Focus on Global Health
Danielle Ehret, MD, FAAP

Each year, approximately 2.7 million babies die during the neonatal period; over 90% of these deaths occur in developing countries, largely from preventable causes. The known, evidence-based, low-cost interventions that may improve neonatal survival often have low or unknown baseline coverage rates. Gaps in coverage of essential interventions and services, and gaps in quality of care may be amenable to improvement strategies. Unfortunately, often these gaps are not easily identified at the facility level due to lack of data describing processes of care and outcomes. Without this vital information, simple opportunities for improvement are overlooked and misunderstood, effects of implemented change are questioned, and evidence for advocating sustainability are lacking.

The Vermont Oxford Network’s vision is to “establish a worldwide community of practice, dedicated to providing all newborn infants and their families with the best possible and ever improving perinatal and neonatal care.” In recognition that resource-limited neonatal units are under-represented in our current community of practice, Vermont Oxford Network (VON) established the Tikur Anbessa NICU Project in collaboration with Addis Ababa University in 2008, with the aim to improve the quality of medical care for newborn infants and their families in Ethiopia through training and research designed to address the specific needs and resource constraints of the country. VON is extremely proud to have trained, and continue to foster the professional development of, the first three Ethiopian-trained neonatologists. To provide a platform for scholarly research and quality improvement, a database for the Tikur Anbessa Hospital NICU was developed and utilized during the fellowship program. This database identified multiple opportunities for improving the care of infants and families, including increasing maternal HIV testing, increasing deliveries attended by equipped providers skilled in neonatal resuscitation, reducing admission hypothermia, increasing kangaroo mother care for...
Focus on Global Health
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In 2015, Danielle Ehret joined VON as the inaugural Director of Global Health. Under her leadership, the Tikur Anbessa Hospital NICU data collection tool is being revitalized, adapted and transformed into a web-based quality improvement (QI) database uniquely designed for resource-limited neonatal units. Currently, VON is partnering with Wax and Gold, Inc. to pilot the database at St. Paul’s Hospital Millennium Medical College in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. In partnership with the Ethiopian Pediatric Society, and with the support of the Ethiopian Federal Ministry of Health, the intended next phase will include expansion to 20 neonatal units across the country, and the formation of the Ethiopian Neonatal Network. Centers utilizing this database will receive all the membership benefits of joining VON. Unique features of the new VON Global QI Neonatal Database include a succinct one-page data collection form with high-yield indicators in recognition of the large patient volume and limited staff time. Key process and outcome indicators have been harmonized with those required by the Ministry of Health, and those recommended by the World Health Organization and UNICEF. Granular, patient-level and facility-level data is available to providers and leaders in real-time. The REDCap platform utilized for this database is ideal for settings with intermittent Internet access as it allows for offline data entry on tablets or phones via the REDCap mobile app with intermittent uploads once an Internet connection is established. With a continuous computer Internet connection, users can access the REDCap database for their newborn unit, as well as statistics and reporting in real-time.

In the process of piloting and improving this database, VON aims to educate Ethiopian healthcare leaders on QI, preparing and positioning them to become QI champions as the Ethiopian Neonatal Network creates demand for expansion of this new database. Following an iterative process with tremendous stakeholder feedback, the long-term goal is to establish a database that meets the needs and exceeds the expectations of neonatal teams in resource-limited settings globally so that we may appropriately welcome them into our growing worldwide community of practice. It is the hope that following a successful rollout in Ethiopia, neonatal QI champions across Africa will be invited to enroll their neonatal units, followed by an open invitation for new global members. The creation and implementation of this database is an exciting, but daunting task. As “neonatal units”, “neonatal care units” and “neonatal intensive care units” continue to proliferate in resource-limited settings, many uncertainties exist and will continue to be uncovered. The extent of services and appropriate role of these units is unknown and/or dynamic in many resource-limited settings. In the future, the VON Global QI Neonatal Database may be able to contribute informative benchmarking data as global healthcare delivery to neonates in resource-limited environments continues to evolve.

As the global community’s awareness of preventable neonatal mortality increases, attention to coverage gaps, quality gaps, data gaps, and the relationship of these gaps with preventable newborn deaths, has been heightened. The pilot-testing of a VON Global QI Neonatal Database uniquely designed for resource-limited settings represents a commitment toward closing these gaps. A new database will be a powerful tool, but one that cannot stand alone. It will be data paired with and supported by education and QI coaching, in the context of a worldwide community of practice that will be transformative. The role of a QI coach is an exciting potential future volunteer opportunity yet to be explored. We all have much to learn, and much to gain!

2017 Avroy Fanaroff Neonatology Education Award
Susan Niermeyer, MD, FAAP

Dr. Susan Niermeyer has made extraordinary contributions in the area of health education, particularly as it applies to newborns. Throughout her career, Susan’s academic home has been the University of Colorado where she is currently a Professor in the Department of Pediatrics in the School of Medicine. Her contributions locally have been meritorious and include an extraordinary depth of involvement, both within and outside the School of Medicine. However, her contributions away from the University of Colorado in the area of global health separate her from other fine educators in neonatal-perinatal medicine.

There is no question that her most substantive contribution has been her leadership of the development of the Helping Babies Breathe (HBB) program. HBB was designed to prepare birth attendants in resource-limited environments to provide expert care for newborns at the time of birth. As such, it is an adaptation of the concepts of the AAP/AHA Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP). Since its release in 2010, this program has enjoyed tremendous success and international acclaim. It has now been translated into at least 15 languages and introduced into over 80 countries. In 2012, HBB received the USAID Award for Excellence. This program has literally saved millions of lives. No other single advance in neonatology has had an impact even close to this magnitude.
Susan was a driving force in the development of the program, serving as its first (and only) editor. This was a natural evolution for her because of her previous involvement in NRP, in which she served as Co-Chair of the Steering Committee (1997-2001) and Editor of the Instructors Update (1995-2001). The development of HBB was not a trivial undertaking. It required much more than simplification and adaptation of the principles of NRP. The development of HBB required the creation of a different teaching and learning strategy. New teaching models were developed. Susan has now completed the editing and revision of the original version; HBB 2.0 was released in the fall of 2016.

Susan has also contributed to many other educational programs, most notably serving on the Editorial Boards of NeoReviews (2004-2007) and the AAP Perinatal Continuing Education Program (2010-present). Her expertise is recognized by agencies around the world. She is a consultant for national health agencies in China, Tibet, Peru and Guatemala among others. Since 2008, she has advised the World Health Organization in several projects, including the development of resuscitation guidelines and the dissemination of a child health education program using distance and self-learning strategies. In 2012, she was a consultant to the NICHD and Fogarty Center on an initiative to end preventable child deaths resulting from birth asphyxia. For the past year, she has divided her time between her faculty position at the University of Colorado and service to the U.S. Government as a Senior Medical Advisor for Newborn Health for USAID, a 25% appointment. Susan Niermeyer may be the best known US neonatologist in the global health community.

Susan’s input, insight, experience and energy were instrumental in the successful development of a “sequel” to HBB, a program to teach providers in resource-limited areas essential newborn care. The result was the Essential Care for Every Baby (ECEB) program. Along with HBB, it is one of three programs in the AAP Helping Babies Survive (HBS) suite of programs. Like HBB, ECEB is rapidly becoming the program of choice for teaching newborn care in low-income countries.

In 2015, Susan’s expertise was again instrumental in developing a companion program that would help translate the education of the HBS programs into practice, a guide for facility-based quality improvement called Improving Care of Mothers and Babies. It now accompanies the other HBS programs as a unique resource for facility-based providers in low resource environments.

Dr. Susan Niermeyer is the ultimate educator. Her students are providers of newborn care around the world. Because of her contributions to their preparedness to provide care, millions of newborn lives have been saved.

Carl Bose, MD, FAAP

Save the Date!

9th Annual Topics in Neonatal Nutrition and Advances in Neonatal Care
October 24-25, 2017
Tappan Hill Mansion, Tarrytown, New York

This year’s speakers will include Myra Wyckoff, Seetha Shankaran, Paula Meier Thomas Jaksic, Satyan Lakshminrusimha, Jae Kim and John Zupancic

For more information contact:
Call: Office of Continuing education (518) 262-5828
schreim@mail.amc.edu
Richard J. Martin, MD, FAAP

Richard Martin, through his research, clinical mentorship and teaching, has, for many years, influenced the care of babies throughout the world. Furthermore, he has been extremely responsive and active as a leader in the field of Neonatology locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. He has name-recognition throughout the globe as a preeminent researcher and educator, and epitomizes the spirit of a lifelong contributor to the well-being of newborns.

Richard J. Martin was born in Sydney, Australia and received his medical degree from the University of Sydney in 1970. After his internship in Australia he completed a residency in Pediatrics at the University of Missouri Medical Center in Columbia, MO in 1974, thereafter serving as the Chief Resident in Pediatrics at that program. He was recruited to a 2-year fellowship at Rainbow Babies and Children’s Hospital, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, and he joined the faculty immediately upon completion in 1976. He had a rapid academic advance, and was tenured in 1986 followed by full professorships in Pediatrics, Reproductive Biology, and Physiology and Biophysics. Since 2006, he has been the initial endowed Drusinsky-Fanaroff Professor in Neonatology. He directed the Neonatology Division at Rainbow from 1998-2011 and is currently the Director of Neonatal Research for the Division, which has consistently been ranked in the top 5 by U.S. News and World Reports.

Amongst the many committees on which he has served, he was Chair of the Sub-Board of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine, and continues to serve on multiple review groups, editorial boards, planning committees, data safety monitoring boards, and steering committees.

Richard has been a model mentor. He has served in this role for a number of individuals who now are the Division Chiefs, Department Chairs, or Training Program Directors at prominent neonatal programs in the USA and overseas (Finland, Israel, Italy, Egypt, Jordan).

His continuous funding by the NIH for the past 30+ years includes a recently competitively re-funded NICHD T32 for training neonatal fellows in research. He always has a neonatal fellow, resident or even medical students working in his laboratory. He collaborates seamlessly with the Departments of Medicine, Genetics, Physiology, Biomedical Engineering and Reproductive Biology, thus broadening the scope for his trainees and expanding his research base. His trainees quickly learn from him how to rapidly convert abstracts presented either as posters or platform presentations into manuscripts ready for peer review. He remains deeply committed to the career development of his colleagues, especially junior faculty.

Richard has been responsible for, and continues to direct, a number of educational conferences. This includes a novel Mid-Atlantic regional conference for practicing neonatologists, fellows, junior faculty and neonatal nurse practitioners, held at Nemacolin Woodlands Resort in Farmington, PA for each of the past 20 years. He has participated in grass-roots level educational efforts in Laos and Thailand, and has trained numerous Thai neonatologists. A consequence of this effort has been his role in establishing the Bangkok International Neonatology Conference which is attended by over 450 neonatologists from many parts of Asia. He has chaired the popular Lung Club at PAS for many years at which he has identified speakers from around the world able to successfully blend basic science and clinical science. He has also been an invited guest and speaker at meetings and institutions around the globe.

With Avroy Fanaroff, in 1983, he took over the editorial responsibilities for the 3rd edition of Behrman’s Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine, which subsequently received the American Medical Writers’ Book of the Year Award. He has been senior editor of this publication, now Fanaroff and Martin’s Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine, since the 8th edition. The publishers have just requested an 11th edition to be published in 2019. This 2-volume tome is used widely throughout the world, has become a major text for neonatologists preparing for the Boards, and has been published in multiple languages. Over the last year he has added Neonatology editorship of the increasingly popular UptoDate to his editorial duties.

Richard has been at the forefront of many of the major basic and translational research advances relating to neonatal respiratory problems. He is considered to be the authority on apnea of prematurity. He has devoted a large portion of his research endeavors to better understand the pathophysiology of the underlying mechanisms of this complex disorder as well as to elucidate the pathways by which therapies prevent and/or treat neonatal apnea. He was amongst the pioneers using the non-invasive oxygen monitors to demonstrate the broad fluctuations in oxygenation of preterm infants, largely a consequence of immature respiratory control. With colleagues, via novel electromyographic techniques, he demonstrated that activation of the genioglossus muscle was the major step in relieving obstructive apnea and that CPAP relieved mixed and obstructive apnea by stabilizing the upper airway. As technology has improved, his team has increasingly focused on cardiorespiratory recordings in relation to apnea and were able to characterize the relationship between the number of hypoxic events and retinopathy of prematurity. This bioengineering expertise in cardiorespiratory monitoring has contributed to new funding as 1 of 5 NHLBI PreVENT sites.

In the laboratory, he has established a rodent model to determine the effects of inflammation, hypoxia and cytokines on respiratory neural output. This has resulted in landmark studies demonstrating a key role of neural "lung-
Medical school and training-
Med School: Keck School of Medicine at the University of Southern California
Residency: Mattel Children's Hospital at UCLA
Fellowship: LAC+USC/CHLA Medical Center at the University of Southern California

Current position- Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Section on Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine; Director of Education in Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine

Family and pets-Liana Philippa Song Espinosa- the current main attraction at 2 years old, terrible and terrific at once. Loves Minnie and Mickey Mouse, wearing shoes to bed, bananas, Moana, the song "Let It Go" and dancing. Dislikes wearing socks, a variety of foods, discernible speech, and sitting in her car seat.

Frankie Espinosa- the Dad, general contractor/entrepreneur in housing industry, mainly flips houses. Loves Bruce Springsteen songs, Bruce Lee movies, modern architecture and the Yankees. Dislikes spicy food, mushrooms, misogyny.

What would people be surprised to learn about you- My fellowship work product was a basic science GI immunology project, analyzing the effects of probiotic administration on regulatory T cell subsets in the murine model. It was fascinating but difficult for me continue without the mentorship outside of fellowship. My wise new boss advised me to turn my passion into scholarly work. It took some time to figure it out, but now, nothing seems like work.

Favorite vacation of all time- Backpacking with friends through Europe for the 6 weeks of summer between college and medical school. We ran with the bulls in Pamplona, took a ferry to Greece, cliff jumped in Cinque Terre, paraglided in Nice. We slept in hostels, on the beach, in hotels, in campgrounds, on a ferry, on trains. Our goal was to spend $50/day.

Best advice for early career neonatologists- Mentors are invaluable. They possess so much knowledge and wisdom from years of experience. They can sometimes see where you should be heading before you decide to head there. In medical school, my mentor told me that I "was definitely a surgeon". However, I had already decided on a specialty and was attending medical school on a primary care scholarship based on my expressed desire to practice general pediatrics. Fast forward 10 years, I was starting fellowship.

Hobbies- Snowboarding. I once took a bad fall at the start of a snowboarding weekend. Had a great weekend, but found I had 3 broken ribs.

What books are you reading right now- Iggy Peck, Architect. Rosie Revere, Engineer. Dr. Seuss. And other bedtime stories for toddlers.

Most important thing you have learned in your career- Communicate with empathy. Teach and talk to others in a manner the way that they wish to receive it, not the way you want to give it.

Best or favorite childhood memory- I graduated with the charter class from Santa Margarita Catholic High School. I was on the Varsity Songleading squad- the first squad ever. We made it nationals in Florida our first competition year and won!

I've recently been inspired by- Our community of friends and family coming together to help in time of sudden need. My brother's wife survived Strep Toxic Shock Syndrome this year. She was recently discharged from the ICU after a 3-month stay. The support from so many was awe-inspiring. My amazing work colleagues switched around service weeks to allow me to stay with family for extended periods. Simply awesome. This adult ICU experience really helped emphasize how far we have come with neonatal ECMO and transport.

Who would you like to swap lives with for a day- Steve Jobs in 2001
The Section on Neonatal Perinatal Medicine has an exciting program for the 2017 NCE Meeting in Chicago. Our program begins on Friday, September 15 with the annual Organization of Neonatal Training Program Directors meeting, followed by the Merenstein Lecture. The abstract poster session Friday evening should be outstanding, as there was a record number of abstract submissions this year!

After the Saturday morning scientific abstract presentations, we will feature a series of joint sessions. In conjunction with the Section on Pediatric Pulmonology and Sleep Medicine, we will examine the development of pulmonary hypertension in infants with chronic conditions in the NICU such as BPD. Identifying those infants at risk through screening, and the challenge of ongoing monitoring and treatment, requires a multidisciplinary approach through neonatology and pulmonary. Speakers will include Robin Steinhorn, Rachel Hopper, Steven Abman and Peter Mourani.

Sunday, September 17, includes a joint session with the Section on Pediatric Nephrology, where we will address the challenge of acute kidney injury (AKI) in the neonatal population, which can present a diagnostic challenge in light of the normal developmental and chronologic progression of kidney function. AKI may be more common than realized, possibly as high as 1 of every 3 newborns admitted to tertiary level NICUs, and those with AKI have significantly worse outcomes.

A final joint session with Pediatric Surgery on Sunday afternoon will look at novel issues related to fetal surgery and examine the evidence of both surgical and medical management of necrotizing enterocolitis. A box lunch sponsored by Children’s Hospital Wisconsin will be available for $10. Please purchase the lunch ticket when you register for the meeting!

Additional highlights of the Section’s program will be updates on congenital heart disease screening algorithms and the challenge of whether or not to treat patent ductus arteriosis. We are looking forward to an exciting and interactive meeting and hope to see you there!
Children are guaranteed a package of essential health benefits, including mental health care, emergency treatment, and prescription drugs. Those same safeguards ensure that maternity care is provided, so that our services are less likely to be necessary in the first place. Following delivery, newborn coverage is ensured, and after discharge, the Early and Periodic Screening Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) program means that our patients are monitored with regular check-ups, so that they receive timely and effective interventions.

All of this is now at risk, not only because of roll-back of the ACA, but because of planned profound changes in Medicaid. Many of us do not appreciate that Medicaid is actually largely a pediatric program: 43% of its enrollees annually are children - more than 36 million - and more than half of children’s hospital inpatient days and 49% of preterm births are paid for by Medicaid. (Another 8.4 million kids are covered by CHIP, and 1.1 million by the ACA marketplaces.) Current legislation promises two big types of changes to Medicaid. First, federal Medicaid spending would be cut by $834 billion or 16.7% over the next 10 years, and the program would cover 14 million fewer people. Second, the way that states receive those funds would be changed. Instead of matching funds based on states’ enrollees and costs, funding would be fixed as block or per-capita grants, with any overages paid for by the states. That means that not only would millions of our patients lose coverage, but that those who remained would have to compete for funds at the state level with other disadvantaged groups for health care, and with other social priorities such as education and infrastructure. Inevitably, this will lead to tighter eligibility standards, lower physician payments, and more limited benefit packages. Our vulnerable patients and their families would be placed in even greater jeopardy when recessions or natural disasters place strains on state budgets since Medicaid funding is currently more than 50% of all federal financial transfers to states.

