

WORD ON THE STRIET

A newsletter of the Department of Medicine

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March 9, 2007



Striet Talk

Dr. Robert M. Strieter,
Chairman

This has been an exciting month for the Department of Medicine. Our first two residents for the Clinical Investigator Track were selected, out of a very well-prepared and competitive pool.

Anita Kohli and Robert Rahimi

will begin their work toward a master's in Clinical Investigation next year.

The call for abstracts for the first DoM Research Day has gone out. This is an excellent opportunity to see what your colleagues are investigating, and find new ways to engage in cross-Divisional collaboration.

I applaud the efforts by UVa Human Resources to assist employees that have lost their grant funding, and to help them find new opportunities on campus. I encourage everyone to investigate these seminars (pp. 2-3) and support your fellow researchers.

In a few short weeks the hospital's Short Stay Observation Unit will be opening, and 20 protocols from the Department of Medicine have been submitted. If you are interested in creating a protocol for the SSOU, please contact Dr. Gibson.

Finally, on behalf of the Department, I would like to congratulate Dr. Brian Wispelwey for being awarded an All University Teaching Award. Dr. Wispelwey was nominated by Dr. Jerry Donowitz, and his nomination was strongly supported throughout the DoM. Dr. Wispelwey is a highly skilled teacher, and is much admired by his peers and students. I know this award was well deserved, and I am confident I speak for the entire Department when I offer my congratulations.

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Save the Date

March 30—Abstracts for Research Day Due
Please send abstracts to Camilla Curnow

April 9—Carey, Marshall, Thorne Scholars' Research Day
Please contact Cathy Keefe-Jankowski for details

May 4—DoM Research Day

May 4 & 5—Centennial Celebration

Please contact Cindy Smith or Camilla Curnow for details

June 14—Annual Resident/Faculty Dinner

Please contact Terri Washington for details

Research

Joel Linden & Sue Moenter

DoM Research Day, call for abstracts!

The newly reformatted Department of Medicine Research Day will be held on Friday 4 May at Alumni Hall. The morning will feature talks from each Division and the afternoon posters and break-out sessions to discuss thematic research. We'd love to see representation from each lab conducting research, whether clinical or basic, wet lab or dry, at the poster session. This is a great opportunity to see what your colleagues in the Department are doing and foster research collaborations.

Abstracts should be no more than 1 page, 11 point Arial font. Posters may be presented by trainees or PIs. Abstracts may contain work that has already or will be presented at national/regional meetings

The deadline for submitting your abstracts to Camilla Curnow (cmt4j@virginia.edu) is FRIDAY MARCH 30th 2007.

The SoM has been working with UVA Human Resources to help employees whose grant funding has been lost to find other positions at the University. We see this as a means of retaining great technicians and other support personnel in a town where it's sometimes difficult to recruit such individuals. This program is administered by Anne Kromkowski, Assistant Dean for Finance.

A web site has been created with a current list of seminars and other thematic research meetings:

<http://www.healthsystem.virginia.edu/internet/research/seminars.cfm>

<http://www.healthsystem.virginia.edu/internet/research/journal-clubs.doc>

- Adenosine and Tissue Protection (ATP) Research in Progress
1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month, 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM
MR5, CVRC library; Room 1019
Contact: Alaa Awad, M.D. (x2-6287; awad@virginia.edu)
- Cardiovascular MRI Research Group meeting
Wednesdays 8:15-9:00am
MR5, Room 1041
Contact, Christopher M. Kramer MD (3-0736, ckramer@virginia.edu)
- Bacterial Pathogenesis and Genetics Research In Progress
Biweekly, Wednesdays, 12:15 PM -- 1:15 PM
MR-4, 3rd floor conference room
Contact: Dr. Costi Sifri, Division of Infectious Disease (csifri@virginia.edu)
- Diabetes and Endocrine Research Center Research in Progress
Wednesdays, 8:30AM-9:30AM, Aurbach Building Conference Room
Contact: Maryann McMahon, DERC Administrator (mbm8x@virginia.edu, x4-5247)
- Beirne B. Carter Center for Immunology Research Research in Progress
Wednesdays, 12:00 PM -- 1:00 PM Jordan Hall 2ABC
Contact: Baron Roller, Graduate Program Coordinator (x4-2412; bar2f@virginia.edu)
- Digestive Health Center of Excellence DHC Seminar Series
Tuesdays, 12 – 1 PM
West Complex, 2nd Floor, David Stone Library (GI offices)
Contact: Shelley Moss, Events Coordinator (2-3821, swm2v)

