



What's the buzz?

A self-reported addition to SOMnews for the School of Medicine community to share their successes.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

SOMnews

FEBRUARY 2007 VOL. 8 No. 6

HONORS

& AWARDS



Congratulations to the following faculty who have received awards and honors!



Claudia R. Baquet, MD

► **Claudia R. Baquet, MD**, associate dean for Policy & Planning, and professor, Department of Medicine, was recognized by Congressman Steny Hoyer, Majority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives, on November 13, 2006, for her work in Maryland with underserved communities in the areas of health disparities research and community engagement. Dr. Baquet, along with Senator Thomas Middleton of Southern Maryland, was presented a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition for her "outstanding and invaluable service to the community."

► **Alan Bellack, PhD**, professor, Department of Psychiatry, received the Alexander Gralnick Research Investigator Prize from the American Psychological Foundation. The \$20,000 biennial prize recognizes a psychologist for exceptional research and mentoring accomplishments in the areas of schizophrenia and other serious mental illnesses. Dr. Bellack, a longtime schizophrenia



Alan Bellack, PhD

researcher, is well known for using behavioral interventions to improve social functioning in people with schizophrenia.

► **The Department of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science** has been accredited for the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education. The accreditation will expire in 2016.

Reminder!

School of Medicine Council Meetings

All faculty, staff and students are invited to attend the monthly School of Medicine Council meetings. The following is a list of the next scheduled meetings; please note, meeting days have been changed to the third Tuesday of each month. Meetings run from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Taylor Lecture Hall on the first floor in Bressler.

February 20, 2007

March 20, 2007

April 24, 2007

(State of the School Address, MSTF Auditorium)

May 22, 2007

June 19, 2007

APPOINTMENTS



We applaud our colleagues on their recent achievements!



Maureen Black, PhD

► **Maureen Black, PhD**, professor, Department of Pediatrics, was appointed by the World Health Organization to its Multicentre Growth Reference Study Group.

► **Miriam G. Blitzer, PhD**, professor, Department of Pediatrics, was elected to a three-year term to the Board of Directors of the American

Society of Human Genetics, which is the primary professional membership organization for human geneticists. Additionally, Dr. Blitzer was appointed to a second four-year term on the Governor's Hereditary and Congenital Disorders Advisory Council for the state of Maryland.

► **Debra Counts, MD**, associate professor, Department of Pediatrics, was elected to the Executive Council Section on Endocrinology for the American Academy of Pediatrics and appointed as co-editor of the section newsletter.

► **Brian R. Gastman, MD**, assistant professor, Department of Otorhinolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, completed all requirements to become board certified by the American Board of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery.

► **Carol Greene, MD**, professor, Department of Pediatrics, was appointed as co-leader to the steering committee of the Quality Assurance/Quality Control Workgroup for "Promoting Quality Laboratory Testing for Rare Diseases: Key to Ensuring Quality Genetic Testing," a collaborative effort of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Human Genome Research Institute, the Health Resources and Services Administration, and several other national professional organizations. Additionally, Dr. Greene was appointed to the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Advisory Committee, which is the federal committee providing advice to the secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services on standards for clinical laboratories.



Miriam Blitzer, PhD



PUBLICATIONS

Hats off to those who have been published!

► **Richard Breyer, III, MD**, fourth-year resident, **Bruce Line, MD**, professor, **Michael Mulligan, MD**, associate professor, and **Stacy Smith, MD**, associate professor, all from the Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, published an article entitled "Comparison of Imaging with FDG PET/CT with Other Imaging Modalities in Myeloma," in the September 2006 issue of *Skeletal Radiology* (2006;35:632-640).

► **Barry D. Daly, MD**, professor, and **Eram Zaidi, MD**, former research fellow, both from the Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, published an article entitled "CT and Clinical Features of Acute Diverticulitis in an Urban U.S. Population: Rising Frequency in Young, Obese Adults" in the September 2006 issue of the *American Journal of Roentgenology* (2006;187:689-694).

► **Alicia Lucksted, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Psychiatry, co-edited a workbook for mental health providers titled *Enhancing Cultural Competence: Welcoming Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Clients in Mental Health Services*. The workbook is available through Planned Parenthood Mid-Hudson Valley (NY).

► **Helen Marmery, MBChB**, research assistant, and **Stuart E. Mirvis, MD**, professor, both from the Department of Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, published an article entitled "Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme Inhibitor-Induced Visceral Angioedema" in the November 2006 issue of *Clinical Radiology* (2006;61:979-982).

