



Diversity from the viewpoint of a clinician-educator



Key awards: Graduate citation, Bondi fellowship



A passion for virology and a creative path

Drexel Study Finds Neighborhood Health Affects Diabetes Risk

As the linked epidemics of obesity and diabetes continue to escalate, a staggering one in five U.S. adults is projected to have diabetes by 2050. Philadelphia, the nation’s fifth largest city, has the highest prevalence of diabetes among the five largest cities and the second highest obesity rate. Two Drexel researchers set out to learn whether the rate of diabetes in Philadelphia had changed significantly during the previous decade and whether, apart from personal factors, an increased risk of diabetes was associated with living in a disadvantaged neighborhood.



Drs. Ana Núñez (pictured) and Longjian Liu link the odds of having diabetes to living in a disadvantaged neighborhood.

Their study, published in November 2014 in the journal *Advances in Preventive Medicine*, found that the prevalence of diabetes in the city increased significantly from 2002 to 2010. The study also showed, zip code by zip code, that the physical and social environment of a neighborhood seemed to play a critical role.

Ana Núñez, MD, professor of medicine and associate dean for urban health equity, education and research at the College of Medicine, explains how the study came about. She has been working for many years with the lead author, Longjian Liu, MD, PhD, an associate professor and interim chair of the Department of Environmental

and Occupational Health in Drexel’s School of Public Health.

“We were talking about how fantastic the neighborhoods are in Philadelphia. In terms of the different cultural festivals, there’s just an incredible patchwork quilt,” Núñez says. They also talked about variations in socioeconomic environment and health status. “We certainly know there’s a drag in terms of resource need and poor health,” Núñez continues. “Can we identify what that drag is? If you’re coming from a particular area, you say, ‘I’m going to do x, y and z because I’m going to pull myself up by my bootstraps,’ and how much is it that you don’t even have boots to pull up? We wanted to get our hands around some of those sociocultural determinants of health that people talk a lot about. On the flipside, for people who are living in these neighborhoods, who are the ones who are somehow escaping that risk? What is it they are doing? What can we add to or augment in those areas, so that more people can get it right?”

To evaluate the impact of neighborhood on health, specifically on diabetes risk, Liu and

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pulse

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Dean's Message

Our MD program has received over 1,000 more applications than we did last year. The total number of applicants to U.S. medical schools rose to a new high in 2014 — 49,480 — and 31 percent of them (15,279) applied to Drexel. We are likely to be the school with the most applications in the entire country for the second year. It is flattering that so many people want to come; on the other hand it makes for a very difficult screening process. Over the years, however, it seems we've done a good job, because the students whom we admit perform very well, they match very well and they seem to be a happy bunch.



Daniel V. Schidlow, MD

Another phenomenon we have observed is that the number of students with multiple acceptances who decide to enroll at Drexel has increased over the last four years. I would like to think that more people are coming to Drexel because they see something in our culture, in our students, in the spirit of the school — all those things that make for a pleasant and supportive learning environment — and a plus for the way they want to conduct their medical studies. One of our students

shared: "I got accepted to the University of Miami [which, by the way, is a very good school and with much better weather and a beach nearby!] and Drexel, and I decided to come to Drexel." Many of our students have shared with me their feeling that this is a big school with a smaller-school atmosphere, and this is what is transmitted to applicants and visitors. The faculty is very available, and there is more camaraderie than in other places. I like to say that it's like the theme song of the old TV show "Cheers" — at DUCoM, everybody knows your name.

At Drexel, students operate with their brains and their hearts, not with their elbows. In other words, this is not the kind of place where people are pushing each other out of the way to get ahead. To the contrary, they work together, and they have fun. There are many interest groups and clubs, and people do interesting things together. I believe that our students are particularly socially conscious. A great majority are involved in socially-minded causes — helping children, working in free clinics, truly giving of themselves — because they have a vocation of service. It gives me great pleasure to walk the corridors, to have lunch with students and see that we have real people here — people who are sensitive, kind, interesting, committed and truly a delight to be around. I can see how applicants would be attracted by this atmosphere.

Every medical school is meritorious. In a world of choices, to be the chosen is a source of pride, but also of responsibility. One of the responsibilities is to find out exactly what it is that makes us attractive and spread it around (this is what appreciative inquiry is about). I believe that training program directors and leaders of health systems across the region and the country know that our students make great residents. I often hear praise for our students and graduates from our academic partners and affiliates, practitioners in the field and patients; they recognize that our students are well prepared, have great bedside manners and are outstanding examples of professionalism.

Daniel V. Schidlow, MD
 Walter H. and Leonore Annenberg Dean
 Senior Vice President of Medical Affairs

Diversity at Drexel — One Physician's Perspective

A Drexel University physician is in a good position to comment upon the diversity present within and around this academic institution. In my role as a clinician-educator, I interact with residents and students who are from all over the world and add to my knowledge of the world and its varied cultures. Moreover, Drexel attracts international physicians and researchers who, along with their expertise, bring and share an enriching breadth of experience.

However, for me, an internist practicing clinical medicine in Center City Philadelphia, diversity begins with what my patients import each day across the threshold of my practice. There is the diversity of their clinical presentation, as I see and make diagnoses both common and uncommon. And there is the diversity of the people themselves, who hail from all walks of life, often from countries other than the United States. (I am conversant in four languages, yet not infrequently have to figure out how to communicate with patients who speak a language or dialect that is truly foreign to my ear.) Many of my patients practice religions outside the Judeo-Christian belief system. Some are in same-sex relationships. And together my patients cover the full range of socioeconomic backgrounds and political sensibilities.

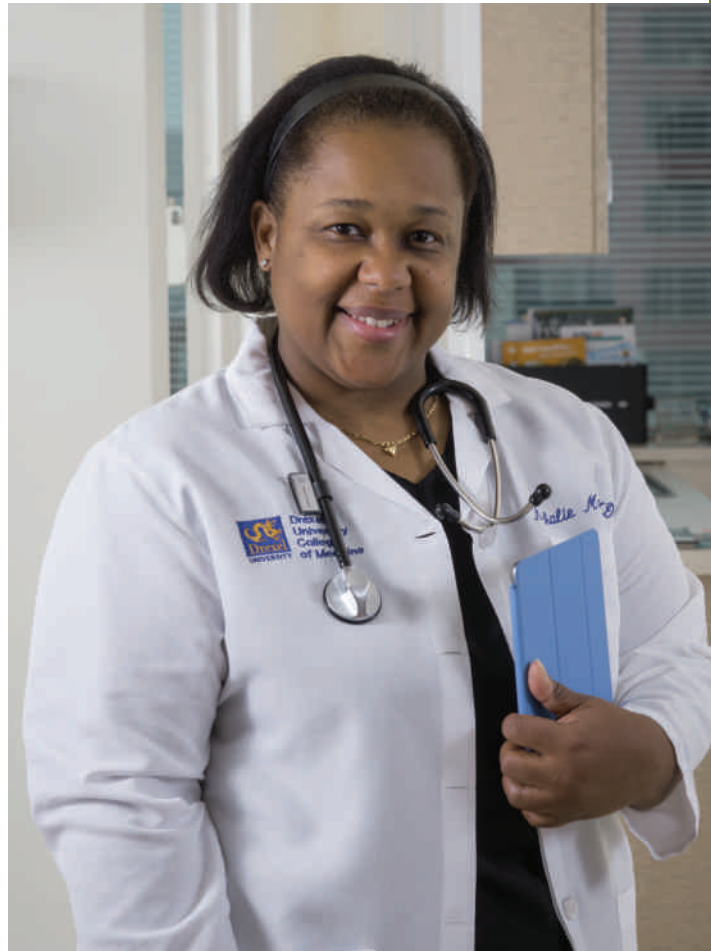
I welcome the diversity of Drexel's clinical practices — even celebrate it — but I also recognize that without care and sensitivity difference can undermine trust, which is crucial to a healthy doctor-patient relationship. I am proud of how we Drexel physicians honor and respect our patients' points of view and dedicate ourselves to providing excellent care regardless of our patients' many differences. We hope to gain in return their respect and appreciation of the care and health education we provide to them and their families. Indeed it's not uncommon for Drexel physicians to care for generations of families, and I take that as a signal that we are earning our patients' trust.

It has been 14 years since I completed my residency training and began work at the College of Medicine. In that time, we've

seen technology pull together the farthest reaches of the world, and human endeavor become increasingly global. Correspondingly, we've seen diversity become a more sought-after institutional goal, perhaps nowhere more so than in university settings. Drexel's own progress toward that goal helps us to grow as a premier institution of academic medicine, as it allows us to tap a deeper and wider talent pool for students and doctors, and to render quality compassionate care for our increasingly diverse pool of patients.

