YWCA Academy of Diversity Achievers Award Recipients

Ms. Nakeia Chambers; Dr. Wanda Thompson; (Dean Scheinman)
Dr. Sara Grethlein; Ms. Susan Keeter

The YWCA of Syracuse & Onondaga County named 19 individuals to its 2009 Academy of Diversity Achievers at the Eleventh Annual YWCA Day of Commitment to Eliminate Racism and Promote Diversity Luncheon. These individuals were honored for their commitment with a YWCA Diversity Achievers Award. The luncheon was held at the OnCenter on April 23rd.
Faculty Achievements

Honors & Awards ~ Congratulations to:

Roger P. Greenberg, PhD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor of the State University of New York.

Mantosh Dewan, MD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Service Professor of the State University of New York.

Charles Hodge, MD, Neurosurgery, was the honored guest at the New York State Neurosurgical Society meeting in Westchester on June 5, 2009.

Patricia Kane, PhD, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, was chosen by the College of Graduate Studies’ Graduate Student Association to receive the 2009 Outstanding Teacher Award.

Julius Gene S. Latorre, MD, Neurology, was awarded his MPH degree from the Harvard School of Public Health with concentration in Clinical Effectiveness.

Lynn-Beth Satterly, MD, Family Medicine, was nominated for the AAMC Humanism in Medicine Award.

Susan Stearns, PhD, Cell & Developmental Biology, received the Medical Alumni Association Phillip B. Armstrong Award.

Wanda Thompson, PhD, Office of the President, received the 2009 YWCA Diversity Achievers Awards at the YWCA’s Day of Commitment Luncheon.

Michael Vertino, MD, Neurology, was awarded the A.B. Baker Award for Excellence in Neurologic Education, at the American Academy of Neurology Annual Meeting in April 2009.

Department Honors

The Department of Medicine received the Medical Alumni Association Clinical Department Teaching Award. The award was presented during the College Convocation Ceremony at the OnCenter on May 17, 2009.

The Department of Physician Assistant Studies has been awarded the following program recognition:
- Provisional Accreditation from the Accreditation Review Commission on Education of the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA), March 2009
- State University of New York Graduate Program Approval, March 2009
- New York State Department of Education approval, April 2009

We began matriculation of our Charter class on June 8, 2009.
**Service**

**International Leadership**

**Marc Safran, MD, Ophthalmology,** participated in a mission in Vietnam under the auspices of “Facing The Challenge”, which has both a cleft palate (maxillofacial) team and an oculoplastic team. Dr. Safran personally assisted with the oculoplastics group and did some strabismus surgeries as well. The dates were March 20-April 4, 2009; a total of 58 general anesthesia cases were done. The locations were Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) and Hoi An –both in Vietnam. The group is non-sectarian and is sponsored by the physicians and staff.

**Joseph A. Spadaro, PhD, Orthopedic Surgery (Research),** has been appointed to the Editorial Board of the journal "Bioelectromagnetics". He also served from 2000-2008 as an Associate Editor of the journal.

**National Leadership**

**Richard A. Beers, MD, Anesthesiology,** served as an Oral Board Examiner for the American Board of Anesthesiology from 20-24 April 2009.

**Amy T. Campbell, JD, MBE, Bioethics and Humanities,** was selected to serve on the Steering Committee of the Advisory Board for the HRSA Public Health Curriculum Project in Pediatrics.

**Michael Costanza, MD, Surgery,** has been named to the Editorial Board of the journal “Vascular Ultrasound Today.”

**David Duggan, MD, Medicine,** was a faculty member at the American College of Physicians Annual Session "Leadership Competencies: Beyond the Basics" April 22-23, Philadelphia.

**Melissa W. Ko MD, Neurology,** was selected by the American Academy of Neurology (AAN) as the New York delegate for the 7th Annual Neurology on the Hill Conference in Washington, D.C., March 23-24, 2009. The event brought a record 112 AAN members to Washington, DC, to meet with their Congressional representatives and to educate these decision makers on priority issues that affect neurologists and the patients they treat.

**Gregory Liptak, MD/MPH, Pediatrics,** was named as the developmental pediatrician member of the editorial board of “Pediatrics in Review”, the AAP's most high-profile vehicle for continuing education of pediatricians.

