understand the Genetic Basis of Complex Diseases.”

- **W. Florian Fricke, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology and Institute for Genome Sciences, and **Jonathan S. Bromberg, MD, PhD**, Professor, Departments of Surgery and Microbiology & Immunology, received a two-year $100,000 American Society of Transplant Surgeons/Pfizer Collaborative Scientist Grant from the Foundation of the American Society of Transplant Surgeons to fund their research entitled “Changes in the Human Microbiota Induced by Post-Transplant Medication.”

- **Julie Dunning Hotopp, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology and Institute for Genome Sciences, and **Jonathan S. Bromberg, MD, PhD**, Professor, Departments of Surgery and Microbiology & Immunology, received a three-year $706,945 grant for “Whole Genome Sequencing of Emergent Meningococcal Clones of Public Health Significance” from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases’ Genome Sequencing Centers for Infectious Diseases.

- **Brenda Hussey-Gardner, PhD, MPH**, assistant professor, Department of Pediatrics, was awarded a $211,389 grant from the Baltimore City Health Department to continue Maryland PRIDE² which includes both the Maryland’s Premature Infant Development Enrichment Program and the Pediatric Referral for Infant Developmental Enrichment Programs. Maryland’s PRIDE² is a collaborative endeavor between the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Maryland School of Medicine and the Baltimore City Infants and Toddlers Program (BITP). The purpose of Maryland’s PRIDE² is to provide a collaborative effort of identification, evaluation and service coordination for infants in the University of Maryland Hospital for Children (UMHC) Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), who attended the UMHC NICU Follow-Up Clinic, or who receive primary health care at Pediatrics at the Harbor (aka PATH) who are eligible to receive early intervention services through the BITP.

- **Igor Lukashevich, MD, PhD**, associate professor, Institute of Human Virology and Department of Medicine, received a five-year $868,007 award from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases for his work entitled “Development of New Bivalent Cross-Protective Arenaviral Vaccines.”

- **Raymond Penn, PhD**, professor, Department of Medicine, received a $251,300 award from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health for “OGR1 Is A Protein-Sensing GPCR in Airway Smooth Muscle.”

- **John Sacci, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, received a one-year $45,756 award from Science Applications International Corporation, or SAIC, for his work entitled “Evaluation and Characterization of Plasmodium Falciparum Full Length Circumsporozoite Protein (CSP) Vaccine Candidates.”

- **John Sacci, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, received a one-year $45,756 award from Science Applications International Corporation, or SAIC, for his work entitled “Evaluation and Characterization of Plasmodium Falciparum Full Length Circumsporozoite Protein (CSP) Vaccine Candidates.”
Carole Sztalryd, PhD, associate professor, Department of Medicine, received a two-year $164,000 award from the American Heart Association for her work entitled “Perilipin 5 A Novel Regulator of Lipid Droplet Function in Cardiomyocytes.”

Hervé Tettelin, PhD, associate professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology and Institute for Genome Sciences, is the principal investigator on a one and a half year $418,920 project entitled “Phylogenomics of Yersinia pestis—Plague Spread, Zoonotic Disease and Forensics,” and on a one-year $357,993 project entitled “Comparative Genomics of Clinical Isolates of Mycobacterium abscessus.” Dr. Tettelin’s projects are part of the “Genome Sequencing Centers for Infectious Diseases,” a federal contract under the overall direction of Claire Fraser-Liggett, PhD, professor, Departments of Medicine and Microbiology & Immunology and director of the Institute for Genome Sciences.

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

Maureen Black, PhD, John A. Scholl, MD, and Mary Louise Scholl, MD, Professor of Pediatrics, published an Op-Ed in the May 12, 2011, edition of the Baltimore Sun entitled “Balancing the Budget on Infant’s Backs.”

Michael S. Donnenberg, MD, professor, Departments of Medicine and Microbiology & Immunology, was interviewed by WBAL-TV 11 News on June 2, 2011, about the E. coli outbreak in Europe. Dr. Donnenberg is an authority in this area and explained that this new strain of E. coli is made up of genes that have never been seen in this particular combination before. The outbreak, which spread throughout 10 European countries, is responsible for the deaths of over 20 people and sickened thousands. In addition, Dr. Donnenberg was interviewed by Aljazeera News for his insight into the E. coli outbreak and by the Daily RX-Relevant Health News, an on-line health publication, about how the European outbreak could affect Americans.