Beyond these Medicaid changes, neonatologists will also see an adverse impact from repeal of the Affordable Care Act. The majority of our most vulnerable patients have “pre-existing conditions,” including cerebral palsy, neurosensory impairment, chronic lung disease and asthma, autism and mental health disorders. The current plan might prohibit explicit exclusion for such conditions, but foregoing “community rating” would allow exceedingly high premiums to be charged, effectively preventing families from gaining access. The solutions suggested for this, notably “high risk pools,” are widely considered by health policy experts to be inadequate to the task. Even for patients without a pre-existing condition, the lifetime limits on coverage prohibited by ACA could be reinstated. Prior to ACA, more than 105 million individuals had plans with lifetime caps, and many of us can remember when patients would reach their lifetime limits prior to discharge from the NICU.

We at the front lines see first-hand the toxic effects of financial stress, but the argument goes beyond that. Compared to children without insurance, those enrolled in Medicaid are more likely to get check-ups, miss less school, graduate and enter the workforce than their uninsured peers. Healthy children are the cornerstone of a healthy society and economy, and we can make children healthier through access to care.

So what can we do about it? In a word, participate. Lend your expertise to the discussion through calls to your members of congress, opinion pieces in local newspapers, and social media postings. Resources for action, including a toolkit, can be found at federaladvocacy.aap.org. Remember that pediatricians are widely respected by the public, and contributing your opinions will help to show that this is a debate about the best policies for children, not about party politics.

These issues are relevant to us not only as citizens but as newborn providers as well. Many of you are talking about them and working to draw attention to them. If you coordinate those individual efforts with your 3500 colleagues in the AAP SoNPM, and with the 64000 pediatricians in the AAP, you will speak not only clearly and credibly, but also very, very loudly.
Inaugural Meeting Held at NCE

Andrea Freeman Duncan, MD, MS, FAAP

The Mid-Career Neonatologist (MidCaN) group was created in 2016 with the goals of fostering career advancement and leadership skill development for mid-career neonatologists across the medical practice spectrum while increasing active SoNPM membership and participation.

The MidCaN group had its second meeting at the 2017 Workshop on Perinatal Practice Strategies in Scottsdale, AZ. Sixteen council members and representatives were in attendance, with more than 20 other interested attendees. Drs. Kathleen Weatherstone (Sunflower Neonatology, KS), George Little (Dartmouth, NH) and Tom Shimotake (UC San Francisco, CA) each presented their career “Lessons Learned”, and an open panel Q&A discussion with the presenters followed. The key topics included: How to get promoted and promote yourself, attaining and maintaining work-life balance, utilizing flexibility within your career to attain success, keys to providing successful mentorship, and navigating career role transitions.

Drs. John Zupancic and Renate Savich provided the MidCaN group with updates on the Section of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine. Dr. Zupancic noted the importance of including mid-career neonatologists in Section activities, as this group comprises the largest Section contingent. Dr. Savich emphasized the importance of including the support of overall well-being as a goal of the MidCaN group, as well as the importance of having representation from neonatologists at all career levels on AAP committees. Drs. Zupancic and Savich both reiterated the Section’s commitment to providing opportunities for mid-career neonatologists.

The meeting concluded with a review of MidCaN organizational documents, subcommittee reports and discussion of the strategic plan for the group, and preparation for the upcoming MidCaN meeting at the 2017 AAP NCE in Chicago.

Neonatologists who are 7-17 years post Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine fellowship are eligible to take part in MidCaN. Eligible SoNPM members who are interested in leadership positions should contact one of the executive committee members or email sonpm.midcan@gmail.com. Annual meetings are held at the Workshop on Perinatal Practice Strategies in Scottsdale, AZ in the spring and the AAP NCE meeting in the fall.

The next MidCaN meeting will be on Friday September 15, from 1 to 4pm at the AAP NCE meeting. The preliminary program includes an interactive presentation by Dr. Eric Horowitz: “Seeking a Map of the Neonatologist”, in which he will present his research detailing the characteristics of the current Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine workforce. This will be followed by a review of MidCaN organizational structure and strategic goals, and an open forum for discussion of hot topics of interest to members and networking opportunities.

Taking part in MidCaN provides excellent opportunities for networking and leadership within the AAP at a national level, career growth and development. We hope you will join us at NCE!
What helps to balance career and out of hospital life?
Balancing of career and home life can certainly be a challenge, but I am blessed with an incredible and supportive wife and two energetic boys who do understand that when their father is late for an event or needs to be in the hospital unexpectedly, it is to help an infant and their family get through a difficult time.

What made you get involved with MidCaN and what do you hope that the group will do?
My involvement in MidCaN was with the hope I’d be surrounded by peers at my work experience level who could be great sounding boards for career and personal goals as they are usually experiencing similar issues. It has also allowed for me to get better integrated with the AAP and the SoNPM and to learn about new ways to be involved with the Academy.

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**NeoReviews Editor-in-Chief Alistair G.S. Philip Retires**

**Henry Lee, MD, FAAP**

After 16 years of service, Dr. Alistair G.S. Philip, is retiring June 30 as Editor-in-Chief of NeoReviews, AAP’s pioneering online-only neonatology review journal. Dr. Philip joined the journal Editorial Board in 2001, became Co-Editor in 2003, and Editor-in-Chief in 2007.

NeoReviews debuted in 1999 as a neonatology-oriented supplement to Pediatrics in Review, AAP’s general pediatrics review journal. NeoReviews transitioned to online-only publication as a separate journal in January 2000, the first AAP journal to be published exclusively in this “new” medium called the Internet.

During his tenure, Dr. Philip, an Emeritus Professor at Stanford University, expanded the journal’s scope considerably and incorporated many innovations. For example, in the journal’s early days, content was limited with only 2-3 review articles per issue; over the years, however, Dr. Philip increased the number of cutting-edge review articles to 3-4 per issue and added the Perspectives series (Historical, International, Educational, and Nursing), Index of Suspicion in the Nursery, the Visual Diagnosis column, the Strip of the Month, Legal Briefs, and, in 2012, Video Corner - AAP journals’ first regular video learning resource. Besides this, he recruited the journal’s 20-member International Advisory Board, infusing the journal with global insight on developments in neonatology.

He also edited two books collecting various columns from the Perspectives series: Milestones in Neonatal/Perinatal Medicine and Pioneers in Neonatal/Perinatal Medicine, published by AAP in honor of the journal’s anniversaries in 2010 and 2015, respectively.

Dr. William Hay, Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Colorado, one of the founding editors of NeoReviews, calls Dr. Philip, “…the classic neonatologist - a pediatrician who knows about and takes care of every single aspect of a newborn infant’s medical disorders. His breadth of knowledge was incredible, and it was this, and his enthusiasm, that helped expand NeoReviews into the much more comprehensive journal that it is today.”

Dr. David Stevenson, Professor of Pediatrics at Stanford University noted, “As one of the founding editors of NeoReviews with Bill Hay, I can say for both of us that Alistair was the perfect successor. I use the latter word not in reference to the fact that he followed us - instead, I use it in reference to the fact that he guaranteed the journal’s success.”

Dr. Renate Savich, Professor and Chief of Neonatology at Children’s of Mississippi, University of Mississippi Medical Center and Editorial Board member of NeoReviews noted, “When I was an intern in my pediatric residency at Northwestern University/Children’s Memorial/Evanston Hospital, Dr. Philip was my attending in the NICU, and he impressed me then with his knowledge and his thoughtful approach to neonatal care. It is wonderful to be able to work with him on NeoReviews and see him furthering the field by disseminating such cutting-edge information, as well as providing innovative teaching methods such as the Videos feature, Legal Briefs, Index of Suspicion in the Nursery, and Visual Diagnosis columns. We are fortunate to have Dr. Philip as a role model and mentor.”

Announcing his impending retirement in a January 2017 commentary “Coming Down the Home Stretch,” Dr. Philip reflected on the evolution of the field of neonatology: “In the early years of my career, it was an incredibly exciting time to be involved with neonatology. Many of the advances I witnessed have been documented in the Historical Perspectives that we published in the journal. For example, as a pediatric resident, I noted the mortality rate for a 1 kg infant was approximately 90%, but within 30 years the survival rate for such an infant was over 90%! While the pace of discovery has perhaps slowed in recent years, continued modifications and refinements resulting from multicenter studies mean that care of the fetus and newborn will get even better in the years to come. I will be watching from the sidelines.”

Dr. Philip will serve another year as Editor Emeritus, assisting incoming Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Dara Brodsky.

During the AAP National Conference and Exhibition, Dr. Philip will be honored at a reception at 6pm on Friday, September 15th, at the Marriott Marquis Chicago near the McCormick Convention Center.
The development of pulmonary hypertension in infants with chronic conditions in the NICU such as BPD can present a challenging diagnostic and management problem. Identifying those infants at risk through screening, and the challenges of ongoing monitoring and treatment require a multidisciplinary approach through neonatology and pulmonary.

1:30 – 1:35 pm  
Introduction: Susan Aucott, MD, and Anita Bhandari, MD  
Moderator: Michael Prendergast, MD

1:35 – 2:20 pm  
Acquired Pulmonary Hypertension: epidemiology, incidence and risk factors in the NICU population  
Robin Steinhorn, MD

2:20 – 3:05 pm  
Diagnosis and Evaluation of Pulmonary Hypertension.  
Rachel Hopper, MD

3:05 – 3:15 Break

3:15 – 4:00 pm  
Treatment of Chronic Pulmonary Hypertension: What are the options?  
Steven Abman, MD

4:00 – 4:45 pm  
Long term outcome of Pulmonary Hypertension in the NICU population  
Peter Mourani, MD

4:45 – 4:50 pm  
Young Investigator Awards  
Sponsored by Mead Johnson Nutrition

4:50 – 5:20 pm  
Apgar Award - Richard Martin, MD  
Sponsored by Abbott Nutrition

5:30 – 6:30 TECaN Reception  
Sponsored by Abbott Nutrition

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2017

8:00 – 8:30 am  
Update from the Committee on Fetus and Newborn  
Chair: James Cummings, MD

8:30 – 9:10 am  
PEA management: who and when to treat?  
Ronald Clyman, MD

9:10 – 9:50 am  
CD: what is the best algorithm?  
Lazarus Kochius, MD

9:50 – 10:00 am Break

Joint Section Program:  
Section on Neonatal Perinatal Medicine and Section on Pediatric Nephrology – Neonatal Acute Kidney Injury

Acute kidney injury (AKI) in the neonatal population can present a diagnostic challenge in light of the normal developmental and chronologic progression of kidney function. It may be more common than realized, possibly as high as 1 of every 3 newborns admitted to tertiary level neonatal intensive care units (NICU) and those with AKI have significantly worse outcomes.
TECaN Update

Colby Day, MD, FAAP

TECaN has continued to grow each year and is excited to be moving forward with increasing involvement of our trainee and early career neonatologist membership in various meetings and initiatives!

With our continued effort to further involve our early career neonatologists in the group, we have welcomed Dr. Shelly Ann Williams and Dr. Stephanie Kukora to our Executive Committee as early career neonatologist representatives. Drs. Williams and Kukora are working to improve our outreach to both academic and community neonatologists within their first 7 years post-fellowship.

We have partnered with the Section on Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine to promote our social media platforms and enhance communication between our members. TECaN is also excited to participate in events with the new MidCaN group for greater mentoring and networking for our members.

As part of our focus on improved communication and networking, we are hoping to introduce a new set of regular webinars for our members with topics spanning from information on TECaN to career advice to advocacy and much more. Keep an eye out for upcoming emails with details on how to access these great talks!

Following a successful meeting at the Perinatal Workshop in Scottsdale this spring, TECaN has decided to have an increased focus on advocacy, involving membership at all levels in promoting TECaN-led advocacy campaigns and resolutions. For these campaigns, we will be asking for participation from interested members in development and promotion. We are also working on the development of an advocacy toolkit to help interested members learn how to become involved.

We continue to support our members participating in the Young Physicians’ Leadership Alliance (YPLA), a 3-year program sponsored by the AAP’s Section on Young Physicians. The program is aimed at developing leaders and building a leadership community among early career pediatricians and pediatric subspecialists. Participants in this course consistently describe it as an invaluable resource for developing leadership skills and networking with other members of the AAP community, providing opportunities for future collaboration and involvement.

Please encourage your fellows and early career neonatologists to visit our website and join our listserv so they can become involved in these exciting opportunities!

www.aap.org/perinatal - click on TECaN
Elections for the Organization of Neonatal Training Program Directors (ONTPD) Executive council will occur in August. There will be three 4-year openings for junior members on the ONTPD Council, and one 2-year position to replace someone stepping down as PD due to relocation. If you are interested in more information, or would like to nominate yourself or a PD colleague who has confirmed an interest, please send an email to patricia_chess@urmc.rochester.edu. Nominees should include a brief paragraph about their background, why they are interested in being on the ONTPD Council and thoughts about how they would like to contribute (1 page maximum). Areas of strength in maintaining/updating the ONTPD website, using social media to engage interactions with PDs and fellows, and optimizing on-line learning are some of the many ways one can help. The only requirement for ONTPD Executive Council members is that one is a Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Fellowship Program Director. Experienced, active Associate Program Directors will be considered. Membership in the Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Section of the AAP is strongly encouraged.

Please send nominations by July 15th. New council members will be announced at the annual ONTPD meeting at the AAP NCE in September.

The Council of Pediatric Subspecialties (CoPS) SPIN educational research group is planning the next set of national studies assessing levels of entrustment to advise PDs about fellow readiness for graduation/ independent practice. You should have received an email with a survey related to the level of entrustment at which you would be comfortable graduating a fellow. Please complete the survey! We are looking for 75% participation. The email will be coming from Beth King entitled “Subspecialty EPAs Survey - Fellowship PD Entrustment Decisions.” If you are a Neonatology fellowship program director and have not received the email please contact Dr. Richard Mink at rmink@ucla.edu

To allow fellows time to relocate following completion of their residencies, CoPS, APPD and AMSPDC have reinforced the importance of not having any fellowship orientation activities before July 1st. They also strongly encourage postponing the start of fellowship to July 7th. ABP is in support of this and reminds fellowship program directors that 36 full months are needed for fellowship training.

Revisions to the ACGME Program Requirements for GME in the Subspecialties of Pediatrics have been approved to take effect 7/1/2017. The following information regarding targeted protected time for program leadership has been added:

Program leadership, including the program director and associate program director(s), must be provided with a minimum combined total of 20-35 percent full time equivalent (FTE) protected time for the administration of the program (not including scholarly activity), depending on the size of the program, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Size</th>
<th>% FTE Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-3 fellows</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-6 fellows</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-9 fellows</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≥ 10 fellows</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The full updated version can be viewed at: http://www.acgme.org/Portals/0/PFAssets/ProgramRequirements/329_neonatal-perinatal_medicine_2017-07-01_TCC.pdf

The fall 2016 ONTPD meeting at NCE was well attended and resulted in many interesting and productive discussions. A new Program Director Boot Camp was held the Thursday afternoon before the ONTPD meeting, at which key topics faced by Program Directors were discussed in small work groups. Given the positive response, a small working group Boot Camp is being planned for September 14, 2017, preceding the September 15 ONTPD meeting at the NCE in Chicago.

The ONTPD scholarly activity meeting at PAS in San Francisco was also very well attended. The meeting included guest speakers on education as scholarly activity and a talk by Dennis Twombly on NIH funding of trainees. We have already begun negotiating for a larger room next year!

ONTPD Workgroups are hard at work (pun intended) developing a national curriculum for clinical neonatology, QA/QI and scholarly activity.

New pediatric subspecialty-specific EPAs and EPA curricular components are now vetted by ACGME/ABP and available on line at: https://www.abp.org/subspecialty-epas
Task Force for Neonatal-Perinatal Therapeutic Development (NeoPeriTD) Progress Report
Ronald L. Ariagno MD, FAAP

Advocating for Parent, Neonatal Nursing and Community Support of Clinical Trials Studies to Approve Therapeutics For Infants

The March of Dimes (MOD) website article “Clinical Trials for Your Baby” (May 1, 2017), which was a collaboration between NeoPeriTD and MOD, should inform expecting pregnant women, parents, families, grandparents, neonatal nurses, and community about clinical trials and the fact that most drugs used in the care of critically ill neonates are “off label” (i.e., not approved for safety, efficacy, dose or formulation).

Neonatologists select therapies based on applying the information on drugs approved for children and adult populations; on what is accepted as current “standard of care” (SOC); the availability of drug in the hospital formulary; site, regional or national opinion; and the level of comfort in using the drug in a neonate based on the published literature and advice from “experts” or consultants. Parents and families will be served by knowing why regulatory research is required to establish safety and efficacy.

The MOD article should enable parents, neonatal nurses, community and parent groups to advocate for neonatal drug studies; comparative SOC clinical investigations; and for the discovery of benchmarks for diagnosis, mechanisms of disease and the endpoint/outcome measurements essential for successful regulatory research studies and approval.

We invite parents and families to advocate through communication between the many parent groups and through appropriate social media to inspire neonatologists and neonatal nurses and to establish funding for regulatory research, which is essential to improve safety and efficacy of neonatal therapeutics.

See complete article at:
http://www.marchofdimes.org/complications/clinical-trials-for-your-baby.aspx
NANN Report
Erin Keels, DNP, APRN, NNP-BC
The National Association of Neonatal Nurses (NANN) has over 7,500 members, of which 18% are also members of the National Association of Neonatal Nurse Practitioners (NANNP) division. The association’s initiatives bring attention to a range of topics that advance the care of the neonatal population and the neonatal nursing profession.

Parent/Family Education
Baby Steps to Home, created to standardize the discharge pathway NICU nurses use to educate parents about their baby’s condition and prepare them to take their baby home, is free and available in both English and Spanish translations. It includes evidence-based PDFs for nursing education and easy-to-understand, editable documents that can be printed and handed to parents following a discussion. http://babystepstohome.com/

Neonatal Nurse Education
Evaluation of Cardiac Murmurs in the Newborn is a new CNE module available through NANN. Neonatal Advanced Practice Nursing: A Cased Based Learning Approach is a case based pathophysiology text specifically designed for the Neonatal APRN and provides both a pragmatic and clinical resource. Each case is developed through the utilization of a system based approach which is supported by current evidence, advanced physical assessment and pathophysiology. This text promotes development of critical thinking through the use of realistic clinical cases.

The Neonatal Review Course is an online review course that provides neonatal nurses with information to successfully complete the National Certification Corporation test for the Registered Nurse Certified - Neonatal Intensive Care (RNC-NIC) certification or to obtain the Certification for Adult, Pediatric, and Neonatal Critical Care Nurses given by the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses Certification Corporation (AWHONN). The review course is comprised of 14 modules and offers up to 26.75 CNE contact hours. Although the video is strictly streaming and cannot be downloaded, once purchased, it can be viewed as often as desired. See www.NANN.org for more information.