► **Christopher Meenan**, IT staff, **Christopher Toland**, IT staff, **Michael Toland**, IT staff, **Nabile Safdar, MD**, assistant professor, and **Paul Nagy, PhD**, assistant professor, all from the Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, published an article entitled "A Suggested Classification Guide for PACS Client Applications: The Five Degrees of Thickness," in the December 2006 issue of the *Journal of Digital Imaging* (2006;19[suppl1]:78-83).



Alicia Lucksted, PhD

EVENTS, LECTURES

AND WORKSHOPS



Kudos to our colleagues who are experts in their fields and give their all to represent the School of Medicine!

► **Bryan T. Ambro, MD, MS**, assistant professor, Department of Otorhinolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, presented “Surgical Management of Microtia” as an invited speaker at the Maryland Society of Otolaryngology’s winter meeting this past December.



Lisa B. Dixon, MD

► **Lisa B. Dixon, MD**, professor, Department of Psychiatry, presented “Tensions and Ties between Family Psychoeducation and Consumer Recovery” at the 20th Annual Noyes Schizophrenia Conference in Norristown, Pennsylvania. Also, Dr. Dixon was the keynote speaker at the New York State National Alliance on Mental Illness Annual Meeting in White Plains, New York, this past November.

► **Howard Dubowitz, MB, ChB**, professor, Department of Pediatrics, was invited as keynote speaker at the XVIth International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect’s International Congress on Child Abuse and Neglect. Dr. Dubowitz’s



Howard Dubowitz, MB, ChB

lecture “Confronting Child Neglect: Concepts and Challenges” was presented at the York, England, meeting.

► **David Eisenman, MD**, assistant professor, Department of Otorhinolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, presented “Medical & Surgical Management of Vertigo” as invited faculty at the 6th Annual Gallaudet University Evoked Potentials and Vestibular Assessment Workshop.



David Eisenman, MD

► **Howard Goldman, MD**, professor, Department of Psychiatry, was a plenary speaker in a session on new developments in mental health economics at the Research Showcase in Banff, Alberta, Canada, sponsored by the Alberta Mental Health Board. He spoke on mental health insurance parity for federal employees.

► **Carol Greene, MD**, professor, Department of Pediatrics, was an invited speaker at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center’s Genetics and Ethics Conference in Aspen, Colorado. Dr. Greene, who serves on the steering and planning committee for this annual meeting, presented “Engineering the End of Death: Consequences, Forecasting and Decisions—the Effects and Implementation of Life-span Extension Research and Technology.”



Niharika Khanna, MD

► **Niharika Khanna, MD**, associate professor, Department of Family & Community Medicine, and her colleagues have developed a new intravaginal cream formulation of the compound EM-1421 for women with cervical squamous intraepithelial neoplasm that appears to inhibit the progression of precancerous cervical cells into cancer. The findings were presented at the 18th Annual European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer—National Cancer Institute—American Association for Cancer Research Symposium in Prague, Czech Republic, this past November. Dr.

Khanna’s presentation was entitled “Effects of EM-1421, a Novel Transcription Inhibitor, on Cervical Intraepithelial Neoplasia: Results of a Pilot Phase 1/2 Study.”

► **Anthony F. Lehman, MD**, professor and chair, Department of Psychiatry, presented “Using Outcomes to Promote Recovery” at the 20th Annual Noyes Schizophrenia Conference in Norristown, Pennsylvania. Additionally, Dr. Lehman presented “Using



Anthony F. Lehman, MD

EVENTS, LECTURES AND WORKSHOPS *continued*

Research to Promote Recovery” at the Annual Maryland Schizophrenia Conference in Woodlawn, Maryland.

► **Tanya Meyer, MD**, assistant professor, Department of Otorhinolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, presented to students at Towson University. Her first presentation, “The Anatomy and Physiology of the Voice” was to performance majors and her second, “Voice for Performance: The Physician Perspective” was given to the Vocal Pedagogue Class.



Geoffrey Schoenbaum, MD, PhD

► **Geoffrey Schoenbaum, MD, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Anatomy & Neurobiology, has been chosen as one of four co-organizers of a prestigious meeting sponsored by the New York Academy of Sciences. The selection of Dr. Schoenbaum for this role is an honor that reflects the importance of his work in raising the awareness of the orbitofrontal cortex. The meeting, Linking Affect to Action: Critical Contributions of the Orbitofrontal Cortex, will be held in New York City next month.

► **Scott E. Strome, MD**, professor and chair, Department of Otorhinolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, presented “Advances in Immunotherapy for the Treatment of Head and Neck Cancer” at the National Naval Medical Center’s Grand Rounds this past October.



