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Professional Enhancement Newsletter

Marshall University, Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine

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Cultural competencies have become a matter of national concern due to growing racial and ethnic disparities in health, as well as the need for healthcare systems to accommodate increasingly diverse patient populations. Awareness of diversity is an ongoing, evolving process that includes understanding of self and understanding the uniqueness of individuals, their experiences and their contributions to physicians’ training.

JCESOM faculty members are committed to cultural sensitivity and awareness in order to provide a greater impact in physicians’ training.

Inclusion as a way to successfully achieve diversity at JCESOM is the focus of this issue of “PEN.”

Darshana Shah
Maria Tria Tirona leads cancer clinical trials program

Maria “Marissa” Tirona, MD, FACP, is professor of medicine and chief of the Hematology/Oncology Section of the Department of Medicine. She also is director of medical oncology for the Edwards Comprehensive Cancer Center.

She earned her MD degree from the University of the East R.M. Memorial Medical Center in the Philippines. She completed her internal medicine residency training and also served as chief resident at Mercy Hospital in Buffalo, N.Y. She then completed her hematology/oncology fellowship training at Emory University.

Before joining the JCESOM faculty, she led the cancer clinical trials program of the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency and served as director of medical oncology at the Allan Blair Cancer Center in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada.

She is a fellow of the American College of Physicians and is board certified in internal medicine and medical oncology by the American Board of Internal Medicine.

Dr. Tirona initiated the cancer clinical trials program at JCESOM, where she was one of the principal investigators of the National Cancer Institute-sponsored Clinical Trials Support Unit. In 2010, through her leadership, the ECCC was accepted as a member of the North Central Cancer Treatment Group, a major NCI-sponsored cooperative group based at the Mayo Clinic.

She also actively participates in the teaching and education of medical students and residents through mentorships and lectures. She recently took over the directorship of the medical oncology fellowship program, which will start in July 2012.

She serves as member-at-large of the West Virginia Oncology Society and was one of its founding members. She is also the cancer liaison physician of Cabell Huntington Hospital.

Dr. Tirona has an active clinical practice at the ECCC. Her main interests are breast cancer, lung cancer and gastrointestinal malignancies.

State & National Leadership Activities

Biochemistry & Microbiology
Richard Niles organized and chaired the Obesity and cancer session for the Appalachian Health Summit in Lexington, Ky., in April. He also was a member of the external advisory board that site visited and evaluated the Center of Biomedical Research Excellence at North Dakota State University.

Family Medicine
John Parker was elected secretary of the West Virginia Academy of Family Physicians.

Forensic Science
Graham Rankin is associate editor for the Journal of ASTM International: Medical, Safety and Forensic Science section. He also is chair-elect of the Criminalistics Section of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Forensic Scientists.

Internal Medicine
Ahmad Nusair was named chairman of the External Affairs Committee of the Society for Health Care Epidemiology of America. He also received bronze and silver levels of certification in the Quality Academy at the Mayo Clinic.

Orthopaedics
Ali Oliashrazi was chairman for the Controversies and technological advances in primary and complex hip and knee replacement course at the Greenbrier Resort in May. He also was on the faculty for an Introduction to hip and knee arthroplasty course in San Diego, Calif., in August 2011.

Pharmacology, Physiology & Toxicology
Gary Rankin was appointed to the editorial boards of three journals: Toxicology, Chemico-Biological Interactions and ISRN Toxicology.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM WEBSITE:
musom.marshall.edu/fdp/

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Joint replacement is clinical, research focus for Ali Oliashirazi

Dr. Ali Oliashirazi is professor and chair of the Department of Orthopaedics, as well as its program director. He also is director of the Mary H. Hodges Joint Replacement Center/Program at Cabell Huntington Hospital.

Dr. Oliashirazi is an orthopaedic surgeon with special interest and expertise in joint replacement (total hip and knee, including anterior hip replacement and partial knee replacement) and minimally invasive surgery. His other interests include computer-assisted surgery, arthroscopy and trauma.

He is a graduate of George Washington School of Medicine, where he was the valedictorian of his class. He is the past president of the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society at GWU. He received his postgraduate training in orthopaedic surgery at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.

