Welcome to the Summer Edition of Inside Pediatrics!

In this edition of Inside Pediatrics, we feature information about Camp Little Victors, the CHEAR Center, and upcoming Departmental meetings and events. We are very pleased to also highlight many faculty and staff accomplishments.

I hope you enjoy reading this newsletter. I encourage you to send items of interest to Shelby Chase (sachase@umich.edu) for future publications. Thank you for your continued support of Pediatrics at Michigan. GO BLUE!

Valerie P. Opipari, MD
Ravitz Foundation Professor of Pediatrics and Communicable Diseases
Chair, Department of Pediatrics
Physician-in-Chief, C.S. Mott Children’s Hospital
University of Michigan Health System

Special Items of Interest:
- CHEAR Unit Approved as Center
- 27th Annual Research Symposium
- State of the Department
- Dr. Boxer Named Recipient of ASH Mentor Award
- Dr. Mohr Wins APSAC Award
- Percy Murphy Fund Awardees
- Pediatrics Superheroes
- New Faculty List

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Message from the Chair

Grand Rounds
The Future of Healthcare Information Technology
September 27, 2016
John Halamka, M.D., M.S.

State of the Department
September 27, 2016
Ford Auditorium
12:00–1:00 pm
(*all faculty and staff are encouraged to attend!)

Faculty Development
How to be Successful as a New Faculty Member
September 27, 2016
BSRB Seminar Rooms
8:00 am–12:30 pm
(*must register)

27th Annual Research Symposium
October 10–11, 2016
Towsley Center
8:00–9:30 am

Essential Skills for Successful Leadership
October 20, 2016
8:00–4:30 pm
BSRB Seminar Room
(*must register)

Strategic Questioning in Medicine and Medical Education
November 7, 2016
11:30–1:00 pm
Med Sci II, Room 3813
(*must register)

Women in Basic Science: Panel discussion on overcoming gender gaps in academic success
October 11, 2016
Danto Auditorium

Chromatic in Development & Disease Symposium
November 7, 2016
Palmer Commons Forum Hall 8:00–5:00 pm
CHEAR Approved for Center Status from Unit

The Child Health Evaluation and Research Center (CHEAR) has been approved by the Medical School for Center status. This reflects the breadth and depth of the work done in the center. The name going forward will be The Child Health Evaluation and Research Center (the CHEAR Center).

While transitioning to the new name, this gives opportunity to transition into a new organizational structure which reflects the core research themes: Outcomes Research, Data Science, Social Media & Mobile Technology, and Policy & Communications. The leadership team will be comprised of Center Director (Lisa Prosser), Section Leads (Kevin Dombkowski, Joyce Lee, Sarah Clark), Founding Director (Gary Freed), and Division Administrator (Deb Zolikoff).

Dr. Prosser, Director of the CHEAR Center, states “We are excited to have this recognition of center status as we continue to expand and strengthen our multidisciplinary collaborations across the university and with state and federal organizations.”

The future looks bright for the CHEAR Center! To the right are key milestones in the building of the CHEAR Center and what made it what it is today.

CHEAR Timeline of Key Milestones

1998
Founded by Gary Freed as the CHEAR Unit

2000
Pediatric Health Services Research T32 Fellowship

2005
First Pediatric Subspecialist Joins the CHEAR Faculty

2006
Inaugural Susan B. Meister Lecture on Child Health Policy

2007
Launch of the National Poll on Children’s Health

2012
Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in Comparative Effectiveness

2013
Rhetaugh G. Dumas Progress in Diversifying Award

2013
CHEAR Programs Established

2014
Patient and Family Research Council

2016
Center Status

C.S. Mott Children’s Hospital Ranks Among Best in the Nation

C.S. Mott Children’s Hospital was ranked among the best children’s hospitals in the state and country, according to the 2016-2017 U.S. News & World Report Best Children’s Hospitals rankings released in June. C.S. Mott Children’s Hospital was ranked in more pediatric specialty areas than any other children’s hospital in the state of Michigan and among just 78 hospitals nationwide ranked in at least one specialty.

Mott earned national rankings in eight categories evaluated in the report, including cardiology and heart surgery, neurology and neurosurgery, nephrology, orthopedics, gastroenterology and GI surgery, cancer, neonatology and pulmonology. “We are pleased to again be recognized as a top-ranked children’s hospital devoted to delivering remarkable care to children with rare and life-threatening conditions,” says Paul King, executive director of C.S. Mott Children’s Hospital and Von Voigtlander Women’s Hospital. “This recognition is one of many measures of the exceptional care our faculty and staff provide to children and their families every day.”