- Geriatrics and Palliative Care Research Task Force
Third Friday each month, 8:00-9:00
Blake Center 2nd Floor Conference Room
Contact: John Philbrick JTP9B@virginia.edu
- GI/General Surgery Journal Club
Wednesdays, 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM
Hospital Cafeteria Meeting Rooms 1, 2 and 3
Contact: Barbara Snoddy, Program Coordinator (x4-03162; bbj2p@virginia.edu)
- Infectious Diseases Research in Progress
Third Tuesday of each month, 4:00-5:00 pm
Jordan 1-17
Contact: Barbara Mann, bjm2r@virginia.edu
- Microbial Pathogenesis Journal Club
2nd and 4th Fridays, 12:30-1:30
MR4 3rd floor Conference Room
Contact: Girija Ramakrishnan (3-7243; girija@virginia.edu)
- Monocyte Club
1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month, 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
MR4 1005
Contact: Borna Mehrad (Mehrad@virginia.edu)
- Nephrology/OHW Research In Progress
2nd, 3rd, and 4th Wednesdays, 8-9AM
Kidney Center Conference Room, 5th Floor of Multistory Bldg.
Contact: Tom Obrig, coordinator (x2-1063; to3e@virginia.edu)

Changing the Face of Medicine

From February 28—April 13 at the Claude Moore Health Sciences Library the “Changing the Face of Medicine” exhibit will be on display. This exhibit focuses on the history of women in medicine, including Laurel Rice, Karen Rheuban and Diane Snustad.



For the opening of the exhibit, a panel discussion was lead by Dr. Robert Carey, followed by the keynote talk by Dr. Vivian Pinn.

You can learn more about this traveling exhibit here:

<http://www.healthsystem.virginia.edu/internet/library/historical/cfom/index.cfm>

Faculty Development

Coleen McNamara & Mitchell Rosner

Two residents selected for Clinical Investigator Track

In conjunction with the Chief Medical Residents, a specially designed track in clinical investigation has been implemented. This track allows for residents to pursue a Master's degree in Clinical Investigation during their second year of residency. This unique training program is designed for residents interested in careers in academic clinical investigation. The interns who applied for this program were an outstanding cohort of individuals with stellar backgrounds and they all developed exciting research programs. Unfortunately, due to space limitations, we are only able to select two residents for this program.

We are pleased to announce that Drs. Anita Kohli and Robert Rahimi have been selected as the first residents to enter this program.



Dr. Kohli's mentor is Dr. Richard Guerrant, and she will be studying HIV in developing countries.



Dr. Rahimi's mentors are Drs. Steven Caldwell, Patrick Northup, and Klaus Hagspiel. Dr. Rahimi will be studying a novel method for the diagnosis of non-alcoholic steatohepatitis

We would like to thank all the applicants for their hard work and dedication and especially like to thank the Chief Residents for their tireless efforts to bring this program to fruition.

Brian Wispelwey Wins All University Teaching Award



Dr. Brian Wispelwey is a recipient of one of this year's All University Teaching Awards "in recognition of notable teaching and considerable skill in motivating and inspiring students." He was nominated by Dr. Jerry Donowitz.

Dr. Wispelwey has been recognized in the past for his exceptional teaching. He has won the Robley Dunglison Award a record three times, the DoM Attending of the Year four times, the University of Virginia School of Medicine Award for Excellence in Teaching, the Harrison Award for Overall Teaching Excellence, the Mulholland Society's Basic Science Teaching Award, an AAMC Humanism in Medicine Award, and he is the first David C. Harrison Distinguished Educator.

