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

• The Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science (PTRS) was well represented at the American Physical Therapy Association’s annual Combined Sections Meeting (CSM) which was held in Denver, Colo., February 12–15, 2020. Presentations included:
  - Odessa Addison, DPT, PhD, Assistant Professor, delivered two presentations titled, “Muscle and Bone Crosstalk: A Conversation about Exercise and Nutrition” and “Macrovascular and Microvascular Contributors to Metabolism, Muscle, and Function in Aging: What PTs Should Know.” Dr. Addison was also a co-author on two posters that were presented at CSM: “Novel Use of Ultrasonography to Investigate Quadriceps Muscle Thickness before, during, and after 50-Kilometer Ultramarathon” and “Assessing Dynamic Balance Using the Four-Square Step Test in Adults with Peripheral Artery Disease.”
  - Gad Alon, PT, PhD, Professor Emeritus, presented an educational program titled, “Neuromodulation: Evidence-based treatment options available in PT practice.” Following the presentation he was surprised to receive an “Oscar” by the Academy of Electrophysiology and Wound Care.
  - Vicki Gray, MPT, PhD, Assistant Professor, presented at the Neurology Platform Session 3: “Vestibular and Balance Disorders and Degenerative Diseases.”
  - Christa Nelson, PT, DPT, PhD, OCS, Assistant Professor, had a poster presentation titled, “Novel Use of Ultrasonography to Investigate Quadriceps Muscle Thickness before, during, and after 50-Kilometer Ultramarathon.” Dr. Nelson was also the faculty mentor for the poster presentation by Gwen Leipe, DPT, PTRS DPT Alum, Class of 2019, titled “Rehabilitation of a 15-Year-Old Male with Peripheral Nerve Damage after Cardiac Transplant.”
  - Kelly Rock, PhD Student, presented the poster titled, “Assessing Dynamic Balance Using the Four-Square Step Test in Adults with Peripheral Artery Disease.”
  - Mary Rodgers, PT, PhD, FAPTA, FASB, FSB, Professor Emeritus, and Kelly Westlake, PT, MSc, PhD, Assistant Professor, were speakers on the funding panel titled, “Research Funding Symposium: Part 2, Perspectives from Funded PT Researchers.”
  - Robert Rowland, PT, DPT, Assistant Professor, presented “Sharpening the Spear: Performance Programming Essentials for the Physical Therapist.”
  - Michael Zarro, PT, DPT, SCI, CSCS, Assistant Professor, presented a platform titled: “Injury Risk Reduction in Team Sports.” Dr. Zarro and Jason Lawrence, DPT, CSCS, PTRS DPT Alum, Class of 2019, presented a poster titled, “Comprehensive Rehabilitation for a Female Runner with Iliotibial Band Syndrome.”
  - Jason Adler, MD, Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, lectured on “CMS Proposed Changes and Potential Impacts to Emergency Medicine” and took part in a panel discussion about the changing market forces in emergency medicine at the annual Emergency Medicine Reimbursement and Innovation Summit hosted by the Florida College of Emergency Physicians, held February 27–28, 2020, in Orlando, Fla.
  - Marianne Cloeren, MD, MPH, Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, published a 3.5 hour online continuing medical education course for the Massachusetts Medical Society titled “Work is Medicine—Strategies for Improving Functional Outcomes,” on January 14, 2020.
  - Natalie Davis, MD, MMSc, Assistant Professor, and Colleen Hughes Driscoll, MD, Assistant Professor, both from the Department of Pediatrics, organized the 12th Annual Baltimore-Washington-Virginia Perinatal Consortium (BWVPC) conference, held March 5–6, 2020, at the Airlie Convention Center in Warrenton, Va. The conference brought together faculty and fellows from the seven regional academic neonatology fellowship programs and provided a forum for trainees and junior faculty to present their research, practice moderating sessions, and collaborate with other researchers in the region.
  - Howard Dubowitz, MB, CHB, MS, FAAP, Professor, Department of Pediatrics, presented “The National SEEK Study” for the American Academy of Pediatrics New Jersey Chapter on February 3, 2020 and for the Maryland Chapter on February 20, 2020. Separately, Dr. Dubowitz presented “Neglected Children: A Role for Child Health Professionals” for Grand Rounds at Children’s National Medical Center, Washington, DC on April 8, 2020; and “The Safe Environment for Every Kid (SEEK) Model” at the Kempe Center Course on Child Maltreatment Prevention, Denver, Colo., on March 30, 2020.
  - Ronna Hertzano, MD, MPH, Associate Professor, Department of Otorhinolaryngology, presented an invited Grand Rounds named “A Molecular Path Towards Hearing Restoration and Preservation” at the Department of Otorhinolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery at Eastern Virginia Medical School, Norfolk, Va., in March 2020.
  - Javed Mahmood, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, presented “Cancer Therapy or Cancer: Who is the Winner,” as a special lecture at the Department of Pathology, New York Medical College in March 2020.
  - Christian Rolfo, MD, PhD, MBA, Professor, Department of Medicine, was the Chair for the 2020 Lung Cancer Hot Topic Liquid Biopsy Conference in Baltimore, Md., May 7–9, 2020.
  - Emerson Wickwire, PhD, Associate Professor, Departments of Psychiatry and Medicine, delivered the keynote address to the practice management conference of the American Academy of Dental Sleep Medicine in Orlando, Fla., on February 28, 2020. The title of his presentation was “The Metrics-Driven Practice: How to Help More Patients and Practice Better Dental Sleep Medicine Than You Ever Dreamed Possible.” Separately, Dr. Wickwire presented at the 2020 National Capital Area Traumatic Brain Injury Research Symposium in Bethesda, Md., on March 6, 2020. The title of the panel was “TBI-Related Sleep Disorders: Clinical and Preclinical Priorities For the Warrior.”
Grants & Contracts

