



what's the buzz?

Self-Reported News from the School of Medicine Community

EVENTS, LECTURES

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

► **Natalie Davis, MD, MMSc**, Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, presented a webinar for the Child Passenger Safety and Occupant Health Care Project at MIEMSS (Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems) on March 14. Her topic was "An Update on Newborns in Car Safety Seats & the Infant Car Seat Challenge Test."

► **Anne Estes, PhD**, a Postdoctoral Fellow in the laboratory of **Julie Dunning Hotopp, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology and the Institute for Genome Sciences, presented "A Global Core Dung Beetle Microbiome with Varying Taxonomic Abundance Across Life Stage" at the Keystone Symposium "Mechanisms and Consequences of Invertebrate-Microbe Interactions" in Tahoe City, CA, from January 26–30. She received a Keystone Symposia Future of Science Fund scholarship to attend this meeting.

► **Robert Gallo, MD**, the Homer & Martha Gudelsky Distinguished Professor in Medicine, Department of Medicine, and Director, Institute of Human Virology, lectured in Arkansas at the "Giants in Oncology" series, which was co-sponsored by the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute and the Myeloma Institute for Research and Therapy at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. This annual event was inaugurated in 2012 and features a scientist of world-renown whose contributions to the field of Hematology/Oncology have made a significant difference in the understanding of disease biology, treatment and prevention.

► **Jon Mark Hirshon, MD, MPH, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, testified before a subcommittee of the House of Representatives' Energy and Commerce Committee on March



& WORKSHOPS

26. The purpose of the hearing was to explore the implications of the nationwide shortage of psychiatric beds and of the boarding of psychiatric patients in emergency departments until appropriate beds become available. Dr. Hirshon presented data from the 2014 National Report Card on Emergency Care, which was compiled by a task force that he chaired within the American College of Emergency Physicians.

► **Benjamin Lawner, DO, MS, EMT-P**, Assistant Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, presented two lectures at the 21st Annual Conference of the National Collegiate EMS Foundation, held in Boston in late February. The titles of his talks were "No BS in Cardiac Arrest: Why BLS Providers Own Cardiac Arrest Resuscitation" and "Controversies in 2014: Where Does the Ambo Go?" He also organized and led skills labs on cardiac arrest resuscitation and ECG interpretation, and served as emcee for a trauma skills competition. Additionally, Dr. Lawner was a faculty member for the semi-annual paramedic refresher course held at the University of Maryland Baltimore County from February 18–21. The titles of his lectures there were "Controversies in Pre-Hospital Care" and "Updates to the Management of Acute Coronary Syndromes."

► **Amal Mattu, MD**, Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, was a faculty member for the 2014 Teaching Fellowship, sponsored by the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP). The fellowship is designed to help physicians develop their teaching and faculty development skills. Dr. Mattu presented the following lectures to 80 academic emergency medicine physicians: "Getting Promoted in Academic Emergency Medicine: 10 Secrets to Success;" "Finding Your Niche in Academics;" "Writing Letters of Recommendation;" and "Everyday Leadership: Secrets of Successful Leaders Through the Ages." The emergency medicine department at the University



Jon Mark Hirshon, MD,
MPH, PhD



Robert Gallo, MD at UAMS

EVENTS, LECTURES & WORKSHOPS *continued*

of Maryland School of Medicine has more graduates of ACEP's Teaching Fellowship than any other program in the world. Four faculty members attended this year's course: **Semhar Tewelde, MD**, Instructor; **Andrea Tenner, MD**, Assistant Professor; **Danya Khoujah, MBBS**, Assistant Professor; and **Sarah Dubbs, MD**, Clinical Instructor.



Alexandre Medina de Jesus,
DSci

► **Alexandre Medina de Jesus, DSci**, Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics, presented "Improving Cortical Neuronal Plasticity in a Model of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders" at the first Gordon Conference in Alcohol and Brain Research, held from February 16–21 in Galveston, TX. Gordon conferences are international forums for the presentation and discussion of frontier research in the biological, chemical, and physical sciences, and their related technologies. Dr. Medina was invited as one of the leaders in the field of neuronal plasticity in Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders.

