



Dean Cairns: Ready to Build on a Legacy

Charles B. Cairns, MD, embarked on his tenure as the Walter H. and Leonore Annenberg Dean of Drexel University College of Medicine at a time of unprecedented change for the medical school, in the wake of the bankruptcy and pending closure of Hahnemann University Hospital. When Cairns accepted the deanship, he knew that the academic affiliation agreement with the hospital would be up for renewal in 2022; he was looking at a three-year process. "Since then," as he says, "the world has changed a lot."

Cairns made a number of trips to Philadelphia over the summer "to see how we could address the rapidly evolving situation," and took office as scheduled on August 26. The

College of Medicine's new dean and senior vice president for medical affairs is energized by challenges. "I have always liked to see how I can play a role in a larger or more impactful position or endeavor," he says.

That's one reason he specialized in emergency medicine. "I started off in emergency medicine when it was a young specialty," he explains. "I thought it would be a wonderful place not only to take care of patients, but also to be involved in what I knew was going to be a lot of evolution and innovation." And that's what happened, he notes: "Emergency medicine expanded dramatically, both in scope and scale — emergency medical services grew, education and training programs increased, and research output went up."

Cairns became a leader in emergency medicine and critical care research. He joined Duke University in 2004 as associate chief of emergency medicine and director of emergency medicine research at the Duke Clinical Research Institute. "I went from laboratory science in isolation to small patient studies

to taking on large clinical trials and population-based work," he says.

From Duke, he was recruited to chair the Department of Emergency Medicine at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. There, he was involved in systems strategy during UNC Health Care's rapid expansion from three to 14 hospitals. "I learned a lot about the modern health care system environment," he says.

Next, Cairns went to the University of Arizona College of Medicine—Tucson with appointments as dean of the college and assistant vice president for the University of Arizona Health Sciences. He also led a \$1.2 billion partnership with Banner Health, which created one of the largest nonprofit health systems in the country. "That partnership provided extraordinary lessons," he says, "not just in terms of the evolution

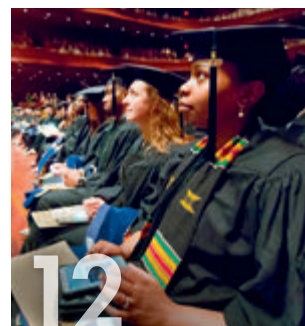
WINTER 2019/2020

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Being cloaked in that first white coat — it's a major moment

Charles B. Cairns, MD

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pulse

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Dean Cairns

• *continued from the cover*

and consolidation of health care systems, but also in how academics can serve as an innovation engine to the benefit of both."

While he was dean, the number of applicants to the medical college doubled and, in 2016, the school admitted its most diverse class ever. Cairns oversaw a wave of faculty recruitments, a 31 percent increase in research expenditures, and a boost in the College's NIH funding rank from 66 to 51.

An intriguing new challenge arose for Cairns when a group from the United Arab Emirates University came to the University of Arizona to talk about opening a branch campus in Dubai. Their dialogue led to conversations about health care within the UAE. At the time, the UAE University, the only national university in the country, was searching for a dean of medicine and health sciences. Those discussions deepened, and Cairns was offered the deanship. He accepted.

"I recognized that it would probably be a time-limited position," he says, "but I wanted to help their medical school develop and transition to their own leadership. It was certainly valuable to be in the Emirates and start to apply population health management and precision medicine concepts." In the UAE, health care is provided for everyone, giving Cairns an interesting model for what an all-inclusive, population-centered approach to health care could be.

At the same time, he realized that his experience and training were really best suited to take on those issues in the United States. When he decided that he was ready to come back, Drexel had launched a national search for the next dean of the College of Medicine. He saw this as "an extraordinary opportunity."

"I think Drexel embodies the best of American medicine," says Cairns, a native of Philadelphia. "The College has a long history of innovation, from its beginnings in the founding of Hahnemann and Woman's Medical College. It also has a history of inclusion and service," he adds. "Also, the College has addressed many challenges with remarkable resilience. The idea of seeing what that next phase of American medical education, research and innovation will look like is attractive to me.

"I want to work with the Drexel community and the rich network of alumni to shape this vision together. I see an opportunity for Drexel to be a leader in academic medicine, ensuring better care for patients, enhancing population health by increasing engagement with communities, and doing this within a more affordable, accessible health care system," Cairns continues.

"Imagine if we expand our efforts to populations that have been underserved and underrepresented not just in the city but also in rural counties. No one has come up with a way to ensure that that population is fairly represented in clinical trials. With Tower Health as our new collaborator, I'm confident that we could be a leader in these endeavors. This would be consistent with the history of the College as an innovator that integrates with the communities it serves."

Cairns is also committed to basic science research, which he describes as the foundation of medical school innovation. "I'm really impressed by our basic science faculty — their research productivity and, more importantly, their commitment to innovation and evolution in medical science. Not only am I fully supportive of their efforts, I look forward to continuing investments in the expansion of our basic science research activities."

The College has a long history of innovation, from its very beginnings.

Begin With the Children

Recently I was invited to be a panelist for “Telling Your Health Story,” an event sponsored by the *Philadelphia Inquirer* for physicians, social workers and health advocates who were interested in medical writing and writing for change. The panelists would share their knowledge and their experiences with writing health stories, so potential authors in the audience could learn about different ways writers approach their work.

I’m always happy to talk about writing, but what sealed my participation was the title of my panel, “Why We Do This: Writing for Impact.” For me, “why” is the easy part: My motivation for writing is almost always to advocate for the children and families I serve at St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children in North Philadelphia.

There is no shortage of topics. Life expectancy in the neighborhoods surrounding the hospital is up to 20 years less than in more affluent areas of the city. How do the epidemics of opioids and gun violence affect a child’s health trajectory? What about suicide or incarceration of family members? What is the most serious non-infectious disease in childhood? (Answer: poverty)

My stories typically include a family I know and a struggle they are facing that can affect that child, that family, that community’s health. In my process, I also offer advice for readers to get involved in these issues, to make a more just and equitable city for all children no matter their zip code.

Doctor Detective

Even the Medical Mystery stories I write tend to have an advocacy bent to them: cannabinoid hyperemesis syndrome, which pointed to chronic cannabis use in our teenage patient; pollakiuria, most commonly caused by stress; opioid ingestion leading to lethargy and slowed breathing in a 10-month-old (that was in 2016, and the tip of the iceberg as we now know).

Part of training medical students and residents is teaching them to ask good questions. Words matter

and so do attitudes. I ask my young patients’ families in a conversational way if they are staying at home or working, or going to school. This inclusive question can give me insight into family dynamics, income and childcare.

Make Your Point

I also am fortunate on occasion to have an op-ed published. The language I use is direct. It may sound dramatic. An opinion piece I wrote was headlined “My patients are kids caught in the middle of the opioid crisis. Who speaks for them?” But the drama lies in the truth, not in creative license. My views (which are my own, as the *Inquirer* states) are based not only on my experiences, but on research that I cite and on knowledge of current and emerging policy and resources.

A Shared Voice

Writing has helped me process many of the traumas that my families face and share with me on a daily basis. Writing these stories helps give a voice to a community that is sometimes voiceless. Lastly, writing for change helps me, personally, to prevent burnout and secondary trauma. I believe that anyone with the right motivation and the right story can find the right voice to be heard, to make a change.

— Daniel Taylor, DO
Associate Professor of Pediatrics

Editor’s Note: Dr. Taylor is the director of community pediatrics and child advocacy at St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children. Read his work at dtaylor4kids.wordpress.com/.

How do the epidemics of opioids and gun violence affect a child’s health trajectory?



Pediatrician Dan Taylor founded the web-based Children’s Advocacy Project known as Cap4Kids (Cap4Kids.org), which has been replicated in 12 communities across the country.

Breaking New Ground at West Reading Site

Tower Health and Drexel University held a groundbreaking ceremony on June 17 for the College of Medicine's additional location at Tower Health in West Reading, Pennsylvania.

The new building, located on Parcel 9 of The Knitting Mills redevelopment, will feature state-of-the-art technology in traditional and nontraditional instructional venues. The facility will include anatomy laboratories as well as simulation labs

for medical student practice and to promote interdisciplinary education with residents, physicians and nurses.

Students will have access to a fitness center with indoor and outdoor recreation space, Information Commons (library), lounge areas, a game room and a café. When fully operational, the campus will have the capacity to educate and train 200 medical students.

