

# Duke University Department of Pediatrics

## Your Pediatrics Alumni Community

Duke Pediatrics Alumni News is published twice a year by the Duke Department of Pediatrics Alumni Organization



# Alumni

Fall 2010

### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

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Pediatric Education Fund

Duke Pediatrics continues to thrive, with significant progress in the areas of patient care, medical education, and biomedical research. Our inpatient and outpatient volumes have steadily increased in recent years, reflecting the growing population in the Triangle, a number of new multi-disciplinary clinics, and increasing outreach activity. As a result of this growth, we have initiated plans for a new 244-bed children's hospital, contiguous with the beautiful McGovern-Davison Children's Health Center and adjoining the Pediatric Emergency Department and Duke University Hospital.

This summer we greeted 21 new pediatric subspecialty fellows, 16 new interns in pediatrics, and six new medicine-pediatrics interns, joining us from institutions across the country and eager to benefit from our innovative training programs that continue to set trends nationally.

We recently learned that a National Institutes of Health T32 training grant in pediatric pulmonary and sleep medicine has been funded, allowing us to help address an important manpower need across the country and increasing the number of T32 grants in the department to eight.

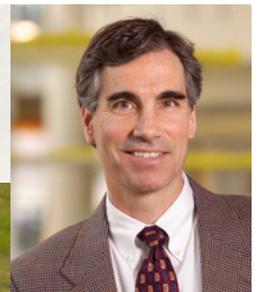
From a research perspective, we have leveraged the department-based Neonatal-Perinatal Research Institute, Y.T. and Alice Chen Pediatric Genetics and Genomics Research Center, Neurocognitive Outcomes Research Program, Site-Based Research Unit, and Division of Quantitative Sciences to expand clinical, translational, and basic research, resulting in extramural grant support that now exceeds \$43 million annually.

Duke Medical Alumni Weekend is scheduled for October 14–17, 2010 and will include a breakfast for Duke Pediatrics Alumni and friends on Saturday, October 16, at 8:00 a.m. in the lobby of the McGovern-Davison Children's Health Center; I hope you can attend.

I am grateful for your relationship with Duke Pediatrics, and I look forward to sharing more new with you throughout the year.

We would like to hear from you! If you have news about yourself or if you would like to send us comments about this newsletter, please write Duke Pediatrics Alumni News, Box 3352, Durham, NC 27710, or e-mail us at [rebecca.casey@duke.edu](mailto:rebecca.casey@duke.edu).

Joseph W. St. Geme III, MD  
Chair, Department of Pediatrics  
Duke Medicine



**Burks Receives Dual Honors**

Wesley Burks, MD, Professor of Pediatrics and Chief of the Division of Allergy and Immunology, was named the Kiser-Arena



Professor of Pediatrics. This endowed professorship was established by Dr. and Mrs. Glenn Kiser in honor of Jay Arena, MD, a longtime member of the faculty in the Department of Pediatrics who

developed the child-proof safety cap. In addition, Dr. Burks was selected to receive the 2010 Bret Ratner Pediatric Allergy and Immunology Research Award from the American Academy of Pediatrics Section on Allergy and Immunology. This award was established in 1961 to honor Bret Ratner, MD, and to recognize an outstanding pediatric allergist-immunologist who has made important contributions in basic and clinical research in the field of allergy and immunology. Dr. Burks is a world leader in the field of food allergy and has a broad-based translational research program that focuses on understanding the mechanisms of food allergy and developing immunotherapy for peanut allergy.

**St. Claire Receives 2010 Duke Presidential Award**

Karen St. Claire, MD, Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Medical Director of the Child Abuse and Neglect Program, received the 2010 Duke

Presidential Award in Executive Leadership in recognition of her distinguished record of commitment and accomplishment in the area of child abuse



and neglect. The Presidential Awards for outstanding service are among the highest honors given to Duke faculty and staff, and the winners were honored by President Richard H. Brodhead at a luncheon on April 22, 2010. As highlighted by President Brodhead during the award presentation, “Dr. St. Claire’s work brings enormous credit to Duke and is well-recognized in the pediatric community. Her efforts have literally saved the lives of children and allowed them to become productive citizens.”

