

Dr. Schwartz announced...

Dr. Jane Garbutt will succeed Dr. Neil White in the role of Co-Unit Leader in the Patient Oriented Research Unit (PORU). Dr. White will divert his energies towards assisting with growing and enhancing the Endocrinology and Diabetes Division. As Co-Unit Leader in the PORU, Dr. Garbutt will work alongside Dr. Terri Inder. Dr. Garbutt has a superior clinical research program with the Allergy, Immunology, and Pulmonary Medicine Division. Her own scholarly interests involved community engagement research. Congratulations to Jane and kudos to Neil for the 13 years of outstanding progress he has made with clinical research and the PORU.

Congratulations

The Executive Faculty recently approved the following promotions and appointments.

Dr. Robert Paschall is promoted to professor of pediatrics in the Division of Emergency Medicine on the Clinician Educator Track. Dr. Paschall earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Tennessee, Martin, and his medical degree from the University of Tennessee, Memphis. He served his internship at Baptist Hospital in Nashville, TN, and his residency at Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center in Memphis, TN. He practiced pediatrics in private practice and in the United States Air Force, where he volunteered for specialized training in the evaluation of children suspected of being victims of maltreatment. In 1992 he came to Washington University as an instructor. He also holds a masters degree in religious studies. Dr. Paschall has a longstanding interest in child protection since the very beginning of the subspecialty. While in the Department of Pediatrics he has developed a medical consultative service in child protection which has grown to provide a rotation for pediatric residents and a fellowship training program. He has served as the Medical Director for Child Protection at St. Louis Children's Hospital since 1992 and the Medical Director for the Missouri S.A.F.E. - C.A.R.E. (Sexual Assault Forensic Examination - Child Abuse Resource and Education Network) Advisory Council since 1994. The fellowship program in Child Protection and Forensic Pediatrics that Dr. Paschall established is one of relatively few and one of the oldest in the US and it has trained 5 fellows in what is now a new subspecialty of child abuse pediatrics. He is a member of the Ray Helfer Society, an honorary society of physicians seeking to provide leadership to enhance the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of child abuse and neglect. He has served on numerous hospital, city, state, and military boards and advisory committees in his role as an expert in child protection. He is a member of the International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect and many local and national and international organizations have invited him to lecture on various aspects of his subspecialty. He is the Chief of the Washington University Section of Child Abuse and Neglect.

Dr. Gautam Singh is promoted to professor of pediatrics in the Division of Cardiology on the Clinician Educator Track. He received his bachelor's degree from St. Xavier's College, (Ranchi University) Ranchi, India and a bachelor of medicine and surgery degree from Rajendra Medical College, (Ranchi University), Ranchi, India. He received his M.D. from Patna Medical College, (Patna University), Patna, India, and served a residency in Pediatric Cardiology at the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, London, and a residency in Pediatrics and fellowship in Pediatric Cardiology at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children (Temple University), Philadelphia. He came to Washington University from St. Louis University where he was on the faculty until 2003. He is co-director of the echocardiography laboratory and director of non-invasive imaging research and preventive cardiology. His areas of interest include non-invasive cardiac imaging including echocardiography and cardiac MRI, fetal cardiology, congenital heart diseases, preventive cardiology and obesity in children.

Dr. Marwan Shinawi is promoted to associate professor of pediatrics in the Division of Genetics on the Clinician Educator Track. Dr. Shinawi earned his bachelor's degree at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and his medical degree from Technion-Faculty of Medicine, Israel. He served his residency in Pediatrics at Rambam Medical Center, Haifa, Israel, and his residency in Clinical Genetics and a fellowship in Genetics at Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX. He has many areas of clinical interest including genetic counseling, birth defects, screening for newborns, inborn metabolic diseases, genetic syndromes, familial cancer syndromes, chromosomal abnormalities, autism spectrum disorders, cytogenetic abnormalities, microarray technology, and metabolic conditions, skeletal dysplasia. He has published 16 peer reviewed articles since 2008 in the area of genetic metabolic disorders and has established a registry of patients with 16p11.2 chromosomal defects. Working in collaboration with Dr. Kelle Moley, he is investigating the genetics and metabolomics of intrauterine growth retardation using the Women and Infants Health Specimen Consortium, funded by the Children's Discovery Institute.