Tower Health and Drexel University first announced plans to develop an additional site for the College of Medicine near Reading Hospital in April 2018. A 20-year academic agreement was signed between the two organizations in February 2019, and on May 29, 20 third-year medical students began their core clinical rotations at Reading Hospital.



Left to right: Tower Health VP and Chief Academic Officer Mark Martens, MD; College of Medicine Senior Vice Dean Valerie Weber, MD; College Dean Daniel V. Schidlow, MD; Tower Chairman Brent Wagner, MD; Tower President and CEO Clint Matthews; Drexel President John Fry; Drexel Vice Chair Stan Silverman; Tower EVP Daniel Ahern; Reading Hospital President and CEO William M. Jennings; and Equus Capital Partners President and CEO Daniel DiLella

Collaboration to Improve Health Outcomes in West Philadelphia Neighborhoods

The College of Medicine is part of a collaborative project to help reduce cancer and improve health outcomes in Philadelphia, starting in West Philadelphia neighborhoods. Drexel University has partnered with Lazarex Cancer Foundation to establish the program, Community IMPACT, which also involves the Dornsife School of Public Health and the College of Nursing and Health Professions. The project will combine public health qualitative and quantitative assessment and research methods with a grassroots engagement in communities that are often not invited to make their own decisions for health care.

Lazarex Cancer Foundation is recognized nationally for improving cancer patients' access to the newest and most innovative treatments available. The overall goal

of Community IMPACT is to improve understanding and awareness of the burden of cancer on patients and their families, and to provide opportunities for the prevention and treatment of cancer for residents in disadvantaged communities in Philadelphia. IMPACT is the foundation's larger, ongoing program for Improving Patient Access to Cancer Clinical Trials.

There are two main project teams. One is looking at the burden of cancer in Philadelphia to identify disparities in cancer outcomes and incidence by neighborhood, race and socioeconomic characteristics. They are also examining cancer risk factors, including smoking, obesity and diet, as well as the use of cancer screening in the city. The other team, with expertise in deep-dive community conversations, is eliciting the community's knowledge of cancer-risk-related behaviors and attitudes, and barriers to cancer education, screening, treatment and clinical trials, to help develop an effective, culturally appropriate cancer prevention and treatment campaign.

When We Helped the FBI

Some unusual students spent a day in August at the Queen Lane Campus. They were FBI medical personnel who came to the Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy for refresher training in gross anatomy, trauma, and medical pathophysiology. These special agent medics are typically assigned to one of the FBI's SWAT teams, and they are held to the highest standards to ensure the safety and well-being of FBI personnel in tactical situations. They must be certified by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians, which requires high-quality, relevant training on a regular basis.

They came to the right place.

In addition to the refresher curriculum, overseen by Caitlin Howe, PhD, assistant professor of neurobiology and anatomy, the FBI medics participated in hands-on sessions in the Simulation Center, facilitated by center

director Kathy Ryan, MD, professor of medicine, including basic airway skills, tourniquet application, wound packing, and needle decompression (chest).

Michael F. Biamonte, manager of the School of Operational Medicine, wrote to Neurobiology Chair Itzhak Fischer, PhD, expressing his gratitude: "Our program was an overwhelming success, due in no small part to your team. ... Their professionalism, modesty and expertise in their fields was apparent and well received by [our personnel]. It was truly a pleasure to watch them work."

He offered special thanks to Drs. Howe and Ryan; Haviva Goldman, PhD, and Theresa Connors of Neurobiology & Anatomy; and Jeanine Gravatt and Allen Ribblett of the Sim Center.



Boomer Esiason Foundation Funds Study of ACT for Depression in Cystic Fibrosis

The Department of Psychiatry at the College of Medicine has received a grant of \$950,000 from the Boomer Esiason Foundation to evaluate the effectiveness of acceptance and commitment therapy (ACT) in the treatment of anxiety and depression for adults with cystic fibrosis.

The three-year, multisite study is led by C. Virginia O'Hayer, PhD, clinical associate professor of psychiatry. Her co-PI is Wei Du, MD, professor and chair of the Department of Psychiatry, who is an inpatient psychiatrist at Friends Hospital.

Anxiety and depression are common among individuals with CF, and are associated with decreased treatment adherence, lung function and health-related quality of life, as well as increased health care costs. ACT, a potential intervention to reduce internalizing

symptoms among people living with CF, targets anxiety and depression about shortness of breath, symptom exacerbations, uncertain life expectancy, and feelings of being overwhelmed by routine yet complex treatment regimens.

This work follows a three-year pilot study by O'Hayer, which showed that ACT, adapted by her for CF patients, reduced anxiety and depression, and showed a trend toward improving lung function. Support from the Boomer Esiason Foundation will facilitate delivery and study of ACT in a community with a wider range of ages, more severe symptoms, and other background factors than previously studied. Participants will be randomly assigned to either ACT or supportive psychotherapy, a treatment-as-usual control. The treatment will involve six sessions, lasting 50 minutes each, delivered by webcam.

In addition to the main hub at Drexel, study recruitment will also take place at Duke University Medical Center, Augusta University (Medical College of Georgia), and the University of Pittsburgh, among other sites.



Women100.org: The Website for 2020

With the launch of Women100.org, Vision 2020 has created a dedicated home for the largest 19th Amendment centennial celebration in the United States. Women 100: A National Celebration of American Women is a series of programs and events to celebrate women and spark new ideas about the path to gender equality.

The website showcases the Women 100 signature programs and events, as well as Voter Mobilization 2020, a nonpartisan effort led by Vision 2020 and its Allied Organizations to break the record for turnout of women voters in the 2020 national election.

Also see the many women-themed programs and events being hosted by Women 100 Proud Partners, numbering more than 40 organizations so far. Visit the dynamic and searchable events page (women100.org/events) to explore what's already scheduled, and return for updates, as new offerings will be added.

Reading Hospital Welcomes Third-Year Medical Students

Tower Health and Drexel University College of Medicine hosted a luncheon late last spring to welcome 20 Drexel medical students to clinical rotations at Reading Hospital.

The students, all in their third year, were embarking on rotations in ambulatory medicine, family medicine, inpatient medicine, neurology, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, psychiatry and surgery. Ten of the students have elected to spend their entire third year at the hospital.

William M. Jennings, president and CEO of Reading Hospital, who spoke at the luncheon, noted that in addition to caring for patients, the education of budding physicians is part of the hospital's mission.



Hartwell Foundation Recognizes Cutting-Edge Research at the College

Alison Carey, MD, associate professor of pediatrics, received an Individual Biomedical Research Award from the Hartwell Foundation for her project "Targeted



Dr. Carey

Blockade of Toll-like Receptors in Respiratory Viral Infection." The grant will provide support for three years at \$100,000 direct cost per year. Each year, the Hartwell Foundation invites a limited number of institutions in the United States to hold an internal competition for candidates among faculty who are involved in early-stage, cutting-edge biomedical research that will potentially benefit U.S. children. In this last cycle, 17 institutions were invited to submit nominees. Carey was one of just 12 nominees from 10 institutions who were selected to receive awards.

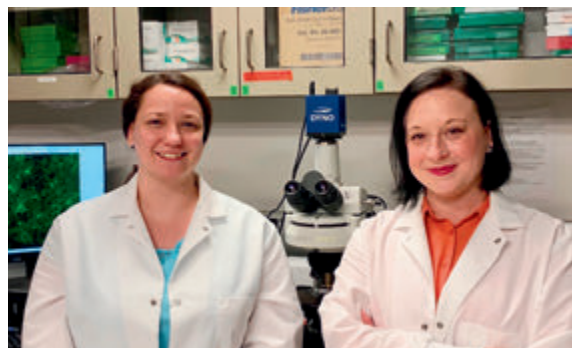
Plus a Hartwell Fellowship

For each nominee selected for an Individual Biomedical Research Award, the sponsoring institution receives separate funding for a qualified postdoctoral researcher,

who must be in a different department from the faculty awardee.

Laura Giacometti, PhD '18, won an internal competition for the Hartwell Fellowship, which provides support for two years at \$50,000 direct cost per year. She is studying "Sex Differences in the Role of Astrocyte Dysfunction in the Development of Depression-like Behaviors Following Adolescent Ethanol Exposure" in the laboratory of Jacqueline Barker, PhD, assistant professor of pharmacology and physiology.

