Dr. Schrier speaks:

2015 investiture ceremony

On Friday, May 8, 2015, Gary G. White, Marshall University interim president, conferred 64 students with Doctor of Medicine diplomas from JCESOM. The special guest speaker was Robert W. Schrier, M.D., former longtime chairman of the school’s department of medicine and professor emeritus of medicine at the University of Colorado. Dr. Schrier is known around the world by researchers and scientists for his research into acute kidney failure and other facets of kidney disease. Dr. Schrier has received several honorary doctorates from universities around the world and was awarded an honorary Doctor of Science degree at the investiture ceremony on Friday.

During his speech on Friday, Dr. Schrier asked students to serve their best to their patients, to remain curious about learning, and to always remember one three letter word: “why.” He stressed that the harder you work, the luckier you get.

Pursuing Excellence

Each one of us has a role in pursuing JCESOM excellence. Our research footprint—so relevant to our school and our profession—is continuing to build, thanks to your hard work. Our junior investigators are an integral part of that success. Likewise, we are grateful for the faculty and departmental leadership in our school; through the nurturing and mentoring of our junior investigators, you are cultivating the next generation of academic leaders.

Through your diligence and determination, a number of our research programs are gaining momentum—just take a look inside this PEN to see the success of many of our researchers. Our second annual Gold Humanism Educational Summit continues JCESOM’s pragmatic discussion on how to balance science and technology with compassion and patient care. We are having the important discussion about everything from the cost of Hepatitis C medication in West Virginia to Ebola and global health challenges. And lastly, we are celebrating your excellence; this PEN documents your accomplishments and hard work.

– Darshana Shah, Ph.D., associate dean, office of faculty affairs and professional development

“Excellence is the gradual result of always striving to do better.”

– Pat Riley, Former NBA Coach and Player

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Dear colleagues,

Graduation brings a celebration of new doctors and the commencement of their new opportunities. The associated activities are always inspiring and exciting for me. However, I would be remiss if I didn't point out the tragedies which have occurred this year as they have shaken us to our core. We experienced the sudden loss of one of our students, Saeed Keshavarzian, and the loss of one so young and promising is a terrible blow. We are still reeling from the unexpected loss of our president, Dr. Stephen Kopp, and other deaths and illnesses affecting our faculty, students and staff. It seems like we have been hit particularly hard this past year.

In spite of these challenges, there is much we should celebrate. The JCESOM is on a firm financial footing, and we continue to expand our footprint in the community we serve. A number of our clinical programs have been cited for their excellence. We have recently purchased the Douglass building and taken over the administration of the Ebenezer clinic. Our educational programs at both undergraduate and graduate levels are in very good shape thanks to the hard work of many. We have recently accepted our inaugural BS/MD students, and the medical school class of 2019 looks to be exceptional. We will rapidly expand our partnership with St. Georges - University of London this coming year and we continue to improve our undergraduate educational services on many fronts. We can proudly announce a new fellowship program in nephrology as well as several other residency applications. We look forward to the merger of Cabell Huntington Hospital and St. Mary's Medical Center, which will present a number of new educational, clinical, and research opportunities. I am confident we will continue to strive for excellence for the betterment of medical education, research, and patient care.

This is an exciting time to be at JCESOM. I want to extend a warm welcome to new students, new faculty, and new staff.

Joseph I. Shapiro, M.D.
Dean, JCESOM
Honoring Achievements

Norman C. Cottrill, D.O., has been named West Virginia’s Pediatrician of the Year by the West Virginia Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. Dr. Cottrill, an assistant professor of pediatrics, has been with Marshall Pediatrics for seventeen years. He is a 1987 graduate of the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine and completed a residency at West Virginia University.

Sean Piwarski, a third-year student in JCESOM’s biomedical sciences Ph.D. program, has been awarded the Chancellor’s Scholarship. The Chancellor’s Scholar Program is intended to recruit, educate and graduate underrepresented minority students in doctoral programs. The award provides a substantial tuition benefit and stipend, as well as professional research and career development opportunities and a strong support network. Sean Piwarski is working in toxicology and environmental health sciences with Travis Salisbury, Ph.D., researching how certain chemical mechanisms in specific toxins may work to stop cancer metastasis.

Uma Sundaram, M.D., vice dean for research and graduate education, has been selected to serve on the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission’s Science and Research Council. In his new position, Dr. Sundaram will be collaborating and working to provide expertise and policy guidance in science and research to state policymakers and to encourage research collaboration among institutions, as well as to promote education in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Richard Egleton, Ph.D., (above) and Todd L. Green, Ph.D., (below) have been appointed co-directors of the biomedical sciences graduate program, an interdisciplinary program leading to a M.S. and/or Ph.D. in biomedical sciences. Dr. Egleton and Dr. Green are both associate professors in the department of pharmacology, physiology and toxicology.

Congratulations!

Four JCESOM medical students, Justin M. Pacor, Lauren M. Burgunder, Anna C. Clarke, and Brad A. Leath, have been selected to serve on the Organization of Student Representatives (OSR). Members of the OSR are chosen by their peers and serve under the national Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC).
Perspective on Mentorship

Q & A with Dr. Nalini Santanam

On May 12th, in front of friends and faculty, Nalini Santanam, Ph.D., stepped forward to receive the JCESOM 2015 Excellence in Mentoring Award. Dr. Santanam, a professor of pharmacology in the department of pharmacology, physiology, and toxicology, has distinguished herself as a capable and motivating mentor in a competitive and ever-changing field. “Dr. Santanam recognizes that mentorship is an essential component of success for a career in medical and biomedical sciences,” says Elsa I. Mangiarua, Ph.D., professor and head of physiology. “She has been mentoring students at all levels of education for over 20 years.” This mentorship has had a lasting impact on the careers of numerous students and faculty at JCESOM, and Dr. Santanam shares with PEN a few words of wisdom on her success and philosophy toward mentoring.

PEN: In your opinion, what are the key characteristics of a successful mentor?