Scott E. Strome, MD

► **Rodney J. Taylor, MD, MS**, assistant professor, Department of Otorhinolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, presented a one-hour lecture on “How I Chose My Specialty” to 50 students of Sherwood High School’s Achieve Program in Baltimore this past December.



Federico Villagra, PhD

► **Federico Villagra, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Physical Therapy & Rehabilita-

tion Science, presented “Neuroplasticity and Neurological Recovery in Stroke Patients” at the Society for Neuroscience in Washington, DC, as a part of the centennial celebration of the 1906 Nobel Prize Awards of neuroscientists Camillo Golgi and Santiago Ramon Cajal.

GRADUATE PROGRAM IN
LIFE SCIENCES
University of Maryland, Baltimore

INAUGURAL
GRADUATE PROGRAM IN LIFE SCIENCES
DISTINGUISHED LECTURESHIP

Claire Fraser-Liggett, PhD
PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR OF
THE INSTITUTE FOR GENOMIC
RESEARCH (TIGR)

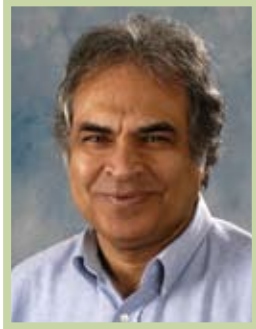
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7
4 P.M.
GROUND-FLOOR AUDITORIUM
DENTAL SCHOOL

TOPIC:
*Metagenomics studies of human microbial
communities in health and disease*

SPONSORED BY THE DR. AARON I. GROLLMAN VISITING PROFESSORSHIP



Congratulations to our very productive faculty on their recent grants and contracts!



Abdu Azad, PhD, PharmD, MPH

► **Abdu Azad, PhD, PharmD, MPH**, professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, received a one-year \$388,749 R01 non-competing renewal from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases for his work entitled “Interspecific Competition between Rickettsiae in Ticks.”

► **Maureen Black, PhD**, professor, Department of Pediatrics, received a four-year \$1,225,000 grant from the United

States Department of Agriculture for her work entitled “Maternal and Toddler Overweight Prevention.”

Robert J. Bloch, PhD, professor, Department of Physiology, received a two-year \$231,434 Muscular Dystrophy Association research grant entitled “Obscurin-Filamin C Interactions at Costameres.”

► **Debra Counts, MD**, associate professor, Department of Pediatrics, received a one-year \$100,000 grant from the National Institute of Diabetes & Digestive & Kidney Diseases for her work entitled “Zonulin and Cytokines as Markers of Autoimmunity in Type 1 Diabetes.”

► **Ronald Gartenhaus, MD**, associate professor, Department of Medicine and Program in Oncology, has been awarded a four-year, \$500,000 Veteran Affairs Merit Award to support his research into the role of the MCT-1 oncogene in human lymphomagenesis. The researchers found that MCT-1 is a novel cap-binding protein that enhances translation of select cancer related mRNAs through its association with DENR, a molecule containing the SUI1 domain which is involved in translation initiation. The efficiency of expression of key proteins involved in cell growth regulation, proliferation or cell death may be



Maureen Black, PhD

controlled at the translational level by changes in the activity of components of the protein synthesis machinery. The proposal is designed to elucidate the mechanism(s) underlying the development and progression of tumors associated with dysregulation of MCT-1.

► **Anthony Harris, MD, MPH**, associate professor, **Eli Perencevich, MD, MS**, associate professor, and **Mary Claire Roghmann, MD, MS**, associate professor, all from the Department of Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine, received a three-year \$846,717 R01 grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for their work entitled “New Nosocomial Interventions to Decrease Antimicrobial Resistance.”

► **James Kaper, PhD**, professor, Departments of Microbiology & Immunology, Biochemistry & Microbiology and Medicine, received a five-year \$2,225,540 R01 competitive renewal from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases for his work entitled “Development of a Live Oral Cholera Vaccine.”

► **Randall Keyser, PhD, FACSM**, associate professor, Department of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science, received a three-year \$79,170 Walter Reed Army Medical Center subcontract award



James Kaper, PhD

for a project entitled “Complement Activation After Exercise: Markers of Prolonged Myalgia-Arthralgia-Fatigue.”

► **Aikaterini Kontrogianni-Konstantopoulos, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Physiology, received a three-year \$225,000 Muscular Dystrophy Association research grant entitled “M-Band Proteins and Their Role in Thick Filament Assembly.”

► **Sandy McCombe-Waller, PT, PhD, NCS**, assistant professor, and **Jill Whittall PhD**, professor, both from the Department of Physical Therapy & Rehabili



Aikaterini Kontrogianni-Konstantopoulos, PhD

GRANTS AND CONTRACTS *continued*



Sandy McCombe-Waller, PT, PhD, NCS



Jill Whittall, PhD

tation Science, have received a patent for their invention titled “Bilateral Arm Trainer and Method of Use.”

