



Baylor  
College of  
Medicine

# Pedi Press

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Texas Children's  
Hospital

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**20<sup>TH</sup> BIPAI  
NETWORK  
MEETING**  
12 - 16 NOVEMBER 2018

**THE BIG PICTURE:  
EMPOWERING CHILDREN AND THEIR  
FAMILIES FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE**



**BIPAI**  
Baylor International  
Pediatric AIDS Initiative



# FEATURE ARTICLE . . .

## Department Takes Center Stage at Healthcare Conference



**Dr. Mark Kline**, Professor and Chairman, along with a delegation of physicians, executives, and experts from Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Children's were invited to attend the 6<sup>th</sup> annual *U.S. News & World Report* Healthcare of Tomorrow Conference, held in Washington, D.C. The delegation had a major presence at the conference, where members sponsored key discussion sessions and all the attendees had their event credentials on a Texas Children's branded lanyard, and Dr. Kline gave the keynote address.

"For too long, children have been on the outside looking in, and it's particularly true for the poor children of the world, who've not had the same access to life-saving therapies as American and European children. The HIV/AIDS pandemic certainly challenged the world's commitment, and our compassion, for these children. But our success in the fight against HIV/AIDS has opened the door to treatments for a host of other serious diseases that have threatened the health and well-being of children and families for generations."

-- Dr. Mark Kline, Chairman



Dr. Kline emphasized in his keynote address, entitled “Global Child Health at the Tipping Point: Lessons From the Field,” that challenges remain despite the significant progress that has been made to improve child health and mortality rates worldwide. Resource-limited countries are especially vulnerable. Nonetheless, increased awareness, partnerships and active engagements can turn those challenges into opportunities for healthcare providers to improve the lives of the world’s poorest and most desperate children.

The successes and lessons learned from the Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative (BIPAI) illustrated Dr. Kline’s point by demonstrating that how the initiative helped stem the tide of the AIDS pandemic, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa. The BIPAI network, founded by Dr. Kline in 1996, has grown from a single pilot HIV clinic in Romania into the largest HIV/AIDS network in the world and now includes 16 centers and clinics in 14 countries. BIPAI provides care for hundreds of thousands of children and their families, as well as education for nearly 90,000 healthcare providers and research in pediatric health. Dr. Kline also explained the value of leveraging the BIPAI networks’ infrastructure, which enabled TCH to extend its global reach to offer care for many other diseases and disorders, including pediatric cancer, sickle cell anemia, OB/GYN care, tuberculosis, malaria, malnutrition, and other diseases and conditions.

One of the highlights of the Conference was a raffle of four sets of *Rudolph’s Pediatrics*, the landmark pediatric healthcare reference textbook, for which Dr. Kline is Editor-in-Chief.

*Rudolph’s Pediatrics*, pictured on the table to the right, is an iconic, 120-year-old textbook that originated as *Diseases of Infancy and Childhood* by Dr. Luther Emmett Holt in 1896. It was published through 11 editions into the 1940s by Dr. Holt and subsequently by his son, Dr. Luther Emmett Holt, Jr., and eventually through another seven editions by Dr. Abraham Rudolph. Today, it is one of the world’s most widely recognized and read medical textbooks.





# DEPARTMENT NEWS . . .

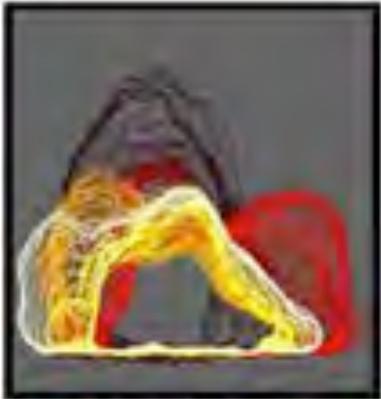
## EVENTS & HAPPENINGS

### Pediatric Core Clerkship Students Express Gratitude



In the spirit of Thanksgiving, Term 3 BCM Pediatric Clerkship students (with Director **Dr. Elaine Fielder** and coordinator **Pia Hughes**), posed with their "Gratitude Pumpkin," which everyone signed, listing things and people for which they are thankful. The clerkship is a mandatory rotation for all BCM medical students.

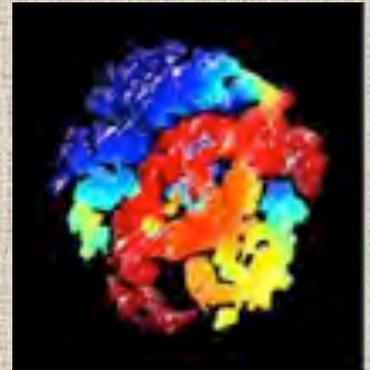
# 2019 Pediatric Research Symposium Announced



2017 Cover Art Winner

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**TUESDAY  
APRIL 9, 2019**



2018 Cover Art Winner

The 2019 Pediatric Research Symposium will be held on **Tuesday, April 9, 2019**. A formal call for abstracts was sent via email, with links to online registration and abstract submission forms.

The Department of Pediatrics is looking forward to acknowledging and celebrating the research accomplishments of our pediatric research trainees and pediatric fellows at the Pediatric Research Symposium. The theme for the 2019 Pediatric Research Symposium is

**“Selling Your Science:  
How to Communicate the Importance of Your Work”**

This event will be comprised of a keynote scientific address, a keynote scholarship presentation, fellows’ workshop, and presentations of featured abstracts. A moderated poster session will broadly feature trainee pediatric research conducted at Texas Children’s Hospital. There will also be prizes for the most meritorious submissions/presentations across a number of categories.

The Pediatric Research Symposium is an important forum for sharing research results and achievements, as well as for networking and establishing new collaborations. The symposium is also an excellent venue to address topics that may be relevant to the trainee’s career development as they transition to more advanced or faculty positions.

## Symposium Focused on the Family

Texas Children's Heart Center, held its fourth Symposium on Coronary Artery Anomalies, an event founded by TCH's Coronary Anomalies Program, the first of its kind in the nation. It provides a means for caregivers, researchers, and others to gather and discuss the



diagnoses and management options for patients with coronary artery anomalies such as anomalous aortic origin of coronary artery (AAOCA).

The Program is composed of a multidisciplinary core team of cardiologists, congenital heart surgeons, radiologists, and researchers who collaborate to provide the best treatment options, study outcomes, and educate healthcare providers, families, and the public about these conditions. They meet monthly to determine the best course of action for each patient and track the patients' outcomes over time. The foundation of the program is the development and use of a clinical algorithm to facilitate establishing the diagnosis and providing optimal management for these patients.



"Before we began to really focus on these conditions, there was very little data about the potential risks or causes, which in turn led to controversy surrounding the proper ways to evaluate, treat and monitor children with these conditions. This event provides an open, dedicated forum for discussion and information sharing, and has become a valuable resource for experts nationwide who are involved in the diagnosis and care of patients with these rare conditions."

--Dr. Silvana Molossi

Members of the Program and eleven visiting faculty from preeminent pediatric health care institutions across the country, provided comprehensive presentations. Speakers from Boston Children's, CHOP, Stanford University, Columbia University, UT Southwestern, and the Heart & Vascular Institute at Hartford Hospital Connecticut addressed topics such as AAOCA, Kawasaki disease, and myocardial bridges.

