



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

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It is my pleasure to write this message, the first of 2014 as the new Chair of the Duke Department of Pediatrics and to welcome you to the fall 2014 issue of the Pediatrics Alumni Organization newsletter. Autumn is always a dynamic time for the department—new students, trainees, and faculty members are settling in, and new programs and initiatives reflecting all levels of our mission, namely patient care, medical education, research, and advocacy, are beginning to materialize.

This summer we welcomed 12 new faculty members spanning seven of our divisions to the department. In addition, 16 new interns in Pediatrics, six new interns in Medicine-Pediatrics, and 21 new subspecialty fellows joined us from top institutions across the country, all with superb records of accomplishment. During this fall's North Carolina Pediatric Society meeting, 14 of our residents presented posters, and three received top honors.

As you will see inside, our faculty members continue to have award-winning impact on science and medicine, with broad visibility that heightens national recognition of our department. A number of our faculty have also received new independent investigator awards from the National Institutes of Health and other federal agencies, an especially impressive accomplishment given the challenging funding environment.

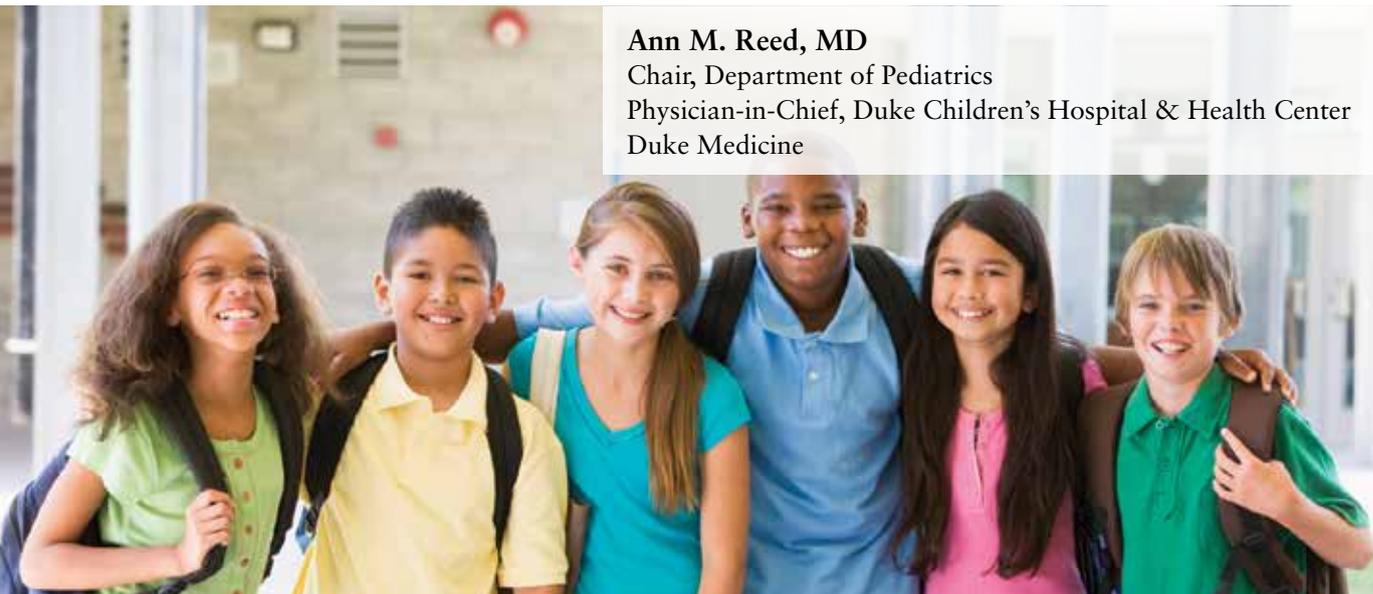
We are looking forward to more chances to reconnect at events this fall, including the Duke Medical Alumni Weekend that is scheduled for October 16-19. This weekend will include a breakfast for Duke Pediatrics alumni and friends on Saturday, October 18 at 8:30am at the Washington Duke Inn, Ambassador Ballroom—an event I hope you can attend.

I look forward to the coming year with a great sense of enthusiasm about our future. I thank all of you for the continued support, and I look forward to sharing more news as the year continues to evolve.