Giacometti completed her doctorate in neuroscience in the lab of Ramesh Raghupathi, PhD, professor of neurobiology and anatomy. Last June she received a Junior Investigator Award from the Research Society on Alcoholism. She presented her findings on "Sex Differences in the Effect of Chronic Alcohol Exposure on Inflexible Ethanol Reward Seeking in Mice" during the society's annual meeting in Minneapolis.



Dr. Giacometti and Dr. Barker

Students Win Funding for Naloxone Program

The student-run Health Outreach Project was awarded a \$20,000 grant from the CVS Health Foundation through the National Association of Free & Charitable Clinics. This year, the CVS Coordinated Care for Improved Health Outcomes grant program provided funding to free and charitable clinics to address social determinants of health and support treatment and prevention of substance abuse. The grant to the Health Outreach Project will help expand the students' Narcan Outreach Program, including the purchase and distribution of naloxone, and student-led overdose-reversal training.



Medicaid Expansion Gives Young Low-Income Adults Earlier Access to Kidney Transplant

Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act has helped more young, low-income adults with advanced kidney disease avoid the costs and poor quality of life associated with dialysis by obtaining a pre-emptive kidney transplant (i.e., a transplant before the need for dialysis). Evidence of the association between Medicaid expansion and increases in Medicaid-covered kidney transplants was found by nephrologist Meera Nair Harhay, MD, and colleagues.*

Their study included 15,775 U.S. adults age 21 to 64 who received a pre-emptive kidney transplant from 2010 through 2017. The team examined the numbers of living-donor and deceased-donor kidney transplants, respectively, during the four years leading up to Medicaid expansion and the four years following expansion in states that opted to expand Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, compared to trends in pre-emptive transplants in states that chose not to expand Medicaid.

The researchers found that the overall number of pre-emptive kidney transplants covered by Medicaid increased by 66 percent in states that expanded Medicaid

versus 37 percent in states that did not expand Medicaid. The proportion of Medicaid-covered pre-emptive deceased-donor kidney transplants increased by 3.8 percentage points in expansion states and 0.8 percentage points within non-expansion states. Living-donor kidney transplants with Medicaid coverage increased by 2.2 percentage points in expansion states compared to 0.7 percentage points in non-expansion states.

"More Americans die from chronic kidney disease than from breast cancer and prostate cancer," says Harhay. "From improving early detection of kidney disease to increasing outreach and educational efforts, there are many steps that we can take to advance care for those with kidney disease. To promote early access to transplants, expanding Medicaid was clearly one of those steps."

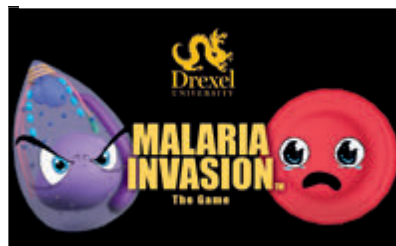
*Meera N. Harhay, MD, MSCE, Drexel College of Medicine; Ryan M. McKenna, PhD, Drexel Dornsife School of Public Health, and Michael O. Harhay, PhD, University of Pennsylvania. "Association Between Medicaid Expansion Under the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid-Covered Pre-emptive Kidney Transplantation" in *Journal of General Internal Medicine* (online August 19).



Malaria Invasion Game Takes Gold

The mobile game Malaria Invasion™, produced by the College of Medicine's Institute for Molecular Medicine & Infectious Disease, was a Gold Winner in the 2019 International Serious Play Awards. This was the second international award for Malaria Invasion, which also received the Best Game Award at the 2019 International Society for Neglected Tropical Diseases Festival hosted by Wellcome Trust in London.

Intended as a supplementary



university- or graduate-level educational tool about the molecular mechanisms of malaria infection, the game was designed by Mary Ann Comunale, EdD, and Sandra Urdaneta-Hartmann, MD, PhD, both faculty in the Department of Microbiol-

ogy & Immunology, and John Harvey, who has since graduated from Drexel's Westphal College of Media Arts & Design. The team consulted with Drs. Lawrence Bergman, Akhil Vaidya, and James Burns, malaria experts at Drexel.

The release of Malaria Invasion followed the successful debut of the institute's first mobile game, CD4 Hunter™ (you play as an HIV virion), which won a Bronze Medal in the 2018 International Serious Play Awards.

Download Malaria Invasion and CD4 Hunter for free from the iTunes App Store or Google Play.



Drs. Atkinson, Abadeer, Novi and Ellen



Christopher Bastos and Ms. Connors



Ms. Goldberg

Golden Apple Awards

Faculty and residents were honored by each class of medical students for excellence in teaching. Student Body and Student Government Association awards were presented for outstanding service.

Class of 2019

Attending Physicians

Norrell Atkinson, MD, Pediatrics, St. Christopher's
James Clyne, MD, Medicine, various DUCOM sites
William Lee, MD, Medicine, Hahnemann
Stacy Ellen, DO, Pediatrics, St. Christopher's
Michael Pasirstein, MD, MPH, Emergency Medicine, various DUCOM sites

Resident Physicians

Lauren Schmalz, MD, Medicine, Hahnemann
Maher Abadeer, MD, Pediatrics, St. Christopher's
Kevin Kammel, MD, Emergency Medicine, Hahnemann

Class of 2020

Attending Physicians

David Roat, MD, Psychiatry, Friends Hospital
Kevin Taffe, MD, Medicine, Allegheny General Hospital
Brent Hardman, MD, Medicine, Allegheny General Hospital
Jared Chowdhury, MD, Medicine, Hahnemann
Sunny Fink, MD, Surgery, Crozer-Chester Medical Center

Resident Physicians

Philip Petrucelli, MD, Surgery, Philadelphia Area
Kathryn Ruyman, MD, Ob-Gyn, Abington
Brian Novi, MD, Pediatrics, St. Christopher's
Jonathan Albert, MD, Pediatrics, St. Christopher's

Program for Integrated Learning

Hasan Arif, MD, Nephrology

Interdisciplinary Foundations of Medicine

Amy Baranoski, MD, Infectious Diseases & HIV Medicine
Joel Horwitz, PhD, Pharmacology & Physiology

Class of 2021

Case-Based Learning – Year 2

Anthony Romano, PhD, Medical Education
Vanessa Pirrone, PhD, Microbiology & Immunology

Foundations of Basic Science – Year 2

Joel Horwitz, PhD, Pharmacology & Physiology
Neilanjan Nandi, MD, Gastroenterology & Hepatology

Frontiers – Year 2

Esther Chernak, MD, MPH, Medicine

Longitudinal Community Care Practicum – Year 1

Elissa Goldberg, MSS, LSW, Community Experience

Foundations of Basic Science – Year 1

Cheryl Hanau, MD, Pathology & Laboratory Medicine
Theresa Connors, Neurobiology & Anatomy

Class of 2022

Frontiers – Year 1

Edward Gracely, PhD, Family, Community & Preventive Medicine

Foundations of Basic Science – Year 1

Janet Smith, PhD, Neurobiology & Anatomy
Judy Rae Churchill, PhD, Neurobiology & Anatomy
Michael White, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology

Student Government Association Award

Michael Lombardo, Student Affairs
Dennis Kane, Facilities

Student Body Award

Lorie Cannon, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
Michael Clancy, Financial Planning
Maria Isabel DiSciullo, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion



Safia Siddiqui, MD, congratulates her husband, Dr. Arif



Christopher Bastos and Dr. Nandi



Anuranita Gupta and Mr. Kane



Dr. Van Bockstaele, Melissa Richman, and Drs. Raghupathi and Hou



Dr. Bouchard

Graduate School Faculty Awards

End-of-year awards for excellence were presented to faculty members and administrators by the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Professional Studies at a reception hosted by Dean Elisabeth Van Bockstaele, PhD.

Division of Pre-medical & Pre-health Programs

Best Professor Award

Judy Rae Churchill, PhD
Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy

Best Mentor Award

Christy Oldham
Academic Administrator

Division of Interdisciplinary & Career-Oriented Programs

Best Professor Award

Sharon Griswold-Theodorson, MD, MPH
Departments of Emergency Medicine and Anesthesiology

Roberta Hales, MHA, RRT-NPS, RN
Medical & Healthcare Simulation Program

Division of Biomedical Science Programs

Best Professor Award

Michael Bouchard, PhD
Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology

Peter Baas, PhD
Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy

Best Advisor/Mentor Award

Shaoping Hou, PhD
Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy

Best Student Advocate Award

Ramesh Raghupathi, PhD
Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy



Drs. Hou and Raghupathi



Monica Jost, PhD, Dean Van Bockstaele and Douglas Baird, PhD



Dr. Churchill and Ogan Kumova



Paulina Ramirez, Tenee Lopez and Gabrielle Pyronneau



Senior Jasmine Preston and student volunteer Oluwakemi Adesina

Diversity Senior Celebration Dinner

The Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion holds a dinner every spring in honor of the graduating seniors who are from groups that are underrepresented in medicine. The Diversity Senior Celebration Dinner also honors the commitment of the College of Medicine to diversity and inclusion, dating to its roots in Hahnemann Medical College and the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania.

