



# DEAN'S Quarterly

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

## Summer/Fall 2016 Contents

### Faculty Honors

Dean's Office  
Family Medicine and Population Health  
Obstetrics and Gynecology  
Pediatrics  
Radiation Oncology  
Radiology

### Faculty Recruits

Anesthesiology  
Family Medicine  
Internal Medicine  
Obstetrics and Gynecology  
Pediatrics  
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation  
Radiology  
Surgery

### Student Honors

---

#### Jerome F. Strauss III, M.D., Ph.D.

Dean, School of Medicine  
Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs,  
VCU Health  
McGlothlin Medical Education Center  
4th Floor, Suite 4-100, Room 4-210  
Phone: 804-828-9788  
Fax: 804-828-7628  
E-mail: [jfstrauss@vcu.edu](mailto: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

### Dean's Office

#### Special Honor

The School of Medicine gives special honor to **Louis J. De Felice, Ph.D.**, who passed away November 14. He was a friend and colleague to all at MCV/VCU and a highly valued member of the Department of Physiology & Biophysics and the School of Medicine. Dr. De Felice unceasingly was driven by his love of science, and made monumental contributions that advanced our understanding. His dedication as a mentor, teacher, and advisor was legendary, and his generous spirit influenced generations.

**Elizabeth Ripley, M.D., professor**, has been appointed interim senior associate dean for Faculty Affairs, effective January 1, 2017. She will continue the work of the Office to develop, implement, evaluate and manage policies associated with faculty affairs, identify programs and processes that support faculty in their academic roles, and enhance the quality of faculty experiences in the School of Medicine.

### Family Medicine and Population Health

**Andrew Bazemore, M.D., M.P.H.**, associate clinical professor, was elected to the National Academy of Medicine (NAM) in October. This honor recognizes individuals who have demonstrated outstanding professional achievement and commitment to service.

**Rebecca Etz, Ph.D.**, associate professor, was re-elected in June as a member-at-large to the Board of Directors for the North American Primary Care Research Group (NAPCRG), an interdisciplinary volunteer association committed to nurturing primary care researchers.

Dr. Etz was also honored as a visiting scholar in the Larry A. Green Visiting Scholars Program by the Robert Graham Center for Policy Studies in Family Medicine and Primary Care in June. One of the goals of the program is to provide researchers with an analytic policy immersion experience in the nation's capital focused on health policy from a family medicine and primary care perspective.

In addition, Dr. Etz was appointed to the Advisory Committee for Milbank Primary Care Transformation Program by the Milbank Memorial Fund in October. This multi-state collaborative provides a forum for members to

share data, participate in collaborative learning, and advocate for improved collaboration between the states and the federal government on new and ongoing initiatives. She was also appointed to the Technical Expert Panel (TEP) for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Quality Measure Development Plan (MDP) by the Health Services Advisory Group (HSAG) and CMS in November. TEP is a group of stakeholders and experts who provide technical input to the measure contractor on the development, selection, and maintenance of measures for which CMS contractors are responsible.

Dr. Etz was appointed to the PRIME Membership Governance Committee by the American Board of Family Medicine in October. PRIME is the first national primary care registry in the US.

**Resa Jones, Ph.D., M.P.H.**, associate professor, was appointed as chairman-elect to the Executive Board of the American Public Health Association (APHA) during the APHA's annual meeting in Denver, CO, in October. APHA champions the health of all people and all communities with a mission of improving the health of the public and achieving equity in health status.

**Alexander Krist, M.D., M.P.H.**, associate professor, was honored with the Distinguished Mid-Career Research Award by the North American Primary Care Research Group (NAPCRG) at its annual meeting in November. The NAPCRG Award recognizes outstanding research accomplishments and significant recognition of an individual at the mid-career stage.

### **Obstetrics and Gynecology**

**David Chelmow, M.D.**, professor and chair, was appointed in June as secretary and treasurer to the Council of University Chairs in Obstetrics and Gynecology (CUCOG), an organization that promotes and supports leadership development of current and future chairs, and encourages excellence in medical student, resident, and fellowship training; clinical practice; research and advocacy in women's health.

### **Pediatrics**

**Niran Romesh Wijesooriya, M.D.**, assistant professor, was honored in October as one of Style Weekly's Top 40 Under 40, recognizing the young men and women who rally for change, serve others and bring the Richmond community together. Dr. Wijesooriya is one of the youngest chiefs at VCU's Children's Hospital and very involved in his community.