It's not uncommon for Drexel physicians to care for generations of families, and I take that as a signal that we are earning our patients' trust

— Nathalie S. May, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Drexel Internal Medicine



Internist Nathalie S. May welcomes diversity in patients and students.

Diabetes Risk

• *continued from the cover*

Núñez developed an index of physical and social environment (PSE) based on answers to relevant questions on a region-wide health survey (Public Health Management's Southeastern Pennsylvania Household Health Survey). These questions asked about the availability of healthy food, use of local recreational facilities, trust in neighbors and other factors, as well as poverty level. They calculated a PSE score for each of 46 Philadelphia communities, defined by zip code. Data from the same survey were used to measure risk for diabetes at the individual level. These personal factors included whether the participant was overweight or obese, physical activity, fruit and vegetable intake, age, sex, race/ethnicity and smoking status.

The actual prevalence of diabetes was determined by "yes" answers to the survey question "Have you ever been told by a health professional that you have diabetes?" and therefore was probably underestimated.

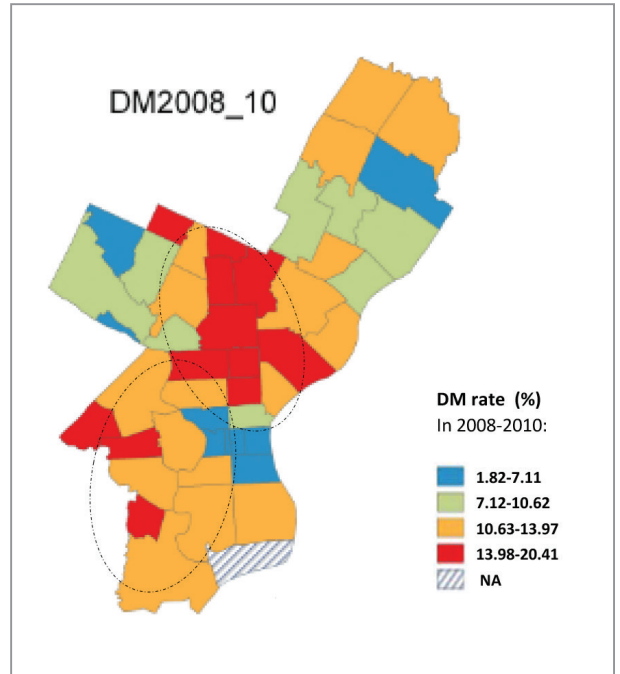
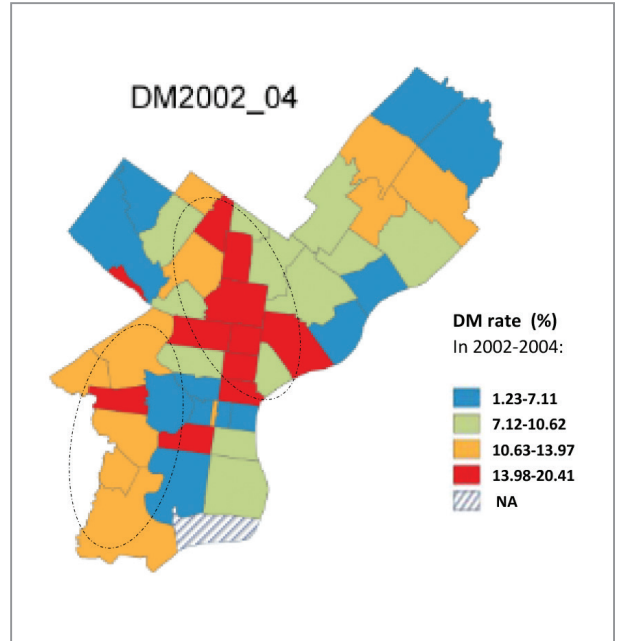
Liu and Núñez found that scores for the physical and social environment varied widely across neighborhoods. The neighborhoods that had worse PSE scores had a higher prevalence of diabetes. In areas where residents had higher rates of overweight and obesity or lower education attendance, there were also higher rates of diabetes. Between the two survey periods, ending in 2004 and 2010, the number of neighborhoods with higher rates of diabetes increased substantially.

Using statistical models, the researchers determined that about 12 percent of the risk of diabetes correlated with neighborhood PSE factors when adjusted for respondents' age and sex — meaning they would expect diabetes rates to drop by 12 percent if the neighborhood environment were improved.

"That opens the door to some very different questions about how we can help people help themselves," says Núñez. "We have to help them make change in a context that matters."

One thing Núñez learned, she says, is that in some areas in Southwest Philadelphia, there are people who don't have refrigerators. If they have diabetes, how can they refrigerate their insulin? "The clinician doesn't ask the patient, 'Do you have a refrigerator?' You assume, and the patient probably isn't going to offer it up." Is there a way to help with that kind of resource?

And what about a prescription for exercise? People may not feel safe going for a walk. "When we talk in terms of interprofessional teams with engineers and technology people, there are many different ways in which we can intervene," Núñez points out. "For example, if we're involved in civic engagement with the community, maybe we could work to make sure there are places they can actively exercise that are safe and well lit," she suggests.



The age-adjusted prevalence of diabetes in Philadelphia by neighborhood in two survey periods

"Too often, we focus exclusively on the individual in solving the problem. Here we found that we also need to focus on the healthiness of the community if we want to improve overall health and ultimately decrease health care costs."

Researchers determined that about 12 percent of the risk of diabetes correlated with neighborhood PSE factors

New Drug Class Causes Malaria Parasite to Burst

An international research team led by Akhil B. Vaidya, PhD, professor in the Department of Microbiology & Immunology and director of the Center for Molecular Parasitology at the College of Medicine, has discovered a new class of drug compounds that could lead to potent new treatments in the battle against malaria. The results from preclinical studies were published online in the November 25 edition of *Nature Communications*. The compounds affect the malaria parasite's ability to maintain adequate levels of sodium, leading to excessive water intake, which causes the parasite to burst.



Malaria is the world's deadliest parasitic disease. It is estimated to kill 600,000 people every year. Most of the deaths occur in children and pregnant women. Malaria's growing resistance to known drugs makes it all the more important to find new pathways to combat the disease, especially in developing countries.

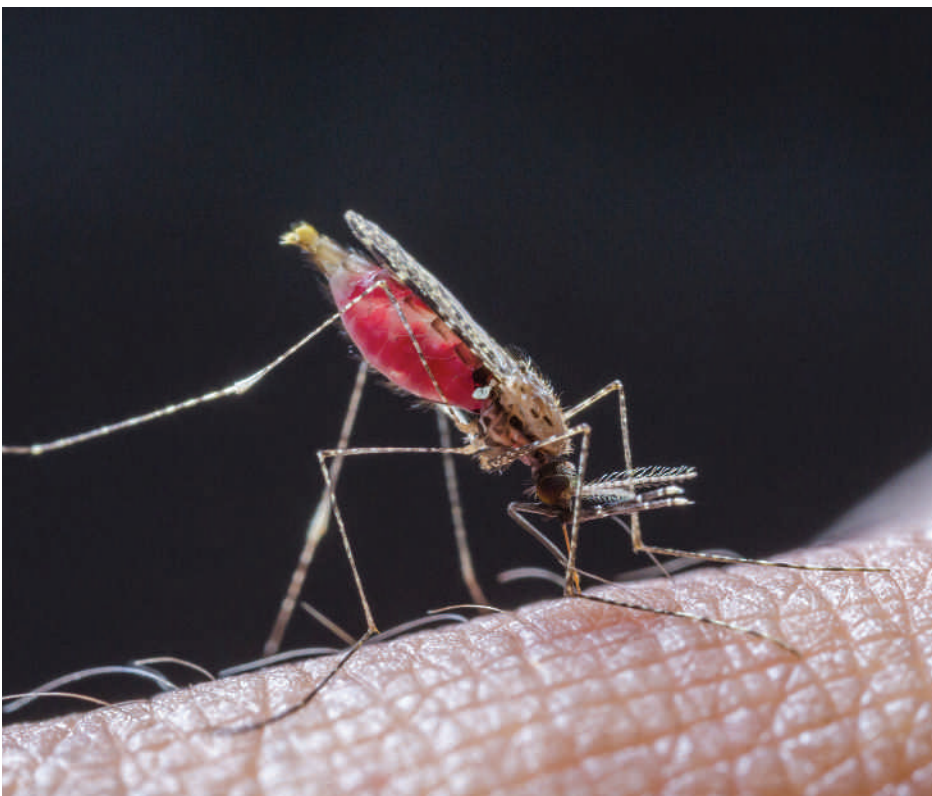
Malaria-causing *Plasmodium* parasites grow within human red blood cells and are transmitted from person to person by mosquitoes. Upon infection, the parasite induces changes in the host cell membrane so that more nutrients are taken in, which triggers an increase in sodium concentration within red blood cells. However, the parasite keeps its own sodium levels low with the help of a protein (PfATP4), which pumps sodium out of the parasite. A class of antimalarial compounds known as spiroindolones affect this process and are currently being tested in clinical trials. However, the search for new classes is essential in the face of emerging drug resistance.