**Kishnani Receives NDSC’s Christian Pueschel Memorial Research Award**

Priya Kishnani, MD, Professor of Pediatrics and Chief of the Division of Medical



Genetics, received the 2010 Christian Pueschel Memorial Research Award from the National Down Syndrome Congress. This prestigious award recognizes a prominent member of the Down syndrome research

community for dedication and contributions in advancing the understanding of Down syndrome. Dr. Kishnani has been a leader in developing new approaches to treatment of individuals with Down syndrome. She initiated the first clinical trials with cholinesterase inhibitors to enhance cognition in individuals with Down syndrome, and she has established a Down syndrome registry and biorepository as important resources for ongoing research.

**Katz Honored as 2010 Maurice Hilleman/Merck Award Laureate**

Samuel Katz, MD, Wilburt C. Davison Professor and Chairman Emeritus of the



Department of Pediatrics, was named the 2010 Maurice Hilleman/Merck Award Laureate. This award was established in 2009 in honor of Dr. Hilleman and his important role in

developing vaccines against a number of formerly common infectious diseases. Dr. Katz was selected for this distinction based on his work with Nobel laureate John F. Enders, MD, in developing the measles vaccine, which was licensed in 1963 and has saved the lives of millions of children internationally. Dr. Katz remains active at Duke and continues to be a national and international leader in the area of vaccine policy.



NEW INITIATIVES

**New NIH Awards**

The following new and competitively renewed National Institutes of Health awards were recently received by faculty in the Department of Pediatrics:

**Michael Cohen-Wolkowicz, MD**, Principal Investigator. Title: “Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics of Antibiotics in Premature Infants.” Project period: 8/2010-7/2015.

**Dwight Koeberl, MD, PhD**, Principal Investigator. “Gene Delivery to Striated Muscle by Systemic AAV Vectors.” Project period: 8/2010–7/2011.

**Louise Markert, MD, PhD**, Principal Investigator. “Thymic Transplantation in Complete DiGeorge Syndrome.” Project period: 9/2010–8/2015.

**Sara Pasquali, MD**, Principal Investigator. “Career Development in Outcomes Assessment in Congenital Heart Surgery.” Project period: 07/2010–04/2014.

**Brian Smith, MD, MPH, MHS**, Principal Investigator. “Accelerating Adoption of Comparative Effectiveness Research in Premature Infants.” Project Period: 9/2010–8/2013.

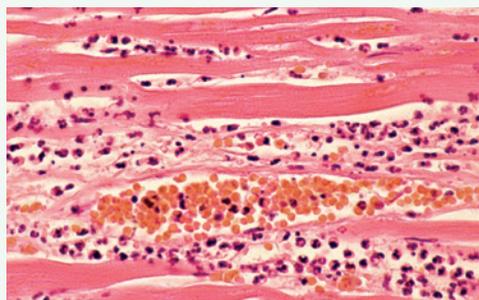
**Joseph W. St. Geme, MD**, Principal Investigator. Title: “Biology of the HMW1 and HMW2 Adhesins of H. influenzae.” Project period: 4/2010–2/2015.

### Robertson Foundation Donates \$10.2 Million for Duke Cell Therapy Center

Duke University Medical Center received a \$10.2 million gift from the Robertson Foundation to create a state-of-the-art Translational Cell Therapy Center and to advance Duke Medicine's pioneering cell therapy research and treatment programs for children and adults with cancer, cerebral palsy, stroke, and brain injuries suffered at birth.

The gift is intended to facilitate the translation of advances in cell therapy to patient care, particularly related to the work of **Joanne Kurtzberg, MD**, Chief of the Division of Pediatric Blood and Marrow Transplantation and Director of the Carolinas Cord Blood Bank, and her team, who have spent decades investigating the therapeutic use of umbilical cord blood stem cells.

Part of the Robertson Foundation gift will be used to build a special laboratory where therapeutic cells will be manufactured and stored. The gift will



also facilitate studies of cord blood stem cell transplants in certain newborns with congenital heart disease, studies of cord blood-derived oligodendrocyte-like cells in certain children with genetically-acquired neurodegenerative diseases, and studies to determine the value of using cord blood or bone marrow cells in adults with stroke or brain injury resulting from radiation to treat brain cancer.

