

## Congratulations

*The Executive Faculty recently approved the following appointments and promotions.*

**Anne Marie Beck, M.D.** was promoted to Professor of Pediatrics on the Clinician Track. Dr. Beck is a member of the Division of Nephrology. After earning her undergraduate degree from Xavier University and her M.D. from Southern Illinois University, she served her pediatrics residency at Southern Illinois University Affiliated Hosp. and her fellowship in nephrology at Children's Hospital Medical Center in Cincinnati. Dr. Beck's clinical expertise covers a wide range of pediatric nephrology including treating children with acute and chronic renal diseases, hypertension, urinary tract disorders, hemofiltration, fluid and electrolyte disorders, renal transplantation, peritoneal or hemodialysis. She has been responsible for developing the clinical care paths and guidelines for more than 50 nephrology diagnoses and procedures for her division. She serves as the Medical Director of the Pediatric Dialysis Unit and on the medical board of the National Kidney Foundation for this region and a Representative for the National Kidney Foundation End Stage Kidney Disease Network. She recently developed a pediatric aphaeresis program that, among many other procedures, is utilizing a new technology, a single step photopheresis procedure, making Washington University the first pediatric pheresis service to employ this new technology. Dr. Beck has contributed extensively to medical education, lecturing, developing curriculum, mentoring, and serving as faculty for CME courses for all levels of trainees from first year medical students to practicing physician. The Osler Institute has featured Dr. Beck as the expert in nephrology in their CME courses and she was twice awarded "Best Ranked Faculty Teaching Award" by that organization. She is involved with clinical research, currently taking part in the North American Pediatric Renal Transplant Cooperative Study Transplantation, dialysis and chronic renal insufficiency studies and the Nephrology Peritonitis & Exit-Site Infection Quality Collaborative (Peritoneal Dialysis) NACHRI Quality Transformation Network. She has coauthored numerous publications, chapter, and abstracts in her areas of expertise. She has served the medical school, hospital, and community spectacularly, including serving for over ten years as the Chairman of the Safe Medication Practice Committee for St. Louis Children's Hospital. She is a member of the Washington University Faculty Senate Council, the Advisory Committee on Tenure and Academic Freedom for Washington University and a member of the Advisory Committee of the Department of Pediatrics, Office of Faculty Development.

**Amit Mathur, M.B.B.S., M.D., M.R.C.P. (UK)** was promoted to Professor of Pediatrics on the Clinician Track, effective January 1, 2012. Dr. Mathur is a member of the Division of Newborn Medicine. He earned his M.B.B.S. from University College of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, India, and his M.D. from SN Medical College, Agra, India. He served as a Registrar in Pediatrics and Staff Pediatrician in the United Kingdom. He then completed a residency in Pediatrics at St. Louis Children's Hospital and fellowship in Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine at Washington University School of Medicine. He serves as Medical Director of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Dr. Mathur's research interests are focused on brain injury and neuroprotection in the neonate using a combination of clinical examination, bedside electrophysiological monitors and MR imaging techniques. His research is funded by grants from the Thrasher Research Fund and National Institutes of Health.

**Patrick Y. Jay, M.D., Ph.D.** was promoted to Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Associate Professor of Genetics on the Investigator Track. Dr. Jay is in the Division of Cardiology. After earning his B.S. from Stanford University and his M.D. and Ph.D. from Washington University School of Medicine, Dr. Jay served his residency in pediatrics and his fellowship in cardiology at Children's Hospital, Boston. Dr. Jay was awarded the Richard D. Rowe Award in Perinatal Cardiology and the Chancellor's Hartwell Prize for Innovative Research. His research interests include the genetic and molecular mechanistic bases of pediatric heart disease, including both defects of anatomy and function, specifically, the pathways and interactions by which mutations of Nkx2-5 lead to heart disease. Funded currently by the Children's Discovery Institute and a recently awarded RO1 from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, Dr. Jay has published more than 30 articles in the course of his research career.