The annual event was the idea of James A. Batts, MD, an African American physician and faculty member at the Medical College of Pennsylvania from 1979 to 1989. Each year, Batts gave a party at his own expense for the underrepresented students and faculty at MCP. Now the Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion carries the tradition forward, holding the dinner at the Germantown Cricket Club, just as Batts did.



Giscard Adeclat and Brittney Bruno



Shawn Adam and Daniel Olea-Mendoza



Kia Lor and Ana Núñez, MD



Leon McCrea II, MD, MPH



Aderinsola Aderonmu, now a first-year medical student



Michael Bouchard, PhD, congratulates Austin Coley



Sana Alturki

Graduate Student Awards

Outstanding achievement awards were presented to graduating students at the Graduate School Pre-Commencement Celebration, and the new PhDs received their Drexel doctoral hoods from their mentors.

Division of Biomedical Science Programs

Bondi Award

Zachary Brodник

Outstanding Research Awards

Sarah Monaco

Austin Coley

Division of Interdisciplinary & Career-Oriented Programs Outstanding Achievement Awards

Biomedicine and Digital Media

Tom A. Bavari

Clinical Research for Health Professionals

Laura Coonfield

Clinical Research Organization and Management

Justine Janczewski

Daniel Todd Kosinski

Elizabeth Watson

Criminalistic Science

Katie Pielmeier

Drug Discovery & Development

Jennifer Green

Nicole Milstein

Forensic Science

Gabrielle Wright

Immunology

Sana Omar Alturki

Infectious Disease

Kyle Huber

Jessica Yauch

Laboratory Animal Science

Christopher Dela Cruz

Raymond Asuncion

Andrew Heinemann

Medical and Healthcare Simulation

Courtney Washington

Molecular Medicine

Tyler Thomas

Pathologists' Assistant

Elizabeth Manlick

Division of Pre-medical & Pre-health Programs Academic Excellence Awards

Biomedical Studies

Alexander K. Hahn

Drexel Pathway to Medical School

Aderinsola A. Aderonmu

Interdisciplinary Health Sciences

Nicole K. Munoz

Interdepartmental Medical Science

Barry DeRose

Medical Science

John Allsop



Sarah Monaco and mentor Wen-Jun Gao, PhD



Barry DeRose receives his award from Monika Jost, PhD



Emilia Arturo and thesis adviser Eileen Jaffe, PhD, Fox Chase Cancer Center



*Daniel H. Benckart, MD,
associate dean, academic
affairs, Allegheny programs*



Commencement

May 17 was a joyful day in the Kimmel Center as the faculty honored the students they had taught, and family members celebrated the graduates' achievements.





Drexel Provost Brian Blake, PhD; College Dean Daniel V. Schidlow, MD; Drexel Trustee Stan Silverman; honorary degree recipient David J. Shulkin, MD, MCP '86; Drexel Board Chair Richard Greenawalt; University President John Fry; Valerie Weber, MD, senior vice dean for educational affairs; and Elisabeth Van Bockstaele, PhD, dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Professional Studies



Drs. Dana Farabaugh and Nicholas Kuzma, winner of a Dean's Distinguished Teaching Award



Amy Baranoski, MD, chair of the 2019 Mary DeWitt Pettit MD Fellowship Committee, and Dr. Comunale



Dr. Angel and Hoffman

Faculty Professional Development Day

"Roadmap to Career Success" was the theme for June 7, when faculty gathered for a day of professional development. Associate Dean Nancy Spector, MD, set the tone with her opening, "Graceful Self-Promotion: How to Get Over Your Fear of Bragging." Innovation and scholarship were on display in a number of "SNIP-ITs" — 5-minute TED-style talks — and poster presentations. Faculty could also participate in Career Consultation — individual CV reviews — and Speed Networking sessions. Annual awards were presented to 12 faculty members.

Mary DeWitt Pettit MD Fellowship

Mary Ann Comunale, EdD, MS, Microbiology & Immunology, for her project "Gestational Lyme Disease: An Urgent Need for Rapid Diagnosis"

Julian Marsh Faculty Scholar Award

James Burns Jr., PhD
Microbiology & Immunology

June Klinghoffer Clinical Educator Award

Sharon Griswold, MD, MPH
Emergency Medicine

Oksana Korzeniowski Patient Care Award

Ryan Offer, MD
Obstetrics & Gynecology

William Likoff Clinical Excellence Award

Susan Harding, MD
Orthopaedic Surgery

Vincent Zarro Community Outreach Award

Steven Russell, MD
Internal Medicine

Angelo Pinto Educator Award

Vanessa Pirrone, PhD
Microbiology & Immunology

Elias Abrutyn Mentoring Award

Michael Greenberg, MD, MPH
Emergency Medicine

Early Career Clinical Scientist Award

Christopher Hoffman, DO
Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine

Brett Angel, MD
Cardiology

Emerging Clinical Leader and Innovation Award

David Vearrier, MD, MPH
Emergency Medicine

Young Investigator Award

Megan Detloff, PhD
Neurobiology & Anatomy



Dr. Offer



Dr. Pirrone and Burns



Dr. Griswold, Greenberg and Vearrier



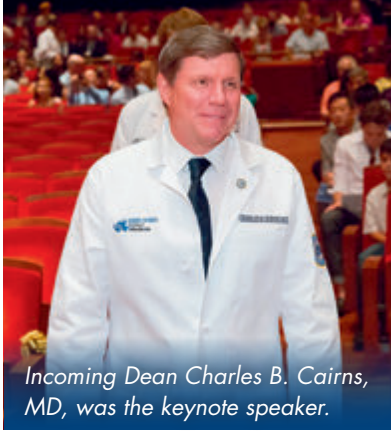
Alexander Hahn and Maaz Haleem



Alumni Association President Mark S. Codella, MD, HU '84, welcomed the students.



Kimberly Hamilton and Brianna Hamilton



Incoming Dean Charles B. Cairns, MD, was the keynote speaker.



White Coat Ceremony

At the end of orientation week, the first-year medical students and their guests convened at the Kimmel Center on August 9 for the White Coat Ceremony. The students were cloaked in their white coats by faculty and alumni, and each received a stethoscope — a gift from the Alumni Association. Then the Class of 2023 recited the Physician's Pledge for the first time.



Diana Kinney



Doctor's Note, the student a cappella group, sang.



Jacob Hoerler and Wei Du, MD



Sarika Antora and Lauren Andrea



Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Ana Núñez, MD, hosted the Diversity New Student Reception at her home.



Seena Ajit, PhD, associate professor in the Department of Pharmacology & Physiology, has been appointed to the Somatosensory & Pain Systems Study Section at the Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health. She will serve as a member for a four-year term.



Dr. Baas

Peter Baas, PhD, professor, Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy, gave a platform presentation, "Using Mice to Understand the Cause of Hereditary Spastic Paraplegia and Develop New Treatments," at the 2019 meeting of the Spastic Paraplegia Foundation in San

Antonio, Texas, on June 21. He also delivered a seminar, "Motor-based Polarity Sorting of Microtubules in Neurons" at TEMASEK Lifesciences Laboratory in Singapore on August 26. Baas and **Liang Qiang, PhD**, research assistant professor, Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy, published a paper, "Tau: It's Not What You Think," in the June 2019 issue of *Trends in Cell Biology*. See also Muralidharan.



Jacqueline Barker, PhD, associate professor in the Department of Pharmacology & Physiology, has been awarded a two-year R03 grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse for her project "Alterations in Corticostriatal Control of Cocaine Seeking in HIV Infection."

Emily Black, a PhD student, is the second author of "Accelerated Development of Cocaine-associated Dopamine Transients and Cocaine Use Vulnerability Following Traumatic Stress," published in *Neuropsychopharmacology* on September 20. The other authors are **Zachary D.**



Dr. España

Brodrik, PhD '19, and **Rodrigo A. España, PhD**, associate professor, all in the Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy. Black was awarded a two-year F31 NRSA grant for her project "Hypocretin Receptor 1 Regulation of Cocaine-Associated Behavior Involves Actions on

Heterogenous Populations in the Ventral Tegmental Area"; España is the project's principal investigator.