He is a fellow of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons and a diplomate of the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery. He lectures extensively, and his research has been presented both nationally and internationally.

Grants

Anatomy, Cell & Neurobiology
Maria Serrat was awarded a $20,000 NASA West Virginia Space Consortium Research Initiation Grant for a project that established a platform for live-animal imaging using multiphoton microscopy to support bone elongation research.

Family Medicine
Richard Crespo received a five-year, $2.6 million grant from the Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation for Building the capacity of diabetes coalitions in rural Appalachia. The grant ties into MU's ongoing Appalachian Diabetes Control and Translation Project, which is funded by the Appalachian Regional Commission and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Forensic Science
Graham Rankin received a two-year, $540,000 grant from the National Institute of Justice for the project Interpretation of ignitable liquid residues in fire debris analysis: effect of competitive adsorption, development of an expert system and assessment of the false positive/incorrect assignment rate.

Grant Review Activity

Biochemistry & Microbiology
Richard Niles participated in a predoctoral and postdoctoral oncological sciences study section for the NIH, participated in screening pre-applications for the Department of Defense Breast Cancer IDEA program, and served on Grant Review Panel II for the American Institute for Cancer Research.

Forensic Science
Graham Rankin served in June on the grant review committee for the National Institute of Justice Coverdell Grant

Pharmacology, Physiology & Toxicology
Piyali Dasgupta was accepted as a member of the American Society of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics. She also was among the Marshall scientists featured in a Feb. 25, 2001, West Virginia Public Television segment on the university’s MU-ADVANCE program.

Nalini Santanam was the co-chair of the Russell Ross Memorial Lectureship at the 2010 American Heart Association Scientific Sessions in Chicago. She was also the chair of the Aging & Oxidative Stress session at the 10th Annual Meeting of the Society for Free Radical Research-International (India chapter) in January 2011.

Pharmacology, Physiology & Toxicology
Travis Salisbury received funding for two grants: $20,000 for Epigenetic endocrine disruption through the MU Cell Differentiation and Development Center and $11,000 for Characterization of the aryl hydrocarbon receptor cistrome through the WV-INBRE next generation sequencing challenge grant.
Teaching excellence is the norm for David C. Jude

David C. Jude, MD, FACOG, is professor and chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. In addition to serving as chair, he has been the OB/GYN residency program director since 2003.

Dr. Jude joined the faculty of the School of Medicine in 1994. He was named the Zacharias Professor for Obstetric and Gynecologic Education in 2004. Dr. Jude is active in developing tools to evaluate medical student and resident performance. He is a member of the USMLE Step II Ob/Gyn item-writing committee and the Council on Resident Education in Obstetrics and Gynecology examination committee. Dr. Jude serves as a reviewer for the American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology. He is a member of the West Virginia Perinatal Partnership Central Advisory Committee.

Dr. Jude has won numerous teaching awards in his tenure at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, including the Teaching Excellence Award in Obstetrics and Gynecology, the APGO Excellence in Teaching Award and the CREOG National Faculty Award. He also was presented the Attending of the Year Award by the JCESOM Class of 2005.

He received his BS and MD degrees from Marshall University. Dr. Jude completed his residency in obstetrics and gynecology at the Medical College of Pennsylvania, Allegheny Campus, in Pittsburgh.

In addition to being a fellow of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Dr. Jude is a member of the Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics and the American Association of Gynecologic Laparoscopists. He is a graduate of the APGO Educational Leaders and Scholars program. He is a faculty selection into Alpha Omega Alpha.

CULTURE...

Everybody has culture, even though some folks think they don’t. Culture is ever present. It greets you when you and the sun first wake up in the morning and it rests with you when you get comfortable enough to fall asleep and say the day is over. Culture is how you love and who you choose to love. It’s whether you eat cornbread or pumpernickel. It’s how you respond to the dilemmas life offers and how you celebrate living. It shows itself without you knowing and it tells who you are without you speaking. Culture includes all your family, even those who are dead and gone because they are the ones who set the cultural patterns you follow.

Culture is often vibrant and loud or sometimes quiet and subtle, but you know it when you see it because it has color!

