THE FACULTY COMMONS

“commons”: (n) a place where members of a community meet for sharing, support and recognition

November 2009

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“Community”

Upstate Golisano Children’s Hospital Opens
September 2009
Honors and Awards

Faculty Achievements

Honors & Awards ~ Congratulations to:

Sharon Brangman, MD, Medicine, became President-elect of the American Geriatrics Society, with a term that began in May 2009 for one year, and then she will become President in May 2010 for one year.

Debra Buchan MD, Medicine, was selected by the SUNY Upstate Medical University Class of 2009 to deliver The Hippocratic Oath at graduation and to serve as Faculty Marshal at graduation, May 17, 2009.

Richard Cantor, MD, Emergency Medicine, received the “Outstanding Contributions to Emergency Medicine Education Award” from the University of Maryland Department of Emergency Medicine, August 7, 2009.

Richard Cantor, MD, Emergency Medicine, was selected as Keynote Speaker for the 3rd Year Medical Class Annual Clinician Ceremony, Upstate Medical University, June 2009.

Timothy De Ver Dye PhD, Public Health and Preventive Medicine, was named a MEDICC (Medical Education Cooperation with Cuba) Scholar in September 2009.

Vincent Frechette MD, Medicine, received the Medical Alumni Clinical Faculty ‘Teacher of the Year Award’, and the Resident elected “Teacher of the Year Award”, 2009.

John A. Hoepner, MD, Ophthalmology, received the Onondaga County Medical Society's “Distinguished Service Award.” The Distinguished Service Award being presented this year to Dr. Hoepner is the Society's highest award.

Michael G. Holland, MD, Emergency Medicine, received the prestigious award designating him as a Fellow of the American Academy of Clinical Toxicology (FAACT) at their annual meeting in Toronto.

Michael Iannuzzi MD, MBA, Medicine, was selected as one of the “Best Doctors in America” 2009-2010, August 7, 2009.

Melissa Ko, MD, Neurology, was selected by the New York Department of Health to receive a Doctors Across New York Loan Repayment and Physicians Practice Support Awards.

Barbara Krenzer MD, Medicine, was honored “Doctor of Distinction” by United Health Care, 2009.
Julius Gene Latorre, MD MPH, Neurology, received the “John Stapleton Spirit Award” during the Finger Lakes Donor Recovery Network's Second Annual Organ Donation Collaborative Regional Conference in Waterloo, NY. Dr. Latorre, director of Neurocritical Care Service at University Hospital, and co-chair of the Donor Council was instrumental in updating the brain death policy and educating other physicians about the protocol.

Zsuzsa Szombathyne Meszaros, MD, PhD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences, was selected as one of the "Best Doctors in America" 2009-2010.

Daniel J. Olsson, MD, Emergency Medicine, has been recognized as a Distinguished Fellow of the American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians. This new designation is given to Fellows of the ACOEP who have surpassed expectations of the College by advancing the practice of emergency medicine through teaching, research and professional contributions or service at the national regional or local levels. Dr. Olsson is currently Medical Director of the Central New York EMS.

Michael Ratner, MD, Surgery, was the honoree at this year's Ronald McDonald House "Homecoming Party". The event was held on Friday, October 16.

Harold Smulyan MD, Medicine, was honored for 50 years of employment and service to the university during Employee Recognition Day at the Oncenter, June 4, 2009.

Christine M Stork, PharmD, Poison Control Center, was designated Fellow of the American Academy of Clinical Toxicology on September 24, 2009.

Service

International Leadership
Through the financial support of the SUNY Upstate Department of Emergency Medicine, Assistant Professors Jamie Nelsen, PharmD, DABAT, Clinical Toxicologist, and Michael Holland, MD, FAACT, FACMT, Medical Toxicologist, provided an intensive toxicology review course on May 7, 2009 for the doctors and nurses at the Puerto Rico Poison Control Center to prepare for the AAPCC certifying exam. This was a first step in a planned ongoing, collaborative effort to provide continuing poison education to the PRPC with the primary goal of facilitating attainment of nationally recognized criteria for certification and federal funding.
National Leadership

Richard Cantor, MD, *Emergency Medicine and Pediatrics*, was selected as Program and Planning Committee Chair for the American College of Emergency Physician’s 5th Annual Pediatric Emergency Assembly. Dr. Cantor has also been appointed to serve on the Pediatric Emergency Medicine Committee and the Education Committee of the American College of Emergency Physicians.