The 2017 NANN National Conference will take place in Providence, Rhode Island October 11-14. The NANN Conference scholarship program will help support qualified applicants to attend. For more information, see http://nann.org/31-submit-your-abstract-for-nann-2017

Advocacy
NANN partnered with the Nursing Organizations Alliance to sponsor 2 NANN members to attend the annual 3-day Nurse in Washington Internship (NIWI) March 12-14, 2017.

In early January 2017, several NANN content experts participated in an interview with the U.S. Government Accountability Office to help in their efforts to gather information about the prevalence of neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS) in the United States, best practices for treating infants with NAS, and the services available to infants and families affected by opioid use disorder and NAS. Additionally, NANN members joined the Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments in a meeting with Gail McCarthy, the former administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, to solidify an alliance between nurses and the federal agency charged with protecting the health of all Americans. This meeting was a follow up to the May 2016 White House Summit where NANN also was represented.

NANN is partnering with Procter & Gamble to offer the Pampers Thank You Nurses campaign. This program celebrates the essential role nurses play in facilitating strong relationships between newborns and their parents. At the conclusion of the nomination period, there were 874 NICU nurses nominated. Stay tuned for the exciting announcement of this year’s recipient!

Professional Issues
NANN Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) Competencies and NNP Mentoring Toolkit are in the final stages of development and will be released soon to help support Neonatal APRN professional development.

With sponsorship from Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals and Kantar Health, NANN and NCC conducted a national, comprehensive NNP compensation survey in September, 2016. Preliminary findings were shared at the 2016 NANN Educational Conference, and an executive summary is pending. Highlights of the survey include:

- Wide variability of wage and other compensation practices across the U.S., with the lowest wages in AL, FL, GA, MS
- Nearly half of NNPs are working more than 40 hours per week. One-third report working more than their
scheduled hours per week

• Less than half of NNPs receive paid non-clinical hours. For those who do, these hours tend to be minimal or inconsistent.

New SoNPM Educational Offering Beginning July 2017: Neonatology Guidelines and Protocols Archive
Renate Savich MD, FAAP; William A Engle MD, FAAP; and Scott C. Denne MD, FAAP, Co-Chairs of the Neonatology Guidelines and Protocols Sharing Task Force

In response to requests by members, the SoNPM is offering a new opportunity for sharing neonatology guidelines and protocols that are developed within institutions to achieve best outcomes for sick and preterm neonates. The mission of such guideline and protocol sharing is to improve the outcomes of sick and preterm neonates by sharing evidence-informed and peer-reviewed guidelines and protocols with the national and international neonatology community using the SoNPM website. This forum provides a new resource for neonatology practitioners and an avenue to share the expertise of your colleagues in your neonatology group.

The components of guidelines and protocols that are essential and required in submissions include:

• Title
• Authors, FAAP status, and Institution(s)
• City, State, Country
• Introduction
• Scope
• Background
• Recommendations
• References (current, landmark)
• Date of Submission/Last update
• Content Specification Category (listing available in submission template found on the Neonatology Guidelines and Protocols Archive tab on the SoNPM website).

Components that are encouraged in each guideline/protocol include an estimate of the quality of evidence; strength of each recommendation; and a disclaimer emphasizing the educational and informational purposes, that the guideline/protocol is but one approach for care (i.e. not exclusive), and that care must be individualized based on patient-specific circumstances and discretion of the clinician.

Components that are optional, though helpful for colleagues, are literature search and appraisal methods, cost savings estimate if recommendations are incorporated, potential quality indicators, and an implementation plan.

Submissions received will be reviewed by members of the Neonatology Guidelines and Protocols Archive Editorial Subcommittee who will determine if the guideline/protocol contains necessary components, edit the document for content and grammar/spelling, and either accept for posting on the website or return the submission for revision.

It is important to emphasize that guidelines and protocols that are submitted are for the education and information of our neonatology community, represent the opinions of the authors (not the American Academy of Pediatrics), and do not indicate an exclusive course of diagnosis and/or treatment nor a standard of medical care.

Submissions will be accepted beginning July 2017. The submission template is located on the SoNPM website and can be submitted by emailing to: Monique Phillips (mphillips@aap.org)

Please forward this exciting new opportunity to colleagues who develop guidelines and protocols for your neonatal intensive care units. In addition to being a forum for sharing expertise, this offering provides an opportunity for recognizing the work of colleagues at your institutions.

Coding Question
A 32 week baby boy born by C-section with a birth weight of 1.6 kg has mild RDS and was on 1L nasal canula, IV fluids and trophic feeds. On days 0-2 the coding was for intensive care. On DOL 3, the baby has worsening respiratory distress syndrome of the newborn and requires CPAP.

The correct CPT code is:

A. 99479 – subsequent intensive care, current weight 1500-2500 grams
B. 99469 – subsequent critical care < 29 days
C. 99468 – initial critical care < 29 days

The correct answer can be found on Page 17.
Marshall Klaus Celebrates 90th Birthday!
Avroy A. Fanaroff, MD, FAAP

Marshall H Klaus just celebrated his 90th birthday surrounded by friends and his five children with their respective families. He was a pioneer in Neonatology who changed the way millions of babies were cared for, and by facilitating maternal-infant bonding prevented much abuse and abandonment of vulnerable babies. Furthermore, through his trainees, now in the 4th generation, he has had a major global impact on neonatal education and research.

Many trainees, including myself, chose Cleveland as a place to train serendipitously. I chose Cleveland because of the warmth of the offer letter from Marshall, nothing more complex than that. Furthermore, we were only coming for one year. Well, one year turned to two and then a career. We had gauged Marshall perfectly. He was warm and generous. He was the perfect mentor and I am eternally grateful to him, because he opened the door for my career and many other careers.

Marshall is unique amongst his peers because he was not afraid to think out of the box. He was at the forefront of pulmonary research and the development of surfactant therapy when he realized there was a huge gap in the study of maternal-infant bonding. He then switched direction, and together with the late John Kennell, his bosom buddy, they set upon their groundbreaking studies on maternal-infant bonding. They opened the eyes of the world to the importance of allowing mothers to bond soon after birth with their newborn infants, paved the way to allow families into the neonatal intensive care units, and gathered the evidence to demonstrate the importance of a doula (companion) during labor. This culminated in many books, worldwide lectures and an opening of birthing facilities and nurseries to families. Marshall and John were the pioneers in family-centered care long before that term was coined. Marshall and John tackled the tough problems, malformed babies, preterm babies, and neonatal death with courage and equanimity, teaching generations of students and residents how to cope with these difficult issues.

I shared an office with Marshall during fellowship. We were in the old radiology section with a lead coated door and window air conditioning. As he was Residency Director, I was constantly out of the office looking for a place to work. But, in the office, he taught and inspired me to be able to question and think outside the box, to be courageous and step where others had not yet set foot. He was a brilliant teacher and storyteller, performing like a Shakespearean actor, and by the end of a formal lecture, the audience were eating out of his hand. He also directed and acted in “The Amazing Newborn,” a prize-winning movie on the capabilities of the newborn, including moving to the rhythm of the spoken human voice. The movie was made by the late Maureen Hack and directed by Patricia Rambasek.

Early in my fellowship he decided we should do a book, which we wrote sentence by painful sentence with DORIME, the Division of Research in Medical Education. They provided some secretarial help so they were of the opinion that they were entitled to all the royalties. The book was unique in that we introduced new material in case studies, and had experts comment on other ways of management when there was no evidence for a clear management pathway. One publisher said they liked the material, but they did not think it would sell. W.B. Saunders published it and said it was a medical best seller. Elsevier have just requested the 7th edition.

Marshall loved his trainees and nurtured them. He instilled the right principles and directed us to the right path, and opened our minds to the importance of the family and evidenced-based medicine. We are his academic children, his legacy. Now he has hundreds of academic children and grandchildren. He can be very proud as amongst his earliest trainees were John Kattwinkel, Wally Carlo, Richard Martin and myself who have received or will receive the Apgar Award, a lifetime achievement award in neonatology and the late Maureen Hack, who, like Marshall received the Landmark Award. All of the above have joined Marshall as legends in neonatology.

Marshall was a blue-blood academic. Business was not his forte. When he induced John Kattwinkel to build the nasal prongs for CPAP together with the Biomedical Engineering department, they succeeded in making a beautiful silicone nosepiece, completing five renditions in a six-week time frame. We were charged $5 for each piece, gave away many, mailing them out to those requesting them and charging $5 for each and wondered why we were out-of-pocket!

Marshall had a huge influence on our family. I am pleased to report that Marshall, together with his 1st fellow Howard Gruber, cared for Jonathan Fanaroff who nearly died from respiratory failure. Jonathan is now Co-Director of the nursery he spent his first 3 weeks of life in, is Professor of Pediatrics, has a law degree and is Chair of AOA and the AAP Risk Management group.

Marshall was always there to advise us as we transitioned from Africa to the USA. The 1st time Marshall came to our apartment for dinner, they left at 11pm and he said, “See you later.” Not familiar with the terminology, my wife, Ros, turned to me as the door closed and asked, “Why are they coming back? I need to go to bed!”

Marshall has some quirks, not the least of which was eating orange peels and breaking and chewing Styrofoam. To this day he loves Chinese food and likes his salads crunchy. Above all Marshall is a mensch, who is defined as a particularly good person, similar to a “stand-up guy,” a person with the qualities one would hope for in a friend or trusted colleague. I treasure his role as my mentor and counselor.

We all wish him the best of health and long life. Marshall, may you enjoy many more birthdays and celebrations!

With much love from all your colleagues and trainees, as well as the millions of babies who benefitted from your research.
Firstly, this baby now meets criteria for being critical due to respiratory failure secondary to RDS requiring CPAP. Therefore your documentation must support the change in the baby’s status and why you now consider the baby to be critical.

Secondly, 99468 is utilized for the first day of critical care which needn’t be the first day of life. Many neonatologists probably code 99469 for subsequent day of critical care but in fact 99468 is the more appropriate choice.

Thirdly, 99468 can only be used once per hospital stay. So if, for example, a baby starts out critical from RDS (e.g. on a ventilator), improves to the point of requiring only intensive care (now on 1L 23% oxygen), then develops NEC and is considered critical again, the circumstances are different. In this scenario, 99468 could not be used again because it was used on admission and therefore 99469 would be the appropriate choice.
John A F Zupancic MD ScD FAAP  
*Chairperson*
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Ctr
Dept Of Neonatology, Rose 318
330 Brookline Ave
Boston, MA 02215-5400
Phone: (617)667-3276
jzupanci@bidmc.harvard.edu

Renate D Savich MD FAAP  
*Immediate Past Chair*
University of Mississippi Medical Center
2500 N. State St.
Jackson, MS 39216
Phone: (601)815-5981
rsavich@umc.edu

Munish Gupta MD FAAP  
*DISTRICT I, Exec Comm Member*
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
330 Brookline Ave
Boston, MA 02215-5400
Phone: (617)667-3276
mgupta@bidmc.harvard.edu

Angel Rios MD FAAP  
*DISTRICT II, Exec Comm Member*
Bernard and Millie Duker Children’s Hospital at the Albany Medical Center
47 New Scotland Avenue
Albany, NY 12208
Phone: (518) 262-5421
riosa@mail.amc.edu

Susan Aucott MD FAAP  
*DISTRICT III, Exec Comm Member*
Johns Hopkins University
600 N Wolfe St/Nelson 2-133
Baltimore, MD 21287
Phone: (410)955-5259
saucott@jhmi.edu

Cherie D Welch MD MPH FAAP  
*DISTRICT IV, Exec Comm Member*
Wake Forest University School of Medicine
Medical Center Blvd.
Winston Salem, NC 27157-0001
Phone (336)716-4663
cwelch@wakehealth.edu

Mary Nock MD FAAP  
*DISTRICT V, Exec Comm Member*
Rainbow Babies & Childrens Hospital
11100 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44106
Phone: (216)844-3387
mary.nock@uhhospitals.org

Thomas N George MD FAAP  
*DISTRICT VI, Exec Comm Member*
University of Minnesota Amplatz Children’s Hospital
Division of Neonatology
East Building Mb632
2450 Riverside Ave
Minneapolis, MN 55454-1450
Phone: (612)624-6595
tgeorge@umn.edu

Clara Song MD FAAP  
*DISTRICT VII, Exec Comm Member*
University of Oklahoma Division of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine
7th Fl N Pavilion Etnp 7361
1200 North Everett Drive
Oklahoma City, OK 73104-5047
Phone: (405)714-3333
clara-song@ouhsc.edu

Lily J Lou MD FAAP  
*DISTRICT VIII, Exec Comm Member*
Alaska Neonatology Associates
3340 Providence Dr Ste 366
Anchorage, AK 99508-2627
Phone: (907)212-6810
lilylou@mindspring.com

Andrew Hopper MD FAAP  
*DISTRICT IX, Exec Comm Member*
Department of Pediatrics
Loma Linda University
School of Medicine
11175 Campus St.
Loma Linda, CA 92350
ahopper@llu.edu

Mark Hudak MD FAAP  
*DISTRICT X, Exec Comm Member*
Univ of Florida College of Medicine
653-1 West 8th Street
Jacksonville, FL 32209
Phone (904)244-3508
mark.hudak@jax.ufl.edu

Carl L Bose MD MPH FAAP  
*Of Counsel*
University of North Carolina Hospitals Div of Neonatal/Perinatal Medicine
101 Manning Dr, CB #7596
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7596
cbose@med.unc.edu

SECTION COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND LIAISONS

Jorn-Hendrik Weitkamp MD FAAP  
*Chair, Research Committee*
Vanderbilt University & Monroe Carell Jr Children’s Hospital
2215 B Garland Ave,
1125 MRB IV/Light Hall
Nashville, TN 37232-0656
Phone: (615)322-3476
hendrik.weitkamp@vanderbilt.edu

Colby Day MD FAAP  
*TECaN Chair*
Medical University of South Carolina
Charleston, SC 29412
dayco@musc.edu

Edward E Lawson MD FAAP  
*Editor, Journal of Perinatology*
Sutland/Pakula Newborn Critical Care Center
Charlotte R. Bloomberg Children’s Center - Mailstop 08004
1800 Orleans St. / Rm 8513 - 8 South
Baltimore, MD 21287
Phone: (410)955-5259
elawson@jhmi.edu
**Sandra E Juul MD PhD FAAP**  
Committee on Fetus and Newborn  
University of Washington  
1312 NE 36th Street  
Bellevue, WA 98005-1327  
Phone: (425)861-7301  
sjuul@uw.edu

**Thomas Parker MD FAAP**  
TECaN Mentor  
Children's Colorado  
13121 E 17th Ave  
Aurora, CO 80045  
thomas.parker@childrenscolorado.org

**Stephen A Pearlman MD MSHQS FAAP**  
Chair, Coding Committee  
462 Barneyswood Circle  
Kennett Square, PA 19348  
Phone: (302)733-2410  
spearlman@christianacare.org

**Ann R Stark MD FAAP**  
Chair, Fellow Education Committee  
Vanderbilt University Medical Center  
2200 Children's Way  
Nashville, TN 37232-005  
Phone: (615)343-7660  
ann.r.stark@vanderbilt.edu

**Linda J Van Marter MD MPH FAAP**  
Chair, Website Committee  
TECaN Mentor  
Brigham & Women's Hospital  
Department of Pediatric Newborn Medicine  
75 Francis Street  
Boston, MA 02115-6110  
Phone: (617)355-6027  
linda.vanmarter@childrens.harvard.edu

**Eugene N Ng MD FAAP**  
Liaison, Canadian Pediatric Society  
Sunnybrook Health Sciences Center  
Newborn & Developmental Paediatrics  
2075 Bayview Ave  
Toronto, ON M4N 3M5  
Phone: (416)480-6100, x87781  
eugene.ng@sunnybrook.ca

**Garrett K Lam MD**  
Liaison, Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine  
UT Chattanooga  
902 McCallie Ave  
Chattanooga, TN 37403  
Phone: (423)664-4460  
lam@rocb.com

**Tonse N K Raju MD DCH FAAP**  
Liaison, National Institutes of Health  
281 Shadow Glen Ct  
Gaithersburg, MD 20878-7417  
Phone: (301)402-1872  
raju@mail.nih.gov

**Erin L Keels APRN MS NNP-BC**  
Liaison, National Association of Neonatal Nurses  
700 Children’s Dr  
Columbus, OH 43205-2664  
Phone: (614)506-5097  
erin.keels@nationwidechildrens.org

**Jim Couto, MA**  
Director, Division of Hospital and Surgical Services  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
141 Northwest Point Blvd  
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007  
Phone: (847)434-7656  
Fax: (847)434-8000  
jcouto@aap.org

**Vivian Thorne**  
Manager, Division of Hospital and Surgical Services  
Phone: (847)434-7669  
vthorne@aap.org

**Monique Phillips, MA**  
Coordinator, Division of Hospital and Surgical Services  
Phone: (847)434-7639  
mphillips@aap.org
ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Newborn Medicine Division at Floating Hospital for Children at Tufts Medical Center is excited to launch a new training program. On August 18th, 2017, we will be conducting the Senior Fellow Neonatal Perinatal Boot Camp, a collaborative initiative of neonatology-perinatology fellowship training programs throughout AAP district I. Please contact Romal Jassar (rjassar@tuftsmedicalcenter.org) for more information.

On Sept 15, 2017, under the direction of Mariann Pappagallo, Connecticut Children’s NICU at UCONN will be hosting our 2nd Annual Symposium on Neonatal Advances in Farmington, CT. This year’s topic is “Update on Feeding and Nutrition Practices,” featuring Michael Georgieff, Ish Gulati, Sharon Wargo, Neelosh Tipnis, Lauren Madhoun, and Brenda Poindexter. Please consider joining us for this outstanding program!

The Department of Pediatric Newborn Medicine, Brigham and Women’s Hospital is glad to announce its 2nd New England Neonatal aEEG and Neuroimaging Workshop to be held on November 8-9, 2017 at the Joseph B. Martin Conference Center, Harvard Medical School. This workshop will educate medical providers (physicians, trainees, nurses and allied health professions) about the technology of neonatal aEEG, how to interpret and incorporate the tool into clinical practice, and provide the basic knowledge needed to interpret neonatal HUS and MRI and their applications in neonates. To allow for individualized experience we have limited registration to a small group of participants. If interested, please do not hesitate to register today using the following link: www.phscdp.org/NeonatalaEEGNeuroimaging Workshop

CONNECTICUT

Connecticut Children’s Medical Center, Hartford

In March 2017, Naveed Hussain led a group of neonatologists and NICU nurses to teach a modified Helping Babies Breathe Program of the AAP to birth attendants in Telangana State in India. The team included Shabnam Lainwala from CCMC Hartford, CT; Venkata Raju from Temple, TX; and Katherine Miller and Patricia Thurston from the CCMC NICU in Farmington, CT. This effort was supported by CCMC Global Health Center, which provided funds for educational materials and resuscitation kits.