► **Steven Shipley, DVM**, Assistant Professor, Department of Pathology, will present "Gut Microbiota Differences Between Mauritian and Non-Mauritian Cynomolgus Macaques—

Differential Responses to Vaccination and Pathogen Challenge In a *Shigella dysenteriae* Vaccine Development Study" at the Symposium on Biomedical Research Using Mauritian Macaques, to be held in Madison, WI on May 13.

► **Scott Thompson, PhD**, Professor and Chair, Department of Physiology; **Elyse Sullivan**, PhD student, Program in Neuroscience; and **Emma Rose, PhD**, Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry, were on Capitol Hill on March 26 on behalf of the Society for Neuroscience, lobbying congress on the need for increased funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Science Foundation (NSF). The three met with healthcare and science policy staffers in the offices of both Maryland senators and Maryland representatives to describe their personal experiences with the drastic consequences of sequestration on the research enterprise and to make the case for a full restoration of funding for the NIH and NSF.



Elyse Sullivan, Scott
Thompson, PhD and
Emma Rose, PhD

APPOINTMENTS



We applaud our colleagues on their recent appointments!



Dhan Kalvakolanu, MS, PhD

► **Dhan Kalvakolanu, MS, PhD**, Professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, has been appointed editor-in-chief of the journal *Cytokine*, beginning July 1. *Cytokine* is the official journal of the International Cytokine and Interferon Society (ICIS), and is published by the Elsevier Journals, Amsterdam.

► **Glenn Ostir, PhD**, Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, has been appointed as Director of the Program on Aging, Trauma, and Emergency Care (PATEC), a joint venture with more than 40 participating faculty members from

every school on the University of Maryland, Baltimore campus, as well as faculty from the University of Maryland College Park and the University of Maryland Baltimore County.

► **Jill RachBeisel, MD**, Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry, has been appointed Chief of Clinical Services in the department. Dr. RachBeisel will provide general oversight over all clinical programs, and assist the divisions and their directors in developing wider inter- and intra-departmental collaborative partnerships. Furthermore, Dr. RachBeisel's appointment is designed to deepen the relationship between the hospital and the community; provide greater cohesion and efficiency for clinical programs; build more variegated and specialized treatment options for patients; and strengthen compliance with clinical processes to deliver state-of-the-art patient care.

► **Narendra Shet, MD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology, has been appointed the Medical Director of General Radiology. In this leadership role, Dr. Shet will work with the modality managers of General Radiology regarding imaging quality, patient safety and dose, and equipment acquisition and technology planning. Dr. Shet will also interface with referring physicians around clinical issues in the general radiology area.



Jill RachBeisel, MD



PUBLICATIONS

Hats off to those who have been published!



Gad Alon, PT, PhD

- **Gad Alon, PT, PhD**, Associate Professor Emeritus, Department of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science, was among the co-authors on “Modulation of Resting State Functional Connectivity of the Motor Network by Transcranial Pulsed Current Stimulation (tPCS)” in *Brain Connectivity*, 2014 Mar 4 [Epub ahead of print].
- **Narlin Beaty, MD**, Neurosurgery Fellow, was among the co-authors on “Adamantinomatous Craniopharyngioma Containing Teeth” in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, 2014 Feb 27; 370(9):860. Dr. Beaty was quoted in an article about the findings in the March 1, 2014 edition of *The Baltimore Sun*.
- **Uttam Bodanapally, MBBS**, Assistant Professor; **Kathirkama Shanmuganathan, MBBS**, Professor; **Stuart Mirvis, MD**, Professor; **Alan McMillan, PhD**, Assistant Professor; and **Jiachen Zhuo, PhD**, Assistant Professor, all from the Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, were among the co-authors on “Diagnosis of Traumatic Optic Neuropathy: Application of Diffusion Tensor Magnetic Resonance Imaging” in the *Journal of Neuro-Ophthalmology*, 2013;33(2):128-33.
- **D. Hunter Boggs, MD**, Resident, Department of Radiation Oncology, was the lead author on “Potential of Glyburide to Reduce Intracerebral Edema in Brain Metastases” in *Expert Review of Neurotherapeutics*, 2014 Feb 19 [Epub ahead of print]. Co-authors included **J. Marc Simard, MD**, Professor, Department of Neurosurgery; **Andrew Steven, MD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine; and **Minesh Mehta, MB, ChB**, Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology.
- **Hee Teak Chung, PhD**, Assistant Professor; **Karl Prado, PhD**, Professor; and **Byong Yong Yi, PhD**, Professor, all from the Department of Radiation Oncology, were the co-authors on “An Analytical Formalism to Calculate Phantom Scatter Factors For Flattening Filter Free (FFF) Mode Photon Beams” in *Medicine and Biology*, 2014 Feb 21;59:951–960.
- **Vasken Dilsizian, MD**, Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, was co-author on “Leaning Heavily on PET Myocardial Perfusion for Prognosis” in the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology Cardiovascular Imaging*, 2014 Mar;7(3):288-91.