Vaidya and colleagues report that another class of compounds, called pyrazoleamides, disrupt sodium pumping and increase sodium levels in *P. falciparum*. This results in cell swelling and eventually bursting. The compounds are potent inhibitors of *P. falciparum* growth in mice that have been engrafted with human red blood cells, leading to rapid parasite clearance when administered as a once-daily oral dose. After sustained pyrazoleamide exposure to induce resistance, fully resistant parasites appear at a

very low frequency.

"The results of the study confirm that targeting sodium balance in *Plasmodium* is a promising approach for developing new antimalarial drugs," says Vaidya, the study's principal investigator. "Further research is needed to precisely identify the molecular target of the compounds and to determine whether these can be developed into other effective antimalarial drugs." The research from this global team was supported by Medicines for Malaria Venture, an international nonprofit foundation, and the National Institutes of Health.

The College of Medicine's Center for Molecular Parasitology was formed in 2001, and has since become one of the largest academic groups in the



The female *Anopheles* mosquito transmits *Plasmodium* parasites from person to person.

country dedicated to researching, treating and preventing the spread of malaria. The other Drexel researchers involved in the study were Joanne M. Morrissey, research instructor; Sudipta Das, PhD, postdoctoral researcher; Thomas M. Daly, research instructor; Sandhya Kortagere, PhD, assistant professor; and Lawrence W. Bergman, PhD, professor, all in the Department of Microbiology & Immunology.

Primary Care Preceptors Needed This Spring

Philadelphia-area alumni or affiliate faculty who are in primary care are invited to serve as preceptors in their own practices this spring. This is an opportunity to be engaged with current medical students and have a real impact on their learning and possibly career choice.

The students in the Program for Integrated Learning, the College of Medicine's problem-based curriculum, participate in a Primary Care Community Practicum at the end of their first year. The students have already learned basic

history-taking and physical exam skills, as well as the first-year basic sciences. The purpose of the practicum is to expose them directly to primary care practice and community health. During the practicum the students see patients in a preceptor's office and use this as a basis for further independent learning in basic sciences, clinical sciences, and psychosocial and preventive issues.

The program seeks primary care physicians in the Philadelphia area to serve as preceptors just 12 hours a week for six weeks, from April 27 to June 6, 2015. If you are interested or want more information please contact Bonnie Emilius in the program office at 215.991.8551 or email pamela.duke@drexelmed.edu or bonnie.emilius@drexelmed.edu.

And Therein Lies a Tale ...

Some grand rounds are just grander than others. Each year, the Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine presents the Robert F. Johnston, MD, Memorial Lecture. Last fall, on October 21, the distinguished Johnston lecturer was Ronald Crystal, MD, chair of the Department of Genetic Medicine at Cornell. It turns out that he gave Medical Grand Rounds here 30-plus years (or 750-plus papers) ago, when he was chief of the Pulmonary Branch of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute at NIH. But that's not the most interesting part.

When audiovisual technician Bob Cimorelli arrived to videotape the 2014 Johnston Lecture, he brought with him a 1981 Hahnemann newsletter. In a "This Is Your Life" moment, he opened it to a photo showing Ronald Crystal giving Medical Grand Rounds — and Bob Cimorelli behind the camera, where he does the same excellent work 33 years later. "Bob is known by all — everybody loves him," says Department of Medicine Chair James Reynolds, MD. "I can think of no other employee who touches so many and over so many years of devoted service."



(Left) Ronald Crystal, M.D., chief of the pulmonary branch of the National Heart and Lung Institute, answers a question on interstitial lung disease during a recent session of medical grand rounds. The program was sent live via the Hahnemann Television Network (HTN) satellite to seven hospitals throughout the state. Seated beside Dr. Crystal (from the left) are Wilbur W. Oaks, M.D., professor and chairman, Department of Medicine; Lawrence M. Sigman, M.D., chief medical resident, and Theodore M. Oslick, M.D., assistant professor of medicine and medical director, Department and School of Respiratory Therapy. Filming the program is HTN cameraman Bob Cimorelli. Coordinated by Dr. Oaks, medical grand rounds features nationally known speakers each Thursday from noon to 1 p.m. Watch *Degrees & Stitches* for future guest lecturers.

Medical-Legal Partnership Assists Low-Income Cancer Patients

An innovative partnership between the nonprofit Legal Clinic for the Disabled, Inc., and Hahnemann University Hospital enables low-income cancer patients to receive free legal services on site at the hospital.

It began when Tomas Bednar, an attorney at Dechert LLP, received an Independence Foundation public interest fellowship to start a cancer-focused medical-legal partnership (MLP) at Hahnemann.

Dechert, Drexel University College of Medicine and Drexel's Kline School of Law are part of the Hahnemann MLP collaborative.

An attorney is available three days a week to serve radiation oncology and medical oncology patients. Low-income patients with legal needs are referred to the attorney by their providers. In November 2014, the Legal Clinic for the Disabled presented the Cancer Center at Hahnemann

with a special recognition award. Lydia Komarnicky, MD, professor and chair of the Department of Radiation Oncology at Drexel accepted the award on behalf of the partnership.

Komarnicky credits Donatella Richard, MSW, the practice social worker, with bringing MLPs to her attention.

To read more about this interesting concept for improving patient health, visit the website medical-legalpartnership.org.

Discovery ... It's a Wrap

Several key honors were awarded on Discovery Day, October 2, 2014, in addition to the prizes for poster and platform presentations (*Pulse*, November/December 2014).

Robert H. Singer, PhD, professor and Harold and Muriel Block Chair in Anatomy & Structural Biology, professor of cell biology and professor of neuroscience at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx, N.Y., was invited to give the L.M. "Bill" Stephenson Lecture, and received a plaque in recognition — presented by Elisabeth Van Bockstaele, PhD, dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Professional Studies.



Drs. Van Bockstaele and Singer

Michael G. Katze, PhD, HU '80, professor of microbiology at the University of Washington School of Medicine (see Profile, page 13), received the Graduate Citation Award, Mid-Career and Senior Graduates, established to recognize a graduate who is highly acclaimed for his or her significant accomplishments in the field of biomedical research — presented by Vanessa S. Boyce, PhD '07.



Drs. Boyce and Katze

Angelo C. Lepore, PhD '06, assistant professor of neuroscience at Jefferson Medical College, received the Graduate Citation, Early Career or Young Investigator Award, established to recognize a promising and outstanding investigator within 10 years of graduation, who has demonstrated accomplishment in the field of biomedical research — presented by Vanessa S. Boyce, PhD '07.



Drs. Boyce and Lepore

Christina Ferrer, a PhD candidate in the Molecular & Cell Biology & Genetics program, received the 2014 Bondi Fellowship award, from an endowment created in honor of the late Hahnemann University professor emeritus Amedeo Bondi, PhD, the first full-time dean of the graduate school at Hahnemann University — presented by Barry Waterhouse, PhD, vice dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Professional Studies.



Ms. Pomykala and Dr. McGonigle

Paul McGonigle, PhD, professor in the Department of Pharmacology & Physiology, director of the Drug Discovery and Development Program, and director of the Division of Interdisciplinary and Career-oriented Programs in the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Professional Studies, received the Graduate Student Association award for Excellence in Teaching — presented by Lindsay Pomykala, GSA vice president.



Ms. Ferrer and Dr. Waterhouse

AACH Communication Course to Be Held at Queen Lane

The American Academy on Communication in Healthcare will hold its national faculty development course at the College of Medicine's Queen Lane Campus this year. The 33rd edition of the annual ENRICH course, as it is known, will take place June 18–21. The theme is "Meeting at the Crossroads of Communication and Professionalism." Drexel faculty members Drs. Pamela M. Duke, associate professor of medicine, and Dennis H. Novack, professor of medicine, will be co-directors. Both have extensive experience in the

development and use of communication-enhancement tools.

"We hope about 100 educators from around the country will attend," Novack says. It will be a special experience for him personally, since he co-directed the first three courses (1983–1985), and has taught in about 18 of them over the years. "We've trained thousands of faculty who have gone back to their institutions and started or improved their courses on medical interviewing and physician-patient communication," he says.

For more information, or to register, visit: aachonline.org/dnn/Events/ENRICH/2015.aspx

College Designates Kaiser Permanente in Greater Sacramento as a Regional Medical Campus

Kaiser Permanente and Drexel University College of Medicine are celebrating the success of their unique partnership by designating Kaiser Permanente in Greater Sacramento as a regional medical campus for Drexel.

