**Self-Reported News from the School of Medicine Community**

**Events, Lectures & Workshops**

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

- **The Graduate Research Conference (GRC)**, which is hosted annually by the Graduate Student Association of the University of Maryland, Baltimore, was held on Friday, March 15 at the SMC Campus Center. The GRC provides students and postdoctoral fellows with the opportunity to present their research to the campus community. Representing the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science were PhD Students: Raziyeh Baghi, Brian Johnson, and Kelly Rock. They presented "Ultrasonic Measurement of Gastrocnemius Biomechanical Properties During Stepping on an Elliptical Trainer: A Case Study."
- **Exploring Postural Control During Walking and Running in Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia Childhood Cancer Survivors (ALL CCS)," and "Acoustic Stimulation During a Daytime Nap to Enhance Sensorimotor Skill Performance in Older Adults with and without a History of Stroke, respectively."
- **Odessa Addison, DPT, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, participated in the U13 Bench-to-Bedside Osteoporosis & Soft Tissue (Muscle/Fat) Disorders workshop, which was held in Bethesda, Md., March 11–12, 2019. At the Workshop, Dr. Addison presented a poster titled, "The Relationship of Intermuscular Adipose Tissue and Skeletal Muscle Capillarization in Sedentary Older Adults." Additionally, she was voted a "Rising Star" by the planning committee and participated in the Workshop’s career development and networking program.
- **Cynthia Bearer, MD, PhD**, the Mary Gray Cobey Professor of Neonatology, Department of Pediatrics, presented Grand Rounds at Columbia University, New York, N.Y., on February 27, 2019. Her presentation was titled "Developmental Neurotoxicity of Ethanol-Understanding Exposure and Mechanism." Dr. Bearer also presented "How to Get Published," at the Ninth Annual Baltimore-Washington-Virginia Perinatal Consortium, held in Warrenton, Va., on March 8, 2019. Separately, she presented at the Eastern Society for Pediatric Research (ESPR) 2019, “Accepted with Minor Revisions: Manuscript Writing for Clarity and Publication,” in Philadelphia, Pa., on March 22, 2019. Dr. Bearer was also the keynote speaker at the Third Annual Child Well-being Symposium, Albuquerque, N.Mex., on March 30, 2019.
- **Katharine Bisordi, MS, MGC, CGC**, Instructor, Department of Pediatrics, presented a poster titled "What the Disease Ontology (DO) Can Do to Improve Communication Across Health-Related Datasets” at the 2019 American College of Medical Genetics (ACMG) Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting, in Seattle, Wash., April 2-6, 2019.
- **Maureen Black, PhD**, the John A. Scholl, MD and Mary Louise Scholl, MD Professor in Pediatrics, was invited to give two lectures at the International Pediatrics Association in Panama City, Panama, "The Future of Child Health: Moving from Survival to Human Capital Development," on March 18, 2019, and "Nutritional Deficiencies: Links with Cognitive & Social Development Among Infants & Toddlers" on March 19, 2019.
- **Natalie Davis, MD, MMSc**, Assistant Professor, and **Colleen Hughes Driscoll, MD**, Assistant Professor, both from the Department of Pediatrics, organized the 11th Annual Baltimore Washington Virginia Perinatal Consortium (BWVPC) conference, held March 7–8, 2019 at the Airlie Convention Center in Warrenton, Va. This conference was started by **Cynthia Bearer, MD, PhD**, the Mary Gray Cobey Professor of Neonatology, Department of Pediatrics. The conference brings together faculty and fellows from the seven regional academic Neonatology fellowship programs and provides a forum for trainees and junior faculty to present their research, practice moderating sessions, as well as network and collaborate with other researchers in the region.
- **Vasikin Diltsazian, MD**, Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, delivered an oral presentation entitled “Cardiac PET in Device Infections and Endocarditis,” along with co-chairing the session entitled "Advances in Nuclear Cardiology" at the American College of Cardiology Scientific Sessions, which was held in New Orleans, La., March 15–17, 2019.
- **Alena Egense, MGC, CGC**, Instructor, Department of Pediatrics, presented clinical case studies titled “Waardenburg Syndrome: Expansion of Genotype/Phenotype Presentations” and “Whole Exome Sequencing: Expanding Phenotype of Vascular EDS” at the Quarterly Baltimore Washington Genetics Group (BWGG) Regional meeting in Baltimore, Md., on February 28, 2019. In addition, Dr. Egense, Carol Greene, MD, FAAP, FACMG, Professor; Julie Frank, MS, CGC, Instructor; Rachel Gore, ScM, CGC, Instructor; and Katharine Bisordi, MS, MGC, CGC, Instructor, all from the Department of Pediatrics, coordinated talks on updates in clinical genetics practice modalities, hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, personalized genomic medicine research and clinical case reports, for the Baltimore Washington Genetics Group Regional Meeting in Baltimore, Md. on February 28, 2019.
- **Brian Johnson, OTR/L**, PhD Candidate, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, attended a workshop at The National Center of Neurormodulation for Rehabilitation, hosted at The Medical University of South Carolina, titled “Advanced Operant Conditioning and Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation.” While there, he received didactic and hands on training regarding EMG/MEP operant conditioning, transcranial direct current stimulation, and transcranial magnetic stimulation.
Carissa Baker-Smith, MD, MS, MPH, FAAP, FAHA, Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, was selected as a program committee member for the Ambulatory Track of 8th Quadrennial World Congress of Pediatric Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery, which will be held in Washington, D.C. in 2021.