Clinical Affairs

Robert Gibson & Alan Dalkin

Short Stay Observation Unit

Construction of the 2nd floor SSOU is nearing completion. This unit is scheduled to open on April 2 and will include a 24/7 staffing pattern to accommodate up to 20 patients.

While the SSOU will not eliminate our inpatient bed capacity problem, it will certainly help if Departmental faculties utilize the facility located adjacent to the PACU. Thus far, 20 patient care/order set protocols from the Department of Medicine have been submitted and are being reviewed by Dr. Robyn Boedefeld (SSOU Medical Director), including:

Cardiovascular Medicine

1. Chest pain
2. Congestive heart failure
3. Syncope

Endocrine

1. Acute hyperglycemia

Gastroenterology

1. Post liver biopsy
2. Post endoscopies (EGD, ERCP and Colonoscopy)
3. Post paracentesis

General Medicine

1. Acute gastroenteritis/P.O. intolerance/Dehydration

Hematology/Oncology

1. Anticoagulation for venous thrombosis and uncomplicated PE
2. Cancer or cancer therapy-related symptom management
3. Blood product transfusion
4. Bleeding disorder replacement therapy

Infectious Diseases

1. Uncomplicated cellulitis

Nephrology

1. Post native renal biopsy
2. Hemodialysis patient with volume overload

Pulmonary Medicine

1. Asthma exacerbation
2. COPD exacerbation
3. Community acquired pneumonia
4. Post bronchoscopy
5. Post thoracentesis

Fontaine Clinic Space

Last week, the Medical Center made two important decisions regarding Building 415: 1) the 3rd floor space will be dedicated to the Spine Center, a joint venture involving Orthopedics, Sports Medicine and Neurosurgery; and 2) renovations will soon begin on the 2nd floor to accommodate the move of the Rheumatology clinic into space currently shared by Endocrine, the Diabetes Education Program, and the UPC practice. Regarding the latter, the Medical Center has agreed to fund the ~\$137,000 make-over cost that includes additional exam rooms, expansion of waiting/reception, core lab and record storage space, and new equipment – such as an ultrasound imaging system that will enable the performance of thyroid, breast, cardiac, vascular, abdominal, and female pelvic imaging in the 2nd floor multispecialty clinic. Additional services will be available on the 1st floor of Building 415, namely CT, MRI, and plain film x-ray.

Augusta Medical Center

Progress continues to be made at Augusta Medical Center. We are working toward having Cardiology represented in the clinic at all times and are in discussions to provide echocardiography (along with ultrasound of thyroid, joints, kidney, etc.) in the clinic as well. Plans for having point-of-care laboratory testing are also underway and the remodeling concept will take that into account. Starting this month, Rheumatology will have a presence in the clinic, one session per month, with the hope of increasing that activity in the year ahead. Finally, to establish a link between the clinic and the hospitalized patients at AMC, we have entered into discussions to determine if the establishment of a UVa-directed hospitalist service has merit. In that regard, we could thereby expand our department's presence in the hospital to include additional consultative activities beyond that provided currently (e.g. Infectious Disease).

DEPARTMENT of
MEDICINE

Celebrating
100
years

UNIVERSITY
of VIRGINIA
HEALTH SYSTEM

Free Kidney Disease Screening for Health System Employees

Free Kidney Disease Screening for Health System Employees

In honor of World Kidney Day, the Division of Nephrology within the Department of Medicine is sponsoring a special screening for UVa Health System employees.

One in nine Americans has chronic kidney disease, yet nearly half of people with an advanced form of kidney disease don't know they have weak or failing kidneys. When kidney disease progresses, it can lead to kidney failure. Early detection and treatment can keep chronic kidney disease from getting worse and can even be life-saving.

What: Kidney Screening for UVa Health System Employees. Screening includes blood pressure check, weight and urinalysis. Participants will receive results at the screening, and UVa Division of Nephrology physicians will be on hand to answer questions and provide counseling on screening results. No referral is necessary; any participants who require follow-up and who do not have a primary care physician will receive information and a referral to appropriate resources at UVa.

Who: Screening is open to all Health System employees and their families: high risk groups include those with diabetes, hypertension and family history of kidney disease. African Americans, Hispanics, Pacific Islanders, Native Americans and seniors are at greater risk.