James Moore was an invited speaker on NICU QI at the Australia and New Zealand International Neonatology Conference in Sydney, Australia in September 2017.

We would like to congratulate 2nd year fellow Maushumi Assad on receiving a Pediatric Academic Societies Travel Grant to present her work on the human milk microbiome, as well as fellows Jennifer Caldwell, Susan Pllts, and Kendall Johnson for having successful presentations at PAS.

We are pleased to welcome our new neonatal-perinatal medicine fellows starting this July, Bette Ford and Rachel Koski. Bette will be joining us from Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta and Rachel will be joining us from Albany Medical Center. We also would like to extend congratulations to Kendall Johnson who will become faculty at Connecticut Children’s and University of Connecticut after completing her fellowship.

We welcome three new faculty members to the Connecticut Children’s family. Annmarie Golito, Ahmet Semih Gork, and Juliann Sheehan joined us in April 2017. In addition, Annmarie will serve as Medical Director of the NICU and Chief of Pediatrics at Hospital of Central Connecticut and MidState Medical Center.

As Co-Director of the Connecticut Perinatal Quality Collaborative (CPQC), Marilyn Sanders convened two statewide conferences to support CPQC initiatives focused on trauma-informed care, the high-risk mother/infant dyad, and neonatal abstinence syndrome. Dr. Sanders is also on advisory panels for both the Department of Children and Families and the Connecticut Hospital Association addressing perinatal aspects of the opioid crisis.

MAINE

Barbara Bush Children’s Hospital, Portland

We are pleased to announce that Misty Melendi has been named as the new Medical Director and Peter Marro has been named the new Division Director of our Neonatal ICU. Maine Neonatology welcomes two outstanding neonatologist to their team. Allison Zanno from CHOP will be starting July 1st and Alan Picarillo from Henrico Doctors Hospital will be starting September 1st.

MASSACHUSETTS

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston

We bid farewell to an outstanding neonatologist and highly regarded colleague, Heather Burris, who will soon relocate and join the staff at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. Heather has been a friend and mentor to many in the neonatology community in Boston and New England, and she will be missed!

Emily Whitesell will complete the Harvard Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Fellowship Program at the end of June and join our neonatology faculty. Dr. Whitesell is a graduate of Vassar College and Harvard Medical School. She completed a pediatric residency at New York Presbyterian Hospital.

John Zupancic recently was honored to be this year’s speaker for the annual Kristine Sandberg Krisel Lectureship at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, joining a long list of renowned lecturers. John’s presentation was entitled, “Burdens beyond Biology for Sick Newborn Infants and Their Families.”

Wendy Timpson successfully competed for a grant from the MIT-Philips Research Award for Clinicians program. With this support, Wendy receives an appointment as an MIT Visiting Scientist. The project will focus on oxygen saturation targeting in the NICU.

Vincent Smith was featured in a television news story on WBZ about a newly created vibrating crib mattress developed with colleagues at the Wyss Institute that shows promise for treating apnea in premature infants.

Boston Children’s Hospital

Boston Children’s Hospital is excited to welcome three new faculty members. Asimenia Angelidou and Amy O’Connell are completing their fellowships at the Harvard combined fellowship program and will be joining the faculty at Boston Children’s Hospital. Asimenia’s research is in immunology, and Amy works in developmental immunology and genetics.

Diana Yanni is joining the team at Boston Children’s Hospital and Winchester Hospital after completing her fellowship this year at Tufts. She will also work with the infant follow-up program. Welcome!

We are also proud to share the plans for our graduating fellows. As mentioned above, Asimenia Angelidou and Amy O’Connell will be joining us as faculty members. Three other graduating fellows will also remain local: Katherine Bell will be joining the faculty at Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Juan Matute will be joining the faculty at Massachusetts General Hospital, and Emily Whitesell will be joining the team at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. Paulomi Mehta is departing to Indianapolis, where she will be join the faculty at Riley Children’s Hospital.

We also welcome our new fellows: Kristyn Beam completed her pediatric residency training at The Floating Hospital for Children at Tufts Medical Center and is interested in clinical decision-making and improving neonatal outcomes. Erika Gabriela Cordova Ramos completed her pediatric residency training at the Boston Combined Residency Program in Pediatrics and is interested in clinical outcomes research with a focus on nutrition, postnatal growth, and neonatal outcomes. Patricia Davenport completed her pediatric residency training at New York University. Her research explores the effect nutrition and growth have on the neurodevelopment of NICU infants, and she will pursue basic science research in fellowship.

Samantha Enstad completed her pediatric residency training at McGaw Medical Center of Northwestern University and Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago, and is interested in clinical research and neonatal epidemiology. Emily Herzberg completed her pediatric residency training at Massachusetts General Hospital for Children, and will pursue work in neonatal brain injury and neurodevelopmental outcomes. Ravi Renu has a PhD in Biologic Sciences in Public Health in addition to his MD, and completed his pediatric residency training at the Boston Combined Residency Program in Pediatrics. He is interested in basic science and global health research. Omri David Soffer completed his pediatric residency training at Northwell Health, Staten Island University Hospital, and is interested in basic science research in neurobiology. Julie Thai completed her pediatric residency training at UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital Oakland. She is interested in basic and translational research in nutrition.
Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Boston

Helen Christou and Stella Kourembanas were recently awarded the BWH Distinguished Clinician Award. The Distinguished Clinician Award is bestowed upon a select group on accomplished physicians who carry forward Brigham and Women’s Hospital’s tradition of outstanding patient care.

Sarbattama (Rimi) Sen was awarded the 40 Under 40 Healthcare Innovator Award.

Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston

MGH is excited to welcome two new faculty members who will be joining us this summer.

Megan Aurora is joining our team after completing the University of Michigan Medical School Neonatal-Perinatal Fellowship. Juan Matute is joining MGH after completing the Harvard Neonatal-Perinatal Fellowship. Juan has been supported by the Pediatric Development Program.

Tufts Medical Center, Boston

The New England Perinatal Society held its annual meeting in Newport, RI in March 2017. Many trainees and faculty from across New England presented excellent science during the 2 ½ day annual meeting. We are looking forward to another successful meeting in 2018 to be held on the first weekend in March 2018 again in Newport.

Jennifer Dunch has been will join our faculty in July 2017 following the completion of her Doctorate in Epidemiology at Columbia University. Dr. Dunch has been on the faculty at Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital and Columbia University for the past several years and is double boarded in Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine and Pediatric Infectious Diseases. Dr. Dunch will work at the Floating and our community nurseries and will focus on epidemiology research within the Tufts Clinical and Translational Science Institute.

Jaclyn Boulais will join us in July 2017 following the completion of her fellowship in Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine at The Floating Hospital for Children and Tufts University. Dr. Boulais will work at the Floating and our community nurseries and will focus on education of neonatology fellows, pediatric residents, medical students and other trainees.

Meghan Reyes-Wangh will join our faculty in July 2017 following the completion of her fellowship in Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine at Bellvue Hospital and New York University. Dr. Reyes-Wangh will be working at the Floating and our community nurseries and will focus on quality improvement activities.

Mary Ann Volpe was awarded a Tufts 2017 Clinical Translation Science Institute Award (NIH-CTSI) to investigate the development of a non-invasive multimetrics approach to early diagnosis of BPD associated PH.

Elizabeth Yen received the Young Physician Leadership Alliance Award from the AAP.

Peter Murray was appointed the Research Subject Advocate for the Tufts Clinical Translational Science Institute (CTSI).

Jill Maron was named Vice-Chair of Research and Executive Director of the Mother-Infant Research Institute, replacing Diana Bianchi who is the new Director of NICHD.

Jonathan Davis was appointed Associate Director of the Tufts Clinical and Translational Research Institute and chaired the Opioid Use in Pregnancy, Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome, and Childhood Outcomes Workshop at NICHD.

Alexandra Smith received the Louis E. Bartoshesky Award for Exceptional Dedication and Compassion in Caring for Children and the Sydney S. Gellis, MD Young Physician’s Award from The Floating Hospital for Children at Tufts Medical Center.

Jill Maron presented “The Promises and Challenges of Integrating Salivary Diagnostics into the NICU” at the Asia-Pacific Saliva Symposium in Guangzhou, China.

Jonathan Davis presented “The Challenges of Developing New and Existing Drugs for Neonates” at the Japan Society for Neonatal Health and Development in Osaka, Japan, and “The Study of New and Existing Drugs in Children” at the Pediatric Public Policy Council at Pediatric Academics Societies, San Francisco, CA.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, Lebanon

Carol Lynn O’Dea has been appointed as Director of Graduate Education at Children’s Hospital at Dartmouth. As part of this role, she will oversee both the fellowship in neonatology and the pediatric residency.

Steve Ringer has assumed the Dartmouth Principal Investigator role of the Dartmouth/MUHAS Research Ethics Training and Program Development for Tanzania (DMRET).

RHODE ISLAND

Women & Infants Hospital of Rhode Island, Providence


Martin Keszler was invited to present at the Reba Michels Hill, MD Memorial Lecture: “Physician-Induced Lung Injury: How to Avoid Hurting the Baby You Are Trying to Save” at Texas Children’s Hospital, Baylor University in December 2016.

Abbot Laptok presented, “Cooling After 6 Hours of Age: the Late Hypothermia Trial” at Hot Topics in Neonatology in Washington, DC on December 4-7, 2016.

Beatrice Lechner represented the Division of Neonatology in the contingent from Brown University’s Global Health Initiative/Hasbro Children’s Hospital during their visit to St. Damien Children’s Hospital, Haiti, January 7-13, 2017. At St. Damien’s, Dr. Lechner initiated a needs assessment survey of their NICU, taught 2 courses in neonatal resuscitation, and delivered lectures on neonatal ventilation and neonatal blood gas assessment.

Barry Lester and Stephen Sheinkopf have been awarded a $100,000 grant from the Brown Biomedical Innovation Fund to accelerate the commercialization of new technology discovered in its research labs.

Surendra Sharma presented at the 4th International Summit Forum on Reproductive Immunology, Shanghai, China December 9-11, 2016. Dr. Sharma also presented at University of Delhi, Delhi, India on January 24, 2017, and at Centre at Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology, Kerala, India on January 31, 2017.

Women and Infants Hospital has been awarded a $12.2 million National Institutes of Health Center of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) grant to boost interdisciplinary research related to women’s reproductive health. The programmatic and scientific goals of this COBRE for Reproductive Health are to develop research infrastructure for a center that supports a multidisciplinary, translational and innovative program in women’s reproductive health. This is the first COBRE of its size and the only one to focus on women’s health.

Surendra Sharma will serve as the PI and Maureen Phipps, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, will serve as Deputy Director of the program.

Betty Vohr attended the 16th Annual Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Meeting on February 26-27, 2017 held in Atlanta, GA and gave 2 presentations. At the 30th Annual Gravens Conference in Clearwater, FL on March 1-3, 2017, Dr. Vohr presented, “Auditory Environment of Preterm Infants in the NICU” and gave a workshop “Parents and Staff Communication with Preterm Infants in the NICU.”

Adriel Barrios-Anderson received the Society for Pediatric Research Student Research Award at the Pediatric Academic Societies meeting in San Francisco.

VERMONT

University of Vermont, Burlington

The University of Vermont Children’s Hospital and the Division of Neonatology celebrate the accomplishments of graduating student, Shannon Evans, and wishes her well as she heads to Kentucky. In addition to working as a neonatologist at Norton Women’s and Children’s Hospital in Louisville, Dr. Evans plans to continue her work in the areas of quality improvement and shared decision making at the border of viability.

Congratulations to Roger Soll for receiving the Douglas K. Richardson Award for Perinatal and Pediatric Healthcare Research. With this award, Dr. Soll is recognized for his substantive contributions to improving evidence based neonatal care throughout his career.

The Vermont Children’s Hospital was selected as one of 17 institutions to participate in the NIH funded IDeA States Pediatric Clinical Trials Network. The Division of Neonatology, under the leadership of Leslie Young, is actively engaged in research development and trial selection specific to prenatal, perinatal, and postnatal outcomes.

Deirdre O’Reilly, recent faculty member addition to University of Vermont, has assumed
the role of Associate Program Director for the neonatology fellowship program.

The division continues its work, through the efforts of Anne Johnston and as part of a multi-partner collaboration, to provide a comprehensive approach to the care of pregnant women with opioid use disorders and their children. The CHARM (Children And Recovering Mothers) program has been recognized as a model of care by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and is included in their recent publication.

The University of Vermont Medical Center was recognized by Practice Greenhealth with the Top 25 Environmental Excellence Award for leading the industry with innovation in sustainability.

**DISTRICT II: Angel Rios**

**NEW YORK**

Bernard and Millie Duker Children’s Hospital at the Albany Medical Center

Congratulations to our colleague and faculty member James Cummings on his appointment as Chairman of the Committee on Fetus and Newborn.

Save the Date! Angel Rios has organized the 9th Annual Current Topics in Neonatal Nutrition and Advances in Neonatal Care in Tarrytown, NY. Invited speakers will include Myra Wyckoff, Seetha Shankaran, Paula Meier, Thomas Jaksic, Satyam Lakshminrusimha, Jae Kim, and John Zupancic. The conference will be held at the Tappan Hill Mansion on October 24-25.

Congratulations to Gina Geis who has been appointed to serve as a member of the Committee on Bioethics.

Children’s Hospital at Montefiore/Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx

Kudos to Judy L. Aschner who was selected as the 2017 Eastern Society for Pediatric Research (ESPR) Mentor of the Year and served as keynote speaker at the 29th annual meeting of the ESPR held March 24-26, 2017.

AAP Textbook of Pediatric Care and Neonatology for Primary Care have been selected as part of the 2017 Doody’s Core Titles collection. Doody’s Core Titles, the essential collection development tool for health science libraries, represents the collective wisdom of over 200 medical librarians and content experts on the “must-have” titles in 121 health science specialties. Deborah Campbell is an editor of and contributor to AAP Textbook of Pediatric Care and Neonatology for Primary Care. Current Division of Neonatology faculty members who contributed to these publications include: Mamta Fuloria, Abieyuwa Iyare, Sheri Nemerosky, Suhas Nafday, and Orna Rosen.

Many thanks to all our colleagues, across the US, who contributed to make these resources so exceptional and highly regarded.

Deborah Campbell was Co-chair of the Bright Futures Expert Panel on Infancy for Bright Futures: Guidelines for Health Supervision of Infants, Children, and Adolescents (4th edition).

Brian A. Shaw and Suhas Nafday authored the resolution, “Hip Healthy: Swaddling Techniques to Avoid Causing Preventable Hip Dysplasia,” adopted at the 2017 Annual AAP Academy Leadership Forum held in Chicago in March 2017. The resolution was sponsored by the AAP Sections on Orthopedics and Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine.

Suhas Nafday was the key speaker at the New York Zero to Three Round Table for Public Education held on April 27, 2017.

Deborah Campbell was a featured presenter and workshop leader at the 4th International Neonatology Conference of Neonatology, held February 16-18, 2017 at the National Training Institute in Cairo, Egypt. This meeting is co-sponsored by the European Society for Paediatric Research, the European Board of Neonatology and the Allied Physicians for Pediatric and Neonatal Intensive Care.

Orna Rosen and Robert Angert, in collaboration with Granadian physicians, Dione Donald, a pediatrician practicing in upstate NY and Beverly Nelson, senior pediatric consultant and shared Chair of Pediatrics of the Ministry of Health, Grenada, led a 5-day training in May at the Grenada General Hospital to establish NRP and the Helping Babies Breathe component of Essential Care for Every Baby program in Grenada. The initiative involved training for 90 nurses and physicians from across Grenada and developed 10 providers who will continue the process of training health professionals, community health workers and others involved in the delivery of care to newborns. To see Orna and Rob in action, see the link below:


Cohen Children’s Medical Center of New York/North Shore-LIJ Health System

Wishing all the best to our graduating fellows! Roger Li is joining Good Samaritan Hospital Medical Center, West Islip, NY. Albert Antonio is going to Memorial Care Health System-Miller Children’s and Women’s Hospital Long Beach, CA. Ayan Rajgarhia will be a part of Children’s Mercy Hospital, Kansas City, MO. Jorge Lopez Da Re will be part of Nemours Children’s Hospital, Orlando, FL.

Ayan Rajgarhia and Jorge Lopez Da Re received travel grants to present their research both at ESPR in Philadelphia, PA in March and PAS in San Francisco, CA in May.

Mohamed Ahmed and the Pulmonary Hypertension Team at Feinstein Institute for Medical Research are the recipients of a $4 million grant from Untied Therapeutics Pharmaceuticals supporting 4 years of research on their innovative project using Bio-Electronic in Management of Pulmonary Hypertension.

Vital Boyar spoke on neonatal wound care and reducing respiratory device related pressure injuries at Emory in Atlanta, GA; the Symposium on Advanced Wound Care in San Diego, CA; and at Ohio Children’s Hospitals Solutions for Patient Safety National Learning Sessions in Dallas, TX.

Howard Heiman developed and continues to lead SkyHealth Neonatal Helicopter Transport Services for Northwell Health. He led a workshop on high frequency transport and presented on aeromedical transport physiology at Neonatal/Pediatric Transport Conference in May in Austin, TX. Dr. Heiman was also an inaugural presenter at AAP Section on Transport Medicine webinar on neonatal critical care transport held in February.

In March, Richard Schanler spoke at the Baylor National Neonatal Nutrition Conference in Houston, the Garden City New York Conference on Perinatal Care in NY, and was invited to present lectures in Hamilton, Ontario and London, UK.

Richard Schanler presented lectures on neonatal nutrition at the international IPOKRaTES conference in Bangalore, India in April.

Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital / Columbia University Medical Center, New York

Congratulations to Elvira Parravicini, Director of Neonatal Comfort Care Program, on her publication in The Wall Street Journal, “When Parents Know Their Newborns Won’t Live Long.” Dr. Parravicini also received a $600,000 donation for the development of the Neonatal Comfort Care Program.

Richard Polin organized the IPOKRaTES seminar in Porto, Portugal and spoke about infectious diseases and immunology. Dr. Polin also received the Legends in Neonatology Hall of Fame Award at the Neo Conference in Orlando.

