Welcome to the September Edition of PediPress.

After a busy summer and running start into this new academic year, Labor Day certainly came at just the right time, providing an extra day of respite. I hope that many of you have been able to enjoy the long holiday weekend, with temperatures at least below triple digits! Thank you to our trainees, faculty and staff who were working the long weekend across all of our sites.

The Department of Pediatrics is delighted to welcome all new faculty and trainees who are joining us this academic year. I would like to extend a warm welcome to Dr. Katri Typpo as Division Chief of Critical Care Medicine. Dr. Typpo joins us from the University of Arizona at Tucson, where she was Professor of Pediatrics and Division Chief of Critical Care. I also want to express my heartfelt thanks to Dr. Fernando Stein for his outstanding interim leadership of the division of Critical Care Medicine after I transitioned into my new role last April. The Department also welcomes Dr. Gia Washington, who will be transitioning from her current role in the Psychology Division to a newly formed role with the Department providing executive level coaching among other people-focused initiatives. I am proud that we have been able to continue the expansion and improvement of resources embedded within our department. We are just getting started!

As always, I cannot express my thanks enough to each and every one of you for the incredible work that you all do, for your shared passion, creativity and resilience. As I have the opportunity to meet more and more of you in person, I find myself increasingly motivated and inspired. Keep being your authentic selves – that is what makes this Department so incredible in my eyes.

Happy reading,

Lara

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The Department welcomes Dr. Katri V. Typpo as the new Chief of the Division of Critical Care. Dr. Typpo received her medical degree from Saint Louis University School of Medicine and completed her residency and fellowship (Critical Care) at BCM. She also completed a MPH at UT Houston and was an investigator in the division of Health Policy and Quality. After serving as an assistant professor of pediatrics in the intensive care unit at BCM/TCH, she moved to Arizona College of Medicine Tucson, where she transitioned to a career in clinical and translational research and was a scholar in the Pediatric Critical Care and Trauma Scientist Development Program. Prior to returning to BCM/TCH, Dr. Typpo was Chief of the Division of Pediatric Critical Care and Medical Director of the Pediatric Cardiac ICU. Her research interests include understanding how routine ICU and CVICU care alters intestinal carrier function and microbial diversity during pediatric critical illness, as a pathway to prevention of multiple organ dysfunction syndrome.

Dr. Diane Nguyen has accepted the position of Associate Director, Center for Research, Innovation and Scholarship in Health Professions Education (CRIS), effective August 15, 2023. After almost nine years of global health service as Director, Global Health Programs with BIPAI, she is moving into a new pathway in her academic leadership trajectory! In this new role with CRIS, Diane will also remain within the DoP and TCH and will continue to have an active CRIS touchpoint within the BIPAI Network Communities of Practice.

New Endowed Chairs Announced at Christus Children’s Hospital (formerly ChofSA)

Dr. Elumalai Appachi was named the Sister Angela Clare Moran Endowed Chair in Pediatrics. He serves as Regional Chair of Pediatrics for Christus Children’s Hospital, where he previously was division Chief of Critical Care. He earned his MD at Stanley Medical College, Madras University in India and completed his pediatric residency at Institute of Child Health and Hospital for Children, Madras. He completed a pediatric residency and pediatric clinical care fellowship at the Cleveland Clinic. He also completed a master’s degree in medical management.

Dr. Elizabeth Roeder was named Marrs McLean Bowman Endowed Professorship of Pediatrics. A practicing clinical geneticist since 1995, she heads the Genetics Clinic at Christus Children’s and has provided pediatric genetic evaluations there since 2003. She attended college and medical school at Texas A&M University. She completed her pediatric residency at Arizona Health Sciences Center in Tucson, followed by genetics fellowship training at the University of California, San Francisco, and the Children’s Hospital of Central California.

Dr. Melissa D. Svoboda was named Gary Dudley and Charlie Amato Endowed Chair of Pediatric Neurology. She serves as Medical Director of Christus Children’s Applied Behavior Analysis Project and is on the Board of Directors of the Autism Treatment Center. She received her medical degree from the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. Dr. Svoboda completed a pre-doctoral research fellowship in autism at Johns Hopkins/Kennedy Krieger Institute in Baltimore, Maryland. She completed her pediatric residency at University Hospital/Christus Children’s and her Child Neurology/Neurodevelopmental Disabilities fellowship at Oregon Health & Science University, Portland, Oregon.
Fellowship Program Directors Announced

Dr. Catherine Foster was appointed Program Director for the Pediatric Infectious Disease Fellowship Program. She received her MD from University of Texas Medical Branch-Galveston. She did her internship at Vanderbilt University and a residency at Medical University of South Carolina, and then graduated from the BCM fellowship in pediatric infectious diseases. She has been a faculty member since 2018. At TCH, she attends on the inpatient infectious diseases service at main campus as well as the community campuses. She is passionate about medical education and is excited to take on this new role.