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Promotions/Appointments (cont.)

Dr. Feliciano Yu is promoted to associate professor of pediatrics in the Division of Hospitalist Medicine on the Clinician Educator Track. Dr. Yu earned a BS at the University of the Philippines and an MD from the University of the East RMMC College of Medicine, Philippines. He served his internship and residency in pediatrics at the East Avenue Medical Center, Philippines and the Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. Subsequently, he earned an MS in Health Informatics, and an MS in Public Health at the University of Alabama in Birmingham. Dr. Yu is an expert in health information technology. He is currently the Chief Medical Information Officer for St. Louis Children's Hospital and the Director of the Washington University Pediatric Computing Facility. From his website: "Dr. Yu actively contributes to healthcare quality and informatics activities at the national level. He currently serves as Co-chair of the Certification Commission of Health Information Technology (CCHIT) Child Health Work Group; Co-Chair of Health Level 7 Child Health Work Group; and at Health Information Management Systems Society (HIMSS), he serves as co-chair of the Pediatric Health Informatics Special Interest Group (PHIT SIG). Dr. Yu is also an advisor for health informatics at the National Association for Children's Hospitals and Related Institutions (NACHRI). The common theme across Dr. Yu's work relates to helping clinicians make better decisions, provide quality care, and improve care delivery processes through the use of health information and communications technology."

Dr. Celeste Morley is promoted to assistant professor of pediatrics in the Division of Infectious Disease and of Pathology and Immunology on the Investigator Track. Dr. Morley earned a B.S. in Biology at Duke University and an M.D. and Ph.D. in Immunology at Harvard Medical School. She served an internship and Resident in Pediatrics at Duke University, and then came to St. Louis as a Fellow in Pediatric Infectious Diseases at Washington University. She is a Scholar of the Child Health Research Center of Excellence, Washington University as well as a Scholar of the Children's Discovery Institute. As she states on her website, her research focuses on T cell signal transduction in development and mobility using mice genetically deficient for L-plastin and has recently demonstrated that L-plastin is required for the normal motility of naïve T cells. This work has been published in the *Journal of Immunology* and the *International Journal of Cell Biology*.

Dr. Kathryn Bucklen is appointed as assistant professor of pediatrics on the Clinician Educator Track in the Division of Hospitalist Medicine. Dr. Bucklen earned her bachelor's degree from New York University, followed by work in the Post-baccalaureate Premedical Program at Goucher College in Baltimore, MD. She then went on to earn her M.D. at Wake Forest University School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, NC, after which she served her pediatric internship and residency at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. She then served on the faculty there as Instructor of Pediatrics at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center in the Division of Pediatric Critical Care Medicine as a hospitalist followed by a period of time as an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio in the Division of Pediatric Critical Care. Dr. Bucklen has particular expertise in the area of hospitalist care of critically ill children and a special interest in Palliative Care and in developing a curriculum for pediatric hospitalists based in the Core Competencies for Hospitalist Medicine. In her community, she founded Girls on the Run of Bexar County, a program to promote fitness and emotional well being in elementary school age girls. She also served as a Member of the Board of Directors as Secretary, and Health Advisor to the Board, of University Presbyterian Children's Center, San Antonio, TX.

Dr. Monica Hulbert is appointed as assistant professor of pediatrics in the Division of Hematology and Oncology on the Clinician Educator Track. Dr. Hulbert earned a BS from Indiana University Bloomington and an MD at Washington University School of Medicine. She then stayed in St. Louis to serve her residency in Pediatrics at St. Louis Children's Hospital and her fellowship in Pediatric Hematology and Oncology at Washington University School of Medicine. She is the Director of the Pediatric Sickle Cell Disease Program. Dr. Hulbert's clinical practice focuses on children and young adults with sickle cell disease. Her research interests are the neurological outcomes of sickle cell disease, including strokes and cerebral vasculopathy.