### Chens Make Commitment to Genetics Research

**Y.T. Chen, MD, PhD**, and his wife Alice have donated \$4.8 million to support medical genetics research initiatives in the Department of Pediatrics. With royalties that Dr. Chen receives as the inventor of Myozyme (recombinant human acid alpha-glucosidase), the enzyme that is mutated in Pompe disease, Dr. and Mrs. Chen have established a professorship, an associate professorship, and a fellowship in pediatric genetics and genomics. These positions will complement the funds that the Chens have provided to support the Y.T. and Alice Chen Pediatric Genetics and Genomics Research Center, which was dedicated in 2009.



"We want to see new treatments developed," says Dr. Chen. "This is a very good time. There are so many tools—genomics, gene sequencing, stem cells, and new ways of putting genes into animals and humans."

### Duke Pediatrics Gets Top Marks in U.S. News Surveys

The Duke Department of Pediatrics was named one of the top 10 pediatric programs in the medical school specialty rankings of the annual "America's Best Graduate Schools" edition of *U.S. News & World Report*. The rankings were reported online April 15, 2010, and were published in the May issue of the magazine.

"Specialty rankings are based on ratings by medical school deans and senior faculty at peer institutions across the country," said Joseph St. Geme, MD, Chair of the Department of Pediatrics and Chief

Medical Officer of Duke Children's Hospital & Health Center. "Our reputation is clearly a reflection of the contributions of the many faculty, residents, fellows, and clinical, research, and administrative staff who constitute the Department of Pediatrics."

Additionally, Duke Children's Hospital & Health Center received special recognition in a number of subspecialty areas in the 2010–2011 edition of "Best Children's Hospitals," ranking in the top 30 children's hospitals in the country in cancer, neonatology, respiratory diseases, cardiology and heart surgery, diabetes and endocrinology, and gastroenterology. The report was published online June 4, 2010, and was featured in the August *U.S. News & World Report*.

### Kiser Estate Gives \$17.2 Million to Support Excellence in Pediatric Research and Education

The Department of Pediatrics received a \$17.2 million gift from the estate of Glenn A. Kiser, MD, to provide long-term support for the Department of Pediatrics and effectively sustain excellence in research and education related to child health. The gift is the largest in the history of the Department of Pediatrics and will be used to establish the Kiser Scholars Program, the Kiser-Arena Endowed Professorship in Pediatrics, and two Glenn A. Kiser and Eltha Muriel Kiser Endowed Professorships for leaders



in education and research. The Kiser Scholars Program will provide an endowment to be used to recruit pediatric investigators, to facilitate the transition to research independence by junior faculty, to retain faculty involved in cutting edge research or educational initiatives, and to support fellows with potential as future academicians. Dr. Kiser graduated from Duke University School of Medicine in 1941 and completed residency training in pediatrics at Duke in 1947.

### FACULTY ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### New Faculty in the Department of Pediatrics since July 2010

<b>Frederique Bailliard, MD</b> Cardiology	<b>G. William Henry, MD</b> Cardiology
<b>Oren Becher, MD</b> Hematology/Oncology	<b>Kyle Rehder, MD</b> Critical Care Medicine
<b>Aimee Chung, MD</b> Primary Care Pediatrics	<b>Silvia Rho, MD</b> Neonatology
<b>Melissa Deimling, MD</b> Primary Care Pediatrics	<b>Jessica Sun, MD</b> Hematology/Oncology
<b>Jeffrey Dvergsten, MD</b> Rheumatology	<b>Rachel Vinson, MD</b> Neonatology
<b>Erica Davis, PhD</b> Neonatology	<b>David Ming, MD</b> Co-Chief Resident
<b>Gregory Fleming, MD</b> Cardiology	<b>Alison Sweeney, MD</b> Co-Chief Resident
<b>Masanori Hayashi, MD</b> Blood and Marrow Transplantation	



If you would like to receive this newsletter via e-mail, please send your e-mail address to [diane.crayton@duke.edu](mailto:diane.crayton@duke.edu).

## GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

### Duke Graduate Medical Education Innovation Grants

The GME Innovation Grant Program was established in 2008 with the specific goal of funding research initiatives that will ultimately have a significant impact on residency and fellowship training by enhancing patient care, curricula, or clinical research.

The following Duke Graduate Medical Education Innovation Grants were awarded to faculty in the Department of Pediatrics in May 2010:

**Jeff Ferranti, MD, MS** (Neonatology), Principal Investigator. "Balancing Service with Education: Leveraging Tablet Technology in Support of ICU Clinical Efficiency and Quality Improvement."

**John Moses, MD** (Primary Care Pediatrics), Principal Investigator. "A Documentary Approach to Enhancing Education."

**Suzanne Woods, MD** (Medicine-Pediatrics), Principal Investigator. "Resident Rotation in Public Health Practice: Skills Development and Information Dissemination."

**Shari Whicker, MEd** (Office of Pediatric Education), Principal Investigator. "The Impact of Guided vs. Independent Reflective Practice on Resident Communication Skills."

**Kathleen Bartlett, MD** (Hospital and Emergency Medicine), Principal Investigator. "Cultural Proficiency Training in Graduate Medical Education."

### ACGME Program Reaccreditation

Over the fall and winter, the Pediatrics Residency Program, the Medicine-Pediatrics Combined Residency Program, and the Cardiology, Endocrinology, Infectious Diseases, Hematology-Oncology, Neonatology, Pulmonology, and Rheumatology Fellowship programs were reviewed by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) for reaccreditation. All of these programs were fully reaccredited, reflecting the high quality of the programs and the talent of the participating faculty, staff, and trainees.

### Rehder Receives Snyderman GME Research Award

**Kyle Rehder, MD**, was selected from the pool of interns, residents, and fellows at Duke as the recipient of the Ralph Snyderman, MD, GME Research Award for his project on determinants of effective care in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit. Dr. Rehder received the award at the Institutional Committee on Graduate Medical Education meeting in June, 2010. He completed this work as a third-year fellow in Pediatric Critical Care Medicine and was appointed to the faculty in the Department of Pediatrics in July.

### Residents Receive External Grants

**Suzette Brown, MD, MPH**, and **Jacqueline Kerkow, MD**, received an AAP Community Access to Child Health (CATCH) Grant to pursue a project entitled "Coordinating Care for Youth in Group Homes, Durham, North Carolina." **Daniel Landi, MD**, received an AAP CATCH Grant for a project entitled "Adolescent Transition to

Leadership and Success (ATLAS)." **Mehreen Arshad, MD**, received an AAP Resident Research Grant for a study entitled "Probing the Cellular Determinants of Hepatitis C Virus Vertical Transmission." **Sima Pendharkar, MD**, received a National Medicine-Pediatrics Residents Association grant for a project entitled, "Community Gardening: Healthy Living Starts with Healthy Eating."

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Pediatric Alumni Grand Rounds 2010

The Department of Pediatrics will host the Pediatric Alumni Grand Rounds on Tuesday, October 12, 2010, in conjunction with the annual School of Medicine Medical Alumni Weekend. This year's speaker is Russell Ware, MD, PhD, Chair of the Department of Hematology and Lemuel Diggs Endowed Chair in Sickle Cell Disease at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

### The School of Medicine Medical Alumni Weekend 2010

Medical Alumni Weekend is scheduled for October 14-17 and will include breakfast for Duke Pediatrics alumni and friends on Saturday, October 16, at 8:00 a.m. in the McGovern-Davison Children's Health Center. We hope you'll join us. RSVP to Diane Crayton at 919-681-3260 or [diane.crayton@duke.edu](mailto:diane.crayton@duke.edu).

## EDUCATION FUND

### Deborah Kredich Pediatric Education Fund

The Deborah Kredich Pediatric Education Fund provides support for a variety of educational experiences for residents and subspecialty fellows at Duke, including participation in research projects, attendance at national meetings, involvement in community outreach programs, and presentations at a special Grand Rounds.

Please send your donation to the Deborah Kredich Pediatric Education fund to:

Deborah Kredich  
Pediatric Education Fund  
DUMC 2975  
Durham, NC 27710