Dr. Nidhi Bansal recently assumed the role of Fellowship Program Director for the Pediatric Endocrinology Fellowship Program. Dr. Bansal joined BCM soon after completing her pediatric endocrinology fellowship from Rainbow Babies and Children’s Hospital in 2012. Throughout her career at BCM, Dr Bansal has worked closely with various group of learners as an educator and educational leader. She has exhibited excellence in curriculum development, mentoring learners, and ensuring the highest standards of patient care. She has implemented several successful educational curricula for various group of learners while using active learning and innovative teaching techniques. She is deeply committed to providing comprehensive training, nurturing research interests, and guiding the future pediatric endocrinologists towards successful careers.

Dr. Alisa A. Acosta is the new Program Director for the Pediatric Nephrology Fellowship. She received her M.D. from the University of Texas-Houston Medical School (now McGovern Medical School) where she stayed to complete her residency and fellowship. Dr. Acosta has a long history in GME serving as a pediatric residency program director prior to joining BCM faculty in 2015 as an associate program director (APD) for the BCM pediatric residency.

UME Team Announces Leadership Changes

Dr. Gal Barak is the new associate clerkship director. She has established herself as an amazing educator and educational researcher. She will also continue as the clerkship PHM site director for the 2023-24 academic year.

After 8 years of service, Dr. Brian Bassham has stepped down as the clerkship PEM site director, and Dr. Jeny Nirappil (no photo available) has taken over this important role. Huge thanks to Dr. Bassham and a huge welcome to Dr. Nirappil!
Interview with LAURA G. HARDY
Vice President, Pediatrics, Texas Children’s Hospital

Tell us briefly about your professional background? How did you get to where you are?

My path was not necessarily straight forward. I started out with a degree in Animal Science but found out a little late in the game that I may want to do business instead. I started out working in a lab at UTMB in Galveston, going to grad school in the evenings. I got a job working in the Chair’s office for the Department of Pediatrics at UTMB while I finished up school and started working under his administrator once I graduated. I came to Texas Children’s in 2008 as a business manager for what was then The Learning Support Center (now our Psychology Division). In 2011, I became Assistant Director in Ambulatory Services and then Director in 2013. In 2017, I left TCH to work at Legacy Community Health, overseeing their Primary Care and OB/GYN services across the Houston and Beaumont areas. In January of 2022, I had the opportunity to come back home to TCH, serving as VP for the Department of Pediatrics. I have been fortunate for all the experiences that I’ve had exploring different roles in my career, and I am truly grateful to be back at Texas Children’s working so closely with the Department of Pediatrics.

How do you usually like to start your day?

I like to start my day with a run. My routine started out with early morning runs because if I did not do it before everyone else got up, it would not happen. Now my runs serve as a way to level set for the day before the craziness of getting everyone off to school and work gets started.

What book are you currently reading or what TV series are you watching?

I’ve started having two books that I read—one on Audio for my commute and one at night before bed to settle down. Admittedly it may take months to get through a night time book, as I may only get through 5 or 10 pages before I am out! Right now my audio book is Nine Black Robes by Joan Biskupic, which outlines the recent evolution of the Supreme Court. My at home one is The Devil in the White City by Erik Larson.

How do you practice self-care?

As my daughter has gotten older and I see her picking up some of my bad habits and behaviors when stressed, I’ve really tried to pay attention to this. I work hard to try to carve out time when I am not focusing on work and instead focusing on something I enjoy—often just sitting watching a movie or spending time outside. I had to start with building this in as a schedule to make sure I was consistent with it. I still have to revert to a schedule from time to time, but having my kids essentially hold a mirror up and show me the impact of my stress on them has helped me better take care of myself.

What is your favorite part about working here?

The people. Everyone at Texas Children’s really is here to provide the best quality care for our patients. We sometimes disagree about how best to get there or have a hard time understanding one another’s vantage points, but knowing that we all hold this as a core value makes it easier to keep our discussions going. We work together for the best care not only for the kids entering our doors today, but in the research and education programs that will treat countless patients and their families in the future.
Two articles published in *Journal of Autism Development Disorders* (January 2023) from Dr. Robin Kochel’s lab highlight the use of novel, EMR-based research recruitment strategies to increase both overall recruitment and diversity of participants in Autism Research.

