Welcoming New Faculty
Editor’s Note: The Crier was having a little difficulty pinning Dr. Rivera down for an interview so we asked Dr. Beg if he would introduce Marcus to us:

From Guts to Glory
By Mirza Beg

Wait, wait, wait. Let me clarify this first that I am not talking about a Texas based Rock and Roll Band but I am here to introduce you our new Pediatric Gastroenterologist Dr. Marcus Rivera to whom I met in August 2002 at NASPGHAN conference in Texas where he was one of the recipient of NASPGHAN/ Procter and Gamble Teaching and Tomorrow Program Award (which is given to a second year Pediatric resident with an interest in Pediatric Gastroenterology).

Marcus is a native of New Jersey. He did his undergraduate from Princeton University and than went to New Jersey Medical school. He successfully completed his Pediatric residency from University Hospital UMDNJ. As a member of fellows’ selection committee at Brown University, Rhode Island, I had the opportunity to review his fellowship application but before we took any action on his application, Marcus was accepted for GI fellowship at Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh. After completing his GI fellowship in 2007, he stayed there as an Assistant Professor. Due to his leadership abilities he was given SPLIT Travel Grant Award in 2006 and Junior Clinician Award in 2007.

You will read this with interest that Marcus was Olympic Development Coach for United States Field Hockey from 1999-2003. In between seeing the patients here in clinic he loves to talk about food and share jokes but in his spare time he listens to music, exercises, reads, hikes and spends time with his family.

Marcus’s current interests involve managing children with intestinal failure and nutritional deficiencies relating to short bowel syndrome; so saying that “it takes guts to be a gastroenterologist” fits 100% true for Marcus.

Marcus!! Welcome to Syracuse. We are happy to have you here.

Where’s Wali?
Pediatrics welcomes back Prateek Wali who shared the following:

After a great three years of fellowship at Alfred I duPont Hospital for Children in Delaware, I’m happy to be returning to the Golisano Children’s Hospital. I still have fond memories of 4A and 7H, but it is very exciting and a great achievement to have such a beautiful new building. I moved to Syracuse when I was eight years old from Kashmir, India, and stayed here for quite a long time. I finished my undergraduate at Syracuse University, medical degree and residency at SUNY Upstate. I have had wonderful mentors and friends in this department, and it is humbling to be welcomed back to join as an attending. Under the leadership of Dr. Karjoo, the division of pediatric gastroenterology has been an integral part of the department, and I hope to contribute to its future growth and success. As per my hobbies, I enjoy most sports, including basketball, tennis, golf, football and soccer. I have been spoiled by the great food in Philadelphia and hope to find new restaurants in Syracuse. I hope to get to know all of the new faces the department over the next couple months. A special thank you to Sherri, Carol, Barb and Patty for making my transition smoother.

Ghana For Good
Former resident and world traveler Ty Dickerson recently sent us an email from Kumasi, Ghana “where our medical and public health students are working on some health-related research projects… I think the students are getting good experience doing relevant public health research as well as learning how West Africans live and, too often die.” Ty included a few pictures with his note.

When asked about his latest adventures, Ty wrote, “Hope and I are thriving in Salt Lake City. As you know, I took a hospitalist position here four years ago after finishing an MPH at Rochester. I enjoy my inpatient duties and the clinical teaching. I have had an opportunity to continue my global health work and spent quite a lot of time in Tibet from 2005-2008 where I developed and managed a community-based maternal/neonatal health program for a NGO from Salt Lake. Recently, I spent some time in Chihuahua, Mexico where this NGO is now implementing the program down there. They will soon take the program on to Nepal. I have been able to squeeze some research in here and there and have been able to publish a few articles related to the global health work. This was very helpful in advancing to associate professor this year. I will also be starting a global child health certificate program for pediatrics this fall so am excited about that. Finally, I have an adjunct appointment in the division of public health and have spent a good deal of time working on a collaborative effort between our institution and a medical school and teaching hospital in Kumasi, Ghana. The photo I emailed to you was from a study abroad trip where I and one of the public health faculty took 35 medical, public health, nursing and undergraduate students over to Ghana to complete some research projects.”