**Ruth Weinstock, MD, Medicine,** was a member of the NIH (NIDDK): Special Emphasis Review Panel for the Extramural Loan Repayment Program (LRP) for Clinical Researchers (NOT-OD-05-58) and for Pediatric Researchers (NOT-OD-05-057), April 13, 2009.

**University Leadership**

Catherine Caldicott, MD, *Bioethics and Humanities*, was elected to serve as Chair of the Medical College Assembly Executive Committee, May, 2009.

Sara Grethlein, MD, *Medicine*, was elected to serve as Vice-Chair of the Medical College Assembly Executive Committee, May, 2009.

Colleen O’Leary, MD, *Anesthesiology*, was selected to serve as Chair of the Medical Executive Committee, May, 2009.

Colleen O’Leary, MD, *Anesthesiology*, was selected to serve as President of the Medical Staff, May 2009.

Richard D. Veenstra, PhD, *Pharmacology*, was elected to serve as Chair of the Graduate Faculty Association for a two-year term beginning June 1, 2009.

**Grants Awarded**

Charles Hwang, PhD, *Microbiology & Immunology* (PI)
Intramural Research Bridge Grant, “Fidelity of herpes simplex virus DNA replication”

Melanie Kalman, RN, PhD, *College of Nursing*
SUNY Conversations in the Disciplines Program, a competitive program designed to stimulate and support interdisciplinary dialogue.
"Matters of the Heart: Conversations on Women and Heart Disease." $5000 Collaboration with partners at Binghamton University and Downstate Medical University. The conference, which is multi-disciplinary, will occur April 2010.

Wendy R. Kates, PhD, *Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences* (PI)

Paul Massa, PhD, *Neurology* (PI)
Intramural Bridge Grant, : “Regulation of interferon activity by SHP-1 in CNS”

M. Golam Mohi, PhD, *Pharmacology* (PI)
Eric Olson, PhD, Neuroscience & Physiology (PI)
Intramural Bridge Grant, “Cellular and molecular mechanisms of early cortical development”

Brent Vogt, PhD, Neuroscience & Physiology (PI)
Intramural Bridge Grant, “Multiple sources of nociceptive inputs to anterior cingulate cortex and anterior cingulate antinociception and reward mechanisms”

Publications


Spadaro J was interviewed about his research for the cover story of the Polish rehabilitation journal. *Rehabilitacja w Praktyce*.


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**Published Abstracts**


Mariani PJ. Resident-performed central venous cannulation: CLEAR differences of opinion as to procedural supervision.” Acad Emerg Med 2009; 16(suppl 1):95.


Books and Book Chapters


Posters


Lauderdale, FL May 5, 2009.


Sunheiner R. Selegiline Metabolites may Interfere with Urine Drug Abuse (DAU) Screen Assays for Amphetamines. ASCP LabQ, Laboratory Testing Updates, 2009; Clinical Laboratory No. CL-6.


Presentations

International

Wendy R. Kates, PhD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences, chaired a symposium on "Mapping Brain Alterations In Youth With / At Risk For Schizophrenia" at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Biological Psychiatry, May 15, Vancouver, B.C., Canada.
Colin Leech, PhD, Medicine, presented "Epac regulates the ATP and sulfonylurea sensitivity of ATP-sensitive potassium channels in pancreatic beta cells" at the Croucher Foundation ASI on Novel Signaling Pathways in Diabetes and Metabolic Disorders, Hong Kong, Apr. 2009.


Leon-Paul Noel, MD, Ophthalmology, was a Visiting Professor at the University of Ottawa on April 29, 2009 in the Department of Ophthalmology. He gave a Grand Rounds lecture on “Optic Disc Anomalies of Systemic Importance.” In addition he gave teaching lectures to the residents at the University of Ottawa.

Nancy Nussmeier, MD, Anesthesiology, presented “Management of the Geriatric Patient with End-Stage Heart Failure” at the Congress on Perioperative Care for the Geriatric Patient, Prague, Czech Republic, June, 2009.

National


Eileen Friedman, PhD, Pathology, gave an invited lecture on Mirk Kinase in Cancer at the Discovery Oncology Division, Hoffmann-LaRoche, Nutley, NJ, April 3, 2009.


Robert Roger Lebel, MD, FACMG, *Pediatrics, Internal Medicine, Ob/Gyn, Pathology, Bioethics and Humanities*, served as visiting faculty and presented a lecture on "The Genetic Horizon: Rolling to Greater Complexity" as a part of 10th annual Science Symposium at St. Olaf Collage, Northfield, MN, on 5/1/09. As such, he also participated in the honors convocation and the student poster session presenting their research findings of the past year.