...Mona Lake Jones

—From The Color of Culture, 1993; reprinted with permission of the author

Grant Review Activities
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Solicitation (funding to reduce backlog and improve quality of forensic services by crime labs).

Pharmacology, Physiology & Toxicology
Gary Rankin served on an NIDDK Special Emphasis Panel for pilot clinical applications in urology and nephrology.

Lawrence Grover reviewed grants for the Alzheimer’s Association.

Elsa Mangiarua was a grant reviewer for the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program and the Department of Defense National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship.

Monica Valentovic was a grant reviewer for an NIDDK study section in March 2011.

Richard Egleton was a grant reviewer for the American Heart Association Brain 1 spring study section.

Nalini Santanam reviewed grants for the American Heart Association, Cardiovascular Committee 2B.
New Multicultural Advisory Council Meets

The Office of Faculty Affairs and Development has formed a Multicultural Advisory Council (MAC) made up of faculty, staff, residents and students who will provide guidance for planning and designing activities and programs that reflect and support diversity. One of its first projects is the multicultural calendar now shown on the JCESOM website (http://musom.marshall.edu) to promote cultural awareness among the faculty, residents, students and staff.

The first speaker in our newly implemented Diversity and Dialogue Series, Dr. Jeannette South-Paul presented two talks on October 25th: a medical grand rounds presentation on health disparities and a second talk entitled “Diversity and Inclusion and its Impact on Medical Education.” Other nationally renowned speakers will be invited for the series quarterly.

Shown here at the council’s first meeting are, from left, Darshana Shah, Wade Douglas (chair), Beverly Delidow, Elsa Mangiarua, Rosa Carrasco, Maria Lopez-Marti, Samuel Boateng and Paul Ferguson. Also in attendance were Mehiar El-Hamdani, Sammy Hodroge, Zubair Ansari, Don Morning Jr. and Marvyn Grayson.

Peer-Reviewed Publications

**Multidisciplinary**

**Family Medicine**

**Internal Medicine**

Tae Hoon Lee (co-first author). The entecavir and adefovir combination treatment for chronic hepatitis B patients after failure of nucleos(t)ide analogues (accepted). Antiviral Therapy.


**Orthopaedics**

**Pharmacology, Physiology & Toxicology**


JiaFei, Carla Cook, Miriah Gillespie, Bangning Yu, Khya Fullen and Nalini Santanam. Atherogenic w-6 lipids modulate PPAR-EGR-1 cross-talk in vascular cells. PPAR Research. 2011.


**Surgery**

Lawrence Wyner. 1. PSA testing: boon or boondoggle? 2. Erectile dysfunction/Premature ejaculation: work-up and management. Urologic Concerns in Men, Audio-Digest Family Practice. 59:28, July 28, 2011.

Manuscript Reviewers

Biochemistry & Microbiology
Beverly Delidow reviewed manuscripts for the journals Endocrine and Gut.

Susan Jackman was an invited reviewer for several chapters in The Immune System, Third Edition (Garland Science).

Pharmacology, Physiology & Toxicology
Lawrence Grover was a journal reviewer for Neuroscience.

Piyali Dasgupta reviewed manuscripts for Molecular Cancer and Journal of Oncology.

Nalini Santanam was a reviewer for Life Sciences, Cardiology Research and Practice, and PLOS One.

Professional Milestones

Maria Serrat (Anatomy and Pathology) and Piyali Dasgupta (Pharmacology, Physiology and Toxicology) were selected to participate in the Association of American Medical Colleges Early Career Women Faculty Professional Development Seminar in Washington, D.C., in July.

Invited Presentations

Anatomy & Pathology
Darshana Shah was invited as a faculty facilitator for the OSR/GWIM breakout session “Creating a Career in Academic Medicine” at the AAMC annual conference in November 2011.

Family Medicine
John Walden gave two presentations at the Military Tropical Medicine Course in August at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Md. His topics were:

Working with indigenous peoples and Everything you wanted to ask an NGO, but were afraid to ask.

Internal Medicine
Ahmad Nusair presented grand rounds at the Mayo Clinic in April. The topic was Isolation of aspergillus from the respiratory tract of ICU patients with COPD: a marker of poor clinical outcome.

