The 2016 academic year has proven to be just as busy and productive as ever! In this summer issue, we look back on some of the more memorable moments of ATS, the Robert M. Rogers Lectureship, the PACCM Awards, Fellows Graduation, incoming fellows, new faculty...the list goes on.

We are especially proud of the favorable scores received on many grant applications, including the tPPG grant and both the Sleep and VMI T32 grants. While this tremendous success is undoubtedly due to our phenomenal researchers and scientists, it is also due to the painstaking coordination and detail of Dr. Chris O’Donnell and his administrative team. With his guidance and knowledge of the art of grant submissions, our scores consistently remain highly competitive to attract extramural funding to continue our division-wide growth.

A new academic year is heading towards us, with new challenges and new opportunities. So be sure to contact us with your accomplishments, send us pictures of special moments and details of awards. We want to celebrate these moments with you.

We hope you enjoy this issue of the PACCM Insider.
—Rama Mallampalli, MD

### 2016 UPMC Best Docs

Once again, an outstanding number of our faculty have been recognized as “2016 Best Docs” in Pittsburgh! Congratulations to all!

**Front row (left to right):** Kevin Gibson, MD; Patrick Strollo, MD; Sally Wenzel, MD; Mark Gladwin, MD.

**Center row:**
- Rachel Givelber, MD;
- Alison Morris, MD, MS;
- Charles Atwood, MD.

**Back row:**
- Frank Scolurba, MD;
- John Kreit, MD; Joseph Pilewski, MD;
- Phil Lamberty, MD.

Not pictured:
- Maria Crespo, MD;
- Michael Donahoe, MD;
- Christopher Faber, MD;
- Jennifer McComb, MD;
- Joel Weinberg, MD;
- David O.Wilson, MD.
This year’s ATS conference in San Francisco showcased PACCM everywhere you looked!

Notable highlights included:

**Sally Wenzel, MD** was honored as the recipient of the 2016 Breathing for Life Award during the ATS Foundation Research Program Benefit.

**Anuradha Ray, PhD** received a Recognition Award for Scientific Accomplishment.

Over 60 posters were presented by our faculty and fellows during this week. Some of our poster award winners included **David Osie-Hwedieh**, Diana Álvarez, Tomeka Suber, John Sembrat, and Judith Brands.

**Chris O’Donnell**, Mike Risbano, Keven Robinson, Ian Barbash, Sally Wenzel, Divay Chandra, Leslie Scheunemann, Jared Chiarichiaro and **Marc Gauthier** were only a few of the presenters during mini-symposiums, scientific sessions, and poster discussions.

And just some of the facilitators and session chairs included **Frank Sciurba**, Pat Strollo, Ana Mora, Mark Gladwin, Kevin Gibson, Jessica Bon, Bryan McVerry, Kathy Lindell, Mauricio Rojas, Sanjay Patel, and Elena Goncharova.

PACCM had another record-breaking year for our reception, as well. Old friends and new collaborators were seen among the 285 people at the Hotel Zelos Dirty Habit Restaurant.

Our PACCM family didn’t stop outside of the conference either. For some, it was also a chance to compete in 105th annual Bay to Breakers 12K race in San Francisco on Sunday, May 15. **Lauren Tomsic**, Kenzie Furlong, **Michelle Meyers** and **Michelle MacPherson** were among the 40,000 people who participated. Other rumored participants included: **Patty George**, Phil Lamberty, and **Charlie Atwood**!

Be sure to mark your calendars for next year: **May 19-24, 2017** in Washington, DC.
Congratulations to our 2016 PACCM Winners!

2016 Outstanding Service Award:
Patty McGurk Geraci

2016 Outstanding Mentorship Award:
Frank C. Sciurba, MD

2016 John W. Kreit Outstanding Educator Award:
David O. Wilson, MD

2016 Robert M. Rogers Outstanding Scholarly Achievement Award:
(tie)
Ian Barbash, MD
Faraaz Shah, MD

2016 Bernie Pennock Outstanding Young Investigator Award:
Divay Chandra, MD, MSc

This year was the inaugural year for a new award – The PACCM Breath of Life Award— to recognize PACCM non-physician clinical providers who tirelessly provide exceptional care for our patients, invaluable assistance to our clinical faculty, and who support the educational mission of our division.