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

- **Sam Bacharach**, Graduate Student, Program in Neuroscience, in the laboratory of **Donna Calu, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, with co-sponsor, **Joseph Cheer, PhD**, Professor, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, received a three-year, $38,376 Predoctoral National Research Service Award (NRSA) from the National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIH/NIDA) for “The Role of Cannabinoid Receptor-1 in Modulating Addiction Vulnerability.”
- **Yasmine Cisse, PhD**, Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Pharmacology, received a three-year, F32 grant from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NIH/NICHD) for “Programmatic Role of Maternal Preconception Stress on Offspring Metabolic Health.”
- **Zachary Dezman, MD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, was awarded a one-year, $30,000 grant from the University of Maryland, Baltimore Institute for Clinical and Translational Research’s Accelerated Translational Incubator Pilot Grant Program for his project, “Healthcare Utilization of Violence-Related Injury in the State of Maryland.”
- **Reha Erzurumlu, PhD**, Professor, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, received a five-year, $2,500,000 R01 grant renewal from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS/NIH) for “Consequences of Developmental Defects in Somatosensory Map Formation.”
- **Megan Fox, PhD**, Postdoctoral Fellow in the laboratory of **Mary Kay Lobo, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, was the recipient of a two-year K99 $351,584 award from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIH/NIDA) for “Circuit-Specific Molecular Mechanisms in Fenatryl Use and Relapse.”
- **Victor Frenkel, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, received a one-year, $156,826 subcontract from a Defense Advance Research Project Agency (DARPA) Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) Phase II grant with the Maryland Development Center LLC for “Wearable Ultrasound for Imaging and Modulation.”
- **Mary Kay Lobo, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, was awarded a five-year R01 $1,617,772 award from the National Institute on Mental Health (NIH/NIMH) for “Cell Subtype Mechanisms Underlying Stress Susceptibility and Resilience.”
- **Michael Miller, MD**, FACC, FAHA, Professor, Department of Medicine, received a four-year, $1,164,152 grant from the VA Merit Research Award for “The Effect of Differential Fat Loads on CVD Biomarkers in Veterans with HTG.”
- **Antonino Passaniti, PhD**, Professor, Department of Pathology, received a four-year, $1,198,154 VA Merit Award for “Mitochondrial Metabolism as a Target of Breast Cancer Therapy.” Dr. Passaniti also received a one-year, $115,000 Maryland Innovative Initiative Award from the University of Maryland, Baltimore for “Medicinal Chemistry Approaches and Pre-Command Development of New Analogs Modeled on Patented Lead Drug for Breast Cancer Prevention and Treatment.”