- **W. Andrew Eglseder, MD**, Associate Professor, Department of Orthopaedics, was among the co-authors on “Fracture of the Radial Styloid and Concomitant First Dorsal Compartment Musculotendinous Injuries: Two Case Reports,” a case report article in the *American Journal of Orthopaedics*, 2014 Feb;43(2):83–88.
- **Caron Hong, MD, MSc**, and **David Schreiber, MD**, both Assistant Professors, Department of Anesthesiology; and **Volodymyr Gerzanich, MD, PhD**, Associate Professor, and **J. Marc Simard, MD, PhD**, Professor, both from the Department of Neurosurgery, were among the co-authors on “Biomarkers As Outcome Predictors in Subarachnoid Hemorrhage—A Systematic Review” in *Biomarkers*, 2014 March;19(2):95-108.
- **Mario Inacio**, PhD Candidate; **Woei-Nan Bair, PhD**, UMANRRT Postdoctoral Fellow; **Michelle Prettyman, DPT, MS**, Assistant Professor; and **Mark W. Rogers, PT, PhD**, Professor and Interim Chair, all from the Department of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science, were among the co-authors on “Gluteal Muscle Composition Differentiates Fallers From Non-Fallers in Community Dwelling Older Adults” in *BMC Geriatrics*, 2014 Mar 25;14(1):37 [Epub ahead of print]. Additional authors were **Alice Ryan, PhD**, Professor, and **Brock Beamer, MD**, Assistant Professor, both from the Department of Medicine.
- **Gaurav Jindal, MD**, Assistant Professor; **Manuel Fortes, MD**, Neuroradiology Fellow; **Timothy Miller, MD**, Assistant Professor; and **Dheeraj Gandhi, MD**, Professor, all from the Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, and **Thomas Scalea, MD**, the Francis X. Kelly Professor of Trauma Surgery, Department of Surgery, and Director of the Program in Trauma, was among the co-authors on “Endovascular Stent Repair of Traumatic Cervical Internal Carotid Artery Injuries” in the *Journal of Trauma Acute Care Surgery*, 2013 Nov;75(5):896-903.
- **Eugene Koh, MD**, Assistant Professor, and **Oliver Tannous, MD**, Resident Physician, both in the Department of Orthopaedics, were the authors on “Cervical Disc Arthroplasty: Equivalent Alternative to Anterior Cervical Discectomy and Fusion But Unknown Superiority” in *Seminars in Spine Surgery*, 2013 Sep;25(3):200-204.
- **Jaroslav Krejza, MD, PhD**, Adjunct Professor; **Rong Chen, PhD**, Assistant Professor; and **Elias Melhem, MD, PhD**, Professor and the Dean John M. Dennis



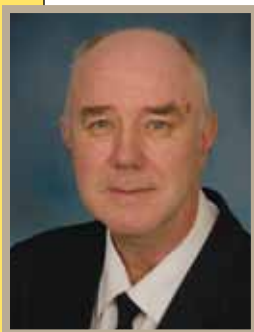
Gaurav Jindal, MD

PUBLICATIONS *continued*

Chairman, all from the Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, were among the co-authors on “Prevalence of Intracranial Stenosis and Silent Cerebral Infarcts in Children with Sickle Cell Anemia and Low Risk of Stroke” in the *International Journal of Stroke*, 2013 Oct;8(7):E50-51.