Karen Kotloff, MD, Professor of Pediatrics, and Associate Director of Clinical Studies, Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health (CVD), spoke at the fourth VIDA Investigators’ Meeting in Bamako, Mali. Other faculty speakers included, Kathleen Neuzil, MD, MPH, FAAP, Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics and Director of the CVD, and Dilruha Nasrin, MBBC, PhD, Assistant Professor of Medicine, also from CVD. Dr. Kotloff also gave a talk on March 9, 2019 titled “Global Health Research: From Science to Humanity” at the St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital in Memphis, Tenn.

Richard Lichenstein, MD, Professor, Department of Pediatrics, presented “Planning for Pediatrics in Disasters” at MedStar Emergency Management Summit at Harbor Hospital Medical Center, in Baltimore, Md., on March 14, 2019.

Victoria Marchese, PhD, PT, Associate Professor, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, presented “Challenges with Gait and Functional Movement in Childhood Leukemia Survivors: Solutions for Improvement,” on March 28, 2019 at the Current Concepts in Cancer Rehabilitation conference hosted by Penn State Health.

Kathleen Neuzil, MD, MPH, Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics and Director of the Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health (CVD), delivered the keynote address at the 11th International Conference on Typhoid and other invasive Salmonelloses, March 26–28, 2019, in Hanoi, Vietnam. Other speakers included, Myron Levine, MD, The Simon and Betsy Grollman Distinguished Professor of Medicine, Associate Dean for Global Health, Vaccinology and Infectious Diseases; Marcelo Sztein, MD, Professor; Rezwana Wahid, MBBS, PhD, Assistant Professor; and Karen Kotloff, MD, Professor of Pediatrics, and Associate Director of Clinical Studies, all from the Department of Pediatrics and CVD.

We applaud our colleagues on their recent appointments!

Carissa Baker-Smith, MD, MS, MPH, FAAP, FAHA

Paul Staats, MD, Associate Professor, Department of Pathology, has been elected as President of the Association of Directors of Anatomic and Surgical Pathology.

Lee-Ann Wagner, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, was appointed as President-Elect for the Society of Hospital Medicine (SHM) Maryland Chapter.

In the News

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

Richard Zhao, PhD, Professor, Department of Pathology, was interviewed by The WBAL TV Baltimore on the “London HIV Development,” on March 8, 2019. Separately, Dr. Zhao was interviewed by Mr. Jeff Salkin, host of the Direct Connection of Maryland Publication Television, on “Your Health: HIV Latest,” March 18, 2019.

Rachel Skolky, PT, MSPT, DPT, GCS, Assistant Professor, and Megan Ortega, DPT, Instructor, both from the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, participated in the visit from ninth grade students who are enrolled in the P-TECH Healthcare program at Dunbar High School on March 18, 2019. Thirty-five students visited the R. Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center and spent the day working directly with health care professionals in different areas of medicine, including physical therapy. In addition, Dr. Skolky; Cara Felter, PT, DPT, MPH, Assistant Professor; and third year DPT student Ray Gergen, all from the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation, along with UMB employee Greg Brightbill, presented a course at the APTA of MD Spring Conference which was held on March 30, 2019. The course was entitled, “LGBTQ Patients in the Clinic and Beyond: Practical Applications & Discussion.”