### Inside this issue:

Appointments/Promotions	1 & 2	Peds Faculty in the News	4
CDI Grant & Funded Awards	3	Awards/Announcements	5

## Appointments/Promotions

**Philip Charles Spinella, M.D., FCCM** was appointed as Associate Professor of Pediatrics on the Clinician Track. Dr. Spinella joins the Division of Critical Care from the University of Connecticut, where he was awarded the Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching Acute Care in 2010. After earning his B.S. from Tufts University, and his M.D. from New York Medical College, he joined the Army and served his Residency in Pediatrics at Tripler Army Medical Center and later a fellowship in Pediatric Critical Care Medicine at Children's Hospital of Pennsylvania. He served 12 years active duty in the Army, rising to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. An article in the Connecticut Children's Hospital newsletter reported in 2008 that, "Dr. Spinella received the Combat Medic Badge for providing care under fire when he rendered assistance to soldiers in a burning Hum-Vee that had been hit by mortar with anti-tank munitions exploding from within it." He also received the Bronze Star for his involvement in advancing the development of fresh whole blood transfusion program and for his efforts in caring for children during his service to work for the United Nations to determine which children with chronic conditions needed to stay or leave the country for medical care, and for developing the first provider and instructor AHA sanctioned PALS classes in Baghdad for Iraqi pediatricians. From March 2004 through March 2005, Dr. Spinella ran a small field hospital in Baghdad in addition to functioning as an intensivist at the local Combat Support Hospital. During that year, he and his staff treated over 3500 adult and child trauma patients. Dr. Spinella described the facility as "the largest and busiest hospital in Iraq at the time." He has been awarded numerous honors including the US Army best invention award for development of hemostatic resuscitation concept for patients with traumatic injuries and has published more than 45 peer reviewed articles, mostly in the area of transfusion in trauma and critical illness. In addition, he serves as a consultant in pediatric critical care to the American Association of Surgery for Trauma Curriculum Committee and he also Chairs a Transfusion, Immunology and Coagulation in Kids (TRICKS) research network that includes intensivists and transfusion medicine experts in the US and Canada. His previous clinical research has demonstrated an association between increased plasma, platelet and whole blood transfusion with improved survival for combat casualties. His current funded research projects examine the immunologic, coagulation, and vasoregulatory effects of RBC transfusion according to storage age in two large randomized controlled trials (ABLE and RECESS).

**Jennifer N. Silva, M.D.** was promoted to Assistant Professor of Pediatrics on the Clinician Track in the Division of Cardiology. After Dr. Silva earned her B.A. from Union College, Schenectady, NY, and her M.D. from St. George's University School of Medicine, Grenada, West Indies, she served her internship and residency in pediatrics at Miami Children's Hospital and then came to Washington University for a fellowship in pediatric cardiology. She spent a year at Children's Hospital, Boston, in a pediatric electrophysiology fellowship before returning to Washington University. She currently serves as the Director of the Electrophysiology Lab. Her research focuses on cardiac resynchronization therapy and is funded by the Children's Discovery Institute.

**Mythili Srinivasan, M.D., Ph.D.** was promoted to Assistant Professor of Pediatrics on the Clinician Track in the Division of Hospitalist Medicine. She earned her B.S. from Stella Maris College, Madras, India, and her M.Sc. from Madurai Kamaraj University, School of Biological Sciences, Madurai, India. Moving to St. Louis, she earned an M.D. and Ph.D. at Saint Louis University School of Medicine. She has presented her clinical research work in the area of sedation for radiological procedures at several national meetings.

**Elizabeth C. Utterson, M.D.** was promoted to Assistant Professor of Pediatrics on the Clinician Track in the Division of Gastroenterology and Nutrition. After earning her B.A. from the University of Notre Dame and her M.D. from Creighton University School of Medicine, Dr. Utterson served her internship, residency and chief residency at Washington University. She then spent a year at the Children's Hospital of Denver for a one year gastroenterology fellowship before returning to Washington University to complete her gastroenterology training. She practiced pediatric gastroenterology in the community for five years then returned to Washington University where she serves as Director of Procedures for her division. Her clinical interests are inflammatory bowel disease, celiac disease and therapeutic endoscopy.

**Dr. Jennifer Anne Wambach, M.D.** was promoted to Assistant Professor of Pediatrics on the Investigator Track in the Division of Newborn Medicine. Dr. Wambach obtained her M.D. from Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. She completed a residency in Pediatrics at Children's Memorial Hospital/Northwestern University McGaw Medical Center where she also served as a Chief Resident. Dr. Wambach completed a fellowship in Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine at Washington University School of Medicine. Her research interest is identifying variants in surfactant and other lung related genes associated with newborn respiratory distress. Her research is supported by the National Institutes of Health.

## CDI Grant & Funded Awards

### Children's Discovery Institute funds new projects

The Children's Discovery Institute has approved funding for three large-scale research initiatives focusing on heart and lung diseases in children. Together, the projects will receive \$1.5 million over three years.

The Children's Discovery Institute is a multi-disciplinary, innovation-based research partnership between St. Louis Children's Hospital and the School of Medicine that has awarded more than \$23 million in scientific grants since its launch in 2006.