The conference also included a special Patients & Families Symposium during which parents and children attended talks that covered topics such as the impact of coronary anomalies on families and the importance of counseling and issues involved in decision-making when determining the patient's healthcare plan. During a session entitled "This is My Story: Patients and Families Living with AAOCA," patients and their family members shared their experiences of, receiving diagnoses, making the tough decisions for care, and living with life-threatening conditions. They also discussed the importance of networking and building a sense of community that can provide collective support when needed.

# CRIS SPONSORED TWO SUCCESSFUL EDUCATION EVENTS

CRIS sponsored two education events in October, both of which were very well received by the participants. One focused on developing clinical teachers as coaches, and the other, held off-site, provided a venue for participants to begin initial drafts of manuscripts.

## Clinical Teachers as Coaches

On October 12, 2018, CRIS sponsored “**Clinical Teachers as Coaches: A Symposium on How to be a Master Coach.**” The conference was extremely successful in bringing together 65 educators from across the Texas Medical Center to discuss and learn about best practices in the science of medical education. Expert physician and nursing educators from across the Department of Pediatrics moderated interactive sessions on the following topics: what is a supervisor, coach, and mentor; educational myths vs. evidence-based best practices; coaching deliberate practice; utilizing desirable difficulties to ensure long term success; as well as coaching critical thinking skills, professional identify formation and clinical / procedural skills. The symposium was enthusiastically received by the attendees with multiple participants excitedly discussing how they planned to implement the concepts and ideas they learned during the day

## All-Day Retreat on Writing for Publication

On October 26, 2018, CRIS sponsored an **All-Day Retreat for Scholarly Writing**, which provided didactic sessions, interactive group work, and individualized time for actual writing of components of the research manuscript. Topics included ‘Setting Boundaries for Writing,’ ‘Publication Ethics,’ ‘Authorship - Who Qualifies?’ ‘Writing the Rhetorical Stance,’ and ‘The Writing Process: Revisions/Proofing/Editing.’ Presenters also addressed the components of various types of manuscripts, including basic research, the case study, and QI and innovation. After enjoying a box lunch, participants were led in a quick exercise to allow them to be refreshed by the beautiful weather and ready for the final sessions.



# Upcoming Conference For Advocacy Announced



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**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**

**BUILDING AN ACADEMIC VOICE  
FOR ADVOCACY  
FEBRUARY 8, 2019  
LOCATION: PAVILLION FOR WOMEN  
CONFERENCE CENTER  
8:30AM - 4:30PM**



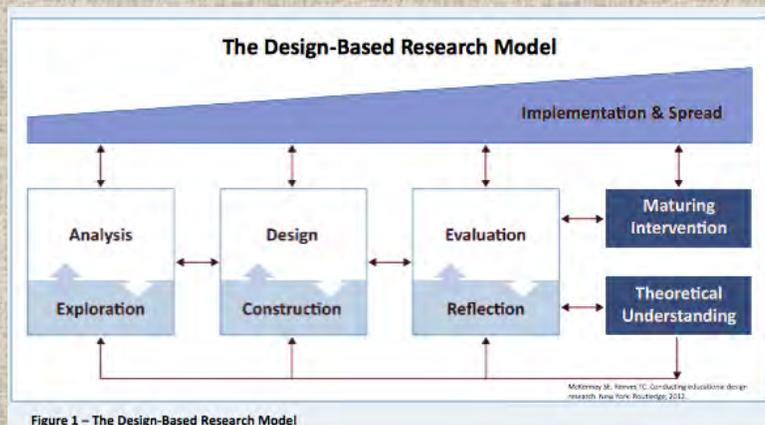
**The Advocacy Conference Committee** announced an upcoming conference dedicated to advocacy in the academic setting. The conference "Building an Academic Voice for Advocacy" will bring together local and national experts on how to build skills in conducting advocacy work while also being scholarly. Attendees will get hands on training in interactive sessions with experts from the American Academy of Pediatrics, Texas Pediatric Society, and TCH. **Advocacy Conference Committee:** Dr. Jean L. Raphael, Dr. Claire Bocchini, Dr. Bruno Chumpitazi, Remy Elizondo, Karla Gonzales, Dr. Geeta Singhal, Dr. Teri Turner, Dr. Mark Ward.

# Section Recognized at BCM Education Showcase

This year's annual Baylor College of Medicine Academy of Distinguished Educators Showcase of Educational Scholarship, the BCM premier venue for highlighting scholarship within medical education, was held on Friday, September 21, 2018. Two abstracts from Pediatrics Critical Care, of a total of four, were selected for recognition:

## "An Application of the Design-Based Research Model to Create a Master Learning Module for Focused Cardiac Ultrasound."

Kyle Brown, M.D., Alan Riley, M.D., Kiyetta, Alade, M.D., Buck Kyle, M.D., Hossein Tcharmtchi, M.D., Danny Castro, D.O., Satid Thammasitboon, M.D., M.H.P.E., TCH POCUS Collaborative



### THEORETICAL UNDERSTANDING

1. Feedback in accordance with deliberate practice should be embedded within the learning process.
2. Adaptive Learning features should be used to optimize deliberate practice towards mastery via error-targeted practice.
3. "Thresholds" for multi-modular mastery learning should reflect mastery and not merely comprehension.

## "The Development of a Theory-Informed Assessment of Reasoning Tool (ART)"

Satid Thammasitboon, M.D., M.H.P.E., Moushumi Sur, M.D., Gurpreet Dhaliwal, M.D., Andrew Olsen, M.D., Robert Trowbridge, M.D., Joseph Rencic, M.D., Suresh Sundram, Ph.D., Partha Krishnamurthy, Ph.D.

**Content** → **Response Process**

**Messick's Framework for Validity Evidence**

The exploratory factor analysis supports a three-factor model consistent with five theoretical construct of the ART. The ART score can mostly discriminate minimal and complete level of performance, and is positively associated with the global rating of learner performance.

**Relationships to Other Variables** ← **Internal Structure**

### Steps Taken in Development of ART

1. Formed a multispecialty expert team at SIDM
2. Created a conceptual framework for ART through synthesis of literature and expert iterations
3. Developed and piloted the 5-domain, 3-point behaviorally anchored assessment-for-learning tool to structure feedback conversation
4. Created five-module ART faculty training based on Mayer's principles of multimedia learning
5. A convenience sample of clinical faculty administered the ART, reviewed the training modules, and provided feedback
6. Validated the ART with standardized learner case presentations using animated videos: 18 variations of performance based on 15 ART behavioral descriptors (see figure on right)

Rate the learner's case presentation using 5-point scale 1= Poor, 2 =Fair, 3 = Average, 4 =Good, 5 = Excellent
1. The learner's ability to follow a clear line of inquiry towards specific diagnoses when gathering information from the patient.
2. The learner's ability to direct questions in a manner that increased/decreased the likelihood of specific diagnoses when gathering information from the patient.
3. The learner's ability to conduct the physical exam in a manner that increased/decreased the likelihood of specific diagnoses.
4. The learner's ability to give a clear synopsis of the clinical problem.
5. The learner's ability to emphasize important positive and negative findings in the assessment.
6. The learner's ability to employ descriptive medical terminology (semantic qualifiers) in the assessment.
7. The learner's ability to clearly rank the differential diagnoses.
8. The learner's ability to include likely and can't miss diagnoses.
9. The learner's ability to include key diagnoses in the differential diagnosis.
10. The learner's ability to direct evaluation towards most likely and can't miss diagnoses.
11. The learner's ability to direct evaluation in an efficient order.
12. The learner's ability to defer tests directed towards less likely or less important diagnoses.
13. The learner's ability to recognize one or more potential cognitive tendencies that might have influenced decision.
14. The learner's ability to recognize one or more potential emotional/situational factors that may have influenced decision.
15. The learner's ability to describe the ways in which cognitive/emotional/situational factors may have influenced decision.