The relationship between the two organizations began in 2008 with pre-med programs and expanded in the summer of 2013 when the first group of medical students from Drexel’s Philadelphia-based medical school began a year



Lisa Liu, MD (far right), wears the Drexel white coat she received as associate dean of the regional medical campus. With her (l-r) are Richard S. Isaacs, MD, physician-in-chief, Kaiser Permanente South Sacramento; Daniel V. Schidlow, MD, Drexel University College of Medicine Annenberg Dean and senior vice president of medical affairs; and Valerie Weber, MD, vice dean for educational affairs. Schidlow and Weber were given Kaiser Permanente/Drexel fleece jackets during the December 10 event in South Sacramento.

of clinical rotations at Kaiser Permanente medical centers in Greater Sacramento and the surrounding region. Since that time, the program has grown, with new groups of Drexel students getting the opportunity to train alongside Kaiser Permanente physicians and learn about KP’s unique model of integrated care.

Under the new regional medical campus designation, Drexel medical students have the option to select Kaiser Permanente as their primary clinical campus and complete all of their required clinical rotations there during their third and fourth years. Kaiser Permanente will provide the full complement of training in core clinical areas. This year, 16 Drexel College of Medicine students are completing rotations at four medical centers: Sacramento, South Sacramento, Roseville and Vacaville. The regional campus designation covers several Kaiser Permanente facilities.

“This partnership has proven to be a wonderful opportunity for our students to get exposure to Kaiser Permanente’s unique model of health care delivery while also receiving an outstanding clinical education,” says Valerie Weber, MD, vice dean for educational affairs at the College of Medicine. “The students who have already participated in the program have had a fantastic experience at Kaiser Permanente, and we’re excited that more of our students will have that opportunity.”

As a regional medical campus, Kaiser Permanente expects to attract more emerging physicians to the Greater Sacramento region who will want to live and practice in the area after receiving their medical degrees.

Lisa Liu, MD, who is a South Sacramento assistant physician-in-chief, has been appointed associate dean of the regional medical campus.

ELAM Program Wins Gies Award

The College of Medicine’s Hedwig van Ameringen Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine®, or ELAM®, program has been named a winner in the 2015 William J. Gies Awards for Vision, Innovation and Achievement by the ADEAGies Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the American Dental Education Association. ELAM’s year-long part-time fellowship is open to women faculty members in schools of dentistry and public health as well as medicine; 63 dental school faculty members have completed the program.

The ADEAGies Foundation supports the development of individuals and innovative practices in the dental professions. The Gies Awards will be presented on

March 9, 2015, in conjunction with the 2015 ADEA Annual Session & Exhibition in Boston. Interestingly, one of the other 2015 winners, Carol A. Aschenbrener, MD, chief medical education officer (2011–14), Association of American Medical Colleges, has served

on the ELAM faculty; and a 2014 winner, Lisa A. Tedesco, PhD, is an ELAM alum, or ELUM.



Diane Magrane, MD, is the director of ELAM and executive director of the International Center for Executive Leadership in Academics.

Lynne Honickman to Receive 2015 Woman One Award

Philadelphia philanthropist and civic activist Lynne Korman Honickman has been selected as the 2015 Woman One honoree by the Institute for Women's Health and Leadership. She will be recognized at the annual Woman One event and reception on April 27.



The Woman One program recognizes outstanding women leaders in the Philadelphia community and raises scholarship funds for talented, underrepresented women medical students at the College of Medicine.

In 1989 Honickman founded The Honickman Foundation, dedicated to the support of projects that promote spiritual growth, creativity, education and social change. The foundation partnered with Project HOME and Comcast a decade ago to build The Honickman Learning Center Comcast Technology Labs in North Central Philadelphia. Currently, the center serves more than 375 children and 925 adults each year.

Formally trained as a writer and artist, Honickman is an activist for the arts and for pressing social issues. She is a trustee of Project HOME and of the Philadelphia Museum of Art. She was the founder of Moms Against Guns, which merged with CeasefirePA in 2010, and serves on Ceasefire's board. She has received numerous honors, including the 2005 G. Fred DiBona, Jr. Individual Leadership Award from the Arts & Business Council of Greater Philadelphia, the 2008 Judge Lois G. Forer Child Advocacy Award from the Support Center for Child Advocates and the 2009 Humanitarian Award from Magee Rehabilitation.

In 12 years, the Woman One program has raised more than \$2.5 million and has supported scholarships for 27 current and former medical students at Drexel.

To make a reservation for the Woman One event on April 27 at the Rittenhouse Hotel, email janine.barber@drexelmed.edu.

CAP4Kids Highlights Text and Email Resources

In keeping with a recent statistic that almost 90 percent of adults and teens in the United States have the ability to text, the Children's Advocacy Project of Philadelphia offers information on several texting programs on the CAP4Kids website (cap4kids.org/Philadelphia). Here are a few:

Text for Baby is a weekly text message to help mothers through their pregnancy and through the baby's first year. A recent study showed that the messages helped increase adherence to prenatal and infant visits. Text the word *BABY* to 511411 or *BEBE* for Spanish.

SmokefreeTXT is a messaging service to help adults and young adults who are trying to quit smoking. Multiple texts are sent during the day. (For more information, visit smokefree.gov/smokefreetxt.)

- Text *QUIT* to iQuit for iPhones or
- Text *QUIT* to 47848 for android or other phones

Compliance & Privacy

The 2015 OIG Work Plan

The Department of Health & Human Services Office of Inspector General (OIG) released its work plan for fiscal year 2015 on October 31, 2014. The work plan presents a summary of ongoing and new projects the OIG will undertake this year. The work plan is considered a key to identifying potential compliance risk areas. Here are three critical physician practice areas that are of audit interest for 2015. A continued focus on place-of-service, proper provider specialty, and reasonable and necessary services is evident.

Physicians: Place-of-service coding errors

The OIG will review physicians' coding on Medicare Part B claims for services performed in ambulatory surgical centers and hospital outpatient departments to



Edward Longazel
Chief Compliance & Privacy Officer

determine whether they properly coded the place of service.

Context: Prior OIG reviews determined that physicians did not always correctly code non-facility places of service on Part B claims submitted to and paid by Medicare contractors. Federal regulations provide for

different levels of payments to physicians depending on where services are performed (42 CFR § 414.32). Medicare pays a physician a higher amount when a service is performed in a non-facility setting, such as a physician's office, than it does when the service is performed in a hospital outpatient department or, with certain exceptions, in an ambulatory surgical center.

Ophthalmologists:

Inappropriate and questionable billing

The OIG will review Medicare claims data to identify potentially inappropriate and questionable billing for ophthalmology services during 2012. The OIG will also determine the locations and specialties of providers with questionable billing. Medicare payments for Part B physician services, which include ophthalmologists, are authorized by the Social Security Act, § 1832(a)(1), and 42 CFR § 410.20. In 2010, Medicare allowed more than \$6.8 billion for services provided by ophthalmologists.

Sleep disorder clinics:

High use of sleep-testing procedures

The OIG will examine Medicare payments to physicians, hospital outpatient departments and independent diagnostic testing facilities for sleep-testing procedures to assess the appropriateness of Medicare payments for high-use sleep-testing procedures and determine whether they were in accordance with Medicare requirements. An OIG analysis of CY



Dr. Urdaneta-Hartmann

Krys Adkins, online learning support specialist, and **Sandra Urdaneta-Hartmann, MD, PhD**, assistant professor, were honored during National Distance Learning Week for their accomplishments and dedication to online learning on behalf of the Department of Microbiology & Immunology. Drexel hosted its eighth annual awards ceremony on November 11, 2014, at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University.

Michael L. Arvanitis, MD, clinical assistant professor of surgery, was named to *New Jersey Monthly* magazine's 2014 Top Doctors. Arvanitis is the section chief of colon and rectal surgery at Monmouth Medical Center and medical director of the Patricia Burton High Risk Colorectal Cancer Program at the Leon Hess Cancer Center, also at Monmouth Medical Center, Long Branch, N.J.



Dr. Brady

Luther W. Brady, MD, Distinguished University Professor and Hylda Cohn/American Cancer Society Professor of Clinical Oncology, is a co-author of *Perez & Brady's Principles and Practices of Radiation Oncology*, 6th edition, which won the designation "Highly Commended" in the annual British Medical Association medical book awards.

Brian W. Carlin, MD, assistant professor of medicine, made a late-breaking oral presentation at the American College of Physicians annual meeting, demonstrating that the use of a portable non-invasive open ventilation system resulted in clinically significant improvements. The meeting was held October 25–30, 2014, in Austin, Texas. Carlin, the lead author of the study, is affiliated with Allegheny General Hospital.



Dr. Ehrlich

Garth Ehrlich, PhD, professor in the Department of Microbiology & Immunology, organized and chaired the session "Prevention of Biofilm Infections in Orthopaedics" at the Scientific Session of SICOT (The World Orthopaedic Organisation) held November 19–22, 2014, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Earlier, he delivered a talk, "The Distributed Genome Hypothesis Is Based on Polyclonal Colonizations and Infections," at the first American Society for Microbiology Conference on Polymicrobial Infections, held November 13–16, 2014, in Washington, D.C. (Also see box on page 12.)