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.

Ann M. Reed, MD

Chair, Department of Pediatrics
Physician-in-Chief, Duke Children's Hospital & Health Center
Duke Medicine



Reed Named Chair of Pediatrics and Physician-in-Chief of Duke Children's

Duke University School of Medicine has named **Ann M. Reed, MD**, Chair of the Department of Pediatrics and Physician-in-Chief of Duke Children's Hospital & Health Center, effective August 1. Reed comes to Duke from the Mayo Clinic where she served three years as Chair of the Department of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine and Physician-in-Chief



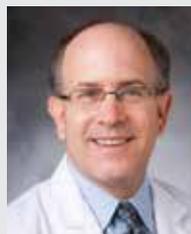
for the Mayo Clinic Children's Center in Rochester, Minnesota. She was also a Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine at the Mayo Medical School and a consultant in the Division of Rheumatology in both the Departments of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine and Internal Medicine.

A nationally known and respected researcher, Reed has helped to identify genes that predispose children to juvenile dermatomyositis and provide a comprehensive understanding of the genetics of the disease. She is principal investigator on several research grants funded by the National Institutes of Health and the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases.

"I am very pleased to have a nationally recognized and respected physician-scientist join Duke to lead our Department of Pediatrics," said Nancy C. Andrews, MD, PhD, Dean of Duke University School of Medicine. "Ann brings boundless energy and a commitment to excellence that will take Duke Pediatrics to the highest level of success in patient care, research and education."

Cheifetz Selected for Dual Leadership Roles

Lisa Pickett, MD, Chief Medical Officer for Duke University Hospital, announced the appointment of **Ira M. Cheifetz, MD**, as Associate Chief Medical Officer for Duke University Hospital, effective July 1. Additionally, Cheifetz, who served as Interim Chief Medical Officer for Duke Children's Hospital & Health Center since June 2013, formally assumed this role on July 1. Cheifetz is working in collaboration with Ann Reed, MD, Chair of the



Department of Pediatrics and Physician-in-Chief of Duke Children's in his new roles.

Cheifetz is a highly respected intensivist and Professor of Pediatrics. He has served as the Director of Pediatric Critical Care Services for Duke University Health System, Division Chief for Pediatric Critical Care Medicine, Medical Director of the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit and Pediatric Respiratory Care Services, and most recently, Interim Chair of the Department of Pediatrics.

"Dr. Cheifetz has been a true champion of patient-centered care and has partnered with Duke Hospital on many initiatives focused on children with complex illnesses," says Pickett.

Buckley Named 2014 APS Howland Medal Awardee

Rebecca Buckley, MD, the James Buren Sidbury Distinguished Professor of Pediatrics in the Division of Allergy and Immunology and Professor in Immunology, has been awarded the 2014 Howland Medal Award. The John Howland Award, considered the highest honor of the American Pediatric Society, has been given since 1952 to honor those who, by their contribution to pediatrics, have aided in its advancement.



Buckley's research interests have primarily focused on the fundamental causes of genetically-determined immunodeficiency diseases, specifically in human T, B and NK cell development and aberrations in their development and regulation. She was honored at a dinner at the Fairmont Hotel-Vancouver on Sunday, May 4, 2014.

Four Faculty Receive Awards at Spring Meeting

At the School of Medicine's Spring Faculty Meeting on May 6, the following Duke Pediatrics faculty members were honored with awards:

James W. Fox, MD, Associate Professor of Pediatrics (Hospital and Emergency Medicine) received the **Master Teacher/Clinician Award** for superlative accomplishment and service in the areas of clinical care and teaching.

Karen St. Claire, MD, Associate Professor of Pediatrics (Child Abuse and Neglect) and Medical Director of the Child Abuse and Neglect Medical Evaluation Clinic,

received the **Arnold P. Gold Foundation, Leonard B. Tow Humanism in Medicine Award** for her dedication to the sensitive and compassionate delivery of patient care.

Sallie R. Permar, MD, Associate Professor of Pediatrics (Infectious Diseases), Assistant Professor in Immunology and Assistant Professor in Molecular Genetics and Microbiology, received the **Ruth and A. Morris William Jr. Faculty Research Prize**, which recognizes a junior faculty member who demonstrates the intellectual vigor, dedication, and scientific ingenuity needed to make a critical impact on the future of medical research.