## New Program to Address “Local Global” Pediatric Healthcare Needs

A recently launched program, the **Program for Immigrant and Refugee Child Health (PIRCH)**, is a Pediatrics Department-wide initiative to identify and address health challenges faced by children who are new to the United States.



Under the direction of **Dr. Karla Fredricks**, Asst. Professor, PIRCH promotes the advancement of clinical knowledge and systematic solutions that continually refine the standard of health care for immigrant and refugee children. Dr. Fredericks is Co-chair of the Refugee Health Working Group and a member of the Immigrant Health Special Interest Group and Section on International Child Health of the American Academy of Pediatrics

Through the collaborative efforts of TCH and BCM and local, state, and national partners, the program supports various innovative initiatives. PIRCH focuses on five major areas of identified needs (see box).

Faculty and trainees who are actively involved or interested in projects related to immigrant and refugee child health are encouraged to come together through PIRCH.

- Areas of Need Targeted by PIRCH**
- Quality of care
  - Access to health services
  - Community collaboration and awareness,
  - Education of medical providers and trainees,
  - Translational research

### Recommended Resources on Immigrant and Refugee Health

**AAP Immigrant Child Health Toolkit**

<https://www.aap.org/en-us/advocacy-and-policy/aap-health-initiatives/Immigrant-Child-Health-Toolkit/Pages/Immigrant-Child-Health-Toolkit.aspx>

**Data on Houston-area Immigration**

<https://www.migrationpolicy.org/research/profile-houston-immigrant-population-changing-policy-landscape>

**Data on Unaccompanied Children Arriving in the United States**

<https://www.unhcr.org/en-us/children-on-the-run.html>

**Data on U.S. Southwest Border Migration**

<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/sw-border-migration>

**Data on Refugees (Worldwide)**

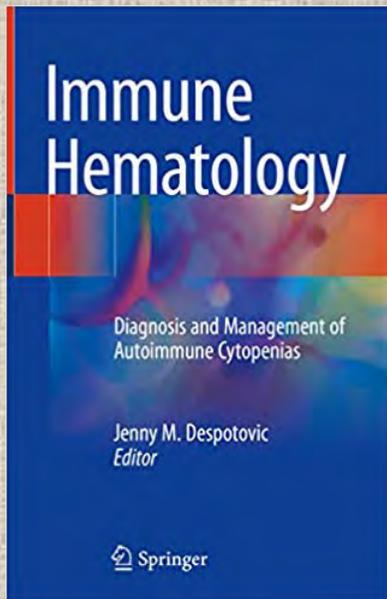
<https://www.unhcr.org/globaltrends2017/>

**Data on Refuges (United States)**

<http://www.wrapsnet.org>

# First Book Devoted to Immune Cytopenias Published

Dr. Jenny Despotovic, Asst. Prof. and director of the Immune Hematology program at the Texas Children's Hematology Center, served as editor of the recently published textbook *Immune Hematology: Diagnosis and Management of Autoimmune Cytopenias*. The textbook provides a concise yet comprehensive overview of the most common autoimmune cytopenias affecting adults and children.



This is the first textbook dedicated exclusively to immune cytopenias. Despotovic worked with several of her colleagues to develop, write and edit the content in the textbook, which had over 2,000 downloads in the first two months since publication.

The book is divided into four sections, each focusing on a major autoimmune cytopenia. The first section features background, pathophysiology, presentation, evaluation, and treatment strategies for immune thrombocytopenia (ITP), the most common cause of antibody-mediated platelet destruction. The second section reviews common forms and treatment strategies for autoimmune hemolytic anemia (AIHA), including a chapter dedicated specifically to Evans Syndrome. The third section comprehensively reviews the pathophysiology, diagnosis, and current management approaches to thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura (TTP), a potentially life-threatening autoimmune syndrome. The book concludes with a final section on autoimmune neutropenia. Each section includes a review of common underlying systemic autoimmune conditions and immune deficiency syndromes that can accompany or cause autoimmune cytopenias.

Those in the Hematology Center who contributed to the effort include Drs. Alicia Chang, Clay Cohen, Amanda Grimes, Taylor Olmsted Kim, Jacquelyn Powers, Shawki Qasim, Sarah Sartain.



## NICU Participates in Prematurity Awareness



Physicians and nurses in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) at Texas Children's Pavilion for Women participated in the recognition of Prematurity Awareness Month. Infants on the unit received superhero capes, created by FirstMemories Texas, an organization composed of volunteers dedicated to teaching families whose infants are in the NICU and CVICU at TCH how to celebrate and tell their children's stories through photography and album making.

One of the families received three capes, one each for their triplet sons,

Barrett, Calvin, and Jacob. The brothers were born on November 1 at 34 weeks gestation. All three babies were healthy but need some extra attention and care before going home.



TCH, together with Texas Children's Pavilion for Women, houses the nation's largest level IV NICU, the highest level of care available for premature and critically-ill newborns. Babies born prematurely require round-the-clock care and often need access to highly specialized services to have the most optimal outcomes.

## Santa Spreads Cheer in NICU Unit



Santa made a surprise visit to the Newborn Center to spread holiday cheer and to join the tiny babies dressed in their own Santa hats and booties. Santa expressed his great affection for the unit, noting that his own grandson spent more than 100 days in the NICU when he was born. The visit was hosted by the hospital's Newborn Center Family Advisory Committee and First Memories Texas, a volunteer group that helps families with babies in the NICU and CVICU at Texas Children's make memories and tell their stories through photography.

## New Clinic to Address Post-trauma Issues of Santa Fe Shooting

A \$1 million grant from the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) will help support the Santa Fe Strong Resiliency Center. The Center was created recently by Texas Children's Trauma and Grief Center in partnership with the Gulf Coast Center and others in the Santa Fe Community, in the aftermath of the Santa Fe tragedy to provide mental health services to those impacted by the shooting.

The grant will support the Center's efforts for 18 months and will be used to hire and train five trauma- and grief-informed therapists to deal with the relevant assessments and interventions most needed by individuals in that community. The team also will provide ongoing consultation and support to the therapists at the Santa Fe Strong Resiliency center and school counselors across the Santa Fe ISD.