Ms. Ferrer

Christina M. Ferrer, PhD candidate in the Molecular & Cell Biology & Genetics program, received a Keystone Symposia Trainee Scholarship (\$1,200) to travel to Santa Fe, N.M., to present her research "O-GlcNAcylation Regulates Breast Cancer Cell Invasion via the NAD⁺-Dependent Longevity Protein SIRT1" at the 2015 Keystone Symposia conference on Biology of Sirtuins, to be held March 8–12. Ferrer's work was also selected for a short talk platform presentation. She is doing thesis work in the laboratory of Mauricio J. Reginato, PhD.



Dr. Gelo



Dr. Gracely

Florence Gelo, DMin, NCPsychA, and **Edward Gracely, PhD**, both associate professors in the Department of Family, Community & Preventive Medicine, and Ann Carroll

Klassen, PhD, professor of community health and prevention in Drexel's School of Public Health, published "Patient Use of Images of Artworks to Promote Conversation and Enhance Coping With Hospitalization" in the January 2015 issue of *Arts & Health* (published online October 7, 2014).

Brianne Karten, a graduate student in the Master of Laboratory Animal Science program, presented a poster, "A Method for Training Bipedal Locomotion in a Rat Spinal Cord Injury Model," at the 2014 national meeting of the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science, held October 19–23 in San Antonio, Texas. The co-authors were Marissa Powers, a PhD student in Drexel's School of Biomedical Engineering, Science & Health Systems, and Karen Moxon, PhD, a professor in the Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy and in the School of Biomedical Engineering.

Sunaina Kaushal, MD, a second-year resident in the Drexel/Hahnemann Internal Medicine Residency program, was the guest speaker at the installation of a new chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta, the national health pre-professional honor society, at Monmouth University. Kaushal is a graduate of Monmouth and attended Drexel University College of Medicine through the Monmouth Medical Center Scholars Program.



Dr. Kuzma

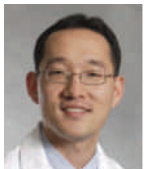
Mary Ann Kuzma, MD, associate professor of medicine, was an invited speaker at the national meeting of the Association of American Medical Colleges held November 7–11 in Chicago. She spoke at the plenary session "Navigating the Pathway to Competency-Based Medical School Admissions."



Ms. Navarra

Rachel Navarra, a PhD candidate, has been awarded the PhRMA Foundation Pre-doctoral Fellowship in Pharmacology/Toxicology for her grant proposal "Methylphenidate Enhancement of Early Stage Sensory Processing." She has also received the Goldberger/Boyne/Levine

Endowment "Student Excellence Award" from the Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy. Navarra is doing thesis research in the laboratory of Barry Waterhouse, PhD, professor of neurobiology and anatomy and vice dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Professional Studies.



Dr. Lee



Ms. Allen

Dong Heun Lee, MD, assistant professor of medicine; **Matthew Antonello**, third-year medical student; **Ankit Parikh, MD**, Infectious Diseases fellow; **Amy**

Althoff, MD, associate professor of medicine; and **Sara Allen, MSN, CRNP**, clinical assistant professor of medicine, presented a poster abstract, "Can We Re-engage Patients with HIV Who Are Lost to Care? A Pilot Study in a Large Urban HIV Clinic," at IDWeek, held October 8-12, 2014, in Philadelphia. The faculty members are in the Division of Infectious Diseases & HIV Medicine.

Sajina Prabhakaran, MD, a former Drexel/Hahnemann rheumatology fellow (finished in August), presented an abstract of her research, "Comparison of Infection Rates in Patients Receiving Denosumab, Denosumab and Biologics, and Biologics Alone in a Suburban Rheumatology Clinic," at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Rheumatology, held November 15-19, 2014, in Boston. Her co-author and mentor was **Charles Pritchard, MD**, adjunct clinical associate professor of medicine, who is at Abington Memorial Hospital.

Mauricio Reginato, PhD, associate professor, Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, was invited to give a presentation, "Breast Cancer Biology: Recent Progress & Discoveries," at the 3rd Annual Symposium on Breast Cancer in Antofagasta, Chile, held in October 2014, global Breast Cancer Awareness Month. While he was in Antofagasta, Reginato also joined in the 3rd Annual "Run for Life: All for Early Detection of Breast Cancer," participated in a roundtable discussion with breast cancer professionals, and did some local television interviews.



Mauricio Reginato (back row near center) participated in a run for early detection of breast cancer while in Chile for a presentation.

Calendar

February

American Heart Month

14 **Pediatric AIDS Benefit Concert**
Main Building, University City Campus

March

National Colorectal Awareness Month

12 **Medical Student Research Day**
Queen Lane Campus, 1 p.m.

15 **Reception at American College of Cardiology Scientific Session & Expo**
Hilton San Diego Gaslamp Quarter Hotel, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

20 **Match Day**

26 **Reception at American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons Annual Meeting**
Harrah's Las Vegas, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

April

Stress Awareness Month

17-19 **Fifth National Forum on Women's Issues in Gastroenterology and Hepatology**
Sonesta Hotel Philadelphia
Contact: Jennifer Sumter, 215.762.2580

27 **Woman One Award Event**
Honoring Lynne Korman Honickman (see page 9)
Rittenhouse Hotel, 5:30 p.m.
Reservations: email janine.barber@drexelmed.edu

May

Arthritis Awareness Month

1-2 **Alumni Weekend**

4 **Reception at American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists Annual Meeting**
San Francisco, Marriott Marquis, 6-8 p.m.

13-15 **Classes of 1965 — 50 Year Reunion**

14-15 **Grand Classes Gathering**

15 **Commencement**

June

Men's Health Month

5 **14th Annual Faculty Development Day**
Queen Lane Campus

18-21 **ENRICH: AACH National Faculty Development Course**
Hosted at Queen Lane Campus (see page 7)

22 **Stamatakis Golf Classic**
Visit drexelmed.edu/golf or email golf@drexelmed.edu.

Alumni: For reception and reunion information, please call 215.255.7345, email medical.alumni@drexel.edu, or visit drexelmed.edu/alumnievents.



Dr. Reilly

James J. (Joe) Reilly, MD, assistant professor of medicine, received the Laureate Award of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the American College of Physicians during the chapter's annual awards dinner, held in December in Hershey. The Laureate is the highest honor offered by the College of Physicians. Reilly is an internist with Allegheny General Hospital, where he serves as vice chair of medicine and general medicine division chief.

Mark Schwartz, MD, clinical assistant professor of surgery, was named to *New Jersey Monthly* magazine's 2014 Top Doctors. Schwartz, a board-certified surgeon, is in private practice at Atlantic Surgical Group in Oakhurst and Brick, N.J. He serves on the board of the Jacqueline M. Wilentz Comprehensive Breast Center at Monmouth Medical Center.

Valerie Sodi, a PhD candidate in the Molecular & Cell Biology & Genetics program, and **Sergey Karakashev**, a PhD candidate in the Biochemistry & Molecular Biology program, received second place and third place respectively for Best Graduate Student Poster at the 2014 Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center Consortium Symposium at Thomas Jefferson University. Both Sodi and Karakashev are doing thesis work in the laboratory of Mauricio Reginato, PhD, associate professor of biochemistry and molecular biology.



Dr. Shumsky

Jed S. Shumsky, PhD, associate dean of educational and academic affairs for the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Professional Studies and research associate professor in the Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy, presented an abstract and poster about the Neurosci-

ence High School Summer Camp at the annual meeting of the Society for Neuroscience, held November 15–19, 2014, in Washington, D.C.



Dr. Spector

Nancy Spector, MD, professor of pediatrics, has received the Miller-Sarkin Mentoring Award of the Academic Pediatric Association. The award recognizes the contributions of an APA member who has provided outstanding mentorship to learners or colleagues, locally and nationally. Spector is the director of the Pediatric Residency program at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children.



Dr. Trojjan

Thomas Trojjan, MD, professor, Department of Family, Community & Preventive Medicine, and director of the Sports Medicine Fellowship program, is an author of "Brachial Plexus Injury in Sports Medicine" on Medscape, updated November 26, 2014.



Dr. Della Badia

Kayla M. Wishall, MD, a third-year resident in the Drexel/Hahnemann Obstetrics & Gynecology Residency program; **Nigel Pereira, MD**, former Ob/Gyn resident (class of 2014); and **Carl R. Della Badia, DO**, professor and director of minimally invasive surgery in the Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, are authors of "Postablation Risk Factors for Pain and Subsequent Hysterectomy," published in the November 2014 issue of *Obstetrics & Gynecology*. The paper won the journal's Editor's Choice award.