Jacques Ravel, PhD, associate professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, and associate director of Genomics, Institute for Genome Sciences, was interviewed on June 18, 2011, by ScienceNews magazine regarding his research on bacterial vaginosis for the Human Microbiome Project for an article entitled “Teams of Microbes Pull Strings in the Human Body.”

Jacques Ravel, PhD

Richard Lichenstein, MD, associate professor, Department of Pediatrics, was involved in the Crib Safety Press Conference at the Capitol Hill Visitor Center in Washington, DC, on June 28, 2011. He also represented the American Academy of Pediatrics at this press conference. In addition, Dr. Lichenstein was interviewed by American Baby Magazine for an article entitled “Riding a Bike with Your Infant” that appeared in the June 28, 2011 issue, and was featured on the June 29, 2011, edition of the “Healthy Children” radio show on Health Radio (www.HealthRadio.net) where he was interviewed about firework safety.

Richard Lichenstein, MD

The University of Maryland Adolescent STAR TRACK Program was featured in a video released by the US Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) called “30 Years of AIDS—HRSA’s Commitment.” STAR TRACK was highlighted as one of several very integral programs that HRSA has chosen to highlight and fund over the past 30 years. Ligia Peralta, MD, associate professor, Department of Pediatrics, and the STAR TRACK staff have worked diligently for many years to showcase and raise awareness of this program.

Ligia Peralta, MD

Julie Dunning Hotopp, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology and Institute for Genome Sciences, was interviewed by Scientist magazine on two new studies seeking to validate the results of a 2004 retracted paper on parasite-to-host gene transfer. The article was entitled “Retraction Vindicated” and was published on March 28, 2011.

Julie Dunning Hotopp, PhD

In the News continued
Hats off to those who have been published!

- **Samuel Angiuoli, PhD**, director of Bioinformatics Software Engineering, Institute for Genome Sciences, along with **Julie Dunning Hotopp, PhD**, assistant professor, and **Hervé Tettelin, PhD**, associate professor, both from the Department of Microbiology & Immunology and Institute for Genome Sciences, and co-authored “Improving Pan-Genome Annotation Using Whole Genome Multiple Alignment” in BMC Bioinformatics, June 30, 2011; 12(1):272.


- **Geoffrey B. Crawford, MD, MS**, chief resident, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, authored “Continued Debate on Comparative Effectiveness Research” in Health Affairs, 2010 Dec;29(12):2353. In addition, Dr. Crawford, along with **Anuprita Khedkar**, MS candidate, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, **John Sorkin, MD, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Medicine, and **Lisa Gallicchio, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Medicine, and **Michele Gwinn Giglio, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Pediatrics, also co-published the paper “Psychometric Validity and Standardization of the 90-item Child Behavior Checklist” in Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology, 40(3), 445-455. Dr. Black, along with **Howard Dubowitz, MD**, professor, Department of Pediatrics, also co-published the paper “Psychometric Functioning of the Child Behavior Checklist for Infants and Toddlers” in Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology, 40(3), 445-455. In addition, Drs. Black and Hurley, along with **Michelle Gwinn Giglio, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Medicine, and associate director of Analysis, who are all from the Institute for Genome Sciences, co-authored “The IGS Standard Operating Procedure for Automated Prokaryotic Annotation,” in Standards in Genomic Sciences, April 2011; Vol. 4, No 2.

- **Kevin Galens**, bioinformatics software engineer, **Joshua Orvis**, bioinformatics software engineer, **Sean Daugherty**, bioinformatics analyst, **Heather Huot Creasy**, bioinformatics analyst, **David Riley**, bioinformatics software engineer, and **Sean Daugherty**, bioinformatics analyst. In addition, Drs. Eppinger and Ravel are first and corresponding last authors of “Genome Signatures of Escherichia coli O157:H7 from the Bovine Host Reservoir” in Applied and Environmental Microbiology, May 2011, Vol. 77, pp. 2916-2125.


Albert W. Lee, graduate research assistant I, Institute for Genomes Sciences, and Hervé Tettelin, PhD, associate professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology and Institute for Genome Sciences, co-authored “Genomic Analyses of Clonal Isolates Provide Clues to the Evolution of Streptococcus pneumoniae,” in frontiers in Microbiology; 2:63.

Garry Myers, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology and Institute for Genome Sciences, and Patrik Bavoil, PhD, professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, co-authored an article entitled “Unity in Variety—the Pan-Genome of the Chlamydiae” in Molecular Biology and Evolution, June 20, 2011.