Lorela Ciraku, a PhD candidate in the Molecular & Cell Biology & Genetics program, was chosen for a short talk at the September 2019 Biology of Cancer: Microenvironment & Metastasis Conference in Cold Spring Harbor, New York, to present part of her thesis research "O-GlcNAc Transferase Regulates Glioblastoma Acetate Metabolism via Regulation of CDK5-dependent ACSS2 Phosphorylation." She is doing thesis work in the laboratory of Mauricio Reginato, PhD, professor in the Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology.



Michael R. Clancy, MBA, CFP®, CLU, director of financial planning, was a presenter at the AAMC/ADEA Summer Health Professions Education Program (SHPEP) for underrepresented-in-health-professions college students. The grant that funds the program stipulates that financial literacy must be a component of the training. He spoke at the program's National Alumni Conference in Washington, D.C., which was part of the 30th anniversary of SHPEP.



Marie-Pascale Côté, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy, and Henrike Beverungen, a former Fulbright Fellow in the Côté Lab, published a paper, "Rehabilitation Decreases Spasticity by Restoring Chloride Homeostasis Through the BDNF-KCC2 Pathway After SCI," in the *Journal of Neurotrauma*, online October 3. Beverungen is now practicing medicine in Leipzig, Germany.



Dr. Barson

Genevieve R. Curtis, doctoral student; **Jensine M. Coudriet**, Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship student; **Lilia Sanzalone**, research assistant; **Nancy Mack**, graduate student; and **Jessica R. Barson, PhD**, assistant professor, all in the Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy, and collaborators published "Short- and Long-access Palatable Food Self-administration Results in Different Phenotypes of Binge-type Eating" in *Physiology & Behavior* on October 12.

Anthony DiNatale, an MD/PhD student in the Fatatis Lab, presented his work during the Prostate Cancer Program Retreat, held by the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center of Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, on June 28. The title of his talk was "AR Regulates IL-1beta Expression in Prostate Cancer Cells." It was part of the Basic-Translational Studies in Prostate Cancer session.



Florence Gelo, DMin, NCPsyA, associate professor, Department of Family, Community & Preventive Medicine, is the author of "No Struggle When I'm Looking," which appeared in the *Journal of Pastoral Care & Counseling*, June 11, 2019, and "Life Endured Without God," published in the *Journal of Social Work in End-of-Life & Palliative Care*, online July 3, 2019.

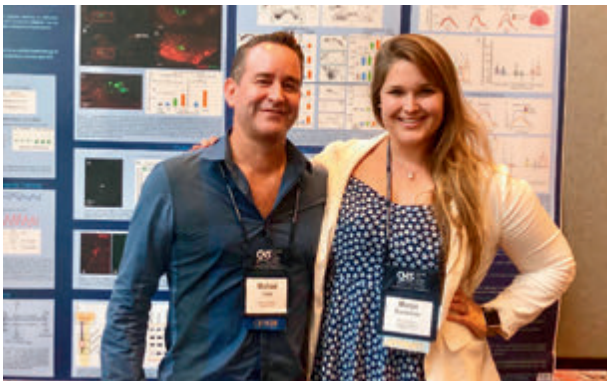
Laura Giacometti, PhD, a postdoctoral fellow in the laboratory of Jacqueline Barker, PhD, has received a Junior Investigator Award from the Research Society on Alcoholism. She presented her findings on "Sex Differences in the Effect of Chronic Alcohol Exposure on Inflexible Ethanol Reward Seeking in Mice" in June, during the society's annual meeting in Minneapolis. See also Hartwell Fellowship, page 6.



Richard Huneke, DVM, MPH, executive director of ULAR, was the keynote speaker at the Workshop for Laboratory Animal Science, a regional meeting of the Brazilian Society for Laboratory Animal Science, held May 30–June 1 at the Federal University of Uberlandia, in Minas

Gerais, Brazil. The conference featured speakers from Brazil and the United States. Huneke presented on three topics: Alternatives to Animal Research, 3Rs; Laboratory Animal Enrichment Programs; and Laboratory Animal Allergies: Risks and Prevention. His travel was supported by an International Travel Award from the Drexel Office of Global Engagement.

Michael A. Lane, PhD, associate professor, Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy, chaired a breakout session, “Spinal Interneurons After Spinal Cord Injury,” at NeuroTrauma 2019, the annual symposium of the National Neurotrauma Society, which was held June 29–July 3 in Pittsburgh. He also gave a platform presentation, “Spinal Interneurons, Plasticity and Repair after Cervical Spinal Cord Injury,” at the Gordon Research Conference on Central Nervous System Injury and Repair held June 16–21 in Waterville Valley, New Hampshire, and was on the SCI2020 panel during the annual Unite to Fight Paralysis Working 2 Walk conference in Cleveland, Ohio, in October. Lane’s research team has received a research grant award from the Moseley Foundation for “Stem Cell Derived Spinal Interneurons to Repair the Injured Spinal Cord.” See also Randelman and Zholudeva.



Dr. Lane and PhD candidate Margo Randelman at NeuroTrauma 2019



Gary S. Ledley, MD, professor of medicine, Division of Cardiology, was appointed to the National Communications Committee of the Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions (SCAI). The SCAI is the largest society for invasive and interventional cardiologists and serves

to promote excellence in the field. The National Communications Committee serves to inform and educate the media, the public and health care providers about the important role of invasive and interventional cardiology in cardiovascular care. The appointment is for a three-year term.

Calendar

Ongoing

Nov–May **Honoring the Hahnemann Community**
Exhibition: Paul Peck Alumni Center through Jan 10; New College Building, Jan 21–Mar 20; Queen Lane, Mar 30–May 8.
Email lcc48@drexel.edu for information.

December

- 6 **Faculty Professional Development Day**
Queen Lane Campus, 8 a.m.–3 p.m.
Sustaining Courage, Confidence and Resilience in the Face of Stress and Uncertainty
Contact: Karen Johnson at kbj28@drexel.edu
- 13 **DUCOM Classical Concert**
Contact: Caitlin Curcio at cak332@drexel.edu

January

- 20 **Martin Luther King Jr. Day**
- 31 **A Day With the Newborn: An Investment in Our Future**
St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children, 7:15 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Keynote: Robin H. Steinhorn, MD
SVP, Center for Hospital Based Specialties, Children’s National Health System
Contact: Alma Barberena, 215.427.5159

February

- 1 **Pediatric AIDS Benefit Concert**
Drexel University Main Building
3141 Chestnut Street
For details and tickets, visit <https://ducompabc.wixsite.com/pabc>

March

- 20 **Match Day**
University City Campus
- 23 **Golden Apple Awards Ceremony**
Queen Lane Campus
- 25 **AOA/Gold Humanism Banquet**
Details to be announced

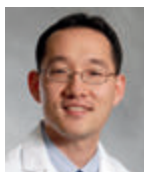
April

- 7 **United Nations World Health Day**

May

- 11 **Seniors’ Diversity Dinner**
Details to be announced
- 14–16 **Alumni Weekend**
Contact: medical.alumni@drexel.edu
- 15 **Commencement**
Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Alumni: For information about alumni events, please call toll-free 888.DUGRADS (888.384.7237), email medical.alumni@drexel.edu or visit drexel.edu/medicine/alumni/events.



Dr. Lee



Dr. Epstein

Christina Mejia, MD, nephrology fellow, presented "A Single-Center Experience With a 6-Month Regimen of *Pneumocystis jiroveci* Pneumonia Prophylaxis in HIV-Positive Kidney Transplant Recipients" at the 2019 American Transplant Congress, held in June in Boston. Other authors included **Drs. Gregory E. Malat, Dong Heun Lee, Shara Epstein, Meera Harhay, Lissa Levin Mizrahi and Karthik Ranganna.**



Dr. Harhay



Dr. Levin Mizrahi



Dr. Ranganna

Hemalatha Muralidharan, MS, neuroscience doctoral student, and her mentor, **Peter Baas, PhD**, professor, Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy, published "Mitotic Motor KIFC1 Is an Organizer of Microtubules in the Axon" in the *Journal of Neuroscience*, May 15, 2019. She also received a 2019-2020 Dean's Fellowship for Excellence in Collaborative or Themed Research.