Dr. Santanam: A good mentor is someone who is knowledgeable, willing to share the knowledge, approachable, open-minded; he/she is a good listener and has a lot of patience.

PEN: What do you do to constantly challenge your mentees?

Dr. Santanam: I encourage my mentees to have this constant quest for knowledge. I make them aware of both their strengths and drawbacks. I help them utilize their strengths and work on improving their drawbacks.

PEN: How do you encourage innovative ideas?

Dr. Santanam: Creativity and imagination are key for becoming a successful researcher. I challenge my mentees to constantly think outside the box, to imagine new methods, paradigms, etc. to incorporate in their research. It is always rewarding when some of these new ideas come to fruition. That is the power and excitement of doing research.

PEN: As a mentor, what is the best advice to give someone who is planning his/her career path?

Dr. Santanam: “Follow your passion,” that is my advice. You will have to be passionate about what you do to be successful in whatever career path you choose.

PEN: Do you have a mentor who has influenced you?

Dr. Santanam: Over the various stages of my career, I have had the privilege of being mentored by several mentors who are pioneers in their field of work. Apart from direct interactions with them, I have also learnt a lot just by observing these “brilliant minds” doing their best work. Being a “mentor” is a very big responsibility, and one must constantly evolve to be a good one to the best of his/her abilities.
Pursuing Excellence

Annual Faculty and Staff Awards
Leonard B. Tow Humanism in Medicine
Charles Clements, M.D.

Amy Smith, M.Ed., (right) GHHS chapter faculty co-advisor and assistant dean for student affairs, and Dr. Clements smile after Dr. Clements receives his Leonard B. Tow Humanism in Medicine Award.

Heart of Gold Awards
Hoyt Burdick, M.D.

JCESOM recognized Dr. Hoyt Burdick, vice president of medical affairs, Cabell Huntington Hospital, and Teresa Sexton for going above and beyond their call of duty. Each enthusiastically supported Gold Humanism Honor Society (GHHS) chapter activities and worked to bring awareness to the community on the importance of humanism in medicine.

Teresa Sexton, RN, MSN-Ed

Darshana Shah, Ph.D., (right) GHHS chapter faculty advisor and associate dean, office of faculty affairs and professional development, presents Teresa Sexton with her Heart of Gold Award.

Excellence in Professionalism
Charles Giangarra, M.D.

Dr. Charles Giangarra (left) shakes hands with Shelvy Campbell, Ph.D., assistant dean for diversity, as he receives his Excellence in Professionalism Award.

Rural Preceptor of the Year – Family Medicine
Jodi Cisco, M.D.

Dr. Jodi Cisco (right) smiles as she receives her award for Rural Preceptor of the Year from Jennifer Plymale, M.A., associate dean of admissions and director, Robert C. Byrd Center for Rural Health.

Excellence in Commitment
W. Mitchel Shaver, M.D.

Dr. W. Mitchel Shaver (left) poses with Linda Holmes, M.A., director of development and alumni affairs, as he receives his award for Excellence in Commitment.

Excellence in Collaboration
James Becker, M.D.

Franklin Shuler M.D., Ph.D., (right) orthopedic surgery professor, hands Dr. James Becker his award for Excellence in Collaboration.

Excellence in Mentoring
Nalini Santanam, Ph.D.

Dr. Nalini Santanam (left) receives her Excellence in Mentoring award from Bobby Miller, M.D., vice dean for medical education and associate professor in the department of pediatrics.
Adrienne Mays, M.D., an assistant professor in family medicine, was honored with the Dean's Award for Excellence in Education at the annual faculty awards ceremony in May. Dr. Mays understands how to excel as both a physician and an educator: while maintaining a very busy practice in both office and hospital settings, she has won several teaching awards because of her learner-centered focus. Her student and resident evaluations are consistently rated in the highest category of approval in all aspects of teaching, including attitude, knowledge, and availability. Through her vision and leadership as a course director, she has raised the level of all four courses under her guidance by committing countless hours to developing meaningful clinical cases and to organizing the curriculum to its fullest effect. Dr. Mays is creative and practical in her teaching approach; she has incorporated a number of innovative teaching methods and has been effective in integrating clinical and basic science teaching. Dr. Mays also serves as a mentor for multiple students and, in keeping with her performance record, gets the highest possible ratings. Dr. Mays has set the bar high and has been a positive influence on every student lucky enough to learn from her.

Richard Crespo, Ph.D., is a professor through the department of family and community health. As the winner of the Dean's Award for Excellence in Clinical Research, Dr. Crespo's passion for helping patients is displayed through his research and numerous innovations, collaborations, and publications. His innovations, which often target chronic disease and lifestyle choices, are many and varied in application, and have affected patient care throughout the region. As a way to improve a patient's ability to self-manage chronic disease, Dr. Crespo created a social marketing and behavior change program that is now used by rural health centers across the state and by diabetes coalitions in the Appalachian Region. As part of a program for reducing obesity in school-age children, Dr. Crespo developed content for a touch-screen computer system that engages adolescents in healthy lifestyle self-management. Over 15,000 copies of Dr. Crespo's publications have been distributed in the Appalachian region, with topics relevant to healthy lifestyle choices like "Balance Your Plate: a guide for healthy eating" and "Kick the Habit: a guide for quitting tobacco use." Additionally, Dr. Crespo has over nine peer-reviewed publications in journals and manages over $4 million in multidisciplinary grants and contracts for Rural Health. Dr. Crespo's excellence in clinical research, his hard work, and his commitment to patients has improved the health and vitality of West Virginia and Appalachia.