Pharmacology, Physiology and Toxicology
Nalini Santanam presented grand rounds at Emory University School of Medicine in June. She also was an invited speaker at the University of Kentucky CTSA conference, Appalachian Health Summit: Focus on Obesity, in April.

Books & Book Chapters

Orthopaedics
Ali Oliashirazi wrote the chapter Hip biomechanics in Essentials of total hip arthroplasty, edited by Javad Parvizi.

Meeting Presentations

Multidisciplinary
Nalini Santanam, Carla Cook, Krithika Selvarajan, Brenda Dawley and Sampath Parthasarathy. Fresh human peritoneal macrophages express higher MFG-8 compared to cultured peritoneal macrophages. World Symposium on Endometriosis, Atlanta, March 2011.


Brandon Shiflett, Kathleen Brown, Jamie Lau, Ted Witte, Elaine Hardman, Yi Chen, Haitao Luo and Piyali Dasgupta. MG624, an alpha-7-nicotinic receptor antagonist, suppresses the growth of human SCLC. Experimental Biology Conference 2011, Washington, D.C.


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**Meeting Presentations**

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**Anatomy & Pathology**


Darshana Shah, co-presented a workshop titled *How to be an effective course director* at the Association of Pathology Chairs meeting in July 2011.

Darshana Shah co-presented a workshop entitled *The outcomes logic model: An approach for program planning and Evaluation* at the International Association of Medical Science Educators meeting in June 2011.

**Biochemistry & Microbiology**

Beverly Delidow and Anne Silvis. *Communication Skills for Biomedical Science Students: An interactive course designed to enhance skills pertinent to the graduate career and future professional development* (poster). ASBMB Special Symposium on Student-Centered Education in the Molecular Life Sciences, University of Richmond, July 2011.

**Forensic Science**


**Internal Medicine**


**Pharmacology, Physiology & Toxicology**


Travis Ferguson, Sukanya Baksi, Dianne Anestis and Gary Rankin. *Effects of cytochrome P450 (CYP) and flavin monooxygenase (FMO) inhibitor on 4-amino-2-chlorophenol (4A2CP) nephrotoxicity in vitro*. Annual meeting of the West Virginia Academy of Science, April 2011.

Sukanya Baksi, Travis Ferguson, Christopher Smurthwaite, Carly Schuetz, Dianne Anestis and Gary Rankin. *Mechanistic aspects of 3,5dichloroaniline nephrotoxicity in vitro*. Annual meeting of the West Virginia Academy of Science, April 2011.


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Meeting Presentations
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Michael Brown, John Ball, Taha Ahmad and Monica Valentovic. Acetaminophen and S-adenosyl-L-methionine (SAMe) effects on oxidative stress enzymes: attenuation by SAMe. Toxicologist 120.


Monica Valentovic, John Ball and Michael Brown. Cisplatin-mediated alterations in oxidative stress enzymes are modulated by resveratrol. Experimental Biology FASEB, April 2011.

Michael Brown, John Ball and Monica Valentovic. S-adenosyl-L-methionine attenuation of lipid peroxidation markers following acetaminophen toxicity. Lipid Biology and Lipotoxicity, Killarney, Ireland, May 2011.

STUDENT AWARDS TO FACULTY

Class of 2014
Robert Buckovan
Rudy Wang
Sasha Zill

Class of 2013
Jamie Allman
Paul Durst
Susan Jackman
Nancy Norton

Class of 2012
Best Rotations: Surgery and Pediatrics
Attending: Joe Evans
Resident: Chris Kitchen
Best Lecturer: Stephen Petrany

AMSA Golden Apple Award
Sasha Zill

Class of 2011 Outstanding Department
Emergency Medicine

Outstanding Medical Resident
Jay Lakhani, Medicine/Pediatrics

Attending of the Year
P. Mitchell Charles, Emergency Medicine

Outstanding Rural Medical Educators
Lorrie Downs and Matthew Downs, Arbor Medical Associates

Beginning a new journey

After 29 years with the JCESOM as director of public relations, Beverly McCoy is now pursuing her passion to become a certified Behavior Analyst to help children with autism and related disabilities. We wish her the best in her new endeavor.
RECENT APPOINTMENTS