2016 Breath of Life Award:
(tie)
Peggy Stoeff, CRNP
Betsy Ellenberger, CRNP

The Annual Robert M. Rogers Memorial Lectureship was established in 2001 to sustain Dr. Rogers’ life-long mission of fellowship training and education.

Each year, a national or international leader in pulmonary and/or critical care medicine is invited by the fellowship program to present the annual lecture and spend time interacting with the fellows.

It was an honor this year to welcome back the individual who helped conceive the Lectureship 15 years ago.

Dr. Augustine Choi, former PACCM Division Chief and current Interim Dean at Weill Cornell, celebrated the occasion by presenting at Medical Grand Rounds on June 10. Guests of honor in the audience included Mrs. Sandy Rogers and two of Dr. Rogers’ sons. Joining them in the lecture and following luncheon and PACCM awards ceremony was Mrs. Bernie Pennock, widow of a former fellow in PACCM.

Dr. Choi spent the remainder of the afternoon talking to the fellows and listening to short presentations of their individual research projects. They rounded off the day with the Fellows Graduation Dinner at the Hilton Garden Inn.
Going Above and Beyond

A special “thank you” to the faculty who supported student physical exam-APE rotations this academic year.

These faculty will not only receive credit for teaching time, but did an excellent job throughout the entire teaching cycle and their help is very much appreciated.

Those staff volunteering for APE this year included:
* Block #1: Matt Morrell, MD
* Block #2: Phil Lamberty, MD
* Block #3: Dave Kristo, MD
* Block #4: Ron Poropatic, MD
* Block #5: Connie Jennings, MD
* Block #6: Mike Risbano, MD
* Block #7: Rachel Givelber, MD
* Block #8: Chris Faber, MD

Clinical Stars

UPMC’s Star Rating for clinicians is the result of patient satisfaction surveys. The following healthcare providers have received 30 or more survey responses for the most recent 18 month time period. All have received a 4.8 star rating or higher from their patients and this rating will now display on their UPMC Find a Doctor profile.

Michael P. Donahoe, MD
Christopher N. Faber, MD
Merritt L. Fajt, MD
Patricia George, MD
Kevin F. Gibson, MD
Fernando Holguin, MD
Constance A. Jennings, MD
Daniel J. Kass, MD
David A. Kristo, MD

Doctors Shine on UPMC.com/FindADoc

“The surveys are offered by email and give patients a chance to give feedback about their experience”

Euhan J. Lee, MD
Luis A. Ortiz, MD
Andrej A. Petrov, MD
Joseph M. Pilewski, MD
Frank C. Scolurba, MD
Tammy R. Tokarczyk, MSN
Russell S. Traister, MD
Kristen L. Veraldi, MD
Sally E. Wenzel, MD
David O. Wilson, MD

Upcoming Events

PITTSBURGH-MUNICH INTERNATIONAL LUNG CONFERENCE
LUNG IMMUNE RESPONSES AND INFLAMMATION IN HEALTH & DISEASE
OCTOBER 6-7, 2016
UNIVERSITY CLUB, PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA
www.lungconf.pitt.edu

FELLOWS RESEARCH RETREAT
SAVE THE DATE
FEBRUARY 6-8, 2017
SEVEN SPRINGS MOUNTAIN RESORT

The 12th Annual Fran Magister “Fore IPF” Golf Outing

Monday, August 22, 2016
Wildwood Golf Club
2195 Sample Road
Allison Park, PA 15101

Email simmonsild@upmc.edu to golf, donate, or sponsor!
Pitt and UPMC Launch new center on Microbiomes

Dr. Alison Morris: "We expect our Center for Medicine and the Microbiome to usher in a new era of care, with what we learn leading to therapies for diseases and conditions ranging from obesity to cancer"

On May 13th, the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy in Washington, DC launched the National Microbiome Initiative (NMI).