Dr. Kochel’s work caught the attention of Epic leadership and was showcased at Epic headquarters at the 2023 XGM meeting during the "Why We Do What We Do" staff meeting to over 12,000 Epic employees and was featured in an Epic Share article (https://www.epicshare.org/share-and-learn/texas-childrens-spark-bpa).

*Dr. Jocelyn Gomez*: West Campus Pain Team  
Dr. Staci Grant: West Campus Pediatric Psychology  
Dr. Catherine Ivey: West Campus Outpatient Mental Health  
*Dr. Ileana Umana* – Autism Program  
*Dr. Allison Meinert* – Autism Program  
Dr. Ashley Ramclam – Integrated Primary Care  
*Dr. Sarah Cable* – Medical Center Neuropsychology  
*Dr. Julia Kovalenko* – Medical Center Pediatric Psychology  
Dr. Daniel Flint – Medical Center Adolescent Medicine Psychologist  
*Graduating BCM Fellow*

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**New Faculty starting in the Fall**

- Dr. Jocelyn Gomez: West Campus Pain Team  
- Dr. Staci Grant: West Campus Pediatric Psychology  
- Dr. Catherine Ivey: West Campus Outpatient Mental Health  
  - *Dr. Ileana Umana* – Autism Program  
  - *Dr. Allison Meinert* – Autism Program  
- Dr. Ashley Ramclam – Integrated Primary Care  
- *Dr. Sarah Cable* – Medical Center Neuropsychology  
- *Dr. Julia Kovalenko* – Medical Center Pediatric Psychology  
- Dr. Daniel Flint – Medical Center Adolescent Medicine Psychologist  
- *Graduating BCM Fellow*

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**Dr. Marni Axelrad** (top) and **Dr. Beth Garland** (bottom) lead the Psychology Division Faculty Professional Development Program. This Program pairs new faculty members with mentors within Psychology to set them up for success during their first two years at BCM, supports small mentorship circles for faculty members at similar career points, and provides a targeted, non-physician specific “Open House” and small group working meetings for psychologists applying for teaching awards, clinical awards, and promotion. Drs. Garland and Axelrad also invite speakers to discuss professional development topics such as Quality Improvement, Increasing Scholarly Activity for Clinician Educators, Engaging in Local and National Advocacy, and Statistics Reviews for Clinicians.
On April 14, 2023, the social work team at The Meyer Center for Developmental Pediatrics and Autism organized and hosted its 6th “Respite Night” for patients and their families at Wonder Wild. This event provided an evening out for caregivers while their children were entertained by employees of the Meyer Center, BCM residents, and community volunteers.

Developmental Pediatrics hosted Grand Rounds on July 7, and they were able to welcome back their dear friend and colleague Dr. Robert Voigt, by presenting him with a “Lifetime Achievement Award in Education for Developmental Behavioral Pediatrics.”
DoP at AAP Leadership Conference

The BCM DOP was well-represented at the annual AAP leadership conference at AAP Headquarters in Chicago. From L to R: Dr. Sonny Harpavat (Incoming Chair, Section on Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition), Dr. Deborah Hsu (Chair, Section on Emergency Medicine), Dr. Sanghamitra Misra (Chair, Section on Integrative Medicine), Dr. Eileen Brewer (Chair, Committee on Coding and Nomenclature), Dr. Charleta Guillery (Chapter Chair President of the Texas Pediatric Society of the AAP, Immediate Past President of the Texas Pediatric Society, Member, AAP Committee on Fetus and Newborn), and Dr. Timothy Lotze (Chair, Section on Neurology).

Kudos to the Simulation and Quality Education Team

The Simulation Center is growing! Our nursing leader Royanne Lichliter has been promoted to Director of Simulation and Quality Education. We are hiring for a new manager, additional simulation educators and technologists, and additional project managers! In Austin, we have a simulation educator, simulation technologist, and a beautiful new simulation space, and we are preparing for extensive simulations for both education and systems testing prior to the hospital’s opening in February 2024.

Dr. Cara Doughty was recognized as the Society for Simulation in Healthcare Medical Director of the Year in January 2023 (recognition for the year 2022).

Dr. Kasey Davis, associate medical director for simulation for the Woodlands campus, led the inaugural year of improvisation techniques being incorporated into the medical student curriculum.

