A Note from the Chief...

Summer is finally here! But our PACCM, springtime was filled with poster preparations for ATS and DOM Research Days, manuscript/grant submissions, and the grand finale of our academic year with the Robert M. Rogers Lectureship, the PACCM Awards and Fellows Graduation. A new group of superb fellows has joined us.

With a promising score on our Pulmonary T32 grant and several other awards, we have no doubt that our successful momentum will continue during these summer months.

With the new academic year right around the corner, we want to remind you to continue to send us pictures and details of your accomplishments and awards. We want to celebrate these moments with you.

We hope you enjoy this issue of the PACCM Insider.

— Rama Mallampalli, MD

Faculty Spotlight

Tim Corcoran, PhD. has been a faculty member within PACCM since 2000 who provides the Division with national recognition in cutting-edge investigations in pulmonary inhalational therapeutics, cell-based models of liquid, ion, and drug clearance, and ways of assessing mucociliary transport in humans. Thus, his work impacts both adults and children who have airway inflammatory disorders such as cystic fibrosis. His research is generously supported by both NIH R01 and U01 mechanisms. Tim is both an outstanding investigator and mentor, but he also serves as Co-director with Janet Lee of our Pulmonary Translational Research Core (PTRC). His research focus is key to our success of the Cystic Fibrosis program and his leadership in translational investigation within the Division is much appreciated.
ATS—2017

This year’s ATS conference in Washington, DC featured many PACCM highlights:

**Steve Shapiro, MD** was honored as the recipient of the 2017 Distinguished Achievement Award.

**Alison Morris, MD, MS** received a Recognition Award for Scientific Accomplishments.

As always, PACCM faculty and fellows were noted throughout many mini-symposiums, scientific sessions, poster discussions, and poster sessions.

**Alison Morris, MD, MS and Kathy Lindell, PhD, RN** spoke at the ATS Public Advisory “Meet the Expert” Roundtable.

Our Pitt/UPMC PACCM reception at Bobby Van’s Grill saw over 300 of our alumni faculty, former trainees, and new collaborators.

Be sure to mark your calendars for next year: **May 18-23, 2018** in San Diego, CA.

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**Annual Robert M. Rogers Lectureship**

The Annual Robert M. Rogers Memorial Lectureship was held on Friday, June 9 and welcomed guest speaker Sharon Rounds, MD (Brown University) for this annual event commemorating Dr. Rogers’ commitment to education and training.

Mrs. Sandy Rogers and family joined the audience as Dr. Rounds presented her lecture on *Smoking and ARDS*, as well as our reception and annual PACCM Awards ceremony that followed.

Dr. Rounds spent the remainder of her day discussing the fellows’ individual research projects and interests, and celebrated their success during the Fellows Graduation Dinner that evening.
PACCM Awards

Congratulations to our 2017 PACCM Winners!

2017 Outstanding Service Award: Danielle Uliano

2017 Outstanding Research or Clinical Mentorship Award: Bryan McVerry, MD

2017 John W. Kreit Outstanding Educator Award: Christopher Faber, MD

2017 Robert M. Rogers Outstanding Scholarly Achievement Award: (tie)
Tomeka Suber, MD
Jason Rose, MD, MBA

2017 Outstanding Young Investigator Award: Nate Weathington, MD, PhD

2017 Lorenzetty Award: In recognition of a bedside inpatient or clinic nurse who provides excellent direct patient care (tie)
Toni Opalko
Kristin Kossuth

Upcoming Events

The 13th Annual Fran Magister FORE IPF GOLF OUTING
MONDAY, AUGUST 21, 2017
Wildwood Golf Club
2195 Sample Road
Allison Park, PA 15101

Email heinrichh@upmc.edu to golf, donate, or sponsor

All proceeds benefit patient support and education efforts
Instructors and Educators

2016-2017 APE-MEDICAL STUDENT PHYSICAL EXAMINATION INSTRUCTION

Our faculty once again provided an outstanding coverage year for 2016-2017 APE-Medical Student Physical Examination Instruction with the following physicians supporting APE:

- Phil Lamberty, MD
- Stephanie Maximous, MD
- Bruce Johnson, MD
- Jared Chiarchiaro, MD, MS
- Dave Kristo, MD
- Ron Poropatich, MD
- Rachel Glivelber, MD
- Eric Nolley, MD
- Chris Faber, MD

