



DEAN'S Quarterly

An update on faculty honors & hires in the VCU School of Medicine

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*Please submit news of faculty hires
and faculty honors through
your chairman's office.*

Faculty Honors

Raising our school's profile in the region, the nation and the world

Anatomy and Neurobiology

Andrew Ottens, Ph.D., assistant professor, was appreciated with the student-nominated Faculty Mentor Award by VCU Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program in April. The award is presented to a faculty member who has made a lasting impression through their guidance and mentorship of undergraduates conducting research and scholarship at VCU.

Dean's Office

Isaac Wood, M.D., professor and senior associate dean for Medical Education, was appointed as Field Secretary to the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) in May. Dr. Wood is one of 12 medical educators in the country that orchestrates, oversees, and prepares the report for, on average, four accreditation site visits per year.

Emergency Medicine

Francis Chuidian, M.D., professor, was recognized in March with the Mitchell Goldman Service Award by the American Academy of Emergency Medicine (AAEM) Scientific Assembly for his commitment and dedication to the AAEM Oral Board Review Course.

Joel Moll, M.D., assistant professor, was unanimously selected as Chair-Elect of the Academy of Diversity and Inclusion in Emergency Medicine (ADIEM) by the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine (SAEM), effective May 12. ADIEM is partnering with SAEM to address diversification of the physician workforce at all levels, eliminate disparities in healthcare and outcomes, and insure the delivery of culturally competent care among emergency physicians.

Robin Foster, M.D., associate professor and division chair of Pediatric Emergency Medicine, was honored as one of the 39 members of the Class of 2015 "Influential Women of Virginia," by the Virginia Lawyers Media. This awards program recognizes the outstanding efforts of women in the Commonwealth in all fields, including law, business, health care, education and the arts. The honors are given to individuals who are making notable contributions to their chosen professions, their communities and society at large. She and fellow honorees were celebrated at a dinner and ceremony on May 7 in Richmond.

Family Medicine and Population Health

Briana Ratliff, Ph.D., assistant professor, has been asked to speak on a panel in June 2015 at the Institute of Medicine's meeting on "Training in Interdisciplinary Population Health Science: A Vision for the Future." This meeting expects to develop a vision for training the next generations of scientists in population health science.

Saba Masho, M.D., M.P.H., Dr.P.H., associate professor, received recognition in April from the VCU Black Education Association in honor of her outstanding professional accomplishments during the 2014-15 academic year.

Internal Medicine

James Lamberti, M.D., professor, Inova Campus, is the recipient of the American Thoracic Society's (ATS) "Outstanding Clinician Award" for 2015 honoring excellence in clinical care. He will be recognized at the ATS International Conference May 15 -20, in Denver, CO.

Mary Ann Peberdy, M.D., C. Kenneth Wright Professor of Cardiology, was invited by the American Heart Association (AHA) to be one of seven experts to write the AHA response statement to the Institute of Medicine's position paper on treatment of cardiac arrest. This position paper resulted from the Institute's August 2014 meeting where Dr. Peberdy was an invited workshop speaker, "Treatment of Cardiac Arrest: Current Status and Future Directions," Washington, DC, August 2014.

Neurology

John Pellock, M.D., professor, was the recipient of the Epilepsy Foundations' Champion of Epilepsy - 2015 Hero Award recognizing his strong advocacy for people living with epilepsy. Dr. Pellock was presented with the award at the Foundation's "Race for Results" reception during the American Academy of Neurology annual conference in Washington, DC, in April.

Obstetrics and Gynecology

David Chelmow, M.D., professor and chair, has been appointed as a member at large to the Executive Board of the Council of University Chairs of Obstetrics and Gynecology (CUCOG). This two-year appointment began April 1.

Pathology

Christopher Doern, Ph.D., assistant professor, was honored with the Outstanding Speaker Award by the American Association of Clinical Chemistry (AACC) in April. This award is in recognition of Dr. Doern's high ratings as a speaker during AACC sponsored CME lectures.

Pediatrics

Ida Sue Baron, Ph.D., associate professor, Inova Campus, was appointed as an Associate Editor elect of *The Clinical Neuropsychologist* in January.

Timothy Bunchman, M.D., professor and division chair of Nephrology, was appointed to the Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) Honor Medical Society by the VCU School of Medicine AOA in May. The AOA, the only national medical honor society in the world, seeks to recognize and perpetuate excellence in the medical profession through the promotion of scholarship and research, high standard of character and conduct among medical students and graduates, and recognition of high attainment in medical science, practice and related fields.

New Faculty

Expanding our expertise and opportunities for collaboration

Chandra Bhati, M.D., joined the department as assistant professor March 1. He earned his medical degree at Dr. Sampurnanand Medical College, Jodhpur, India, and completed residency training at Sawai ManSingh Medical College, Jaipur, India. Dr. Bhati completed his fellowship in transplant and HPB Surgery at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham, UK, and an American Society of Transplant Surgeons (ASTS) accelerated fellowship from the University of Illinois at Chicago. His research interests include marginal donor and steatotic grafts in liver transplantation, ischemia reperfusion injury, transplant outcome, and use of robotics in transplantation.

Surgery

Robert Larson, M.D., will join the department as associate professor July 1. He earned his medical degree at the University of Pennsylvania and completed his residency training and fellowship in vascular surgery at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Larson's research interests include the application and evaluation of new device technologies and drug therapies for vascular pathology, with a particular interest in aortic disease. He also has interests in the development and evaluation of policies and protocols to improve surgical patient safety and healthcare quality.

Student Honors

Raising our school's profile in the region, the nation and the world

Class of 2018's Kenneth Qiu (School of Medicine), Nicholas Rebold (School of Pharmacy), Lily Jia (School of Pharmacy), and **Sarah Rozycki** (School of Medicine) placed fourth in the National Clarion Case Competition in April where they competed against 14 teams from other institutions in Minneapolis, MN. For the competition, the students had to analyze stroke care in rural Kentucky and present a plan for improving care of this population. These four first-year students put forth a spectacular showing considering many of their competitors were much more senior in their education.

Class of 2017's Baaba Blankson is one of 20 to receive the 2015 American Medical Association (AMA) Foundation Minority Scholars Award in recognition of her scholastic achievement and commitment to improving minority health. As part of the award, she will attend the AMA Annual Meeting in Chicago in June.

Class of 2016's Braveen Ragunathan was selected to receive a 2015 Excellence in Public Health Award from the U.S. Public Health Service Physician Professional Advisory Committee. This award, signed by the Surgeon General of the United States, recognizes outstanding medical students with exceptional interest and dedication to the health of their communities and the United States.

Spring 2015 doctoral graduate Kara P. Wiseman, M.P.H., Ph.D., Division of Epidemiology, will begin a postdoctoral fellowship at the National Cancer Institute (NCI) in June. Kara is one of about ten Fellows selected from >100 applicants for the prestigious and competitive Cancer Prevention Fellowship Program, which provides state-of-the-art training and mentored research opportunities in cancer prevention and control at the NCI.