Sara Grethlein, MD, *Medicine*, has been appointed to the ACGME's Residency Review Committee for Internal Medicine for a 6 year term. She was nominated by the AMA for this role. She has also been appointed to the AAMC Group on Women in Medicine and Science (GWIMS).

Kathy Faber-Langendoen, MD, *Center for Bioethics and Humanities*, has been appointed to serve on the National Ethics Committee and on the New York State Ethics Committee of the American College of Physicians.

Melissa Ko, MD, *Neurology*, has been selected by the American Academy of Neurology to the Advocate class of the 2010 Donald M. Palatucci Advocacy Leadership Forum. This leadership forum is an intensive training conference attended by 30 US and international neurologists to receive training in action planning, strategic communications, media and grassroots legislative advocacy.

Leslie J Kohman, MD, *Surgery*, was elected to a 3 year term on the Commission on Cancer (CoC) of the American College of Surgeons representing the fellowship.

University Leadership

Sara Grethlein, MD, *Medicine*, has been appointed to the SUNY Faculty Senate Ethics Committee.

Margaret Maimone, PhD, *Cell and Developmental Biology*, has been appointed Assistant Dean of Student Affairs for College of Medicine Advising.

Nancy Nussmeier MD, *Anesthesiology*, has accepted the position of Associate Vice President for Research Integrity. Dr. Nussmeier’s functions will include: oversight of the Institutional Review Board for the Protection of Human Subjects (IRB), Committee for the Humane Use of Animals (CHUA) and the Quality Assessment and Improvement Program (QAIP); serving as Upstate Research Conflict of Interest (COI) Committee Chair; serving as Upstate Research Integrity Officer for future cases; and assisting the VP for Research on activities related to Upstate’s Research Integrity and Compliance.
Jeremy Shefner MD, PhD, *Neurology*, has accepted the position of Associate Vice President for Clinical and Translational Research. Dr. Shefner’s functions will include: developing an Upstate Clinical Research Organization (CRO); overseeing the development and growth of our Center for Clinical and Translational Research (CCTR); overseeing the Clinical Research Unit (CRU); participating as our representative for the SUNY AHC clinical and translational research collaboration; establishing clinical databases (with de-identified data); identifying potential subjects for clinical trials; developing a patient “biobank” (serum, cells, DNA, etc.) for future research; creating a research track for residents and fellows; oversight of research space; and assisting the VP for Research on other activities related to clinical and translational research.

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**Grants Awarded**

**Christine Stork, Pharm D, DABAT**  
Federal Poison Control Center Stabilization grant (HRSA) 9/1/09-8/31/10  
$364,056

**Zsuzsa Szombathyne Meszaros, MD, PhD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences**  
PI: Varenicline Treatment in Alcohol and Nicotine Dependent Patients with Schizophrenia 7/1/08-6/30/10 NARSAD 2008 Young Investigator Award  
$60,000.

**M Golam Mohi, PhD, Pharmacology**  
PI: Role of JAK2V617F in the Pathogenesis of Myeloproliferative Disorders. 7/1/09-6/30/11. NIH-ARRA Fund,  
$252,535.

**Steven Taffet, PhD FAHA, Microbiology and Immunology** (PI, multiple PIs)  
National Institutes of Health- NHLBI  
RC1, Stem cells and the fibroblast/adipocyte lineage in arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy, 9/30/09-8/31/11, $1,000,000.

**Paula M. Trief, PhD, Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, (PI)**  
National Institutes of Health- NIDDK  
Improving Diabetes Outcomes: The Diabetes Support Project. 9/09-8/14, $2,800,000 (total direct costs), approx. $4,000,000 (total costs)  
**Ruth S. Weinstock, MD, PhD**, co-Investigator.

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**Publications**


Faraone SV, Glatt SJ. Effects of extended-release Guanfacine on ADHD symptoms and sedation-related adverse events in children with ADHD. *J Atten Disord* 2009 Apr 24. [Epub ahead of print].


Miller, LE. The importance of immunoglobulin class in the serologic evaluation of infectious disease. *LabQ* No. CL-14, American Society of Clinical Pathologists, 2009


Published Abstracts


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**Published Abstracts**


Holland MG, Marraffa J, Rosano T. Elevated glycolate levels after unintentional pediatric ethylene glycol ingestion. *Clin Tox* 2009


Meszaros ZS, Dimmock JA, Ploutz-Snyder R, Batki SL. Safety of naltrexone directly administered 3 times per week for alcohol dependence in schizophrenia. *Alcoholism Clinical and Experimental Research*, 2009; 33(s1):113A.