Ivana Vucenik, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Medical and Research Technology, presented two lectures in a seminar series on nutrition, immunity and cancer, highlighting the role of inositol compounds. These meetings were held in Spain; one meeting was in Barcelona on March 19, 2019 and another in Madrid on March 22, 2019.

Alexander Whitaker, MD, Assistant Professor, and Alena Egonese, MGC, CGC, Instructor, both from the Department of Pediatrics, were invited to give a talk titled “General Pediatrician and Genetic Counselor Practice: Outcomes of Adapting a Genetics Clinic to New Models” at the Quarterly Baltimore Washington Genetics Group (BWGG) Regional meeting in Baltimore, Md. on February 28, 2019.

Richard Zhao, PhD, Professor, Department of Pathology, was invited to present at the University of Minnesota for the Microbiology, Immunology and Cancer Biology (MICaB) Seminar Series on January 28, 2019. His lecture was titled “From Yeast to Mammalian Cells: An Integrated Approach to Study Human Viruses.”
Bridget Armstrong, PhD  
Gad Alon, PT, PhD  

**Development and Global Health, were among**  
**the co-authors of** “Design, Characterization and Evaluation of a Laser-Guided Focused Ultrasound System for Preclinical Investigations,” which was published in Biomedical Engineering Online on March 28, 2019.

Hiroynuki Arakawa, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, was the author of “Age and Sex Differences in the Innate Defensive Behaviors of C57BL/6 Mice Exhibited in a Fear Conditioning Paradigm and Upon Exposure to a Predatory Odor,” which was published in the May 2019 issue of Physiology and Behavior.