Dr. John Lin is appointed as assistant professor of pediatrics in the Division of Critical Care on the Clinician Educator Track. Dr. Lin earned his bachelor's degree in Biochemistry and English and his Medical Degree at the University of Virginia. Following pediatric residency at Wilford Hall Medical Center in San Antonio, TX with the United States Air Force, he spent one year as a general pediatrician at Osan Air Base, South Korea. He then went to the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh for his pediatric critical care fellowship training before returning to San Antonio to complete his remaining military service obligation, where he became the Chief of Pediatric Critical Care Services for the San Antonio Military Medical Consortium. Dr. Lin is the Service Chief for the Respiratory Failure and Sepsis service in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit at St. Louis Children's Hospital. His expertise, as he says on his website, is in the area of translation of basic science diagnostic and therapeutic innovations to clinical research and ultimately to evidence-based practice.

Funded Awards



Washington University gets \$3.3 million to study viruses in kids

Greg Storch, MD

Not all viruses make us sick. But which ones are friends and which ones are foes?

Researchers at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis have received a five-year, \$3.3 million grant to study children with weakened immune systems to identify the viruses that make children sick. The grant comes from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The researchers are looking at the total collection of viruses living in or on the body, called the human virome. Some of these viruses cause no harm while others cause acute, persistent or latent infection, says Gregory A. Storch, MD, the Ruth L. Siteman Professor of Pediatrics and principal investigator of the project.

"We're learning that some viruses are part of our normal constitution, and not all of them cause symptoms, such as fever," says Storch, a pediatric infectious disease specialist at St. Louis Children's Hospital. "Our goal is to get a better understanding of which viruses might cause illness in children with compromised immune systems and how to best treat them."

Children with weakened immune systems are more vulnerable to infections. They frequently have illnesses with fevers, but physicians can't always pinpoint a specific cause. It is possible that these children may be infected with novel viruses that may not sicken children with healthy immune systems, Storch says. "

The new research stems from another project led by Storch and funded by the NIH as part of the Human Microbiome Project. In that project, Storch looked for viruses in young children seen in the Emergency Department at St. Louis Children's Hospital with sudden high fevers that could not be explained. In their search, Storch and his team found one or more viruses in more than half of the children tested.

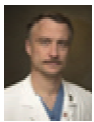
Since conventional tests to identify viruses can take up to 10 days to complete, many of the children in the earlier study were treated with antibiotics as a precaution, although antibiotics do not treat viruses, Storch says.

"Ultimately, we'd like to find ways to better recognize which children have viral infections so we can avoid treating them with unnecessary antibiotics. Unnecessary use of these drugs promotes the growth or resistance to important antibiotics," Storch says.

Record—Beth Miller 2/27/12 read entire article @ <http://news.wustl.edu/news/Pages/23469.aspx>

Funded Awards

December 2011 & January 2012



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

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CDI Awards



Children's Discovery Institute awards \$3 million in pediatric research grants Funding will support studies on cancer, heart, pulmonary and other diseases

Mary Dinauer, M.D., Ph.D.

Life-threatening bacterial infections and brain tumors are just some of the serious health issues affecting children. Now, 12 Washington University School of Medicine research teams are preparing to ask – and answer – critical questions about these and other pediatric health problems with help from \$3 million in new grants from the Children's Discovery Institute.

In one of the funded projects, **Stephanie Fritz, MD**, assistant professor of pediatrics, will follow 135 pediatric patients and their households for one year to identify genetic and environmental factors that influence the spread of methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA), a common strain of bacteria that doesn't respond to some antibiotics.