To view who our neighbors are in the rankings, visit: http://health.usnews.com/best-hospitals/pediatric-rankings
Pediatric Grand Rounds—Annual Sedman Informatics Lecture

John Halamka, MD, MS
Chief Information Officer
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

Professor of Emergency Medicine
Harvard Medical School

Date: September 27 @ MCHC
Time: 8—9:00 am
Location: MCHC Auditorium

27th Annual Pediatric Research Symposium

The objective of the Pediatric Research Symposium is to present new research in the Pediatric world that can be taken back to the clinics for practical implementation. As a result of their participation in this activity, physicians will be able to improve specific aspects of care and better perform research to identify new ways to improve care.

27th Annual Pediatric Research Symposium
Monday, October 10 & Tuesday, October 11
Towsley Center

2016 State of the Department

All Department of Pediatrics & Communicable Diseases faculty and staff are welcomed and encouraged to attend this year’s State of the Department meeting.

When?: Tuesday, September 27, 2016
What time?: 12—1 pm
Where?: Danto Auditorium
Dr. Laurence Boxer Named Recipient of 2016 ASH Mentor Award

The American Society of Hematology (ASH) will honor Laurence Boxer, MD with the 2016 Mentor Award at the 58th ASH Annual Meeting and Exposition in San Diego this upcoming December. The award honors Dr. Boxer for his sustained, outstanding commitment to the training and career development of early-career hematologists.

The ASH Mentor Award was established in 2006 to recognize hematologists who have excelled in mentoring trainees and colleagues. Each year, the Society recognizes two outstanding mentors in the areas of basic science, clinical investigation, education, or clinical/community care who have had a significant, positive impact on their mentees’ careers and, through their mentees, have advanced research and patient care in the field of hematology.

During Dr. Boxer’s 40-year career not only has he overseen the career development of more than 50 pediatric hematology/oncology fellows he has trained, but he has also mentored physician scientists broadly across other disciplines. Dr. Boxer’s trainees cite his drive and enthusiasm as the critical elements of his influence on their careers. He is well-known for creating a spirit of caring, curiosity, excitement, and creativity within the training environment that fosters enthusiasm for scientific exploration.

Dr. Boxer will receive the award at the Announcement of Awards session at 1:30 p.m., on Sunday, December 4, at the 58th ASH Annual Meeting and Exposition in San Diego.

Dr. Challice Bonifant to be Awarded Hyundai Hope On Wheels Scholar Hope Grant

Every day there are 36 children diagnosed with cancer in the United States, virtually a classroom full. Out of that classroom, more than 7 students will not survive the disease. You may be shocked to discover that less than 4% of federal research funding for cancer is designated for pediatrics. Without necessary funding, these young patients are left without a voice. Hyundai Hope On Wheels (HHOW) was established to fill that void.

Hope on Wheels expanded their efforts in 2010 to fight against childhood cancer. With their medical advisory committee, comprised of leading oncologists from the country’s top pediatric cancer centers, they developed the Hope Grant program to provide research funds for qualifying institutions.

Dr. Challice Bonifant was one of 36 grant winners to receive the HHOW Scholar Hope Grant. These Scholar Senior Research Grants will fund childhood research projects designed to improve the treatment and quality of life for children with cancer. The ultimate goal is to find cures for these childhood cancers once and for all.

Dr. Bonifant states, “the research support provided by the Hyundai Hope on Wheels Foundation is instrumental in allowing us to continue our work toward development of a safe and effective therapy for acute myeloid leukemia, now with a focus on combining T-cell engineering with immune checkpoint blockade.”

To learn more about Dr. Bonifant’s work, visit: http://labblog.uofmhealth.org/lab-report/balancing-
Dr. Rajen Mody Selected to be Installed as the David G. Dickinson Collegiate Professor

Dr. Rajen Mody has been selected to be installed as the David G. Dickinson Collegiate Professor in Pediatrics and Communicable Diseases. This professorship is granted to a faculty member that will have a great impact on the future of clinical care. Dr. Mody’s area of research focuses on life-threatening cancers and clinical trials for the treatment of solid tumors such as advanced stage neuroblastomas.