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<th>Co-Author</th>
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<tr>
<td>Carissa Baker-Smith, MD, MS, MPH, FAAP, FAHA</td>
<td>Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, was among the co-authors of “Aligning Adult and Pediatric Blood Pressure Guidelines,” which was published in the April 2019 issue of the Journal of the American Heart Association.</td>
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<td>Eileen Barry, PhD, Professor, Department of Medicine, Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health (CVD), was among the authors of “Biochemical and Immunological Evaluation of Recombinant Cs6- Derived Subunit Enterotoxigenic Escherichia Coli Vaccine Candidates,” which was published in Infection and Immunology on February 21, 2019.</td>
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<td>Andrea Barry, MD, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics; Ahmed Ouattara, PhD, DPharm, Research Associate of Medicine; Kirsten Lyke, MD, Professor of Medicine; Matthew Laurens, MD, MPH, Associate Professor of Pediatrics; Shannon Takala-Harrison, PhD, Associate Professor of Medicine; and Mark A. Travassos, MD, MSc, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, all from the Center of Vaccine Development and Global Health, were among the authors of “Antibodies to Peptides in Semiconserved Domains of RIFINs and STEVORs Correlate with Malaria Exposure,” which was published in the March 2019 issue of mSphere.</td>
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<td>Maureen Black, PhD, the John A. Scholl, MD and Mary Louise Scholl, MD Professor in Pediatrics, was among the co-authors of “Optimising the Continuum of Child and Adolescent Health and Development,” and a co-author on two papers in The Archives of Disease in Childhood, “Rating Early Childhood Development Outcome Measurement Tools for Routine Health Programme Use,” and “Counting Outcomes, Coverage and Quality for Early Child Development Programmes.”</td>
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<td>Thomas Blanchard, PhD, Associate Professor; Steven Czinn, MD, the Drs. Rouben and Violet Jiji Endowed Professor and Chair; and Aditi Banerjee, PhD, Assistant Professor, all from the Department of Pediatrics; Andrea Bafford, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery; and Antonino Passaniti, MD, Professor, Department of Pathology, were among the co-authors of “Identification of Cross Talk Between FxrX1 and RASSF1A as a Therapeutic Target of Colon Cancer,” which was published in the February 2019 issue of Cancer.</td>
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<td>Mary Beth Bollinger, DO, Professor, Department of Pediatrics, was among the co-authors of “Pattern of Medication Use in Children with Very Poorly Controlled Asthma,” which was published in Annals of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology on January 25, 2019. In addition, Dr. Bollinger, was among the co-authors of “Caregiver-Reported Asthma Control Predicts Future Visits, Independent of Guideline-Based Control Measures,” which was published in the Journal of Allergy Clinical Immunology in Practice on January 28, 2019.</td>
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<td>Jonathan Bromberg, MD, PhD, Professor of Surgery, Microbiology and Immunology, Center for Vascular and Inflammatory Diseases, was among the co-authors of “CD4 T Cell Sphingosine 1-Phosphate Receptor (S1PR1) and S1PR4 and Endothelial S1PR2 Regulate Afferent Lymphatic Migration,” which was published in the March 2019 issue of Science Immunology.</td>
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<td>David Dreizin, MD, Assistant Professor; Uttam Bodanapally, MBBS, Assistant Professor; and Amelia Wnorowski, MD, Assistant Professor, all from the Department of Diagnostic and Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, were among the co-authors of “A Comparison of Segmented Abdominopelvic Fluid Volumes with Conventional CT Signs of Abdominal Compartment Syndrome in a Trauma Population,” which was published in Abdominal Radiology on April 5, 2019. Dr. Wnorowski was also a co-author of “Patterns in On-time, Daily Submission of a Short Web-Based Personal Behavior Survey in a Longitudinal Women’s Health Study,” which was published in Sexually Transmitted Diseases on March 14, 2019.</td>
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<td>DeAnna Friedman-Klabanoff, MD, Postdoctoral Fellow; Matthew Laurens, MD, MPH, Associate Professor; Andrea Berry, MD, Assistant Professor; Mark Travassos, MD, MSc, Assistant Professor, all from the Department of Pediatrics; Myron Levine, MD, DTPH, The Simon and Betsy Grollman Distinguished Professor of Medicine, Associate Dean for Global Health, Vaccinology, and Infectious Diseases; Myron Levine, MD, DTPH, The Simon and Betsy Grollman Distinguished Professor of Medicine, Associate Dean for Global Health, Vaccinology, and Infectious Diseases; Robert Edelman, MD, Professor Emeritus; and Kirsten Lyke, MD, MPH, Professor, all from the Department of Medicine, were among the co-authors of “The Controlled Human Malaria Infection Experience at the University of Maryland,” which was published in the American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene on March 10, 2019.</td>
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| Sijia Guo, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow; Jiachen Zhu, PhD, Assistant Professor; Guang Li, PhD, Assistant Professor; Dheeraj Gandhi, MBBS, Professor; Elias Melhem, MD, PhD, Professor; and Rao Gullapalli, PhD, MBA, Professor, all from the Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, along with Paul Fishman, MD, PhD, Professor, Department of Neurology; Howard Eisenberg, MD, Professor, Department of Neurosurgery; and Mor Dayan, Clinical Programs Manager, Insightec Ltd., were the authors of “Feasibility of Ultrashort Echo Time Images Using Full-
Wave Acoustic and Thermal Modeling for Transcranial MRI-guided Focused Ultrasound (tcRgFUS) Planning,” which was published in Physics in Medicine and Biology on March 25, 2019.

Anne Hammer, PhD, Visiting Doctoral Fellow, and Patti Gravitt, PhD, MS, Professor, both from the Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, were among the co-authors of “Hysterectomy-Corrected Cervical Cancer Mortality Rates in Denmark During 2002-2015: A Registry-Based Cohort Study,” which was published in Acta Obstetricia Gynecologica Scandinavica on April 17, 2019.

Cheng-Ying Ho, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Pathology, was among the co-authors of “Filling and Somatotropic Alignment of Mammalian Low-Threshold Mechanoreceptors,” which was published in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences on March 7, 2019.

Laundette Jones, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, was among the co-authors of “Planning for Community Scale-Up of Project HEAL: Insights from the SPRINT Initiative,” which was published in Health Promotion Practice on January 24, 2019.

Kimia KHALATARI KANI, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, was the author of “Clavicle Fractures: Review and Update for Radiologists,” which was published in Current Problems in Diagnostic Radiology on February 27, 2019. Dr. Kani was among the co-authors of “Properative MRI for the Multiligament Knee Injury: What the Surgeon Needs to Know,” which was published in Current Problems in Diagnostic Radiology on February 10, 2019.

