VCU PM&R UPDATE

2017 MSK Endowment Lectureship Announced

The 4th Annual VCU Dept PM&R Jeff Ericksen MSK Endowment Lectureship will be held on April 7th, 2017 at the VCU Molecular Medicine Research Building (Rm 1-1013) from 8-9 a.m. followed by a reception. David Wang, D.O. (Kaplan Center for Integrative Med), an international leader in Regenerative Injection Therapy will be the keynote speaker.

New VCU SOM Dean Named

Peter F. Buckley, M.D., has accepted the position of dean of the VCU School of Medicine, effective January 2017. He also will serve as VCU Health System executive VP for medical affairs, overseeing the 600 physician-faculty group practice of the academic health sciences center.

Dr. Buckley comes to VCU from Augusta University in Georgia where he was dean of the Medical College of GA. He is a professor of psychiatry, pharmacology & radiology. Dr. Buckley is a national leader in academic medicine and recognized internationally for his research. In addition to being editor of a psychiatry journal, he has published > 500 original articles, book chapters and abstracts and has authored or edited 18 books. His research focuses on the neurobiology and treatment of schizophrenia. Dr. Buckley received his MD from University College Dublin in Ireland.

VCU recognizes & thanks Dr. Jerry Strauss for his long and successful tenure as School of Medicine dean.

Wehman & Merchant Leads VCU PM&R Employment Research

Recent VCU PM&R Employment grants headed-up by Dr. Paul Wehman include:

- $1.2 Million award from CDMRP for four years entitled: “9-Month Internship for the Transition-Aged Military dependents with ASD”
- $4.4 Million award from NIDILRR for five years titled: “Research and Training Center (VCU-RRTC) on Employer Practices Leading to Successful Employment Outcomes for Individuals with Disabilities”
- $2.5 Million award from NIDILRR for five years titled: “Effects of Customized Employment on the Employment Outcomes of Transition-Age Youth with Disabilities: A Random Clinical Trial”

In addition, Dr. Randy Merchant received a $450,000 award from Virginia Biosciences Health Research Corporation for two years.

Walker Leads TBI Research Efforts

William Walker MD, Prof PM&R continues to chair the Chronic Effects of Neurotrauma (CENC) multi-center longitudinal study on late effects of mild TBI. Five Veterans and Military centers are currently enrolling, with 3 more to start in early 2017. He and others recently published a manuscript describing the background, aims, and methods of this study.

Dr Walker was recently awarded Principal Investigator on 2 new research grants:

1. "Practical Prognostics: Building clinically useful predictive models for long-term functional outcome after TBI". Supporting Agency: National Institute of Health (NIH) R21. The goal of this 2-year project is to use advanced decision tree secondary data analysis to develop prognostic models for closed TBI targeting ease of clinical use and stratification of key individual characteristics, framed around meaningful long-term patient outcomes.

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Editor

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For more information about the Dept. of PM&R, faculty, publications, residents...visit our website http://www.pmr.vcu.edu
or call Anna Cerrato at
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PM&R Faculty Updates

Katherine Dec—CONGRATS on recent election as 2nd Vice President of AMSSM Board of Directors. Dr. Dec has also had invitations for recent 2016 presentations for lectures (Florida, Mexico), research (Lazar, Thuku & Dec “Gait Abnormality in a Tennis Player with Knee Pain.” At AMSSM, Dallas, TX), and Symposium Co-Chair: “Knee Osteoarthritis: Defining Standards of Clinical Management” at Ossur Academy, Dana Point, CA., and “Round table discussion: non-operative hip pain and bracing.”. Ossur Americas. Cancun, Mexico).

PM&R Welcomes... several new faculty & staff

- **Kim Skelton DO** - Practicing at VCU NOW center—concentrating on concussion & acute MSK care. Dr. Skelton is a grad of Virginia COM and Louisville PM&R.

- **Elizabeth Huntoon MD** – Practicing at VCU NOW center on the PM&R pain management team. Dr. Huntoon is a grad of EVMS SOM and Med coll of Ohio PM&R with Pain fellowship training at Mayo Clinic.

- **Anna Cerrato** - It is with great excitement that we announce Anna Cerrato as the new Residency Program Coordinator for the Dept. of PM&R! Anna served as residency coordinator in VCU Dept of Ophthalmology for over 7 years. She brings a good fund of knowledge about the complexities of managing an ACGME accredited residency program.

- **Tracy Hunnicut** - Tracy joined the VCU PM&R grants/fiscal team on the Chronic Effects of Neurotrauma consortium. Tracy comes to us from William and Mary.

- **Suzanne Taylor, PhD** - Suzanne is working with Randy Merchant, conducting research on cancer rehabilitation.

- **Marie Grace Martinez** - “Margie” is going to be working with Jeff Kreutzer and Jenny Marwitz on the TBI Model Systems project. She is a graduate from UVA.

Randy Westerkam to Deliver 2017 “Alumni Presentation”

VCU PM&R is proud to welcome **Randy Westerkam, MD** for our “19th Annual PM&R Alumni Lectureship” (June 16th, 2017). Dr. Westerkam (a ’97 VCU PM&R grad) is Rehab Medical Director and heads up MSK & U/S curriculum on faculty for sports med & ortho at Univ South Carolina. All are encouraged to attend Dr. Westerkam’s presentation & the reception to follow.

