



Upstate at PAS

Our Department hosted a reception at the PAS meeting in Baltimore on 4/27. Thanks to all who sent pictures from this exciting event! It was wonderful for so many former residents and faculty to stop by! We would also note that six of our residents presented at PAS this year! Congratulations, Aarani, Jake, Samara, Josh, Rohan and Carlee!



Upstate Pediatric Scholars

Dr. Connors received notification that TWO of our pediatric faculty, Aamer Imdad, MD, and Angela Wratney, MD have been invited to participate in the newly created Upstate College of Medicine Scholars program. The goal of this program is to support junior faculty career development, serving as an extended introduction to the issues faced by junior faculty in terms of their own professional development. It is a one-year program. Congratulations, Aamer and Angela!

The APPD Meeting in New Orleans

As we reported last month, several residents and faculty attended the APPD conference in New Orleans. In addition to three residents presenting posters, this year also featured Dr. Beth Nelsen's graduation from the LEAD program.



The APPD Leadership in Educational Academic Development (LEAD) is a nationally recognized program that provides a unique opportunity for

pediatric academic leaders in medical education to engage and learn from seasoned program directors, pediatric educators, and other national leaders in pediatrics. Dr. Nelsen tells the Crier, "In April 2018 I was selected as one of 18 members of the 7th group to participate in APPD LEAD (Leadership in Educational Academic Development). It is an intensive 9-month leadership training program directed at pediatric program directors. I knew it would be challenging but I did not expect to gain as much as I did from this program. I learned as much about leadership as I did about my own skills and style as a leader. I also made a lot of new friends and great connections with other program directors. I completed the program in March at the APPD annual spring meeting."

Congratulations, Beth!



New Faculty: Welcome Marissa Smith.



Dr. Smith has a joint appointment in Emergency Medicine and Peds. She tells the Crier: "I am working in the after

hours and would love to get back in the swing of going to academic lectures for pediatrics. I've been in private practice doing sports medicine the last few years and really enjoying the pediatric side of medicine again. It is great to be back in the Syracuse area after being gone for almost 20 years! I grew up in Marcellus before leaving for college. I graduated from West Virginia University and then completed my pediatric residency at Connecticut Children's Medical Center. After a few years working in the emergency department there I did a Sports Medicine Fellowship at Hospital for Special Surgery in New York City. While in my fellowship, I was fortunate to be a team physician for the NY Giants, NY Mets and St. John's University. After working for a few years in an orthopedic office in Connecticut and working with local colleges, I returned back to my hometown. I am so happy to be

working with kids again in the Pediatric After Hours clinic and bringing my sports medicine knowledge to Upstate. In my free time, I enjoy spending time with my family here especially my niece and nephew, as well as catching up with old friends. I like to spend my free time outside as much as possible, enjoying sports, biking and hiking, or simply reading a good book. I am excited to get some warm weather here in CNY to get to enjoy the great natural attractions here. Music, dancing and seeing liver theater are also favorite pastimes. I look forward to getting to know everyone here and work with you all!"

The PEA Awards

The annual Patient Experience Awards were announced at a special reception on April 10th in the Kinney Center. The full list of winners is attached. But the Inpatient MVP award went to Anne Germano and the Outpatient MVP award went to Charissa Taylor! Congratulations, ladies! History was also made this year when, for the second year in a row, Chris Maierhofer received the Rockin' Resident Award. He was lured to the reception under false pretenses so he had no idea the award was coming. See Attached.

The PL2 Leadership Retreat

All of the PL2s were released from their responsibilities for a two-day leadership conference entitled, "Leadership is a Verb!" on April 25-26 presented by Ahern, Murphy & Associates. It appears to have been successful judging from the before and after pictures we received.



Before



After

They took a little time off in the evening just to hang out and to celebrate Cora's birthday (youngest member of the class). Happy Birthday, Cora!



Peds Society in April

There was a great turnout at the Onondaga Pediatric Society's dinner meeting in April. The guest speaker was Dr. Zafer Soultan speaking on Obstructive Sleep Apnea. A special thanks to Dr. Dracker who purchased memberships this year for the entire housestaff. Though former resident, Steve Blatt, had to pay his own way.



In the News – NRP

Our very own Dr. Jana Shaw was interviewed by NPR for an article they ran on vaccines. Here is the link to the interview.



<https://www.cpr.org/news/story/polis-is-wary-of-govt-easing-vaccination-exemptions-this-medical-expert-isnt>

Les Miserables

We received the following report from Dean Karahalios who, together with several other notables, attended the opening night of Les Miserables at the Landmark Theater. Dean tells the Crier, "My sister was in town and it was a great

excuse to do something special. It was a star-studded night with notables like Dr. Andrade and Dr. Friedman in attendance!"



