

# What's Up, Doc?

A quarterly newsletter from Upstate Medical University  
Department of Medicine

**Winter 2011**

*We hope you enjoyed the first edition and will enjoy this one, as well. The response was great and many of you sent items to share for this and future editions. Please keep them coming! You can send to me at [deangels@upstate.edu](mailto:deangels@upstate.edu)*

*In this issue you will find entertaining pictures, opinion pieces, names of new faculty arrivals and more. Enjoy!*

*Editor: Susan DeAngelo*



Some penguins just like to hang out together! (photo by Clay Elliott)



Some doctors just like to work together! D.O.M. at Power Rounds 09/30/10

When asked why he went in to Medicine and how he chose his subspecialty, Dr. Sri Narsipur (nephrology) had this to say:

"Good questions Susan. I'm a little embarrassed by my answers! I went into medicine, specifically Med-Peds, to work on developing systems of primary care for under-served people, like refugees and other disenfranchised populations. Then came a woman, and everything unraveled. My wife ended up being stationed in California, and I needed something to do there for a few years after residency in Massachusetts. I always admired the nephrologists and how smart they seemed (little did I know!). In addition, the fellowship was only two years and relatively broad so I could still practice primary care. FYI, the most famous nephrologist I "know" is "House" - the sign on his office door reads Department of Nephrology. Now there's a role model you should interview!"

**Celebrating birthdays this quarter**

***January 2011-Diana Gilligan, Tim Endy, Robert Lenox,  
Tanya George and Matt Glidden***

***February 2011- Waleed Javaid, Kumar Ashutosh, Paul  
Phillips, Teresa Gentile, Roberto Izquierdo and Hani Alkouri***

***March 2011-Catherine Caldicott, Sonal Kamalia, Sheila  
Lemke, Hom Neupane, Donald Blair, Guy Perry, and  
Barbara Mols-Kowalczewski***

**Dr Sharon Brangman was asked about her new position as President of the American Geriatric Society. This is what she had to say:**

**I was elected President of the American Geriatrics Society to a one year term that began in May 2010. In May 2011 I will become Chairman of the Board. Prior to being President I also served as Treasurer, and have been active in the organization for over 25 years, serving as a committee chair and working on a number of special projects. I am very excited and honored to be the President of this organization and so far it has been a busy, but fun year. I've cut and pasted some info about the AGS below, which can you use for additional information.**

**Who We Are**

The American Geriatrics Society (AGS) is a not-for-profit organization of over 6,400 health professionals devoted to improving the health, independence and quality of life of all older people. The Society provides leadership to healthcare professionals, policy makers and the public by implementing and advocating for programs in patient care, research, professional and public education, and public policy.

**Our Mission**

To improve the health, independence and quality of life of all older people.

**Our Vision for the Future**

Every older American will receive high quality patient-centered care.

**Congratulations Dr. Brangman!**



Jef Sneider, MD took this photo while visiting Galapagos in January 2010. This is what he had to say about his trip: "It was a great trip. The ability to get close to the animals was very unusual. To see what Darwin saw and understand evolution from the source was very enlightening. I read *The Voyage of the Beagle* before I got there and then read *Origin of the Species* while I was on the trip."

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**Fun fact:**  
The copier in the Medicine office on the 6th floor of the hospital has made 1,622,569 copies since it was purchased in 2004! That's a lot of copies!

The Residency Program Office has received 3092 applications for entry into the next batch of residents. Of that number about 350 will be interviewed and 33 will be chosen. That's tough competition!

**Dr Robert Michiel was honored with an award from the Adirondack Mountain Club. Here's what he reports:**

I was given the Trail Medicine Award by the Onondaga Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club (ADK) on November 14 this year. It was granted: *In appreciation from all healthy hikers and in recognition for coordinating and writing Trail Medicine articles in the "Finger Lakes Trail News" for 12 years.*

A majority of the credit for the Trail Medicine articles belongs to the many writers who have contributed articles, including members of our staff: John Fey, MD, Bernard Poiesz, MD, Lewis Johnson, MD, Karen Kemmis, PT CDE, Cynthia Morrow, MD, Lorne Runge, MD, David Carter, MD, David Heisig, MD, Shawky Badawy, MD, Thomas Smallman, MD, Rose Giammarco, MD. Additionally, many physicians and health care professionals in our community have contributed articles.