Dr. Bram Welch-Horan was re-elected to the INSPIRE board, and Dr. Kasey Davis was elected to the board after previously serving as the meeting organizing co-chair.

Sim teams received two TCH educational grants this year: Dr. Andrea Vo and team received a grant for “TRACK PEDS: Team Reflexivity in ATLS Concepts and Knowledge in Pediatric Trauma”, and Dr. Nichole Davis and team received a grant for “Pediatric Mass Casualty Incidents: Applying the Joint Theater Trauma System to Pediatrics”.

A number of simulation team members presented at the International Meeting for Simulation in Healthcare and the INSPIRE meeting in January, and the International Pediatric Simulation Society meeting in May.
Botswanan Scientists Trained by Tropical Medicine Faculty & Researchers

Dr. Peter Hotez, Dean of the National School of Tropical Medicine; Dr. Maria Elena Bottazzi, Associate Dean of the NSTM; Michael Mizwa, CEO of Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative; His Excellency Dr. Mokgweetsi E. K. Masisi, President of the Republic of Botswana; Her Excellency Neo Masisi, First Lady of the Republic of Botswana; Tshepiso Kago; Tshepiso Eric Chelane; Gaone Matlhare; and Dr. Mogomotsi Matshaba, Executive Director of the Botswana-Baylor Children’s Clinical Centre of Excellence Trust

Under the leadership of Drs. Peter Hotez and Maria Elena Bottazzi, a total of nine Botswana-selected scientists will train at the Center for Vaccine Development over the course of three years. Pictured are the three that composed the first co-hort, Tshepiso Kago; Tshepiso Eric Chelane; Gaone Matlhare. According to the agreement, the year-long curriculum includes all steps of vaccine development: antigen discovery, molecular biology, formulation, and more.

Collaborative Trains Undergraduates for Future Careers

Baylor College of Medicine - National School of Tropical Medicine in collaboration with Baylor University’s Prehealth Program has developed a Tropical Disease Research Internship Program during the summer to provide five undergraduate students who plan a career in global healthcare the opportunity to spend 9 weeks of their summer working with leaders in tropical disease research.

The BU-TDRIP summer interns are selected through a competitive application process coordinated with BU’s Director of Prehealth Programs and the BCM-NSTM Laboratory & Compliance Manager. The interns will gain an understanding of neglected tropical and emerging infectious diseases, experience the development of vaccine target antigens from bench to clinic settings, and learn about translational public policy for the improvement of global health, including application of current research in local communities.

The student interns are linked with one of the BCM-NSTM research labs, which will provide the interns with a hands-on research experience in global healthcare. Additionally, they will be supervised and evaluated by the program’s Laboratory & Compliance Manager. Through this relationship, the intern will have the opportunity to develop a deeper understanding of global healthcare and tropical disease research through direct observation of experienced researchers and mentor meetings. The intern will present a final paper and PowerPoint presentation describing the work on this project to the supervising facility coordinator and to the director of the BCM’s Prehealth Programs at the end of the summer.
Congratulations to **Drs. Adrienne Smallwood** and **Aya Fanny**.

Both the PEM graduating fellows received the distinguished **2023 Best and Most Complete Physician Fellow Excellence Award**.

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NAP is a non-profit organization founded “to advise governmental bodies concerning the healthcare system. Distinguished practitioners and scholars are elected by their peers from numerous health profession to join the only interprofessional group of healthcare practitioners and scholars dedicated to supporting affordable, accessible, coordinated quality healthcare for all.” (NAP website)

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**Dr. Angelique Tate**  
**Jenni Reece, MA, BCBA, LBA**  
**Kathy O. Green, MHA**

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Congratulations to **Drs. Adrienne Smallwood** and **Aya Fanny**. Both the PEM graduating fellows received the distinguished **2023 Best and Most Complete Physician Fellow Excellence Award**.
Congratulations to Drs. Maria Elena Bottazzi and Peter Hotez, who received the prestigious 2023 Lyndon B. Johnson Moral Courage Award from the Holocaust Museum Houston, for their efforts researching a developing a patent-free, recombinant protein-based COVID-19 vaccine technology for the world’s benefit and use. The award is given annually to individuals who have shown the moral courage to stand up against injustice, hatred, prejudice and apathy and who used their influence to change our world for the better. Drs. Hotez and Bottazzi were also honored for dedicating themselves to improving the health of the most vulnerable populations, promoting science-based facts to the misinformed, and championing the benefits of vaccinations.