MRSA is the most frequent cause of skin infections and invasive, life threatening infections of the muscles and bones in children. Over the last decade, there has been a dramatic increase in the number of MRSA infections in healthy children in the community, but combating these infections has been limited by the lack of effective preventive measures. This research could lead to the development of novel methods to interrupt the spread of MRSA and to prevent infections. Newly funded cancer-related projects will explore strategies to prevent nerve damage resulting from a commonly prescribed chemotherapy drug, genetic risk factors for brain tumors and the ways by which an important cellular defense mechanism goes awry in brain tumors. Research projects focusing on cardiovascular disease will examine the link between congenital heart disease and brain development in infants, as well as the genetic basis of cardiovascular disease and metabolic syndrome — a disease characterized by obesity, diabetes and high blood pressure. Projects related to lung diseases will explore the genes responsible for excessive airway narrowing associated with asthma and mechanical structures in the cells that line the airways important for clearance of mucus. Other newly funded projects will examine genetic defects associated with autoimmune diseases, approaches to prevent sudden deaths related to insulin therapy, the genetic underpinnings of scoliosis in adolescents and the characteristics of proteins implicated in type 2 diabetes.

Children's Discovery Institute Awards—February 2012—

Carlos Bernal-Mizrachi, MD, assistant professor of medicine and of cell biology and physiology, will investigate the contribution of fetal vitamin D deficiency to the development of metabolic syndrome and identify genes that predict the onset of metabolic syndrome and cardiovascular disease.

Martha Bhattacharya, PhD, postdoctoral research scholar in developmental biology, will receive a fellowship to develop molecular strategies to prevent the chemotherapy drug vincristine from causing peripheral nerve damage, which results in pain and loss of nerve function.

Megan Cooper, MD, PhD, instructor in pediatrics, will use next generation gene sequencing to determine whether genetic defects in abnormal immune cells lead to the development of a range of pediatric autoimmune diseases associated with serious long-term health problems.

Simon Fisher, MD, PhD, associate professor of medicine and of cell biology and physiology, will study the mechanisms by which high insulin doses in children with type 1 diabetes can cause sudden death, and test novel therapeutic approaches to prevent this potential deadly side effect.

Stephanie Fritz, MD, assistant professor of pediatrics, will receive a Faculty Scholar Award to track pediatric patients and their households to identify genetic and environmental factors that influence the spread of MRSA.

Matthew Goldsmith, MD, assistant professor of pediatrics and of genetics, and **Christina Gurnett, MD, PhD**, assistant professor of neurology, of pediatrics and of orthopaedic surgery, will examine the genetic basis of adolescent idiopathic scoliosis, the most common pediatric spinal deformity, to gain biological insights that could lead to the development of non-surgical therapeutic strategies.

Paul Hruz, MD, PhD, associate professor of pediatrics and of cell biology and physiology, and **Katherine Henzler-Wildman, PhD**, assistant professor of biochemistry and molecular biophysics, will study the structure and movements of glucose transport proteins, which carry the blood sugar glucose into cells, to provide a basis for designing drugs that improve the function of these proteins in type 2 diabetes.

Cynthia Ortinau, MD, instructor of pediatrics, will use advanced neuroimaging techniques to test whether changes in blood flow to the brain associated with congenital heart disease impair brain development and neurologic outcome in infants, and assess the impact of neonatal heart surgery on brain development.

Anand Patel, MD, assistant professor of pediatrics and of medicine, will identify genes and molecular pathways responsible for excessive airway narrowing in response to allergen exposure or viral infection to offer insights that could lead to the discovery of novel treatments for asthma, the most common chronic childhood disease.

Joshua Rubin, MD, PhD, associate professor of pediatrics, of neurology and of neurobiology, and **David Gutmann, MD, PhD**, the Donald O. Schnuck Family Professor of Neurology, will examine genetic variations that increase the risk for brain tumors in children with the genetic disease neurofibromatosis 1, and investigates why these tumors are more common in boys than in girls, in order to improve diagnostic and therapeutic strategies for children with brain cancer.