The NMI, funded by both Federal agencies and private-sector stakeholders, aims to support research to answer fundamental questions about microbiomes, which in turn will help to protect and maintain microbiome function in our health and environment.

Dr. Alison Morris, UPMC Chair for Translational Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, attended the White House event to announce a collaboration between the University of Pittsburgh Schools of the Health Sciences and UPMC.

The newly organized Center for Medicine and the Microbiome has several areas of focus, including the creation of a biorepository of clinical samples and engaging the community at large in the upcoming Pittsburgh Biome Project.

You can read more about this initiative and the launch of the Center for Medicine and the Microbiome by clicking here.

Clinical Trial Offers Hope to Emphysema Sufferers

An international trial conducted between 2012 and 2015 has provided hope for many patients suffering from emphysema.

Dr. Frank Sciurba and fellow researchers at the University of Pittsburgh have found that implanting tiny coils in patients with severe emphysema resulted in improvement of lung function and quality of life.

You can read more in the Trib Live article by clicking here.

IPF Support Group Inspires Others

The IPF Support Group in the Simmons Center for Interstitial Lung Disease marks its 15th Anniversary this year and has served as the inspiration behind Brigham and Women’s own ILD Support Group.

Kathy Lindell, PhD, RN was chosen as the inaugural speaker for a newly formed annual event in memoriam of a former benefactor and patient. The family was present for her lecture, and the patient’s son presented a plaque to Dr. Lindell in appreciation of dedication to patient care.
New Appointments

Barbara Methé, PhD
Visiting Professor of Medicine

Chetan Naik, MD
Clinical Instructor of Medicine

Xingan Wang, PhS
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Liyong Zhang, PhD
Research Instructor

Promotions and Appointments

Rama Mallampalli, MD - Acute Lung Injury Endowed Chair
Prabir Ray, PhD - Lung Immunology Endowed Chair
Anuradha Ray, PhD - Lung Immunology Endowed Chair
Sally Wenzel, MD - Airway Biology Endowed Chair
Alison Morris, MD, MS - Professor of Medicine and Translational Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine Endowed Chair
Janet Lee, MD - Professor of Medicine and Director of PTRC
Timothy Corcoran, PhD - Associate Director of PTRC
Matt Morrell, MD - Associate Professor of Medicine
Anna Zemke, MD - Assistant Professor of Medicine
Nayra Cardenes, PhD - Research Assistant Professor of Medicine
Marta Bueno Fernandez, PhD - Research Assistant Professor of Medicine
Alyssa Gregory, PhD - Research Assistant Professor
Yuan Liu, PhD - Research Assistant Professor
Nydia Chien, MSN, RN, CCRC - Director of Regulatory Affairs for PACCM/VMI
Translational Research

New Hires

Welcome to all the new members of our PACCM Family!
Harinathachari (Hari) Bahudhanapati, PhD - Zhang Lab
Jie Chen - A. Ray Lab
Wei Xu - Zhang Lab
Xiaoyun Li—Zhang Lab
Shibing Yu—Zhang Lab
**Grants, Awards, & Notable Mentions**

Hat Trick! Congratulations to Mark Gladwin, MD and Chris O’Donnell, PhD - who received very favorable reviews on the VMI T32, the VMI tPPG, and the Sleep T32.

Ana Mora, MD has a new R01:  Signaling mechanisms by which mitochondria regulates fibrosis in the lung. Co-investigators include: Rama Mallampalli, Charlene Chu, Brett Kaufman, Claudette St Croix.

Jessica Bon Field, MD has received a new R01: Autoimmunity and emphysema and risk of osteoporosis in smokers.

Tolani Olonisakin (Mentor: Janet Lee, MD) has received an award for an additional year as an HHMI Medical Research Fellow.

Frank Sciurba, MD was invited to be the 2016 visiting scholar for the Samuel J. Sills, MD Visiting Scholar Program in Los Angeles, CA on April 5 and 6.