Dr. Mody helped to identify the genetic hallmarks that contribute to the aggressive malignant potential of this cancer and he demonstrated the potential for biologic therapies over traditional therapies. His research interests include new drug development against childhood cancers and role of precision medicine in pediatric oncology.

The Department congratulates Dr. Rajen Mody for his contributions that have not only led to innovations in the research but also in the care provided to children with debilitating illnesses.

Dr. Joyce Lee Named Recipient of the Robert P. Kelch, MD, Research Professorship

Dr. Joyce Lee has been selected to be installed as the recipient of the Robert P. Kelch, MD, Research Professorship in Pediatrics and Communicable Diseases. Dr. Lee is one of the few physician-scientists in the country who has formal dual training in Pediatric Endocrinology and Pediatric Health Services Research. Because of her specialized research training, she has been able to approach the problem of pediatric diabetes and the related issue of childhood obesity from a unique vantage point. Dr. Lee uses a variety of methodologies including applied clinical research, epidemiologic analyses of representative national data, state transition modeling, and cost-effectiveness analysis as well as design and emerging technologies.

Dr. Lee is passionate that human centered design can transform the delivery of clinical care. Her current work focuses on the methods of design, using quality improvements to create opportunities for innovation with patients as partners and the infrastructure for learning health systems to improve outcomes and quality of life for patients and caregivers.

The Department congratulates Dr. Joyce Lee for her innovative contributions that have not only led to advancements in pediatric diabetes, but for having also laid the groundwork for further developments and discoveries.

Dr. Mohr Wins “Outstanding Professional” Award from APSAC

Dr. Bethany Mohr receives the “Outstanding Professional” Award from the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC). APSAC recognizes achievement in many ways through its annual awards program. Each year, APSAC solicits its membership for nominations in several categories. Awards are presented during the organization’s Annual Colloquium.

This award recognizes a member of APSAC who has made outstanding contributions to the field of child maltreatment and the advancement of APSAC’s goals.

Great work, Dr. Mohr!
Dr. Elizabeth Hill (pediatric outpatient faculty) and Dr. Priyanka Rao (pediatric chief resident) received a University of Michigan Clinical Simulation Center Research Grant to help improve communication with patients and families during family centered rounds. This grant will allow pediatric residents to undergo intensive communication training in the form of a simulated rounding experience with multi-disciplinary team feedback including parent advisors, nurses, psychology, and physicians.

Upon receiving the award Drs. Hill and Rao shared their excitement to receive funding and stated “It is an honor to receive this award and we look forward to working on this collaborative project to continue to improve communication with families for our residency program.”

UMHS and St. Paul’s Hospital Millennium Medical College (SPHMMC) in Ethiopia have established an agreement of understanding in many medical specialties and educational disciplines. SPHMMC’s Department of Pediatrics identified a need for faculty development and resident education in Pediatric Neurology. Dr. Fedak Romanowski has a long-standing interest in Global Health, already having engaged in international elective rotations in India and Malawi during her residency. Traveling to SPHMMC during her epilepsy fellowship, her interest in Global Health grew stronger.

“This award will allow me to bring one of the UMHS dietitians who specializes in dietary therapy for epilepsy to Ethiopia to train their staff. It will also help support some of my travel to further oversee the project and provide further education. The other exciting part about this grant is that it will partially support funding for Dr. Abate Yeshidinber, current Chair of the Department of Pediatrics at SPHMMC, to travel to UMHS for an observership in pediatric neurology,” Dr. Fedak Romanowski states. Dr. Fedak Romanowski is hopeful that with the support of the Global REACH Grant she will be able to reach the Ethiopian patient population and help provide SPHMMC faculty with the necessary education for this specialty training. Dr. Fedak Romanowski states, “Additionally, I am hoping this collaboration will lead to improvement in EEG interpretation, faculty and resident education and further quality improvement projects and collaborative research proposals.” Great work, Erin!

Percy Murphy Fund Awardees

Congratulations to the following Percy Murphy Fund Awardees...