### **Radiation Oncology**

**Drew Moghanaki, M.D., M.P.H.**, associate professor, was appointed as chairman of the American Society of Therapeutic Radiation and Oncology (ASTRO) GU Scientific Committee for a three-year appointment starting in October. This national leadership appointment is responsible for the selection of scientific presentations and organizing the annual ASTRO meeting.

**Jatinder Palta, Ph.D.**, professor and chair of the Division of Medical Physics, was appointed for a two-year term as chairman of the Administrative Council and member of the Board of Directors of the American Association of Physicists in Medicine. The Administrative Council serves as a conduit for communicating administrative information to the Board and also oversees the main mechanisms for communication with members.

### **Radiology**

**Jinxing Yu, M.D., M.S.**, professor, was nationally recognized by multiple websites including ScienceDaily and HealthImaging for the VCU News July 20 article entitled, "Increasing the Odds of Prostate Cancer Detection."

## New Faculty

Expanding our expertise and opportunities for collaboration

### Anesthesiology

**Beata Evans, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant professor in August. She earned her medical degree from Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine. Dr. Evans completed her residency training at State University of New York, Stony Brook Medicine and completed her fellowship in pediatric anesthesiology at Case Western University, Rainbow Babies and Children Hospital. Her research interest include pediatric anesthesiology.

**Marc Huntoon, M.D.**, joined the department as professor in June. He earned his medical degree from Wayne State University School of Medicine and completed his residency training and fellowship in pain management at the Naval Medical Center, Portsmouth, VA. Dr. Huntoon's research interests include interventional pain complications, medical editing, neuromodulation, and cancer pain.

**Megan Rashid, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant professor in July. She earned her medical degree from the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. Dr. Rashid completed her residency training at Jackson Memorial Hospital of the Jackson Health System and her fellowship in anesthesiology critical care at Washington University, Barnes Jewish Hospital. Her research interests include general anesthesiology and anesthesiology critical care.

**Michael Scott, M.B.Ch.B.**, joined the department as professor in October. He earned his medical degree from the University of Birmingham Medical School. Dr. Scott completed his residency training at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham, UK, and completed his fellowship in anesthesia critical care medicine and anesthesia pediatric intensive care medicine at Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital and Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children. His research interests include anesthesia critical care medicine and anesthesia pediatric intensive care medicine.

### Family Medicine and Population Health

**Paul Bailey, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant clinical professor in May. He earned his medical degree from the University of Washington, Seattle, and completed his residency training at Portsmouth Family Medicine, Portsmouth, VA.

### Internal Medicine

**Vikrant Brar, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant professor in August. He earned his medical degree from the Virginia Commonwealth University. Dr. Brar completed his residency training and fellowship in hematology/oncology at Virginia Commonwealth University. His research interests include MDA-7/IL-24 and PI3 Kinase Inhibitors against GBM cells, CITI training curriculum for human research subjects.

**William Denney, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant professor in July. He earned his medical degree from the University of Mississippi. Dr. Denney completed his residency training at Virginia Commonwealth University.

**Michelle Doll, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant professor in August. She earned her medical degree from Jefferson Medical College. Dr. Doll completed her residency training at Temple University and completed her fellowship in infectious diseases at the University of Maryland and in epidemiology research at VCU Health.

**Jose Exaire, M.D.**, joined the department as associate professor in July. He earned his medical degree from the National Autonomous University of Mexico, Mexico City. Dr. Exaire completed his residency training at the National Institute of Medical Sciences and Nutrition Salvador Zubiran, Mexico, and completed his fellowship in interventional cardiology and peripheral intervention at Cleveland Clinic Foundation. His research interest includes excel medicine.

**Adedayo Fashoyin, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant professor in August. He earned his medical degree from the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health. Dr. Fashoyin completed his residency training at the University of Vermont/Fletcher Allen Health Care Program and completed his fellowship in geriatrics at Duke University School of Medicine.

**Brandon Frett, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant professor in August. He earned his medical degree from the University of the West Indies. Dr. Frett completed his residency training at SUNY Downstate Medical Center.

**Sarah Gordon, D.O.**, joined the department as assistant professor in August. She earned her medical degree from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. Gordon completed her residency training at Drexel University College of Medicine and completed her fellowship in hematology/oncology at Virginia Commonwealth University. Her research interests include phase 1 study of pemetrexed and sorafenib in advanced solid tumors, patients' understanding of oral chemotherapy medications, phase 1 study of AR42 and pazopanib in advanced renal cell carcinoma and sarcoma, and cardiac complications in bone marrow transplant patients.