Ross Patton, M.D., family medicine professor, was recognized at the May ceremony for his dedication and commitment to providing all aspects of clinical care. Dr. Patton is a stellar example of a success story: he maintains a busy practice in Barboursville, works with the Family Planning Clinic of the Health Department, serves as the medical director of Student Health, and collaborates on issues of Sports Medicine. But the most striking thing about Dr. Patton is how he treats his patients: every man, woman, and child who walks into his office is treated as though he or she was a member of his family. Infants, students, pregnant women, and the elderly all benefit from his care. Whether he is filling in for medical missionaries in Ecuador or providing care in McDowell County, Dr. Patton is consistently a great doctor and a great teacher. The Dean's Award for Excellence in Clinical Care is well deserved and well earned by Dr. Patton.

“"I am confident we will continue to strive for excellence for the betterment of medical education, research, and patient care.”

– Joseph I. Shapiro, M.D.
Spotlight on Dr. Maria Serrat

JCESOM professor shines in research and teaching

Maria A. Serrat, Ph.D., has been busy! The assistant professor in the department of anatomy and pathology has earned recognition, not only at JCESOM, but nationally as well for her role as an educator and for her accomplishments in biomedical research.

National anatomy award
In March, Dr. Serrat was honored as the 2015 recipient of the Basmajian Award by the American Association of Anatomists (AAA). The Basmajian Award recognized Dr. Serrat for her outstanding accomplishments in biomedical research and scholarship in education and for her excellence as a gross anatomy teacher.

Federal grant funds musculoskeletal research at JCESOM
Dr. Serrat and a team of multidisciplinary researchers from several institutions received $383,000 in federal grant funds to continue researching the effects of temperature on bone elongation. “We hope our results will facilitate the design of heat-based, drug-targeting approaches to enhance bone length using noninvasive techniques such as warm temperature applications,” Dr. Serrat said. “This work is significant because it has the potential to produce transformative findings that link heat, bone lengthening and vascular access to the growing skeleton which could lead to better clinical therapies for children in particular.” The three-year award from the National Institutes of Health and the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases is an extension of work initially funded from a bridge grant from the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research. Collaborators include Marshall graduate and medical students as well as faculty researchers from Cornell University, Mayo Clinic, the University of Kentucky, and Ohio University.

Dean’s Award
Dr. Serrat was also selected for the Dean’s Award for Excellence in Research, Basic Science, which she accepted this May. Her work at JCESOM has been significant: she mentors 24 students (seven graduate, seven undergraduate, and ten medical); has published 13 articles in reputable, international, peer-reviewed journals; filed one U.S. Patent application in December; and is involved with 23 grants totaling over $610,000 “Dr. Serrat is accomplishing great work in her laboratory which has the potential to have a tremendous clinical impact in the future,” said Joseph I. Shapiro, M.D., JCESOM dean. “Marshall is continuing to build its research footprint and investigators like Maria Serrat are an integral part of our success.”

Dr. Serrat, who completed her bachelor’s degree in anthropology from Miami University in 1999, earned her master’s degree in anthropology from Kent State University. She completed her doctorate in biological anthropology from Kent State University in 2007 and postdoctoral training at Cornell University from 2008 to 2009.

Marshall Diabetes Education Program earns ADA recognition

The Bruce S. Chertow Diabetes Center, an affiliate of Marshall Health, was awarded the prestigious American Diabetes Association (ADA) Education Recognition Certificate for a quality diabetes self-management education program. The ADA’s recertification of the Chertow Diabetes Center means the center’s educational programs meet the National Standards for Diabetes Self-Management Education Programs. “The process gives professionals a national standard by which to measure the quality of services we provide,” said Gerry Bryant, RN/CDE, diabetes education program coordinator for the Chertow Diabetes Center. “It also assures the patient that he or she will receive high-quality service.”

According to the ADA, 9.3 percent of the population in the United States (29.1 million people) have diabetes. Each day, an estimated 4,600 people are diagnosed with diabetes in the U.S. Many will first learn that they have diabetes when they are treated for one of its serious complications, such as heart disease, stroke, kidney disease, blindness, nerve disease or amputation.
AAA Conference in Boston:

JCESOM travels to Experimental Biology meeting.

Marshall University was well represented at the American Association of Anatomists (AAA) annual meeting at Experimental Biology. In late March, researchers from the Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program, the Forensic Science Graduate Program, the School of Pharmacy, and JCESOM presented their findings at this national conference, which took place in Boston, Massachusetts.

Maria A. Serrat, Ph.D., who was honored with the Basmajian Award during the conference, presented “Imaging IGF-I uptake in growth plate cartilage using in vivo multiphoton microscopy” in a special symposium that she organized titled “Vascular and connective tissue imaging in situ: returning bone to the skeleton.” Gary O. Rankin, Ph.D., JCESOM professor and chairman of the department of pharmacology, physiology and toxicology, led a special symposium, “Pharmacogenetics and Drug Toxicity.” Several Marshall graduate students, listed below, were selected for graduate student travel awards and showcased their research through both oral and poster presentations at the national conference.

- **Jenna C. Kerby**, first-year medical student, presented “Temperature-enhanced extremity lengthening is growth rate dependent.” Kerby was selected as one of only eight trainees to give an oral presentation in the Comparative and Evolutionary Physiology Section of the American Physiological Society’s Abstract-Driven Trainee Featured Topic.

- **Caroline Ann Hunter**, biomedical sciences Ph.D. student, received the travel award from the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB) for her presentation, “c-Src regulates mitochondrial translation by phosphorylation of elongation factor Tu.”

- **Christopher Racine**, biomedical sciences Ph.D. candidate, received the travel award from the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET) for his presentation titled “Oxidative stress induced following exposure to 3,5-dichloroaniline (3,5-DCA) in vitro: Role in Nephrotoxicity.”

- **Holly L. Tamski**, biomedical sciences Ph.D. candidate, earned the travel award from the American Association of Anatomists (AAA) for her presentation “Infrared Thermal Imaging to Collect Quantitative Surface Temperatures from Mice in Unilateral Limb Heating Study.”

- **Justin Tomblin**, biomedical sciences Ph.D. candidate, recipient of the Best Research Performance Award from Marshall’s biomedical sciences program, travelled to Boston to present “Pyrrolidine Dithiocarbamate Selectively Induces Autophagy and Cell Death in Triple Negative Breast Cancer Cells.”