PACCM/EM ULTRASOUND COURSE

The Second PACCM/EM Ultrasound Course was held on April 28-29, directed by Marek Radomski, MD and Phil Lamberty, MD. 16 participants learned how to interpret, acquire, and critique cardiac, lung, abdominal and vascular ultrasound images via hands on instruction and case based learning. Several instructors came from PACCM and took the time out of their hectic schedules to contribute to this successful course:

Jared Chiarchiaro, MD, MS
Roy Semaan, MD
Stephanie Maximous, MD
Eric Nolley, MD

PACCM FUNDAMENTALS OF MECHANICAL VENTILATION COURSE

Contributed by Burton Lee, MD

The first Fundamentals of Mechanical Ventilation Course was held on March 23-25, 2017 at the Learning Exchange at the VA Hospital. The course was directed by Burton Lee, MD and course faculty included Roy Semaan, MD from PACCM, Eric Kriner, RT from Medstar Washington Hospital Center, and Nitin Seam, MD from National Institute of Health. Course emphasized basic ventilator physiology, architecture of normal delivered breaths, and assessment of the ventilated patient including ventilator waveform analysis. We had 14 PACCM and 3 CCM fellows who took part in the interactive course with simulation and small group exercises. The course was very positively received by the participants and we hope to offer this course on an annual basis.
Commencement Speaker, 2017

Yingze Zhang, PhD was invited to visit the Dalian Medical University Dalian and Liaoning Normal University, China from June 26-28. She was appointed as an adjunct professor of the First Affiliated Hospital of Dalian Medical University. She presented several seminars on her research in genetics and biomarkers at both of the universities and the First Affiliated Hospital of Dalian Medical University. Dr. Zhang was also the invited speaker at the Commencement of Class 2017, College of Integrative Medicine of the Dalian Medical University.

Sarcoidosis Awareness Month

The Allegheny Council Commissioners Office issued a special Proclamation proclaiming April as Sarcoidosis Awareness Month. The ceremony on Wednesday, April 19th specifically acknowledged the work of Kevin Gibson, MD and the Simmons Center for ILD in their research and patient care and education for this disease.

UPMC Best Docs, 2017

Once again, an outstanding number of our faculty and former trainees have been recognized as “2017 Best Docs” in Pittsburgh! Congratulations to all!

Charles Atwood, MD; Michael Donahoe, MD; Christopher Faber, MD; Kevin Gibson, MD; Rachel Givelber, MD; Mark Gladwin, MD; John Kreit, MD; Phil Lamberty, MD; Jennifer McComb, MD; Alison Morris, MD; Joseph Pilewski, MD; Frank Sciurba, MD; Patrick Strollo, MD; Joel Weinberg, MD; Sally Wenzel, MD; David Wilson, MD.

To review the article in Pittsburgh Magazine, click here!
New Appointments

Jonathan Alder, PhD
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Kavita Bagavathy, MD
Clinical Instructor of Medicine

Manjula Nagaraja, MD
Clinical Instructor of Medicine

Promotions and Appointments

Sanjay Patel, MD
Professor of Medicine

Bryan McVerry, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine

Jennifer McComb, MD
Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine

Ron Stiller, MD
Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine

Jason Rose, MD, MBA
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Ian Barbash, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Mauricio Rojas, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine

Georgios Kitsios, MD
Clinical Instructor of Medicine

John Evankovich, MD
Clinical Instructor of Medicine

Alison Lennox, MD
Clinical Instructor of Medicine

Stephanie Maximous, MD
Clinical Instructor of Medicine

Tomeka Suber, MD
Clinical Instructor of Medicine

Joo Heung Yoon, MD
Clinical Instructor of Medicine

Elena Goncharova, PhD
Associate Professor of Medicine

New Hires

Welcome to all the new members of our PACCM Family!