Dr. Bottazzi also received The Vilcek-Gold Award for Humanism in Healthcare for her work developing open-source, patent-free COVID-19 vaccine technology. The Vilcek-Gold Award for Humanism in Healthcare was created jointly by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation and The Vilcek Foundation in 2019 to recognize a foreign-born individual who has had an extraordinary impact on humanism in healthcare through their professional achievements in the United States. This award marks the first humanism-in-healthcare-focused honor for the Vilcek Foundation and the first immigrant-designated humanism honor for the Gold Foundation.

Dr. Hotez also received an honorary Doctor of Science in Public Health degree from the City University of New York.

The Division and its Vaccine Center also continue in the battle against Chagas disease, with progress towards an mRNA-protein vaccine against Chagas disease now in addition to their Tc24-C4 therapeutic vaccine in development. (https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S259025523000124)

Christus Children’s Foundation has announced a generous donation that establishes the Jann L. Harrison Endowed Chair in Graduate Medical Education at Christus Children’s.

The Chair will be used to support educational innovations that benefit GME learners within the San Antonio programs.
Max, 5 years old, had his **first day of kindergarten** at “big school” on Monday! They live in Lilongwe, Malawi, where his mother works as a pediatrician and medical director of our Tingathe Outreach program. (Pictured are Dr. Katie Simon holding Olivia, with Adam, and Max, center)

Reya, daughter of Tanisha Richards, NP, with Gastroenterology Intestinal Rehab outpatient clinic, on her **first day of 5th grade**!

**Off to College**

**1st Year College Students**

Neva Cline, child of Dr. Ginger Depp-Cline
(The University of Texas, Austin)

Jacob Taylor, child of Dr. Stephanie Chapman
(University of Houston)
Several Baylor College of Medicine faculty have a family connection to the School of Medicine Class of 2027, including our own Dr. Aderonke Ojo! She is pictured here with her daughter. Congratulations!

Preparing to Welcome Babies

Dr. Katie Gallagher (October)
Dr. Ashley Teasdale (November)

New Grandbaby

Dr. Danita Czyzewski and her family welcomed Baby George!

New Great-Grandbaby

Dr. Lee Ligon and her family welcomed Laynee Joanne Grace on August 30.

International Dog Day

On August 26, Mark Wallace, CEO of TCH, spoke about International Dog Day and the Pawsitive Play Program at TCH by acknowledging “This initiative holds a special place in my heart because it’s all about enhancing the emotional well-being of our patients and their families through the power of animal-assisted therapy dogs. Our four-legged employees . . . and their respective handlers . . . have an exceptional ability to provide much-needed support to patients, their families and even all of you! . . .”

And…did you know that at least one DoP faculty member has a “pack” of pet therapy dogs that go to various facilities and take the same cheer and love to individuals in our community? Dr. Lee Ligon (who happens to edit this newsletter, among other things) has 5 licensed “furbabies” that operate through AKC-approved Faithful Paws Pet Therapy. Two (Belle and Abby) are pictured to the right at work (all on left on best behavior!).

Back row, l-r: Molly (declined pet therapy) and Heather. Front row, l-r: Brittany (retired), Belle, Wendy, and Abigail.

Upcoming Nuptials

Dr. Rachel Kentor
Congratulations to Drs. Andrea Cruz, Manish Shah, Elyse Portillo, Victor Gonzalez, and our extraordinary PEM research team. The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) awards 4-year federal infrastructure grants to seven nodes, which are clusters of three sites each, to form the Pediatric Emergency Care Applied Research Network (PECARN). BCM/TCH is fortunate to receive subawards for two of these seven grants, which gives the PEM Division representation in both the Charlotte, Houston, and Milwaukee Prehospital (CHaMP) node and the Pediatric Emergency Medicine Northeast-West-South (PEM-NEWS) node to conduct both prehospital

Dr. Marni Axelrad was appointed Co-Chair of Clinical Practice Committee of the Infant and Early Childhood Special Interest Group, Division of Pediatric Psychology, American Psychological Association.

Drs Nicole Davis -- received the 2023 Educational Scholarship Award on mass casualty incident training in the Pediatric Emergency Department -- was appointed as the Chair of Pediatric committee SETRAC

Dr. Cara Doughty received the 2023 Educational Scholarship Award on mass casualty incident training in the Pediatric Emergency Department

Dr. Aya Fanny was awarded an AmerAcadPeds CATCH grant to develop & implement a triage protocol in the Pedi ED at the Cocody University Hospital in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.