Faculty Members Highlighted:

*International Innovation* features Marshall research

In its April publication, *International Innovation* highlighted two of Marshall’s preeminent faculty members and their innovative research on sodium-potassium pumps. Zi-Jian Xie, Ph.D., director of the Marshall Institute for Interdisciplinary Research (MIIR), and Joseph I. Shapiro, M.D., JCESOM dean, were interviewed about their collaboration and their research on Na/K-ATPase functions. The article detailed their research goals, their progress, and the revolutionary and potentially widespread implications of their success in studying cellular pathways underlying kidney disease and heart failure.
Exploring Public Health Challenges

Marshall co-sponsors global health conference

JCESOM's department of family and community health joined with academic partners from the University of Louisville, University of Kentucky, and University of Cincinnati Schools of Medicine to participate in the 6th annual Global Health Conference on April 17. The conference “Global Health Hits Home: Multi-Disciplinary Approaches to Public Health Challenges, Ebola and Beyond” was held at the University of Louisville’s Shelby Campus and was open to physicians, allied health care providers, public health scientists, nurses, students, postdoctoral trainees, and medical residents/fellows.

John Walden, M.D., professor emeritus in the department of family medicine, says Marshall's longtime commitment to global health is a cornerstone of its program and the sponsorship of the global health conference is a natural fit. “Opportunities we offer, like our international health residency track, health policy track and even the nation's first wilderness medicine track, attract residents and medical students from around the country to our training programs and in many cases, they stay here in Appalachia to practice medicine,” Dr. Walden said. “We are so pleased to co-sponsor this important event and are hopeful we will host it next year.”

JCESOM Abroad

Trans-atlantic training opportunities offered to medical students

Through a new international partnership, JCESOM students will have the opportunity to experience medical training at St. George's University of London Medical School. First-year and fourth-year medical students will have the option to take medical electives or participate in research at the school in London. Likewise, up to 30 St. George's students will be selected to spend their clinical years at Marshall starting this August.

According to Bobby Miller, M.D., vice dean of medical education, the agreement provides for incredible learning opportunities. “Marshall students who choose to study an elective or opt for a research experience at St. George’s will see a different model for health care and research,” Dr. Miller said. “And, of course, the influence of St George’s students, many of whom are from countries other than England, will provide a culturally diverse experience for our Marshall students here at home.”

“This initiative was really an outgrowth of President Stephen Kopp’s vision to expose Marshall University students to a more global experience and is certainly representative of his legacy," said Joseph I. Shapiro, M.D., dean.

The program requires medical students to complete the degree requirements outlined by their home institutions; graduates will earn degrees from their respective schools.
Recruiting The Best

Marshall launches accelerated B.S./M.D. program

Thirteen West Virginia students, listed below, will begin this August in Marshall University’s newly-developed B.S./M.D. accelerated program. The inaugural program, which recruits only highly motivated and extremely well-qualified students, condenses the total time in undergraduate school and medical school to seven years.

- Taylor G. Adkins, Barboursville, Cabell County
- Madisen R. Burns, Huntington, Cabell County
- Kaitlan S. Conn, Fort Gay, Wayne County
- Deena Dahshan, Charleston, Kanawha County
- Sarah Evans, Sandyville, Jackson County
- Holly A. Farkosh, Ripley, Jackson County
- Jacob R. Kilgore, Huntington, Wayne County
- Cierra L. King, Williamstown, Wood County
- Alexis P. Lester, Winfield, Putnam County
- Jordan E. Ratcliff, Prichard, Wayne County
- Hannah A. Ray, Huntington, Wayne County
- Dana L. Sharma, Huntington, Cabell County
- Emily H. Short, Summersville, Nicholas County

“I couldn’t be happier we have launched this program at Marshall,” said Joseph I. Shapiro, M.D., dean. “We all recognize that West Virginia needs more doctors. One of the ways we can make that happen is to develop programs that attract and retain our state’s best and brightest students.”

Program admission is very competitive and requires high ACT/SAT scores, a cumulative GPA of 3.75 on a 4.0 scale, three letters of recommendation, and an on-campus interview. The program demands continued excellence from participants as biology majors during their three years of undergraduate training, requiring a 3.5 GPA, 26 credit hours per academic year, and participation in enrichment programs. An undergraduate advisor and a JCESOM mentor will collaboratively guide students to help ensure their success in the accelerated program.

Students who successfully complete the undergraduate portion of the program will not be required to take the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) and will matriculate directly into medical school. Additionally, students will receive a tuition waiver for the medical school portion of the program.

As part of the development team for the novel program, Charles C. Somerville, Ph.D., Dean of the College of Science at Marshall, recognized the benefits to the students, the school, and the state of West Virginia: “The B.S./M.D. program will bring highly talented students to Marshall University, shorten the time it takes for those students to begin practicing medicine in West Virginia, and allow them to complete their educations with limited debt. It’s a win for everyone involved, and we are very excited to be part of it.”

More information is available online at http://jcesom.marshall.edu/students/accelerated-bsmd-program/.

Hepatitis C in WV:

JCESOM examines budgeting Hepatitis C drugs in West Virginia

JCESOM sponsored the Paul Wesley Ambrose Health Policy Panel held on October 9 to discuss West Virginia’s increase in Hepatitis C cases and the cost of Hepatitis C medication for both patients and the state.

The discussion was particularly relevant to both individual patients and the medical community across West Virginia, as the cost of medication aimed at treating Hepatitis C can be prohibitive. According to Matthew Q. Christiansen, M.D., a family medicine resident and Ambrose health policy fellow, “some of [these novel drugs] have a starting price of $80,000.”

Panelists included James B. Becker, M.D., director of WV Medicaid and senior associate dean for clinical affairs; Harry K. Tweel, M.D., physician director, Cabell-Huntington Health Department; and Yaser M. Rayyan, M.D., associate professor of gastroenterology, department of internal medicine.
Congratulations to Resident of the Month awardees!

