New Directions for Dr. Botash

Most of you have probably heard the news that our very own Dr. Ann Botash has accepted the position as Associate Dean for Education in the College of Medicine. Her role as associate dean will focus on innovation and development starting with the undergraduate curriculum, but potentially also involving graduate and continuing education. Dr. Botash will also be assuming the role of chairing the New Directions Task Force. Dean Duggan wrote, “Based on her nomination by the Medical College Assembly Executive Committee, I appointed her to the new Curriculum Committee this past spring. This summer, she was elected as an inaugural member of the Upstate Academy of Educators, evidence of the quality and quantity of her own teaching efforts. She has served as Pediatric Clerkship Director since July 2011, and has introduced a number of innovations in that setting, including student use of iPads and discussions of student observations of professionalism. Student members nominated and elected her to the AOA National Honor Society in spring 2012.” You can read Dr. Duggan’s full announcement by following the link.

The good news for the department of pediatrics is that in addition to her new responsibilities she will also continue to serve as Vice Chair for Education in the Department of Pediatrics and maintain her to the AOA National Honor Society in spring 2012.” You can read Dr. Duggan’s full announcement by following the link.

1. What made you get interested in undergrad education and curriculum development?

I have been interested in curriculum development for many years, and have enjoyed creating curriculae for advocacy and child abuse pediatrics. Last year, when I decided to fill in for the clerkship director, I realized that working with students was more fun than anything I had ever done. Third year of medical school is hard because clinical work is new for the students and, on top of learning all new things, students have to make a major decision in their lives. One of my favorite aspects of the clerkship job is that time period at about 3 weeks into the clerkship when a student calls to make an urgent appointment. My mind starts spinning tales of something gone awry in the clerkship, but then the student comes to meet with me and tells me how much they LOVE pediatrics and how they cannot believe how much they love it. They love it so much they can't stop talking about it. The same thing happened to me with teaching the students. About halfway through, I realized I love working with the students and I can't stop talking about it.

2. How involved, if at all, will you be with Child Abuse/Advocacy?

I had to cut back, way back, on clinical care to abused children last year during my clerkship director period. It was just too complicated and actually impossible to run off to court every week. I am continuing to work at the advocacy center two half days per week. It is great to work there with the CARE team and to continue to have an impact on children in Central New York.

3. Will we see much of you in the department any more?

Of course! I expect that each place will see me 40 hours per week! It will be less than you are used to, but you can always come visit me in Setnor! I really miss the Tuesday team and am hoping that once this transition period is over that I can come back to clinic for a half day (if Dr. Blatt lets me). The vice chair role keeps me in touch with the residents and residency program as well as gives me a continued presence with the clerkship. I plan to continue the work on the student iPad effort, our reflective narrative process for students and, of course, the OSCEs (reminder to faculty to sign up!!)

4. What do you look forward to most of all about the new position?

I'm very excited about the development of the new undergraduate medical education curriculum and chairing the New Directions Task Force. I'm looking forward to working with all of the teaching faculty in the institution and helping them to build on their current models of teaching to develop something even better. I'm also looking forward to figuring out ways to help all of our educational programs become more efficient, collaborative and far reaching--from undergraduate medical education, to graduate medical education, all the way to continuing medical education.

Dr. Botash concluded her interview with the following thought to ponder: "Innovation is just seeing pieces that are already there and putting them together to make something even better."

Congratulations, Dr. Botash! We are all very proud of her and wish her the best in her new position.

The Perfect Match

We are very proud to announce that on October 3rd, three of our PL3’s found out they had gotten fellowship positions in the Neonatology Match. Shelly- Ann Williams – MUSC (SC)
Tri Nguyen – Loma Linda (CA)
Tristan Lindberg – UCONN (CT)
Congratulations to you all!

Another Perfect Match
Katie Fry and Eric Wohlford were happily married on October 20th at the First Presbyterian Church in Skaneateles followed by a lovely reception at the Mandana Barn. Congratulations, Katie and Eric!

Pie in the Sky
Dr. Ragosta (and his wife) once again hosted what is becoming an annual pie event at their home in Tully. On Saturday, October 6th they invited residents and new faculty over to accomplish three tasks: (1) to celebrate Apple Fest, (2) to learn how to bake applie pies from scratch and, (3) to eat yummy pies with ice cream. Those who were brave enough to step up to the pie challenge included Drs. Eksioglu and his family, Melissa and Maddy Schafer (of whom Dr. Ragosta wrote, “Maddy was great fun. I could steal her but there are laws...”), Winter Berry and her husband, Tim Harris and his two mini-bakers, Raya Safa (who Kevin reports could consider a second career in pie baking), Shelly-Ann Williams and of course Dr. and Mrs. Chief Baker themselves. A good time, and a lot of good pie was had by all.

Krisjon Olson and Charlie Bergstrom would like to announce the arrival of their beautiful new daughter, Lucia Mireille Olson Bergstrom (Meaning: light to admire; Pronounced: loo-SEE-ah mee-RAY).” She was born 10/13 at Swedish Hospital in Seattle, WA at 8 lbs; 4.5 oz. Congratulations, Charlie!

As for the kids, Kevin escaped the kitchen long enough to take them out to his pond where Maddy and Sam each caught a sunfish. Maddy opted for the catch-and-release program but rumor has it that the Harris family had fillet of sunfish with their apple pie that evening.

In Loving Memory
On Sunday, October 14th, the GCH had a ceremony remembering our children who have died since the opening of Golisano Children’s Hospital. About 50 families along with GCH faculty and staff came together out in front of the Treehouse, by the Memory Tree as names of each of the children became “leaves” on the tree.