Praat Karki, DSc, Assistant Professor, and Anna Birukova, MD, Professor, both from Department of Medicine, were among the co-authors on “Microtubule Destabilization Caused by Particulate Matter Contributes to Lung Endothelial Barrier Dysfunction and Inflammation,” which published in the January 2019 issue of Cellular Signaling. Separately, both Drs. Karki and Birukova were among the co-authors of “Staphylococcus aureus-Induced Endothelial Permeability and Inflammation are Mediated by Microtubule Destabilization,” which was published in the Journal of Biological Chemistry on March 8, 2019. Drs. Karki and Birukova, along with Yunbo Ke, PhD, Assistant Professor, and Konstantin Birukov, MD, PhD, Professor, both from the Department of Anesthesiology, were among the co-authors on “Mechanosensitive Rap1 Activation Promotes Barrier Function of Lung Vascular Endothelium Under Cyclic Stretch” which was published in the Molecular Biology of the Cell on April 1, 2019.

Karen Kotloff, MD, Professor, Department of Pediatrics and Head of the Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases and Tropical Medicine, Dilruba Nastrin, MBBS, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine; and Myron Levine, MD, DTPH, The Simon and Bessy Grolman Distinguished Professor of Medicine, Associate Dean for Global Health, Vaccinology and Infectious Diseases, authored “Risk Factors for Death Among Children 0-59 Months of Age with Moderate-to-Severe Diarrhea in Maniça District, Southern Mozambique,” which was published in BMJ Infectious Diseases on April 15, 2019. Dr. Kotloff also authored “Clinical Endpoints for Efficacy Studies,” which was published in Vaccines on April 10, 2019.

Jay Magaziner, PhD, MSHyg, Professor and Chair; Jack Guralnik, MD, PhD, MPH, Professor; and Denise Orwig, PhD, Associate Professor, all from the Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, were among the co-authors of “Establishing the Link Between Lean Mass and Grip Strength Cut-Points with Mobility Disability and Other Health Outcomes: Proceedings of the Sarcopenia Definition and Outcomes Consortium Conference,” which was published in Journals of Gerontology Series A: Biological Sciences and Medical Sciences on March 14, 2019.

Monica McArthur, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics; Wilbur Chen, MD, Associate Professor of Medicine; and Marcelo Szein, MD, Professor of Pediatrics, all from the Center of Vaccine Development and Global Heath, authored “Diversity of Salmonella Typhi-Responsive Regulatory T Cells Before and After Ty21a Typhoid Vaccination in Children and Adults,” which was published in the April 2019 issue of Clinical Immunology.

Timothy Miller, MD, Assistant Professor; Gaurav Jindal, MD, MPH, FIDSA, Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics, and Director of the Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, was among the authors of “Impact of Rotavirus Vaccine Introduction in Children Less Than 2 Years of Age Presenting for Medical Care with Diarrhea in Rural Matlab, Bangladesh,” which was published in Clinical Infectious Disease on February 12, 2019.

Lyndsay O’Hara, PhD, MPH, Assistant Professor, and Anthony Harris, MD, MPH, Professor, both from the Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, were among co-authors of “Transmission Pathways of Multidrug-Resistant Organisms in the Hospital Setting: A Scoping Review,” which was published in Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology on March 6, 2019.

Kelly Rock, PT, DPT, PhD Student, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, was a co-author of “Academy of Oncologic Physical Therapy EDGE Task Force on Cancer: A Systematic Review of Outcome Measures for Pain in Children,” which was published in the May 2019 issue of Journal Rehabilitation Oncology.

Eliot Siegel, MD, Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, was last author of “CT-Based 3D Printing of Saccular Aneurysms,” which was published in Neurointerventional Surgery on March 29, 2019. Dr. Gandhi was also a co-author of “Management of Unruptured Intracranial Aneurysms in Older Adults: A Cost-Effectiveness Analysis,” which was published in Radiology on March 19, 2019, and “Comparative Effectiveness of Endovascular Thrombectomy in Elderly Stroke Patients,” which was published in the April 2019 issue of Stroke.

Timothy Miller, MD, Assistant Professor; Gaurav Jindal, MD, MPH, FIDSA, Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics, and Director of the Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, was among the authors of “Impact of Rotavirus Vaccine Introduction in Children Less Than 2 Years of Age Presenting for Medical Care with Diarrhea in Rural Matlab, Bangladesh,” which was published in Clinical Infectious Disease on February 12, 2019.