When: Friday, March 2, 2007 1 to 4 p.m.

Where: West Complex, 5th Floor, Kidney Center Clinic

Register: for your 10 minute appointment by contacting Sandy Bailey at 924-1984. If you can't call to schedule an appointment, you can also drop in.

(Although World Kidney Day and the date for the free screening has passed, if you are still interested in a kidney disease screening, please feel free to contact the Kidney Center Clinic for an appointment.)



Division News, Publications & Grants

Allergy and Clinical Immunology

Publications

- Early, S.B., Berekzi, E., Negri, J., Hise, K., Borish, L., and Steinke, J.W. Concordant modulation of cysteinyl leukotriene receptor expression by IL-4 and IFN- γ on peripheral immune cells (epublish ahead of print) American Journal of Respiratory Cell Molecular Biology (2007)

Cardiovascular Medicine

News

- Dr. Jim Bergin has accepted the position of Director of the CCU
- Dr. David K. Glover was invited to give a lecture on imaging myocardial hypoxia at the upcoming meeting of the International Congress of Cardiology in Prague, Czech Republic in late April 2007. He will also be giving a 2nd lecture at this meeting on the physiology and pharmacology of adenosine A2A receptor agonists for vasodilator stress imaging.
- For those interested in attending the third Morphogenesis & Regenerative Medicine Symposium on May 23-25, 2007, please visit: www.virginia.edu/vprgs/morphogenesis/MRMSEC/Symposium2007/Program2007.htm
- The Wamhoff Lab has a new post-doc, Dr. Ramin Zargham, MD, PhD, who started February 1, 2007.
- Dr. Robert Gibson gave the keynote lecture for the Southern Association of the History of Medicine and Science (SAHMS) on March 2. The title of his talk was "Jefferson's Prescient Vision of Academic Medicine."

Publications

- Glover DK, Ruiz M, Takehana K, Petruzella FD, Rieger JM, Macdonald TL, Watson DD, Linden J, Beller GA. Cardioprotection by Adenosine A2A Agonists in a Canine Model of Myocardial Stunning Produced by Multiple Episodes of Transient Ischemia. *Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol*. 2007 Feb 16; [Epub ahead of print]
- Wamhoff BR and Owens GK. Conditional Mouse Models of Muscle Differentiation and Disease. *Handb Exp Pharmacol*, 178:441-68, 2007.
- Zargham R, Wamhoff BR, Thibault G. RNA interference targeting $\alpha 8$ integrin attenuates smooth muscle cell growth. *FEBS Letters*, 2007 (in press)
- Orr AW, Stockton R, Simmers MB, Sanders JM, Sarembock IJ, Blackman BR, Schwartz MA. Matrix-specific p21-activated kinase activation regulates vascular permeability in atherogenesis. *J Cell Biol*. 2007 Feb 26;176(5):719-27.
- Kaufmann BA, Lankford M, Behm CZ, French BA, Klibanov AL, Xu Y, Lindner JR. High-resolution myocardial perfusion imaging in mice with high-frequency echocardiographic detection of a depot contrast agent. *J Am Soc Echocardiogr*. 2007 Feb;20(2):136-43.
- Jin L, Kern MJ, Otey CA, Wamhoff BR, Somlyo AV. Angiotensin II, FAK and PRX enhance smooth muscle expression of LPP and a newly identified LPP binding partner palladin to promote cell migration. *Circ Res*. 2007 Feb 22.
- Nandalur KR, Hardie AD, Raghavant P, Schipper MJ, Baskurt E, Kramer CM. Composition of the stable carotid plaque: insights from a multidetector computed tomography study of plaque volume. *Stroke*, 2007;38:935-940.
- Ferguson J. Optimizing Catheter Navigation for AF Ablation: Do Not Just Follow the Map! *J Cardiovasc Electrophysiol*, Vol. 18, pp. 283-285, March 2007.
- Beller, GA. Establishment of a new advanced training track in cardiovascular imaging, *Journal of Nuclear Cardiology*, Volume 14, Issue 1, January 2007, Pages 1-3.