Gang Xu, DSc, research associate in the Department of Mechanical Engineering & Materials Science, will receive a fellowship to measure the mechanical properties of important structural components found in cilia — whip-like appendages on cells that propel fluid and materials in the airways — to understand abnormalities in the movements of cilia that are associated with pulmonary diseases.

Zhongsheng You, PhD, assistant professor of medicine and of cell biology and physiology, and **David Piwnicka-Worms, MD, PhD**, professor of developmental biology, of cell biology and physiology and of radiology, will investigate the role of nonsense-mediated messenger ribonucleic acid decay (NMD), a cellular surveillance system that blocks the production of defective proteins, in pediatric brain cancer.

Record— Beth Miller 3/2/12 read entire article @ <https://news.wustl.edu/news/Pages/23481.aspx>

Pediatric Faculty in the News/Upcoming Events



Looking for answers in childhood asthma.

Leonard Bacharier, MD (left), professor of pediatrics and clinical director of the Division of Allergy, Immunology and Pulmonary Medicine in the Department of Pediatrics, talks with patient Amoré Jones during a checkup. "Len is a rare combination of an excellent teacher, a superb clinician and an accomplished clinical researcher," says Robert C. Strunk, MD, the Donald Strominger Professor of Pediatrics at the School of

Medicine. "One of his best talents is giving thoughtful input into ideas that others are developing, always leading to improvement in grant proposals, manuscripts and presentations for national meetings."

When Leonard Bacharier came to Washington University in 1988 to interview for admission to the School of Medicine, the native New Yorker knew he was in the right place. "It had a different feel from anywhere else I had been," says Bacharier, MD, now professor of pediatrics and clinical director of the Division of Allergy, Immunology and Pulmonary Medicine in the Department of Pediatrics. "I was certain at the end of the day that this was where I was supposed to be."

Not only did he earn a medical degree from Washington University, he completed an internship and residency at St. Louis Children's Hospital and has been on the faculty since 1998 treating children with allergies and asthma. At the start of his medical training, Bacharier envisioned his future as an immunologist in a laboratory. During a fellowship at Children's Hospital in Boston, he discovered a new passion. "I wanted to be in academic medicine studying allergy and asthma in children, and it became very clear where I was supposed to go and whom I was supposed to call," he says. And that person was Robert C. Strunk, MD, the Donald Strominger Professor of Pediatrics at the School of Medicine and preeminent pediatric asthma researcher.

The pair has formed a formidable team seeking clues into childhood asthma. In fact, Bacharier's first task after joining the School of Medicine faculty was to jump right into the research under way by the Childhood Asthma Management Program, as well as to collaborate with Strunk in applying for a new National Institutes of Health (NIH)-funded network, the Childhood Asthma Research Network, an opportunity Bacharier says most junior faculty don't get. "Bob handed this to me and said, 'Make everything out of this that you can,'" so I ran with it and had a great experience learning from that process and the other researchers in the network," Bacharier says.

"Len is a rare combination of an excellent teacher, a superb clinician and an accomplished clinical researcher," Strunk says. "One of his best talents is giving thoughtful input into ideas that others are developing, always leading to improvement in grant proposals, manuscripts and presentations for national meetings."

Record—Beth Miller 3/23/12 read entire article @ <https://news.wustl.edu/news/Pages/23532.aspx>

Save the Date!

*New Faculty Orientation
2012*

*Department of Pediatrics
Office of Faculty Development*

Friday, August 10, 2012

11 am—3 pm

(Lunch provided)

NWT 10A

Department of Pediatrics
Office of Faculty Development
All Faculty Breakfast
Friday, June 8, 2012

8-9:15 a.m.

NWT 8C

Please join us for breakfast and
Informal discussion

"Is there an App for that?"

**"Apps and other technology to help
in the practice of medicine"**

Pele Yu, Jr., M.D.

Grand Rounds immediately following:

Dr. David Jaffe