Pablo Rabinowicz, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, Maximo Rivarola, postdoctoral fellow, Xinyue Liu, bioinformatics engineer, and Heather Huot Creasy, bioinformatics analyst, all from the Institute for Genome Sciences, and Jacques Ravel, PhD, associate professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, and associate director, Genomics, Institute for Genome Sciences, co-authored “Castor Bean Organelle Genome Sequencing and Worldwide Genetic Diversity Analysis” in PLoS ONE, July 7, 2011.

David Rasko, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology and Institute for Genome Sciences (IGS), Claire Fraser-Liggett, PhD, professor, Departments of Medicine and Microbiology & Immunology, and director, IGS, and Jacques Ravel, PhD, associate professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, and associate director of Genomics, IGS, co-authored “Bacillus anthracis Comparative Genome Analysis in Support of the Amerithrax Investigation,” in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the USA, March 7, 2011; 108 (12) 5027-5032.

Jean-Pierre Raufman, MD, professor, Department of Medicine, was the senior author on “Muscarinic Receptor Agonists Stimulate Human Colon Cancer Cell Migration and Invasion” in the American Journal of Physiology, Volume 300, April 2011, and first author on “In Vivo Magnetic Resonance Imaging to Detect Biliary Excretion of 19F-Labeled Drug in Mice” in Drug Metabolism and Disposition, Volume 39, March 2011.

Jacques Ravel, PhD, associate professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, and associate director, Genomics, Institute for Genome Sciences, and Pawel Gajer, PhD, research associate, Department of Microbiology & Immunology and Institute for Genome Sciences, co-authored “Moving Pictures of the Human Microbiome” in Genome Biology, June 2011, Vol. 12, pp. R50.

Michael E. Winters, MD, associate professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, co-authored “Treating Critical Illness Caused by the 2009 H1N1 Influenza A Virus,” which was published in the May 2011 issue of The Journal of Emergency Medicine.
Kudos to our colleagues who are experts in their fields and give their all to represent the School of Medicine!

- **Cynthia Bearer, MD, PhD**, professor, Department of Pediatrics, convened the 3rd annual Baltimore-Washington and Virginia Perinatal Club, which focuses on training fellows on research presentations. Attendees included senior and junior faculty and fellows from the seven area neonatology programs: University of Maryland, Johns Hopkins, Georgetown University, Children's National Medical Center, Virginia Commonwealth University, Uniformed Health Services and University of Virginia. In addition, Dr. Bearer was invited as a visiting professor to the University of New Mexico (UNM) on March 17, 2011, to present pediatric grand rounds as well as UNM’s monthly Neuroscience Department Seminar.

- **Maureen Black, PhD, John A. Scholl, MD, and Mary Louise Scholl, MD**, Professor of Pediatrics, presented “Toddler Obesity Prevention: Healthy Lifestyle Behavior from the Beginning” at The Pediatric Obesity Symposium held at Children's National Medical Center, in Washington, DC, in May 2011. Additionally, Dr. Black presented “Obesity Prevention for Infants and Toddlers: Healthy Lifestyle Behavior for Families” at the University of Maryland Extension Working Forum for Parent-Child Feeding Interactions in Obesity Prevention- Advancing Research and Practice program in Annapolis in June 2011.

- **Deepak A. Deshpande, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Medicine, presented “Bitter Taste Receptors on Airway Smooth Muscle: A New Therapeutic Target” at the European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology in Istanbul, Turkey, in June 2011.

- **W. Florian Fricke, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology and Institute for Genome Sciences, was an invited speaker at the Keystone Symposium on Microbial Communities as Drivers of Ecosystem Complexity in Breckenridge, Colorado, in March 2011. At the symposium, he presented a lecture entitled “Dynamics of the Vaginal Microbiota in Reproductive Age Women.”

- **Jacques Ravel, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, and associate director of Genomics, Institute for Genome Sciences, was the lead organizer of the Keystone Symposium on Microbial Communities as Drivers of Ecosystem Complexity in Breckenridge, Colorado, in March 2011. At the symposium, he presented a lecture entitled “Dynamics of the Vaginal Microbiota in Reproductive Age Women.”