Teresa Gallego Martin, PhD – Post Doc Associate – O’Donnell Lab
Bryce Cooper – Lab Tech – O’Donnell/Shah Lab
Nicholas Bonfiglio – Lab Tech – Wenzel Lab
Morgan Midgett – Lab Specialist – Ray’s Lab
Michael Gorry – Senior Lab Tech – Ray’s Lab
Shantanu Jadhav – Health Science Research Fellow – Reddy’s Lab
Jordan Bullock – Lab Tech – Rojas Lab
Luke Masa – Lab Tech – Mallampalli Lab
Asoka Banno, PhD – Post Doc Associate – Reddy’s Lab
Grants, Awards, & Notable Mentions

Frank Sciurba, MD and Takis Benos have a new U01 grant to analyze COPDGene data with causal algorithms.

Yutong Zhao, MD, PhD received a promising score on a new R01: Molecular Regulation of Anti-inflammatory Cytokine Receptor in Sepsis.

John McDyer, MD and Bill Chen, PhD have received a new R01: Role of F-Box Proteins in Lung Transplantation.

Toru Nyunoya, MD received a Breath PA Grant: Role of TACC2 Protein in COPD.

Jessica Bon Field, MD and Craig Riley, MD received a MEPS Education Grant: Impact of COPD Inhaler Education Program on Primary Care Physician Practices.

Courtney Sparacino-Watkins, PhD received an ALA Biomedical Research Grant: Elucidating the Role of the Novel mARC2 Enzymes in Pulmonary Hypertension.

Sally Wenzel, MD participated in a workshop, served as a primary moderator, and was awarded the Elliott Middleton Memorial Lectureship at the at the 2017 AAAAI Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia in March. Her plenary lecture dealt with Using the Immune System to Fight the Immune System: Mechanism of Biologic Immunotherapies. Dr. Wenzel was also invited to be a plenary speaker at the TSANZSRS 2017 (The Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand/Australian and New Zealand Society of Respiratory Science) Annual Scientific Meeting for Leaders in Lung Health and Respiratory Science in Canberra, Australia, March 24th through March 28th.

Janet Lee, MD and Bryan McVerry, MD were invited as speakers for the ARDS conference in Paris June 28-29, 2017. This was the 4th International ARDS conference in Europe.

Ana Mora, MD has been invited as a speaker for the 2017 Lung Development, Injury and Repair Gordon Conference to be held at Colby-Sawyer College in New London, New Hampshire USA during the week of August 20-25 2017. Her presentation will be on Mitochondrial Dysfunction in Lung Fibrosis.

Kristen Veraldi, MD, PhD has been accepted into Leadership Development for Physicians in Academic Health Centers at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

Xingan Wang, MD is the recipient of the 2017 Samuel and Emma Winters Foundation Award.

Media Links

Click on the links for online CME:

2016 Lung Transplant Conference, Part I:
- Matt Pipeling, MD
- Silpa Kilaru, MD

2016 Lung Transplant Conference, Part II:
- Joseph Pilewski, MD

Sepsis: Basic Mechanisms and Novel Therapeutics
- Derek Angus, MD and Bill Chen, PhD

COPD Year in Review
- Frank Sciurba, MD
- Jessica Bon Field, MD

Acute and Chronic Pulmonary Thromboembolism
- Belinda Rivera-Lebron, MD

Microbiome and Medical Disease: Ready for Primetime?
- Alison Morris, MD, MS

Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension
- Mark Gladwin, MD

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


Department of Medicine—Research Days

The annual Department of Medicine Research Days, held on May 1 & 2, included the following awards given to PACCM:

TRANSLATIONAL POST-DOCTORAL FELLOW RESEARCH AWARD

Aki Hoji, PhD

Abstract Title: Persistence of CD57+KLRG1+ Cytomegalovirus (CMV)-Specific Effector CD8 T Cells through the Primary, Contraction, and Chronic Phase of CMV Infection Is Associated with Control of Relapsing CMV Infection

Mentor: John McDyer, MD

BENCH FELLOW RESEARCH AWARD

John Evankovich, MD

Abstract Title: CpG DNA Promotes Lysosomal Degradation of the Receptor for Advanced Glycation End Products (RAGE) through F Box Protein FBXO10-mediated Ubiquitination

Mentors: Rama Mallampalli, MD, and Bill Chen, PhD

TRANSLATIONAL FELLOW RESEARCH AWARD

Georgios Kitsios, MD, PhD

Abstract Title: Dysbiosis Associated with the Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome: A Prospective Cohort Study in Adults

Mentors: Bryan McVerry, MD, and Alison Morris, MD, MS

Jeopardy! Grand Rounds

On June 2, it was faculty vs fellows during a spirited Jeopardy! version of Pulmonary Grand Rounds.