**November**
Ashley B. Zawodniak, D.O.,
second-year internal medicine resident

**December**
Johnson B. Walker, M.D.,
third-year surgery resident

**January**
Jodi M. Pitsenbarger, M.D.,
third-year pediatric resident

**February**
Carolyn A. Curtis, M.D.,
second-year department of family and community health resident

**March**
Naveed S. Iqbal, M.D.,
first-year cardiology fellow

**April**
Jacob T. Kilgore, M.D.,
second-year internal medicine/pediatrics resident

In a collaborative effort to spotlight compassionate and respectful health care, students with the Marshall University and West Virginia University Schools of Medicine hosted the second consecutive Gold Humanism Educational Summit in Charleston. The event, held at Charleston's Culture Center, targeted medical, nursing, physical therapy, and pharmacy students and sought to teach attendees about balancing cutting-edge science with compassionate, patient-centered care. Conference participants (pictured above) discussed character traits like integrity, excellence, compassion, altruism, respect, and empathy, which are promoted by the Gold Humanism Honor Society (GHHS) as keys to better healthcare outcomes for patients and workers in the medical field.

Gold Humanism Honor Society

Congratulations 2015-2016 Inductees!

**Students**
Paul Vincent Viscuse
Kyle Matthew Burner
Megan Abigail Smith
Hagger Ali
Matthew Abadir
Jason Lee Dickherber
Marjorie Ellen Kilgore
Warren C. Doyle
Audrey M. Dean
David M. Modlin

**Residents**
Jesse N. Cottrell, M.D.
Audrey J. Hicks, M.D.
Thomas A. Alberico, M.D.
Chadwick J. Knight, M.D.
Amy Ally Roy, M.D.
Aaron M. Brownfield, M.D.

**Faculty**
Jay R. Lakhani, M.D.
Paul B. Ferguson, M.D.
Amy Smith, M.Ed.
The Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) Honor Medical Society honored ten students, three residents, and two faculty members from JCESOM this past April by inducting them into the national honor society. AOA, which has inducted over 150,000 members since its inception in 1902, has over 120 chapters spread across the United States. AOA students are selected from among the top quartile in a given class. Academic performance, leadership, and professionalism are all considered, as well as a firm sense of ethics and service to the school and community. Resident and faculty inductees are selected by a caucus of members of the society, which includes students.

Welcome!

Peter D. Ray, M.D., a board-certified and fellowship-trained pediatric plastic surgeon who specializes in cleft and craniofacial surgery, has joined the department of surgery at JCESOM. Originally from Buffalo, New York, Ray earned his medical degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. He completed residencies in general surgery and plastic surgery at the University of Alabama, where he also had subspecialty training in pediatric cleft and craniofacial surgery. He was most recently at the University of Alabama-Birmingham (UAB), where he served as assistant professor of surgery and provided treatment to children with cleft and craniofacial conditions, as well as children with deformities secondary to trauma or burns.

Welcome!

Sheanna M. Spence has been selected to serve as assistant director for alumni affairs and community relations at JCESOM and Marshall Health. A Huntington native and Marshall alumni, Ms. Spence has worked for nearly ten years in development and community outreach, most recently as the director of institutional advancement for Mountwest Community and Technical College. Ms. Spence earned her bachelor’s degree in journalism from Marshall and a master’s in journalism from Ohio University.

Welcome!

Charles A. Gullo, Ph.D., is serving as the new associate dean for medical education at JCESOM. Dr. Gullo will be responsible for the oversight of the medical education program, including curriculum improvement, development and implementation, as well as assessment and improvement of medical education evaluation methods. Additionally, he will assist in faculty development and student assessment. Dr. Gullo, who most recently was in Singapore with the Duke/NUS Medical School and the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine, holds a doctorate in microbiology/immunology from the University of Virginia and completed a postdoctoral research fellowship at Beth Israel Deaconess/Harvard Medical Center in 2003.
Pillow Pets for Hospice Children

Donations organized by JCESOM and Hospice of Huntington

Together with Amy Smith, BSN, M.Ed., assistant dean of student affairs, and Amanda Duffy, Hospice of Huntington patient care volunteer, JCESOM medical students collected around 75 Pillow Pets for Hospice of Huntington. The medical students launched a successful social media campaign calling for donations to support the non-profit agency. The Pillow Pets are intended for children in Noah's Ark, Hospice of Huntington's pediatric program, and were presented to the hospice in August.

MJM open for submissions July 1!

As an international, peer-reviewed, open-access journal, MJM will encompass any and all aspects of health and disease, including the dynamics and dimensions of public health. MJM’s expected launch date is October 1.
Book and Book Chapters

Biochemistry & Microbiology


Family Medicine


Internal Medicine


Surgery


Multi-disciplinary


Peer-Reviewed Publications

Biochemistry & Microbiology


Cardiology


Clinical and Translational Sciences


Family Medicine


Internal Medicine


Tariq Sharman, Fadi W. Alkhankan, Prasanna Santhanam. “Diffuse Pulmonary Carcinoid tumorlets; a rare
cause of chronic intractable cough.” Abstract in ACP Regional Meeting. Published 2014.


Neuroscience


Obstetrics & Gynecology


Pharmacology, Physiology, & Toxicology


He Z, Li B, Gary O. Rankin, Rojanasakul Y, Chen YC. “Selecting bioactive phenolic compounds as potential agents to inhibit proliferation and VEGF expression in human ovarian cancer cells.” Oncology Letters. Published March 2015;9(3):1444-1450.


Racine C, Anestis D, Ball J, Monica Valentovic, Gary O. Rankin. “Exploring the Role of Oxidative Stress in 3,5-Dichloroaniline (3,5-DCA)-Induced Nephrotoxicity In Vitro.” Abstract in Toxicologist. Published March 2015;144(1) Abstract 2283.