Honors & Awards

Congratulations to the following who have received honors!

- **Michael Bond, MD**, FACEP, FAAEM, Associate Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, was awarded Physician of the Year by the Maryland Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians on March 12, 2020.
- **Xiaofeng Jia, BM, PhD**, Professor, Department of Neurosurgery, has been elected into the Society of Critical Care Medicine (SCCM) Research Section Board as the Chair-Elect. SCCM is a large multidiscipline community with 16,000 members in more than 100 countries.
- **Elizabeth Nichols, MD**, Associate Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was honored with the Robin Protho Passion for the Promise Award by Susan G. Komen Maryland at an event on March 11 at the Live! Casino & Hotel in recognition of her commitment to the fight against breast cancer.
- **Adam Puche, PhD**, Professor, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, was a recipient of the 2020 University of Maryland Golden Apple from the graduating medical class of 2020 and was inducted into the Pass and Suel Academy of Teaching Excellence.
- **Aseem Sood, MD**, Instructor, Department of Medicine, was honored in February with the 2020 Marysellen Woodward Governor’s Service Award from the American College of Physicians, presented at the 2020 Maryland Chapter Annual Scientific Meeting.
- **Zeljko Vujaskovic, MD, PhD**, Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, accepted the annual Felicitations Award during the 11th Biennial Conference of the Indian Association of Hyperthermic Oncology and Medicine (IAHOM). He accepted the award at the Nanavati Super Specialty Hospital in Mumbai on February 16, 2020, following the IAHOM meeting. At the conference he spoke about his hyperthermia research and presented the Professor Milton Yatwin Award, which honors Professor Yatwin’s work in and support for the cause of hyperthermia. The annual Felicitations Award is sponsored by the Society for Cancer Research and Communication, a small group of specialists from different branches of science, academia, industry, and the media. The informal group was formed in 1996 to promote communication of science for cross-fertilization of ideas.
We applaud our colleagues on their recent appointments!

- **Joshua Abzug, MD**, Associate Professor, Department of Orthopaedics, has been selected as Junior Member at Large of the 2020 Pediatric Orthopaedic Society of North America (POSNA) Leadership Slate. He will serve as Junior Member at Large from 2020-2022.
- **Nariman Balenga, PhD**, Professor, Department of Surgery, was approved for secondary appointment in the Department of Pharmacology on February 1, 2020.
- **Maureen Black, PhD**, the John A. Scholl, MD and Mary Louise Scholl, MD Professor in Pediatrics, was invited to serve on the United Kingdom Research and Innovation (UKRI) Medical Research Council’s Global Health Advisory Board.
- **Miriam Blitzer, PhD**, Professor, Department of Pediatrics, was appointed for a three-year term to the Research Training Expert Panel (RTEP) for the NIHGR/NIH Extramural Training and Career Development Program. The RTEP provides guidance to NIHGR Staff and Council regarding its research training, career development and Diversity Action Plan programs.
- **Michael Bond, MD, FACEP, FAAEM**, Associate Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, was elected as a Member-at-Large to the Board of Directors of the Council of Residency Directors in Emergency Medicine in February 2020. He will serve in this position for two years.
- **Timm Dickfeld, MD, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, has been appointed as Interim Clinical Co-Director of Cardiovascular Medicine for the Department of Medicine. Dr. Dickfeld will be responsible for the overall clinical direction of the division and fostering highly collaborative efforts with our clinical partners across the University of Maryland Medical System. A nationally and internationally recognized expert in complex VT ablations, Dr. Dickfeld has been instrumental in integrating a multidisciplinary approach for EP procedures using advanced cardiac imaging, as well as initiating multi-disciplinary clinical trials to treat ventricular arrhythmias in a multi-dimensional substrate guided treatment approach using cardiac innervation.
- **Joseph Martinez, MD**, Associate Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, was appointed Associate Dean for Medical Education and Student Experience for the University of Maryland School of Medicine on February 1, 2020.
- **Mary McKenna, PhD**, Professor, Department of Pediatrics, has accepted an invitation to serve as a member of the Neural Oxidative Metabolism and Death Study Section, Center for Scientific Review. Members are selected based on their demonstrated competence and achievement in their scientific discipline as evidenced by the quality of research accomplishments, publications in scientific journals, and other significant scientific activities, achievements and honors.
- **Xiaofeng Jia, BM, PhD**, Professor, Department of Neurosurgery, has been promoted from an Associate Professor to Professor, tenured, in the Department of Neurosurgery, as of July 2019.
- **Michael Miller, MD, FACC, FAHA**, Professor, Department of Medicine, has been selected as Member, American Heart Association Leadership Council and National Chair, AHA Council on Clinical Lipidology.
- **Mercedes Zoeteman, MS, CGC**, Instructor, Department of Pediatrics, was certified by the American Board of Genetic Counseling as a Certified Genetic Counselor on February 24, 2020.

