Department Head Update
Welcome to our one year edition of our faculty newsletter. I hope that over the past year, this newsletter has been a valuable and enjoyable source of information. We continue to work on improvement of department communications through welcome emails for new faculty, regular research and conference updates, and better consolidation of department-wide emails.

The last several months have been an extremely busy time of year for our department and I thank you for your continued commitment to your scholarly work, patients, teaching, and outreach. While busy, the many events this time of year are testament to the impactful work you are completing.

Three recent departmental events: PRESS, PAS, and WineFest no. 20 are clear evidence of our department mission in action. From mentoring an interdisciplinary group of trainees in bench and clinical research to be showcased at PRESS to presenting our own work and meeting with our colleagues at PAS to experiencing the patient, family, and community commitment at WineFest no. 20, we are clearly having an impact.

I encourage you to attend two upcoming events that further evidence our mission: Topics and Advances in Pediatrics and the Department Recognition Banquet/Graduation. Topics is this week (6/4-5) in the Wilf Family Center. The evening of 6/5, we’ll recognize over 60 department trainees as they graduate and move on to further education and practices across the world. I look forward to seeing you there.

Joe

Have you noticed the many ways the Department of Pediatrics 100th anniversary is being celebrated?

Articles:
- Children’s Health newsletter “U Pediatrics celebrates 100 Years”
- UMMS Medical Bulletin “All Grown Up”

Social Media:
- UMMCH Facebook post (shared above)

Events:
- May 15-16: WineFest No. 20 – A Toast to Children’s Health, The Depot. “Legends of the Vine, Icons of the Industry.” This event was a fabulous success, raising over $850,000 to support research in the department. Photos of both evenings and the videos shown both nights are now available on-line at thewinefest.org. Save the Date for WineFest #21 on May 6th and 7th, 2016.
- June 8: Champions for Children Celebrity Golf Classic, Windsong Golf Club
- June 24: Donor Recognition Garden Party, Thompson Healing Garden
- July 13: Department of Pediatric Employee Recognition Event at Weisman for admin and research staff.
- September 17: 5 p.m. - Dept. of Peds Legacy Dinner
- September 19: Gopher Tailgating Party with Patients and Families
- November 20: FashionFest

Save the Date for the Department of Pediatrics Legacy Dinner:
The Department of Pediatrics Faculty Meeting on 9/17 will be replaced by a dinner for current and alumni faculty in honor of the 100th anniversary of the Department of Pediatrics, being organized by University of Minnesota Foundation. This dinner is located at the McNamara Alumni Center. Watch your email for more details!
PAS
The department was well-represented at PAS this year. With at least 2 Original Science Abstracts: Platform Sessions, 8 Topic Symposiums, 15 Platform Presentations, 20 Poster Presentations, 10 Poster Sessions, and 3 Workshops, our research was shared broadly across subspecialties. Congratulations and thank you to those that shared!

PRESS
Thank you to everyone who participated to make PRESS a success! There were over 100 trainees and faculty, with subspecialties across the department represented. Special thanks to our PRESS judges: Tim Hallstrom (BMT), Sara Ramel (Neonatology), and Igor Nestrail (Clinical Behavioral Neuroscience).

This year’s winners are:
Pediatric Graduate/Medical Student Category:
Gold: Steven Michael Conlon; Premature Ventricular Contractions: Does the origin of the ectopic focus relate to pathologic status?

Pediatric Resident Category:
Gold: Dr. Elizabeth Mann; Educating diabetes camp counselors: Identifying the gap between perceptions and knowledge – A quality improvement project

Pediatric Postdoctoral Student Category:
Gold: Dr. Justin Ryder; Impaired cardiac autonomic nervous system function is associated with hypertension and higher systolic blood pressure independent of adiposity in children and adolescents

Pediatric Fellow Category:
Gold: Dr. Gregory Forlenza; Successful implementation of fully automated closed loop therapy after islet auto-transplantation

The full summary is posted in the PRESS website.

Welcome New Faculty!
4/20/15- Zujaja Sadiq, Emergency Medicine
5/3/15- Kimara Gustafson, Emergency Medicine
5/11/15- Alexander Gurfinkel, Hospital Medicine
7/1/15- Guru Hiremath, Cardiology
7/13/15- Sean O’Brien, Hospital Medicine
7/20/15- Christen Ebens, Blood & Marrow Transplantation
7/27/15- Dana Gruelich, Emergency Medicine
7/31/15- Catherine Larson-Nath, Gastroenterology
9/30/15- Melissa Engel, Neonatology

PRESS 2015