Kathy Lindell, PhD, RN has been selected to participate in the 2016 Palliative Care Intensive in Denver, CO.

Mauricio Rojas, MD was invited as a Dozor Visiting Scholar at the Faculty of Health Sciences in Israel.

Anna Zemke, MD has been awarded a grant from the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Anna Zemke, MD has also been awarded a new K23, entitled, Nebulized Nitrite as a Novel Antimicrobial Therapy in Cystic Fibrosis.

Nate Weathington, MD, PhD received an American Lung Association Biomedical Research Grant for two years on: Human Ex Vivo Ventilated Perfused Lung as a platform for preclinical therapy with FBXO3 inhibitor BC1215 in lung injury.

Bill Chen, PhD has received a new R01:  HECT-domain E3 ligases and Acute Lung Injury.

**Media Links**

Click on the links for online CME and Video Rounds

Sally Wenzel, MD - New Research in the Treatment of Asthma

Rachel Givelber, MD – Overview of Pulmonary and Sleep Medicine

Constance Jennings, MD – Respiratory Insufficiency in Cancer Survivors

Online editions of the Respiratory Reader newsletter are available by clicking here.

**IM Associate Program Director**

Dr. Jessica Bon Field has been appointed as the Associate Program Director for Research for the UPMC Internal Medicine Residency Program.

As part of her APD role, she will also be director of the Research Pathway Track. In this role, she will provide support for resident research, develop research infrastructure, enhance the Research Pathway recruitment, and provide mentorship to individual residents.
Publications


Barbash, U Kahn, JM, Thompson, BT Medicare’s Sepsis Reporting Program: Two Steps Forward, One Step Back. Am J Respir Crit Care Med; 2016 May 11 [Epub ahead of print]


Traister RS, Fajt ML, Petrov AA. The morbidity and cost of vocal cord dysfunction misdiagnosed as asthma. Allergy Asthma Proc. 2016 Mar;37(2):25-31


Wenzel SE. Emergence of Biomolecular Pathways to Define Novel Asthma Phenotypes: Type-2 Immunity and Beyond. Am J Respir Cell Mol Biol. 2016 May 10. [Epub ahead of print]


Department of Medicine—Research Days

The annual Department of Medicine Research Days, held on May 23-24, included many awards given to PACCM!

TRANSLATIONAL FELLOW RESEARCH AWARDS
- Jason Rose
  Mentor: **Mark Gladwin MD**, Sruti Shiva MD
- Quyen Nguyen
  Mentor: Sruti Shiva PhD, **Mark Gladwin MD**, Marc Simon MD

BENCH FELLOW RESEARCH AWARD
- Tomeka Suber
  Mentor: Yutong Zhao MD PhD, Jing Zhao MD, PhD

BENCH POST DOCTORAL FELLOW RESEARCH AWARD
- Marta Bueno
  Mentor: Ana Mora MD

BENCH JUNIOR FACULTY RESEARCH AWARD
- Baojun Chang
  Mentor: Elena Goncharova PhD

TRANSLATIONAL JUNIOR FACULTY RESEARCH AWARD
- Nayra Cardenes
  Mentor: Mauricio Rojas MD

RESIDENT—BENCH AND TRANSLATIONAL AWARD
- Shreya Kanth
  Mentor: **Nathaniel Weathington, MD**

A special shout-out to **Divay Chandra, MD, MSc** for mentoring Internal Medicine Resident, Dr. Oluremi Ajala, who won first prize!
Fellows at ATS
The PACCM Fellows were responsible for over 20 posters and poster discussions at ATS this year.