► **Katja Langen, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was among the co-authors on “A Margin-Based Analysis of the Dosimetric Impact of Motion on Step-and-Shoot IMRT Lung Plans” in *Radiation Oncology*, 2014 Feb 5;9:46.

► **Richard Lichenstein, MD**, Professor, Department of Pediatrics, was among the co-authors on an article for the Traumatic Brain Injury Study Group of the Pediatric Emergency Care Applied Research Network (PECARN) entitled “Risk of Traumatic Brain Injuries in Children Younger than 24 Months With Isolated Scalp Hematomas” in *The Annals of Emergency Medicine*, 2014;Mar 10 [Epub ahead of print].



Erik Lillehoj, PhD

► **Erik Lillehoj, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics, was the senior author on “Parasitocidal Activity of a Novel Synthetic Peptide from the Core α -Helical Region of NK-lysin” in *Veterinary Parasitology*, 2013 Oct 18;197(1-2):113-21.

► **Steven Ludwig, MD**, Professor, Department of Orthopaedics, was among the co-authors on “Lateral Mass Screw Fixation in the Cervical Spine: A Systematic Literature Review,” a review article in the *Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery, American Volume*, Dec2013;95(23):2136-2143.

► **Bing Ma, PhD**, Postdoctoral Fellow; **Pawel Gajer, PhD**, Research Associate, Department of Microbiology & Immunology; **Naomi Sengamalay**, Program Manager; **Sandra Ott**, Research Specialist; **Rebecca Brotman, PhD, MPH**, Assistant Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health; and **Jacques Ravel, PhD**, Professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology and Associate Director for Genomics, all from The Institute for Genome Sciences, were among the co-authors on “An Improved Dual-Indexing Approach for Multiplexed 16S rRNA Gene Sequencing on the Illumina MiSeq Platform” in *Microbiome*, 2014 Feb 24;2(1):6.

► **Michael Mazzeffi, MD, MPH**, Assistant Professor, Department of Anesthesiology, was among the co-authors on “In-Hospital Mortality After Cardiac Surgery: Patient Characteristics, Timing, and Association With Postoperative Length of Intensive Care Unit and Hospital Stay” in the *Annals of Thoracic Surgery*, 2014 Apr;97(4):1220-1225.

► **Minesh Mehta, MB, ChB**, Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was the senior author on “A Randomized Trial of Bevacizumab For Newly Diagnosed Glioblastoma” in *The New England Journal of Medicine*, 2014 Feb 20;370:699-708. He was also among the co-authors on “Benefit From Procarbazine, Lomustine, and Vincristine in Oligodendroglial Tumors Is Associated With Mutation of IDH” in *The Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 2014 Feb 10 [Epub ahead of print].

► **Timothy Miller, MD**, Assistant Professor; **Gaurav Jindal, MD**, Assistant Professor; **Manuel Fortes, MD**, Neuroradiology Fellow; and **Dheeraj Gandhi, MD**, Professor, all from the Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, were among the co-authors on “Diagnosis and Management of Trigemino-Cavernous Fistulas: Case Reports and Review of the Literature” in the *Journal of Neurointerventional Surgery*, 2014 Jan 6 [Epub ahead of print].

► **Nilesh Mistry, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was the lead author on “Nitrate Induces the Extravasation of Iron Oxide Nanoparticles In Hypoxic Tumor Tissue” in *NMR in Biomedicine*, 2014 Apr;27(4):425-30.

► **Andrew Neuwald, PhD**, Professor, Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, was among the co-authors on “Evaluating, Comparing, and Interpreting Protein Domain Hierarchies” in the *Journal of Computational Biology*, 2014 Apr;21(4):287-302.

