Faculty Honors
Raising our school’s profile in the region, the nation and the world

The 2011 issue of Richmond Magazine has named 110 members of the medical school’s faculty as Top Docs. Three dozen of those were additionally designated as the top vote-getter in their specialty category.

Dermatology
Julia Nunley, M.D., professor, named one of America’s Top Dermatologists by Consumers’ Research Council of America.

Emergency Medicine
Samuel Bartle, M.D., assistant professor, received a Special Achievement Award from the Virginia Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics recognizing him for his advocacy of children’s issues at the Virginia General Assembly as Legislative Governmental Affairs Chairman of the Virginia Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Julie Mayglothling, M.D., assistant professor, received a Presidential Citation from the Society of Critical Care Medicine for outstanding service to the organization.

Family Medicine
Samuel Jones, M.D., residency director at the VCU Fairfax Family Medicine Residency Program, will be awarded the Nikitas J. Zervanos Outstanding Program Director Award for 2011 given by the Association of Directors of Family Medicine Residencies.

Healthcare Policy and Research
Cathy Bradley Ph.D., professor and chair, was named associate editor of the journal Health Economics.

Internal Medicine
Lenore Buckley, M.D., professor, was honored by WISDM with the SOM Professional Achievement Award.

Elizabeth Ripley, M.D., professor, was honored with the VCU Currents of Change Award for Community Engagement.

Obstetrics and Gynecology
Cecelia Boardman, M.D., associate professor, has been named president-elect of the Virginia Chapter of the American College of Surgeons.
Pharmacology and Toxicology
Hamid Akbarali, Ph.D., professor, received the Outstanding Achievement in Basic or Clinical Sciences Award as part of the Master in Gastroenterology Program in cooperation with the American Gastroenterology Association.

Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
David Gater, M.D., Ph.D., professor, was named the 2010 Community Partner of the Year by the Spinal Cord Injury Association of Virginia.

William McKinley, M.D., professor, will be awarded the Arnold P. Gold Foundation Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine from the Arnold P. Gold Foundation in September. He also has been named the 2010 Community Partner of the Year by the Spinal Cord Injury Association of Virginia.

Psychiatry
Kenneth Kendler, M.D., professor, will receive the Prix Jean Delay Award from the World Psychiatric Association.

Anand Pandurangi, M.D., professor, will received a 2011 National Alliance on Mental Illness Exemplary Psychiatrist Award. He was nominated by the Central Virginia Chapter of NAMI to recognize his advocacy for access to care and research funding and community education.

New Faculty
Expanding our expertise and opportunities for collaboration

Healthcare Policy and Research
April Kimmel, Ph.D., assistant professor, will join the faculty in July. She was a Harvard Postdoctoral Associate at Weill Cornell Medical College. Her interests are in decision analysis, HIV/AIDS, global health, health policy and resource allocation.

Internal Medicine
Michelle Nalepa, M.D., assistant professor, joined the faculty in May as a hospitalist. She received training at the Louisiana State University School of Medicine.

Neurology
Leslie Cloud, M.D., assistant professor, will join the faculty in July. She earned her medical degree from the Medical College of Georgia and completed a fellowship at Emory University. Her clinical interests are gastrointestinal symptoms in Parkinson's Disease.

Soundarya Gowda, M.D., assistant professor, will join the faculty in September. She earned her medical degree from J.J.M. Medical College in India and completed a fellowship at VCU Medical Center. Her area of interest is epilepsy.

Scott Haines, M.D., assistant clinical professor, will join the faculty in August. He earned his medical degree from the University of Maryland and completed a fellowship at the University of Iowa. His area of interest is monocular hemianopia and macular OCT in homonymous hemianopia.

Claudia Testa, M.D., Ph.D., associate professor, will join the faculty in September. She received her training from University of Michigan. Her area of interest is essential tremor and dystonia; interaction of phenotypes and genetic risks in neurodegenerative disorders; and experimental therapeutics for neurodegenerative disorders.
Ophthalmology
Vikram Brar, M.D., assistant professor, will join the faculty in July. He earned his medical degree from the VCU School of Medicine and completed his residency training at the VCU Medical Center. His interests are in retinal disorders and retinal pathology.

Otolaryngology
Theodore Schuman, M.D., assistant professor, will join the faculty in August. He earned his medical degree from Weill Medical College of Cornell University and completed an otolaryngology residency at Vanderbilt University. His interests are in nasal surgery and Eustachian tube dysfunction. He will practice in a new offsite location in Colonial Heights.

Radiology
Yang Tang, M.D., Ph.D., assistant professor, will join the faculty in July. He earned his medical degree from Peking Union Medical College and will complete a neuroradiology fellowship at the University of Virginia in June. He also received a Ph.D. in neuroscience at the University of Cincinnati in 2002 and served as a research scientist there until 2005. In 2005, he entered an internship at the University of Minnesota followed by a radiology residency at VCU Medical Center. Tang has 21 peer-reviewed publications in the study of neuroscience.

Shep Morano, M.D., assistant professor, radiology, will join the faculty in July. He earned his medical degree from VCU School of Medicine and also completed a residency in radiology at the VCU Medical Center. On June 30, he will complete fellowship training in Interventional Radiology.

Surgery
Stephanie Goldberg, M.D., assistant professor, will join the faculty in July. She earned her medical degree from VCU School of Medicine and completed a fellowship in surgical critical care at the VCU Medical Center. Her interests are in wound healing, DVT and Abdominal Compartment Syndrome.

Student Honors
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Alicia Bell, a member of the Class of 2014, has been elected to serve as the 2011-2012 Medical Professionalism Education Coordinator for the American Medical Student Association. Throughout the coming year, Alicia will serve within AMSA’s programming division on the Medical Professionalism Committee and Medical Education Team and will be responsible for planning and delivering AMSA programming, which will be available for AMSA chapters across the country. National leadership positions within AMSA are extremely competitive, with students from around the nation campaigning for a select number of opportunities. Many past AMSA leaders have gone on to achieve great personal and professional success, excelling in academia, in their chosen specialty and in the public policy arena.

Neha Chande, a member of the Class of 2012, has been selected for a position in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Epidemiology Elective Program for Senior Medical and Veterinary Students. She has been assigned to the National Center For Emerging & Zoonotic Infectious Diseases for her six-week rotation under the supervision of Joseph Perz, Dr.P.H., M.A.

Daniel Bennion and Justin Richey, both members of the Class of 2012, won the student poster competition at the 8th Annual "Medical Students’ Steps to Success Meeting" in Bethesda, Md. They bested 45 other entrants from regional schools including Johns Hopkins, Georgetown, Maryland, George Washington and Howard Universities. Bennion and Richey’s winning clinical case abstract proposed a new mechanism by which the Epstein-Barr Virus triggers Human T-Cell Lymphoma.
The Honduras Outreach Medical Brigada Relief Effort was honored with VCU’s Presidential Award for Community Multicultural Enrichment in April.

Thirteen medical students participated in the Graduate Student Association's 14th Annual Symposium and Exhibit. The students included: the Class of 2011’s Sasa Espino; the Class of 2013’s Simy Kabaria, Christine Dao, Matthew Hermann and Natalia Chaimowitz; the Class of 2014’s Todd Teigeler, Saloni Kumar, Kai Li, Esther Cha and Sonia Taneja; and M.D./Ph.D. candidates Laura Hack, Beth Zha and Jason Beckta.