John M. Falletta, MD, Professor of Pediatrics and Chair of the Institutional Review Board, received the **Excellence in Professionalism Award**, which recognizes the importance of promoting ethical and professional behavior within our community. Congratulations to them all.

New Faculty in the Department of Pediatrics since January 2014

Dorothy Dow, MD
Infectious Diseases

Karen Jooste, MD
Primary Care Pediatrics

Richard Noel, MD
Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition / Division Chief

Lisa Parnell, MD
Hospital Medicine

Ann Reed, MD
Rheumatology / Department Chair

Jessica Saricicek, MD
Blood and Marrow Transplantation

Jennifer Sherwin, MD
Blood and Marrow Transplantation

Robert Storms, MD
Blood and Marrow Transplantation

Marilu Thordsen-Velez, MD
Neonatology

Jesse Troy, MD
Blood and Marrow Transplantation

Saritha Vermeer, MD
Primary Care Pediatrics

Laura Page, MD
Co-Chief Resident

Shaina Johnson, MD
Co-Chief Resident

Duke Named to National Network Studying Rare Diseases

Duke University is one of six new clinical sites in the country that will participate in a recently formed Undiagnosed Diseases Network established by the National Institutes of Health.



The network is designed to advance the understanding of some of the most difficult-to-solve medical mysteries and develop effective approaches to diagnose them.

Duke and the other five new clinical sites will each receive grants totaling approximately \$7.2 million over four years to evaluate and investigate cases that involve patients with prolonged, undiagnosed conditions. The principal investigators at Duke are **Vandana Shashi, MD**, Associate Professor of Pediatrics, and **David Goldstein, PhD**, Professor of Molecular Genetics & Microbiology, Professor of Biology, and Director of the Center for Human Genome Variation.

Undiagnosed diseases are conditions that even skilled physicians cannot diagnose despite extensive clinical investigation. Doctors

may not recognize them because they are rarely seen, are little understood, or are rare forms of more common diseases.

“Patients and families shoulder a huge burden medically, emotionally and financially while pursuing a specific diagnosis of a rare disorder,” Shashi says. “Duke’s participation in this network and our prior experience with rare disorders will enable us to provide diagnostic resolution, information relevant to other family members and potentially new treatment options to many such patients and their families.”

Each clinical site will contribute local medical expertise to the newly formed Undiagnosed Diseases Network, which builds upon and includes the NIH’s Undiagnosed Diseases Program. That program, which began in 2008, has enrolled approximately 600 undiagnosed children and adults in clinical protocols. Using a combination of genomic and clinical analyses, the multidisciplinary clinical and research effort diagnosed approximately 100 patients (up to 25 percent of those evaluated), discovered two unknown diseases and identified 15 genes not previously associated with any other human disease.

\$15 Million Award to Go Toward Exploring New Treatments for Brain Disorders

Duke Medicine has been awarded \$15 million to support an innovative research program that explores the use of umbilical cord blood cells to treat autism, stroke, cerebral palsy and related brain disorders.

The award from The Marcus Foundation, an Atlanta-based philanthropic organization, will fund the first two years of a planned five-year, \$41 million project by **Joanne Kurtzberg, MD**, Professor of Pediatrics, Professor of Pathology, and Chief Scientific and Medical Officer of Duke’s Robertson Cell and Translational Therapy Program, and **Geraldine Dawson, PhD**, Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Professor of Pediatrics, and Director of the Duke Center for Autism Diagnosis and Treatment.

“Joanne Kurtzberg has done groundbreaking work on cord blood transplantation at Duke, and Geri Dawson brings an enormous wealth of knowledge and experience of autism,” said Victor Dzau, MD, former Chancellor for Health Affairs and President and CEO of Duke University Health System. “Together they will explore innovative approaches to treating these challenging brain disorders. This research holds the promise of truly transformational discovery, and we are deeply grateful to The

Marcus Foundation for making it possible.”

Kurtzberg and Dawson hope to develop cell-based therapies that can potentially restore brain function in people with the disorders, for which there currently are no cures. If successful, the study could identify therapies for further evaluation in clinical trials to potentially decrease disabilities and improve the quality of life for millions of children and adults.