Surgery


Multidisciplinary


James Denvir (Biochemistry & Microbiology), Shirley M. Neitch (Internal Medicine), Fan J, Richard M. Niles (Biochemistry & Microbiology), Boskovic G, Schreurs BG, Don A. Primerano (Biochemistry & Microbiology), Alkon DL. “Identification of the PS1 Thr147Ile Variant in a Family with Very Early Onset Dementia and Expressive Aphasia.” Journal of Alzheimer’s Disease. Published 26 March 2015.


Yousef R. Shweihat (Internal Medicine), James D. Perry (Internal Medicine), Darshana Shah (Anatomy & Pathology). “Isolated Candida
infection of the lung." Case report in Respiratory Medicine Case Reports. Published March 2015; doi:10.1016/j.rmcr.2015.03.001.


Internal Medicine

Nancy J. Munn is a reviewer for Respiratory Medicine Case Reports, October 2014 - March 2015.

Prasanna Santhanam is a manuscript reviewer for North American Journal of Medical Sciences, September 2014 - October 2014, and Annals of Internal Medicine, March - April 2015.

Pediatrics

Susan L. Flesher is a journal reviewer for Clinical Pediatrics, March - December 2015.

Pharmacology, Physiology, & Toxicology

Larry M. Grover is a reviewer for Brain Stimulation, Brain Research Bulletin, and Neurobiology of Learning and Memory, 2014.

Grants Funded

Anatomy & Pathology


Family Medicine


Orthopedic Surgery


Pharmacology, Physiology, & Toxicology


Multi-disciplinary

David G. Chaffin, Jr. (Obstetrics & Gynecology), Richard D. Egleton (Pharmacology, Physiology, & Toxicology), Anne M. Silvis (Obstetrics & Gynecology). “Evaluating Buprenorphine Metabolism in Opiate-Addicted Mothers and Fetal Tissue as a Predictor of Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome in Rural Appalachia,” Center for Rural Health and the Clinical Research Center, Marshall University, $25,000.

Sarah L. Miles (Biochemistry & Microbiology), Nadim Bou Zgheib (Obstetrics & Gynecology), Pier P. Claudio (Biochemistry & Microbiology). “Analysis of gene expression profile for platinum resistance in ovarian cancer; the role of cancer stem-like cells,” Zacharias OB/GYN - Bucks for Brains, $34,800, January 2015 - December 2015.

Grant Reviewers and Study Sections

Biochemistry & Microbiology

Vincent E. Sollars served as a grant application reviewer for the National Science Foundation Graduate Research...
Fellowship Program, October 2014 - January 2015; the Ralph Powe Award Program for Junior Faculty, February - March 2015; and the Pennsylvania Final Performance Review of the CURE program, March - April 2015.

Family Medicine

Kevin S. McCann is a Primary Investigator in an Ongoing Study-JCESOM-IRB #720850-1, Observational Study of the Structured and Monitored Management of Chronic Non-Malignant Pain with Opiates in a Rural Primary Care Office in a High Opiate Abuse Region, March 2014.

Pharmacology, Physiology, & Toxicology

Gary O. Rankin was part of the NIH Special Emphasis Panel NIT ZGM1 TWD-C (CL) for March 2014 and NIH ZGM1 TWD-C (CT) for February 2015.

Monica Valentovic served as an NIH study section grant reviewer member for R03 Diversity, October - December 2014

Scholarly Activity: National/International

Family Medicine

Charles W. Clements, II, is serving as chair of the Southern Division Medical Advisory Committee, National Ski Patrol, February 2015.

Neuroscience

Terrence D. Julien is a member of the Committee on Surgical Palliative Care (CSPC) for the American College of Surgeons, October 2014 - October 2016.

Pharmacology, Physiology, & Toxicology

Gary O. Rankin is a member of the Continuing Medical Education Task Force and the Continuing Education Long Range Task Force, from July 2014; an officer in the Division of Toxicology for the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, May 2014 – May 2016; a VA Camp Lejeune Guidance Review Committee member for the Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences, January 2014 - January 2015; and part of the Continuing Education Committee in the Society of Toxicology, July 2014.

Elsa I. Mangiarua is a Council of Faculty and Academic Societies (CFAS) Representative for the Association of Chairs of Departments of Physiology, January 2015 - December 2015, and an exhibitor in the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students, November 2014.

Office of Medical Education

Charles Gullo is a Membership Committee Member in the Team Based Learning Collaborative (TBLC), August 2014.

Scholarly Activity: Regional/State

Family Medicine

Adam M. Franks is an Advisory Committee Officer in the WV Alliance for Creative Health Solutions, March 2015.

Internal Medicine

Lynne J. Goebel is serving as the president of the WV Geriatric Society, January 2015.

Obstetrics & Gynecology

Amanda N. Pauley is an OB/GYN representative in the Physician Advisory Council, HealthNet, March 2015.

Orthopedic Surgery

Ali Oliashirazi sits on the Board of Directors of the Cabell County Medical Society as the immediate past president, February 2015 - January 2016, and serves in the Board of Directors for the Harmony House, July 2014.

Service: Local

Family Medicine

Kevin S. McCann is a PROMOTE Committee Member, JCESOM, February 2015, and a health officer for the Medical Director Cabell Huntington Health Department, November 2014 – May 2015.

Internal Medicine

Mahmoud A. Shorman has served as a member of the Infection Control Committee, St. Mary’s Medical Clinic, PNT, Cabell Huntington Hospital, 2014.

Obstetrics & Gynecology

Amanda N. Pauley is a member of the Perinatal Team for Cabell Huntington Hospital, August 2014.

Meeting Presentations: National/International

Anatomy & Pathology


Tamski HL, Maria A. Serrat. “Infrared thermal imaging to collect quantitative surface temperatures from mice in unilateral limb heating study.” Poster
presentation at Experimental Biology Meeting, Boston, MA, March 2015.