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Drs. Ehrlich and Moxon Named 2014 AAAS Fellows

Two College of Medicine faculty members have been named fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science: Garth Ehrlich, PhD, professor in the Department of Microbiology & Immunology; and Karen Moxon, PhD, professor in the Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy and also a professor at Drexel's School of Biomedical Engineering, Science & Health Systems.

Ehrlich, executive director of the Center for Advanced Microbial Processing and the Center for Genomic Sciences at the Institute of Molecular Medicine & Infectious Disease and director of the

Genomics Core Facility at the Clinical & Translational Research Institute, is being honored for distinguished theoretical and experimental contributions to the field of chronic bacterial pathogenesis, particularly for promulgating the biofilm paradigm and developing the distributed genome hypothesis.

Moxon, associate director for research in the School of Biomedical Engineering, Science & Health Systems, is being honored for her distinguished contributions to the field of neural engineering, particularly in advancing our understanding of the encoding of sensory and motor signals within the brain.

The association will recognize new fellows on February 14 during its annual meeting in San Jose, Calif.

The Road Less Traveled: Michael G. Katze, PhD, HU '80

When he was a young man, the furthest thing from Michael Katze's mind was graduate school. Now, however, more than 30 years after graduating from Hahnemann University with a PhD in microbiology, he is an internationally recognized virologist. He has advanced his field and mentored countless young scientists along the way. In Katze's opinion, taking the path less traveled, a creative route, may be one of the surest ways to fulfillment.

Nothing about Katze suggested he would become a virologist — let alone a distinguished one. In school he liked science, but he laughs now, postulating that his scientific interest was based more on avoidance of English and math. Katze was pre-dental as an undergraduate at Boston University, for reasons he still does not understand. He dropped out of the dental program at the University of Pennsylvania after one year because he didn't like it. At that point, Katze moved to Paris with his then-wife, a PhD candidate in art history.

After a few years in Paris, Katze returned to the city. It was 1976. "I really loved Philadelphia," Katze says. "Those were the days of Frank Rizzo, too." Katze began working as a technician in the Penn dental labs, studying the herpes virus. At the same time, he was at the Wistar Institute studying rabies. Once he was introduced to virology, Katze was hooked. He applied to and entered Hahnemann University's doctoral program in microbiology and immunology, graduating in 1980.

Today Katze is a professor of microbiology at the University of Washington School of Medicine, and associate director for molecular sciences and core staff scientist at the Washington National Primate Research Center. He directs a lab of more than 35 people. His passion for learning about viruses — particularly RNA viruses — has only grown over the years.

Katze explains, "It has always fascinated me how these viruses — which are so incredibly simple in terms of their genetic structure — can cause so much disease, so much death, so much economic damage." Influenza, for example, encodes eight genes. The human genome encodes around 25,000. "They're so much more clever," Katze says of RNA viruses. "A little virus can get in there and cause a lot of trouble."

Katze has been internationally recognized for his scientific achievements. He is most proud of his research into the role the host plays in a virus's manifestation. Most virologists, he explains, study a virus in isolation, yet that

is only part of the dynamic. Katze had one of the first labs to investigate the host response.

For any given virus, there is a spectrum of responses: the infected person could die; become sick and recover; or show no sign of infection. "One of the things I've done over my career," Katze says, "is really prove that the genetics of the host — and the response of the host to infection — is a crucial element in determining viral disease or how deadly a virus is."

It is a fascinating time to be a virologist, Katze says. Because of factors like airplane travel, deforestation, and climate change, the world has become a much smaller

place, he notes. Viruses that once were contained to a localized area are now able to migrate more freely.

The field of virology itself has undergone changes, Katze observes. As awareness shifted, particularly around AIDS, so did research funding. "Being a scientist today is very different than 30 years ago," he says.

At the National Institutes of Health, "the metrics for success are changing — from publication to patents, to product development, vaccine development or new drugs," Katze says. "They're demanding much more applied work than just basic, mechanistic work."

Yet that basic science research has led to important discoveries, Katze argues. Ten to 20 years ago, a scientist would study yeast, worms or flies, because of the "incredible biological insight that you got." In today's climate, Katze says, "if you write a grant and you don't say, 'I want to validate this in primates' — if you don't have something like that in your grant — it can be difficult to get a grant funded."

The field is transforming; therefore the questions are changing, and the questions have to be more applied. "Congress is pragmatic, but they are not scientists," Katze says. The NIH response is to become a more applied and translational world. Katze says there is still a need to be versed in basic science. The "discovery of basic research, whether it be in flies or worms, has led to incredible discoveries in something else," he says.

Katze is quick to note where his path has differed from the norm: those years he "took off" between undergraduate and grad school. "I always see that as one of the reasons for my success," he reveals. "I — quote — missed five years, but I didn't really miss five years. I grew up and figured out what I wanted to do."



Dr. Katze receives the Alumni Association's Senior Graduate Citation Award from Vanessa Boyce, PhD '07.

• continued on page 14

Research “Dream Team” Refining Pediatric Heart Pump

The treatment options for pediatric heart failure patients have significant limitations, and waiting periods for transplant can be several months to years long. Especially complex are the cases of so-called blue babies, with a single ventricle instead of two pumping heart chambers. Now a multidisciplinary team of researchers is advancing the design of a heart pump that could provide these patients with bridge-to-transplant or longer-term circulatory support.

Combining broad expertise in cardiothoracic surgery, pediatric cardiology, medical device development, and engineering, the team crosses two countries and four institutions. Yet their efforts are truly integrated, says J. Yasha Kresh, PhD, professor of cardiothoracic surgery and medicine at the College of Medicine. In addition to Kresh, who also holds an appointment in the School of Biomedical Engineering, Science & Health Systems, Drexel is represented by the principal investigator, Amy Throckmorton, PhD, associate professor in the School of Biomedical Engineering; and Randy Stevens, MD, assistant professor of cardiothoracic surgery and pediatrics, who is based at St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children. Their collaborators include top cardiologists at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia and top pharmacology researchers at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

This “dream team” is developing an innovative axial flow blood pump for patients with cardiovascular dysfunction secondary to complex congenital heart disease. Children with single ventricle physiology

typically undergo three staged surgeries by the time they are 4 years old, and some will require more. These surgical strategies are limited in long-term benefit, and few therapeutic alternatives exist. Those children fortunate enough to survive surgical treatment will contend with morbidity and lifelong physical limitations, and will need to be clinically managed for the rest of their lives. A transplant may be an option, but alternative approaches are preferable as the earlier surgical repairs lead to scar tissue and unique vessel connections that complicate an already high-risk transplant procedure.

To address this unmet therapeutic need, the team is advancing the state of the art in blood pump design by developing a collapsible device that combines minimally invasive endovascular therapy with mechanical circulatory support technology. (Blood pumps currently in clinical use were not designed for single ventricle physiology.) Team members

have the collective expertise to move their design to the next level of development and commercialization.

The dream team is one of two that were selected from among 20 who submitted proposals to address an unmet pediatric need, as part of Drexel’s research partnership with the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and CHOP. A symposium in January 2014 gave researchers from the three institutions the opportunity to meet each other and exchange ideas (*Pulse*, March/April 2014). Each of the two teams is receiving \$250,000 over two years, during which time program administrators will seek external funding.



Infant with cyanosis

Compliance • continued from page 9

2010 Medicare payments for Current Procedural Terminology codes 95810 and 95811, which totaled approximately \$415 million, showed high utilization associated with these sleep-testing procedures.

Medicare will not pay for items or services that are not “reasonable and necessary” (Social Security Act, § 1862 (a)(1) (A)). To the extent that repeated diagnostic testing is performed on the same beneficiary and the prior test results are still pertinent, repeated tests may not be reasonable and necessary.

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Profile • continued from page 13

“I have undergraduates in my lab,” he says. “I always encourage them to take a few years off, working or traveling, because going to graduate school is such a commitment.” The expectation that students continue straight through, he acknowledges, comes from several sources. A lot can be gained, however, in terms of personal development and fulfillment, by stepping back and not rushing the process.

“I feel really lucky that I’ve been able to do this for so many years and be so successful,” Katze comments. “There’s so much freedom. Science is a lot like art. It’s as creative as you want. You have to be practical about things, as you do in every field, [yet] you can be creative.” This is one case where the road less traveled has made all the difference.

Seek and Find: Hot Tips From Librarians

BrowZine:

Journal Browsing in the Electronic Age

As wonderful as e-journals are, they typically are not as easy to browse as their print counterparts. But there is an exciting new tool that facilitates easy e-journal browsing on mobile devices: BrowZine (thirdiron.com).