Good Things Come in Twos?
We got a note from former resident Mouhammad Yabrodi letting us know about two exciting new developments in his life. First, they are expecting their second child. Second, he has accepted a position as a cardiology fellow next year at Emory for two years that will enable him to be double boarded in Peds Critical Care and Peds Cardiology. As Mouhammad put it, “it sounds crazy and stupid but I am very excited about this fellowship”. We are excited for him, too. Congratulations, Mouhammad!

Yet Another...
The Crier received the following from former faculty member, Charlie Bergstrom:
Krisjon Olson and Charlie Bergstrom would like to announce the arrival of their beautiful new daughter, Lucia Mireille Olson Bergstrom (Meaning: light to admire; Pronounced: loo-SEE-ah mee-RAY).” She was born 10/13 at Swedish Hospital in Seattle, WA at 8 lbs; 4.5 oz. Congratulations, Charlie!

And One More...
Finally, at least for this month, congratulations go to former resident Kirti Kandalkar on the birth her beautiful baby girl Saachi Kanitkar on 9/20.

Opportunity 1: Vaccine Clinic
Dr. Suryadevara shared the following: “We are holding an influenza vaccine clinic at the Salvation Army gift distribution program registration period from 12/1 through 12/16. Mondays-Thursdays 10-6, Fridays 10-4, and Saturdays 10-2. We are looking for volunteers to administer influenza vaccine during this time. If you are interested in volunteering for this program, let me know and I can provide more details.”

Opportunity 2: El Salvador
The Crier came across another another wonderful opportunity we have to be...
involved in helping one of our faculty help children in another part of the world. Dr. Domachowske sent the following: “We have begun to collect supplies for El Salvador 2013 (February). Any donations are welcome. Children's vitamins, cough drops, toothbrushes, and school supplies are on the list once again. If you would like to donate funds for maintenance of water purification, installation of the computer lab at the school we build, or for the fish hatchery (Tilapia), we are collecting money for those project as well. Checks made out to ‘Young Life’ will make it certain you get your tax receipt. It also helps to write ‘Domachowske- El Salvador’ in the memo line so the funds are not inadvertently directed to an unrelated YL project in Colorado!”

As always, thanks for your ongoing support to make it easier for me to help the community that we have adopted there. “ - Joe D.

NASPghan Again
Dr. Beg once again submitted his annual report to the Crier on the 2012 NASPghan (North American society for pediatric gastroenterology, hepatology and nutrition) conference in Salt Lake City Utah from October 17-20, 2012. He wrote, “During this conference I was able to see some of our previous medical students and residents who now are in GI. I tried to get their pictures for you. Archie presented 3 posters and all of her posters were well attended. From our division Drs Rivera, Karjoo and I were able to attend this meeting. Pictured are - front row from left to right: Dr Karjoo, Sara Karjoo (our former med student), Archie Ramaswami, Mohini Patel (our former med student, now second yr GI fellow at Yale), Rajitha Devados (our student, now 3rd yr Peds resident at Yale), Prita Mohanty (former chief and now 3rd yr fellow at Rochester NY) and Mrs Karjoo. In the back row is Imad Absah (now a GI attending at Mayo Clinic Rochester MN) and me. Next to me is Matt (second yr fellow with Prita, no other connection to us). Former resident Cary Qualia was also at the meeting.

Pediatric Star-of-the-Month
By Lisa Blystone
The Pediatric Star of the Month is Tara Wilhoit for jumping in unsselfishly to help Patty out of a un-collated bind. Tara really went above and beyond. Tara - please visit Lisa Blystone in UH 5803 to pick out your Stars prize!

Reminder: New Faculty Reception
Save the date for the department's annual welcome to our new faculty members at Stickley Museum in Fayetteville on Thursday, Nov 8 at 6:00 PM

Hole-In-One
The Crier received notice that on 10/22, Dr. Sue Stred reportedly got a hole-in-one. She tells the Crier that it was a “beautiful Fall Monday, first day off after a tough on-call week” on the 4th hole at the Westvale golf course. Golfers will appreciate knowing that it was “175 yds with a 3-wood”. Way to go, Sue!

Pediatric Fine Arts
This month we feature a picture submitted by Kathy Bratt that was taken by her friend Jennifer Savery as they left the EMS Vital Signs conference at the Oncenter. Kathy and Jennifer are both volunteer EMTs (and Jennifer now moonlights as a Crier photographer).

The Photo Caption Contest Winner!
We have a winner! Lindsay Tamborelle’s photo generated quite a few excellent responses but after asking an independent panel of judges to cast their votes, we have a winning caption. But first, honorable mention (and very close runners-up) go to the following: “What happened to my duckie?” and “He drank all the water” both by Dr. Ann Botash (both coming in tied for second place); “Mom, can you just give us some privacy!” by Shelly-Ann Williams; “Eyyee! Chiuaua!” by Sue Black; and “HEY!!! It’s my turn….a LITTLE HELP HERE!!! ANYBODY?” by Jay Peacock.

And the winner, once again getting the most votes, is Dr. Beth Nelsen:

"Oh, you wanted ME to take a bath?"

Congratulations, Beth. You can pick up your prize when you get back from giving baby Emily a few baths.

November Birthdays
1/1 Irene Cherrick
11/8 Joe D., Manika S.
11/9 Regina McConnell
11/15 Jay Peacock
11/20 Mirza Beg
11/29 Stephanie Hung