- **Stephen Reich, MD**, Frederick Henry Prince Distinguished Professor of Neurology, directed “Bell’s Palsy: Clinical Overview, Differential Diagnosis and Update on Treatment” as well as presented three talks at the American Academy of Neurology Annual Meeting in Hawaii in April 2011. Dr. Reich’s presentations were entitled “Bell’s Palsy: History, Anatomy, Clinical Features, Differential Diagnosis,” “Neurology Update II, Update in Movement Disorders,” and “The Dystonias: Diagnosis, Treatment and Update on Causes, Video Examples: Common and Uncommon.”

The University of Maryland Children’s Hospital’s new neonatal intensive care unit, or NICU, will open in fall 2012. The 52-bed single room unit will be environmentally green, provide developmentally appropriate care and be based in a family-centered care atmosphere. A parent will be able to room with their infant at all times. To accommodate this expansion, the University plans to hire three additional academically-oriented neonatologists in the coming year.
Congratulations to the following who have received honors!

- Rebecca Brotman, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health and Institute for Genome Sciences, received the “Maryland’s Top 100 Women” award from the Daily Record in March 2011. The award recognizes the outstanding achievements demonstrated by women through their professional accomplishment, community leadership and mentoring.

- In June 2011, Stephen Davis, MBBS, professor and chair, Department of Medicine, gave the State of the Department Address, where he presented the following Department of Medicine faculty with Teacher of the Year Awards in their respective divisions: Gautam Ramani, MD, assistant professor, Division of Cardiology; Toni Pollin, PhD, assistant professor, and Elizabeth Streiten, MD, associate professor, Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Nutrition; Eric Goldberg, MD, assistant professor, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology; John Hong, MD, associate Professor, Division of General Internal Medicine; Eileen Barry, PhD, associate professor, Division of Geographic Medicine; Jacob Blumenthal, MD, Assistant Professor, Division of Gerontology and Clinical Geriatrics; Ivana Gojo, MD, associate professor and Ashraf Badros, MB, ChB, professor, Division of Hematology Oncology; Devang Patel, MD, assistant professor and David Riedel, MD, assistant professor, Division of Infectious Diseases; Daniel Salzberg, MD, FACP, assistant professor, and Edward Weinman, MD, professor, Division of Nephrology; associate professor, Division of Pulmonary & Critical Care Medicine; and Raymond Flores, MD, associate professor, Division of Rheumatology and Clinical Immunology.

- Christopher R. deFilippi, MD, associate professor, and Stephen L. Seliger, MD, MS, assistant professor, both from the Department of Medicine, each were given an award for Clinical Publication of the Year by Stephen Davis, MBBS, professor and chair, Department of Medicine, during Dr. Davis’ June 15, 2011, State of the Department Address for their publication “Association of Serial Measures of Cardiac Troponin T Using a Sensitivity Assay with Incident Heart Failure and Cardiovascular Mortality in Older Adults” in JAMA, December, 2010; Vol 304(22):2494-2502.

- Jennifer DeSanto, RN, MS, Department of Neurology, received a $20,000 scholarship from the American Cancer Society and a $3,000 scholarship from the Oncology Nursing Society.

- Mangla Gulati, MMBS, assistant professor, Department of Medicine, received the University of Maryland Physician Colleague Award for 2011 at the Special Achievement in Nursing Awards Ceremony held on May 11, 2011, at the University of Maryland Medical Center. Dr. Gulati is committed to providing safe, efficient and service-oriented care to patients in many different units. Dr. Gulati worked with nursing to develop a systematic approach in optimizing patient flow in order to communicate and forecast future discharges and the interventions needed to facilitate those discharges as efficient and timely.

- Marc C. Hochberg, MD, MPH, professor, Departments of Medicine and Epidemiology & Public Health, received the prestigious Roger Demers Award (Prix Roger Demers) from The Laurentian Conference of Rheumatology. The award is named in honor of the founder of the conference and was given to Dr. Hochberg at the annual meeting in Mont Tremblant, Quebec, in recognition of his contributions to the international community of rheumatology. Dr. Hochberg gave two lectures at the conference: “Epidemiology of Osteoarthritis: Update 2011” and “Clinically Relevant Outcomes in Osteoarthritis.”