BrowZine is a free application available for iPads, iPhones, iPod Touches (iOS v7.x+), Android tablets and phones (OS v4.1+), and Kindle Fire HD tablets. The app provides immediate access to open access journals from PLOS (Public Library of Science) and BioMed Central. In addition, if you are affiliated with one of BrowZine's

many subscribing academic libraries, such as the Drexel Libraries, you can sync the BrowZine app with your academic library during the setup process, thus allowing access to nearly all of your library's e-journals through BrowZine.

Users can browse journals by title or subject, select titles to review at their leisure and place issues on customized virtual bookshelves. The app also provides a table of contents that links to individual articles, which can be saved onto a device for later reading — or transferred to another management tool like EndNote, Mendeley or Dropbox.

Get started by downloading BrowZine (thirdiron.com/download) from the Apple AppStore, Google Play or the Amazon AppStore. If applicable, select your university from the list of subscribing institutions and enter the appropriate credentials (for Drexel, your network ID and password). Otherwise choose "Open Access Publishers Only" for access to PLOS and BioMed Central. Start browsing in minutes, as people once browsed the stacks for hours, and create your own personally selected collection of readings.

For Clinicians on the Go: PubMed Clinical Queries

PubMed is a vast repository of useful information for clinicians — but sometimes getting to the right piece of information quickly is a challenge. The PubMed Clinical Queries tool can help. Utilizing a specialized search filter, Clinical Queries lets the busy practitioner quickly



search the MEDLINE database for research articles in five study categories: etiology, diagnosis, therapy,

prognosis and clinical prediction guides.

Start at the Clinical Queries homepage: ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/clinical (bookmark it too!).

- In the Clinical Queries search box, type a specific subject term or MeSH (medical subject heading). Be as specific as possible. For example, use *atrial fibrillation* rather than *heart disease* if you are looking for clinical studies on the treatment of atrial fibrillation. It's best not to use abbreviations.
- Use synonyms to increase the number of search results. Combine synonyms with a capitalized OR, as in *epilepsy OR seizure disorder*.
- If you want to combine distinct concepts, use the capitalized AND connector, as in *myocardial infarction AND beta blocker*.
- Since many clinical questions are related to therapy, the default clinical study category is *therapy*. Use the Clinical Study Category dropdown menu to select other categories. For example, to find research studies on the use of CT scans to diagnose *appendicitis*, type *appendicitis AND CT scan* in the Clinical Queries search box, and change the study category from *therapy* to *diagnosis*.
- Use the scope filters to select either the broad (sensitive) filter to retrieve articles that are mostly relevant, although some less relevant articles may be included (this filter will retrieve the greatest number of search results with less likelihood of missing good studies), or the narrow (specific) filter, which retrieves the most relevant articles to your query but will limit the total number of articles found (with the possibility of missing some good studies).
- To display all the results of the Clinical Queries search in PubMed, click on the *see all* link at the bottom of the Clinical Studies Category column.
- To apply more filters, such as year of publication, publication language and age of research subjects, select the relevant filters from the left-hand column of the PubMed results page. To display all the filters, use the *show additional filters* link.

PubMed has provided a tutorial for those interested in learning more: nlm.nih.gov/bsd/disted/pubmed/tutorial/020_570.html

Loansome Doc®

Alumni who are not affiliated with a medical library can obtain journal articles from the Drexel Libraries interlibrary loan service by subscribing to Loansome Doc, a service of the National Library of Medicine. The fee for alumni is \$20 per article. Directions for registering and ordering can be found at nlm.nih.gov/pubs/factsheets/loansome_doc.html.

This article was contributed by the Drexel Libraries (drexel.edu/library). Some of the information for this article was gathered from the New York Academy of Medicine Library, the Lane Medical Library of Stanford University and the National Library of Medicine.

'60s

Sucha Asbell, MD, WMC '66, a board-certified radiation oncologist, was honored at the fifth annual Pink Roses Teal Magnolias Brunch, presented by Cooper University Health Care and The Cooper Foundation in Voorhees, N.J. Asbell is an attending physician in Cooper's Department of Radiation Oncology.

'80s

James J. (Joe) Reilly, MD, HU '80. See page 12.

Thomas J. Weida, MD, HU '80, was elected vice chair of the Pennsylvania Medical Society board of directors. Weida is a professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine and medical director of information technology at the Penn State Hershey Medical Center in Hershey, Pa.



Janet Todorczuk, MD, HU '81, a gastroenterologist, was inducted into the 2014 Alumni Hall of Fame at Center Area High School in Beaver, Pa. Todorczuk is in private practice with Specialists in Gastroenterology in St. Louis, Mo.

Michael L. Arvanitis, MD, HU '82. See page 10.

Barbara Dalton, PhD, Microbiology & Immunology, MCP '83, director of the venture investments unit at Pfizer in the greater New York City area, was recognized on the "Powerlist 100" by *Global Corporate Venturing*.

Audrey Kleeman, MD, HU '83, has joined the medical staff of St. Mary Medical Center as a primary care physician with Langhorne Physician Services. Kleeman is opening a new medical practice, Comprehensive Internal Medicine, in Newtown, Pa. She serves on the Independence Blue Cross Primary Care Advisory Board.

Mark Schwartz, MD, HU '83. See page 12.

Donald Abrams, MD, MCP '84, chief of the Department of Ophthalmology at LifeBridge Health in Baltimore, Md., was named to Top Doctors 2014 by *Baltimore* magazine.

Ira Gubernick, MD, MCP '84, a board-certified orthopedic surgeon, was named to Top Doctors 2014 by *Baltimore* magazine. He practices at Medstar Orthopedics in Baltimore.

Jeffrey Doddo, MD, MCP '85; PhD, associate professor in the Department of Anesthesiology/Critical Care Medicine at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, was named to Top Doctors 2014 by *Baltimore* magazine.

Clifford Solomon, MD, MCP '86, a spine and neurosurgeon, was named to Top Doctors 2014 by *Baltimore* magazine. Solomon leads the neurosurgical program as co-director of the University of Maryland Baltimore Washington Spine and Neuroscience Center in Glen Burnie, Md. He is also a clinical assistant professor of neurosurgery at the University of Maryland School of Medicine.

Richard A. Baum, MD, MCP '87, is the co-author, with his father, Stanley Baum, MD, of "Interventional Radiology: A Half Century of Innovation," published in the journal *Radiology* (November 2014). Baum is the Herbert Abrams Director of Interventional Radiology at Boston's Brigham and Women's Hospital and an associate professor at Harvard Medical School.

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- Induction into the Golden Dragon Society with Commemorative Diploma and Pin

Visit www.drexelmed.edu/50YearReunion or call 215-255-7345 for more event details and hotel information.



Stephen A. Chidylo, MD, HU '87, was inducted as a member of the Philadelphia Academy of Surgery at the academy's April 2014 meeting. In addition his term as a member of the editorial board of the *Journal of Craniomaxillofacial Trauma and Reconstruction* has been renewed.



Valerie Ablaza, MD, MCP '89, a board-certified plastic surgeon, joined the board of directors of the Metropolitan YMCA of the Oranges. Ablaza is a partner and vice president of The Plastic Surgery Group in Montclair, N.J. She is a past president of the New Jersey Society of Plastic Surgeons and was the first woman to hold that office.

Chong Park, MD, HU '89, a cardiothoracic surgeon, was named chief medical officer at Jefferson Hospital in Jefferson Hills, Pa., part of Allegheny Health Network. Park has served as chair of the Department of Surgery and medical director of Allegheny Health Network's Cardiovascular Institute at Jefferson Hospital.

Lisa Savoie, MD, MCP '89, Surgery Resident, MCP, a colorectal surgeon, was named to Top Doctors 2014 by *Baltimore* magazine. Savoie practices at the Greater Baltimore Medical Center in Baltimore.

'90s

Alexa Faraday, MD, MCP '90, an internal medicine physician with a concierge practice on the campus of Greater Baltimore Medical Center, was a survey adviser for Top Doctors 2014 for *Baltimore* magazine.

James Tursi, MD, MCP '90, chief medical officer of Auxilium Pharmaceuticals in Malvern, Pa., was appointed to the board of directors of Agile Therapeutics, Inc.

Caren Craig, MD, HU '91, joined Greater Baltimore (Md.) Medical Center as an obstetrician/gynecologist. Craig previously served as an attending physician at MedStar Franklin Square Medical Center and Mercy Medical Center, as well as a staff ob/gyn physician at Union Memorial Hospital, all in Baltimore.

Dean Fiergang, MD, MCP '91, certified by the American Board of Ophthalmology, was named to Top Doctors 2014 by *Baltimore* magazine. Fiergang practices at Dankner-Fiergang Eye Associates in Baltimore, Westminster, Clarksville and Eldersburg, Md., and is on staff at the Greater Baltimore Medical Center, and several area hospitals. He serves on the executive board of the Maryland Society of Eye Physicians & Surgeons.