**Margaret Guy, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant professor in August. She earned her medical degree from Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. Dr. Guy completed her residency training at Virginia Commonwealth University.

**David Jessee, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant professor in July. He earned his medical degree from Virginia Commonwealth University. Dr. Jessee also completed his residency training at Virginia Commonwealth University.

**Venkata Konjeti, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant professor in July. He earned his medical degree from Kurnool Medical College affiliated to Dr. N.T.R. University of Health Sciences, Andhra Pradesh, India. Dr. Konjeti completed his residency training at the University Connecticut Health Center. His research interest includes risk factors for relapse of clostridium difficile associated diarrhea among oncology patients.

**Barbara Lawson, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant professor in August. She earned her medical degree from the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston. Dr. Lawson completed her residency training at Johns Hopkins Hospital and completed her fellowship in structural intervention, interventional cardiology, and cardiovascular medicine at Johns Hopkins Hospital and Cleveland Clinic Foundation. Her research interests include initial diagnosis of chronic total occlusion by coronary computed tomography versus conventional angiography, role of Intraaortic balloon pump in patients with severe aortic stenosis without coronary artery disease (under review), optimal blood pressure measurement in patients with continuous flow left ventricular assist device.

**Carolyn Marcelo, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant professor in July. She earned her medical degree from West Virginia University. Dr. Marcelo completed her residency training at Virginia Commonwealth University. Her research interest includes a quality improvement project, an educational intervention increases appropriate telemetry use by internal medicine housestaff.

**Catherine Marcelo, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant professor in July. She earned her medical degree from West Virginia University. Dr. Marcelo completed her residency training at Virginia Commonwealth University. Her research interest includes concepts of health care teams.

**Pete Meliagros, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant professor in August. He earned his medical degree from Virginia Commonwealth University. Dr. Meliagros also completed his residency training at Virginia Commonwealth University.

**Rebecca Miller, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant professor in August. She earned her medical degree from Eastern Virginia Medical School. Dr. Miller completed her residency training at Virginia Commonwealth University.

**Patrick Nana-Sinkam, M.D.**, joined the department as professor and chair of the Division of Pulmonary Disease and Critical Care Medicine in September. He earned his medical degree from Wake Forest University School of Medicine. Dr. Nana-Sinkam completed his residency training at the University of Michigan and completed his fellowship in pulmonary sciences and critical care medicine at the University of Colorado. His research interests include molecular pathogenesis of lung cancer and identification of novel tumor biomarkers for early lung cancer detection and surveillance.

**Naveed Naz, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant professor in October. He earned his medical degree from the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences. Dr. Naz completed his residency training at Tripler Army Medical Center and completed his fellowship in cardiovascular disease at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center.

**Manish Pradhan, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant clinical professor in July. He earned his medical degree from Guangxi Medical University, Nanning, China. Dr. Pradhan completed his residency training at New York Medical College.

**Taeshik Park, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant professor in July. He earned his medical degree from Soonchunhyang University (SCHU), College of Medicine, Seoul, South Korea. Dr. Park completed his residency training at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

**Vaishali Patel, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant professor in July. He earned his medical degree from Seth G.S. Medical College, K.E.M. Hospital, Mumbai, India. Dr. Patel completed his residency training at Wayne State University and completed his fellowship in transplant hepatology at Virginia Commonwealth University.

**Jillian Raybould, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant professor in July. She earned her medical degree from Georgetown University School of Medicine. Dr. Raybould also completed her residency training and fellowship in infectious disease and travel medicine at Georgetown University School of Medicine.

**Evan Ritter, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant professor in August. He earned his medical degree from Wake Forest University School of Medicine. Dr. Ritter completed his residency training at Virginia Commonwealth University. His research interests include timing of stem cell transplants in T-cell lymphoma patients, HLA matching for bone marrow transplants, cloning and expressing multiple proteins as well as optimizing their purification for crystallographic studies.

**Melissa Ruiz, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant professor in July. She earned her medical degree from Virginia Commonwealth University. Dr. Ruiz also completed her residency training at Virginia Commonwealth University.