The Trauma and Grief Center also plans to host at least two large-scale trainings for community- and school-based clinicians and anyone who might be called to serve the needs of the community by providing care for impacted children and adolescents.

"This will be a community in need for many years, and we are thrilled to receive this funding, which will help us provide much needed services and support for the children and families of the Santa Fe community. We know there are long-term psychological impacts to those exposed to traumatic events, including posttraumatic stress and maladaptive grief reactions, especially if access to ongoing support from trauma- and grief-informed clinicians is limited."

-- Dr. Julie Kaplow



**Dr. Julie Kaplow**, Assoc. Prof. and Director of the TCH Trauma and Grief Center noted the importance of recognizing that "symptoms of posttraumatic stress may not emerge until at least six months following a traumatic event and grief reactions can and do endure for long periods of time . . . . For this reason, we anticipate the demand for trauma- and grief-informed mental health services will only increase. We are extremely grateful for the current funding and will continue to seek support for our programs to effectively address the ongoing needs of this community for years to come."

The TCH Center is part of the National Child Traumatic Network and has the only program of its kind in the country specializing in the dissemination of developmentally informed, group-based interventions for traumatically bereaved children and adolescents. The faculty and staff are dedicated to providing evidence-based assessments and interventions, effective treatments, and education to better address childhood trauma and grief.

More information on the Trauma and Grief Center is available at:  
<https://www.texaschildrens.org/departments/trauma-and-grief-center>



## Section Addresses Issues of Food Insecurity

When one thinks of childhood, one imagines toys, laughter, and most of all hope. Unfortunately, for many children this not the reality. More than 12 million children in the United States go hungry. Within the Houston area, nearly 1 in 4 children go hungry. These stark statistics were the impetus for the Public Health and Primary Care Section's work in reducing food insecurity.

Through an AAP Friends of Children Grant, a project to implement screening of food insecurity was undertaken at 3 clinical sites. Over 30,000 children have been screened for food insecurity since the project began. These efforts have led to sustained screening at these sites and has led to efforts to improving linkage to resources through partnership with the Houston Food Bank. Currently, GIS mapping is being utilized as a tool to identify areas of food insecurity and overlay that information with assets to eventually improve community access to food.

The Section also led a Food Insecurity Workgroup with community partners from academic institutions, healthcare providers, local government, and non-profit organizations dedicated to addressing food insecurity. Through the efforts of this group, a guide for screening for food insecurity in the Houston setting was created that can be accessed online at: <https://www.texaschildrens.org/sites/default/files/uploads/Food%20Insecurity%20Report%20Final.pdf>. (see next page)

The group continues to do the work to address food insecurity but has now transitioned leadership to the Harris County Public Health Department.

Members of the Section also volunteered their time at **Kids Meals**, a local non-profit. Kids Meals delivers meals for pre-school aged children (photo above). Volunteering for this organization consisted of meal prep and allowed for the faculty and staff to learn about how food insecurity affects children. While food insecurity is a large complicated issue, these efforts through the Section have aimed to reduce childhood hunger.

# Guide Helps Address Screening for Food Insecurity



Nancy Correa, MPH, was lead author on a guide published in 2017 for identifying and addressing various issues of food insecurity. The report was developed by the participants of the Adverse Childhood Experiences – Food Insecurity Workgroup.

The report notes that food insecurity impacts millions of Americans yearly, including an estimated 724,750 individuals in Harris County. Among children, the rate of food insecurity was estimated to be 23.6%. The group recommended several steps for healthcare providers to take to help address this insecurity (see below), which are addressed in the Guide.



## STEPS TO TAKE TO ADDRESS FOOD INSECURITY

- Obtain organizational buy-in and identify a champion
- Select a screening tool (e.g., the Hunger Vital Sign)
- Develop a workflow for food insecurity screening
- Embed the food insecurity questions into the electronic medical record
- Train staff on medical food insecurity and on communicating with patients
- Respond to a positive screen
- Focus on health and nutritious foods
- Evaluate and identify the best way to screen and follow-up on a positive screen
- Address root causes of food insecurity and other social determinants of health
- Get involved

## FEDERAL NUTRITION PROGRAMS

Program	Description	Eligibility Requirements
SNAP <sup>44</sup>	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) provides a monthly supplement for purchasing nutritious food. Participants will receive a debit card to purchase groceries.	There are income limits; income eligibility should be assessed. Individuals must be employed or seeking employment. Citizens and most legal immigrants.
TANF <sup>45</sup>	The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program provides financial and medical assistance to needy dependent children and the parents or relatives with whom they are living.	Resident of Texas. Pregnant or a parent of a child under 19 years of age, US national, citizen, legal alien, or permanent resident. Low income, be unemployed or underemployed.
WIC <sup>46</sup>	The Women, Infant, and Children (WIC) program provides participants with checks, vouchers, or an electronic card to purchase healthy foods and formula.	Resident of Texas. Pregnant and postpartum women, infants, and children up to age 5. Identified as "nutritional risk" by a health professional. At or below 185% of the federal poverty line.
National School Lunch Program <sup>47</sup>	The National School Lunch Program provides nutritionally balanced lunch to qualified children in schools and childcare centers each school day.	Children from families with incomes at or below 130% of the federal poverty level are eligible for free meals. Those with incomes between 130% and 185% of the federal poverty level are eligible for reduced price meals. Families should apply through the child's school.
School Breakfast Program <sup>48</sup>	The School Breakfast Program provides nutritionally balanced breakfast to qualified children each school day.	Children from families with incomes at or below 130% of the federal poverty level are eligible for free meals. Those with incomes between 130% and 185% of the federal poverty level are eligible for reduced price meals.
Summer Food Service Program <sup>49</sup>	The Summer Food Service Program provides free meals and snacks to low-income children during the summer months.	Sites can apply to participate in the program if they reside in an eligible area.

## Study Focuses on Transmission of Relapsing Fever

"We evaluated a patient to support the diagnosis of relapsing fever and also collected infected ticks from a public park in the city. We determined the species causing infection and collected ticks from a public park in close proximity to the suspected exposure site. We confirmed that the ticks were infected."

--Dr. Job Lopez



A recent study by researchers at the National School of Tropical Medicine has revealed that tick-borne relapsing fever, previously thought to be a threat primarily to outdoor enthusiasts, is emerging in metropolitan regions of Texas. The fever is caused by the bite of a tick and has symptoms such as recurring high fevers, rigors, nausea, and vomiting. Although people usually are exposed while hiking or camping, researchers have identified these ticks in several cities in Texas, including Austin, San Antonio, and Dallas. A case study reported in *Emerging Infectious Diseases* and authored by researchers at BCM, including **Dr. Job Lopez**, Asst. Prof., and other institutions, describes a patient who was infected in Austin, Texas, about a month after a suspected outbreak of tick-borne relapsing fever. Researchers surmised that the exposure took place in a neighborhood near an urban park. (see Summer issue of *Pedi Press*, page 21).