Jeffrey Brown, MD, HU '92; Resident, HU; Fellow, MCPHU, a board-certified surgeon, joined the medical staff of Tyrone Hospital in the Department of Surgery — General & Vascular Surgery. Brown is in private practice at Blair Surgical Associates in Altoona, Pa.

Patrice Weiss, MD, HU '92, was named chief medical officer of Carilion Clinic in Roanoke, Va. Weiss is the chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Carilion Clinic and professor of ob/gyn at Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine.



Asha Thomas-Geevarghese, MD, MCP '96, was named to Top Doctors 2014 by *Baltimore* magazine. Thomas-Geevarghese, who uses Thomas professionally, is a board-certified endocrinologist at Sinai Hospital of Baltimore, Md., part of LifeBridge Health.

Angela Dangvu, MD, MCP '97, was installed as president of California Chapter 4 [the Orange County Chapter] of the American Academy of Pediatrics. Dangvu is a board-certified pediatrician in private practice at Pediatric and Adult Medicine, Inc., in Tustin, Calif.



Daniel A. Scher, MD, MCP '98, board certified in otolaryngology, was listed as one of NJ's Favorite Kids' Docs in otolaryngology by *New Jersey Family* magazine. Scher is in private practice with ENT and Allergy Associates in Wayne, N.J., and is affiliated with Chilton Hospital.

Meera Khedkar, MD, MCPHU '99, was named one of NJ's Favorite Kids' Docs for allergy and immunology by *New Jersey Family* magazine. Khedkar is in private practice at Asthma, Sinus & Allergy Center in Cranford and Warren, N.J. She is affiliated with John F. Kennedy Medical Center.

Meet Cory Miller, MS, DU '11

Cory Miller recently joined the College of Medicine's Office of Institutional Advancement as director of alumni engagement.

Miller earned her master's degree in nonprofit administration from Drexel University as a Dean's Fellow. She then served as network and communications director for a coalition of seven nonprofit agencies, where she implemented joint fundraising, programming and marketing efforts, and managed a community council and an executive council, comprising representatives from more than 23 agencies across Philadelphia.

Miller next joined the Jefferson University Office of Institutional Advancement as assistant director of alumni relations, later becoming director of alumni relations, responsible for programs, communications and alumni boards for the six Jefferson schools.

Miller says she is excited to be in her new position and looks forward to meeting alumni. She can be reached at cem68@drexel.edu or 215.255.7341.



'00s

Richard Schraeder, MD, MCPHU '01, a medical oncologist, was named to Top Doctors 2014 by *Baltimore* magazine. Schraeder practices at the Cancer Institute in Towson, Md.

William Barker, MS '02; MD, has joined the Inspira Medical Group Family Medicine office in Woolwich Township, N.J. Barker joined the Army while earning his medical degree at Temple, and served three more years as a brigade surgeon. He was deployed to Afghanistan and received multiple decorations. Following his service, he spent a year as a surgical resident at Monmouth Medical Center, then completed his residency in family medicine at Inspira Medical Center Woodbury.

Minn Saing, MD '03, a sports medicine orthopedist at Albert Einstein Medical Center in Philadelphia, provides injury analysis on the Philadelphia Eagles during SportsRadio 94WIP's pregame show. Previously, Saing served as team physician for the NFL Atlanta Falcons.

Steven Tizio, MD '06, a colorectal surgeon, has joined the Atlantic Surgical Group in Oakhurst, N.J. He also joined Meridian Health with privileges at Bayshore Community Hospital in Holmdel, N.J., and Riverview Medical Center in Red Bank. Tizio recently completed his fellowship training in colon and rectal surgery at Methodist Health System in San Antonio, Texas.

Stephanie Rubino, MD '09, a urologist, joined GU Inc., a Greensburg, Pa.-based medical practice. Rubino completed a general surgery internship and urology residency at the University of Connecticut and has been trained in robotic surgery.

'10s

Preston Chadwick, MD '10, a board-certified dermatologist, joined the Dermatology Clinic in Salem, Ore., and is an associate staff member with Salem Hospital. He completed his dermatology residency in 2013 as chief resident at Cooper Medical School of Rowan University, in Camden, N.J.

Melissa Culligan, RN; Certificate, Clinical Research '11; MS, Clinical Research Organization and Management '13, a thoracic surgery nurse, was appointed to the board of directors of the Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation. She works in the Division of Thoracic Surgery at Penn-Presbyterian Medical Center in Philadelphia and is the director of clinical services for the Penn Mesothelioma and Pleural Program.

Sunaina Kaushal, MD '13. See page 10.

Classes of 1964 and Earlier: Grand Classes Gathering

Calling all graduates from the Hahnemann Medical College and Woman's Medical College classes of 1964 and earlier! Join your classmates at the Grand Classes Gathering, Thursday and Friday, May 14 and 15, 2015.

Exclusive Reception: Meet College of Medicine Dean Daniel V. Schidlow, MD, at the Ritz Carlton of Philadelphia for appetizers and cocktails.

Special Talk: "Arts and Medicine: Intersections" will be presented by Florence Gelo, DMin, NCPsychA, associate professor, Department of Family, Community & Preventive Medicine.

Celebration Luncheon: Welcome the Classes of 1965 as they are inducted into the Golden Dragon Society at the Hyatt at the Bellevue, and join them for lunch.

Invite Your Classmates: If you would like contact information for classmates you may have lost touch with, please email a request to medical.alumni@drexel.edu. Include the name of the classmate(s) and class year. Please note that you will be asked to complete a confidentiality form before receiving the information.

Find Your Yearbook: Visit the yearbook collection at archives.drexelmed.edu/yearbooks.

Former Residents and Fellows

(alphabetical)

Warren Mark Cohen, DO; Radiology Resident, MCP '90; Neuroradiology Fellow '06, has returned to the Roxborough area of Philadelphia to resume practice in general and family medicine.

Michael Doyle, MD; Emergency Medicine Resident, MCP '82, received the 2014 Physician Quality Champion Award from Emerson Hospital, Concord, Mass. Doyle has been a physician in the Emergency Department at Emerson since 1995 and serves as the associate director of the department. He is also an assistant professor at Tufts Medical School and a board member of the Massachusetts College of Emergency Physicians.

Andrey Espinoza, MD; MCPHU Internal Medicine Resident '00; Drexel/Hahnemann Cardiovascular Disease Fellow '03; Drexel/Hahnemann Interventional Cardiology Fellow '04, was named to *New Jersey Monthly* magazine's 2014 Top Doctors. Espinoza, board certified in cardiovascular diseases, interventional cardiology and endovascular medicine, is the medical director of the Cardiac Catheterization Lab at Hunterdon Medical Center in Flemington, N.J. In addition, he serves on the Neurovascular Committee of the Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions, the main governing body for interventional cardiology in the United States.

Jack Sobel, MD; Infectious Diseases Fellow, MCP '78, has been appointed interim dean of the Wayne State University School of Medicine in Detroit. He is a professor and chair of Wayne State's Department of Internal Medicine and is also a professor in the Departments of Immunology and Microbiology, and Obstetrics and Gynecology.

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In Memoriam

Claresa Forbes Meyer Armstrong-Brown, MD, WMC '51, November 21, 2014

George F. Bazinet, PhD, HU '67, December 20, 2014

Eleanor A. Berden, MD, WMC '53, December 11, 2014

Eugene Brecher, MD, HU '45, September 27, 2014

Frank Burstein, MD, HU '53, December 19, 2014

Mary E. Cantrell, MD, WMC '54, November 4, 2014

Genevieve Connolly, MD, WMC '47, July 30, 2014

John M. Cummings, MD, HU '63, January 7, 2015

Philip J. Ferry III, MD, HU '78, May 24, 2014

Richard G. Jones, MD, HU '60, December 17, 2013

Arthur J. Kennel, MD, HU '57, December 12, 2014

Frank O. Nagle, Jr., MD, HU '45, January 5, 2015

Gene-Ann Polk Horne, MD, WMC '52, January 3, 2015

Nicholas P. Popov, MD, HU '39, April 19, 2014

Richard C. Stevens, MD, HU '48, November 17, 2014

Irving D. Strouse, MD, HU '67, January 6, 2015

George W. Wilson, MD, HU '43, December 20, 2014

Robert H. Wright, MD, HU '49, December 2, 2014

Thomas F. Zuck, MD, HU '63, November 28, 2014



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HU '65 in 1990 — Be the First to Say Who's Who



Twenty-six members of Hahnemann's Class of 1965 posed for this photo at the 25th reunion. Can you put a name to every face? Here are a few: (6) Arnold Berman, (11) Gershon Klein, (16) Diane Rogers, (19) Clare Novotny, (21) Carl Opderback. Challenge: Name as many as you can by posting the answer or tagging the people in the photo on the Alumni Facebook page or email your numbered list to pulse@drexelmed.edu. Then make sure you're in the picture May 13–15 at your 50th Reunion. Visit drexelmed.edu/alumni/reunions.