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Eliot Siegel, MD, Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, was last author of “CT-Based 3D Printing of the Glenn Prior to Shoulder Arthroplasty: Bony Morphology and Model Evaluation,” which was published in the Journal of Digital Imaging on February 28, 2019.

Marcelo Szein, MD, Professor of Pediatrics, authored “Attenuated Oral Typhoid Vaccine Ty21a Elicits Lamina Propria and Intra-Epithelial Lymphocyte Tissue-Resident Effector Memory CD8 T Responses in the Human Terminal Ileum,” which was published in the February 2019 issue of Frontiers in Immunology.

Franklin Toapanta Yanchapaxi, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor of Medicine; Monica McArthur, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics; and Marcelo Szein, MD, Professor of Pediatrics, authored “Attenuated Oral Typhoid Vaccine Ty21a Elicits Lamina Propria and Intra-Epithelial Lymphocyte Tissue-Resident Effector Memory CD8 T Responses in the Human Terminal Ileum,” which was published in the February 2019 issue of Frontiers in Immunology.

Monica McArthur, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics; Wilbur Chen, MD, Associate Professor of Medicine; and Marcelo Szein, MD, Professor of Pediatrics, all from the Center of Vaccine Development and Global Health, authored “Diversity of Salmonella Typhi-Responsive Regulatory T Cells Before and After Ty21a Typhoid Vaccination in Children and Adults,” which was published in the April 2019 issue of Clinical Immunology.
Sztein, MD, Professor of Pediatrics, all from the Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, authored “Role of Antigen Specific T and B Cells in Systemic and Mucosal Immune Responses in ETEC and Shigella Infections, and Their Potential to Serve as Correlates of Protection in Vaccine Development,” which was published in the April 2019 issue of Vaccine.

Stefanie Vogel, PhD, Professor; Darren Perkins, PhD, Assistant Professor; and first author Daniel Prantner, PhD, Research Associate, all from the Department of Microbiology and Immunology, authored “AMP-Activated Kinase (AMPK) Promotes Innate Immunity and Antiviral Defense through Modulation of Stimulator of Interferon Genes (STING) Signaling,” which was published the March 2019 issue of the Journal of Biological Chemistry.

Rezwunul Wahid, MBBS, PhD, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics; Karen Kotloff, MD, Professor of Pediatrics, all from the Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, received the 2019 Alumni Achievement Award from the Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University. This award, granted annually, was given in recognition of her outstanding contribution to medicine.

Levine, MD, DTPH, The Simon and Betsy Grollman Distinguished Professor of Medicine, Associate Dean for Global Health, Vaccinology and Infectious Diseases; and Marcelo Sztein, MD, Professor of Pediatrics, all from the Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, authored “Cell Mediated Immune Responses Elicited in Volunteers Following Immunization with Candidate Live Oral Salmonella Enteritidis Paratyphi A Attenuated Vaccine Strain CVD 1902,” which was published in the March 2019 issue of Clinical Immunology.

Kelly Westlake, PhD, MSc, PT, Assistant Professor, and Brian Johnson, OTR/L, PhD Candidate, both from the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, were co-authors on “Systematic Review Investigating the Effects of Nonpharmacological Interventions During Sleep to Enhance Physical Rehabilitation Outcomes in People with Neurological Diagnoses,” which was published in the May 2019 issue of Neuromodulation and Neural Repair.

Congratulations to the following who have received honors!

Hiroyuki Arakawa, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, was awarded the Distinguished Early and Middle Career Award, from the Japanese Psychological Association. The award will be conferred at a reception in September 2019.

Cynthia Bearer, MD, PhD, Professor, Department of Pediatrics, was awarded the Children’s Environmental Health Network’s Science Award of the year, which will be presented on October 10, 2019.

Laura Buchanan, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery, has been nominated for a Nursing Excellence Award for “Physician Colleague (Attending or Resident/Fellow).” The awards ceremony will take place during Nurses Week in May.

William Carpenter, MD, Professor, Department of Psychiatry, received the Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2019 International Congress of the Schizophrenia International Research Society in Orlando, Fla., on April 10, 2019.

Karen Kotloff, MD, Professor of Pediatrics, and Associate Director of Clinical Studies, Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, received the 2019 Alumni Achievement Award from the Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University. This award, granted annually, was given in recognition of her outstanding contribution to medicine.