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**Books and Book Chapters**


**Gajara, A, Vajpayee, N, and Grethlein, S**. Lymphoma, B-Cell published in *eMedicine*.

**Grethlein, S** and **Rajan, A**. Antithrombin Deficiency, published in *eMedicine*.


Posters

Meszaros ZS. Safety of naltrexone directly administered 3 times per week for alcohol dependence in schizophrenia. Presented at the 32nd Annual Scientific Conference, Research Society on Alcoholism, San Diego, CA, June 2009.


Teaching Contributions

NEW medical elective: (BIOC1205) PERSONALIZED MEDICINE 101-DIGITIZING DIAGNOSIS FOR DOCTORS – This medical elective is sponsored by Robert West, PhD, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, and is team-taught by faculty from the departments of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology (R. West), Medicine (M. Iannuzzi), Neuroscience & Physiology (F. Middleton), Obstetrics & Gynecology (K. Fay), Pathology (T. Shrimpton, C. Stein), Pediatrics (R. Lebel), and Psychiatry & Behavioral Science (S. Glatt). The goal of the elective is to educate medical students of imminent changes being brought to healthcare by synergistic interaction between the human genome project and the internet. The goal is not to "sell" students on personalized medicine as the future of healthcare, but to "educate" them on the details, whether hype or hope. Students taking the elective, by the end of the course, should be fully conversant on a broad range of topics including, but not limited to: personalized medicine, healthcare IT, and healthcare social computing. Students trained in this fashion will be better prepared to deal with a new generation of highly-educated patients- aka "Health 2.0 Patients". The syllabus for the course, which is routinely updated, is maintained at Google Sites, and is available for use by all interested Upstate faculty and students (username and password provided upon request; send request to: westr@upstate.edu).
Presentations

International

Ann Barker Griffith, MD, and the Department of Ophthalmology, hosted the annual Eastern Ophthalmic Society (EOPS) meeting October 8 - 11, 2009. This limited membership society held its first meeting in 1962. EOPS membership is restricted to those who are leaders within ophthalmic pathology. The society currently has 40 members. Thirty-one participants came from Argentina, Canada, Saudi Arabia, and the United States. Each participant presented their most unusual case from the past year or an especially instructive case to be used for resident education. The participants also enjoyed a wide variety of activities that showcased Central New York.


**Peter Mariani MD, Emergency Medicine**, presented “Ultrasonographic Diagnosis and Facilitated Reduction of Abdominal Wall Hernias” at the 41st annual International College of Surgeons North American Congress on May 28, 2009 in Montreal, Quebec. The ICS has members in 110 countries and the theme of this year’s congress was “A Case for Collaboration.” Dr. Mariani provided the only presentation by an Emergency Medicine practitioner.

National


Robert Sunheimer, MS MT(ASCP) SC, SLS, College of Health Professions, presented "Method Validation and Quality Control: a Blueprint for reporting reliable patient results" and "Biochemical Markers in Diseases" at the American Society for Clinical Pathology - Workshops for Laboratory Professions, Atlanta, Georgia. October 7, 2009.

State & Local

Richard Cantor, MD, Emergency Medicine, presented “Evidenced Based Approach to Pediatric Respiratory Emergencies” at the 10th Annual Pediatric Emergency Medicine Assembly, Syracuse, NY, September, 2009.


Shelley Gilroy, MD, Medicine, presented “Facing A Public Health Challenge: H1N1: Novel H1N1 Infection Prevention” at the SUNY Campus Safety Symposium, September 14th, 2009, Doubletree Hotel, Syracuse, NY.

Joseph G. Sorbello, MSEd, RRT, RT, College of Health Professions, presented "Evaluation in the Clinical Setting" and "Dealing With The Difficult Student and Preceptor" at the Connecticut Society for Respiratory Care's Second Annual Clinical Instructor Workshop: "Making Great RTs into Excellent Teachers", September 30, 2009, Waterbury, CONN.


Community

Zsuzsa Szombathyne Meszaros, MD, PhD, Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences, presented “Substance use and schizophrenia: an overview with focus on alcohol and nicotine dependence” at the NAMI Syracuse Mind, Body, Spirit Conference on October 6, 2009.


David R. Smith, MD, President, spoke at the Leadership Breakfast in Watertown on November 10. Dr. Smith addressed the challenges and recommendations related to establishing a branch campus in the North Country and the key role played by the Fort Drum Regional Health Planning Organization.
Promotions

Thomas Smallman, MD, Orthopedic Surgery, was promoted to Associate Professor, October 2009.