**If you don't get the weekly email about upcoming Power Rounds speakers and topics, use the following link to view it and other Dept. of Medicine calendars. Choose the calendar you want to see using the drop box in the upper right hand corner.  
<http://web.upstate.edu/webcal/main.php>**

**We would like to take this opportunity to recognize the Hamilton White leadership donors who are the donors within our own Department of Medicine who have given \$1000 and above to the Community Giving Campaign. The generous donations you have given to the campaign are greatly appreciated!**

**Dr. Donald Blair  
Dr. Sharon Brangman  
Dr. Debra Buchan  
Dr. Robert Carhart, Jr.  
Dr. David Duggan & Dr. Lynn Cleary  
Dr Gregory Eastwood  
Dr. Phillip Holtzapple  
Dr Harold Husovsky  
Dr. Barbara Krenzer  
Dr. Sheila Lemke  
Jeanna Marraffa, PharmD  
Sharlene Nemitz, NP  
Dr. Anreas Perl  
Dr, Paul Phillips  
Dr Steve Scheinman  
Dr. Bruce Simmons  
Antoinette Smith, RN  
Dr. Ruth Weinstock  
Dr William Williams**

**THANK YOU!!!!**



We asked the cardiology doctors what they are thinking about the new Heart and Vascular Institute which is opening soon. They were asked to answer some or all of the following questions.

1. What are you most looking forward to in the new Heart & Vascular Institute?
2. What will your primary procedures/duties be?
3. When do you think you'll be working in there?
4. Did it seem like a long wait to completion?
5. Will the new facilities affect the way you teach the residents and fellows?

Here's what Dr Timothy Ford had to say:

- 1. I am looking forward to an upgrade in our equipment to state of the art technology. It will make it easier for our team to provide the highest level of care.*
- 2. My duties will be in the cath lab (where I will do heart catheterization and angioplasty procedures) and the echo lab (where I will do full service echo testing). Of course I will be actively involved in training the fellows in both of these areas.*
- 3. We hope to be in the new HVI by New Year's. I will be in the cath lab 1-2 days per week and the echo lab a few days per month.*
- 4. When anticipating a new Cardiology services area, it always seems to take a long time to get to the finished product.*
- 5. Absolutely it will. The improved technology will be state of the art. We will be able to perform the latest diagnostic and therapeutic studies.*

Here's what Dr Robert Michiel had to say:

*I will be reading echocardiograms and performing stress tests there. I think the new equipment and setting will upgrade the quality of cardiac and vascular services as well as teaching. The new setting should make the process of various types of cardiac testing more comfortable for patients and their families.*



Here's what Dr Luna Bhatta had to say:

1. *I look forward to having all heart team working together. I think it will be convenient for patients and our work will be more efficient. I am also looking forward to doing procedure in new state of art facility.*
2. *I am a clinical cardiac electrophysiologist, and I do procedures to correct abnormal rhythm like ablation and device implant.*
3. *I am hoping that our EP lab will be completed and up and running by the end of January,2011.*
4. *I do not feel like a long wait since our current EP lab was built in 2006 and it is one of the best labs in the area. It has been a great experience working there, but I certainly look forward to the new facility.*
5. *Yes, the new facilities will help me teach residents and medical students since we have a nice and big control room that they can come in and watch the procedure. We also have many imaging modalities to help them to understand..*

Dr Luna Bhatta can hardly contain her enthusiasm in regards to the Heart and Vascular Institute. She was generous to share some pictures of the work in progress with us!



**Quotable quotes:**

There are in fact two things, science and opinion;  
the former begets knowledge, the later ignorance.