We are very proud of Ty and the work he is doing both in Salt Lake City and in International Medicine.
In the News…
One of our newest members was recently spotted on Channel 9 TV. Beth Nelsen was interviewed on 8/23 on “Bridge Street” sharing her expertise on Ipods and Adolescent hearing loss. If you missed her outstanding interview you can view it online at: www.9wsyr.com/content/bridge_street/default.aspx?articleID=280727
Dr. Nelsen tells the Crier that the line for autographs forms to the right (thankfully all this publicity hasn’t gone to her head). Great job, Beth!

From Patient to Politics
Editor’s Note: It is always nice to be reminded of some of the amazing success stories thanks to the pediatric care they received at Upstate. Fran Parthemore shares the following:

I wanted to share this picture of Timeteo Cruz Hines. He was a cardiac patient of Dr Brandt’s at less than 24 hours old. He has had many surgeries since then, and will eventually need a heart transplant. But he is now 23 years old and just graduated from East Carolina University with two degrees. He hopes to move to Washington, DC and work for a political candidate on his/her campaign. He was in Syracuse recently and we spent time with Dr. Frank Smith and his office staff. We then went to tour the new Golisano Children’s Hospital. He was impressed with the new Peds ICU and got to reunite with a few of the staff that remembered him.

Pediatrics in the Treehouse - A Medical Student Teaching Day
On Sept 11, 2010, the Upstate GCH will be hosting its first pediatric teaching day for medical students. The teaching day will be free to all third and fourth year medical students.
An all-star cast of pediatric faculty will be presenting throughout the day-long event including Drs. Andrake, Welch, Hingre, Olson, Anbar, Mackey, and Wali. For more info you can visit the official teaching day website at www.upstate.edu/gch/education/treehouse.php

Close Associates
The Crier recently caught up with former resident Khaver Kirmani who is now practicing neonatology in Arizona. He sent pictures of his family and his little bungalow just outside of Phoenix. Khaver is not the only former pediatric resident of ours currently working at the Neonatal Associates, Ltd. Zahi Haidar is also working in the same practice (both are pictured on their web site at: www.nalweb.com/page1phys.html).

The Terrific Two’s
We also heard from former resident, Diala Faddoul, who let us know that her lovely daughter Leen just celebrated her second birthday. Diala and her husband Hussein are currently living in Arizona.

Pediatric Star-of-the-Month
By Lisa Blystone
This month’s Pediatric All-Stars are Kevin Phelps for the extraordinary care that he takes of the fifth floor office area, and Cindy Serviss for tracking down and returning a young patient who had temporarily lost his way. Kevin and Cindy, please contact either Patty Mondore or Lisa Blystone to select a prize from the Stars prize cupboard.
(See online for full story about Cindy’s dramatic rescue)

Pakistan Floods – “A Genuine Cause”
Saadiya Khan recently sent the following note to the Crier. "As you might already know Pakistan has been hit and continues to get the one of the worst floods in the history of South East Asia. Below is a link of the BBC website where if you hit PAKISTAN one can see the degree of destruction and lives affected: www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-south-asia-10951517. I wanted to check if there was a way that one can work towards collecting aid for the victims through the programs WHO/UN and other American agencies are running. Can we bring this issue to light for people to donate towards a genuine cause?"
The Crier has included links to several organizations that are currently involved in relief efforts in Pakistan that is, by the way, home to three of our current residents and a number of our former residents. For those interested in helping out, there are a number of excellent organizations currently working in Pakistan such as the World Health Organization, the American Red Cross, and World Vision. Saadiya also recommends The Edhi Foundation, Pakistan Red Crescent Society (Pakistan’s equivalent to Red Cross), The UN Refugee Agency, and Islamic Relief USA.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS
9/1 Lisa Blystone, 9/4 Mabel Yew
9/6 Sarah El Yaman, 9/10 Wendy Holz
9/11 Brad Olson, Kunal Sawale
9/28 Barb Delaney