Patrick Osei-Owusu, PhD, associate professor, Department of Pharmacology & Physiology, was invited to serve as a member of the Cardiac Contractility, Hypertrophy and Failure Study Section, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health. His term will last from July 1, 2019 until June 30, 2025. Members are selected based on their demonstrated competence and achievement in their scientific discipline as evidenced by the quality of their research accomplishments, publications in scientific journals, and other significant scientific activities, achievements and honors.

Surya Pandey, a PhD student, Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy, delivered a nanosymposium talk, "Chronic Excessive Alcohol Drinking Dysregulates Behavior and Neuropeptide Signaling in Rats," at the Society for Neuroscience meeting in Chicago, Illinois, on October 20, 2019.



Dr. Qiang

Liang Qiang, PhD, research assistant professor, **Emanuela Piermarini, PhD**, postdoctoral fellow, and **Peter Baas, PhD**, professor, all in the Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy, published "New Hypothesis for the Etiology of SPAST-based Hereditary Spastic Paraplegia" in *Cytoskeleton*, April 2019.

Margo Randelman, a neuroscience PhD candidate, won the Goldstein Award of the National Neurotrauma Society for her poster presentation, "Respiratory Training With Intermittent Hypercapnia to Enhance Plasticity Following Cervical Spinal Cord Injury," at NeuroTrauma 2019, the society's annual symposium, held June 29–July 3 in Pittsburgh. Additional authors were **Michael A. Lane, PhD**, associate professor; **Liang Qiang, MD, PhD**, research assistant professor; **Lyandysha Zholudeva, PhD '18**, postdoctoral fellow; and **Hema Muralidharan**, a PhD candidate, all in the Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy. Randelman is doing thesis work in the Lane Lab. See photo on page 17.

Jonathan H. Richards, graduate student in the Detloff Lab, Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy, presented a poster, "Dissecting the Role of CCL2 in Neuropathic Pain Development," at the Society for Neuroscience meeting in Chicago, Illinois, on October 23.



Dr. Detloff

Victor Rovira-Zambrana, PhD, postdoctoral fellow; Theeradej Thaweerattanasin, PhD, former postdoctoral fellow; **Amy Ong, MS**, research assistant; **John Richards Walker**, neuroscience master's student; and **Megan Ryan Detloff, PhD**, assistant professor, all in the Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy, presented a poster, "Effects

Shared Instrumentation Grant Will Enhance Funded and Developing Projects

A highly competitive National Institutes of Health Shared Instrumentation Grant has been awarded to **Irwin Chaiken, PhD**, a professor in the Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology. A joint effort with the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center, the grant to Drexel University in the amount of \$364,883 will fund the purchase of a Biacore S200 surface plasmon resonance biosensor to be shared within the SKCC/Thomas Jefferson University/Drexel consortium. The shared instrument facility will enhance the progress of NIH-funded and developing research projects that investigate fundamental biomolecular interaction mechanisms and structure-function-based therapeutics design in the fields of cancer, infectious diseases, and biomaterials for tissue regeneration. The facility will benefit from the SKCC infrastructure, and at the same time, its availability will benefit the SKCC by reinforcing and inspiring molecular mechanism research development. Long-term, the S200 facility will increase the productivity of NIH-funded biomedical research in the user group and inspire the advancement of a renewing biomedical research enterprise. The expertise of **Gabriela Canziani, PhD**, and **Noreen Robertson, DMD**, played a key role in the success of the grant application.



Dr. Chaiken

of Early and Delayed Rehabilitative Strength Training in the Development of Neuropathic Pain in a Spinal Cord Injury Model” at the Society for Neuroscience meeting in Chicago, Illinois, on October 22.



Allan B. Schwartz, MD, a professor of medicine in the Division of Nephrology & Hypertension, authored two medical mystery articles for the *Philadelphia Inquirer*: “Was It Really Malaria That Plagued Our Fifth President?” (June 14) and “What Killed ‘Red Scare’ Sen. Joseph McCarthy?” (August 9).

President Monroe was diagnosed with malaria in 1785 while serving in the U.S. Congress, but medical historians believe Monroe’s symptoms point to pulmonary tuberculosis. McCarthy, a known heavy drinker, is believed to have died of chronic liver disease due to alcohol and opiate drug use, although his cause of death was listed as “hepatitis, acute, cause unknown.”



Dr. Spector **Ms. Overholser**

Nancy Spector, MD, professor of pediatrics, associate dean for faculty development, and executive director of the Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine program for

women, and **Barbara Overholser, MA**, communications and relationship manager, ELAM, co-authored “Examining Gender Disparity in Medicine and Setting a Course Forward,” an editorial in *JAMA Network Open* (June 2019).

Spector and Overholser published “Leadership & Professional Development: Sponsored — Catapulting Underrepresented Talent Off the Cusp and Into the Game” in the *Journal of Hospital Medicine* (July 2019). They are also among the authors of “Is Academic Medicine Making Mid-Career Women Physicians Invisible?” published in the *Journal of Women’s Health* (online October 2019).

Spector is a co-author of “Women in Pediatrics: Progress, Barriers, and Opportunities for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion” in the journal *Pediatrics*, Volume 144, Issue 5, September 2019, for which she made a video abstract.

In addition, Spector wrote “A Visionary Sponsor and Stalwart Supporter of Women’s Leadership,” a tribute to the late D. Walter Cohen, DDS, which was published in the journal *Compendium of Continuing Education in Dentistry*, Volume 40, Issue 9, October 2019. Cohen was the founder of the ELAM program, and the founding editor of *Compendium*.



Donna M. Sudak, MD, professor and vice chair for education in the Department of Psychiatry and director of the Division of Psychotherapy, has been appointed to the Psychiatry Review Committee of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education. Sudak is the immediate past president of the American Association of Directors of Psychiatric Residency Training.



Daniel Taylor, DO, professor, Department of Pediatrics, penned two medical mysteries for the *Philadelphia Inquirer*: “A Young Lifeguard, an Unusual Skin Condition” (August 2) about a case of dermatitis herpetiformis that ultimately led to a diagnosis of celiac disease, and “A Girl’s Red Ears, and a Mother’s Intuition” (September 13) describing a patient with a rare condition known as erythromelalgia. Taylor also authored a September 17 op-ed, “Doctors’ Words Can Be Wounding — or Healing,” in which he describes how particular phrases used to describe patients can cause them harm.

More recently, the *Inquirer* published two more pieces by Taylor: “Medical Mystery: What Caused Teen’s Severe Stomach Pain” (October 18) and “I’m a Philadelphia Pediatrician. Here’s the One Thing That Would Help My Patients Most” (October 21).

John Walker, neuroscience master’s student in the Detloff Lab, Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy, presented a poster, “Role of Nociceptive Afferent Input on Forelimb Reaching and Grasping Behaviors in the Spinal Cord Injured Rat,” at the Society for Neuroscience meeting in Chicago on October 21.



Lynn H. Yeakel, MSM, director of the Institute for Women’s Health and Leadership at the College of Medicine, and the founder and president of Vision 2020, spoke on September 17, National Constitution Day, at the Schemel Forum at the University of Scranton. The title of her talk was “Let’s Act

Like the Majority We Are.” The audience included students, faculty and community members.



Dr. Zholudeva

Lyandysha (Lana) Zholudeva, PhD ’18, postdoctoral fellow, and **Michael Lane, PhD**, associate professor of neurobiology and anatomy, are authors of “Transplanting Cells for Spinal Cord Repair: Who, What, When, Where and Why?” featured on the cover of *Cell Transplantation*, Volume 28, Issue 4, April 2019, Special Issue: American Society for Neural Therapy and Repair.

The paper was first published online January 18, 2019.

Zholudeva gave platform and poster presentations on “Intermittent Hypoxia Enhances Connectivity of Transplanted Neural Cells with the Injured Cervical Spinal Cord” at the Gordon Research Conference on Central Nervous System Injury and Repair held June 16–21 in Waterville Valley, New Hampshire. She was also an invited speaker at the annual Unite to Fight Paralysis Working 2 Walk conference in Cleveland, Ohio, in October, where she presented “Neural Cell Therapy for Spinal Cord Repair.”



Let your colleagues know what you’re doing: Email information on awards, presentations and publications to CoM_Pulse@drexel.edu.

'50s

Ruth Endicott, MD, WMC '53, a 102-year-old veteran of the Women's Army Corps, was presented in May with four medals she had earned 73 years earlier for her service in World War II: the Women's Army Corps Ribbon, the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, the World War II Victory Medal and the Honorable Service Lapel Button. Endicott retired from practice as a family physician in Ogunquit, Maine, when she was 88.