James Denvir, PhD
Assistant Professor
Biochemistry & Microbiology

Emine C. Koc, PhD
Associate Professor
Biochemistry & Microbiology

Paul B. Ferguson, MD
Assistant Professor
Neuroscience

Andrew Freeman, MD
Assistant Professor
Radiation Oncology

Russell L. Fry II, MD
Assistant Professor
Ophthalmology

Aamir Hussain, MD
Assistant Professor
Radiation Oncology

Maria G. Lopez Marti, MD
Assistant Professor
Pediatrics

Sean Loudin, MD
Assistant Professor
Pediatrics

Gerard J. Oakley III, MD
Assistant Professor
Pathology

Franklin D. Shuler, MD, PhD
Associate Professor
Orthopaedic Surgery

Jackie R. Stines Jr., MD
Assistant Professor
Pediatrics

Ryan A. Stone, MD
Assistant Professor
Obstetrics & Gynecology

Rosa T. Carrasco Sanchez, MD
Assistant Professor
Pediatrics
Staff and Student Accomplishments

Anatomy, Cell & Neurobiology
Laura Mader, Morgan Efaw, Alison Williams and Serrat Maria had a poster presentation entitled Temperature and exercise effects on bone mineral density and growth plate morphology in mice at the 8th Annual Undergraduate Research Day at the West Virginia Capitol, Charleston, W.Va., Jan. 25, 2011.

Biochemistry & Microbiology
Lindsay Sobotka, John Gunno and Beverly Delidow. The suppressive effect of SFRP1 and retinoic acid on human melanoma as determined by invasion assays (poster) presented at Undergraduate Research Day at the Capitol, Jan. 2011.

Pharmacology, Physiology & Toxicology
Ben Owen gave an invited seminar, Short-term activity-dependent changes in axonal function in hippocampal CA3 pyramidal neurons, in the Department of Biology & Chemistry at Morehead State University in April 2011.

Benjamin Owen and Larry Grover. Short-term activity-dependent changes in axonal function in hippocampal CA3 pyramidal neurons. Presented at the National Student Research Forum in Galveston, Texas, April 2011.

Courtney Crain, a senior at Marshall University, received a WV-NASA scholarship for her research in Nalini Santanam’s laboratory on obesity-related markers in catalase transgenic mice.

Graduate students Aaron Dom and Kathleen Brown in Piyali Dasgupta’s laboratory were awarded Graduate Research Fellowships from the NASA West Virginia Space Consortium: Growth-inhibitory effects of capsaicin in human small cell lung cancer and Alpha-7 receptor antagonists in small cell lung cancer therapy.

Sumaiya Chaudhry, a junior at Marshall University, received a SURE grant fellowship for her research project Fatty acids signatures in obesity under the mentorship of Nalini Santanam.

Jia Fei, a postdoctoral fellow in Nalini Santanam’s laboratory, received a postdoctoral fellow travel award from the American Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology to present his research paper at the Experimental Biology 2011 meeting in Washington, D.C.

Graduate student Brandon Shiflett’s abstract at Experimental Biology 2011 was selected for a special session, Highlights: graduate student research in pathology, held by the American Society of Investigative Pathology.

Dr. Christopher Adams (third-year resident) and Caitlin Kocher (MU) presented their research projects mentored by Nalini Santanam at the American Heart Association Cardiovascular and Prevention 2011 Scientific Sessions in Atlanta.

Rezwan Ahmed, MS-IV, had the following poem published in Lifelines, a Dartmouth Medical School literary journal.

The Mighty Cercan

Be I the hunter that feels the scalpel sting
Its venomous tip, steaming a fiery cauldron of Liquid-ooze slithering on the vermillion sheath

See I inner being, prey
Unaware the pain – ah oh bearing

IT – extraterrestrial, uncontrolled, grows unaffected Clones selectively attack

I trying to extrude the creature
Whispering incantations, solemnly

“Oh Mighty CerCAN,
Please don’t kill!!!”

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We Are...Marshall Medicine

JCESOM is proud to welcome faculty from all around the globe*!

*Countries in dark green indicate the birth countries for JCESOM faculty!