The faculty won this year, but by a narrow margin!
Fellows

Fellows Awards at ATS
- Tomeka Suber, MD - ATS Trainee Development Scholarship
- Georgios Kitsios, MD - ATS Abstract Scholarship, Assembly on Critical Care
- John Evankovich, MD - ATS Abstract Scholarship, Assembly on Clinical Problems
- Eric Nolley, MD - ATS Abstract Scholarship, Assembly on Clinical Problems
- Georgios Kitsios, MD was recently awarded a Breath PA grant: Lung Microbiome Alterations in Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis. He also received a promising score on a K23: Microbiome-based Diagnosis of Pneumonia in the Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome.

Emmet O’Brien, MD was recently awarded the CHEST Foundation Research Grant in Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease for: The E3 Ligase Subunit Fbxo3 Regulates Ubiquitin Proteasome Mediated Skeletal Muscle Atrophy in Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease.

Craig Riley, MD was chosen as recipient of this year’s Fellow Teaching Award, elected by the residents. Craig also won the residency teacher award as a graduating PGY3 last years, elected by his peers.

A PACCCM Fellow has won this award 7 years in a row with 5 years of solo wins!
- 2011: Brian McLauglin, 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
- 2017: Craig Riley, MD

Jennifer Newitt, MD participated in the Second Annual Fellows Teaching Competition in April. Topic: Non-Invasive Ventilation Made Ridiculously Simple Coach: Dr. Rachel Givelber

Jennifer is also the recipient of the ASPIRE (Academic Sleep Pulmonary Integrated Research/Clinical) fellowship.

Jason Rose, MD, MBA recently graduated (MBA) with University Honors (summa cum laude) from CMU in May.

Tomeka Suber, MD is the recipient of the Burroughs Wellcome Fund Postdoctoral Enrichment Program award.

Marc Gauthier, MD - paper on Severe Asthma In Humans and Mouse Model Suggest a CXCL10 Signature Underlies Corticosteroid-Resistant Th1 Bias has been accepted for publication at JCI Insight.

Andrea Levine, MD - received a letter of commendation for “Above and Beyond” care of a patient in the CT ICU.
GRADUATING FELLOWS:

Congratulations to our graduating Fellows!

- Elisabeth Boulos, MD
  The Oregon Clinic, Portland, OR

- Georgios Kitsios, MD
  T32 funded post-doctoral scholar and Clinical Instructor of Medicine (UPP)

- Alison Lennox, MD
  T32 funded post-doctoral scholar and Clinical Instructor of Medicine (UPP)

- Stephanie Maximous, MD
  Joining PACCM Clinical Faculty

- Tomeka Suber, MD
  F32 funded postdoctoral fellow and Clinical/Research Instructor

- Joo Heung Yoon, MD
  CCM T32 funded post-doctoral scholar and Clinical Instructor of Medicine

- Julia Barton, MD
  Baptist Medical Center, East Memphis, TN

- Isabella Soreca, MD
  Pittsburgh VA Health System

Welcome to our new Fellows!

Left to Right:
Deepti Singhvi, MD; Daniel Sullivan, MD; Kimberley DeMerle, MD; Brian Rosborough, MD, PhD; Jill Zapetic, MD; Megan Acho, MD; Sarah Kiel, MD

Not pictured:
Amy Sebell, MD; Gavin Harris, MD
Celebrations

BIRTHS

Congratulations to all of our growing PACCM families!

Chetan and Deepti Naik welcomed son, Krish, on April 11.

Julia and Ryan Barton welcomed son, Wesley, on April 28.

Prithu and Dipa Sundd welcomed son, Dev, on June 16.

Georgios and Joanna Kitsios welcomed son, Achilles, on July 3.

Random Fun

THROWBACK PHOTO TIME!

Did you know that many of our current faculty are also divisional fellow alumni?

You may recognize a few in this picture of young fellows from 2008-2009!

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.dom.pitt.edu/PACCM

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