We welcome our new faculty!

- **Christine Capriolo, DO**, joined the Department of Pediatrics as an Assistant Professor in April 2020. Dr. Capriolo was previously an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at the Drexel University College of Medicine. Dr. Capriolo obtained her DO at Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine and completed a pediatrics residency at Cohen Children’s Medical Center/Northwell Health System. She followed this with a neonatal-perinatal medicine fellowship at the University of Maryland Medical Center.
- **Rachel Moore, MD, PhD**, joined the Department of Pediatrics as an Assistant Professor in March 2020. Dr. Moore obtained her MD and PhD from Albert Einstein College of Medicine. She completed her residency in pediatrics and a pediatric cardiology fellowship at the University of California San Diego.

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

- **Thiago Bernardino De Almeida**, Visiting Research Fellow, Department of Pharmacology, was highlighted in *Suinocultura*, a Brazilian newspaper in January 2020, for his work collaborative research with the Center for Epigenetic Research in Child Health and Brain Development (CERCH) examining how the welfare of male breeding pigs can impact the epigenetic markers in their semen and the consequences to their offspring.

- **Christian Rolfo, MD, PhD, MBA**, Professor, Department of Medicine, was interviewed by Oncology Learning Network about “How I Treat ALK-Positive NSCLC.” The article was published in the commentary section in February 2020.
Mary Bollinger, DO, Niharika Khanna, MBBS, of Neurosurgery, were authors of “Positron Medical Student, all from the Department and Sample Application,” which was published in the Center of Pressure to Incorporate Handhold Forces: Derivation, Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Physical

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which was published in the March 2020 issue of Physical Therapy.

David Marcozzi, MD, Associate Professor; Nicki Baehr, Healthcare Program Analyst; and Brian Browne, MD, FACEP, Professor and Chair, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, was a co-author of “Cancer Rehabilitation Publications (2008–2018) with a Focus on Physical Function: A Scoping Review,” which was published in the March 2020 issue of Physical Therapy.

David Dreizin, MD, Associate Professor, and Guang Li, PhD, Assistant Professor, both from the Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, were among the authors of “Deep Learning-Based Quantitative Visualization and Measurement of Extraperitoneal Hematoma Volumes in Patients with Pelvic Fractures: Potential Role in Personalized Forecasting and Decision Support,” which was published in the March 2020 issue of the Journal of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery.

Cara Felter, PT, DPT, MPH, Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, was the author of “Assessing DPT Students’ Self-Perceived Readiness to Discuss Sexual Health before and after Instruction from a Patient-Educator,” which was published in the March 2020 issue of the Journal of Physical Therapy Education.

Niharika Khanna, MBBS, MD, DGO, Professor, Department of Family and Community Medicine, was the author of “Complexities in Integrating Social Risk Assessment into Health Care Delivery,” which was published in the March 2020 issue of the Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine.

Nidhi Kotwal, MBBS, Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, was the first author of “Peak Cough Flow in Children with Neuromuscular Disorders,” which was published in Lung on February 24, 2020.