Stony Brook Children’s Hospital

Congratulations to Jennifer Pynn who was named Program Director for the Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Fellowship Program.

We proudly announce the fellowship graduation of Melissa Macomber-Estill who will be joining the Division of Neonatology at Inova Alexandria Hospital in Alexandria, VA.

Congratulations to Joan Salnave, graduating fellow, who will be joining the Division of Neonatology at Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Spring, MD.

Carly Gomes will be joining the Division of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine following her graduation from the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Fellowship Program.

Mehbeen Khan will be joining the Division of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine following her graduation from the New York Presbyterian/Columbia University Medical
Center Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Fellowship Program.

**DISTRICT III: Sue Aucott**

**DELAWARE**

Christiana Care Health System

Ursula Guillen was selected as a member of the SPR.

Wendy Sturtz is the Program Director for the Perinatal Palliative Care Symposium on Friday, March 16th, 2018 in Newark, DE.

Christiana Care Neonatology Associates would like to welcome four new members to the practice: Kaitlin Kenaley, Rula Nassar, Vaibhav Goyal and Kelley Kovatis.

Nemours/Alfred I duPont Hospital for Children, Wilmington

Kevin Sullivan, representing the Children's Hospital Neonatal Consortium Mortality Focus Group, presented "Describing Neonatal Mortality at Level IV NICUs in the United States" at the CHNC national meeting, September 2016.

Dan Dirnberger was an invited speaker at the 6th Annual EuroELSO Congress, presenting "ECMO Transport in the War Zone," in Maastricht, Netherlands May 2017.

Mark Ogino was an invited speaker at the 6th Annual EuroELSO Congress and at Maastricht University Medical Center’s Cardiac Grand Rounds in May 2017.

Nemours/AIDHC hosted its annual Pediatric Transport and Pre-Hospital Skills Course in May 2017 for which Dan Dirnberger was an invited speaker and faculty instructor. The intensive one-day course is designed for critical care transport nurses, respiratory therapists and paramedics who would like more experience in managing neonatal and pediatric scenarios. Hands-on training in critical assessment and procedure skills included neonatal and pediatric airway management techniques, vascular access, immobilization, and resuscitation procedures. Using high fidelity simulation, the course also focused on the crisis resource management skills needed to successfully care for critically ill newborn and pediatric patients.

**MARYLAND**

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg Children’s Center, Baltimore

Christopher Golden will take over as the Director of the Pediatric Clerkship for the School of Medicine.

Estelle Gauda left the Division in March to become the Division Chief of Neonatology, University of Toronto. We congratulate her and wish her well on her new adventure north of the border!

David Woo will be joining our division as Clinical Associate, moving from Fairfax, VA.

Julia Johnson, who has completed a 4th year of fellowship on a T32 grant while completing her PhD at the School of Public Health, will join our division as Assistant Professor and continue her work in reducing neonatal infections in the global health environment.

We are saying goodbye to our 3 graduating fellows Jing Fang, Emily Hahn and Rachel Land.

We are welcoming our incoming fellows Esther Lee, Jennifer Fundora and Khyser Aziz.

Larry Nogee will be the new fellowship Program Director as Sue Aucott steps down from this role after 17 years.

**NEW JERSEY**

Midatlantic Neonatology Associates

The annual neoFORUM conference on June 8-9 at Fiddler’s Elbow Country Club included Eduardo Bancalari, Richard Polin, Christoph Fusch, and Jen-Tien Wung as guest speakers.

Ian Griffin has joined MANA as our Director of Clinical and Translational Research. Dr. Griffin was formerly Professor of Pediatrics at UC-Davis Children’s Hospital.

Nemours DuPont Inspira Vineland Medical Center

Pediatrics was CLABSI-free for 1000 days as of April 1, 2017!

**PENNSYLVANIA**

Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia

The Division of Neonatology congratulates Anne Ades and Iyalla Peterside who will be promoted to Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine and Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia effective July 1, 2017.

Heather French is leading a national effort to create and pilot the National Standardized Fellowship Curricula using short videos that can be viewed on a mobile platform to make learning accessible and efficient. This pilot program is being supported by ONTPD.

Heather French, with support from the SoNPM, is working with Susan Izatt from Duke to develop the Neonatology Educators Research and Development Collaborative with the goal of establishing an interprofessional, centralized network to support neonatology educational initiatives and research within the neonatology community. The mission of this Collaborative is to improve neonatal care through health professions education, simulation, and research. If you are interested in joining, please contact frenchh@email.chop.edu.

The Children’s Hospitals Neonatal Consortium Annual Quality and Research Symposium will be held in Columbus, OH, October 4-6, 2017 and is open to all neonatologists interested in quaternary NICU care. Please contact support@theCHNC.org for a link to the registration and consider submitting an abstract.

Jason Stoller was elected President of ESPR and starts a 3-year term in March 2017.

John Chuo is the 2017 Chair and Co-founder of a National Pediatric Telehealth Research Collaborative: SPROUT (Supporting Pediatric Research in Outcomes and Utilization of Telehealth).

John Chuo is one of the five recipients of the SPRINT Program for his invention, SpiroCATH – a New Suction Catheter without a Vacuum Pump.

Pamela Russell will be retiring from the faculty in the Division of Neonatology at CHOP and the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine on June 30th, 2017. Pam has been with the Division for 20 years and we wish her much happiness!

Janet Lioy was a faculty panelist for the Innovations in Pediatric Emergency Medicine 33rd Annual Course held at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia.

Elizabeth Foglia recently appeared on CBS news and was interviewed about a paper she authored in JAMA on home infant vital monitors: http://philadelphia.cbslocal.com/video/3611805-health-watch-baby-vital-monitors-could-be-dangerous/

Hallam Hurt, David Munson, and Anne Ades have been selected as the 2017 TOP DOCS in Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine in Philadelphia Magazine. In addition, Judy Bernbaum was selected as a TOP DOC in Pediatrics.

John Zupancic, Harvard School of Medicine, was the 2017 Kristine Sandberg Knisely Lectureship Award recipient. Dr. Zupancic’s lecture was entitled, “Burdens Beyond Biology for Sick Newborn Infants and Their Families.”

Shaon Sengupta is the 2017 recipient of the Parker B. Francis Fellowship Award. This prestigious award is given based on the scientific merits of research project proposals for those who have chosen a career in pulmonary science.

Sagori Mukhopadhyay, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at University of Pennsylvania and Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, was the recipient of the inaugural Society for Pediatric Research Physician Scientist Award for her research project, “Perinatal Antibiotic Effect on Neonatal Microbiome, Childhood Atopy and Infection.” The Award was presented to her May 8 at the plenary session of the Pediatric Academic Societies 2017 meeting. The SPR established this $40,000 award to recognize and support early-career physician-scientists. Along with a matching amount from CHOP, the Award will support Dr. Mukhopadhyay’s research which focuses on the long-term health impact of perinatal antibiotics on subsequent childhood health.

Congratulations to Barbara Schmidt who is the 2017 recipient of The William A. Silverman Lectureship Award by the AAP SoNPM. This lectureship addresses evidence-based medicine and/or bioethics in the newborn. Dr. Silverman was a leader in both.
Janet Lioy was named in the 2017 Castle Connolly Top Doctors and Who’s Who among Executives and Professionals.

John Chuo was an invited lecturer at 2017 Symposium Brazilian Institute of Patient Safety. He led the workshop entitled, “Team Intelligence for Patient Safety”.

Jacquelyn Evans has been invited by the Australian New Zealand Neonatal Network to speak on “Improving care for surgical neonates” at their annual symposium in Sydney being held in September.

Anne Ades was an invited lecturer at the Arab Organization for Medical Events 1st Neonatal Review Course, Dubai, UAE, May 12-14, 2017.

We welcome the following first year fellows to the Neonatal-Perinatal Fellowship Program at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia: Leah Carr, University of Washington; Emily Echevarria, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia; Russell Kesman, Baylor University School of Medicine; Cuan-Chi Lai, UCLA; Kathryn Rube, Medical College of Wisconsin; Christopher Thom, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia.

Neonatology says farewell to the Neonatal-Perinatal fellows graduating in 2017. Marisa Brant will be an attending neonatologist at CHOP at Virtua Hospital in Voorhees, NJ. Summer Elshenawy will join the clinical faculty at Loma Linda University Medical Center in Loma Linda, CA. Carly Gomes will be Assistant Professor at SUNY Stony Brook Medical Center, Stony Brook, NY. Rula Nassar will be an attending neonatologist at Christiana Hospital, Newark, DE. Nicole Pouppirt will be Assistant Professor at CHOP/UPenn. Erin Tkach will join Banner Health, Phoenix, AZ (an affiliate of University of Arizona Health Network) as attending neonatologist.

Nemours/duPont Main Line Health, Philadelphia

Jack Guida received the 2016 Physician of the Year Award from the Pennsylvania Resource Organization for Lactation Consultations for his support and promotion of breastfeeding. Dr. Guida worked with Phoung Lee to develop the Main Line Health glucose gel program to treat asymptomatic hypoglycemia in babies to avoid formula supplementation.

The following physicians were named in Main Line Today’s 2017 Top Docs in Neonatology: Gordon Chang, Richard Ritterman, Robert Stavis, and Glenn Kaplan.

Nemours/MLH Neonatology continues to provide only breast milk to all of our patients <32 weeks utilizing human donor milk/mother’s breast milk and providing human milk-based fortification until 34 weeks post-conceptional age. This has resulted in a marked reduction in our incidence of NEC.

Penn State Hershey Children’s Hospital

Christiania Oji-Mmuo received the Diversity in the Research Workforce Travel Award by the Society for Pediatric Research in recognition of research achievements in pediatrics at the Eastern Society for Pediatric Research.

St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children, Philadelphia

Vineet Bhandari is a Co-investigator on an American Heart Association/Great Rivers Affiliate Grant-in-Aid for research studying impaired endothelial cell mechanosensing and metabolism in pulmonary arterial hypertension.

In April, Vineet Bhandari was an invited international speaker at the 25th Turkish National Neonatology Congress, Antalya, Turkey and the V International Meeting of Neonatology, Porto Alegre, Brazil.

Maria Delivoria-Papadopoulos is organizing the 20th Annual Day of the Newborn: An Investment in our Future on January 26th, 2018 at St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children. The keynote speaker will be Sandra E. Juul, Professor and Chief Division of Neonatology, W. Alan Hudson Endowed Chair in Pediatrics, University of Washington, Seattle Children’s Hospital.

Endla Anday is a co-awardee of a CURE GRANT from Drexel University to investigate “Analytical Pathways for Early detection and Patient-Centric Monitoring” at St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children.

Michael Kuklinski will graduate from fellowship and take a position at the Kapiolani Medical Center for Women and Children.

The Division is excited to welcome Imtiaz Ahmed from Monmouth Medical and Vivian Onuagwu as first year fellows in Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine.

KENTUCKY

Kentucky Children’s Hospital, Lexington

Lochan Subedi is completing his fellowship at the University of Kentucky’s Children’s Hospital. While in fellowship he completed a Masters of Science degree through the University of Kentucky’s Center for Clinical and Translational Science. He will be starting his career with Mednax at Hurley Medical Center in Flint, MI.

John Daniel is completing his fellowship at the University of Kentucky’s Children’s Hospital. While in fellowship he completed a Masters of Science degree through the University of Kentucky’s Center for Clinical and Translational Science. He will be starting his academic career at Children’s Mercy Hospital and the University of Missouri - Kansas City School of Medicine. His area of research interest is in anticoagulation and biomaterials for neonates undergoing extracorporeal life support.

Kosair Children’s Hospital, Louisville

Scott Duncan has been promoted to Professor effective July 1, 2017.

NORTH CAROLINA

Mission Children’s Hospital, Asheville

We are pleased to welcome Jesse Bender as Medical Director and Suzanne Suprenant as staff neonatologist.

WakeMED, Raleigh

Thomas E. Young is retiring after 32 years this July.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston

Our very successful annual NeoPharm Conference, Incorporating Evidence-Based Practice into Clinical Decision Making, in beautiful Charleston is planned for November 8-11, 2017. For more information please contact Carmen Dooley at dooleyc@musc.edu or Elizabeth Gossen, Program Coordinator at gossen@musc.edu.


Rita Ryan, President of the Irish and American Paediatric Society (IAPS), encourages all neonatologists to come to the IAPS meeting this year in the Washington, DC area September 26-29, 2017. Although it will be difficult to top Bill Keenan last year in Dublin speaking on “Helping Babies Breathe,” this year’s keynote speakers are: George Ruiz, “Say It With Emojis - Inspiring a New Generation of Doctors;” Anne-Marie Murphy, former president of the IAPS, “Health and Disease in the Irish Traveller Community;” Chuck Callahan, “Population Health, Pediatrics and the Third Revolution.” For more information contact Rita at ryann@musc.edu.

We are excited to be sharing our fellows with some of you throughout the world. Colby Day Chair of TeCAN, will be moving to the University of Florida-Jacksonville.

Rebecca Moore will be joining the faculty at University of Mississippi. She won a Travel Award at SSPR this year for her work on proinflammatory cytokines and predicting preterm labor.

Major Elizabeth V Schulz, USAF, will be moving to Okinawa, Japan. She also won an SSPR Travel Award for her work in improving vitamin D study drug adherence using technology.

Heidi Murphy, our 2nd year fellow, was recently elected as program representative for TECaN and also received the 2017 Travel Award for the Perinatal Workshop meeting in Scottsdale.
Save the date! Neonatology Symposium will take place November 9-10, 2017 in Music City! Invited speakers include: Steven Abman, University of Colorado; Annie Janvier, Chu Sainte-Justine Mother and Child University Hospital Center; David Kimberlin, University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Medicine; Phillip Tarr, Washington University School of Medicine; Moriah Thomason, Wayne State University. For further information on content and registration, contact Lynn Booker (lynn.booker@vanderbilt.edu).

William (Bill) Walsh stepped down as Chief of Nurseries for VUMC on May 1, 2017, however, he will continue to provide exceptional clinical care and education for trainees. A reception to honor his 25 years as Medical Director is scheduled on June 26th. During his tenure, Dr. Walsh has been the anchor for excellence in patient care, education, and clinical research in the Mildred Stahlman Division of Neonatology. A true master clinician and consummate educator, he has trained nearly 100 fellows in neonatal-perinatal medicine as well as hundreds of residents and medical students.

Melinda Markham assumed the position of Medical Director of the Vanderbilt University Hospital Stahlman NICU and the Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital NICU effective May 1. Stephen Patrick received the 2017 Nemours Child Health Services Research Award given at the AcademyHealth Annual Research meeting. He also served as keynote speaker at the Orange County Drug Abuse Summit, Winnie Palmer Hospital for Women & Babies in Orlando, FL.

Wael Alrifai was appointed as a Katherine Dodd's Scholar, a program through the Department of Pediatrics for clinician-educator faculty, and received Abstract of Distinction Award at American Society of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition Clinical Nutrition Week, February 2017.

Jennifer Herington is PI and Jeff Reese is Co-investigator for the NIH R21, "Discovering Novel Small Molecule Regulators of Uterine Myometrial Contractions."

Jennifer Herington co-chaired a session and served as a poster judge at the 2017 Meeting of the Society for Reproductive Investigation.

We bid farewell to the following members of The Division of Neonatology: Peter Grubb, co-founder of the Tennessee Initiative for Perinatal Quality Care (TIPQC), has left for a position at the University of Utah where he will be using his talents for quality improvement in the Utah State Perinatal Quality Collaborative, UWNQC.

Faouzi Maalouf, after serving as chief fellow in the 2016-2017 academic year, has taken a position at American University of Beirut Medical Center, Beirut, Lebanon. Anjali Anders has joined the Division of Neonatology at Washington University, St. Louis Children’s Hospital. Jason Pryor has joined the Carilion Clinic/ROanoke Memorial Hospital, in Roanoke, VA. We thank them all for their hard work and dedication to our patients and families!

We welcome the following neonatologists: Michael DeVoogt is joining our clinical group at Maury Regional Medical Center and will continue to participate in the TN Perinatal Advisory Committee and TIPQC. Brian Hackett is joining the Division of Neonatology as the Associate Division Director in Neonatology effective August, 2017.

University of Virginia, Charlottesville

Congratulations to Jennifer Burnsed. She was awarded an NIH K08 for her research entitled "Disruption of Neuronal Circuitry and the Memory Engram in Young Adult Mice Following Neonatal Hypoxic-Ischemic Injury."

Karen Fairchild and John Kattwinkel are Co-PIs on an NICHD-sponsored, randomized, multicenter trial to examine the value of ensuring ventilation before delayed cord clamping in extremely preterm babies. The trial is called "VentFirst", includes a total of 8 centers, and will enroll a total of 940 babies over 5 years. Enrollment has recently begun.

David Kaufman once again led a very interesting Sepsis Club at The Pediatric Academic Society Annual Meeting. Mark Underwood from UC Davis spoke on probiotics and NEC.

We are excited to announce that Brynne Sullivan (3rd year fellow) will be joining the faculty at UVA. She will continue to focus her research on predictive monitoring in the NICU.

We are sad to see our other 2nd year fellows leave us after spending residency and fellowship at UVA. Jameel Winter will be joining the faculty at the University of Minnesota where he will continue his work in global health. Andrew Berenz will be joining the faculty at Rush University in Chicago and will continue to do research in microbiome changes seen in the NICU.

We are excited to have Noelia Aviles Otero join us for fellowship. She is currently a neonatal hospitalist at Eastern Virginia Medical School and completed her residency at Children’s Hospital of the King’s Daughters.

MICHIGAN

Children’s Hospital of Michigan/Wayne State University, Detroit

We welcome the following new faculty members: Nikki Fernandes from University of Rochester; Sanket Jani from Sparrow Hospital/Michigan State University in Lansing; Andrea Kane from Emory University, Atlanta; and Neelakanta Kanike from the Cleveland Clinic.

Seetha Shankaran stepped down as Division Chief and is on sabbatical until May 15, 2017.

Girija Natarajan has been appointed as Co-Chief of Clinical Operations and Sid Tan as Co-Chief of Research for the Division.

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Congratulations to our graduating fellows! Megan Aurora is going to Mass General Hospital. Holly Brine will be going to Toledo Children’s Hospital. Alissa Doherty will remain in Ann Arbor at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. Joseph O’Connell is going to Advocate Children’s Hospital in Oak Lawn, IL.


Steven M. Donn was a guest speaker at Rumailah Women’s Hospital in Doha, Qatar; the Columbian Association of Neonatology/EpicLatino Network in Bogota, Columbia; and the 25th Annual Middlesbrough International Neonatal Conference, Durham University, Stockton-on-Tees Campus, Teesside, UK.