NEW INITIATIVES

New Federal Awards

The following new major federal awards were recently received by faculty in the Department of Pediatrics:

Vandana Shashi, MD, Principal Investigator. NIH. Title: “An Integrated and Diverse Genomic Medicine Program for Undiagnosed Diseases.” Project period: 07/01/2014-03/31/2018.

Laura Schanberg, MD, Principal Investigator. NIH. Title: “Pediatric Rheumatology Research Annual Scientific Meeting.” Project period: 09/01/2005-07/31/2016.

William Steinbach, MD, Principal Investigator. NIH. Title: “Fungal Biomarkers for Diagnosis and Response to Therapy for Pediatric Candidemia.” Project period: 08/07/2014-05/31/2019.

Yong-Hui Jiang, MD, Principal Investigator. NIH. Title: “Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.” Project period: 06/15/2014-05/31/2016.

Brenda Armstrong, MD, Principal Investigator. NIH. Title: “DukeMed Activated.” Project period: 04/22/2014-04/28/2019.

Patrick Seed, MD, PhD, Principal Investigator. NIH. Title: “Microbial Succession and Adaptive Immune Responses in the Premature Infant.” Project period: 3/15/2014-12/31/2017.

Michael Cohen-Wolkowicz, MD, Principal Investigator. FDA. Title: “Clinical Practice Data to Aid Narrow Therapeutic Index Drug Classification.” Project period: 09/1/2013-08/31/2014.

Oren Becher, MD, Principal Investigator. NIH. Title: “Functional Dissection of the K27M Histone Mutation in Vivo.” Project period: 9/01/2014-8/31/2019.

If you would like to receive this newsletter via e-mail,
please send your e-mail address to diane.crayton@duke.edu.

NOTEWORTHY

Duke Children's Ranks in Nine Specialties in U.S. News & World Report's 2014 Best Children's Hospitals Rankings

Duke Children's Hospital & Health Center is proud to be recognized by U.S. News & World Report in its 2014-15 Best Children's Hospitals edition. Duke was ranked among the top 50 nationally in nine areas of pediatric specialty care (cancer, cardiology and heart surgery, diabetes and endocrinology, gastroenterology, neonatology, neurology and neurosurgery, orthopedics, pulmonology, and urology)—a unique distinction among pediatric centers in North Carolina.

According to U.S. News & World Report, these rankings “help guide patients who need high-stakes care because of the complexity or difficulty of their condition or procedure.”

The results are based on an extensive analysis using a methodology that combines data from a survey of physicians, a direct survey of children's hospitals and other resources. The data reflect hospital quality in three key aspects of hospital care: clinical outcomes such as cancer survival; the process of care, which included a hospital's national reputation among pediatric specialists and its compliance with “best practices” and steps to control infection; and adequacy of care-related indicators of quality such as patient volume, degree of nurse staffing, and availability of specialized programs. Ranking was based on a hospital's combined score in the three elements.

“We are proud and honored to be ranked by U.S. News and World Report in nine programmatic areas,” says **Ann Reed, MD**, Chair of the Duke Department of Pediatrics and Physician-in-Chief of Duke Children's Hospital & Health Center. “I firmly believe this distinction is reflective of the breadth and depth of our faculty and clinical staff's talent and expertise.”

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 sponsorship of a named Grand Rounds.

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

Deborah Kredich
Pediatric Education Fund
DUMC 2975
Durham, NC 27710

UPCOMING EVENTS



The School of Medicine Medical Alumni Weekend 2014

October 16-19, 2014

Medical Alumni Weekend is scheduled for October 16-19 and will include breakfast for Duke Pediatrics alumni on Saturday, October 18 at 8:30am at the Washington Duke Inn, Ambassador Ballroom. We hope you'll join us. Please RSVP to Diane Crayton at: 919-681-3260 or diane.crayton@duke.edu.

Pediatric Alumni Grand Rounds 2014

The Department of Pediatrics will host the Pediatric Alumni Grand Rounds on Tuesday, October 21, 2014, following the annual School of Medicine Medical Alumni Weekend. This year's speaker is Denise M. Adams, MD, Marjory J. Johnson Chair of Vascular Tumor Translational Research, Medical Director of the Comprehensive Hemangioma and Vascular Malformation Center, and Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center.