One of the new grants, the Airway Epithelial Cell Core (AECC), will facilitate studies into the causes and therapeutic strategies for pediatric lung disorders such as asthma, respiratory virus infections, cystic fibrosis and lung transplant rejection.

The grant is a renewal of an existing core resource within the Institute and is led by Steven Brody, MD, associate professor of medicine at Washington University School of Medicine. Since 2007, the AECC initiative has provided more than 30 principal investigators at Washington University with hundreds of respiratory tract cell preparations, a repository of normal and diseased lung tissue and technical training. It has also contributed to more than 200 publications and more than a dozen additional grants from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and other organizations.

The second large initiative will establish the Translational Cardiovascular Tissue Core (TCTC), a centralized system for acquiring, storing, using and distributing pediatric cardiovascular tissue samples. These samples will be used for studies of the molecular and genetic causes of congenital heart and vascular defects. The results will be integrated into databases with clinical information to facilitate collaborations among scientists and to accelerate the application of novel research findings to patient care. The TCTC repository will be directed by Jeanne Nerbonne, PhD, the Alumni Endowed Professor of Molecular Biology and Pharmacology in Developmental Biology and an expert in the molecular basis of heart failure. Finally, Beth Kozel, MD, PhD, an instructor in pediatrics who specializes in medical genetics, is the latest recipient of a Faculty Scholar Award from the Institute.

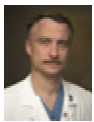
Kozel will use her award to establish a research program to study the genes and molecular pathways that cause defects in bundles of proteins called elastin, which can lead to hypertension and vascular abnormalities. Specifically, Kozel will investigate the factors that determine the severity of vascular disease in patients with elastin fiber disorders such as supravalvular aortic stenosis and Williams syndrome.

"Core resources are such a valuable resource for scientists across Washington University Medical Center," says Mary Dinauer, MD, PhD, the Fred M. Saigh Distinguished Chair of Pediatric Research and scientific director of the Children's Discovery Institute. "This new round of funding enables further investment in the maintenance and growth of Dr. Brody's Airway Epithelial Cell Core and establishes a new Core to facilitate research on pediatric heart and vascular disorders. They are the fuel that keeps the Institute's research engine operating efficiently and advancing our progress towards solving these complex pediatric diseases." *RECORD* 10/11/11

<http://news.wustl.edu/news/Pages/22808.aspx>

## Funded Awards

## October, November, 2011



David Balzer, MD  
St. Jude Medical



Avraham Beigelman, MD  
NIH/KL2



Allan Doctor, MD  
SLCH Foundation Research Grant



Terrie Inder, MD  
Health Research Council of  
New Zealand/University of Canterbury



Robert Paschall, MD  
Missouri Kids First



Katie Plax, MD  
1. St. Louis County Children's  
Service Fund  
2. SLCH Foundation



Gregory Storch, MD  
HRSA/Saint Clair County  
DOH



Robert Strunk, MD  
NIH/U01/sub with  
Johns Hopkins University

#### OFD Contact Information

Brian Hackett [hackett@wustl.edu](mailto:hackett@wustl.edu) 286-2833

Bess Marshall [BMarshall@WUSTL.EDU](mailto:BMarshall@WUSTL.EDU) 454-6051

Cheryl Genovese [genovese\\_c@kids.wustl.edu](mailto:genovese_c@kids.wustl.edu) 454-4952

## Pediatric Faculty in the News



Keith Hruska, MD, has been elected president of the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research (ASBMR), the world's leading scientific organization for bone health research.

"With more than 40 million Americans affected by bone diseases and an aging population, now is a critical time for bone health research," Hruska says. "The ASBMR is the epicenter of translating research into clinical practice and advancements in our field are being realized at a rapid pace. I am very enthusiastic about the potential to improve the health and quality of life for patients with skeletal diseases through cutting-edge scientific research being conducted today."

Hruska's entire scientific career has been on the faculty of Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. He is professor of pediatrics, of medicine and of cell biology and director of the Division of Pediatric Nephrology at the School of Medicine and St. Louis Children's Hospital. His current research focuses on the skeletal contribution to cardiovascular morbidity associated with kidney disease. He has uncovered an important relationship between the skeleton and vascular calcification in early chronic kidney disease, the time for life-saving intervention.

A graduate of Creighton University and Creighton University School of Medicine, Hruska did his internship and residency at Cornell University. He began his career at Washington University as a post-doctoral trainee in the Renal Division, where he continues to practice and teach.

In addition to his many articles in peer-reviewed publications, he has served as editor of *American Journal of Physiology Renal Fluid and Electrolyte Physiology*; editor of *Calcified Tissue International*, and is currently on the editorial board of the *Journal of Biological Chemistry*.

Prior to serving as president-elect and now president of ASBMR, Hruska previously served the society as secretary/treasurer from 2006-09. **RECORD 10/31/11** <http://news.wustl.edu/news/Pages/22878.aspx>

### Mark J. Manary, M.D.

Helen B. Roberson Professor of Pediatrics

Department of Pediatrics

Recipient of

**2012 Distinguished Faculty Award for  
Distinguished Community Service**



Mark J. Manary, M.D.

Award ceremony and cocktail reception—Thursday, February 9, 5 pm—Eric P. Newman Education Center

(Invitations will be mailed after the New Year)



### Daily wheezing treatment no different from intermittent in toddlers

Leonard B. Bacharier, M.D.

Pediatricians often treat young children who have frequent bouts of wheezing with a daily dose of an inhaled steroid to keep asthma symptoms at bay. But results of a recent study are likely to change that.

A group of pediatric asthma researchers nationwide, including at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, found that daily inhaled steroid treatment was no different from preventing wheezing episodes than treating the child with higher doses of the drug at the first signs of a respiratory tract infection. They also found that daily treatment was comparable to use of the inhaled steroid intermittently at decreasing the severity of respiratory-tract illnesses, reducing the number of episode-free days or school absences, lowering the need for a "rescue" inhaler for acute asthma symptoms, improving quality of life or reducing visits to urgent care or the emergency room.

The researchers, who make up the National Institutes of Health (NIH)-funded Childhood Asthma Research and Education (CARE) Network, studied nearly 300 preschool-age children with frequent wheezing and at high risk for future persistent asthma in a trial called MIST (Maintenance and Intermittent Inhaled Corticosteroids in Wheezing Toddlers). Their findings are published in the Nov. 24, 2011, issue of *The New England Journal of Medicine*.

Read entire story—**RECORD, 11/23/11** by **Beth Miller** <http://news.wustl.edu/news/Pages/22682.aspx>

## Appointments/Awards/Announcements



F. Sessions Cole, MD, the Park J. White, MD, Professor of Pediatrics, Vice-Chair of the Dept. of Pediatrics & Asst. Vice-Chancellor for Children's Health, has been appointed to the Missouri Task Force on Prematurity and Infant Mortality.



RECORD 11/28/11

### Congratulations

**Thomas Ferkol, M.D., Department of Pediatrics**  
**Director of the Allergy, Immunology and Pulmonary Medicine Division**  
**First recipient of the**



**Alexis Hartmann, M.D., Professorship in Pediatrics**

Alan Schwartz, Ph.D. M.D., Chairman of Department of Pediatrics recently announced that Dr. Ferkol has been named the very first recipient of this new Award. Dr. Schwartz commented that Dr. Ferkol is a superior clinician, teacher, scholar, and leader with scholarly interests in cystic fibrosis and primary ciliary dyskinesias.

The award is named for Dr. Alexis Hartmann, who spent his entire career at WUSM. As a medical student he was involved in Phillip Schaffer's, (Chair of Biochemistry) isolation of insulin, which was administered to the first child in the US. Dr. Hartman was an expert in diabetes, metabolism, fluid, and electrolytes. He developed "Hartman's Solution", now know as Lactated Ringer's (LR). He was an exceptional clinician and teacher and was Chairman of the Department of Pediatrics from 1926-1964.

A formal installation ceremony for Dr. Ferkol will occur in late winter/early spring.

### Clinician Educator Portfolio Workshop



**Friday, January 6, 2012**

**3:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

**SLCH - 5S28**

*Please plan to bring your Educator Portfolio.*

There will be a brief presentation on Educator Portfolios followed by consultation with faculty experts.

*RSVP Cheryl Genovese 454-4952 or*

*[Genovese\\_c@kids.wustl.edu](mailto:Genovese_c@kids.wustl.edu)*

### Department of Pediatrics 2011 External Site Visit Review Town Hall Meetings

*Recommendations by Site Visitors  
Drs. Artman, Emans & McAnarney*

*Brian P. Hackett, M.D., Ph.D*

*Bess A. Marshall, M.D.*

*Director and Associate Director  
Office of Faculty Development*

**Thursday, January 19, 2012-4-5 p.m.**

**SLCH 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Auditorium (Snacks)**

**&**

**Monday, January 23, 2012, 12-1 p.m.**

**NWT 10A (Light lunch)**

**For catering purposes, please RSVP no later than 1/6/12 which session you will be attending.**

RSVP to C. Genovese 454-4952 or [genovese\\_c@kids.wustl.edu](mailto:genovese_c@kids.wustl.edu)

**Happy Holidays!**