Naomi Laventhal was appointed to the AAP Committee on Bioethics.

OHIO

Central Ohio Newborn Medicine, Columbus

Central Ohio Newborn Medicine (affiliated with Nationwide Children’s Hospital, Ohio Health and Mount Carmel Health Systems) has hired two new members for the group for 2017: Angela Firestone received her MD from Louisville School of Medicine, trained in Pediatrics at Eastern Virginia Medical School and is completing her fellowship at Nationwide Children’s Hospital in Columbus. Angie will be joining CONM in July 2017. Shadi Jurdì, is joining CONM in August 2017. Shadi, originally from Columbus, is a graduate of Ohio State University. He received his training in Internal Medicine-Pediatrics and his Neonatology fellowship training at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, VA. He is currently working at Kosair Children’s Hospital in Louisville.

www.aap.org/perinatal
SECTION ON NEONATAL-PERINATAL MEDICINE  
Summer 2017  

Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center  
Faculty members Brenda Poindexter and Suhas Kallapur have been elected to the American Pediatric Society.  

Alan Jobe was inducted into the Neonatology Hall of Fame at the 2017 NEO meeting that was held in Orlando in February.  

Vivek Narendran received the Sustained Excellence Award at the University of Cincinnati Medical Center 2017 Doctor’s Day.  

Augusto Schmidt joined the Perinatal Institute as Instructor of Clinical Pediatrics. Dr. Schmidt attended medical school and received his PhD in Experimental Research at the Universidade Estadual de Campinas - Unicamp in Campinas, Brazil. Dr. Schmidt completed his Neonatal-Perinatal fellowship at Cincinnati Children’s, and as a faculty member he will continue to focus on perinatal immunology, inflammation, and pulmonary development.  

Maria Barnes-Davis will join the Perinatal Institute as Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics. Dr. House completed her undergraduate education at Brown University, Providence, RI. She received a Medical Scientist Training Program Fellowship at the University of Louisville where she completed her PhD in Psychological and Brain Sciences and her MD. She continued her post-graduate residency training in Pediatrics at the University of Louisville and then moved to Cincinnati as a fellow in Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine. Her research will continue to focus on neurodevelopmental outcomes in preterm infants.  

Melissa House will join the Perinatal Institute as an Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics. Dr. House completed her undergraduate and medical school education at The Ohio State University College of Medicine, Columbus, OH. She then moved to Children’s National Medical Center, George Washington University in Washington, DC for pediatric post-graduate residency training, followed by her fellowship training in Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine at the Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center. Her clinical focus will be on infants with severe BPD.  

Danielle Parham will join the Perinatal Institute as an Instructor of Clinical Pediatrics at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center. Dr. Parham completed her undergraduate education at Wright State University, Dayton, OH, and medical school training at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. She completed her pediatric residency and fellowship training in Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine at University Hospitals Cleveland Rainbow Babies and Children’s Hospital. She is interested in family-centered care.  

Cincinnati Children’s would like to congratulate our 2017 Neonatal-Perinatal Fellowship graduates: Maria Barnes, TingTing Fu, Melissa House, Suyog Kamatkar and Benjamin Reed.  

We would also like to welcome our incoming 1st year Neonatal-Perinatal fellows: Michael Carl, John Erickson, Sandra Fleshmacher, Cara Slagle, and Ann White.  

Nationwide Children’s Hospital, Columbus  
Elizabeth Bonachea announces the second annual regional boot camp for new neonatal fellows this July. We look forward to collaborating with our colleagues from Ohio and Michigan and sincerely thank the American Academy of Pediatrics for their generous funding support. For more information and/or to get your new District V fellows and program directors involved: Elizabeth.Bonachea@nationwidechildrens.org  

We would like to congratulate our graduating fellows: Natasha Lopez, Angela Firestone, and Amina Habib. We look forward to welcoming our new trainees: Leann Pavlek, Avante Milton, and Julie Dillard.  

Sudarshan Jachlerla has been elected to President-Elect, Dysphagia Research Society, a 25-year old world organization championing dysphagia research. He is the first pediatrician elected to this society.  

Carl Backes is the PI for a large grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to study the effects of Seattle-PAP Trial in premature infants.  

Carl Backes has been invited to give a lecture on the care of extremely preterm infants at Official Hospital of Beijing Province, Beijing, China.  

Sudarshan Jachlerla was invited to present on pathophysiology and challenges with neonatal feeding and GERD management at the International conference on Neonatology at Porto Alegre, Brazil.  

Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital, Cleveland  
Richard Martin was Visiting Professor at the Neonatal Society of Turkey meeting in April 2017 and a guest speaker at the Middlesbrough, UK Neonatology Conference.  

We bid a fond farewell to our graduating fellows: Christopher Nitkin will join the group at Children’s Mercy in Kansas City. Danielle Parham will head to Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center. Bianca Leonardi is going to Akron Children’s Hospital and Kimberly Larson joins East Bay Newborn Specialists in Oakland, CA.  

Jonathan Fanaroff will be promoted to Professor of Pediatrics at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine July 1st.  

Congratulations to 2nd year fellow, Brittany Schwarz, who has been awarded the Newborn Medicine Education Award from the SoNPM. We are extremely proud of, and inspired by, our own Richard Martin. He has been selected as the 2017 Apgar Award recipient. He will receive this prestigious and well-deserved honor at the AAP NCE in September in Chicago. Congratulations Richard!  


DISTRICT VI:  
Thomas George  

ILLINOIS  

Lurie Children’s Hospital, Chicago  
The Midwest Society for Pediatric Research annual meeting will be at Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago on October 12 and 13, 2017. The meeting was also held at Lurie Children’s last year and was a success with around 150 attendees. It will occur in the days immediately preceding the District VI meeting, also in Chicago.  

The Division of Neonatology at the Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago and Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine welcomes 3 new academic faculty this summer: Shamik Trivedi, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics from Washington University, and Justyna Grothaus and Jill Chang graduating fellows from Northwestern University.  

Kshama Shah, 2nd year fellow, was selected to be a representative on the Illinois Department of Health Perinatal Levels of Care Transfers Workgroup to assess patterns of maternal and infant hospital to hospital transfers in the state.  

Leslie Caldarelli, Medical Director of the Prentice Women's Hospital NICU, was selected as the neonatology lead for the Illinois Perinatal Quality Collaborative, which is developing measures and guidelines for neonatal abstinence syndrome.  

Kathryn Farrow, Associate Professor of Pediatrics and the fellowship program director, received an R01 entitled, “Redox Regulation of Vascular cGMP Signaling in Neonatal Lungs.”  

Marta Perez, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, received a K08 entitled, “Mechanisms of Hydrocortisone Regulation of the Perinatal Pulmonary Vasculature.”  

Aaron Hamvas and Debra Weese-Mayer are the site PIs for a U01, “Physiologic Biomarkers Predicting Ventilatory Instability and Hypoxemia in Premature Infants (PREVENT).” The Lurie Children’s/Northwestern site is one of 6 selected.  

Patrick Myers, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, was named as Associate Fellowship Director.  

Nicolas Porta, Associate Professor of Pediatrics, received a March of Dimes Jonas Salk Health Leadership Award in recognition of his care of children with pulmonary hypertension.  

Rush University Children’s Hospital, Chicago  

We bid a fond farewell to Rebecca Hoban who joined the faculty at Toronto Sick Kids.  

We welcomed two new faculty this year.  

Rakhee Bowker joined us from Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital/Northwestern University where she completed neonatology fellowship. We also welcomed Patoula Panagos who comes to us from Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children and Thomas Jefferson Hospital, where she served as Director of Quality Improvement.  

Debra Selip was appointed the Director of Rush University Children’s Hospital Fetal and Neonatal Medicine Center. She started a 2-year executive MBA program at Northwestern University’s Kellogg School of Business.  

Aloka Patel was an invited lecturer at the Necrotizing Enterocolitis Symposium: A
Aloka Patel, Kousiki Patra, Rakhee Bower, and Steven Powell presented their research at the PAS Meeting in May. Beverly Robin received 2nd place for Program Innovation from the Society for Simulation in Healthcare for her work entitled “Craniofagus Conjoined Twins: Optimizing Delivery and Resuscitation through Interprofessional In-situ Simulation.” Beverly Robin was awarded a 2-year grant from Council of Medical Student Education in Pediatrics for her study, “Hybrid Simulation: A Novel Approach to Pediatric Undergraduate Interprofessional Education.”

This summer, Beverly Robin will be presenting on the use of simulation in interprofessional education at the International Pediatric Simulation Society in Boston and the Nexus Summit hosted by the National Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education in Minneapolis.

Rakhee Bowker was the recipient of the three awards: Frederic M. Kenney Award for outstanding abstract presentation at the Midwest Society for Pediatric Research Annual Meeting, a PAS Travel Award for Young Investigators, and the Midwest SPR Travel Award to Enhance Diversity in the Research Workforce.

MISSOURI
Children’s Mercy, Kansas City

Brian Carter has been invited to speak at a conference on “Policy, Ethics and Clinical Decisions for Babies at the Borderline of Viability in the Three Scandinavian Countries” to be held in Trondheim/Tautra, Norway June 7-8. He will also be speaking on June 9th at St. Olav’s Hospital in Trondheim addressing neonatal palliative care.

Children’s Mercy Kansas City and the University of Kansas Hospital System have formalized an agreement for Children’s Mercy to oversee Children’s Mercy Kansas City and the University of Kansas Hospital neonatal palliative care.

Becky Robin was elected to Society for Pediatric Research membership.

Benazir Drabu was appointed Director of the Mother Baby Unit (MBU) and Brooke Roeback was appointed Co-Director of the MBU.

Kenneth Ernst taught the NRP 7th Edition LMS 101 Q & A and eSim Demo session in the NRP Current Issues Seminar at the AAP NCE.

Marilyn Escobedo was finally able to meet Reba McEntire after 15 years as the Reba McEntire Endowed Chair in Neonatology. Dr. Escobedo attended Reba’s Las Vegas concert, and was given VIP access backstage, Nov 30-Dec 1, 2016.

Marilyn Escobedo was named to the Castle Connolly America’s Top Doctors list.

Vadim Ivanov presented at a Russian national congress on Anesthesia and Intensive Care in Obstetrics and Neonatology in Moscow.

Rita Raman presented, “Epigenetics in Health and Disease,” at the JIPER Alumni Association Annual meeting August, 2016 in Pondicherry, India and also spoke at the XX Annual Meeting of the Brazilian Nutrition Society in Sao Paulo, Brazil, October 2016.

Kris Sekar was elected as Associate Chief of Staff of the OU Medical Center for another 2-year term.

Kris Sekar was invited as faculty at the first Sharing Progress in Neonatology conference in Naples, Italy in June and was a visiting professor to Children’s Hospital, Fudan University, Shanghai, China during the first week of November.


Mary Anne McCaffree received a Certificate of Appreciation from The Joint Commission for her efforts, 9 state 4H leaders raised $3,000 through their Change for Change project and bought 1400 “Books for Kids” for NICU babies.

Beverley Robin was awarded a 2-year grant from Council of Medical Student Education in Pediatrics for her study, “Hybrid Simulation: A Novel Approach to Pediatric Undergraduate Interprofessional Education.”

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Children’s Mercy Kansas City and the University of Kansas Hospital System have formalized an agreement for Children’s Mercy to oversee neonatology services for the NICU at the University of Kansas Hospital and Medical Center. Howard Kilbride has been appointed Medical Director of the NICU at the University of Kansas and will continue in his role as Division Director of Neonatology for the combined program.

We are pleased to announce 5 new faculty members, each having completed Neonatal-Perinatal fellowship in 2017: John Daniel, University of Kentucky; Kamal Gurung, Harbor UCLA and Children’s Hospital of Orange County; Ayan Rajgarhia, Cohen Children’s Medical Center, Hofstra North Shore LIJ School of Medicine, NY; Gangaram (Sanjay) Akangire, Children’s Mercy Kansas City; and Christopher Nitkin, who was recruited to a physician-scientist position after completion of a 4th year of fellowship in basic research at Rainbow Babies and Children’s Hospital, Cleveland, OH.

Jodi Jackson, Medical Director at Shawnee Mission Medical Center, and Betsy Knappen, led a full-day workshop in Fayetteville, AR hosted by the Audrey Harris Vision (http://www.aureyharrisvision.org/) on the topic, “Multifaceted Care of the Infant and Family at Risk for Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome.” The conference was attended by physicians, nurses, NNP’s, pharmacists, PT/OTs, educators and others from within a 100 mile radius.

OKLAHOMA
The Children’s Hospital at OU Medical Center, Oklahoma Cit

Faizah Bhatti was appointed to a 3-year term on the SPR Communications Committee.

Hala Chabaan was elected to Society for Pediatric Research membership.

Benazir Drabu was appointed Director of the Mother Baby Unit (MBU) and Brooke Roeback was appointed Co-Director of the MBU.

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Mike McCoy was named Nurse of the Year – Oklahoma at Riverwind Casino.

Steven Ford won a 2017 Clinical Research Award for Fellows, sponsored by Society for Pediatric Research Junior Section, at the recent PAS meeting in San Francisco.

Ashley Lucke, the TECaN District VII representative, was recently named TECaN Social Media and Communications Chair.

Four fellows won travel awards from the SPR to present their research at the PAS meeting in San Francisco: Sarah Coors, Rebecca Burke, Acacia Cognata, and Tiffany Molina.

Regine Fortunov has created a tablet app to document neonatal resuscitation events in real time. The development process was presented at PAS and multi-center testing is ongoing.

Michael E. Speer was awarded the Master Clinician Award from Baylor College of Medicine. He will receive this award at the Annual Education Awards Ceremony on Thursday, May 18th. Dr. Speer was also elected as the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center in Houston. The Texas Department of State Health Services noted that Texas Children’s Hospital received the first Level IV NICU designation in Texas.

Jonathan Davies received an ENTELLIGENCE Young Investigator Program grant award.

Binoy Shivanna was elected President of SSPR.

Amy Hair was elected to the SSPR Council and received the Samuel J. Fomon Young Physician Award at American Society for Nutrition.

Laura Gollins, one of our neonatal dietitians, was chosen to receive the 2017 Recognized Young Dietitian of the Year Award.

Gautham Suresh was an invited speaker at the April 2017 AAP Section on Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Conference in Scottsdale, AZ and gave 3 presentations.

The Texas Children’s Hospital, Woodlands opened in April with a 14-bed Level III NICU.

Lisa Owens heads the Baylor College of Medicine neonatology group at the hospital.
DISTRIBUTION VIII:
Lily Lou

ALASKA
Effective January 1st, Lily Lou is the Executive Medical Director of The Children’s Hospital at Providence and Women’s Services.

COLORADO
University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora
Laura Brown completed 3 years of service as a council member for the Western Society for Pediatric Research in January 2017.
Laura Brown served on the planning committee for the First Annual National Conference on Women’s Health Research, Sex Differences across the Lifespan, in Colorado Springs, CO. She continues to serve as a faculty member at the AAP/Abbott Nutrition Annual Seminar on Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine.
Laura Brown was awarded a Shared Instrument Grant (S10) to purchase a UV-visible HPLC for serum amino acid analysis.
Erica Mandell, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, presented her work entitled “Fetal Vitamin D Deficiency Impairs Lung Structure and Increases Susceptibility to Hyperoxia Injury in the Developing Rat,” in March at the 2017 Vitamin D Workshop in Orlando where she received the Young Investigator Award.
Susan Niemeyer will receive the Avroy Fanaroff Neonatal Education Award from the Section on Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine at the 2017 AAP NCE.
Clyde Wright received the Carmel Research Excellence Prize from the Western Association of Physicians (WAP). As part of this, he presented his work on the unique aspects of innate immune signaling in the newborn lung at the WAP Symposium at the 2017 Western Medical Research Conference in Carmel, CA.
Fellow Stephanie Skuby Chassen presented a platform talk at the annual PAS meeting in San Francisco. She also was awarded a Child and Maternal Health Pilot grant from the Colorado Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute in support of her work investigating placental transport of fatty acids in intrauterine growth restriction.

HAWAII
Kapiolani Medical Center, Honolulu
The NICU is settling down with the transition to single patient rooms which occurred in October of 2016.
In July 2017 the group welcomes four new neonatologists: Megan Doty (University of California, San Diego), Kandy George (The Children’s Hospital of Montefiore), Alexandra Ramanath (University of Miami), Akshatha Akshatha (University of South Florida)
Ashley Cowan (CHOC) is joining the group as a neonatal hospitalist and Dawn Schaffrick as a full-time nurse practitioner.

Tripler Army Medical Center, Honolulu
Steven Acevedo (San Antonio) will be joining the group.
Kelly Bear left the military to pursue a career in the private sector.
Eamon Filan will be joining as a 1-year trainee in the joint program at University of Hawaii/Tripler Army Medical Center.
“Jonathan” McCully is graduating from the fellowship program and will be become a staff neonatologist at Darnall Medical Center, Fort Hood, TX.
University of New Mexico, Albuquerque
Robin Ohls was named Chief of Neonatology in 2016.