Peter Mariani MD, *Emergency Medicine*, presented “Resident-performed central venous cannulation: CLEAR differences of opinion as to procedural supervision” at the annual meeting of the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine, New Orleans LA, 5/14/09.

Patricia Powers DNP, MPA, FNP-C, NPP, *College of Nursing*, presented “Improving The Preceptors Experience: Development Of A DNP/NP Preceptor Website” at the 2nd annual Doctoral of Nursing Practice conference sponsored by Drexel University at Hilton Head South Carolina on March 24, 2009.


Joseph G. Sorbello, MSEd, RT, RR, Respiratory Therapy Education, College of Health Professions, presented "Teaching At The Bedside" at the 27th Annual Meeting of the Connecticut State Society for Respiratory Care, Southington, CT May 6, 2009.

Robert Sunheimer, MS MT(ASCP)SC, SLS, College of Health Professions, presented "Method Validation and Quality Control: A Blueprint for Reporting Reliable Patient Results" at the American Society for Clinical Pathology - Workshops for Laboratory Professionals, San Francisco, CA. April 28, 2009.

Robert Sunheimer, MS MT(ASCP)SC, SLS, College of Health Professions, presented "Biochemical Markers in Disease" at the American Society for Clinical Pathology - Workshops for Laboratory Professionals, San Francisco, CA. April 29, 2009.

Daniel Y Tso, PhD, Neurosurgery, presented Components Contribute to Intrinsic Signals of the Retina and Optic Disc” at the ARVO 2009 Annual Meeting, Ft. Lauderdale, FL. May 6, 2009. Co-authors were Schallek JB, Kardon R, Kwon Y, Abramoff M, and Soliz P.


State


Local

Rebecca Garden, PhD, *Center for Bioethics and Humanities*, moderated the panel “Representations of Disability in Film,” as part of the film and disability program of the Syracuse International Film Festival held at Upstate Medical University, April 28, 2009.

Community


Rebecca Garden, PhD, and Catherine V. Caldicott, MD, *Bioethics and Humanities* presented "The Role of Empathy in Healthcare," at the Mind Body Health Alliance Forum, Hospice of CNY, Liverpool, NY, April 21, 2009.

Rebecca Garden, PhD, *Bioethics and Humanities*, presented “Narratives, Empathy, and Health Care” at the Mind Body Health Alliance community forum, The Role of Empathy in Health Care, April 21, 2009.


Richard D. Veenstra, PhD, *Pharmacology*, appeared live on B104.7 FM radio the morning of April 17th to promote the next day's American Heart Association Start! Heart Walk.
Promotions

Elizabeth Dexter, MD, Surgery, was promoted to Associate Professor, June 2009.

Robert Gregory, MD, Psychiatry, was promoted to Professor (previously tenured), June 2009.

Fenghua Li, MD, Anesthesiology, was promoted to Assistant Professor, June 2009.

Bradley Olson, MD, Pediatrics, was promoted to Associate Professor, June 2009.

Carol Recker-Hughes has been appointed Vice-Chair of the Department of Physical Therapy Education (CHP), effective May 15, 2009.

Robert Silverman, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology, was promoted to Professor (previously tenured), April 2009.

New Faculty

Vipin Bansal, MD, Instructor, Anesthesiology
Dr. Bansal received his medical degree from American University of Caribbean and completed his residency at Upstate and Cleveland Clinic. He also pursued additional training in Pediatric Anesthesiology at Cleveland Clinic. He has been a member of our voluntary faculty.

Kelley A. Hulihan, MA, Clinical Instructor, College of Health Professions, Physician Assistant Studies
Ms. Hulihan received her master's degree in Physician Assistant Studies from A.T. Still University, Arizona School of Health Sciences, and her bachelor's degree from the Albany-Hudson Valley Physician Assistant Program, Albany, NY. She has worked as a Physician Assistant at Planned Parenthood Mohawk Hudson in Schenectady, NY; Team Health East/St. Mary's Hospital in Amsterdam, NY, and at Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital in Cooperstown, NY.