Xiaofeng Jia, MD, PhD, Professor; Huoran Wang, MD, MS; and Conor Mascarenhas, Medical Student, all from the Department of Neurosurgery, were authors of “Positron Emission Tomography after Ischemic Brain Injury: Current Challenges and Future Developments,” which was published in the January 2020 issue of Translational Stroke Research. In addition, Dr. Jia, along with first-author Jian Du, PhD, Research Associate, also from the Department of Neurosurgery, were authors of “Engineering Nerve Guidance Conduits with 3D Bioprinting Technology for Long Gap Peripheral Nerve Regeneration,” which was published in the December 2019 issue of Neural Regeneration Research.

Victoria Marchese, PhD, PT, Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, was a co-author of “Cancer Rehabilitation Publications (2008–2018) with a Focus on Physical Function: A Scoping Review,” which was published in the March 2020 issue of Physical Therapy.
“Proton Beam Therapy in Liver Malignancies,” in the February 2020 issue of Current Oncology Reports.

Katherine Tkaczuk, MD, FACP, Professor, Department of Medicine, was among the co-authors of “Association of Serum Programin Levels with Disease Progression, Therapy Response and Survival in Patients with Metastatic Breast Cancer,” which was published in Clinical Cancer Research on December 5, 2019.

Jonathan VanRyzin, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow, Ashley Marquardt, Graduate Research Assistant, GPILS Program in Neuroscience, and Margaret McCarthy, PhD, the James and Carolyn Frenkel Dean’s Professor and Chair, Department of Pharmacology, authored “Developmental Origins of Sex Differences in the Neural Circuitry of Play,” which was published in the International Journal of Play on February 18, 2020.

Rose Viscardi, MD, Professor, Department of Pediatrics; Michael Terrin, MDCM, MPH, Professor, and Laurence Magder, MD, Professor, both from the Departments of Epidemiology & Public Health; Natalie Davis, MD, MMSc, Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics; Susan Dulkerian, MD, Professor, Department of Pediatrics; and Natalie Eddington, PhD, FAAPS, FCP, Dean, School of Pharmacy, were among the co-authors of “Randomized Trial of Azithromycin to Eradicate Ureaplasma in Preterm Infants,” which was published in Archives of Disease in Childhood—Fetal and Neonatal Edition on March 13, 2020.

Yan Wang, BM, DrPH, Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics and Maureen Black, PhD, the John A. Scholl, MD and Mary Louise Scholl, MD Professor in Pediatrics, in collaboration with Dr. Maureen Black, PhD, the John A. Scholl, MD Professor in Pediatrics and Mary Louise Scholl, MD Professor in Pediatrics, were co-authors of “Longitudinal Bidirectional Relations between Body Dissatisfaction and Depressive Symptoms among Black Adolescents: A Cross-Lagged Panel Analysis,” which was published in the January 2020 issue of PLoS One.

Emerson Wickwire, PhD, Associate Professor, Departments of Psychiatry and Medicine, was among the co-authors of “Practice Patterns of Board-Certified Sleep Medicine Providers: A National Analysis among Older Adult Medicare Beneficiaries,” which was published in the Journal of Clinical Sleep Medicine on February 6, 2020.

Michael Winters, MD, Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, was among the discusants in the twice-monthly podcast, Critical Care Perspectives in Emergency Medicine, episodes: “Roc vs. Sux: The CURASMR Trial,” published February 18, 2020; “COVID-19 Update: March 2020,” published March 5, 2020.

Matthew Witek, MD, MS, Faculty Member, Department of Radiation Oncology, was the senior author of “Clinical Outcomes for Larynx Patients with Cancer Treated with Refinement of High-Dose Radiation Treatment Volumes,” which was published in Head and Neck on February 14, 2020.

Li-Qun Zhang, PhD, Professor, and Dali Xu, PhD, Research Associate, both from the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Sciences, were co-authors of “Characterizations of Neural and Non-Neural Contributions to Ankle Spasticity in Children with Cerebral Palsy,” which was published in Developmental Medicine & Child Neurology on March 8, 2020.

Yangang Zhu, BJ, PhD, Assistant Professor, Center for Biomedical Engineering and Technology (CIBR), the Emmanuel Service Professor, Department of Physical Medicine, was among the co-authors of “Roc vs. Sux: The CURASMR Trial,” published February 18, 2020; “COVID-19 Update: March 2020,” published March 5, 2020.

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