Symptoms include high fever, rash and headache that cannot be relieved with usual pain relievers. Because the long-term consequences of infection remain unknown, emphasis is placed on prevention. Use of flea and tick medication on pets also is important, and pets demonstrating fever or abnormal behavior should be evaluated by a veterinarian immediately. If a tick is found, removal should be done appropriately and thoroughly by using tweezers to grab the tick below the head and then pull upward or perpendicular to the body so as not to separate the body from the head. If symptoms persist after a tick has been removed, the individual should be seen by a physician, who will check for low white blood cell count, low platelet count, and impaired liver function tests.

Dr. Lopez has extended his research to investigate more thoroughly the *Borrelia turicatae*, a species of relapsing fever spirochete. Results indicate that once the bacteria colonize tick salivary glands, they are readapted to enter the mammal. The focus of the research has been to understand how relapsing fever spirochetes colonize the tick and are transmitted to the mammal, in order to identify targets for vaccine against the pathogens. In addition to transmitting relapsing fever spirochetes, ticks also transmit African swine fever virus, an emerging and highly contagious pathogen with high mortality rates in domestic pigs. In collaboration with researchers at Texas A&M University, the USDA, and the Universidad del Valle de Guatemala, Dr. Lopez and his colleagues have used diagnostic assays to evaluate mammalian exposure to soft ticks and the pathogens they transmit. Ongoing projects will define the disease burden in regions of the world where the pathogens are ignored.,

### Precautions to Take to Avoid Tick Bites

- Wear insect repellent with DEET or permethrin
- Wear high socks and long pants
- Wear long sleeves
- When you return from being outdoors, do an inspection on yourself and on your pets
- Use flea and tick medication for pets
- Remove ticks properly and with caution (see text)
- Inspect tick under magnifying glass to ensure that all the parts have been removed
- Give pets a flea bath to remove fleas

# CDC Grant Expands Research on Vector-Borne Diseases

By Nathaniel Wilder Wolf

**Dr. Kristy Murray** and her team at the National School of Tropical Medicine's Laboratory for Zoonotic and Viral diseases have been awarded a grant from the CDC to implement a network of pathogen surveillance in Central America. The \$500,000 annual grant will allow Dr. Murray and collaborators to work with hospitals in areas at high risk of vector-borne diseases such as dengue, chikungunya, Zika, malaria, and Chagas disease.

In addition to vector-borne infections this project will investigate other causes of febrile illness, such as respiratory and gastrointestinal. This acute Febrile Illness (AFI) surveillance network will be unique in that it is "In deeply impoverished areas where you can have other factors that affect outcomes, such as malnutrition, so we will be taking a One Health approach," according to Dr. Murray.

In addition to actively screening patients presenting with AFI, researchers will also survey animal reservoirs and vector populations in areas near the hospitals to document vector abundance and screen for zoonotic pathogens. "Understanding how disease is circulating in the vector and animal population will lend important insight into disease risk and allow local public health officials to better protect the population from vector-borne disease," said Dr. Sarah Gunter, a researcher on Dr. Murray's team.

Collaborators include Texas A&M, University of South Carolina, and Johns Hopkins University, as well as the respective Central American Ministries of Health and local universities and hospitals. The first two sites will be in Belize City, Belize, and Sonsonate, El Salvador.

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## Researcher Recognized with BRASS Award

By Nathaniel Wilder Wolf

**Dr. Kristyn Hoffman** has been named **2018 Outstanding Community BRASS Scholar of the Year** for her "dedication to community service, teaching and leadership." Dr. Hoffman, an Indiana native who earned a bachelor's degree and subsequently a DVM at Purdue University, is a Ph.D. candidate in Virology and Microbiology working in the labs of the National School of Tropical Medicine.

"I love the sense of acceptance I felt the moment I walked into the NSTM lab. There is this aura of positivity associated with NSTM that I think stems from everyone's optimism about our future in improving the lives of people afflicted with NTDs. The group at NSTM is exceptionally collaborative, which is something I think the entire research community should strive to be." - Dr. Kristyn Hoffman



She became interested in the pathology of infectious diseases and the physiologic response of the body to infection in the course of attaining her DVM. "Infectious diseases fascinate me because they are so complex, in aspects of both the pathogen and the host," she said. "The host immune response to parasitic infections is distinct from that to bacteria or virus, which puts a twist on the strategies we use to develop vaccines and treatments. My current project focuses on the cardiac fibrosis that develops years after infection with *T. cruzi*, which is only one component of the pathology of Chagas disease."

Dr. Hoffman also became interested in One Health, an approach to attain optimal health for people, animals, and the environment by working locally, nationally, and globally through a variety of disciplines. "I learned that veterinarians play an important role in One Health," said Hoffman, "and I am hoping to use my training in animal medicine to investigate treatments for infections that affect both human and animal health."

## Malawi Leader’s Retirement Announced

The successful integration of new pediatric and maternal service lines would not have been possible without Dr. Kazembe’s visionary leadership. Although I am sorry to see him retire from his current role, I hope that retirement will bring with it the opportunity to relax and savor all of his many accomplishments.

--Dr. Mark Kline, Chairman



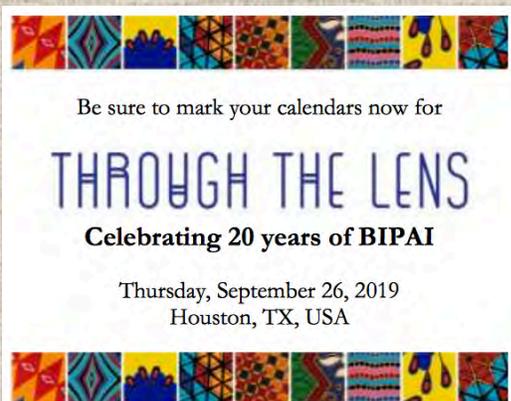
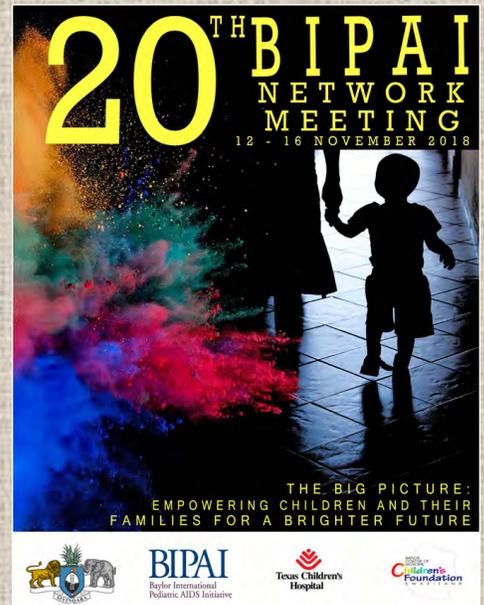
**Dr. Peter Kazembe** announced his retirement as Executive Director, Baylor College of Medicine Children’s Foundation-Malawi, effective June 30, 2019. He will be transitioning to the role of Vice-Chair, Baylor-Malawi Board of Directors.

Dr. Kazembe has been an integral part of all of BIPAI’s successes for well over a decade and has been instrumental in leading the fight against HIV/AIDS, transforming the lives of children and families in Malawi for decades. Serving as the founding Executive Director for Baylor-Malawi since 2005, Dr. Kazembe leaves a legacy of pioneering Malawi’s pediatric HIV/AIDS care, treatment and prevention platforms, treatment guidelines, and local health professional.