► **Andrei Medvedev, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, received a one-year \$326,274 R01 non-competing renewal grant from

the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases for his work entitled “Effect of Bacterial Tolerance on TLR Signal Transduction.” Additionally, Dr. Medvedev received a one-year \$222,187 non-competing renewal grant from Philip Morris USA entitled “Molecular Mechanisms of Depressed Microbial Sensing.”

► **Kamal Moudgil, MD, PhD**, associate professor, Departments of Microbiology & Immunology and Medicine, received a one-year \$125,000 R21 non-competing renewal grant entitled “Modulation of Autoimmunity by Green Tea Polyphenols” and a one-year \$72,505 R03 non-competing renewal entitled “Regulation of Autoimmu-



Christopher V. Plowe, MD, MPH

nity through Epitope Spreading” from the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine.

► **Christopher V. Plowe, MD, MPH**, professor, Department of Medicine and Center for Vaccine Development, has received the prestigious Doris Duke Distinguished Clinical Scientist Award from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation to support malaria research in Mali, West Africa.



Andrei Medvedev, PhD



Kamal Moudgil, MD, PhD

The \$1.5 million award will allow Dr. Plowe to combine molecular studies in the Center for Vaccine Development with clinical trials in Mali to understand how malaria parasites evolve to evade attack from the human immune system. The Doris Duke Award will also support research training for medical students and young physicians to work with Dr. Plowe and his team at the School of Medicine and in Africa.

► **Stefanie Vogel, PhD**, professor, Departments of Microbiology & Immunology and Medicine, received a one-year \$615,717 R37 non-competing renewal grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) for her work entitled “Differentiative Signals for Macrophage Activation.” Additionally, Dr. Vogel received two R01 non-competing renewal grants from the NIAID. The first is a one-year \$259,875 grant entitled “Roles of Toll-like Receptors” and the second is a one-year \$253,699 grant entitled “Mechanism Consequences TLR Signal Transduction.”



Stephanie Vogel, PhD

► **David J. Silverman, PhD**, professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, received a five-year \$193,218 subcontract from the University of Rochester for his work entitled “Regulatory Oxygenesis in Vasculopathic Rickettsioses.”



David J. Silverman, PhD

► **Erin T. Strovel, PhD**, assistant professor, and **Miriam G. Blitzer, PhD**, professor, both from the Department of Pediatrics, will receive \$60,000 per year for five years from the National Tay-Sachs and Allied Diseases Association (NTSAD) to coordinate its International Tay-Sachs Disease Testing Quality Control and Data Collection Program. The NTSAD International Tay-Sachs Carrier Testing Quality Control and Data Collection Program is a voluntary laboratory proficiency testing program with a goal to assist labs in reaching and maintaining proficiency in Tay-Sachs enzyme assay carrier testing.

NEW FACULTY



We welcome our new faculty!



Paula Richley Geigle, PT,
PhD

► **Paula Richley Geigle, PT, PhD**, joined the Department of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science in January as an assistant professor. Her role will include teaching and advising. Previously, Dr. Geigle taught as an adjunct faculty member at Arcadia University and at the University of Delaware. Her initial research in aquatic intervention for women with breast cancer-related lymphedema began during her National Institute of Complementary and Alternative Medicine-funded post doctoral experience at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine's Center for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics. She soon will assume the position

of co-editor of the *Journal of Aquatic Physical Therapy*. Dr. Geigle has clinical expertise, research experience and educational programs knowledge that will enhance the department and benefit its students.

► **Tabassum Ahmad, MBBS**, joined the Department of Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine in November as an assistant professor. Dr. Ahmad received her medical degree from the Aga Khan University Medical College in Karachi, Pakistan, in 1996, and completed her residency in diagnostic radiology at the Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, in 2003. She went on to complete a fellowship in neuroradiology at the University of Toronto in 2006.

You Are Invited...

February is Black History Month, and UMB has planned an exceptional event, "Remembering Our History, Leading Our Future," to celebrate. The entire UMB community is invited to hear keynote speaker Dean E. Albert Reece at noon on February 7, 2007, in the MSTF auditorium. The program also will include a tribute to civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a presentation of two Diversity Recognition Awards and inspirational music by the Coppin State Choir.