Welcome Ella Valerie

Congratulations to Kate Okhman on the April 1st arrival of Ella Valerie at 8 lbs; 6 oz. We received the following note from Kate: "Ella Valerie Okhman has arrived on April 1st! Both baby and mom are doing well and hoping to be home soon. Thanks to all for keeping us in your thoughts and prayers."



Welcome Cristian Angelo

Congratulations to former resident Hilliary Sismondo (Class of 2016) on the birth of beautiful baby boy Cristian Angelo on 1/26/19 arriving at 5 lb 4 oz. Congratulations, Hilliary and Ronnie!



Where Are They Now? – Julie Riccio

We recently heard from our former resident and chief resident Julie Riccio (2006) who has since become a Neonatologist in Rochester. Julie was recently appointed as Highland Hospital Chief of Pediatric Medicine - <https://www.urmc.rochester.edu/news/story/5476/julie-riccio-m.d.-appointed-highland-hospital-chief-of-pediatric-medicine.aspx> She never mentioned that when she contacted us. But she did send a picture of her beautiful boys. "I am also including a picture from last summer with the kids sailing down in the Jersey Shore with Dustin. They are 12 and 9 now, in 7th and 3rd grade and are great kids most of the time!"



Just Married

Congratulations to former resident Danice Kuruvilla (2018) who was married to Alok Butala on April 6th in Charlotte, NC. Like most resident weddings, there were lots of familiar faces. Congratulations, Danice!



EFS Certification

Former resident Dani Mouawad (1997) just created a new EFS (Earthen Forming System) Certificate Program at his Ecoheal Integrative Healing and Learning Center in Chapel Hill, NC. <http://efs-certification.webflow.io/>

A Typical April Day in the PICU

Pictured are Dr. Hannan and his team along with a surprise guest who just stopped...er... hopped in.



GCH Celebration - Save the Date!

Mark your calendars for Weds, May 8th from 2-4 PM in the Kinney Center as we celebrate both the arrival of our new chairman, Dr. Gregory P. Connors, and the 10th Birthday of the Children's Hospital. There will be refreshments including, of course, birthday cake!

MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 5/2 Matt Mittiga
- 5/3 Chris Maierhoffer
- 5/5 Iram Ashraf
- 5/8 Asalim Thabet
- 5/11 Chris Lopez,
- 5/12 Sherri Clarry,
- 5/14 Zafer Soultan,
- 5/18 Debby Carlson
- 5/19 Dean Karahalios
- 5/20 Lou Pellegrino
- 5/25 Bob Newmyer
- 5/28 Rohan Akhouri

2019 Patient Experience Awards

A leadership author named Robert Greene once said, “Never whine, never complain, never try to justify yourself.” He was talking about honing qualities to become a powerful person, but he could easily have been talking about this award winner. This nurse is known for her can-do spirit and her team approach to nursing care that has made her a truly valuable asset to her patients, their families and her colleagues on 11G.

11G

The winner of the Inpatient Best Attitude PEA Award is Emma Northrop.

Characteristics of a “Positive” person include: positive energy, inspiring, aloha spirit, optimistic, cheerleader, encouraging, happy, calm in a crisis, collaborative, fun, takes lemons and makes lemonade. This is her every day, a co-worker summed it up best, “When we are having a tough day at our office she always knows how to go above and beyond to cheer us up! She can make any situation enjoyable and laughable.”

Upstate
Peds

The winner of the Outpatient Best Attitude PEA Award is Deb Hirons

Enthusiastic describes this person very well. Everyday he comes to work with a positive attitude and energized to care for his patients. He brings the joy to the unit with his drive to be the best caregiver he can be.

12F

The winner of the Inpatient Most Enthusiastic Award is Connor Letcher.

This winner always has a positive attitude and is able to cheer up any patient or coworker. She is upbeat, fun, energetic, and playful. She is always the most festive when we have themed dress up days. She's always willing to go the extra mile and make each patient feel special. She has a passion for what she does and it shows.

Peds
Hem/
Onc
Clinic

The winner of the Outpatient Most Enthusiastic PEA Award is Lauren Wilber

Good leaders must also be good listeners and this person is the BEST listener. No matter what you may be discussing with this person, she listens with care and concern. Being a great listener makes her an exceptional charge nurse and she is always aware of what's going on around the unit - even on the busiest days with 15+ discharges and 15 new admits!

11E

The winner of the Inpatient Best Listener PEA Award is Sharon Schluter.

Team members said that: you always listen without judgement and give great guidance; she is awesome with the patients she care manages, and as our PCMH care manager she spends most of the day listening and helping our patients navigate their complex medical and social situations. You are a valued member of the pediatric department!