**Gary Simmons, D.O.**, joined the department as assistant professor in August. He earned his medical degree from the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. Simmons completed his residency training and fellowship in hematology/oncology at Virginia Commonwealth University. His research interest include mononuclear cell mass/density spectrum following stem cell transplantation: predicting clinical outcomes and rectal cancer using hyper fractionated radiation therapy and continuous 5-Flurouracil.

**Georgia Thomas, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant professor in August. She earned her medical degree from SUNY Upstate College of Medicine. Dr. Thomas completed her residency training at the University of Maryland. Her research interests include clinical project investigating the efficacy and feasibility of family member participation in early physical therapy of critically ill patients, investigating the implementation of an interdisciplinary approach to the critical care of coronary care unit patients.

### **Obstetrics and Gynecology**

**Mishka Terplan, M.D.**, will join the department as professor January 1, 2017. She earned her medical degree from the University of California, San Francisco. Dr. Terplan completed her residency training at Los Angeles County Hospital, University of Southern California and completed her fellowship in clinical research and reproductive health at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Her research interest includes addiction in pregnancy.

### **Pediatrics**

**Bradford McQuilkin, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant clinical professor in October. He earned his medical degree from Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine. Dr. McQuilkin completed his residency training at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth and completed his fellowship in cardiology at the University of Virginia Medical Center.

**Bergen Nelson, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant professor in August. She earned her medical degree from Harvard Medical School. Dr. Nelson completed her residency training and fellowship at the University of California. Her research interests include community-partnered research, developmental screening, and early childhood development.

**Tamar Springel, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant clinical professor in September. She earned her medical degree from Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine. Dr. Springel completed her residency training at VCU Health and completed her fellowship in nephrology at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Her research interests include health care economics and health care policy.

### **Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation**

**Elizabeth Huntoon, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant professor in October. She earned her medical degree from Eastern Virginia Medical School. Her research interests include acupuncture and pain.

**Kimberly Skelton, D.O.**, joined the department as assistant professor in September. She earned her medical degree from Edward Via Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine. Her research interests include acute concussion, pain, and sports medicine.

### **Radiology**

**Biren Shah, M.D.**, joined the department as clinical associate professor in September. He earned his medical degree from Sackler School of Medicine/New York State-American Program, Tel Aviv University. Dr. Shah completed his residency training at William Beaumont Hospital and completed his fellowship in breast imaging at Henry Ford Hospital. His research interest includes breast imaging in detecting breast disease.

**Mark Sharafinski, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant professor in July. He earned his medical degree from the University of Pittsburgh. Dr. Sharafinski completed his residency training at the Medical College of Wisconsin and completed his fellowship in pediatric radiology at Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago. His research interest includes pediatric imaging as it relates to pediatric health issues.

### **Surgery**

**C.D. Anthony Herndon, M.D.**, joined the department as professor in June. He earned his medical degree from the University of North Carolina School of Medicine. His research interest includes prenatal hydronephrosis.

**Trevor Reichman, M.D.**, joined the department as associate professor in July. He earned his medical degree from Rutgers New Jersey Medical School. His research interests include hepatocellular carcinoma tumor stem cells and the regulation of metastasis.

**Levi Procter, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant professor in August. He earned his medical degree from the University of Kentucky. Dr. Procter's research interests include transfusion related immunomodulation, resuscitation in critical illness, pharmaconutrition, acute care surgery outcomes/quality improvements, and patient safety.

**Edgar Rodas, M.D.**, joined the department as associate professor in August. He earned his medical degree from Universidad de Cuenca. Dr. Rodas' research interests include development of trauma and emergency systems, global surgery, mobil surgery, quality improvement, patient safety, and clinical research.

**Jennifer Salluzzo, M.D.**, joined the department as assistant professor in August. She earned her medical degree from Tufts University School of Medicine. Dr. Salluzzo's research interests include bariatric surgery, enhanced recovery protocols of post-operative management of bariatric patients, protocols for prevention and management of dehydration after bariatric surgery.

## ***Student Honors***

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

**Class of 2019's Wendy Sun** received the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation Scholarship to study the disease of addiction at the Hazelden Addiction Treatment Center this past summer. During the experience, she had the unique opportunity to understand the dynamics of the disease through following and learning from patients during their residential treatment. Supplementing the experiential learning, physicians and treatment experts gave participants a comprehensive perspective on addiction treatment and recovery, as implemented through the 12-Step model.