## 20<sup>th</sup> BIPAI Network Meeting Held

The 20<sup>th</sup> BIPAI Network Meeting was held on November 12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018 in Johannesburg, South Africa. More than 120 participants from the entire BIPAI network presented research posters and oral abstracts, provided updates, discussed current trends, and engaged in workshops on quality improvement, monitoring and evaluation, and pharmacy continuing education.

The network meeting seeks to educate the BIPAI network on the standard practices around its mission and vision, provide networking opportunities, discuss clinical and operational best practices, evaluate progress, share experiences and celebrate the BIPAI network. The overall theme of the 20<sup>th</sup> network meeting was “The Big Picture: Empowering Children and their Families for a Healthier Future.”



On September 26, 2019, BIPAI will mark 20 years of providing life-saving efforts to women and children. The culminating celebratory event will feature an exhibition of Smiley Pool’s photography and cultural experiences.

# BIPAI Commemorates World AIDS Day

On Tuesday, December 4th, BIPAI commemorated World AIDS Day with a happy hour and fundraiser at Axelrad Beer Garden in Houston. The event celebrated the lives of all of the patients and their families and allowed for remembering those who have lost their valiant fight with HIV/AIDS battle over the years. Participants noted they all humbled by the daily strength and courage shown by the children and families that BIPAI serves, and they are proud to be working to improve the health and well-being of children across the globe.



At the event, BIPAI showcased the artistic talent of some of the patients through a BIPAI Craft Market featuring items created by HIV+ teens served by BIPAI-Tanzania (Stitch x Stitch) and by mothers of children receiving care for malnutrition in Colombia (BIPAI-Colombia). In addition, local vendors showed their generosity by donating numerous items for a silent auction that directly benefitted BIPAI. Axelrad even created a special cocktail for the evening - The Eswatini - based on a peach and ginger jam recipe that is very popular in the Kingdom of Eswatini.



## BIPAI Featured in *Dallas Morning News* Article

A recent 3-part opinion, essay and report featured in the *Dallas Morning News* commemorates World AIDS Day, the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of PEPFAR - the largest humanitarian program in the world, and the role of BIPAI in fighting the AIDS epidemic in children around the world. The story, titled "Fighting AIDS in Africa: How a President's Initiative Tamped Down an Epidemic," by Laura Hallas is centered around the photography of Pulitzer-Prize winning photographer Smiley Pool, who has photo-documented the history of BIPAI since **Dr. Mark Kline** made his first visit to Romania in the late 1990s. The article relates that:

*Dr. Mark Kline and his team with the Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative, or BIPAI (pronounced bee-pie) had been treating kids with HIV, first in the U.S. and then in Romania. Kline had begun planning for expansion into Africa, and a transformative speech by Botswana President Festus Mogae at an AIDS conference focused his attention on Botswana.*

*If BIPAI could partner with the efforts of Botswana physicians and Ministry of Health, the doctors could expand the model that had worked in Romania. And if it worked in Botswana, it just might work elsewhere in the Africa. So through private donations from the Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation, the BIPAI team approached Botswana's Ministry of Health with a proposal and a commitment: to build a clinic where Botswana children could access life-sustaining care for the rest of their lives. The ministry agreed. BIPAI would start with a small clinic, with construction of a freestanding building on the way.*

*By the time BIPAI opened the Botswana-Baylor Center of Excellence in 2003, the public-private partnership was the largest provider of pediatric HIV care in sub-Saharan Africa. Such an outcome was never supposed to be possible. Now, there was a model that worked. BIPAI just had to find a way to expand.*

*More than 77 million people have become infected with HIV over the years. Millions more have cared for them. In a plague of this magnitude, is it difficult to find the bright spots, and more difficult still to see how you relate to an HIV patient half a world away. But by examining the impact of a Texas physician and a Texan president's plan, we can better understand the moral necessity of extending a hand beyond one's own borders.*



# ANNOUNCING

## Resident Scholarship Day June 7, 2019

The Resident Scholarship Program Executive Committee and the Pediatric House Staff Office are excited to announce the **5th Annual Resident Scholarship Day**, to be held on **June 7, 2019**.

All residents (categorical and non-categorical) are encouraged to submit an abstract describing the scholarly work undertaken during their residency training. The emphasis of the session is on the process of scholarship. Residents were encouraged to submit, even if their project is not fully completed or they have not completed their Scholarly Activity block. Residents may also submit updated data for projects they presented last year.

Residents who submit an abstract will have the opportunity to present their work either as a traditional or an electronic poster during a 1.5 hour poster session in the Pavilion for Women from 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm on Friday, June 7, 2019.

Additionally, four abstracts will be chosen to present at Pediatric Grand Rounds, also on June 7th. We welcome abstracts in all areas of scholarship (e.g. advocacy projects, educational curricula, original research, quality improvement), and encourage submission of abstracts already submitted to other venues (e.g., PAS).

Please plan to join us for Resident Scholarship Day and help build the community of scholars in the Department of Pediatrics at Baylor College of Medicine/Texas Children's Hospital! If you served as a mentor for a resident's scholarship project, please encourage them to submit an abstract to [spec@texaschildrens.org](mailto:spec@texaschildrens.org) by March 3, 2019. Decisions regarding poster and oral presentations will be made by April 5, 2019.

## Global Health Chief Resident Announced

Dr. Mark A. Ward, Director of House Staff Education and Pediatric Program Director, announced that **Dr. Sanemba "Aya" Fanny** has been named the Global Health Chief Resident for 2019-2020.





# DEPARTMENT NEWS . . .

## FACULTY, FELLOWS, STAFF FEATURES

### Dr. Penny Named Memorial Lecturer

"Dr. Penny exemplifies the best of pediatric cardiology. Drs. Taussig and McNamara would be proud of the work he and his team are doing to further advance the specialty."

--Dr. Mark Kline, Chairman of Pediatrics, BCM and Physician-in-Chief, TCH

"This well-deserved honor is another shining example of Dr. Penny's dedication to our patients and their families. He is a visionary leader in his field, and continues to guide our team as they pave the way in the treatment of children with congenital heart disease."

--Mark Ward, President and CEO, TCH



**Dr. Daniel J. Penny**, Chief of Pediatric Cardiology, was named the American Heart Association's 2018 Helen B. Taussig Memorial Lecturer. He received the esteemed award at the AHA's Scientific Sessions in Chicago, Illinois on November 10 following his presentation: "Working Together towards New Levels of Excellence in the Care of Children with Heart Disease." Established in 1973, the Helen B. Taussig Memorial Lecture honors those whose work with children born with serious heart defects is lauded. Dr. Penny completed his medical degree at University College Cork, The National University of Ireland, and trained and practiced at The Great Ormond Street Hospital in London and The Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne, Australia, before coming to BCM and TCH. Dr. Penny is also co-Director of Texas Children's Heart Center, which is ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as No 1 nationally in pediatric cardiology and heart surgery. Previous recipients of the award included Dr. Dan G. McNamara, who

received the award in 1985 and was TCH's first director of cardiology and helped design and customize the hospital's first cardiac catheterization laboratory.

