The PICU Portrait

On May 15th a large group of faculty, staff, former residents, family and friends gathered for the unveiling of the portrait of Robert Kanter, M.D., that will be hanging in the PICU. After completing his Peds Residency at Upstate (1979), followed by a fellowship at Children’s National, he returned to Upstate to open our first Pediatric ICU in 1980. He was the Chief of Peds Critical Care here at Upstate from 1980 to 2014. He passed away in 2016. The Robert K Kanter MD Endowed Scholarship was created in his honor to support a graduating pediatric resident.

The portrait was done by Roger Circle of Prophet Rock Studio which was the very same artist who did the Frank Oski portrait that has been in the PICU for many years (and is right next to where Bob Kanter’s portrait will be hung.

The dedication ceremony, presented by Master of Ceremonies Dr. Bill Hannan, included reflections from Dr. Mantosh Dewan, former resident Dr. Sarah Finocchiaro, Nancy Page, Revs. Culbertson and Dasher, and several members of Dr. Kanter’s family. In addition, former patient Anna Fields and her family shared their memories and thankfulness for Dr. Kanter.

Distinguished Professors

Not one, but two of our Peds faculty have been selected as SUNY Distinguished Professors:

Congratulations to Dr. Ann Botash who was appointed to the rank of SUNY Distinguished Service Professor. and Dr. Len Weiner who was promoted to SUNY Distinguished Service Professor.

The Distinguished Teaching Professorship recognizes and honors mastery of teaching. For this prestigious tribute to be conferred, candidates must have demonstrated consistently superior mastery of teaching, outstanding service to students, and commitment to their ongoing intellectual growth, scholarship and professional growth, and adherence to rigorous academic standards and requirements. Further, a faculty member must have attained and held the rank of full professor for five years, have completed at least three years of full-time teaching on the nominating campus, ten years of full-time teaching in the System, and must have regularly carried a full-time teaching load as defined by the campus.

The Distinguished Service Professorship honors and recognizes extraordinary service. Candidates must have demonstrated substantial distinguished service not only at the campus and the State University, but also at the community, regional and State levels. Further, many candidates for appointment have rendered influential service contributing at the national and international levels. Service extend over multiple years and, very importantly, must involve the application of intellectual skills drawing from the candidate's scholarly and research interests to issues of public concern.

Both are tenured academic ranks above that of full professor and were created by the SUNY Trustees to recognize and reward SUNY’s finest and most accomplished faculty, and to provide the systemwide acknowledgment this level of achievement merits. The Trustees obviously have very good taste.

This story was also featured in Upstate Online at:
http://upstateonline.info/static/May18- May252017/blog/story-2/index.html

Groundbreaking Research

Former resident Steve Hicks (2015) was in the news again for the research he has been working on with Upstate’s Frank Middleton, PhD. Steven Hicks, MD, PhD, FAAP, who is currently an Assistant Professor in pediatrics at Penn State Hershey Medical Center, was the lead author in a study in which a biomarker in saliva was discovered to offer breakthrough information on concussion in children. The results of their research, entitled, “Saliva Test Predicts Prolonged Concussion Symptoms in Children” was presented at the 2017 Pediatric Academic Society Meeting in San Francisco. You can read more about this ongoing project at Upstate Online.
http://upstateonline.info/static/May11- May182017/blog/story-1/index.html

Link to PAS article:

The Embedded Best

Dr. Botash presented a poster which was selected as the best poster of the meeting at the 2017 IPEC (Interprofessional Education Collaborative) Meeting in May. The Spring Meeting’s theme was: Building a Framework for Collaboration and it was held at the AAMC learning center in Washington, DC. Her poster was entitled, “Embedding Interprofessional Education into a Learning Experience: Creating Twelve Tips” and was coauthored by Ann S. Botash, Carol A. Recker-Hughes, Bambi A. Carkey, Darren J. Carboni, and Lynn M. Cleary. The poster was previewed at our annual department research day in April. Congratulations, Ann on this impressive honor.