► **Vincent Njar, PhD**, Professor, Department of Pharmacology and Head of the Medicinal Chemistry section in the Center for Biomolecular Therapeutics (CBT), and his lab personnel: **Senthilmurugan Ramalingam, PhD**, Postdoctoral Fellow; **Lalji Gediya, PhD**, Research Associate; **Andrew Kwegyir-Afful, MS**, Graduate Student; **Vidya Ramamurthy, PhD**; **Puranik Purushottamachar, PhD**, Research Associate; and **Hannah Mbatia, PhD** were among co-authors on “First Mnk5 Degrading Agents Block Phosphorylation of eIF4E,



Minesh Mehta, MB, ChB



Nilesh Mistry, PhD

PUBLICATIONS *continued*

Induce Apoptosis, Inhibit Cell Growth, Migration and Invasion in Triple Negative and Her2-Overexpression Breast Cancer Cell Lines” in *Oncotarget*, 2014;5(2):530-543.



Maria Nurminskaya, PhD

► **Maria Nurminskaya, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, was among the co-authors on “New Therapeutic Approaches to Arterial Calcification Via Inhibition of Transglutaminase and B-Catenin Signaling” in *Current Pharmaceutical Design*, 2014 Feb 12 [Epub ahead of print].

► **Robert O’Toole, MD**, Associate Professor, Department of Orthopaedics, was the primary author on “Are Bilateral Femoral Fractures No Longer a Marker for Death?” in the *Journal of Orthopaedic Trauma*, 2014 Feb;28(2):7781. He was also among the co-authors on “Can Intramuscular Glucose Levels Diagnose Compartment Syndrome?” in the *Journal of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery*, 2014 Feb;76(2):474478. Dr. O’Toole and **Jean-Claude D’Alleyrand, MD**, Clinical Instructor, were among the authors on “The Evolution of Damage Control Orthopedics: Current Evidence and Practical Applications of Early Appropriate Care” in *Orthopedic Clinics of North America*, 2013 Oct;44(4):499507 and on “Is Time to Flap Coverage of Open Tibial Fractures An Independent Predictor of Flap-Related Complications?” in the *Journal of Orthopaedic Trauma*, 2013 Sep 26 [Epub ahead of print].



Andrew Pollak, MD

► **Andrew Pollak, MD**, Professor and Chair; **W. Andrew Eglseder, MD**, Associate Professor; **Jason Nascone, MD**, Associate Professor; **Robert O’Toole, MD**, Associate Professor; and **Marcus Sciadini, MD**, Associate Professor; **Theodore Manson, MD**, Assistant Professor; **Christopher LeBrun, MD**, Clinical Assistant Professor; and **Romney Andersen, MD**, Visiting Assistant Professor, all from the Department of Orthopaedics, were among the co-authors of “Do One-Time Intracompartmental Pressure Measurements Have a High False Positive Rate in Diagnosing Compartment Syndrome?” in the *Journal of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery*, 2014 Feb;76(2):479483. Drs. Pollak, O’Toole and LeBrun were also among the co-authors on “Survey Finds Few Orthopedic

Surgeons Know the Costs of the Devices They Implant,” a medical device cost article in *Health Affairs (Project HOPE)*, 2014 Jan;33(1):103-109.

► **Charlene Quinn, PhD**, Professor; **Michelle Shardell, PhD**, Professor; **Michael Terrin, MDCM, MPH**, Professor; **Erik Barr, BA**; and **Ann Gruber-Baldini, PhD**, Professor, all from the Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, were among the authors on “Mobile Diabetes Intervention for Glycemic Control: Impact on Physician Prescribing” in *Journal of Diabetes Science and Technology*, 2014 Feb 5 [Epub ahead of print].

► **David Rasko, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology and Institute for Genome Sciences, was among the co-authors on “High Frequency, Spontaneous *motA* Mutations In *Campylobacter jejuni* Strain 81-176” in *PLoS One*, 2014 Feb 18;9(2):e88043.

► **Feyruz Rassool, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was among the authors of “Vascular Progenitors From Cord Blood-Derived Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells Possess Augmented Capacity For Regenerating Ischemic Retinal Vasculature” in *Circulation*, 2014 Jan 21;129:359–372.

