SPOTLIGHT ON – Department of Internal Medicine 100th Anniversary

The Department of Internal Medicine is pleased to host the 2011 Medical School Reunion CME Program on Friday, October 28, 2011.

CME PROGRAM

Location: LRC, Pitlyk Auditorium A
Registration: 8:00 am
Breakfast: 8:00 am – 9 am
(with scholarship students)
CME Program: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

9:00 am  Introductory Remarks
Philip O. Alderson, MD, Dean

9:15 am  100 Years of Influenza and Influenza Prevention in St. Louis – Robert B. Belshe, MD

9:45 am  An Update in the Management of Coronary Artery Disease – Joshua M. Stolker, MD

10:25 am  Break

10:45 am  Hemochromatosis: Discovery of the HFE Gene – Bruce R. Bacon, M.D.

11:15 am  Vitamin D and the Kidney – Kevin J. Martin, MB,BCh

noon  The Latest in Cystic Fibrosis – Ravi P. Nayak, MD

12:30 pm  History of the Department of Internal Medicine – Adrian M. Di Bisceglie, MD

The Centennial 60-Minute Check-Up Series continues at the St. Louis County Library with “Asthma, Hay Fever and Food Allergies” on September 26 conducted by James Temprano, MD, and “Common Sleep Disorders” on October 17 conducted by Joseph R. Espiritu, MD.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Iasmina Craici, MD, joined the faculty of the Division of Nephrology as an assistant professor in June. Dr. Craici earned her medical degree from Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, followed by a residency and fellowship at the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine. She joins SLUCare from the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine. Board-certified in internal medicine and nephrology, Dr. Craici is a member of the American Medical Association, the American Society of Nephrology and the American Society of Hypertension.

John C. Edwards, MD, PhD, rejoined the Division of Nephrology in June, and is also serving as the Associate Chairman for Research in the Department of Internal Medicine. He received his undergraduate education at the University of Illinois in Urbana/Champaign and then attended the University of Chicago where he earned both a PhD in biochemistry and his MD. He underwent housestaff training in internal medicine and subspecialty training in nephrology at the Presbyterian Hospital in the City of New York and Columbia University. His has been on the faculties of medicine at Columbia University, Washington University, Saint Louis University, and most recently, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He was previously the director of the renal service at the St. Louis VA Medical Center.
Scott W. Ferreira, MD, joined the Division of Cardiology as an assistant professor in August. Dr. Ferreira did his medical school training at Tulane University, his internal medicine residency at Brown University and his cardiology fellowship at Saint Louis University. He recently completed his training in electrophysiology at St. Vincent’s in Indianapolis.

Bryan D. Piotrowski, MD, joined the Division of Cardiology as an instructor in July. Dr. Piotrowski completed his cardiology fellowship training on June 30, 2011. Dr. Piotrowski did his medical school training at Saint Louis University and his internal medicine residency at Washington University/Barnes.

Jason R. Taylor, MD, joined the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology as an assistant professor in June. Dr. Taylor is trained in advanced endoscopic techniques including endoscopic ultrasound and ERCP. He will see patients in the DOB. Dr. Taylor will be doing procedures at Saint Louis University Hospital as well as St. Mary’s Hospital. Prior to joining our staff he was a clinical lecturer at the University of Michigan Medical Center in Ann Arbor, MI.

Aditya Uppalapati, MD, joined the faculty of the Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine as an assistant professor in June. He recently completed a critical care fellowship at Mt. Sinai School of Medicine. His wife Sindura Gogineni, MD, also joins the Saint Louis University community as a first year internal medicine resident. Dr. Uppalapati has already substantially upgraded the education programs in the ICU.