A light lunch follows immediately in the MSTF atrium. This event is free but requires a ticket. Faculty, staff and students can pick up tickets from Heather Graham in BRB, 14-002, or by calling the Office of University Events at 6.8035.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE

REMEMBERING OUR HISTORY,
leading our future

University of Maryland, Baltimore
commemorates Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
and Black History Month 2007

keynote speaker
E. Albert Reece, MD, PhD, MBA
VICE PRESIDENT FOR MEDICAL AFFAIRS
DEAN, SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

February 7, 2007
12 - 1:30 p.m.

MSTF Auditorium | 685 West Baltimore Street
Light lunch following program
Free tickets available in Deans' and Vice Presidents' Offices or by calling 410-706-8035

NEW STAFF



We also welcome new staff!

- ▶ **Angela Haynie** joined the Department of Emergency Medicine as an administrative assistant III. Previously, Ms. Haynie worked in the Department of Neurosurgery as an academic coordinator. She brings a broad range of knowledge encompassing grant routing, experience in residency coordination and software and computer skills.
- ▶ **Diane Lindt** joined the Office for Research & Graduate Studies in the Dean's Office as a program administrative specialist. Ms. Lindt has more than seven years experience in the Department of Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine, where her duties included compiling grants and creating grant budgets. Ms. Lindt's duties will include initial grant reviews and assisting with compiling large School of Medicine applications.
- ▶ **Constance Marr** joined the Department of Pediatrics as senior administrator. Ms. Marr previously served as program director with the University of Michigan Cancer Center Transplant Services.

IN MEMORIAM

- ▶ **Judy Emery, PhD**, former assistant dean for Medical Education, passed away. In her role as assistant dean, Dr. Emery was responsible for overseeing research and special projects. She also provided the same support for the Program in Complementary Medicine and was instrumental in the 1999 Liaison Committee on Medical Education Review process. Additionally, she served on the Curriculum Coordinating Committee, which is composed of course and clerkship leaders, key faculty educators and student body representatives. The Curriculum Coordinating Committee has the responsibility of regularly monitoring and reviewing the curriculum and recommending changes deemed appropriate. Dr. Emery retired in 2004 due to her failing health.



Buzz Contacts

Many thanks to the following people who serve as your liaisons for the information you see in *What's the Buzz?* Please send information (within the realm of the categories listed above) that you would like to see in the *Buzz* to the appropriate person within your department, program, center or office.

Anatomy & Neurobiology:
Carolyn Craighead

Anesthesiology: Linda Keevican

Biochemistry & Molecular Biology:
Bruce Reinecke

Dermatology: Ron Goldner
Diagnostic Radiology & Nuclear Medicine: Nan Knight

Emergency Medicine:
Linda Kesselring

Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine: Kassy Santoni

Family & Community Medicine:
Elon Burley

Medical & Research Technology:
Cynthia Stambach

Medicine: Molly Lutz

Microbiology & Immunology:
Donna Bower

Neurology: Paula Gilley

Neurosurgery: Terry Roberts

Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences: Adrian Bergin

Ophthalmology: Nancy Cook

Orthopaedics: Sandy Regula

Otorhinolaryngology: Bryan Ambro

Pathology: Carmen Wooden

Pediatrics: Bonnie Winters

Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics: Anne Nourse

Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Science: Alyssa Menkes

Physiology: Ken Fahnestock

Psychiatry: Vee Porter-Brown

Radiation Oncology: Bill Gardiner

Surgery: Barb Smith

Program in Comparative Medicine:
Deborah Sanchez

Program in Complementary Medicine: Amy Martin Burns

Program in Genetics & Genomic Medicine: Larry Sauder

Program in Minority Health & Health Disparities: Claudia Baquet

Program in Neuroscience:
Tom McHugh

Program in Oncology: Stephen Long

Program in Trauma: Cynthia Rivers

Center for Health Policy & Health Services Research: Shiraz Mishra

Center for Integrative Medicine:
Amy Martin Burns

Center for Mucosal Biology Research or MBRC: Pam King

Center for Research on Aging:
Kara Longo

Center for Vaccine Development:
Gloria Smedley

Center for Vascular & Inflammatory Diseases: Vanessa Foreman

Office of Admissions: Mickey Foxwell

Office of Development: Michelle Healy

Office of Information Services:
Jim McNamee

Office of Policy & Planning:
Meseret Bezuneh

Office of Faculty Affairs & Professional Development:
Stacie Small

Office of Public Affairs:
Heather Graham

Office of Student Affairs:
Dawn Roberts

Attention all SOM Medical and Graduate Students!

Buzz Information Link for Students

A hyperlink is available on the School of Medicine Website for you to submit information to the *Buzz* to acknowledge honors, prizes, presentations, leadership positions and other noteworthy accomplishments. Go to: http://medschool.umaryland.edu/Public_Affairs/buzz.asp