- Amal Mattu, MD, professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, has been named 2011 Program Director of the Year by the Emergency Medicine Residents’ Association (EMRA). The award was presented during the annual meeting of the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine, held in Boston in June 2011. At the same meeting, Priya Kuppusamy, MD, then a third-year resident and now clinical instructor and academic fellow, Department of Emergency Medicine, received EMRA’s Dedication Award, presented to a resident whose work promotes the specialty and the organization.
HONORS & AWARDS continued

- Melissa McDiarmid, MD, MPH, professor, Departments of Medicine and Epidemiology & Public Health, was given an award for Clinical Publication of the Year by Stephen Davis, MBBS, professor and chair, Department of Medicine, during Dr. Davis’ June 15, 2011, State of the Department Address for his publication “Combination Immunotherapy Using Adoptive T-cell Transfer and Tumor Antigen Vaccination on the Basis of hTERT and Survivin after ASCT for Myeloma” in Blood, January 2011; 117(3): 788-797. During the same address, Deepak A. Deshpande, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Medicine, was given an award for Basic Science Publication of the Year for his publication “Bitter Taste Receptors on Airway Smooth Muscle Bronchodilate by Localized Calcium Signaling and Reverse Obstruction” in Nature Medicine, November, 2010; Vol 16(11):1299.

- Aaron P. Rapoport, MD, professor, Department of Medicine, received an award for Basic Science Publication of the Year by Stephen Davis, MBBS, professor and chair, Department of Medicine, during Dr. Davis’ June 15, 2011, State of the Department Address for his publication “Chromosome 5 and 7 Abnormalities in Oncology Personnel Handling Anticancer Drugs” in the Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, October 2010; Volume 52(10):1028-1034.

- Ligia Peralta, MD, associate professor, Department of Pediatrics, was honored with the Robert S. Rixe Memorial Lectureship Award at Children’s National Medical Center in Washington, DC, on June 8, 2011.

We welcome our new faculty!

- Elias Abebe, MD, joined the Department of Pediatrics as an assistant professor after graduating from the University of Maryland Neonatal-Perinatal Fellowship Program. Dr. Abebe’s interest is in quality improvement research in neonatal intensive care units and neonatal infection. He graduated with his medical degree from Jimma University in Jimma, Ethiopia, and performed a residency at Addis Ababa University in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and then a pediatric residency at New York Methodist Hospital in Brooklyn, New York, before conducting his fellowship at Maryland.

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 Reinke
Dermatology: Betsy Satosky
Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine: Nan Knight
Emergency Medicine: Linda Kesselring
Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine: Yimei Wu
Family & Community Medicine: Karen Webster
Medical & Research Technology: Cynthia Stambach
Medicine: Molly Lutz
Microbiology & Immunology: Teri Robinson
Neurology: Paula Gilley
Neurosurgery: Terry Roberts
Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences: Robin Kissinger
Ophthalmology: Nancy Cook
Orthopaedics: Dan Kelly
Otorhinolaryngology: Bryan Ambro
Pathology: Carmen White
Pediatrics: Tammy Vyskocil
Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics: Anne Nourse
Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science: Krista N Mosul
Physiology: Ken FahnstocK
Psychiatry: Vee Porter-Brown
Radiation Oncology: Jill Rosenberg
Surgery: Meghan Scalea
Program in Comparative Medicine: Deborah Sanchez
Program in Genetics & Genomic Medicine: Pam Shinnick
Program in Minority Health & Health Disparities: Maurice Walker
Program in Neuroscience: Tom McHugh
Program in Oncology: Stephen Long
Program in Trauma: Cynthia Rivers
Center for Health Policy & Health Services Research: Maurice Walker
Center for Integrative Medicine: Harry Bosk
Center for Mucosal Biology Research or MBRC: Pam King
Center for Research on Aging: Kara Longo
Center for Shock, Trauma and Anesthesiology Research or STAR-ORC: Jane Anderson
Center for Stem Cell Biology & Regenerative Medicine: Lauren Flowers
Center for Vaccine Development: Gloria Smalley
Center for Vascular & Inflammatory Diseases: Tallia Bailey
Institute for Autoimmunity and Inflammation: Susie Flaherty
Institute for Genome Sciences: Renée Nathaniel
Institute of Human Virology: Nora Granwell
MD/PhD Program: Jane Bacon

Office of Admissions: Mickey Foxwell
Office of Development: Emily Cooke
Office of Faculty Affairs & Professional Development: Roberta Simpson
Office of Information Services: Jim MacNamee
Office of Policy & Planning: Maurice Walker
Office of Public Affairs: Heather Graham Phelps
Office of Research Career Development: Stacie Small Mendoza
Office of Research & Graduate Studies: Tom Hooven
Office of Student Affairs: Dawn Roberts
Office of Student Research: Jordan Warnick

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