Renal: An Integrated Approach to Disease by Paul G. Schmitz, MD, FACP

The growth of organ-based curricula created a unique opportunity for a textbook that thoughtfully hybridized science and clinical medicine. The underlying premise was that clinical medicine is best approached by application of fundamental biology. The use of original art (over 400 Figures) was liberally incorporated to facilitate learning important or difficult concepts. A short annotated bibliography, comprised of 5-15 “readable” references, is included at the end of each chapter. Questions also accompany every chapter and follow a format that is case-based. It is hoped that this book will fill a void for those desiring a learning tool that bridges the gap between science and clinical medicine, especially medical students transitioning to the clinical years, nephrology fellows, or interested

**RECOGNITION**

On August 8, 2011, The National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) announced that **Miguel A. Paniagua, MD**, was appointed as a member of the NBME as a Test Committee Representative. He has been involved in test development activities at the National Board since 2008.

![Miguel A. Paniagua, MD](image)

**Chairman’s Blog – Dr. Adrian M. Di Bisceglie** has been writing a blog for faculty, staff and residents since July 1st. In Google Apps there is a tab for Sites. For faculty, staff and residents of Internal Medicine, their Google Apps Sites includes "IM Chairman's Site". Clicking on the "IM Chairman's Site" opens to the Chairman's Blog. The posts are visible on the site. To the left there is a navigation panel with links to each of the posts and a link to the Anonymous Feedback. Clicking on the Anonymous Feedback opens a window which has a test field for entering feedback with a submit button below the field. Further down the page is the feedback received so far. Below that are additional comments by Dr. Di Bisceglie.

**Walk to Madrid**

The second annual "Walk to Madrid" was a huge success with eight teams from Internal Medicine participating. Two teams finished in the top ten – “Gone Viral" in eighth place and "The Pandemics" in ninth place. Several faculty and staff commented how the walk motivated them to increase daily activity, make healthier meal choices and become more acquainted with team members. See photo of team "IM 100” showing their Billiken spirit.

![Walk to Madrid](image)

**On-Line Incident Reporting**

There are several different methods for reporting incidents to the Office of the General Council. Incidents may be reported online through [http://slucareincident.slu.edu/](http://slucareincident.slu.edu/). The generic username and password for this site have changed: Username: INCIDENT Password: SLUCARE1! Incidents may also be reported through the Report Line at 314-977-8778 or the main Office of the General Counsel at 314-977-5767.

**Shared Research Equipment and Core Facilities**

The School of Medicine Research Planning Committee has assembled a list of departmentally owned research equipment that is available to investigators in other departments. That list of equipment, along with information on our core facilities, is posted on the Research Planning Committee Google site under the tab titled “Core Facilities..."
& Shared Equipment.”
https://sites.google.com/a/slu.edu/som-research-planning-committee/

DIVISION OF CARDIOLOGY

Welcome to our incoming fellows for 2011-2014:

- **Ankur Shah, MD**, completed his internal medicine residency at University Hospitals, Case Medical Center.

- **Zaid Aziz, MD**, completed his internal medicine residency at Rush University.

- **Heather Cha, MD**, completed her internal medicine residency at Saint Louis University.

- **Mazen Hadid, MD**, completed his internal medicine residency at Saint Louis University and will join us in Oct. 2011.

**Scott W. Ferreira, MD**, and **Robert Armbruster, MD**, 3rd year cardiology fellow, participated in the Missouri Black Expo 2011 on August 20, interacting with attendees by manning the “Ask the Doctor” booth and providing EKG and blood pressure testing and interpretations.

**Michael J. Lim, MD**, participated as faculty at the ACCF/SCAI Interventional Cardiology Board Review Program in Dallas, August 18-21.

**Paul J. Hauptman, MD**, was appointed as Associate Editor of the journal, *Circulation: Heart Failure*.

DIVISION OF GASTROENTEROLOGY AND HEPATOLOGY

**Joseph Assioun, MD**, after completing his gastroenterology fellowship, has stayed on to continue his education as a hepatology fellow.

**Shirley Campbell, FNP**, has joined the division. She will be working closely with Dr. Bruce Bacon and other hepatologists treating patients with hepatitis. She will be seeing patients in the Doctors’ Office Building.

*The Friends of the Saint Louis University Liver Center* request that you save the date of November 12, 2011 for the 9th Annual Denim and Diamonds Fundraiser, which will take place at the Chase Park Plaza Hotel. This Black and White Gala will feature silent and live auctions, as well as dinner and dancing. For more information and to purchase tickets, please call the Friends’ office at 314-576-3078 or email Leisa Duff at lduff@friendsoftheslulc.org. Over the past nine years, the Friends of the Saint Louis University Liver Center have raised over two million dollars for research and education in liver diseases at the Saint Louis University Liver Center.

DIVISION OF GERIATRIC MEDICINE

The newly released 2010 Science Citation Impact Factor (IF) ranks JAMDA (Journal of the American Medical Director’s Association - dedicated to long term care medicine) in 6th place among 44 gerontology & geriatric journals. This is up from 7th place among 40 journals for 2009’s IF. The IF of a journal is the average number of citations to those articles that were published during the two preceding years. **John E. Morley, M.B.,B.Ch.**, Dammert Professor of Medicine and Director of Geriatric
Medicine has been the editor-in-chief of JAMDA since 2007. Julie K. Gammack, MD, and David R. Thomas, MD, are associate editors. Also serving on the editorial board are Dulce Cruz-Oliver, MD, Lenise Cummings-Vaughn, MD, Joseph H. Flaherty, MD, Milta Little, DO, Miguel A. Paniagua, MD, and Miriam B. Rodin, MD. Valerie Tanner is the managing editor. JAMDA’s website is: www.jamda.com.

Palliative Care Program Established at Saint Louis University Hospital

According to Center for Advance Palliative Care (CAPC), the growth of palliative care programs within hospitals grew 138% from 2000 to 2009. It is believed this growth is associated with the recognition that increasing numbers of people living with debilitating symptoms of serious and chronic illnesses. Palliative care continues to grow simply because it gives patients and families autonomy over decisions about the care they receive. Palliative care assures that treatment goals are established and two-way communications is maintained during a complex course of a serious illness (www.CAPC.org/getpalliativecare.org).

I was hired in April 2009 to spearhead the development of a palliative care program. This program became actively involved in the care of patients during the month of June 2009. Since the time between June 2009 and June 2010, the program has been involved in the care of 644 patients. Of these 644 patients, about 2/3 were referred for end-of-life care. This is just a small percentage of the total inpatient census. Many more patients would benefit from the blending of palliative care with disease management during their hospital stays. The major and ongoing task is education of the hospital and medical staff about the meaning, practice and values of palliative care.

Palliative care is frequently misunderstood as exclusively end-of-life care. Although palliative care assists with end-of-life care and issues, there is much more to the concept of palliative care. It is a recognized medical specialty focused on relief of pain and other symptoms. Palliative measures are appropriately delivered at any time during a disease process regardless of prognosis, treatment plan or age.

The goals of palliative care are to relieve both physical and psychological suffering and provide the best quality of life for both patient and family. A palliative care consult assist the primary team in the management of complex pain, symptoms, co-morbidities, difficult patient/family discussions of goals of care and other issues. Palliative care assists with coordination of care, transitions of care, difficult discharge planning in complex cases and advanced planning ahead of emergent need.

When dealing with patients with serious chronic illness consider palliative care for those with multiple hospitalizations, failure to thrive, DNR order conflicts, ambivalence about tube feedings or TPN in cognitively impaired patients, or when there is uncertainty regarding prognosis or goals of care. Palliative care can assist with family meetings regarding goals of care by augmenting these discussions, assisting the patient and family in understanding the pros and cons of alternative choices.

I have experienced great satisfaction in being able to participate in the development of the palliative care program at St. Louis University Hospital. There is much more to be said about palliative care but my space is limited. Feel free
to contact me for consultations or further information. My pager is 491-7278 or the operator knows me as Palliative Patty.

Patricia M. Burhanna,
Adult Nurse Practitioner

DIVISION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES,
ALLERGY AND IMMUNOLOGY (IDAI)

New people in the Division of Infectious Diseases, Allergy & Immunology - We have two new postdoctoral fellows working in Dr. Jianguo Liu’s lab, Robert Mahon, PhD, and Ling Gu, PhD.

The Center for Vaccine Development has a new research nurse, Sabrina DiPiazza, RN, BSN.

Invited Talks

Raymond G. Slavin, MD, gave a talk to the 3rd year SLU medical students on “Care of the Ambulatory Asthmatic” on July 15.

Dr. Slavin presented “Resistant Rhinosinusitis” at St. John’s Hospital Family Practice Grand Rounds on July 19.

Dr. Slavin presented “Stinging Insect Sensitivity” at the Allergy Clinic Conference on July 26.

Dr. Slavin presented “Tick Bites and Sensitivity to Alpha Gal” at the Immunology Journal Club on August 22.

IDAI’s Walk to Madrid

The Division of Infectious Diseases, Allergy & Immunology had four teams participating in the 8 week Walk to Madrid program. Two of our teams received recognition for ranking in the top 10 out of 124 teams, The Pandemics who walked 3,605 miles (7,210 with 2x multiplier challenges) received 8th place recognition, and Gone Viral who walked 3,542 miles (7,084 with 2x multiplier challenges) placed 9th overall. Our four participating teams celebrated their accomplishments with a lunchtime get together on August 18th, where members who walked the most miles for each team were recognized: Ed Anderson walked 385 miles; Linda Eggemeyer walked 407 miles; Huan Ning walked 525 miles; and our top walker, Adnan Chowdhury, walked 655 miles.

INTERNAL MEDICINE RESIDENCY PROGRAM

Resident of the Month Award

Each month a resident and two runners up will be commended for exemplary performance in residency as nominated by peers and/or faculty.

This could include (and not limited to) going the 'extra mile' for a patient, good in-service score, helping a colleague, etc. Nominations to the chief residents are encouraged, and we also need faculty sponsors for $100 a month (one $50 and two $25 gift cards will be purchased monthly for winner and runners up respectively). Dr. Di Bisceglie was the sponsor for July, Dr. Stoeckel sponsored August, Dr. Paniagua will sponsor September and Dr. Leo Warren will sponsor October. Please contact the chief residents or Ms. Melissa Westwood to volunteer or with questions.

July 2011 “Resident of the Month”

Winner: Rugheed Ghadban, MD, “He is an outstanding resident who is caring, unafraid of added responsibility and who teaches med students well.”

Honorable Mention: Robbie Mangalasseril, MD, “For always being ready to take one for
the team.” And, **Brady Powers, MD**, “For providing exceptional patient care and going above the call of duty.”

**August 2011 “Resident of the Month”**

**Winner:** **Angela Sanford, MD**, “She is completely reliable; it is clear that all the other residents know they can count on her to take on any patient and any number of patients without complaint.”

**Honorable Mention:** **Liliane Hobeika, MD**, “She is one of the hardest workers, puts her full effort and thought into caring for all her patients.” And, **Walter Gribben, MD**, “He is always smiley and ready to help and guide us.” “He is reliable, thorough, and always ready with suggestions to improve the learning experience of his fellow residents.”

**NEW RESEARCH GRANTS AWARDED**

**Susan A. Farr, PhD**, Geriatric Medicine, $132,659 from Kemin Health for “Ability of Extracts Containing Carnosic Acid or Rosmarinic Acid to Protect the Brain from the Cognitive Defects that Occur in a Senesence Accelerated Prone Mouse Model.”

**Milta Little, DO**, Geriatric Medicine, $74,991 from HRSA for “Advancing Geriatric Transitions of Care Education for Interprofessional Through Long-Term Care Curricula.”

**Dulce Cruz-Oliver, MD**, Geriatric Medicine, $74,991 from HRSA for “Improving End of Life Care in Latino Elders.”

**Lenise Cummings-Vaughn, MD**, $74,991 from HRSA for “Integrating Evidence-Based Geriatric Medicine in Health Professional Education.”

**John E. Morley, MB,BCh**, Geriatric Medicine, $429,000 from HRSA for “Gateway Geriatric Education Center of Missouri and Illinois.”

**Brent A. Neuschwander-Tetri, MD**, Gastroenterology and Hepatology, $313,273 from NIDDK for “Continuation of the No-Alcoholic Steatohepatitis Clinical Research Network (NASH-CRN)”

**Hans Joachim Reimers, MD, PhD**, Hematology and Oncology, $39,000 from Maternal and Child Health Bureau for “Great Plains Regional Comprehensive Hemophilia Program.”

**Jianguo Liu, MD, PhD**, Infectious Diseases, Immunology and Allergy, $172,799 from NCI for “Molecular mechanisms of host-derived CCL5 mediated mammary tumor growth.”

**Jianguo Liu, MD, PhD**, Infectious Diseases, Immunology and Allergy, $70,478 from NIH for “PARP-1 in juvenile idiopathic Arthritis-associated IL-10 Promoter Polymorphisms.”

**Ranjit Ray, PhD**, Infectious Diseases, Immunology and Allergy, $314,429 from NIH for “Mechanisms of Liver Disease Progression by Hepatitis C Virus.”

**Terry L. Moore, MD**, Rheumatology, $25,000 from the American College of Rheumatology for “ACR REF/ Amgen / Pfizer Rheumatology Fellowship Training Award.”

**Robert B. Belshe, MD**, Infectious Diseases, Immunology and Allergy, $21,935 from Washington University / NIH for “MRCE – Career Development in Biodefense and Emerging Infectious Diseases Research.”
Michael J. Lim, MD, Cardiology, $33,868 from Abbott for “Abbott Fund Cardiovascular Fellowship.”

Ravi P. Nayak, MD, Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine, $24,380 from the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation for “CF Care Center Grant – Adult”

DATES OF NOTE

September 10, 2011 – 10th Annual Symposium on Gastrointestinal Cancers: An update on advances in diagnosis and management.

October 28, 2011 – 2011 Medical School Reunion CME Program. The Department of Internal Medicine will be host. Registration: 8:00 am; Continental Breakfast: 8:00-9:00 am; CME Program: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm.

November 12, 2011 – 9th Annual Denim and Diamonds Fundraiser for the Liver Center, Chase Park Plaza Hotel.

CONGRATULATIONS

Dr. and Mrs. Youssef Assioun, GI fellow, who had a baby girl. Chloe Maya Assioun was born July 25, 2011.

Dr. and Mrs. Khalil Farah, GI fellow, who had a baby girl. Julia Marie Farah was born on July 1, 2011.

Nicole and Bob Purcell who had a baby girl. Grace Elizabeth was born on August 12, 2011. Nicole is a lab technician in the Center for Vaccine Development. And, Lin Cowick, administrative assistant in the Division of Infectious Diseases, Allergy & Immunology. Lin is Nicole’s mother and Grace Elizabeth’s grandmother.

CONDOLENCES

To Pat Osmack, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, and family, on the death of her father who passed away in June.

To Anne Imlay, IM Regulatory, and family, on the death of her husband who passed away in July.

To Rob Roth, RN, Division of Cardiology, and family, on the death of his father who passed away in July.

CLINICAL TICKER

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FY 10 / FY 09 YTD MGMA AMB ENCs 92.4%

WEBSITE

Access the Department of Internal Medicine website at http://internalmed.slu.edu.

INFORMATION FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER

If you have any news, notices, achievements that you would like to be included in the next newsletter or if you think something important was missed, please let Camille Goff know at goffcj@slu.edu.

Editor
Adrian M. Di Bisceglie, MD, FACP
Professor of Internal Medicine