DISTRIBUTION IX:
Andrew O. Hopper

CALIFORNIA
California Association of Neonatologists (CAN)
Ronald Cohen took over as CAN President in March 2017 and Douglas Carbine, US Naval Medical Center San Diego, was elected Vice President/President-Elect of CAN.
The 23rd Annual CAN/District IX Section on Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Conference Cool Topics in Neonatology and the California Perinatal Quality Care Collaborative (CPQCC) Pre-Conference was held March 3-5, 2017 at the Coronado Island Marriott Resort, San Diego, CA. Over 200 participants attended from California and the western US. The 2017 David Wirtshafter Award for Quality Improvement was given to John Cleary (CHOC) and Courtney Nisbet (Program Manager QI, CPQCC). A reception was held on March 4th to celebrate the 20th anniversary of CPQCC.
The 24th Annual Cool Topics in Neonatology Conference will be held March 2-4, 2018.
The 13th annual Life after Fellowship Workshop was held on March 3rd, 2017 as part of the annual Cool Topics in Neonatology meeting. The workshop is jointly sponsored by CAN, District IX SoNPM, Harbor UCLA and TECaN. Approximately 25 fellows attended this full-day workshop that focused on various aspects of professional development and the business of neonatology, including personal work-life balance and getting the right job. A panel of neonatologists who recently completed their fellowships spoke to the group on different practice models and their professional lives.
CAN Quality Improvement and Research Committee
A survey on the use of transcutaneous bilirubin in the NICU was performed by Dilip Bhatt. The results of the survey were presented at the CAN CPQCC Pre-Conference March 2017.
Jae Kim is organizing a study looking at NICUs that transitioned from the powdered fortifier to the liquid fortifier and comparing various outcomes in the CPQCC database associated with this transition.
Kurlan Payton is conducting a research project regarding the post-discharge follow up of infants with patent ductus arteriosus via text messaging. Fifteen centers are planning to participate.
Doug Carbine also discussed a potential survey of California NICUs regarding the practice of distal mucous fistula refeeding. Though there have been reports of its potential benefits, there has not been any data presented regarding the use of this practice and its potential complications.
California Perinatal Quality Care Collaborative (CPQCC)
Follow CPQCC news and updates on Twitter (@CPQCC) and Facebook (facebook.com/cpqcc) and via website (cpqcc.org). This year marks the 20th anniversary of CPQCC and a commemorative booklet can be found at: https://www.cpqcc.org/news/cpqcc-20th-anniversary.
CPQCC day at the CAN meeting (Friday March 3, 2017) kicked off a very successful CAN meeting. A featured speaker was Jeffrey Horbar from the Vermont Oxford Network. Topics discussed included hypoglycemia management, delayed cord clamping, and NICU hospitals. The antibiotic stewardship collaborative will be wrapping up in summer 2017 and preliminary results show reduction of antibiotic use in participating units.
Research from CPQCC was presented at the Pediatric Academic Societies meeting including studies on disparities in NICU care, qualitative work on retinopathy screening, and value of high risk infant follow-up.
California Pacific Medical Center, San Francisco
Jane Lee is the Medical Director of CPMC San Francisco and a new board member of CAN as a co-representative for the northwest region of California.
Nancy Chorne is the Medical Director of the revitalized NICU program at St. Luke’s Hospital in San Francisco.
Scott Witt took over the Medical Directorship at Sutter Santa Rosa from Chris Retajczyk.
Children’s Hospital Los Angeles
The Division of Neonatology at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles and the Center for Fetal and Neonatal Medicine (CFNM), along with the CHLA Division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine and the Institute of Maternal-Fetal Medicine, continue to offer an integrated team that provides advanced care for more than 2,000 critically ill newborns, infants and mothers-to-be each year. This multi-institutional collaboration led by CHLA brings the hospital together with the Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Center, Providence Tarzana Medical Center, Providence Holy Cross Medical Center, Providence St. John Santa Monica Medical Center and Good Samaritan Hospital, including the expertise of more than 25 pediatric medical, surgical and radiology divisions. The Center is the home to the 58-bed Steven and Alexandra Cohen Foundation Newborn and Infant Critical Care Unit. Here, infants have access to Level IV,
state-of-the-art diagnostic and treatment services and consultations from faculty of virtually all existing pediatric subspecialties. Following a national search, the Center leadership recruited Kathy Van Allen as the Center Administrative Director to provide executive leadership and facilitate the growth and development of the Center’s service line and implement the strategic plan in developing the referral network, expanding capacity, and providing operational and service excellence.

The Center recruited Vladana Milisavljevic to Children’s Hospital Los Angeles and the Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California to the rank of Professor of Clinical Pediatrics in the Division of Neonatology. Dr. Milisavljevic will become the Medical Director of the NICU at Providence St. John Santa Monica. She completed her fellowship training in Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine at Columbia University. She then joined the Division of Neonatology at Rush University Medical Biology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA in 2003. Dr. Milisavljevic’s major area of research is the study of colonization and pathogenesis of healthcare-associated infections. Her current research aims to establish how opportunistic and pathogenic bacteria in the NICU environment affect early colonization of the neonatal respiratory and GI tracts and to assess whether changes in GI colonization can provide early interventions and treatment to decrease the mortality and morbidity from serious systemic infections in neonates.

Ashwini Lakshmanan is the recipient of a KL2 award from the National Center for Advancing Translational Science of the U.S National Institutes of Health.

Narayan Iyer was the recipient of a 3-year $350K Garland Foundation award.

Ting-Yi Lin, was nominated and selected to attend the Children’s Hospital Los Angeles and Keck Medical Center of USC joint Healthcare Leadership Academy to train academic health center leaders for the 21st century including training of the next generation of health providers, fostering innovation and discovery in basic, clinical and health care delivery science, and the ability to function well in an interdisciplinary team-based environment.

On April 2, 2017 approximately 700 patient families attended the NICCU Reunion co-hosted by the Pasadena KidSpace Children’s Museum to reunite with the physicians, nurses and staff who cared for them during those critical days, weeks, and months in the NICU.

The Center and CHLA Division of Neonatology were well represented at the 2017 Annual Meeting of the Pediatrics Academic Societies held in San Francisco with 4 platform and 20 poster presentations.

Children’s Hospital of Orange County

We are pleased to welcome 2 new neonatologists for 2017: Anita Shah (residency at Boston Children’s, fellowship at Seattle Children’s Hospital) and Monica Sondhi (residency at Rush University Medical Center, fellowship at UCLA). Both Dr. Shah and Dr. Sondhi will start summer 2017. The 14th annual Academic Day for Neonatologists of Southern California was held at CHOC Children's Hospital on November 10, 2016. The meeting drew 185 attendees from various academic programs in Southern California including 41 fellows and 128 neonatal faculty and community neonatologists. The 2016 meeting was co-chaired by Adrian Lavery, Vijay Dhar and Virender Rehan. Prominent speakers included Stephen Abman, Usha Raj, Paul Rozance, Sudarshan Jachcherla, Stephen Kingsmore, William Peranteau and Wyman Lai. The program ended with a Life after Fellowship dinner for all attendee fellows where invited speakers provided important career guidance. The next ANOSC meeting is scheduled for November 14, 2017.

CHOC Children’s Hospital and the Division of Neonatology were proud to host the 2nd biennial NeoHeart: Cardiovascular Management of the Neonate, March 22-25, 2017. This international meeting is dedicated to bringing neonatologists, cardiologists, cardiac intensivists, and CT surgeons together to discuss controversies in the neonate with cardiovascular disease. William Norwood was the keynote speaker and he inspired a room of nearly 500 people as he reflected on his legendary career. We are proud to say NeoHeart will become an annual event and Abraham Rudolph has already agreed to be the keynote speaker for the 2018 meeting.

Christine Bixby is completing a 2-year champion provider fellowship through UCSF and supported by CDPH where physicians are trained and educated on community advocacy, working with the local health department as well as how to interact with all forms of media. Her work will be in increasing breastfeeding in the county through increasing maternal prenatal education and through worksite breastfeeding support.

Christine Bixby was elected to the District IX SoNPM Executive Council for a 3-year term that began March 2017.

Irfan Ahmad was elected to a 3-year term to the CAN Executive Board representing the Southeast Region of California. His term started March 2017.

In July 2016, CHOC started a Neurocritical NICU, led by John Tran, to provide direct care for infants with a primary neurological diagnosis. Conditions include: HIE, hydrocephalus, severe intraventricular hemorrhage, seizures, neonatal stroke, meningitis/encephalitis, hypotonia, neural tube defects/neurosurgical cases, metabolic disorders, genetic disorders. The Neurocritical NICU will lead to research studies and projects. The main goal is to improve the short and long term outcomes for our infants and families.

We are excited to announce the opening of our new NICU with 37 beds and 36 private rooms. The concept behind the room design is focused on family centered care. The rooms will allow families to sleep, have a work desk with computer, a television, a sibling play room and a consultation room. In addition, clinical support is directly linked through bedside nursing via sliding glass doors for optimum visualization and easy access. Amenities are also included for the caregivers to facilitate efficiency and comfort. Tours will coincide with the grand opening ceremonies in June/July 2017.

Citrus Valley Medical Center, Corona

Gil Martin received the Frank L. Babbott Alumni Award from State University of New York Medical Center in May 2017. This award recognizes an alumnus with distinguished service to both the medical profession and the general community.

East Bay Newborn Specialists, Oakland

East Bay Newborn Specialists cover UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital Oakland; Alta Bates Summit Medical Center, Berkeley; and John Muir Medical Center, Walnut Creek.

Leslie Lusk joined the group as an attending neonatologist in January 2017. She was formerly a faculty member at the University of California San Francisco and UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital San Francisco.

James Anderson will be joining as an attending neonatologist in July 2017. He is completing his fellowship in Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine at the University of California San Francisco.

Kimberly Larson will be joining as an attending neonatologist in August 2017. She is completing her fellowship in Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine at Rainbow Babies and Children’s Hospital.

Genevieve Kinsey will be joining as an attending neonatologist in July 2017. She is completing her fellowship in Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine at the University of California Davis.

Priscilla Joe, Medical Director at the UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital Oakland, was elected as a CAN board member for the Northwest Region.

At Alta Bates Hospital, Jeff Merrill continues to lead the Neonatology Subject Matter Expert Group for the Sutter-wide system.

Good Samaritan Hospital, San Jose

Loc Le has assumed the NICU Medical Director position at Good Samaritan Hospital.

Harbor University of California Los Angeles, Torrance

Harbor UCLA NICU welcomes Alma Miller to the position of Clinical Nurse Specialist. She joins Harbor from Good Samaritan Hospital in Los Angeles where she had experience in implementing evidence based practice programs.

We also welcome Adriana Montero to our neonatal clinical faculty. Adriana was most recently a practicing RN at White Memorial Hospital.

Congratulations to our fellows on their research productivity. Cindy Lee has been diligently working on the biophysicsology of lung maturity. She had 4 oral presentations at the 2017 WSPR meeting in Carmel, CA and had 4 poster presentations at the 2017 PAS meeting in San Francisco. Elaine Chu and Stella Hwang also presented their work on the long-term developmental and behavioral follow up of prenatally methamphetamine exposed infants at
Improvement Panel of the California Perinatal and HBB programs for over 25 years. Dr. Bell year. He has participated in international NRP Antoine Soliman at Paropakar Maternity Hospital in Kathmandu HBB in Nepal, as well as serving as a consultant NorthBay Neonatology Associates, Fairfield to the CAN Executive Board representing the Natividad Medical Center, Salinas Hangzhou, Zhejiang, China during April 2017. Douglas Deming was visiting professor at Zhejiang University Children’s Hospital, Hangzhou, Zhejiang, China during April 2017. New faulty joining us in July include: Summer Elshenawy who completed her fellowship at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, and Benjamin Harding who completed his fellowship at LLUCH. Miller Children’s Hospital, Long Beach Antoine Soliman was elected for a 3-year term to the CAN Executive Board representing the Southwest Region of California. Natividad Medical Center, Salinas Kristina Stillwell (from UC Davis) will join the UCSF Neonatal Group in Salinas in July 2017. NorthBay Neonatology Associates, Fairfield Richard Bell recently returned from teaching HBB in Nepal, as well as serving as a consultant at Paropakar Maternity Hospital in Kathmandu which delivers approximately 20,000 babies per year. He has participated in international NRP and HBB programs for over 25 years. Dr. Bell was formally recognized by the Perinatal Quality Improvement Panel of the California Perinatal Quality Care Collaborative on March 2, 2017 as, “A true neonatal QI champion, in great appreciation for his many years of dedicated service and kind wisdom offered to the California Perinatal Quality Care Collaborative.”

Steve Gwiazdowski was named NICU Medical Director at NorthBay Medical Center in March 2017. He participated as a subject matter expert for the insurance perspective in the Necrotizing Enterocolitis Symposium: A Transdisciplinary Approach to Improved Outcomes held at UC Davis April 5-7, 2017. Additionally, Dr. Gwiazdowski presented an update on Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome at the Partnership Health Plan of California’s Perinatal Substance Use Disorder Conference, May 2017

Brian Montenegro has been appointed to the Infrastructure Committee of Perinatal Quality Improvement Panel of the California Perinatal Quality Care Collaborative.

Jenny Quinn has been appointed to the Research Committee of Perinatal Quality Improvement Panel of the California Perinatal Quality Care Collaborative. Permanente Medical Group Northern California Richard Topel retired at the end of 2015 and Mike Jennis retired at the beginning of 2016. Dr. Topel practiced neonatology for many years at Kaiser Hospital San Francisco and Kaiser Hospital Oakland. Dr. Jennis practiced neonatology in San Carlos, CA. PMG has emphasized antibiotic stewardship and NAS, and has developed regional guidelines to address both issues. Permanente Medical Group Southern California Kaiser Hospital Fontana and Kaiser Hospital Ontario received “A” grades from the Leapfrog Group, a prominent national patient safety organization. Kaiser Ontario NICU is in the process of getting CCS approval. The Kaiser Fontana Neonatal Transport Team recently received an onsite transport rig allowing them to respond efficiently to transport calls. Kaiser San Diego NICU moved into their new hospital in April 2017. The Kaiser Fontana Transport Team helped to move NICU babies into their new facility. Huy Truong was named Physician-in-Charge of the Kaiser Fontana NICU. Kaiser Fontana NICU recently rolled out the usage of probiotics in infants less than 32 weeks. Santa Clara Valley Medical Center, San Jose Nadav Buzi joins VMC as the 7th NICU hospitalist. Monica Stemmle and Terrell Stevenson are developing the curriculum with Stanford Pediatric Hospitalist Medicine Training Programs so that neonatal-perinatal medicine fellows can begin some of their training rotations at the Santa Clara Valley NICU and Mother-Infant Care Center in July 2017.

Dongil Song began patient enrollment in studying salivary gene expression during feeding with the NTrainer device, with PIs Steven Barlow at the University of Nebraska and Jill Marion at Tufts University, in a NIH-funded tri-center study. Sudha Rani Narasimhan and Priya Jegatheesan continue enrolling NAS mothers and babies in a multi-center collaboration with Stanford, Johns Hopkins, Thomas Jefferson and other universities, examining pharmacodynamics of ondansetron and its potential in preventing opiate exposure in babies. Balaji Govindaswami was one of several invited international speakers at the 2017 Shanghai Symposium on Neonatal Screening for Congenital Heart Disease May 4-5 at Fudan University. Sharp Mary Birch Hospital for Women and Newborns, San Diego Sharp Mary Birch Hospital for Women and Newborns is pleased to announce the addition of two new faculty: Shandeep Hutsun joins us from Loma Linda University Children’s Hospital as our new neonatologist. Ngoc Minh Le joins us from central Florida as additional neonatal neurology faculty. Sharp Mary Birch Hospital has expanded its neonatal ultrasound program with a recent session at NeoHeart on March 22nd and an ultrasound line placement workshop on May 5th. We continue to train neonatologists in San Diego on cardiac and non-cardiac imaging, bringing in the leaders in functional echocardiography including Shazia Bhombal, Shahab Noori, Mahmood Ebrahimji, Maky Fraga, and Yogen Singh.

The Neonatal Research Institute has recently presented at the Neo-Resus Meeting in Newcastle, England on ventilation during delayed cord clamping and will also be presenting on neonatal resuscitation strategies at the International Neonatology Association Conference in Lyon, France. The Neonatal Research Institute became the first private hospital in the US to lead a multicenter international trial with a $2.9 million grant from the NICHD comparing umbilical cord milking to delayed cord clamping. Stanford University Division of Neonatal and Developmental Medicine, Palo Alto

Ritu Chitkara was elected to the CAN Executive Board as co-representative for the northwest region of California. Faculty and fellows from Stanford University Division of Neonatology were very busy at the Pediatric Academic Societies (PAS) annual meeting in May 2017, presenting more than 40 platforms and posters, and developing and leading a number of special interest groups and scientific programs. Fellow Anca M. Pasca was an invited speaker at the Annual Congress of the Society for Brain Mapping and Therapeutics held April 18-20, 2017 in Los Angeles, CA. Dr. Pasca discussed the advances in neurodevelopmental disease modeling and drug screening using 3D human cortical spheroids, an in vitro technology that closely mimics human fetal development and allows the detailed interrogation of normal and abnormal developmental events in the laboratory.

First-year fellows Vidya Pai and Neha Kumbhat received Child Health Research Institute (CHRI) funding for a Master’s Program in Epidemiology and Clinical Research at Stanford University School of Medicine. Both will pursue the master’s degree concurrent with fellowship training from 2017-2019. Neha Kumbhat was awarded the CHRI clinical (MD) trainee support grant for two years for her project “Co-Syntropin Stimulation Test as a Marker of Death or Major Morbidity in Premature Infants.”

Anoop Rao along with faculty members Vinod Bhutani and William Rhine led a NeoDesign Focus Group at PAS. Building off of a NeoDesign Speaker Series that happens each month at Stanford, this inaugural meeting was designed to further facilitate interactions
between innovators in design, development, translation, and commercialization of technology. Participants initiated a dialogue about “design thinking” in the clinical setting, the challenges of testing new devices and barriers that may limit the provision of healthcare solutions in neonatology.

**Yassar Arain** delivered an oral presentation on Premie BiliRecs at the iHealth 2017 Clinical Informatics Conference hosted by the American Medical Informatics Association. Premie BiliRecs is a web-based decision support tool designed for the management of hyperbilirubinemia in infants less than 35 weeks gestational age. Dr. Arain developed the tool with Jonathan Palma and an article about its development was published last year in Clinics in Perinatology. The team presented preliminary results of the tool’s impact on adherence to current clinical recommendations in a poster at PAS.

The Bay Area Cooling Summit was hosted in March 2017 by the Lucille Packard Children’s Hospital Stanford NeuroNICU team. Speakers included Bill Benitz, Krista Van Meurs, and Valerie Chock.

**Krista Van Meurs** organized a special NeuroNICU Course and Conference on May 3-4, 2017, prior to the PAS meeting. In addition to local faculty, the speakers included: Lena Hellstrom-Westas from Uppsala, Sweden; Guilherme Sant’Anna from McGill University, Montreal, Canada; and Lina Chalak from UT Dallas. The course was attended by over 160 people from the US, Canada, Mexico, China and Brazil.

**University of California Davis**

We welcome new faculty members Lee Donohue and Rupal Patel.

Two fellows are graduating at the end of June 2017. **Genevieve Kinsey** will be joining the group at the UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital East Bay and **Kara Kuhn-Riordon** will be joining the faculty at UC Davis.

Two new neonatal-perinatal fellows will be starting on July 1, 2017: **Sameeia Iqbal** and **Jennifer Webber**.

The NEC Symposium was held at UC Davis on April 5-7, 2017. The conference was sold out and the feedback has been very positive. This was the 1st conference dedicated entirely to NEC to be held in the US. It was co-sponsored by UC Davis and the NEC Society and funded in part by a grant from PCORI. One of the unique aspects of the conference was participation of several families who have been impacted by NEC. Their stories were moving and powerful. A summary of the conference is at NICUniversity. We plan to hold another NEC Symposium in spring 2019.

**University of California Los Angeles/Mattel Children’s Hospital**

**Uday Devskar** will be stepping down as Chief, Neonatology Division, David Geffen School of Medicine, Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA this year. Dr. Devskar will continue to be an active part of the Division and will focus on his research projects. **Suhas Kallapur** will be the new Division Chief for the Neonatology Division. Dr. Kallapur will be joining UCLA from Cincinnati Children’s Hospital in September 2017.