## Dr. William T. Shearer's Legacy Celebrated



*After the reception, a ribbon-cutting and tour officially opened the William T. Shearer Center for Human Immunobiology, located on the third floor of Feigin Tower.*

A memorial service to celebrate the legacy of the late **Dr. William T. Shearer**, founder and former Chief of Pediatric Immunology, Allergy and Rheumatology Service for 34 years and an internationally respected scholar and immunologist, was held on November 9, 2018. Among his many achievements, Dr. Shearer is remembered for providing primary care for David Vetter, the little boy known as “the bubble boy” because he spent most of his life in a special “bubble” due to his immune deficiencies. David’s mother gave a heartfelt tribute to Dr. Shearer, as did many of his colleagues and friends.



More than 100 individuals, including members of Dr. Shearer’s family, were in attendance to share memories, to attend the reception, and to participate in the ribbon-cutting ceremony to open the William T. Shearer Center for Human Immunobiology. The Center, located on the third floor of the Feigin Center, will have the pictures, awards, and other memorabilia displayed at the reception on permanent display.

Friends and colleagues commented on Dr. Shearer’s great compassion as both a physician and a mentor. During his career, he mentored 117 trainees while serving as the Program Director of the Allergy and Immunology Fellowship Training Program at BCM and TCH. One of his trainees, **Dr. Carla Davis**, met him as a pediatric resident, and now serves in his stead as the new Chief of the Division. She gave the opening remarks, noting that, “As a resident, I was captivated by his unique blue coat, his enthusiasm for patients, and the field of immunology . . . I was fascinated by his teaching ability and the fact that he thought I would be a great allergist immunologist. I am honored to carry on the legacy.”

**Dr. Mark Kline**, Chairman, shared an anecdote about an occasion when he dropped by the office on a Sunday morning and saw Dr. Shearer dressed in his suit and tie, working on a grant or textbook. Later, Dr. Shearer explained to him, “I’m here in the office 364 days each year. I usually take Christmas Day off.” Other guests who gave touching tributes included Drs. Tom Fleisher, Morey Haymond, Celine Hanson, Jennifer Page, and Kristy Murray.

## New Director of Solid Tumor Program Named



Dr. Rajkumar Venkatramani, Assoc. Prof., assumed the role of Director of the Solid Tumor Program at Texas Children's Cancer Center. Dr. Venkatramani, a board-certified pediatric hematologist-oncologist, is internationally known for his expertise in providing care for children with pediatric solid tumors. He follows Dr. Murali Chintagumpala, who has been Director of both the Solid Tumor and Neuro-Oncology programs for many years and will continue as Director of the latter, as well as continue to play an integral role in the Solid Tumor Program.

Dr. Venkatramani has been instrumental in developing the TCH rare tumors program, and he established a national registry for children with rare tumors to provide important data to physicians and researchers as they continue their work to find a cure for these cancers. He is also actively engaged in developing a national clinical trial for children with Wilms tumor in his work with the Children's Oncology Group Rental Tumor Committee.

In addition to publishing more than 60 scientific papers, Dr. Venkatramani is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Walter Laug Distinguished Teacher Award for Outstanding Teaching and the Outstanding Resident Teacher Award. He is on the editorial board of *Pediatric Blood and Cancer*, the premier journal on laboratory and clinical investigations for children and adolescents with cancer or blood disorders.

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## Neonatology Staff Receive Reba Hill Awards



The 19th Annual Reba Michels Hill Memorial Grand Rounds were held recently and awards were presented to Neonatology non-physicians who have made a significant contribution to advancing the quality of care to which Dr. Hill was dedicated, namely compassionate commitment to education, patient care, research and family. **Dr. Gautham Suresh**, Chief of service, Neonatology (left), presented the Reba Michels Hill awards to **Myrthala Miranda-Guzman**, senior administrative assistant, Neonatology Department; **Joseph Hagan**, research statistician, Neonatology Department; and **Sharon Wojtow**, advanced respiratory care practitioner, Respiratory Care Department.

## Dr. Chao Awarded NIH Award

**Dr. Hsiao-Tuan Chao**, Instructor and a child neurologist and postdoctoral researcher at the Jan and Dan Duncan Neurological Research Institute has been awarded the National Institutes of Health Director's Early Independence Award from the High-Risk, High-Reward Research program. This honor recognizes creative scientists who are working on highly innovative research to address major challenges in biomedical research. The High-Risk, High-Reward program, supported by the NIH Common Fund, has four categories: Director's Early Independence Award, Director's Pioneer Award, Director's New Innovator Award, and Director's Transformative Research Award.

These grants are provided to accelerate scientific discovery by supporting trailblazing research proposals that may not fare well in the traditional peer-review process despite their potential to advance the field. Dr. Chao's award recognizes exceptional junior scientists who have recently received their doctoral degree or completed their medical residency. It allows them to skip traditional postdoctoral training and move immediately into independent research positions.



"I am excited by the opportunity to tackle important challenges faced by children and adults with neurologic impairments. Every day I am inspired and motivated by my patients and their families, and every day I see the potential for our work to positively change the outcome of what we used to think were immutable neurologic condition."

--Dr. Hsiao-Tuan Chao

Dr. Chao is one of 11 researchers from across the country to be recognized in this award category. She is the second BCM recipient and the first physician-scientist to be awarded this honor since the inception of the award in 2011. The award will provide \$1.25 million over 5 years to support her work on how single gene changes that alter transcriptional networks can affect communication between neurons. She is combining experimental approaches in fruit fly and mouse models with human sequencing data to elucidate the disease mechanisms of highly prevalent childhood neurological conditions such as autism, intellectual disability and epilepsy.

## Dr. Steuber Recognized for 50 Years of Service

Dr. C. Philip Steuber, Professor, was recognized for his 50<sup>th</sup> year anniversary at Texas Childrens. After completing his internship, residency, and fellowship at TCH, Dr. Steuber became an attending physician at the TCH Cancer Center, where he served as Director of the Education Division and Head of the Leukemia Team. He has mentored almost 180 pediatric hematology/oncology fellows and treated thousands of patients with cancer and blood disorders. He continues to serve at TCH on a daily basis.



## Faculty briefs . . . .

# Pediatric Faculty Receive Norton Rose Fulbright Excellence Awards

The Norton Rose Fulbright Faculty Excellence Awards provide an opportunity for Baylor College of Medicine faculty who meet designated standards of quality, quantity and breadth to receive recognition for their sustained (at least 4 - 5 years), exemplary educational contributions to the College. Rewards are given for four categories: Teaching and Evaluation, Development of Enduring Educational Materials, Educational Leadership, and Educational Research. There is a separate process for Full Professors, with different submission requirements.