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HEALTH SYSTEM

Endocrinology and Metabolism**News**

- Theresa Guise was selected to give a School of Medicine Dean's Seminar, which took place on March 8th. Her topic was "Cancer Metastasis to the Bone"
- Dr. Jerry L. Nadler participated in an NIH study section called Cellular Aspect of Diabetes and Obesity study section and has just been invited to serve on a special NIH committee to review NIH Roadmap Center Grants addressing Interdisciplinary research
- The NIDDK has selected one of the Nadler research group's published figures to be highlighted in a presentation illustrating to Congress advances in type 1 diabetes research
- Raghu Mirmira was named to the Editorial Board of the journal Diabetes.

Publications

- Wu Y, Wang H, Brautigan DL, Liu Z. Activation of glycogen synthase in myocardium induced by intermittent hypoxia is much lower in fasted than in fed rats. *Am J Physiol Endocrinol Metab.* 2007 Feb;292(2):E469-75.
- Liu Z. The Renin-Angiotensin system and insulin resistance. *Curr Diab Rep.* 2007 Feb;7(1):34-42.
- Chai W, Liu Z. p38 Mitogen-activated Protein Kinase Mediates Palmitate-induced Apoptosis but not I κ B Degradation in Human Coronary Artery Endothelial Cells. *Endocrinology.* 2007 Jan 18; [Epub ahead of print]
- Xiong Y, Collins QF, An J, Lupo E Jr, Liu HY, Liu D, Robidoux J, Liu Z and Cao W. p38 Mitogen-activated Protein Kinase Plays an Inhibitory Role in Hepatic Lipogenesis. *J Biol Chem* 2007 Feb 16; 282(7):4975-82
- Francis, J., Babu, D., Deering, T., Chakrabarti, S., Taylor, D., Garmey, J., Evans-Molina, C., and Mirmira, R.G. Role of chromatin accessibility in the occupancy and transcription of the insulin gene by the pancreatic transcription factor Pdx-1. *Mol. Endocrinol.* 20:3133 (2006)
- Christian CA, Moenter SM 2007 Estradiol induces diurnal shifts in GABA transmission to provide a neural signal for ovulation. *Journal of Neuroscience* 27:1913:1921.
- Clines GA, Mohammad KS, Bao Y, Stephens O, Suva LJ, Shaughnessy JD, Fox JW, Chirgwin JM, Guise TA. Dickkopf homolog 1 mediates endothelin-1-stimulated new bone formation. *Molecular Endocrinology* 22: 486-498, 2007.
- P. Fan, J-P. Wang, R. J. Santen, W. Yue. Long-term treatment with tamoxifen facilitates translocation of estrogen receptor α out of the nucleus and enhances its interaction with epidermal growth factor receptor in MCF-7 breast cancer cells. *Cancer Res.* 67: 1352-1360, 2007.

Grants

- Barrett, Eugene. P30; "Diabetes Endocrinology Research Center"
- Santen, Richard. R01 "Determinants of Tissue Estradiol Sensitivity"

Gastroenterology**Publications**

- Bickston SJ. Infliximab for ulcerative colitis induction of remission and maintenance therapy. *Gastroenterol & Hepatol.* Jan 2007;3(1):55-56.
- Brian C. Jacobson, Vanessa M. Shami, Douglas O. Faigel, Alberto Larghi, Michel Kahaleh, Charles Dye, Marcos Pedrosa, Irving Waxman. Through-the-Scope Balloon Dilation for Endoscopic Ultrasound Staging of Stenosing Esophageal Cancer. *Dig Dis Sci.* 2007 Jan 26;

General Medicine, Geriatrics, and Palliative Care**News**

- Mohan Nadkarni M.D. FACP was chosen by the 4th year class as this year's selection for AAMC national recognition for Humanism in Medicine Award

Publications

- Philbrick JT, Shumate R, Siadat MS, Becker DM. Air travel and venous thromboembolism: a systematic review. *J Gen Intern Med* 2007;22:107-114.