'60s

Lawrence Lazarus, MD, HU '67, co-authored *Insider's Guide to Quality, Affordable Healthcare* (To Health and Life Publishing, 2019). He maintains a part-time psychiatric private practice in Santa Fe, New Mexico. A former president of the American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry, he is a life fellow of the American Psychiatric Association.

Richard M. Satava Jr., MD, HU '68, professor emeritus of surgery at the University of Washington Medical Center, has joined the advisory board of Patient Innovations, a New York-based health care IT company. Satava was the surgeon on the project that developed the first surgical robot, which later became the DaVinci Surgical Robot.



'70s

Marylou Buyse, MD, WMC '70, joined Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island as chief medical officer and senior vice president. She has served in various clinical leadership roles at health plans, including Highmark, United Healthcare of New England and Scott & White Health Plan of Texas. She also served as the president and CEO of the Massachusetts Association of Health Plans and is a past president of the Massachusetts Medical Society.

'80s

Michael G. Holland, MD, MCP '81, was named medical director of occupational medicine and employee health at Saratoga Hospital and joined Saratoga Hospital Medical Group—Occupational Medicine. Most recently, Holland was in practice at the Glens Falls Hospital Center for Occupational Health.

Barbara J. Dalton, PhD Microbiology & Immunology, MCP '83, was recognized by Global Corporate Venturing in the GCV Powerlist 2019 and received the GCV Lifetime Achievement Award from *Global Corporate Venturing* magazine. Dalton is vice president for worldwide business development and senior managing partner of Pfizer Ventures.

Mark S. Codella, MD, HU '84; Internal Medicine Residency, HU '87; Gastroenterology Fellowship, HU '89, was featured on the list of Best Gastroenterologists in Philadelphia by *Medical Health News*. He practices at Fox Chase Gastroenterology in Philadelphia. He is president of the board of the College of Medicine Alumni Association.

Dennis Haghghat, MD, HU '86, became chief medical officer at Avanti Hospitals, LLC, according to a LinkedIn update.

Kurt Kaulback, MD, HU '88; Internal Medicine Residency, HU '91; Cardiovascular Medicine Fellowship, HU '94, an interventional cardiologist, was named to Who's Who in Health Care by SouthJersey.com. Kaulback is clinical director of cardiovascular services for Inspira Health in Mullica Hill, New Jersey.

'90s

Tami Mysliwicz, PhD Microbiology & Immunology, HU '92, was selected to be a judge for the *Reading Eagle's* list of "Berks' Best." She is an associate professor of biology at Pennsylvania State University Berks.

Patrice Weiss, MD, HU '92, presented "The Second Victim: The Effect of Medical Errors on Health Care Providers" at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, at an event sponsored by the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Weiss is the executive vice president and chief medical officer at Carilion Clinic and professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine in Roanoke.



Joe Frangipane, PhD Microbiology & Immunology, HU '93, is senior director for customer success at Inscripta, a gene-editing technology company, which he joined in April, according to a LinkedIn update.

Tahseen Shareef, MD, MCP '93, an internist in private practice in Loma Linda, California, since 2008, took over an existing medical practice in Lake Arrowhead, California, in June 2019 from a physician leaving the area.

Kathy Elizeus, MD, MCP '95, an obstetrician-gynecologist, has joined Fisher-Titus Women's Health in Norwalk, Ohio. She sees patients at the practice's offices in Milan and Norwalk. She was previously with Penn Highlands Health-care in Dubois, Pennsylvania.



Kelly Pfeifer, MD, MCP '97, was appointed by the governor to be deputy director of mental health and substance use disorder services for the California Department of Health Care Services. Pfeifer has been director of high-value care at the California Health Care Foundation since 2014.

Call for Nominations: 2020 Alumni Awards

Nominations are open for the 2020 College of Medicine Alumni Awards. The eight awards are described at drexel.edu/medicine/alumni-associationawards/. Self-nominations are welcome. The deadline is Friday, January 17, 2020.

Emily Rubenstein Engel, MD, HU '98,

a neurologist, was promoted from associate director to director of the Scripps Dalessio Headache Center at Scripps Clinic in La Jolla, California.



Kristin Taylor, PhD Biochemistry, MCP '98, has been appointed vice president and head of clinical development at Escient Pharmaceuticals. Taylor has extensive clinical research, scientific affairs and regulatory development experience, including rare disease experience, and holds several patents. She was previously at Zafgen.

Robert J. Winn, MD, HU '98, a family physician, opened his own medical practice, Real Wellness, in Collingswood, New Jersey, with a focus on prevention and overall wellness. In his approach, all appointments are at least 30 minutes long, and patients who call the office may speak with him directly.

John Langell, MD, MCPHU '99; PhD Microbiology & Immunology, MCPHU '98; MPH,

was appointed president of Northeast Ohio Medical University effective October 1. He has held senior leadership positions in academic health care, industry, nonprofit organizations and the federal government. Most recently, he was vice dean of the University of Utah School of Medicine and founder and executive director of the university's Center for Medical Innovation.



Specialty Networking

Michael Mirmanesh, MD '14, and **Lisa Hwang, MD '08, General Surgery Residency '15,** posed for a fellow-alumni-and-plastic-surgeons picture at the Aesthetic Meeting 2019, the annual meeting of the American Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons, held in New Orleans in May. Mirmanesh is chief resident in the UC Davis Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Residency program and will be starting a solo private practice in the Philadelphia area in 2020. Hwang, who completed her residency in plastic surgery at the University of Illinois at Chicago, has finished a fellowship in aesthetic surgery at The Plastic Surgery Center in Sacramento and joined the practice of Creasman Aesthetics in the San Francisco Bay area.

'00s

Christopher Bloss, MD, MCPHU '00, is an ob-gyn with Capital Region Women's Care in Troy, New York. In January, he was appointed associate director for the St. Peter's Health Partners Center for Minimally Invasive Surgery.

Ian B.K. Martin, MD, MCPHU '00, was installed as president of the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine for 2019–2020 at the society's annual meeting in May. He is a professor and system chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine and professor of medicine at the Medical College of Wisconsin.



Christopher M. Notte, MD '03, was appointed chief medical officer of Abington-Lansdale Hospital. Notte originally joined the Abington community in 2003 as a family medicine resident at Abington Memorial Hospital. In 2006, he became a member of the medical staff in the Department of Family Medicine.



Sahmon Fallahian, MD '07, a family medicine physician, joined the medical team at Providence Health & Services in Anchorage, Alaska, in April. He sees patients at Providence Medical Group Primary Care.

Ryan Sobel, MD '07, a head and neck surgeon, became director of head and neck cancer services at Broward Health Medical Center, Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Daniel Kyuyoung Choi, MD '08, joined the medical group at Advocate Children's Hospital in Park Ridge, Illinois, as a pediatric hematologist/oncologist. He was with the University of Illinois at Chicago from 2014 to 2019.

Michael Tressler, MD '08, an endocrinologist, joined University of Minnesota Physicians, according to a LinkedIn update, after six years as a staff endocrinologist at HealthPartners in St. Paul. He is an assistant professor of medicine at the university.

'10s

Edward Schleyer, MD '12, an orthopedic surgeon, joined the medical team at Coastal Orthopedic Associates in Beverly, Massachusetts. Following his residency at the University of Buffalo, he completed a fellowship in pediatric sports medicine at Boston Children's Hospital, and a fellowship in adult sports medicine at the University of Buffalo.

Mack Joe Arroliga, MD '14, a board-certified anesthesiologist specializing in pain management, joined the Cabell Huntington Hospital Pain Management Center in Huntington, West Virginia. He is a 2010 graduate of the Drexel Pathway to Medical School program.

Geraldine McWilliams, MD '14, a geriatric psychiatrist, joined the medical team at the VA Medical Center in White River Junction, Vermont. She completed her residency in adult psychiatry at Dartmouth-Hitchcock, where she also completed a fellowship in geriatric psychiatry.

Aliah Molczan, Postbaccalaureate Certificate Medical Science '14, a forensic accountant, joined the Matrimonial Litigation Department of Savran Benson LLP, a certified public accounting and consulting firm, as an associate.

Hollisa Rosa, MD; MS Interdisciplinary Health Sciences '14, is a resident in obstetrics and gynecology at NYU Winthrop Hospital. She earned her medical degree from Stony Brook University School of Medicine in 2019.

Nina Samuel, VMD; Postbaccalaureate Certificate Pre-Med/Pre-Vet '15, graduated from the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine in 2019 and is an intern at the Animal Medical Center in New York City.