New Faculty

Jing An, MD, PhD, Associate Professor, Pharmacology
Dr. An received her medical degree from China Medical University. She received her doctoral degree from McGill University and completed her postdoctoral training at Thomas Jefferson University. She has been on the faculty of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and most recently at the Burnham Institute for Medical Research.

A. James Ciaccio, MD, Assistant Professor, Emergency Medicine
Dr. Ciaccio received his medical degree here at SUNY Upstate Medical University and completed his residency at Buffalo General Hospital. He is on the staff of Auburn Memorial and St. Joseph’s Hospital. He has been a member of voluntary faculty.

Robert Cooney, MD, Professor & Chair with tenure, Surgery
Dr. Cooney received his medical degree from University of Vermont and completed his residency at the University of California at San Diego and the University of Massachusetts Medical Center. He pursued additional training in Surgical Critical Care at the University of North Carolina. He joins us from the faculty of Penn State M. S. Hershey Medical Center.

Britta Denman, DO, Assistant Professor, Medicine
Dr. Denman received her degree of osteopathic medicine from West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine and completed her residency at the University of Iowa. She pursued additional training in Infectious Disease at Fletcher Allen Health Care.

Kate Flewelling, MLIS, Health Sciences Library
Ms. Flewelling received her MLIS from the University of Wisconsin.
Rachel Hopkins, MD, Assistant Professor, Medicine
Dr. Hopkins received her medical degree from the University of California, San Diego and completed her residency at Albany Medical College. She pursued additional training in Endocrinology also at Albany Medical College. She joins us from the faculty of Albany Medical College.

Elizabeth Jamme, MD, Assistant Professor, Pediatrics
Dr. Jamme received her medical degree from Temple University School of Medicine and completed her residency at St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children. She joins us from the faculty of the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia.

Waleed Javaid, MD, Assistant Professor, Medicine
Dr. Javaid received his medical degree from Allama Iqbal Medical College in Pakistan and completed his residency here at SUNY Upstate Medical University. He pursued additional training in Infectious Disease also here at Upstate. He joins us from the faculty of the University of Connecticut.

Heather Kadey, MS, Instructor, Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences
Ms. Kadey received her master’s degree in Educational Psychology from Georgia State University.

Satish Krishnamurthy, MD, Associate Professor with tenure, Neurosurgery
Dr. Krishnamurthy received his medical degree from the University of Mysore in India and completed his residency at the Milton S. Hershey Medical Center. He was on the faculty and staff here at SUNY Upstate Medical University and the VA Medical Center. He has re-joined us from the Henry Ford Health System.

Kan Liu, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor, Medicine
Dr. Liu received his medical degree from Sun Yat-Sen University of Medical Sciences in China and completed his residency at University of Texas. He pursued additional training in Cardiovascular Disease at Washington University School of Medicine. He received his doctoral degree from the University of Alabama.

Louis Profenno, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor, Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences
Dr. Profenno received his degrees from the University of Rochester School of Medicine and College of Arts and Sciences. He completed his residency at Strong Memorial Hospital. He pursued additional training in Experimental Therapeutics of Neurological Diseases at the University of Rochester. He is on staff of the VA Medical Center and has been a member of our voluntary faculty.

Henry Roane, PhD, Associate Professor with tenure, Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences
Dr. Roane received his doctoral degree from Louisiana State University. He has been on the faculty of Emory University School of Medicine, Troy University, University of Nevada at Reno, Kennesaw State University, Georgia State University and most recently the University of Nebraska.
Ali Salah, MD, Assistant Professor, Medicine
Dr. Salah received his medical degree from Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia and completed his residency at the Medical College of Georgia. He pursued additional training in Cardiovascular Medicine at the University of Kentucky, Georgetown University and SUNY Stony Brook.

Layth Saymeh, MD, Assistant Professor, Medicine
Dr. Saymeh received his medical degree from Tishreen University in Syria and completed his residency at New York Flushing Hospital. He pursued additional training in Gastroenterology at Oklahoma University Health Science Center and Advance Endoscopy at both the University of Montreal and Midwest Therapeutic Endoscopy Consultants. He joins us from private practice.

Faculty Development - Upcoming Events

Faculty Development Seminar Series
12-1 pm in 318 Weiskotten Library

Tuesday, November 24, 2009

Teaching the Millennials
presented by
Jill Thomas, PhD
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Promoting Active Learning – Moving Beyond Power Point
presented by
Dale Avers, PhD
Assistant Professor of CHP – Physical Therapy
and
Kevin Neville, PT, MS
Clinical Assistant Professor of CHP – Physical Therapy

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