



DEAN'S Quarterly

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

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Jerome F. Strauss III, M.D., Ph.D.
Dean, School of Medicine
Executive Vice President for Medical
Affairs, VCU Health System
Sanger Hall, Room 1-071
Phone: 804-828-9788
Fax: 804-828-7628
E-mail: jfstrauss@vcu.edu
Web site:
<http://www.medschool.vcu.edu>

*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

Emergency Medicine

Harinder Dhindsa, M.D., associate professor, has been re-elected for a second term as a board member for the Air Medical Physician Association, which is the largest professional organization of physicians dedicated to rotor wing (helicopter), fixed wing (airplane) and critical care ground transportation and is international in scope.

Douglas S. Franzen, M.D., assistant professor and assistant dean for medical education and student affairs, has served the National Board of Medical Examiners as a Test Committee member, developing and reviewing the test items that compose the USMLE's Step 3 Computer-Based Case Simulations.

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

Joseph P. Ornato, M.D., professor and chairman, was awarded the 2011 Virginia Governor's Award for Outstanding EMS Physician. He currently serves as Operational Medical Director of both the Richmond Ambulance Authority and the Richmond Fire and Emergency Services.

Family Medicine

Samuel Jones, M.D., professor, was named the Nikitas Zervanos Outstanding Residency Program Director. The award, which is jointly sponsored by the American Academy of Family Physicians and the Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors, is presented annually to a residency director who demonstrates leadership and advancement of the specialty, service as a mentor to residents and medical students as well as service to the community.

Mark Ryan, M.D., assistant clinical professor, was selected to be secretary of the Virginia Academy of Family Physicians for a three-year term.

Healthcare Policy and Research

April Kimmel, Ph.D., assistant professor, was awarded the Lee B. Lusted Student Prize in Applied Health Economics, Services and Policy Research. The career development award was presented for her research, "Internal validation and calibration of a model to forecast HIV treatment demand and capacity in Haiti," at the 33rd Annual Meeting of the Society of Medical Decision Makers in Chicago.

Internal Medicine

Colin A. Banas, M.D., assistant professor, has been nominated to the Board of the Virginia Health Quality Center.

Diane M. Biskobing, M.D., associate professor, has served the National Board of Medical Examiners as an Interdisciplinary Review Committee member, responsible for the review and approval of all items to be included in the test item library for the Step 1 exam.

John Clore, M.D., professor and associate vice president for clinical research, received the 2012 Laureate Award from the Virginia Chapter of the American College of Physicians. The Laureate Award honors Fellows or Masters of the ACP who have demonstrated by their example and conduct an abiding commitment to excellence in medical care, education or research, as well as service to their community, their Chapter and the American College of Physicians.

Richard P. Wenzel, M.D., M.Sc., professor and chair emeritus, received the Houston Academy of Medicine's 2012 John P. McGovern Compleat Physician Award, which recognizes physicians who have made extraordinary contributions to medicine and humanity.

Legal Medicine

Marcella Fierro, M.D., professor emeritus, was recognized by the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance for time spent with the Virginia Commission on Family Violence Prevention project analyzing data on deaths that were intimate partner associated.

Ophthalmology

Juan Orellana, M.D., associate professor, was appointed by the VCU Endowed Chair/Professorship Committee to the Distinguished Research Professorship in Ophthalmology by virtue of his scholarly activity, his role as principal or co-investigator on research projects and publications as well as his service on major committees focused on the quality of eye care rendered to patients with eye disease.

Pathology

Gregory Miller, Ph.D., professor, director of clinical chemistry and director of Pathology Information Systems, is serving as president of the American Association for Clinical Chemistry through January 2013. He has served the AACC as an associate editor of its flagship publication, *Clinical Chemistry*, and has received its Award for Outstanding Contributions to Clinical Chemistry.

David S. Wilkinson, M.D., Ph.D., professor and chairman, has been appointed by the Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius to the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Advisory Committee of the CDC for a three-year term ending in June 2015.

Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

Juan Carlos Arango-Lasprilla, Ph.D., associate professor, was named the IBIA Young Investigator Award for early career contributions to the field of brain injury science at the Ninth World Congress of Brain Injury in Edinburgh, Scotland in March.

Psychiatry

James L. Levenson, M.D., professor of psychiatry, has served the National Board of Medical Examiners as an Interdisciplinary Review Committee member, responsible for the review and approval of all items to be included in the test item library for the Step 3 exam.

Surgery

H. David Reines, M.D., professor of surgery, has served the National Board of Medical Examiners as a member of the Standard Setting Panel, evaluating the pass/fail standard used for USMLE Step Exams.

Kazuaki Takabe, M.D., Ph.D., FACS, assistant professor with a joint appointment in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, was awarded first place in the Clinical and Translational Research category of the scientific poster session at Women's Health 2012: The 20th Annual Congress sponsored by the NIH's Office of Research on Women's Health, in Washington, D.C. in March.

Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU

Leslie Wyatt, MS, RN, executive director, will receive the 2012 YWCA of Richmond Outstanding Women Award in the category of health and science in May.

Dean's Office

Isaac K. Wood, M.D., senior associate dean for medical education and student affairs, has served the National Board of Medical Examiners as a Test Committee member, developing and reviewing the test items that compose the Step 1 Behavioral Sciences exam.

New Faculty

Expanding our expertise and opportunities for collaboration

Internal Medicine

Vikrant (Sheku) Brar, M.D., assistant professor, joined the department as a hospitalist on a short-term contract until June 30, 2012. Brar completed his internal medicine residency at the VCU Medical Center then spent time as a hospitalist in New Zealand. He will be working as a hospitalist for the next six months before joining the hematology-oncology fellowship program at the VCU Medical Center in July.

Michael Lucas (Luke) Gambill, D.O., assistant professor, has joined the department as a Teaching Nocturnist until June 30, 2012. Gambill recently completed his internal medicine residency training at the VCU Medical Center. He will serve as a supervising nighttime attending physician for the internal medicine housestaff, providing guidance and feedback on issues such as handoffs and escalation of care as well general teaching of the housestaff who are working nights.

Christie Razavi, M.D., instructor, joined the diabetes program as a clinical provider. Razavi did her training in general internal medicine at the VCU Medical Center and will begin a fellowship in endocrinology in July 2012.

Ophthalmology

Juan Orellana M.D., associate professor, joined the department in February. Soon after his appointment as Ophthalmology Medical Director, Orellana began participation on the Ambulatory Care Medical Directors Committee.

Surgery

David Lee, M.D., assistant professor, will join the department in July. He received his medical degree from the University of Michigan Medical School, where he stayed on to complete a fellowship in cell transplant preservation and liver preservation.

Student Honors

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

Class of 2014

Amy Bruzek has been selected as an alternate for the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's 2012 Medical Research Fellows Program. In the event an awardee is not able to accept a fellowship offer, she will automatically be considered for an award.

Class of 2015

Two M1s, Erika New and Caitlin Klimavicz, have been accepted to this summer's Telluride Patient Safety Conference. Allie Setia and Eric King represented the medical school there last summer and came back brimming with ideas, which led to the formation of a patient safety elective and a patient safety interest group.

Student National Medical Association

More than 110 medical and pre-medical college students visited the MCV Campus on February 4 for the regional meeting of the Student National Medical Association. The VCU Chapter of the SNMA hosted the meeting, putting together a daylong program that drew participants from around Virginia, Maryland and Washington, D.C. In the morning, medical students headed into clinical workshop sessions and pre-med students benefited from individualized advising sessions on applying to medical school. A policy panel in the afternoon brought physicians together with elected representatives to discuss current topics like health disparities in minority populations and the impact the Affordable Care Act could have in Virginia and America at large.