Recent VCU Dept PM&R Presentations

**AAPM&R Annual Meeting** (New Orleans, Oct 2016)

- **Dan Contract**—Alpha-Stim, A Novel Treatment Option for Recalcitrant Phantom Limb Pain: Case Report (Caruso)

- **Anne Eliason**—Musculoskeletal Physical Exam Skills Assessment in Physiatry Residents (McKinley)

- **Mike Kwansiewski**—Bilateral Tendon Transfer in C-6 Tetraplegia in order to maximize Bladder Self-Catheterization (Caruso)

- **Jack Smith**—Improving Urine Drug Screening in Pain Management (Hamsa) and Acute Cervical SCI During Pregnancy leading to multiple medical complications: Case Report (McKinley)

- **Sean Stockhausen**—Acute Regression in Cognition and Language in Patient with TBI after Discontinuation of Donepezil: Case Report (Tower)

- **Godfrey Thuku**—Migration of Cervical Fixation Screw Causing both Esophageal & Tracheal Injuries: Case Report (McKinley)

- **Chris Beal**—Higher Vitamin D Influences Cholesterol & Insulin Sensitivity Independent of Body Composition in SCI (Gorgey)
Alumni in The News!

Many VCU PM&R Alums attended AAPM&R mtg in New Orleans: Chris Hinnant (San Fran), Andi Conti (S. Dakota), Gin Hsu (Denver), Joy White (Conn), Dave Ripley (Chicago), Jeff Johns (Nashville), Costa Soteropolis (Virginia), Angel Chang (Calif), Rave Mummeneni (Phoenix), Fred Dery (Iowa), Dan Dorfman (Ohio), Amit Sinha (Pittsburgh), Darryl Kaelin (Louisville), Jim Wilson (Maine), Steve Nichols (Baltimore), Katrina Lesher (Norfolk), ....Other updates include:

- John Ligouri (PD) - Looking to expand their Wilmington, NC PM&R practice (primarily inpatient acute rehab beds).
- Bruce Stelmack (92) - Passed sub-specialty certification in BI Medicine, continues w/ Kaiser Permanente (Portland, OR).
- Darryl Kaelin (95) - Elected President-Elect of AAPM&R & will assume the President position October 2017 at the Annual Assembly. He recently attended the 25th anniversary of the Indiana University PM&R program where he was among the founding faculty along with fellow VCU grads, Ralph & Lois Buschbacher (92) & Andi Conti (94).
- Suzanne Groah (96) - Promoted to Prof, Georgetown Univ, received “Senior Investigator Award” by Neilsen Foundation for study: “Development of a Urinary Symptom Measurement Instrument for Neurogenic Bladder”.
- Michelle Miller (96) - Received the “Golden Stethoscope” award by Nationwide Children’s Hospital for excellence in patient care, mentoring, and communication within the hospital. Congrats!
- Larisa Bruma (01) - Re-certified in PMR, working in White Plains, NY. Kids are doing well.
- Fred Dery (09) - His USTA tennis team won divisions in Iowa & top 5 in Midwest (just missed nationals). Congrats!
- Brian Steinmetz (10) - Now a partner at Orthopedic & Spine Specialists in York, PA. Actively teaching in their fellowship program. Brian and Jenny are very excited to welcome their 3rd child, due in late June.
- Camilo Castillo (11) - Moved to Louisville, KY to lead the SCI program at the Univ Louisville.
- Mohammad Agha (13) - Selected to the AAP “Academic Leadership” program, a 3-year program to develop academic leadership skills in junior PM&R faculty.
- Jeff Zeckser (14) - Accepted a position with Novant Health & Sports Med, Salisbury, NC, (Interventional PM&R working with Dr. Jason Tucker as part of Orthobiologix).
- Anne Eliason (17) - Anne & Clark, welcomed twins (Liam & Charlotte) in December.
- Rondy Lazaro (18) - PM&R resident and plays in the Richmond Symphony AND sings in the Richmond Men’s Choir.

VCU PM&R and Alumni Get Published! (Recent publications by VCU PM&R & Alumni)

- Smith J, McKinley W. Pulmonary embolism & Challenges asso w/ acute SCI during pregnancy. PMR 8(9) S270, 2016
- Eliason A, McKinley W. Musculoskeletal Physical Exam Skills Assessment in Physiatry Residents. PMR 8(9) S201, 2016
- Thuku G, McKinley W. Migration of Anterior Cervical Fixation Screw Causing both Esophageal & Tracheal Erosive Injuries. PMR 8(9) S246, 2016
RESIDENT’S CORNER

VCU PM&R SIG Update

The VCU School of Med PM&R Student Interest Group (SIG) has been very active with a mission of increasing awareness and opportunities related to PM&R for VCU medical students. Annual events include enhanced clinical opportunities, presentations, brochures, and fundraising. Current officers are Edwin Tobin (Pres), John Laurenzano (VP), Karen Ardiles (Treasurer), Kelsey Rupp (Clinical Liaison), Sarah Peterson (Sec).

Thanks all!

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RESIDENT’S CORNER

VCU RESIDENTS VISIBLE at AAPM&R

Congratulations to Residents who represented VCU PM&R at the 2016 American Academy PM&R in New Orleans, LA for “Poster Presentations” (Drs. Mike Kwasniewski, Sean Stockhausen, Jack Smith, Godfrey Thuku, Dan Contract, Anne Eliason & Chris Beal).

Great job!

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Thanks all!

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SPORTS MED COORDINATORS

Drs. Jessica Hupe, Seth Haywood & Rondy Lazaro head up PM&R sports medicine opportunities at VCU. Residents cover numerous sporting events including, high school football, CAA men’s soccer championship (in Richmond), men’s & women’s soccer, volleyball & field hockey.

RESIDENTS SUMMARIZE RESEARCH

Drs. Chris Arbonies and Olivier Rolin (Regional Editors) head up a group of VCU PM&R resident contributors to Rehab in Review, a monthly newsletter summarizing important research in specialties related to PM&R (neurosurg, rheumatology, pain, etc). Each month VCU submits 5 articles to Rehab in Review for possible publication.

We’re on the web... http://www.pmr.vcu.edu

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