Adam Puche, PhD, Professor, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, was a recipient of the 2019 University of Maryland System Regents Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching. The award is the highest honor that the Board of Regents bestows to recognize exemplary faculty achievement. Dr. Puche was presented the award at the Board of Regents meeting on April 19, 2019.

Richard Zhao, PhD, Professor, Department of Pathology, has been elected as a Fellow to the American Academy of Microbiology (AAM). AAM is an honorific leadership group within the American Society for Microbiology (ASM), the world’s oldest and largest life science organization.

We welcome our new faculty!

Dan Covey, PhD, joined the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology as an Assistant Professor in February 2019. Dr. Covey received his PhD degree from Illinois State University in 2014 after which he joined the laboratory of Joseph Cheer, PhD, Professor of Anatomy and Neurobiology, as a postdoctoral fellow. Dr. Covey is interested in the cellular mechanisms that shape neural circuit control of motivated action and how they become dysregulated in neuropsychiatric disease. His work is currently funded by a K99/R00 award from the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

Nathan Cramer, PhD, joined the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology as an Assistant Professor in February 2019. He is a University of Maryland, Baltimore alumnus who received his doctorate in Neuroscience from the Graduate Program in Life Sciences in 2007. He comes from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences where his research focused on how the central nervous system adapts to prolonged high-altitude exposure. As a member of Dr. Asaf Keller’s lab, who is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, Dr. Cramer will examine how chronic opioid use leads to hyperalgesia and understanding the mechanisms which facilitate pain perception during withdrawal.

Megan Connelly Ortega, DPT, Instructor, joined the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science as the Assistant Director of Clinical Education in April 2019. Dr. Ortega comes to the School of Medicine from the Anne Arundel Medical Center where she was a physical therapist.
Grants & Contracts

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

- Gary Fiskum, PhD, Matjasko Professorship for Research in Anesthesiology and Vice Chair, Professor, Department of Anesthesiology; Claire Fraser, PhD, the Dean’s Endowed Professor in the School of Medicine, Professor of Medicine, Microbiology and Immunology, and Director, Institute for Genome Sciences; Rosemary Kozar, MD, PhD, Professor, Department of Surgery; and Nicole Klinedinst, PhD, MPH, MSN, RN, FAHA. Associate Professor from the University of Maryland School of Nursing, were awarded a three-year, $3.5 million grant from the U.S. Army and Air Force for “Genomics, Microbiomics, and Bioenergetics-Based Personalized Treatment for Head Trauma Patients at Risk for Sepsis.” The research will be conducted within the Center for Shock, Trauma, and Anesthesiology Research (STAR).

- Claire Fraser, PhD, the Dean’s Endowed Professor in the School of Medicine, Professor of Medicine, Microbiology and Immunology, and Director, Institute for Genome Sciences; David Rasko, PhD, Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology; and Owen White, PhD, Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, Associate Director, also from the Institute for Genome Sciences, received a five-year, $17,552,940 grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID/NIH) for “A Genomics Based Investigation of the Determinants of Polymicrobial Infectious Disease Outcomes.”

- Myron Levine, MD, DTPH, The Simon and Bessy Grollman Distinguished Professor of Medicine, Associate Dean for Global Health, Vaccinology, and Infectious Diseases, Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, was awarded $2,500,000 from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID/NIH) for “Active Vaccination and Passive Antibody Strategies to Prevent Disease Caused by Multidrug-Resistant Bacterial Pathogens.”

- Iris Lindberg, PhD, Professor, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology along with co-principal investigator Nigel Maidment, PhD, from the University of California, Los Angeles, was awarded a five-year, $2,600,000 grant from the National Institute on Aging (NIA/NIH) for “ProSAAS-Mediated Neuroprotective Mechanisms in Alzheimer’s And Parkinson’s Diseases: The Role of Secretary Chaperones in Neurodegeneration.”

- Fabio Romero, PhD, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Institute of Human Virology, received a five-year, $4,005,581 R01 grant from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA/NIH) for “CRF Neural Circuits of Binge Drinking.”

- Kerri Thom, MD, Associate Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, received a two-year, $79,400 subcontract from the University of Illinois at Chicago, for “Epicenters for the Prevention of Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAIs): Cycle II Multicenter Program Studies.” This award is a federal passsthrough from the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention.