IN MEMORIAM

It is with great personal sadness that I am writing to inform you of the passing of Dr Fitch in the early hours of May 27, 2010 after a brief illness. Dr Fitch joined the faculty of Saint Louis University in 1967 and was Chairman of the Department of Internal Medicine from 1985 to 2000. At the time of his death he was still a faculty member and was Chief of Medicine at the Saint Louis VA Medical Center.

I understand that his family is planning a very private funeral in the next few days. A memorial service will be held at 2 pm Saturday, June 12, at Grace United Methodist Church.

At the request of his family, contributions may be made to the Saint Louis University School of Medicine Dr. Coy D. Fitch Memorial Fund. Checks should be made out to Saint Louis University marked for the Dr. Coy D. Fitch Memorial Fund and sent to the Office of the Chairman, Department of Internal Medicine.

Adrian M. Di Bisceglie, MD

SEMI-ANNUAL FACULTY MEETING

The Semi-Annual Faculty Meeting of the Department of Internal Medicine will be held on Friday, June 11, 2010, at 7:30 am in the LRC Auditorium.

The annual faculty photograph will be taken immediately following. Last year’s photo is adjacent.

GRADUATION CELEBRATION

The 27th Annual Department of Internal Medicine Graduation Celebration will take place on June 5, 2010 at 6:30-10 pm, Saint Louis Room, Busch Student Center, 3rd floor.

This celebration is open to all residents and subspecialty residents who are completing their training this year, and faculty from all divisions.

SLU Stars

Janet Neuhaus, (1st row, r.) Coordinator, Gastroenterology and Kirk Fortune (2nd row, r.) Technology Manager, IM Administration, were recognized at an awards breakfast on April 24, 2010 as SLU Stars for their professionalism and dedication to service to Saint Louis University.
DISTINGUISHED TEACHER AWARD

This program recognizes outstanding teaching of medical students. Winners of these awards are determined by the students themselves and the program is administered by the Office of Curricular Affairs.

This year two faculty members in the Department of Internal Medicine were among the seven faculty named as 2010 award recipients. Julie K. Gammack, MD, Division of Geriatric Medicine, was honored in the category of "Clinical Teaching" –

Together with awardees from other departments, they each received a plaque, a cash award and are featured in a display outside the LRC Auditorium.

Dr. Paniagua was also presented with The Arnold P. Gold Foundation Humanism in Medicine Award which is administered through the Organization of Student Representatives (OSR) of the AAMC. This award annually honors a medical school faculty physician (MD or DO degree) who exemplifies the qualities of a caring and compassionate mentor in the teaching and advising of medical students.

ACGME ACCREDITATION OF OUR RESIDENCY PROGRAMS

The Department of Internal Medicine was notified of continued accreditation for 5 years by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) with the exception of two divisions which have received accreditation for 1 and 2 years respectively.

FACULTY PROMOTIONS EFFECTIVE JULY 2, 2020

Fasiha Kanwal, MD, will be promoted to Associate Professor of Internal Medicine.

Miguel A. Paniagua, MD, will be promoted to Associate Professor.

Charlene M. Prather, MD, MPH, will be promoted to Professor of Internal Medicine.

Ratna B. Ray, PhD, will be promoted to Professor, Secondary in Internal Medicine.

Gul N. Shah, PhD, will be promoted to Research Professor.
Internal Medicine Graduates

Yazan A. Abdalla, MD, is joining the Gastroenterology Subspecialty Program at Saint Louis University School of Medicine.
Saad AlKaade, MD, is going into private practice in St. Louis.
Alina Allen, MD, will be a Chief Resident at SLU.
Bernard Aoun, MD, is going into a geriatric subspecialty at Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota.
Sirisha Brosch, MD, will be a Chief Resident at SLU.
Fred R. Buckhold, MD, is joining the General Internal Medicine faculty at SLU as an Instructor.
Sonia M. Chacko, MD, is joining the General Internal Medicine faculty at SLU as an Instructor.
Kathryn Convers, MD, (Med/Peds) is going to St. Anthony Hospital Urgent Care Center, St. Louis, Missouri.
Mireille El Ters, MD, is going into a nephrology subspecialty at Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota.
Khalil Farah, MD, is joining the gastroenterology subspecialty program at SLU.
Leslie Fields, MD, will be a hospitalist in Kansas City, Missouri.
Zeina Karam, M.D, plans to go into a nephrology subspecialty residency.
Mohammad Khalil, MD, is going into a hematology/oncology subspecialty at University of Oklahoma.
Farnaz Mohammad, MD, is joining the nephrology subspecialty program at SLU.
Hari Krishna Nallapaneni, MD, is joining a cardiovascular diseases subspecialty at the University of Nebraska in Omaha.

Ali Sdeagheh Pakravan, MD, is joining the gastroenterology subspecialty program at SLU.
Chad M. Ronholm, MD, is joining the rheumatology subspecialty program at SLU.
Robert L. Russell, MD, is going into a primary care private practice in Clayton, Missouri.
Rishi Shah, MD, is going into private practice in St. Louis, Missouri.
Jacquelyn M. Sturm, MD, is joining the allergy and immunology subspecialty program at SLU.
Kimberly K. Tyus, MD, is going to be a hospitalist in Lafayette, Indiana.
Sana T. Waheed, MD, plans to go into a gastroenterology subspecialty residency.
Mark A. Walshauer, MD, will be a Chief Resident at SLU.
Andres J. Zimolzak, MD, will be a Chief Resident at SLU.

Division of Cardiology Graduates

Scott Ferreira, MD, will be doing an electro-physiology fellowship at St. Vincent's in Indianapolis, Indiana.
Simil Gala, MD, will be doing an interventional cardiology fellowship at Kansas University Medical Center, in Kansas City, Kansas.
JoEllen Kohlman-Petrick, MD, will be doing an interventional cardiology fellowship at University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.
Peter Mohr, MD, will be doing an interventional cardiology fellowship at Scripps Clinic in San Diego, California.
Robert Neumayr, MD, interventional cardiovascular diseases subspecialty resident, is joining the faculty of the Division of Cardiology at SLU as an Assistant Professor.
**Division of Endocrinology Graduates**

**Nawras Makhsida, MD,** will be joining the medical staff of the Jefferson Regional Medical Center in Festus, Missouri.

**Natalya Rukhman, MD,** will be going into private practice in St. Louis.

**Division of Gastroenterology & Hepatology Graduates**

**Nabil Choueiri, MD,** will continue his training with an additional year of advanced endoscopy training at the University of Maryland in Baltimore, Maryland.

**Sara Echelmeyer, MD,** will be joining a private practice group in her hometown of Jefferson City, Missouri.

**Mohit Mehra, MD,** will be doing an additional year of advanced endoscopy training at Yale-New Haven Hospital in New Haven, Connecticut.

**Michael Williams, MD,** will be joining a private practice in Chicago, Illinois.

**Division of Geriatric Medicine Graduates**

**Syed Akhter, MD,** will be a Geriatric Fellow at Saint Louis University School of Medicine.

**Shadab Bhutto, MD,** will be going into private practice in the St. Louis area.

**Ming Hao, MD,** will be going into private practice in the St. Louis area.

**Mila Little, DO,** is joining the faculty of SLU’s Division of Geriatric Medicine as an Assistant Professor.

**Carol Martin, MD,** will be going into private practice in the St. Louis area.

**Dulce Cruz Oliver, MD,** is joining the faculty of SLU’s Division of Geriatric Medicine as an Instructor.

**Ahmad Rez, MD,** will be going into private practice in the St. Louis area.

**Asad Riaz, MD,** will be joining a team of hospitalist in London, Kentucky.

**Lenise Cummings Vaughn, MD,** is joining the faculty of SLU’s Division of Geriatric Medicine as an Instructor.

**Division of Hematology & Oncology Graduates**

**Mark J. Fesler, MD,** is joining the faculty of SLU’s Division of Hematology & Oncology as an Assistant Professor.

**Seth J. Page, MD,** will be joining a private practice specialty group, Cancer Center of Kansas, in Wichita.

**Division of Immunobiology Allergy & Immunology Graduates**

**Teresa Jordan, MD,** is going into private practice with the Allergy and Asthma Clinic in Little Rock, Arkansas.

**Douglas Lotz, MD,** is joining an allergy/immunology private practice in Louisville, Kentucky.

**Division of Infectious Diseases**

**Rakesh Kumar, MD,** is going into private practice in the Nashville, Tennessee area.

**Tanuja Rijhwani, MD,** is going into private practice in the St. Louis area.

**Division of Nephrology**

**Samir Baroudi, MD,** going into private practice in Muncie, Indiana.

**Pablo Dayer, MD,** will be a nephrologists at St. Luke’s Hospital.
Kyle Onan, DO, will be joining a private practice, Kidney Specialists of Minnesota, Brooklyn Center, Minnesota.

Nagaraju Sarabu, MD, plans to go into private practice.

Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care & Sleep Medicine

Dayton Dmello, MD, is still considering several options for his future after graduation.

Adell I. Khan, MD, plans to enter a sleep medicine fellowship at the Medical College of Wisconsin Associate Hospitals in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Muhammad Ali Javed, MD, plans to work at St. John’s Clinic in Rolla, Missouri and at Phelps County Regional Medical Center.

Division of Rheumatology

Amanda Dehlendorf, MD, is going into private practice in St. Louis.

Amanda Ombrello, MD, will be working at the NIH.

Melinda Reed, MD, is going into private practice in West Plains, Missouri.

INTERNAL MEDICINE RESIDENCY PROGRAM NEWS

Zaher Fanari, MD, (PGY1), gave an oral presentation on The Effects of Transvenous Pacemaker and Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator Implant on the Atrial-Ventricular Valvular Regurgitation at The Heart Rhythm Society’s Resuscitation Science Symposium on May 13, 2005 in Denver, Colorado.

In late April 2010, the following Saint Louis University members were poster finalists American College of Physicians Meeting in Toronto:

Rahul Garg (MS2), Morphological Parameters Used to Predict Risk of Rupture for Intracranial Anterior Communicating Artery Aneurysms.


Mazen Hadid, MD, (PGY2), Disseminated Cryptococcal Infection Presenting with Paniculitis and Negative Serological Markers.

Naga Neelima Nallapaneni, MD, (PGY1), Ig A Nephropathy Improved With Infliximab(TNF ALPHA INHIBITOR).

Seyed Ali Gaskari, MD, PhD, (PGY1), Improvement of Hemodynamic Response to Hemorrhage in Cirrhotic Rats by Blocking Cannabinoid Receptor-1: Role of Recruited Monocytes in the Heart.

Giao Vuong, MD, (PGY1), Acute liver Failure secondary to kappa light chain myeloma-associated AL amyloidosis.

Leslie A. Fields, MD, (MP-PGY4), New HIV diagnosis presenting as AIDS-associated thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura.

Maya Tony Khoukaz, MD, (PGY1), Forgotten but not Gone: a Case of Renal Tuberculosis.
**Medicine Abroad Program Scholarships Recipients Announced**

Pediatrics and Combined Medicine/Pediatrics residents who have been awarded the Dr. Philip A. Riley, Jr., and Mrs. Joane Filey Endowed Medicine Abroad Program Scholarship are: Felix Mensah, MD, (Med/Peds), Sarah AuBuchon, MD, (Peds) and Shashi Katukoori, MD, (Med/Peds).

The Medicine Abroad Program Scholarship pays the residents’ expenses to spend 1 month in a developing country providing medical care and learning first hand about international health during the 2010-2011 academic year.

**DIVISION OF GASTROENTEROLOGY & HEPATOLOGY NEWS**

**European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL)**

Drs. Adrian M. Di Bisceglie and Bruce R. Bacon participated in this year’s European Association for the Study of Liver Disease (EASL) in Vienna, Austria from April 14-18, 2010. Dr. Di Bisceglie participated in four poster presentations and Dr. Bacon presented one.

**Digestive Disease Week (DDW)**

The Division of Gastroenterology & Hepatology was well-represented at this year’s Digestive Disease Week (DDW) which was held in New Orleans, Louisiana from May 2-5, 2010. Drs. Bruce R. Bacon, Adrian M. Di Bisceglie, Fasiha Kanwal, Charlene Prather and Brent A. Tetri were the moderators of various sessions.

There were six oral presentations given by faculty and fellows and 19 poster presentations.

Dr. Di Bisceglie delivered a State-of-the-Art Lecture on Management Strategies for Hepatocellular Carcinoma.

See [SUPPLEMENT – May 2010](#) (Presentations and Publications).

**NEW RESEARCH GRANTS AWARDED**

**Bernard Chaitman**, Cardiology, $186,175 from University of Washington / NIH for “AIM-HIGH: Niacin Plus Statin to Prevent Vascular Events.”

**Suzanne Mahon**, Hematology / Oncology, $37,105 from the Komen Foundation for “Educating Women About Hereditary Risk for Developing Breast Cancer.”

**Guangyong Peng**, Immunobiology, $720,000 from the American Cancer Society for “Functional Role of Tumor-Infiltrating Gamma/Delta T Cells in Breast Cancer.”

**Marcia Sokol-Anderson**, Infectious Diseases, $172,354 from the City of St. Louis for “Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Clinic.”

**CONGRATULATIONS**

To **Christine Hachem, MD**, and her husband, Ramsey, who welcomed baby Lauren, born April 9, 2010, weighing 8 pounds, 8 ounces.

To **Miriam B. Rodin, MD, PhD**, who was appointed as Associate Editor for the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society.
**CLINICAL TICKER**

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**FY 10 / FY 09 YTD AMB ENCs | 106.3%**

**WEBSITE**

Access the Department of Internal Medicine website at [http://internalmed.slu.edu](http://internalmed.slu.edu).

**INFORMATION FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER**

If you have any news, grants, 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](mailto:goffcj@slu.edu).

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