► **Andrew Steven, MD**, Assistant Professor; **Jiachen Zhuo, PhD**, Assistant Professor; and **Elias Melhem, MD, PhD**, Professor and the Dean John M. Dennis Chairman, all from the Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, were among the co-authors on “Diffusion Kurtosis Imaging: An Emerging Technique for Evaluating the Microstructural Environment of the Brain” in *AJR: The American Journal of Roentgenology*, 2014 Jan;202(1):W26-33.

► **Hervé Tettelin, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology; **Sonia Agrawal**, Senior Bioinformatics Software Engineer; **Su Qi**, Bioinformatics Analyst I; and **Sean Daugherty**, Senior Bioinformatics Analyst, all from the Institute for Genome Sciences, and **Claire Fraser, PhD**, Professor, Departments of Medicine and Microbiology & Immunology and Director of the Institute for Genome Sciences, were among the co-authors on “High-Level Relatedness Among *Mycobacterium Abscessus subsp. massiliense* Strains From Widely Separated Outbreaks” in *Emerging Infectious Diseases*, 2014 Mar;20(3):364-71.



Feyruz Rassool, PhD

GRANTS &

CONTRACTS



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

► **Robert Bloch, PhD**, Professor, Department of Physiology, received a new five-year, \$1,688,500 grant from the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases for his research on “Role of Dysferlin In T-Tubules of Skeletal Muscle.”



Samer El-Kamary, MD, MPH

► **Samer El-Kamary, MD, MPH**, Associate Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, has been awarded a one-year, \$54,960 grant from Merck via UNC to study “The Pathogenesis of Hepatitis C Virus Vertical Transmission.”

► **Leslie Glickman, PT, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science, has been awarded \$10,000 from the University of Maryland, Baltimore’s Center for Global Education Initiatives (CGEI) for the “Interprofessional Education (IPE) Malawi Project.” The award is believed to be the first interprofessional global health grant program at a U.S. university.

► **Laura Hungerford, DVM, MPH, PhD**, Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, received a 10-month, \$17,795 service agreement from the San Diego Zoo to assist with the development of a large epidemiology research project.

► **Mark Rizzo, PhD**, Associate Professor, and **Withrow Wier, PhD**, Professor, both from the Department of Physiology, received a new two-year, \$422,125, Multi-PI R21 research grant from the Office of the Director, National Institutes of Health, for their research on “Development of RhoA Optical Sensor Mice for Novel Vascular Smooth Muscle Studies.”

► **Hervé Tettelin, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology and The Institute for Genome Sciences, received a two-year, \$166,400.00 grant from the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation for his study “Human Functional Genomics of Mycobacterial Infections in Cystic Fibrosis.” Dr. Tettelin hypothesizes that specific mutations accumulated and maintained over time in *Mycobacterium massiliense* strains of cystic fibrosis (CF) patients, including mutations shared among outbreak strains, confer higher virulence

to these strains in the context of CF. He further hypothesizes that CF host-adapted and transmissible strains elicit a different level and possibly a different type of host response to infection. He proposes to address these hypotheses using large-scale bioinformatics, host-pathogen interactions, functional genomics (including RNA-Seq), and the development of new diagnostic tests.

► **Zeljko Vujaskovic, MD, PhD**, Professor and Director of the Division of Translational Radiation Sciences, Department of Radiation Oncology, has been awarded \$2,186,000 through a contract with Aeolus Pharmaceuticals, Inc., for a study on “Therapeutic Efficacy Screening of AEOL10150 In a Murine Model: Determining Duration, Timing, Natural History, and Mechanism of Action.”

IN THE NEWS



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

► **Larry Forrester, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science, and **Richard Macko, MD**, Professor, and **Anindo Roy, PhD**, Assistant Professor, both from the Department of Neurology, were featured on the American Heart Association’s AHA TV on February 10, in a VA Maryland Health Care System video that showcased the Anklebot, a robot exoskeleton that can be used on stroke patients to help re-engineer mobility recovery.

► **Ramzi Khairallah, PhD**, a 2010 graduate of the Molecular Medicine program in the Graduate Program in Life Sciences, is competing on The Food Network’s *America’s Best Cook*, which premiered April 13. Ramzi is currently a research associate in the Department of Physiology at Loyola University in Chicago.