Lindsay Kleinwaks, PhD Microbiology & Immunology '18, is the author of "The ABCs of HCT/Ps," published in *Orthopaedic Design & Technology* magazine (May/June 2019). Kleinwaks is a regulatory affairs associate at MCRA LLC, primarily focused on developing regulatory strategies and submissions for the FDA and international regulatory agencies.

Former Residents and Fellows

(alphabetical)

Jordan Glaser, MD; Drexel/Hahnemann Orthopedics Residency '11, is in practice with Novant Health Orthopedics & Spine in Supply, North Carolina. He completed his fellowship in orthopedic spine surgery at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

Andrea Russo, MD; Internal Medicine Residency, MCP '88, a cardiologist and director of the electrophysiology and arrhythmia service at Cooper University Health, was inducted as president of the Heart Rhythm Society. She was also named to Who's Who in Health Care by SouthJersey.com.



We want to hear from you. Email medical.alumni@drexel.edu or call toll-free 888.384.7237. Website: drexel.edu/medicine/alumni

Women in Medicine Weigh In



That's **Marilyn Heine, MD; Medical Oncology Fellowship, MCP '89**, a clinical assistant professor of medicine at Drexel, on the cover of *Pennsylvania Physician* (Spring 2019), a publication of the Pennsylvania Society of Physicians (PAMED).

The magazine devoted 14 pages to its feature story, "The Changing Landscape of Women in Medicine," addressing the wage gap, maternity leave, home/work balance, mentoring and leadership. Author Susan Lindt rounds out statistics and study results with the first-person views of female physicians. "They say nuances suggest parity is still a long way off," she writes, "but without exception, they're optimistic."

Those invited to weigh in included **Sherry L. Blumenthal, MD; Obstetrics & Gynecology Residency MCP '86**, who founded PAMED's Women Physicians Caucus; **Amelia A. Paré, MD, HU '92**, a plastic and reconstructive surgeon in the Pittsburgh area; and **Aleesha Shaik, MD '19**, a resident in internal medicine/primary care at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. Bonus alumna sighting: **Virginia Ettinger Hall, MD, HU '72**, chair of the Foundation of the Pennsylvania Medical Society, appears in a sidebar about

the foundation's Physicians' Health Program. A roster of accomplished women!

Heine has held prominent roles in PAMED, including president, and serves in leadership positions in several other organizations. She recently received the inaugural American Medical Association Political Action Committee Award for Political Participation and was elected vice chair of the American Medical Association Council on Legislation.

Read the article at pamedsoc.org/PAPhysician (Spring 2019 issue, page 22).

In Memoriam

Frank J. Altomare Jr., MD, HU '59, August 21, 2019

Joseph C. Beres, MD, HU '54, May 30, 2019

Elizabeth Johnston Breaux, MD, MCP '77,

September 23, 2019

Ivan L. Butler, MD, HU '62, August 2, 2019

Edward Cutler, MD, HU '49, May 23, 2019

Virginia Miller Drobner, MD, WMC '62, July 9, 2019

Bernard E. Finneson, MD, HU '48, May 18, 2019

Allen Gaisin, MD, HU '72, July 21, 2019

Wayne L. Gibbons, MD, MCP '79, July 24, 2019

Richard Edward Gratz, MD, MCP '78, January 5, 2019

Rachael K. Guth, MD, WMC '55, March 15, 2019

Paul A. Ironside Jr., MD, HU '62, May 26, 2019

Mary Elizabeth Jeffrey, MD, WMC '65, July 5, 2019

Theodore J. Kowalyszyn, MD, HU '66,

August 14, 2019

Douglas Richard LaBar, MD, PhD, MCP '81,

April 24, 2018

Libby Rubin Marks, MD, HU '49, June 24, 2019

Margaret Y. McCarron, PhD, HU '69, January 18, 2018

Elizabeth L. McGee, MD, WMC '49, March 21, 2019

Phyllis C. Moeller, MD, WMC '51, June 5, 2019

Gerald P. Nolan, MD, HU '54, May 21, 2019

James M. Pfrommer, MD, HU '83, July 28, 2019

William David Pierce, MD, MCP '94,

September 6, 2019

Peter W. Pratt, MD, HU '61, February 2, 2019

Charlotte A. Raffensperger, MD, WMC '54,

August 3, 2019

James F. Reamer, MD, HU '61, August 3, 2019

Judith S. Rose, MD, WMC '64, September 2, 2019

Steven A. Rosner, MD, HU '78, September 6, 2019

Libby Rubin, MD, HU '49, June 24, 2019

Milton E. Skelly, MD, HU '79, July 4, 2019

Leon A. Skweir, MD, HU '63, August 29, 2019

Charles Stone, MD, HU '59, July 15, 2019

James Jacob Straub, MD, HU '82, September 13, 2019

Denise Anne Verleur, MD, MCP '84, July 9, 2019

Walter H. Waskow, MD, HU '56, September 3, 2019

Mark A. Whitman, MD, HU '47, December 18, 2018

Edwin S. Wilson Jr., MD, HU '62, June 15, 2019

Judith A. Wolfe, MD, MCP '75, February 22, 2019

Frank L. Miller, MD, HU '41, died on August 26 at the age of 104, at Normandy Farms, where he and his late wife, Betty E. Miller, a sculptor, moved in 2002. He was buried at Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors. Miller joined the Army Medical Corps after serving a brief internship and was assigned to the 104th Infantry Division, known as the Timberwolves. For his valor in tending the wounded on the front lines, he received the Silver Star and the Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster. He was promoted to captain and honorably discharged as a major in 1945. After the war, Miller lived in Jeffersonville, Pennsylvania, and was a general practitioner in private

practice, affiliated with Montgomery Hospital and Sacred Heart Hospital. His wife died in 2011. Miller is survived by three of their children, Harvey Shipley Miller, William Neal Miller and Susan M. Dale; three grandchildren; and a great-grandchild. A son, Robert Meredith Miller, and a granddaughter died earlier.

Regina (Ann) Pozner, MD, WMC '52, died on August 26, at age 94. Born in London, she was studying to be a doctor when she met Harry B. Pozner, MD, who was serving in London as a physician for the U.S. Army. They married and moved to New York in 1946. After graduating from Woman's, Pozner worked as a general practitioner alongside her husband, from their home in Elmont, New York. The only woman physician in the area, she had privileges at Nassau Hospital (Winthrop Medical Center) in Mineola, where she delivered more than 500 babies. After her husband died, in 1972, she moved to New York City and completed a dermatology residency at New York Hospital/Cornell Medical College (NewYork-Presbyterian). Eventually, she started a clinic in Spanish Harlem, for which she was recognized by the New York City Council. She practiced until she moved to Albany to be near family in 2008. She is survived by her son, Louis-Jack Pozner; her grandchildren, **Samantha Pozner, MD, MCP '97**; Jo-Ellen Pozner Zeitlin, PhD; and Zachary Pozner; and four great-grandchildren.

Divya Subramanian-Khurana, MD, a professor of pediatrics and neurology in the College of Medicine, died in a plane crash on August 8, with her husband, Jasvir Khurana, also a physician, and their daughter Kiran. Divya was a pediatric neurologist at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, who was known as a caring practitioner and teacher. She was recognized nationally for her work in epilepsy and mitochondrial disorders. Jasvir was a professor of pathology and laboratory medicine at Temple's Lewis Katz School of Medicine.

Melanie Tallent, PhD, a former faculty member, passed away on October 11. A neuroscientist, she was an assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacology & Physiology from 2002 until 2010, when she left to start LifeSplice Pharma with her husband and research partner, **Gordon Lutz, PhD**. He is an adjunct associate professor in the Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology. Their biotech company was founded to develop long-lasting RNA-based drugs called "splice modulating oligomers" for disorders such as ALS, Dravet syndrome and epilepsy; substantial NIH funding has followed.

Correction: Due to a reporting error, John S. Dobrota, MD, HU '65, was mistakenly listed in "In Memoriam" in the Summer issue of *Pulse*. We apologize for the error and the distress it caused Dr. Dobrota and his wife, and their family and friends.



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The Class of 2023: The Cream of the Crop



Beginning with more than 14,000 applicants, refined to just 1,500 interviews completed, the Class of 2023 is made up of 260 stellar medical students, average age 23. They come from 30 states and graduated from 118 different undergraduate schools. Twenty percent represent the first generation in their families to go to college, and 19 percent have graduate degrees. Expect great things!