[Hippocrates](#)

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THE FOLLOWING UPSTATE DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE FACULTY MEMBERS ARE LISTED IN THE 2010 *BEST DOCTORS IN AMERICA*:

*Fatme A. Allam*  
*Donald C. Blair*  
*Sharon A. Brangman*  
*Thomas Coyle*  
*David Duggan*  
*Teresa C. Gentile*  
*Stephen Lloyd Graziano*  
*Philip G. Holtzapple*  
*Harold Husovsky*  
*Michael C. Iannuzzi*  
*Barbara Krenzer*  
*David Francis Lehmann*  
*Sheila M. Lemke*  
*Robert J. Lenox*  
*Carlos J. Lopez, III*  
*Arnold Moses*  
*Sriram S. Narsipur*  
*Andras Perl*  
*Paul E. Phillips*  
*Bernard J. Poiesz*  
*Steven J. Scheinman*  
*David Small*  
*Ruth S. Weinstock*  
*Jonathan Wright*

Dr. Michael Iannuzzi presented at the University of Louisville 23rd George Pedigo Lecture: on November 4, 2010. His topic was, " **Sarcoidosis: Still a Mystery** ". He was honored with an authentic Louisville Slugger bat, inscribed with his name, after he spoke!



**ROY GILL HONORED WITH LAUREATE AWARD FROM NEW YORK CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS - Roy Gill, a longtime faculty member of the Binghamton Campus, has received a Laureate Award from the NYACP (New York chapter of the American College of Physicians). This is a prestigious award "designed to honor fellows and masters of the College who have demonstrated, by their example and conduct, an abiding commitment to excellence in medical care, education, research, and service to their community, their chapter, and the ACP." The ACP is "...a national organization of internists – physicians who specialize in the prevention, detection and treatment of illnesses in adults. ACP is the largest medical-specialty organization and second-largest physician group in the United States. Its membership of 130,000 includes internists, internal medicine subspecialists, and medical students, residents, and fellows." [www.acponline.org/about\\_acp/](http://www.acponline.org/about_acp/) Dr. Gill received the award on November 3 at NYACP Board and Council Meeting and the Annual Scientific Meeting in Rochester. (Thanks to Dan Hurley for sharing this)**

**If you have received any awards or nominations that you'd like your fellow faculty to know about, please send details to me at:  
[deangels@upstate.edu](mailto:deangels@upstate.edu)**



Dr Sekou Rawlins, Gastroenterology Fellow and former Hospitalist, and his wife just welcomed their second daughter into their family. Thalia Rae Rawlins was born at 5:07 AM 11/30/10. According to Dr Rawlins, "*Mother and daughter are doing well. Please enjoy these poorly framed pictures taken by the exhausted father*"



**Congratulations to two Department of Medicine faculty elected to officer roles at the Onondaga County Medical Society. David Duggan, MD, ( medical director and chief quality officer for Upstate University Hospital) was elected the 183rd president of the Onondaga County Medical Society at the society's annual meeting Nov. 1. Dr. Duggan will serve a one-year term. Dr. Ramsay S. Farah (chief , Division of Dermatology) was also elected as an officer at the meeting, and will be serving as the society's vice-president for 2010-2011. We wish both of you success in your new roles!**

**Dr David Duggan**

**Dr Ramsay Farah**



**Kristi Shaver, BS, RN, CDE (Education Coordinator of the Joslin Diabetes Center ) had this to share with us:**

**“To provide clinicians with tools to support the delivery and recognition of consistent high quality care, NCQA in partnership with the American Diabetes Association (ADA) have developed the Diabetes Recognition Program (DRP). This voluntary program is designed to recognize physicians and other clinicians, who use evidence-based measures and provide excellent care to their patients with diabetes.**

**The DRP Program has 10 measures which cover areas such as: HbA1c control Blood Pressure control LDL control Eye examinations Nephropathy Assessment Smoking status and cessation advice or treatment .**

**Those who achieve DRP Recognition show their peers, patients and others in the Diabetes community that they are part of an elite group that is publicly recognized for its skill in providing the highest-level diabetes care.**

**Eligible providers will abstract data from the charts of 30 diabetes patients and submit this information to NCQA for review.**

**The following providers achieved recognition which is valid for the next 3 years: Dr. Weinstock, Dr. Izquierdo, Dr. Feuerstein, Dr. Kelly, Dr. Hopkins, Dr. Johnson, Dr. Zygmunt, Dr. Mols and Cathy Bazan, NP”**