PL3 Retreat

The PL3 retreat on 5/19 was the culmination of a week of special activities our 14 graduates shared in.
May was a busy month at the GCH and included a visit on May 4th from Darth Vader, C3PO, and Co. Special thanks to The 501st Legion's Garrison Excelsior for bringing Star Wars to the GCH. Patients, faculty, staff, and residents alike all agreed that it was out of this world!

To see the GCH version of the Star Wars movie, visit the GCH FB page or follow this link.

https://www.facebook.com/UpstateGCH/videos/10155172419552978/

The Sesame Report
One of the advantages to working in a Children’s Hospital is that every now and then some rather interesting visitors show up at your Noon Report.

A Jolly Good Fellow
Congratulations to Dr. Hank Roane who has been named a Fellow of the Association for Behavior Analysis International. Dr. Roane is one of only about 50 men and women who have received this honor.

The Power of Us Campaign
We are currently in the middle of the Upstate Foundation’s "Power of Us" program. This is an opportunity for Upstate employees to give directly to any of the 900 funds currently maintained by the Foundation. The program will run through June 16th. Funds include 16 different GCH projects, the Cancer Center, UPAC, the Center for Global Health Engagement Opportunities, the new Robert K Kanter Endowed Scholarship Fund and even the Roberts Fund to support resident education (#350). More information may also be found on the Foundation website:
https://www.upstatefoundation.org/EmployeeGiving
Note that there is also a search engine on the Foundation page that helps you locate any of the Funds that are dearest to your heart. Note that for any donation made through this program - 100% of the donation will be deposited directly into the fund(s) you choose. If you opt for payroll deduction, payments are spread out over a painless course of a year, from July 1 - June 30.

Oh Say Can You See
It was listed on her CV under “Other Awards/Accomplishments” and was one of the topics several of her interviewers asked her about on her residency interview day. Anuja Khettry wrote that she sang the National Anthem at Fenway Park, and was also nominated for “Best Female Vocal Performance” with her college a cappella group. Not that we ever doubted her, but it was exciting to finally get to see the proof.

St. Baldrick’s Moves to 1st Place
Lori Grabowski let us know that our local Kitty Hoynes St. Baldrick's fundraiser has now moved from third place to being first in the nation again this year! Syracuse.com is reporting that Kitty Hoynes has now taken over the top spot in the St. Baldrick's Day fundraising race bringing in over $496,000 for Pediatric Cancer Research.

In the News:
Former resident Nick Bennett (2008) appeared on NBC news discussing the danger of Powassan Virus from ticks.

Upstate Global Health
Our very own Andrea Shaw, who runs our global health program, was featured on Health Link on Air which is now available online:
http://blogs.upstate.edu/healthlinkonair/2017/05/05/she-provides-health-care-to-refugee-children/

Best Wishes, Marsha
Our longtime Child Life Specialist, Marsha Kernan retired at the end of April. She was honored at a reception on April 26th with a special “Sound of Music Theme”. The focus was on “how do you solve a Problem like Marsha's Retirement” and, as everyone who has worked with her agrees, “That is yet to be determined.” We all wish Marsha the very best.

June Dates to Remember
6/3 – Paige’s Butterfly Run
6/14 - Housestaff Appreciation Dinner
6/22-30 – Intern orientation
6/29 – New Intern Picnic – Jamesville
6/30 – Meet-the-new-intern luncheon

The Morel of the Story
Drs. Ragosta and Friedman show that it is good to have them (mores). Even if you find them in your tulip patch.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS
6/3 Emy Abraham, Ayesha Phillip
6/7 Jennifer Morrison
6/11 Joan Pellegrino
6/14 Jean Szkotak
6/16 Sarah Ellis
6/21 Scott Schurman, Joe Nimeh
6/22 Whitney Vedella
6/23 Neal Seidberg
6/24 Prateek Wali
6/29 Tracy Gilgallon
6/30 Bill Hannan