► *Microbiome*, a journal that is co-edited by **Jacques Ravel, PhD**, Professor of Microbiology & Immunology and Associate Director for Genomics, Institute for Genome Sciences, is now indexed in PubMed.



Ramzi Khairallah, PhD (far left), is on chef Michael Symon’s team.

HONORS & AWARDS



Congratulations to the following who have received honors!

► **Ameer Abutaleb, MS-IV**, received the 2013 American Gastroenterological Association (AGA) Student Research Fellowship Award, which supports medical students interested in pursuing research in digestive diseases or nutrition. “I could not have asked for a better opportunity with this AGA Student Research Award,” Ameer said on the AGA website. “As a consequence of this award I will be able to work with **Jean-Pierre Raufman, MD**, (Professor, Department of Medicine) in his laboratory and learn from his expertise. I hope to start by learning a skill which he mastered—asking appropriate scientific questions that drive productive experimental design and strong quality of research. It is our hope that applying this method to our particular pathway of interest will lead to exciting results and, eventually, to progress in cancer treatment and prevention. I am confident that, in the short-term, this generous award will support a valuable learning experience in my research education and, in the long-term, help me build a strong foundation for future digestive disease-related research.” Ameer will do his residency in Internal Medicine at the University of Maryland Medical Center.

► **Gad Alon, PT, PhD**, Associate Professor Emeritus, Department of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science, has been chosen by the APTA (American Physical Therapy Association) to receive the John H. P. Maley Lecture Award for 2015. This honor is awarded to physical therapists who have made distinguished contributions to the profession of physical therapy in any area of clinical practice. Dr. Alon will deliver the John H.P. Maley Lecture at the general session of NEXT (formerly the APTA Annual Conference), being held from June 3–6, 2015 in National Harbor, MD.

► **Carissa Baker-Smith, MD**, Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics, received a citation from the American College of Cardiology’s Adult Congenital and Pediatric Cardiology (ACPC) Section for her continued contributions to ACPC’s initiative to develop quality metrics across the ambulatory pediatric cardiology domains, as another step forward in improving patient care.

► **Stephen Bartlett, MD**, the Peter G. Angelos Distinguished Professor and Chair, Department of Surgery, was recognized by the University System of Maryland Board of Regents with a 2014 Faculty Award. These awards commend distinguished performance on the part of faculty members within the 12 institutions that comprise the University System of Maryland (USM). Dr. Bartlett

was recognized by the regents in the Scholarship/Research/Creative Activity category for blazing the trail for revolutionary transplant procedures. Under Dr. Bartlett, the Division of Transplantation has grown into one of the largest, busiest, and most comprehensive transplant programs in the world.

► **Frank Calia, MD, MACP**, Professor Emeritus, Department of Medicine, was awarded the Jane F. Desforges Distinguished Teacher Award from the American College of Physicians (ACP) at ACP’s annual Convocation ceremony in Orlando, FL, on April 10. The Jane F. Desforges Distinguished Teacher Award was established by ACP’s Board of Regents in 1968 as the American College of Physicians Distinguished Teacher Award. It was renamed for Dr. Desforges in 2007. The award is bestowed upon a Fellow or Master of the College who has demonstrated the qualities of a great teacher, as judged by the acclaim and accomplishments of former students who have been inspired by the nominee and who have achieved positions of leadership in the field of medical education, primarily as teachers.

► **Shannan DeLany Dixon, MS, CGC**, Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, on the recommendation of the Faculty of the Arcadia University Genetic Counseling Program, was selected to receive the College of Health Sciences Alumni Achievement award for the 2013–2014 academic year.



Ronna Hertzano, MD, PhD

► **Ronna Hertzano, MD, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Otorhinolaryngology/Head & Neck Surgery, won the 17th Burt Evans Young Investigator Award from the National Organization of Hearing Research. The award was presented in February at the annual meeting of the Association for Research in Otolaryngology. This award is given in recognition of excellent achievements in auditory investigation, and to dedication and commitment to the pursuit of auditory genetics.