William Kerr, PhD, Professor, Microbiology & Immunology and Pediatrics
Dr. Kerr received his doctoral degree from University of Alabama and completed his post-doctoral training at Stanford University. He has been on the faculty of University of Pennsylvania, University of South Florida, and Moffitt Comprehensive Cancer Center.
In Memoriam

Tommy Meder, MD, Assistant Professor, Emergency Medicine
Dr. Meder received his medical degree from and completed his residency here at SUNY Upstate. He has been on staff of St. Joseph’s Hospital and Community General Hospital. He has been a member of our voluntary faculty.

Zsuzsa Meszaros, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor, Psychiatry
Dr. Meszaros received her medical degree from Semmelweis University in Hungary and completed her residency at Tufts University. She also pursued additional training in Addiction Psychiatry Research at Upstate. She received her doctoral degree from Semmelweis University and completed her post-doctoral training at Upstate. She has been a member of our voluntary faculty.

Gita Ramamurthy, MD, Assistant Professor, Psychiatry
Dr. Ramamurthy received her medical degree from Queen’s University and has completed several residencies: family medicine at University of Toronto, internal medicine at University of Alberta and psychiatry at Upstate. She also pursued additional training in Advanced Biopsychosocial Studies at University of Rochester. She has been on the staff of Lakeside Nursing Home, Cayuga Medical Center and Cambridge Health Alliance as well as in private practice.

Zulma Tovar Spinoza, MD, Assistant Professor, Neurosurgery
Dr. Tovar Spinoza received her medical degree from Universidad de los Andes in Venezuela and completed her residency at Universidad de los Andes and University of Tel Aviv. She also pursued additional training in Pediatric Neurosurgery and in Pediatric Epilepsy at the University of Toronto.

Edward Mullin, MD, passed away at the age of 86 on November 24, 2008. Dr. Mullin was promoted to Professor of Medicine at Upstate Medical University in 1975 and Clinical Professor Emeritus in 1997. He completed his residency at Upstate in the early 1950’s. Dr. Mullin was Senior Attending at St. Joseph’s Hospital for several years. He received such awards as the Sister Patricia Ann Award for Excellence: “Outstanding Contribution as a Physician” in 1989; American College of Physician’s Award: “Outstanding Internist of Upstate New York” in 1990; St. Patrick’s Parade: “Waterford Award” in 1994, and the St. Joseph “The Worker Award” in 1995. Dr. Mullin was on the Board of Directors of the Christian Brothers Academy for 15 years and a Board member for the Christian Youth Organization for 15 years. He was Chairman of Physicians for the MONY Senior Golf Classic for 9 years. Dr. Mullin was also Medical Chairman for the St. Patrick’s Day Parade here in Syracuse. He was also very involved in his church.
Faculty Development - Upcoming Events

Watch for email notices about information and dates of the New Faculty Orientation (in September) and Path to Promotions Workshops (in October and November).

Other News

The Council of the Faculty Organization is responsible for nominating members of the Faculty (All Colleges and the Library) for Senators (2) and Alternate Senators (2) to the University Faculty Senate, as representatives of SUNY Upstate. They attend Senate meetings and report to the Council of the Faculty Organization. Terms are for 3 years, and 2 consecutive terms can be served. Currently there are open positions for 2 Faculty Senators and 1 Alternate Senator; the terms will start in September 2009.

The duties of the Senators can be found at www.SUNY.edu/facultysenate and include attending 3-4 Senate meetings a year.

Please send nominations to any member of the nominating committee by June 25, 2009, following which a faculty wide ballot will be distributed for an election.

Please consider running for Senator or Alternate Senator. Drs Sara Grethlein and Paula Trief have graciously agreed to answer questions as the retiring Senators for Upstate Medical University.

Nominating Committee:

Victoria Meguid  MD
Susan Graham M.S.,MT(ASCP)SH,
Steven Grassl, PhD
Emily Hart MLS

Pediatrics/COM
CHP
Pharmacology/COM
Library
Contact Us

"I represent our Office of Faculty Affairs, and my staff and I are committed to developing the potential of new faculty and see them succeed and thrive". Please feel free to call or email for more information:

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Faculty Affairs & Faculty Development
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Useful Links

Promotion and Tenure Information
http://www.upstate.edu/facultydev/promotion.php

Faculty Affairs & Faculty Development
http://www.upstate.edu/facultydev/

Faculty Governance
http://www.upstate.edu/facgov/