Infectious Diseases and International Health

News

- Michael Rein co-delivered the annual Gibson Lecture in Cancer Prevention at Medical Center Hour, Feb. 21, 2007
- Keri Hall has been named Assistant Dean of Clinical Affairs
- Gerald R. Donowitz, M.D., Residency Program Director, Department of Medicine and Sally Miller, Fellowship Administrator, Department of Medicine, had a workshop accepted for presentation at 2007 APDIM Spring Meeting, April 17-18, 2007, San Diego, California, entitled "Fellowship Collegiality: Herding Lions".
- Laura A. Adang, an MD/PhD student in the Kedes laboratory was awarded the Robert R. Wagner Prize for Outstanding Research in Microbiology
- The Kedes laboratory received a \$40,000 award from the UVA Cancer Center to support a Pilot Translational Project entitled: "Controlling a tumorigenic herpesvirus infection: From novel mouse models to human patients".
- Two new faculty have joined the division of Infectious Disease: Wen Yuan, Ph.D. from Harvard, who adds to our expertise in HIV with his research program on gp120/41; and Jeff Tessier, M.D., working on edema toxin of anthrax and who joins the faculty with the support of a career development award from the Middle Atlantic Regional Center of Excellence in Biodefense and Emerging Infections (MARCE). Dr. Tessier also did his fellowship at UVA.
- Eric Houpt's Tanzania J-term course for Commerce School students on making a business plan for manufacture of diagnostic tests is highlighted on page 6-7 of the February 2, 2007 issue of "Inside UVA".

Publications

- Adang, L.A, Tomescu, C., Law, W.K., and Kedes, D.H. Intracellular KSHV load determines early loss of immune synapse components *Journal of Virology* 2007 (in press).
- Binbin Deng, Christine M. O'Connor, Dean H. Kedes and Z. Hong Zhou Direct visualization of a bacteriophage-like portal in the Kaposi's sarcoma-associated herpesvirus capsid by cryo-electron tomography *Journal of Virology* 2007 (in press)
- Ali IKM, Mondal D, Roy S, Haque R, Petri WA Jr, Clark CG. Evidence for a link between parasite genotype and outcome of infection with *Entamoeba histolytica*. *J. Clin. Microbiol.* 2007; 45:285-289.
- Haque R, Mondal D, Shu J, Roy S, Kabir M, David AN, Duggal P, Petri WA Jr. IFN- γ production by peripheral blood mononuclear cells is associated with childhood resistance to amebiasis. *Am J Trop Med Hyg* 2007; 76:340-344.
- Croxen, M. A., P. B. Ernst and P. S. Hoffman. 2007. Antisense RNA modulation of alkyl hydroperoxide reductase (AhpC) levels in *Helicobacter pylori* correlates with organic peroxide toxicity but not infectivity. *J. Bacteriol.* (In press).
- Hoffman, P. S., G. Sission, M. A. Croxen, K. Welch, W. D. Harman, N. Cremades and M. G. Morash. 2006. Anti-parasitic drug Nitazoxanide inhibits the pyruvate oxidoreductases of *Helicobacter pylori* and selected anaerobic bacteria and parasites, and *Campylobacter jejuni*. *Antimicrob. Agents Chemother.* 2006;51:868-876.

Grants

- Hoffman, Paul. R01 "Legionella pneumophila developmental cycle & virulence"
- Hoffman, Paul. R01 "*Helicobacter Pylori*: tactic responses and persistence in the gastric mukosa"

Pulmonary and Critical Care

Publications

- Reduced Time in Bed and Obstructive Sleep-Disordered Breathing in Children Are Associated With Cognitive Impairment Paul M. Suratt, Jeffrey T. Barth, Robert Diamond, Lynn D'Andrea, Margarita Nikova, Vito A. Perriello, Jr, Mary A. Carskadon and Christopher Rembold *Pediatrics* 2007;119:320-329 DOI: 10.1542/peds.2006-1969
- [Kress JP, Vinayak AG, Levitt J, Schweickert WD, Gehlbach BK, Zimmerman F, Pohlman AS, Hall JB.](#) Daily sedative interruption in mechanically ventilated patients at risk for coronary artery disease. *Crit Care Med.* 2007 Feb;35(2):365-71.