Awards and recognitions:

⇒ Ian Barbash, MD  
   Oral presentation/Mini Symposium

⇒ Elisabeth Sacks, MD  
   ATS Fellows Track Symposium Award

⇒ Tomeka Suber, MD  
   ATS Trainee Development Scholarship

⇒ Georgios Kitsios, MD  
   ATS Abstract Scholarship  
   (Critical Care Assembly)

⇒ John Sembrat, MSc  
   ATS Abstract Scholarship

⇒ Diana Álvarez, MD  
   ATS Trainee Development Scholarship

⇒ Judith Brands, PhD  
   Abstract Scholarship

Ian Barbash, MD was recently awarded an F32 grant: The Impact of Variation in the ICU Bed Supply on Utilization of Intensive Care Services

William Bain, MD was chosen as recipient of this year’s Fellow Teaching Award for the Department of Medicine. The recipient of this award is elected by the internal medicine residents and William was invited to the residency graduation dinner on June 13th to be recognized for his outstanding commitment to teaching.

Side note: A PACCM Fellow has won this award 6 years in a row with 4 years of solo wins!

2011: Brian McLaughlin, MD (oncology) & Eric Davis, MD (pulmonary) TIE

2012: Mike Curren, MD (cardiology) & Sid Kapnadak, MD (pulmonary) TIE

2013: Faraaz Shah, MD

2014: Roger Alvarez, MD

2015: Georgios Kitsios, MD

2016: William Bain, MD
Fellows Graduation

GRADUATING FELLOWS:

Congratulations to our graduating Fellows!

- **Hannah Mannem, MD**
  Assistant Professor of Medicine, University of Virginia

- **Roger Alvarez, MD**
  Assistant Professor of Medicine, University of Miami

- **Nguyen Quyen, MD**
  Joining PACCM faculty as Clinical Instructor

- **Ian Barbash, MD**
  T32/F32 funded postdoctoral fellow with a casual UPP appointment at UPMC

- **Marc Gauthier, MD**
  T32 funded postdoctoral fellow and Clinical/Research Instructor

- **Julia Barton, MD**
  PACCM Sleep Fellowship

- **Jason Rose, MD**
  F32 funded postdoctoral fellow and Clinical Instructor

- **Ailia Ali, MD**
  Pulmonary and Sleep Physician, Maryland

- **Shari Montandon, MD**
  Private Immunology Practice, Coeur d’Alene, Idaho

- **Stacy Rosenburg, MD**
  UPMC Allergy & Immunology Physician

Welcome to our new Fellows!

**Pulmonary Fellows:**

- **Joseph Bednash, MD**
  UPMC

- **Matthew Camiolo, MD, PhD**
  UPMC

- **Daniel Dunlap, MD**
  University of Michigan

- **Jennifer Newitt, MD**
  Indiana University

- **Erin Nuzzo, MD**
  BIDMC

- **Craig Riley, MD**
  UPMC

- **Eleanor Valenzi, MD**
  University of Chicago

**Sleep Medicine Fellows:**

- **Julia Barton, MD**
  UPMC

- **Isabella Soreca, MD**
  UPMC
New Faculty Profiles on DOM Website

As part of the Department of Medicine website upgrade, the new faculty profiles offer the advantage of providing a comprehensive description of each DOM faculty’s activities in a format that is consistent across the entire department. The profile pages are supported by a database that is intended to serve multiple uses, including annual reviews, annual reports, and other divisional business. The new profile webpages are now accessible. Faculty can begin updating their profiles immediately by accessing this link:

https://www.dom.pitt.edu/ProfileUpdate/login.aspx

Faculty will use their email address as their login name, along with a password. In the case of a forgotten password, there is a "Forgot Password" utility on the login page that the link above directs to.

Aside from including clinical and research interests, faculty members will have the opportunity to display up to 10 key publications that highlight their academic success. Please be sure to update this section when reviewing your profile page. If you prefer, please send your updates (including the list of key publications) to dobranskyta@upmc.edu and we will be happy to do this for you.

Random Fun

THROWBACK PHOTO TIME!

You would never know that this photo was taken several years ago...Because our pulmonary division is consistently ranked one of the best in the country!

Do you recognize anyone here?

Be sure to notify us of all newsworthy items!

- New Grants
- Honors & Awards
- Promotions & New Appointments
- Special Presentations/Seminars
- Engagements/Marriages/Births
- Share photos of your colleagues!

Send info to: dobranskyta@upmc.edu

www.dept-med.pitt.edu/PACCM

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