Biochemistry & Microbiology


Clinical and Translational Sciences


Family Medicine


Internal Medicine


Office of Medical Education


Orthopedic Surgery


Pediatrics

of Basic Science into the Clinical Years”
and “Universal Competencies to Create
a Universal Curriculum,” oral and poster
presentations, respectively, at Group
for Research in Pathology Education
(GRIPE) Annual Meeting 2015,
Tallahassee, FL, January 2015.

Hayes R, Aaron M. McGuffin, Jacob
Kilgore. “Universal Notes. The Future of
Medical Education?” Poster presentation
at Innovations in Medical Education
Conference, Los Angeles, CA, February
2015.

Pharmacology, Physiology, &
Toxicology
Ahmad T, Sabet S, Richards-Waugh
L, Gary O. Rankin. “Role of CYP2B6
genetic polymorphisms in unexpected
methadone fatality.” Poster presentation
at American Academy of Forensic
Sciences, Orlando, FL, February 2015.

Tate J, Racine CR, Vermudez, S, Tyree
“Role of renal bioactivation enzyme
systems on 3,5-dichloronitrobenzene
(3,5-DCNB) induced nephrotoxicity.”
Poster presentation at Annual Society
of Toxicology Meeting, San Diego, CA,
March 2015.

Vermudez SA, Tate J, Anestis DK,
Racine CR, Tyree C, Ward D, Gary
O. Rankin. “Trichloronitrobenzene
nephrotoxicity in isolated renal
cortical cells (IRCC) from Fischer 344
rats.” Poster presentation at Annual
Biomedical Research Conference for
Minority Students, San Antonio, TX,
November 2014.

Racine CR, Anestis D, Ball J, Monica
Valentovic, Gary O. Rankin. “Oxidative
stress induced following exposure to
3,5-dichloroaniline (3,5-DCA) in
vitro; Role in nephrotoxicity.” Poster
presentation at Annual Experimental
Biology Meeting, Boston, MA, March
2015.

Racine CR, Anestis D, Ball J, Monica
Valentovic, Gary O. Rankin.
“Exploring the role of oxidative stress
in 3,5-dichloroaniline (3,5-DCA)
induced nephrotoxicity in vitro.” Poster
presentation at Annual Society of
Toxicology Meeting, San Diego, CA,
March 2015.

Monica Valentovic, Ball JG, Murphy
R, Lamayathing AB, Schnelle A.
“Resveratrol Attenuates Cisplatin
Cytotoxicity in HK-2 Cells: Effects on
TNF alpha and oxidative stress.” Poster
presentation at Annual Society of
Toxicology Meeting, San Diego, CA,
March 2015.

Tomblin J, Mehmi I, Travis B. Salisbury.
“Pyridylidine Dithiocarbamate, a Potent
NFKappa-ß Inhibitor, Induces Cell
Cycle Dysregulation and Suppression
of Autophagy in Triple-Negative Breast
Cancer Cells.” Poster presentation at
Experimental Biology Meeting, Boston,
MA, March 2015.

Psychiatry
Teverovsky EG, Todd M. Derreberry,
O’toole KA, Solai L, Swartz HA.
“Bellevief Enhanced Supportive Team
(BEST): Higher Level Outpatient Mental
Health Care for Older Adults.” Poster
presentation at American Association
for Geriatric Psychiatry Annual Meeting,
New Orleans, LA, March 2015.

Surgery
Lawrence M. Wyner. “Rare Geode-
Type Bladder Stone Formation: A Case
Study.” Poster presentation at Southern
Medical Association’s Annual Scientific
Assembly, Destin, FL, November 2014.

Multidisciplinary
Don A. Primerano (Biochemistry &
Microbiology), James Denvir
(Biochemistry & Microbiology), Fan
J. Boskovic G, Parkman J, Jung Han
Kim (Pharmacology, Physiology,
& Toxicology). “Whole Genome
Sequencing of the TALLYHO/
Jng Mouse and Identification of
Obesity Susceptibility Variants.”
Poster presentation at Association of
Biomolecular Resource Facilities, St.
Louis, MO, March 2015.

Travis B. Salisbury (Pharmacology,
Physiology, & Toxicology), Don
A. Primerano (Biochemistry &
Microbiology), Fan J, James Denvir
(Biochemistry & Microbiology). “RNA-
seq and bioinformatics reveals that
TCDD-regulated genes are highly
associated with glucocorticoid and
progesterone signaling pathways in
human MCF7 breast cancer cells.”
Poster presentation at Annual Society
of the Study of Toxicology Meeting, San
Diego, CA, March 2015.

Todd W. Gress (Internal Medicine),
Nalini Santanam (Pharmacology,
Physiology, & Toxicology). “Impact
of technology-based intervention
on biomarkers and microRNAs in
patients with T2DM.” Invited lecture at
International Conference on Recent
Advances in Research and Treatment
of Human Diseases and 4th Annual
Meeting of Indian Academy of
Biomedical Sciences, Hyderabad, India,
January 2015.

Jesse N. Cottrell (Obstetrics &
Gynecology), Brenda L. Mitchell
(Obstetrics & Gynecology), Anne M.
Silvis (Obstetrics & Gynecology), Monica
Valentovic (Pharmacology, Physiology,
& Toxicology). “Urban and Rural Differences
in Prenatal Exposure to Essential and
Toxic Elements.” Poster presentation at
Society for Reproductive Investigation,
San Francisco, CA, March 2015.

Miaozong Wu (Internal Medicine),
Wang C, Arvapalli R, Dai X, William
Triest (Anatomy & Pathology), John
W. Leidy, Jr. (Internal Medicine), Yanal
Masannat (Internal Medicine), Blough
ER. “Acetaminophen Attenuates High
Glucose-induced Oxidative Stress
and Fibrogenesis in the Human Renal
Mesangial Cells.” Poster presentation at
the 60th Annual Conference of American
Society for Artificial Internal Organs,
Washington, DC, June 2014.