- Justine Bunka, MD
  Mentor: Dr. Debbie Gipson
- Erin Carlton, MD
  Mentor: Dr. Timothy Cornell
- Lindsay Ellsworth, MD
  Mentor: Dr. Brigid Gregg
- Ronus Hojjati
  Mentor: Dr. Donna Martin
- Elizabeth Jahns, MD
  Mentor: Dr. Shane Quinonez
- Carl Koschmann, MD
  Mentor: Dr. Steven Pipe
- Zubin Modi, MD
  Mentor: Dr. Debbie Gipson
- Sarah Reeves, PhD, MPH
  Mentor: Dr. Lisa Prosser
- Harrison Seltzer
  Mentor: Dr. Jason Weinberg
- Carolyn Vitale
  Mentor: Dr. Timothy Cornell
- Michael Watson
  Mentor: Dr. John LiPuma
**Drs. Diamond & Danzinger co-author Slate.com Article**

Slate.com is a politics, culture, technology, business, and commentary web-magazine. Once arriving at the main page, you find our very own Dr. Phoebe Day Danziger and Dr. Rebekah Diamond on the front page. The two second-year Pediatric residents co-authored the article titled “The Vaccination Double Standard”, which is getting a lot of attention with over 27,000 shares on Facebook and stimulating some wonderful discussions.

To read more on the article, visit:
http://www.slate.com/articles/health_and_science/medical_examiner/2016/07/vaccination_should_be_mandatory_but_it_isn_t.html

**Two U-M Pediatric Residents Selected by ACR to Participate in Residents Program**

Dr. Rebekah Diamond and Dr. Christine Wang were selected by the American College of Rheumatology to participate in the Pediatrics Rheumatology Residents Program at the 2016 ACR/ARHP Annual Meeting in November 2016.

**Dr. Ruchi Singla Receives Travel Grant**

Dr. Ruchi Singla, a recent resident graduate, received a travel grant from the AAP section on Allergy and Immunology to attend the 2016 AAP National Conference.

**2016-17 Pediatrics Chief Residents**

We would like to give a warm welcome to the 2016-2017 Pediatric Chief Residents!

*Dr. Priyanka Rao, Aviva Alpert, & Jason Fischer*
Q&A With New Pediatric Cardiology Faculty Member, Dr. David Peng

Where are you from?
I was born in Taiwan and moved to the United States when I was almost two years old. My family moved around a bit but I’ve spent most of my life in the (San Francisco) Bay Area. I graduated from UC San Francisco School of Medicine and completed my post-graduate training at Seattle Children’s/University of Washington & Stanford.

What is a hobby of yours?
I am not sure if this qualifies as a hobby, but I love trying new restaurants. When I am not eating, you can find me wrangling our two preschool aged boys, exploring the outdoors and watching/playing sports.

Favorite travel spot?
Yosemite is my happy place. But I can’t wait to explore and fall in love with all the beautiful lakes and forests in Michigan.

What are you most looking forward to doing in Ann Arbor?
My first game at the BIG HOUSE, of course!

What/who inspires you?
My parents inspire me deeply. They sacrificed everything they had and knew immigrating to the US so that my sister and I could have better education and opportunity. Without really speaking any English, they were somehow able to find stable, blue-collar work, buy a home and provide for us through college. Our family has truly lived the American Dream.
In honor of the 2016 Ice Cream Social ‘Superhero’ Theme, various faculty and staff received recognition from their colleagues. These people were mentioned to be their areas’ Superheroes:

**ADMINISTRATION SUPERHEROES**

Carey Lumeng, MD  
Cynthia Moye, Shay Wheeler, Shelby Chase (*pictured right*)  
Tasha Patapoff  
Kari Merryman

**CLINICAL SUPERHEROES**

C&W Clinic Staff (*pictured right*)  
Kara Green  
Hospitalist Team: John Schmidt, MD, Patricia Keefer, MD, Kimberly Monroe, MD, and Kim Moosekian

**EDUCATION SUPERHEROES**

Irene Esposito  
Tom Saba, MD  
Jennifer Stojan, MD  
Resident Assistants (*pictured right*)

**RESEARCH SUPERHEROES**

Sung Choi, MD  
Renee Shellhaas, MD  
Tim Cornell, MD  
Matt Sampson, MD
Inside Pediatrics is published quarterly by the Office of the Chair. Suggestions or submissions for this newsletter should be directed to Shelby Chase (sachase@umich.edu)

Photo Highlights from this year’s Ice Cream Social/Researchpalooza!

Pictured above: Maydis Skeete, D’Ann Voss

Pictured top right: Cheng-Yu Chang, Shay Wheeler, Dr. Valerie Opipari, Colleen Hummel, Shelby Chase

Pictured far right: Jeff Patierno

Pictured right: Matt Stephens