► **Carole Norris Shortle, MSW, MA**, Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry, was presented with the Alma Troccoli Award for Excellence in Advocating for the Mental Health Needs of Young Children and their Families at the Taghi Modarressi Center for Infant Study’s 17th Annual Taghi Modarressi Memorial Lecture on April 3.



Shannan DeLany Dixon,
MS, CGC



Carissa Baker-Smith, MD

HONORS & AWARDS *continued*

► **The Center for Vaccine Development (CVD)** received the honor of “Highly Recommended” in the category “Best Academic Research Team” at the Vaccine Industry Excellence (ViE) Awards in March. These awards recognize outstanding vaccine advancements and achievements of therapeutic and preventive vaccine developers across the global industry, as judged by a panel of global biotech industry stakeholders. CVD was recognized for its work on Microbiota and *Salmonella Typhi* and *Shigella* infections and vaccines.

NEW FACULTY

We welcome our new faculty!

► **Farshad Adib, MD**, has been appointed as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Orthopaedics. Dr. Adib specializes in Sports Medicine and Joint Reconstruction and also treats pediatric orthopaedic patients. He earned his medical degree at Islamic Azad University Tehran Medical Branch and



NEW FACULTY *continued*

completed his residency in Orthopaedic Surgery at Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences in Tehran, Iran. Dr. Adib also completed four fellowships: one in Sports Medicine and another in Hip Preservation at Harvard Medical School, Children’s Hospital of Boston, in Boston, MA; one in Sports Medicine at Nirschl Orthopedic Center, Virginia Hospital, in Arlington, VA; and one in Reconstructive Surgery at University of Virginia Hospitals in Charlottesville, VA.



Farshad Adib, MD



Emily Jo Durrance, DPM, CWS

► **Emily Jo Durrance, DPM, CWS**, has been appointed as a Clinical Instructor in the Department of Orthopaedics. Dr. Durrance specializes in Podiatry and Foot and Ankle Surgery. She earned her Doctor of Podiatric Medicine degree at Dr. William M. Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science in North Chicago, IL, and completed her residency in Podiatry and Foot and Ankle Surgery at The Veterans Affairs Maryland Health Care System in Baltimore.

Research Communications Network

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

Anatomy & Neurobiology:
Leslie Fitzpatrick

Anesthesiology: Pamela Earle-Jackson

Biochemistry & Molecular Biology:
Qun Zhou

Dermatology: Betsy Satosky

Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine: Brigitte Pocka

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: Penelope Birkhead

Neurosurgery: Mari Jo Pohlner
Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences: Robin Kissinger

Ophthalmology: Chinneta Pettaway-Willis

Orthopaedics: Dori Kelly

Otorhinolaryngology: Bryan Ambro

Pathology: Rob Christenson

Pediatrics: Denise Hansen

Pharmacology: Stacey Lukasik

Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science: Monica Martinez

Physiology: Ken Fahnestock

Psychiatry: Vee Porter-Brown

Radiation Oncology: Jill Rosenberg
Surgery: Meghan Scalea

Program in Comparative Medicine:
Deborah Sanchez

Program in Genetics & Genomic Medicine: Ruth Cosentino

Program in Minority Health & Health Disparities: Carol Shelton

Program in Neuroscience: Tom McHugh

Program in Oncology: Robert Mitchell
Program in Trauma: Jane Anderson

Center for Health Policy & Health Services Research: TBD

Center for Integrative Medicine:
Rebekah Owens

Center for Mucosal Biology Research (MBRC): Pam King

Center for Research on Aging:
Kara Longo

Center for Shock, Trauma and Anesthesiology Research (STAR-ORC):
Gabriela Felton

Center for Stem Cell Biology & Regenerative Medicine:
Fulscia Morrison

Center for Vaccine Development:
Carey Martin

Center for Vascular & Inflammatory Diseases: Talia Bailey

Institute for Genome Sciences:
Riham Keryakos

Institute of Human Virology:
Nora Grannell

MD/PhD Program: Jane Bacon

Office of Admissions: Mickey Foxwell

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