Yan Y, Shapiro AP, Malhotra D, Xie Z,
Nader G. Abraham (Internal Medicine),
Joseph I. Shapiro (Internal Medicine),
Jiang Liu (Pharmacology, Physiology,
& Toxicology). “Protein Carbonylation of
the Na/K-ATPase a1 subunit dictates
Na/K-A TPase signaling and Sodium
Transport in renal proximal tubular
cells.” Poster presentation at American
Society of Nephrology Annual Meeting,
Philadelphia PA, November 2014.

Drummond CA, Jiang Liu
(Pharmacology, Physiology, &
Toxicology), Shi H, Haller ST, Liu J,
Xie Z, Cooper CJ, Joseph I. Shapiro
(Internal Medicine), Tian J. “Inhibition
of Na/K-ATPase Signaling Regulates
Cardiac C-Kit Cell Expression in Mice


**Meeting Presentations:** Regional/State

**Anatomy & Pathology**

Gray MX, **Maria A. Serrat**. “Protein labeling methods to study temperature effects on IGF-I delivery to growing mouse bones.” Oral presentation at Undergraduate Research Day at the West Virginia Capitol, Charleston, WV, March 2015.

**Maria A. Serrat**. “Temperature enhanced bone elongation in growth plates.” Poster presentation at University of Kentucky CTSA External Advisory Board Retreat, October 2014.

**Biochemistry & Microbiology**

Hunter CA, Miller-Lee JL, Koc H, **Emine C. Koc**. “c-Src Regulates Mitochondrial Translation by Elongation Factor Tu (mEF-Tu) Phosphorylation.” Poster presentation at ASCB Midwest Membrane Trafficking and Signaling Symposium, Louisville, KY, October 2014.


**Family Medicine**

**Mohammed I. Ranavaya**. “Occupational COPD- It’s not just caused by cigarette smoking.” Invited lecture at West Virginia Summit on COPD 2015 Symposium, Roanoke, West Virginia, March 2015.

**Orthopedic Surgery**


**Pediatrics**

**Eduardo Pino**. “Overview of Pediatric Trauma.” Invited lecture at Holzer Medical Center Respiratory Symposium, Gallipolis, OH, October 2014.

**Pharmacology, Physiology, & Toxicology**


**Multidisciplinary**

**Jacob Kilgore** (Med/Peds), Christine L. Gilkerson (Internal Medicine). “Bilateral Vision Loss in a Supratherapeutic INR Patient.” Poster presentation at West Virginia State American College of Physicians meeting, Roanoke, WV, October 2014.

**Meeting Presentations:** Local

**Family Medicine**

Charles W. Clements, II. “Disaster Preparedness.” Oral presentation at Cabell County Medical Society, Huntington, WV, March 2015.

**Information Technology**


**Orthopedic Surgery**


**Milestones and Achievements**

**Multidisciplinary**

Kristeena Ray, winner of Basic Science Oral Presentation, with Brenda L. Mitchell (Obstetrics & Gynecology), Monica Valentovic (Pharmacology, Physiology, & Toxicology). “Variations in Umbilical Cord Vitamin D Levels as a function of Birth Month, Urban Status, Cotinine and Lead Levels.” Oral presentation at West Virginia Rural Health Conference, Morgantown, WV, October 2014.


**Jared Brownfield**, winner of Clinical Science Poster Presentation, Post-Graduate Category, with **Anne Silvis** (Obstetrics & Gynecology), **Ryan Stone** (Obstetrics & Gynecology), **Nalini Santanam** (Pharmacology, Physiology, & Toxicology), **David Jude** (Obstetrics & Gynecology). “Placental ADRB1 mRNA as a Potential Predictor of Outcome and Possible Therapeutic Target in High Risk Pregnancies.” 27th Annual Research Day, Marshall University, March 2014.

It is on record that when a young aspirant asked Faraday the secret of his success as a scientific investigator, he replied, “The secret is comprised in three words—Work, Finish, Publish.”

— Michael Faraday, (1872), pg.122, by J. H. Gladstone
Scholarship Workshop
Dr. Ann Frye will be holding a Publishing Educational Scholarship Workshop for JCESOM faculty on July 15th, from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m., at the Byrd Center in Rooms 1020 & 1021. Please RSVP to rockel6@marshall.edu by July 6th.

A Presentation from Dr. Butch
Dr. Silpa Butch, Ph.D., professor and vice chair for research and Director of the Nebraska Center for Substance Abuse Research, will be coming to JCESOM July 22nd to present NeuroAIDS: A Tango of HIV and the Host.

Welcoming New Faculty
Meet and greet our new faculty at 5:00 p.m., August 19th, at the Guyan Golf & Country Club. All JCESOM faculty are welcome to attend!

Now Accepting Proposals
Proposals for the 2015 Tri-State Conference on Diversity and Inclusion are now being accepted! The conference will be at Marshall University on Friday, September 11th, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. All workshops should be centered on the overarching theme of the conference, “Beyond Diversity.” More information about the conference is available at www.tristatediversityandinclusion.com.

Hunks, Chunks & Bites
How to Get Your Writing Projects Planned So You Can Get Them Completed is coming to JCESOM! Meggin McIntosh, “The PhD of Productivity,” will be leading the half-day workshop for everyone who has writing (and other) projects they want to complete. The program will be sponsored by the Textbook and Academic Authors Association (TAA) and is planned for mid-September.

A Visit From the ACGME
Dr. Eric Holmboe, Senior Vice President for Milestones Development and Evaluation, Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), is coming to JCESOM on October 6th to give a presentation on ACGME milestones and assessments.

Discussing Bias
On October 9th, Shelvy Campbell, Ph.D., assistant dean of diversity, will be presenting “Could Unconscious Bias be holding you back?”

Quality & Safety Summit and Poster Presentation Day
The second annual Quality & Safety Summit and Poster Presentation Day will be on Friday, November 13th, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., in the MUMC Atrium. Dr. Robert Flora, director of medical education and designated institutional official at Providence Hospital, will be the guest speaker at noon.