Upstate
Peds

The winner of the Outpatient Best Listener PEA Award is Laurie Clouston

<p>This award goes to someone who is an integral part of the 11E <i>team</i> . Working alongside her it is easy to see her strong teamwork skills. She is always willing to take on an extra responsibilities, to help a colleague who is overwhelmed, or to teach someone a new skill in order to help the 11E team succeed. She recognizes that success is not just about one's individual performance, but the entire team performing well.</p> <p>The winner of the Inpatient Team Player PEA Award is Kasey Fagan.</p>	<p>11E</p>
<p>This person has been a bright and positive addition to our team since her very first day. She was nominated by numerous co-workers who all agree that she is the definition of a team player. She jumps in to help anyone without hesitation, be it a patient, co-worker, or provider. She never says no and always has a great attitude. Her positivity is contagious and she inspires teamwork in others. As one co-worker perfectly put it, "She does it all! "</p> <p>The winner of the Outpatient Team Player PEA Award is Tyteona Perryman.</p>	<p>UPAC</p>
<p>There is a quality inherent in all great communicators, and that quality is PRESENCE. When you are talking with her, you have her whole attention and she makes you feel really heard. She also speaks carefully and you can tell that your message is important to her. She is not afraid to speak truth when needed, even if it's difficult, and she goes the extra distance to figure out ways to reach her whole TEAM when needed. She is a terrific asset to all of pediatrics and especially to 11G.</p> <p>The winner of the Inpatient Best Communicator PEA Award is Jessica Demaintenon.</p>	<p>11G</p>
<p>This person is patient and outcome focused. She is constantly looking for ways to improve and better serve our patients. She listens to patient and staff needs and is able to communicate and advocate to make things happen. She is easy to talk to and can be counted on to reply with the "upside" of the issue at hand. She is a team player, a wealth of knowledge, and a true asset to our clinic.</p> <p>The winner of the Outpatient Best Communicator PEA Award is MaryEllen Sheridan.</p>	<p>Peds Surg</p>

<p>The Most Attentive winner somehow always magically knows what we need and when we need it! She is very attentive to her patients, families, and co-workers needs, which helps her to provide high quality patient care. She's very knowledgeable of hospital polices and procedures and is a wonderful teacher to our students, residents, and nursing staff on the unit. She is a gem!</p> <p>The winner of the Inpatient Most Attentive PEA Award is Danielle Rounds.</p>	<p>12E</p>
<p>The Most Attentive winner is someone who is always looking out for her patients and advocates for their needs. She makes sure they are comfortable and receiving the best care when they are in our clinic and makes sure they are also safe when they go home.</p> <p>The winner of the Outpatient Most Attentive PEA Award is Sara Zulberti.</p>	<p>Peds Hem/Onc Clinic</p>
<p>This person's patients are cared for with the utmost attention to quality and safety. Working with her, it is evident that she cares about the safety of all pediatric patients at the children's hospital. Whether it be through <i>always</i> doing bedside report, correctly programming an Alaris pump or making great catches on medication errors, she always has patient safety and quality as a top priority!</p> <p>The winner of the Inpatient Safety and Quality PEA Award is Maura Gorman.</p>	<p>11E</p>
<p>This person always has a bird's eye view on safety and quality. She is always willing to listen to concerns that are brought to her (which happens often) from staff/faculty/residents about safety and quality issues that affect UPAC. She takes them seriously and addresses them in a timely fashion. She is a true champion!</p> <p>The winner of the Outpatient Safety and Quality PEA Award is Lisa Winkler</p>	<p>UPAC</p>
<p>This Rockin' Resident received multiple separate nominations! They cited things such as, this resident "makes scary situations fun and tolerable." This resident has a sense of urgency in responding to concerns of family and staff and is great at collaborating and communicating the plan of care. This resident also takes time to play with the patient and sometimes comes by just to say "Hi". He's "Always a team player", and "simply the best".</p> <p>For the second year in a row the Rockin' Resident is Christopher Maierhofer!</p>	

<p>This year's Inpatient MVP winner is one of the most dedicated employees to grace pediatrics. She holds herself accountable to being a resourceful leader on our unit as well as expertly guiding staff through any obstacles they may encounter on their shift. This person possesses great integrity, honesty, and a drive to always provide the most compassionate and empathetic care she can to each patient she meets. She is the epitome of a TEAM leader and genuinely exhibits all values of Upstate. She is a perfect MVP!</p> <p>The winner of the Inpatient MVP PEA Award is Anne Germano</p>	12E
<p>This year's Outpatient MVP award goes to someone who greets life and responsibilities with optimism and a "how can I help" attitude. She is always ready to go the extra mile not only for the children and families she serves, but her colleagues as well. She demonstrates an impressive depth of expertise and kindness which she generously shares with others. The staff of the Margaret L Williams Developmental Evaluation Center are very fortunate to have her as a colleague and friend.</p> <p>The winner of the Outpatient MVP PEA Award is Charissa Taylor.</p>	DEC