Dr. Anne Gill -- was the recipient of the 2023 Center Service Award, from the BCM Center for Medical Ethics and Health Policy -- was invited to serve as one of six national mentors to MedEdPORTAL for the Transition to Residency compendium project.

Dr. Marisa Hilliard -- was appointed as the sole psychologist on the Professional Practice Committee of the American Diabetes Association (ADA). This committee publishes the standards of care for the ADA -- was appointed as the sole psychologist on the International Society of Pediatric and Adolescent Diabetes, which publishes the international care guidelines for pediatric/adolescent diabetes care. -- was elected as Chair of the American Diabetes Association’s Behavioral Medicine and Psychology Interest Group.

Dr. Peter Hotez delivered the keynote address at the CUNY spring commencement on May 30, 2023 received an Honorary Doctor of Science in Public Health degree at CUNY.

Dr. Lisa Kahalley was appointed as Co-Chair of the Survivorship Special Interest Track for the Society for Neuro-Oncology.

Dr. Brent Kaziny -- was appointed to the executive committee for the AmerAcadPeds Council on Children and Disasters . -- was featured in Houston Chronicle article: How Texas Children’s Hospital keeps power flowing when weather disasters strike. -- received the 2023 Educational Scholarship Award on mass casualty incident training in the Pediatric Emergency Department.

Dr. Katherine Kothari received the 2023 Pediatric Pilot Award on evaluating EMS utilization if oral analgesia in pediatric patients with traumatic injuries.

Dr. Steven Lazar completed his Neurodevelopmental Disabilities residency at BCM and joined Developmental Pediatrics as new faculty July 2023.

Dr. Richard Mahoney joined the Division of Pediatric Tropical Medicine welcomes as an Adjunct Professor.

Dr. Mitra Misra -- was recognized at the Annual Council on Medical Student Education in Pediatrics (COMSEP) meeting for completing 3 years of service as the Core Clerkship Collaborative leader. -- was selected for the 2024 COMSEP meeting planning committee.

Dr. Flor Munoz was appointed to the 2023-'24 National Foundation for Infectious Diseases Board of Directors. This group of leaders began responsibilities on July 1, which includes establishing the strategic direction for NFID.

Dr. Janki Patel completed her DBP fellowship with BCM and has joined as new Developmental faculty July 2023.

Dr. Manish Shah received the Dr. Marianne Gausche-Hill Educational Mentorship Award from SAEMonline.

Dr. Sara Shank graduated from our DBP fellowship June 2023, and has joined the University of Southern Alabama in their DBP practice within the Strada Patient Care Center in Mobile, Alabama.

Dr. Angelique Tate was named Associate Medical Director for Behavioral Health at The Centers for Children and Women.

Dr. Jill Weatherhead gave global health grand rounds at Western Michigan University Medical School on providing medical care (from an infectious disease perspective) to patients who have newly immigrated to the US.

Dr. Adam Wolfe was recognized with the Outstanding Reviewer Award, MedEdPORTAL (awarded to top 10 peer reviewers out of >200 annual reviewers), 2022.

Dr. Christopher Wong was selected to serve a three-year term on the Texas Health Steps Advisory Panel. The panel advises the Texas Health and Human Services Commission on the implementation of THSteps checkup elements, which comprise Medicaid’s preventive child health services for individuals birth through 20 years of age.
The Academy of Distinguished Educators at GCM will hold its **annual Showcase of Educational Scholarship** on **September 15**. This event provides a formal mechanism in which educators can showcase their educational research projects. For more information, email faced@bcm.edu.

**The Center for Research, Innovation and Scholarship** (CRIS) in Health Professions Education and the planning committee invite you to attend the **13th Annual Colloquium for Educators (Formerly, The Educator Orientation)**, to be held **on September 22**. To celebrate the ongoing great work and dedication in education, we bring together health professions and medical science educators to share educational best-practices, to refine instructional methods, and to learn about new educational technology.

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**We are excited to introduce to you...**
**The Department of Pediatrics Wellbeing Initiative!**

It is brought to you by a group of DOP faculty who are committed to understanding and addressing the root causes of our work stressors. This team has been meeting for the past several months to develop a departmental approach to Wellbeing. Our first activity is a **“Traveling Road Show”** to division faculty meetings or retreats. This 15-minute presentation will review our current work on wellness and provide suggestions of evidence-based interventions to improve the wellbeing of faculty in your division.

Please contact
Shreya Sheth (Shreya.sheth@bcm.edu) or Joan Shook (JeShook@texaschildrens.org)
to schedule the Road Show for your faculty group, and for additional information or questions!