### Faculty from Pediatrics who received these awards for fall 2018 are:

<b>Karen Evankovich</b>	<b>Teaching and Evaluation</b>
<b>Jenelle Little</b>	<b>Teaching and Evaluation</b>
<b>Jodi Muscal</b>	<b>Teaching and Evaluation</b>
<b>Danielle Rios</b>	<b>Teaching and Evaluation</b>
<b>Mini Wallace</b>	<b>Teaching and Evaluation</b>
<b>Muralidhar Premkumar</b>	<b>Teaching and Evaluation</b>
<b>Diana Stewart</b>	<b>Educational Leadership</b>
<b>Andrea Cruz</b>	<b>Educational Research</b>
<b>Anne Gill</b>	<b>Full Professor</b>

**Dr. Dennis Bier's** contributions to the field of nutrition are being honored by the American Society of Nutrition, which has announced the creation of the Dennis Bier, M.D., Young Career Editor, a new position on the editorial board of the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, which is published by the ASN. The new position will focus on training early-career journal editors on the importance of adherence to evidence-based science. Bier, director of the USDA/ARS Children's Nutrition Research Center at Baylor and professor of pediatrics – nutrition, served as editor of the journal.

**Dr. Danny Castro** was awarded the 2018 TCH CRIS Educational Scholarship Award, as a collaborator for a project entitled "Exploring Job Characteristics that Enrich and Motivate Pediatric Fellowship Program Directors"

**Dr. Bruno Chumpitazi** received a two-year grant from the North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition Foundation for his research project, "Advancing Nutritional Science for Children with Functional Dyspepsia."

**Elizabeth Elliott** was promoted to Assistant Professor of the Physician Assistant Program in September, just months after being elected President of The Society for Physician Assistants in July. Since graduating from the 2006 BCM PA Program in 2006, she has worked in pediatric critical care and is now on the core faculty of BCM's PA program; she directs the didactic and clinical pediatric curriculum.

**Dr. Titi Fasipe** received the Sickle Cell Association of Texas Marc Thomas Foundation Leadership of Excellence Service Award. She was recognized for her commitment to patient care, education, and community awareness, and has the unique perspective of understanding these needs as both a physician treating patients with the disease and an individual with sickle cell disease.

**Dr. Jennie Foster** was appointed to the American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Drugs. The committee reviews all aspects of pediatric pharmacology and advises the AAP Board of Directors on drug labeling, safety and efficacy for both prescription and over-the-counter drugs; monitors federal legislation related to the drug approval process; and promotes the need for expanded pediatric drug trials.

**Dr. M. Waleed Gaber** received the Scholar-in-Training Excellence in Mentorship Award from the Radiation Research Society. This award honors an individual who has provided exceptional mentoring in both professional and personal aspirations.

**Dr. Charleta Guillory** received the Texas Pediatric Society Sidney R. Kaliski Award of Merit at the society's annual meeting in San Antonio. This award recognizes a Texas Pediatric Society member who has served as an advocate for children and made a substantial contribution to the health and welfare of the children of Texas and to the organization.

**Dr. Peter Hotez**, dean of the National School of Tropical Medicine, has published a new book, *Vaccines Did Not Cause Rachel's Autism*, in which he draws on his experience as a vaccine scientist, pediatrician and autism dad to praise the effectiveness of vaccines and explain what experts are starting to learn about autism.

**Ananth Iyer**, Project Manager of Quality Assurance/Quality Control in the Research Resources Office was presented the Center's research award for the third quarter of 2018. The award was established by the Center in collaboration with the research Resources Office to recognize and honor individual contributions to protecting the best interest of the research subjects and compliance with applicable rules and regulations.

**Dr. Nmazuo "Maz" Ozuah** was awarded the Daniel D. Von Hoff Innovator Award at the American Association of Cancer Research/American Society of Clinical Oncology Methods in Clinical Cancer Research conference. The award recognizes his proposal on the feasibility of dose-intensive, response-based chemotherapy for pediatric Hodgkin's lymphoma in Malawi.

**Dr. David Poplack** received the Angel Award in recognition of lifetime achievement at the Children's Brain Tumor Foundation's Dream and Promise Awards Benefit in Houston.

**Dr. Timothy Porea**, is featured in "Growing Up Baylor" on the Baylor blog. A retired Navy physician, he attended medical school and completed his fellowship at the College before joining the faculty in 2014.

**Dr. Cliona Rooney** is co-leader of a research team whose project is among the first to receive a New Therapies Challenge grant from the Pancreatic Cancer Collective, a strategic partnership of the Lustgarten Foundation and Stand Up to Cancer.

**Dr. Vivien Sheehan** assisted in the design of the American Society of Hematology Sickle Cell Disease Clinical Trial Network, which is focused on advancing development of new and more effective therapeutics for individuals with sickle cell disease. She recently was invited to be one of four members of the oversight committee that will identify, recruit and evaluate sites and interface with industry and federal agencies to promote this Network.

**Dr. James (Jim) Thomas** received The Center for Excellence Award at the Annual ELSO Conference presented in Scottsdale, Arizona.

**Nicole Triggs** received the first-ever Leadership and Service Award from the Houston Area Chapter of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners. The award recognizes her extraordinary contributions to pediatrics.

**Dr. Hongtao "Alex" Wang** was one of four BCM faculty members selected as a Texas Medical Center Digestive Disease Center 2019 Pilot/Feasibility Awardees for their research proposals. The recognition was for "Activating LRH-1 using oral lauric acid in treating IBD." The awards are offered annually to support innovative ideas and collaborations among TMC DDC members.

**Dr. Huda Zoghbi** was elected a fellow of the National Academy of Inventors, which recognizes inventors for having created or facilitated outstanding inventions that have made a tangible impact on quality of life.

# MAKE A NOTE . . .

## UPCOMING EVENTS



**February 1, 2019**

**Summer Institute: Introduction to Tropical Medicine  
Deadline for Application  
Program Dates: June 10 - June 21, 2019**

**February 25, 2019**

**Faculty Awards for Excellence in Patient Care  
Master Clinician Nominations Due**

**March 3, 2019**

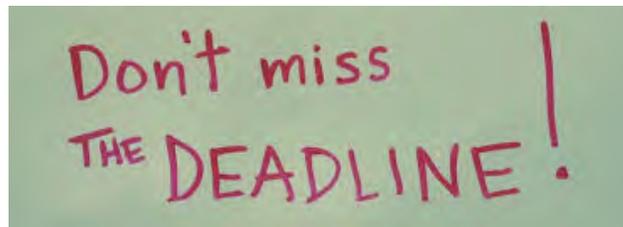
**Resident Scholarship Day  
Abstract Submission Deadline**

**March 18, 2019**

**June 17, 2019**

**October 14, 2019**

**Norton Rose Fulbright Faculty Excellence Award  
Portfolio Submission Deadline**



**PEDI PRESS, MARCH 1, 2019**

*Pedi Press* is a quarterly publication of the Department of Pediatrics. Articles and other items should be submitted to Dr. Lee Ligon at [bligon@bcm.edu](mailto:bligon@bcm.edu).

Dr. Mark Kline, Editor-in-Chief  
Dr. B. Lee Ligon, Managing Editor &  
Graphics Design  
Dr. Gordon Schutze, Consulting Editor  
Julie O'Brien, Copy and Content Editor

The next deadline is March 1, 2019