**University of California San Diego/Rady Children’s Hospital**

The UC San Diego Rady Children’s Hospital Division of Neonatology now covers the new Rady Children’s Hospital NICU at Palomar West Medical Center in Escondido, CA. Construction on an expanded NICU at Palomar West Medical Center will begin soon.

**Crystal Le** has been named Medical Director of the Rady Children’s NICU at Scripps Mercy Chula Vista.

**Jane O’Donnell** received the Rady Children’s Hospital Physician of Excellence Award.

**Charles Sauer** and **Krishelle Marc-Aurele** have been promoted to Associate Professor of Pediatrics effective July 1, 2017.

**Krishelle Marc-Aurele** received the UC San Diego Whitehill Prize for excellence in the teaching of clinical medicine, awarded by the Academy of Clinician Scholars for a junior faculty chosen by the pediatric chief residents.

Congratulations to our 2017 graduating fellows!

**Rebeca Cavazos** will be joining Texas Children’s Hospital in Houston, TX. **Megan Doty** will be joining the Kaploli an Medical Center for Women and Children in Oahu, HI. **Lieutenant Commander Jamie Overbey** will be returning to service at the Balboa Navy Hospital in San Diego, CA. **Kristina Stillwell** will be joining University of California San Francisco in Monterey, CA.

**Denise Suttner** was elected to the District IX SoNPM Executive Council. She began her 3-year term in March 2017.

**Erika Fernandez** was recently elected President of the Western Society for Pediatric Research.

**Jae Kim** spoke at the Neonatal Review Course in Dubai and the Association of Neonatologists meeting in Bogota, Colombia. Dr. Kim will also be chairing a national meeting on Advances in Neonatal and Pediatric Nutrition at Catamaran Resort Hotel and Spa in San Diego, CA on August 21-23, 2017

**Lisa Stellwagen** has been appointed to the AAP Section on Breastfeeding Executive Board.

**Jae Kim** received a philanthropic gift to start a non-profit milk bank in San Diego.

**Erika Fernandez** and **Eustratia “Tia” Hubbard** were selected to attend the AAMC Mid-Career Faculty Professional Development Seminar in Austin, TX.

**Lawrence “Lance” Prince** presented two state-of-the-art lectures at the 2017 Advances in Neonatology and Pediatrics Conference in Hyderabad, India.

**Rebeca Cavazos** will be joining the faculty at Texas Children’s Hospital and Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, TX.

**Chris Longhurst** began attending in the newborn nursery in 2016 and is pleased to resume clinical duties in addition to his role as CIO for UCSD Health.

**Farhad Imam** was awarded the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Pilot Award for Neonatal Encephalopathy Research, $220k/1 year for a project to test three promising drug candidates for the potential to protect newborn babies against brain injury and/or cerebral palsy using a custom experimental animal model, and to prepare a workflow for future, larger-scale drug screening.

**Valley Children’s Hospital Central California, Madera**

The inaugural class of pediatric residents for the new Valley Children’s Hospital Pediatric Residency Program (affiliated with Stanford University) will begin July 2017.

Valley Children’s Hospital recently partnered with Kaweah Delta Medical Center and our physician group is now staffing their level 3 NICU.

In addition to Kaweah Delta Medical Center and St. Agnes Medical Center, our physician group also staffs the NICUs at Adventist Medical Center Hanford and Mercy Medical Center Merced.

Medical Director at St. Agnes Medical Center is **Vinod Bansal**.

Departures from the group include: **Kajori Thusu**, **Michael Barsotti**, and **Robyn Borghese**.

**District X: Mark Hudak**

**FLORIDA**

**Brandon Regional Hospital**

**Nancy Landfish** has taken a position for the Department of Defense, Civilian Military, as a neonatologist in Landstuhl, Germany. She has worn many hats over her career including a private practice role as Medical Director at Brandon Regional Hospital, followed by a Clinical Assistant Professor position at the University of Kansas Wichita Campus under the guidance of **Barry Bloom** and neonatology faculty at Wesley Medical Center. Her new position will allow her to enhance the care given to our military families while enjoying Europe with her husband **Edward Bailey**.

**Jupiter Medical Center**

**David Kanter** (West Palm Beach), a member of the AAP Committee on Coding and Nomenclature, presented a national coding webinar on April 20 on behalf of the AAA titled, “Navigating Neonatal Services,” which explored various clinical scenarios relevant to neonatal coding. For those who missed this presentation, the webinar will be accessible via registration for 3-6 months after the live presentation.

**Nemours Children’s Hospital, Orlando**

**Carolyn Chu**. Interim Division Chief, related profoundly sad news that **Ronald Holtzman** died in March 2017. Ron joined Nemours in June of 2016 after having been in practice for more than 20 years. Carolyn wrote that he was a “brilliant neonatologist and will always be remembered as a great mentor and colleague by his students and friends.”
The Nemours Children’s Hospital, in collaboration with the Florida Department of Health in Brevard County and the Space Coast Health Foundation, hosted the 1st Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome Summit in April 2017.

St. Joseph’s Hospital, Tampa

Cherie Foster has been asked to serve on the ABP Subcommittee for Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine.

University of Florida, Gainesville

Josef Neu has begun enrolling patients in his NIH-sponsored “Antibiotics in VLBW Neonates.”

Lauren Ruoss was awarded a Children’s Miracle Network grant for “Non-invasive Hemodynamic Monitoring of the PDA in VLBW Neonates”.

Diana Montoya-Williams, 2nd-year fellow, was awarded the Audrey Schiebler Award for Pediatric Advocacy.

Jim Wynn has accepted the position of Associate Editor, Neonatology Section, for Pediatric Research. Jim was also awarded the Perinatal Research Society prize for Outstanding Paper by an Associate Member.

University of Florida, Jacksonville

Kartikeya Makker gave a platform presentation at the 2017 Pediatric Academic Societies meeting in San Francisco.

Josef Cortez headed a quality improvement project in the UF Health NICU to reduce moderate-severe intraventricular hemorrhage (IVH) using an IVH bundle. This effort won first runner-up at the Florida Perinatal Quality Collaborative in April 2017 and was presented at a poster symposium at PAS.

Kartikeya Makker, Sanket Shah, Sireesha Nandula, and Sfurti Nath also presented at PAS.

Mark Hudak was Co-investigator on a project conducted by the AAP Department of Research entitled, “Office-Based Primary Care Pediatrician Participation in Medicaid: 2011/12 and 2015/16” which was a platform presentation at PAS.

The Division welcomed Colby Day from the Medical University of South Carolina fellowship training program as its newest faculty member. Colby was elected as Chair of the Trainees and Early Career Neonatologists (TECaN) group of the SoNPM.

University of South Florida, Tampa

John Curran retired on June 30, 2017 after 45 years of service. John founded neonatal medicine at the Tampa General Hospital, initiated a system of neonatal transport in Southwest Florida, and made major contributions to the growth and development of the Children’s Medical Services Regional Perinatal Intensive Care System (1974 to present). He has been a valued long-standing neonatal consultant to state government. He also served as AAP District X Vice Chair and Chair (1999-2011). John also retires from positions as a senior administrator at the USF Morsani College of Medicine, and more recently, as Deputy Secretary of Health for Children’s Medical Services. He helped initiate the Florida Perinatal Quality Collaborative. Most recently, he has revitalized the Florida RPICCC System by updating state rules and has paved the way for a project that will define hospital levels of Obstetric Care in Florida using the CDC LOCATe algorithm.

GEORGIA

Emory University, Atlanta

The Emory Department of Pediatrics ranked #5 nationally in extramural funding.

Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta will build a new 440-bed pediatric hospital to replace the current Eggleston Children’s Hospital.

Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University

Atul Khurana was awarded Clinical Educator of the Year by the 2017 graduating class of Augusta University - UGA Medical partnership.

Emily Masoumy received a Young Investigator Travel Award to PAS 2017.

Anwar Jones graduated from our training program.

Amy Thompson joined us as a 1st-year fellow from Children’s Hospital of Georgia.

The Section would like to thank the following sponsors:

Abbott Nutrition
Neoreviews/NeoReviews Plus
Section Newsletter
Virginia Apgar award
Thomas Cone Jr History Lectureship
L. Joseph Butterfield Lectureship
Perinatal Spring Workshop
Neonatal/Perinatal Fellows Conference
TECaN NCE & Workshop Travel Grants
Gerald Merenstein Lecture
Section Faculty Dinner
NICHD Young Investigator Conference
NCE Poster Session & Reception
NCE Executive Committee Dinner
ONTPD Networking Session
NeoPREP
APGAR Award Dinner
Women in Neonatology
TECaN NCE Reception

Mead Johnson Nutrition
Neonatal Landmark Award
Av Fanaroff Neonatal Education Award
Young Investigator Awards
NCE & Workshop Travel Grants
Trainees and Early Career Neonatologists
Mid-Career Neonatologists (MiDCaN)
Klaus Grants
Perinatal Spring Workshop
4 Fellows Conferences Perinatal Research
Perinatal & Developmental Medicine Symposia (2)
ONTPD Lunch at NCE
NCE Executive Committee Dinner
NICHD Young Investigator Conference

Johnson & Johnson
Klaus Grants

Brodsky & Martin’s Neonatology Review
Beth Israel Deaconess Neonatology Education Research Award

PLEASE JOIN US!
VON Annual Quality Congress
- Transforming Newborn Care
Sheraton Grand Chicago • October 26-30, 2017

Please join us for an innovative and engaging meeting of the neonatology community of practice, including our NICQ and iNICQ Symposium, QI Science-driven Symposia, and our cutting-edge scientific meeting.

We also encourage Fellows and early career neonatologists to apply for the AAP VON Scholars program, sponsored in collaboration with the AAP Section on Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine (SONPM). For information about the scholarship, and the Jump Starting Quality Preconference, please contact the VON Fellowship liaison, Dmitry Dukhovny MD, MPH, dukhovny@ohsu.edu
AAP Leadership Training Opportunities for Trainee and Early Career Neonatologists

Michael Prendergast MD, PhD, FAAP

More than ever before, physician leaders are needed to build teams, motivate groups, effectively communicate, and serve as advocates and change agents. Complex health care reform is taking shape, and no one is better positioned to address the challenges that this entails than highly accomplished physician leaders. The AAP is committed to preparing pediatricians accordingly and has created a variety of opportunities for members to expand upon their innate leadership talent and to acquire new skills through conceptual and practical learning. Two such opportunities are available to neonatologists in their early career or in training: The Young Physicians’ Leadership Alliance (YPLA) and the Leadership Innovation Fostering Engagement (LIFE) Fellowship Program. These AAP training programs provide an ideal platform for members to develop leadership skills, network with peers and senior colleagues, and develop specific career interests alongside content expert mentors.

Young Physicians’ Leadership Alliance (YPLA):

The YPLA is offered through the Section on Early Career Physicians (This 3-year training program is now in its 4th year and is designed to develop leaders and build a leadership community amongst early career pediatricians and pediatric subspecialists. TECaN plays a key role in this wonderful opportunity by sponsoring three neonatology fellows and two early career neonatologists for this program each year. The YPLA program provides an interactive forum in large and small group settings at the AAP’s National Conference and Exhibition (NCE) annually. Ongoing education and support is facilitated between each NCE/YPLA session by webinars, listserv communication, and shared drive materials for participant learning and collaboration. Topics rotate such that an entire curriculum is completed over a 3-year cycle. The program orient participants to theories behind leadership development, identifies specific targets for individual growth, helps participants to connect their ambitions with the AAP’s strategic priorities and, in the spirit of paying forward, graduates of the program are expected to mentor new YPLA participants.

Leadership Innovation Fostering Engagement (LIFE) Fellowship Program:

The LIFE fellowship program is in its inaugural year and is a one-year long program. The objectives of the LIFE Fellowship Program are to: (1) Expand leadership mentoring and support to early career physicians looking to influence child health at the national level; (2) Stimulate professional growth and leadership development in early career physicians; and; (3) Deepen early career physicians’ capacity to apply leadership skills by designing and completing projects that advance the health of children and families. Participating fellows are expected to come to the program with knowledge of leadership concepts acquired either through the YPLA or similar training programs. The LIFE Fellowship Program then offers an opportunity to further develop those skills and apply them to child health work through multiple activities:

1.) Child Health Project

Each fellow identifies leadership skills that they wish to develop and then works on those skills through their work on an advocacy, education, or similar child health project. The project of their choice involves working with an AAP committee, section or council over the course of a year. Fellows have the opportunity to select from a catalog of readily available projects or design their own. Fellows provide updates on their project activities as part of the program, describing and reflecting on the application of their leadership knowledge to the actual project activities.

As a LIFE fellow and a member of SoNPM, my child health project involves my working alongside a SoNPM task force led by Drs. Heather Kaplan and Munish Gupta, with the sponsorship of the SoNPM Chairman Dr. John Zupancic, to establish consensus on quality metrics for neonatology through the input of SoNPM members and a panel of quality experts. The SoNPM chairperson and executive committee have embraced both the child health project and the leadership training aspects of the LIFE program wholeheartedly and have provided many additional leadership development opportunities.

2.) Specific Mentorship Mechanisms

LIFE fellows are supported by: (1) Leadership mentors from the LIFE program faculty; (2) Child health project content mentors from the AAP committee, section or council with whom fellows are working and; (3) Peer mentors from the LIFE fellowship group

The program starts with a 2-day intensive orientation that expands the student’s knowledge and understanding of critical issues in leadership in pediatrics, and gives LIFE fellows the opportunity to introduce their leadership goals, the skills on which they wish to focus, and the child health project on which they will work. The group then convenes for monthly webinars designed to provide additional training and coaching on their fellowship projects, and facilitate expert panel discussions. Finally, the program ends with each fellow giving a presentation on their child health project and their leadership development at the closing seminar. The presentations will be video recorded and posted as a leadership resource on aap.org. Fellows receive a stipend to offset project expenses and receive funding to support travel to two project related meetings.

SoNPM members who are interested in hearing more about these wonderful programs are invited to contact Michael Prendergast (YPLA and LIFE program fellow) at mprendergast2@bwh.harvard.edu or Colby Day (TECaN Chair and YPLA member) at colby.lauren@gmail.com
VON 2017 Annual Quality Congress
October 26-30, 2017

Vermont Oxford Network (VON) invites specialists in neonatal-perinatal medicine to join more than 1,400 professionals and parent advisors for the 2017 Annual Quality Congress, October 26-30, 2017 in Chicago, IL. Interactive programming led by a distinguished expert faculty will cover four key themes during plenary sessions: Translating Evidence into Practice, Genomics and the NICU, Edge of Viability, and Social Determinants of Health. The robust schedule of programming includes optional professional development and educational sessions in the days before and after the main sessions, as well as an abundance of opportunity to network with the greater neonatal community of practice.

2017 Featured Programs and Updates
In addition to the full plenary session agenda, VON offers several new enhancements and updates to this year’s conference:

- Jump Starting Quality 3.0 Strategies to Launch a Successful Quality Improvement Project (Pre-conference)
- Newborn Antibiotic Stewardship National Summit in partnership with the Centers for Disease Control focused on addressing antibiotic overuse and misuse in the NICU (Pre-conference)
- Writing for Publication: How to Get Your QI Projects to Press! (Post-conference)
- Learning tracks to enhance personal learning experiences in four areas: clinical improvement, education, leadership, and data

Distinguished Expert Faculty
Visit www.vtoxford.com/Annual_Quality_Congress for a full list of faculty. A representative list of distinguished presenters and collaborators includes:

- Alan W. Flake MD – Extra-Uterine Incubation
- Alan H. Jobe MD, MPH – Improving Rates of Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia (BPD)
- Michael Cotten MD, MHS – Genomics: Possibilities and Perils
- Michele Walsh MD – Impacting Healthcare Disparities in Ohio
- William Tarnow-Mordi – The APTs Trial: Delayed Cord Clamping

Submit an Abstract
Submit an abstract by July 17, 2017 to be featured at the VON Learning Fair and to be considered for a podium presentation. The Learning Fair will showcase 200+ inspiring stories from interdisciplinary colleagues and parents who will share their quality improvement work and research.

Introduction to Extended Programming
The Annual Quality Congress is an excellent opportunity to network with NICU team participants and learn more about VON’s iNICQ and NICQ Next quality improvement collaboratives. Enrollment is now open at www.vtoxford.org.

- The current topic of the internet-based iNICQ is “Choosing Antibiotics Wisely,” which has helped some centers reduce unnecessary antibiotic use by 25%
- NICQ Next2 is comprised of small groups dedicated to pursuing excellence in a single area (for example, improving outcomes for micro-premature infants, or improving teams and teamwork)

Other Features and Benefits
VON’s Annual Quality Congress is known for the vibrant atmosphere of networking and congeniality among interdisciplinary participants in the neonatal community. Attendees will have the opportunity to:

- Share knowledge with a worldwide neonatal interdisciplinary community of practice, including neonatologists, unit medical directors, nursing directors, clinical nurse specialists, unit educators, senior leaders, parent-partners, and more
- Learn how to improve your outcomes and the patient and family experience by engaging families on your QI team
- Attend pre- and post-conference events for deep focused learning and coaching from experts in the field
- Access sessions year-round on VON’s Learning Management System (LMS)
- Earn continuing education credits for live conference participation and online completion of sessions after the conference through VON’s LMS

The Annual Quality Congress is designed to provide opportunities for networking, education, and collaboration for all roles involved in improving the quality, safety, and value of care for infants and their families. Join the VON community of practice in this important, interactive, and diverse meeting by registering online.

To register or for more information visit: www.vtoxford.org/Annual_Quality_Congress

2017 Landmark Award
William Northway, Jr, MD
Fragile Infant Feeding Institute—FIFI

August 21-25, 2017
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analyzing solely normal developmental patterns of the neonatology fellow, my scientific interests have shifted from into clinical practice as a pediatrician, and now a exuberance during the early postnatal period. Transitioning changes of the corpus callosum during the phase of its our team wanted to clarify the underlying morphological rodent brain development using electron microscopy when My research was further expanded to include analysis of the normal human brain development, focusing on the normal human brain in the perinatal period to how our clinical interventions could influence brain maturation on morphological and functional levels. The intriguing aspect of this project for me is the potential of affecting future therapeutic choices in treatment of neonatal seizures.

Klaus Bench or Clinical Research Awardee

Marko Culjat MD, PhD - MedStar Georgetown University Hospital
Title: Effects of Brivaracetam, a Novel Anticonvulsant Drug, on Cell Apoptosis in the Developing Rodent Brain
Mentor: Patrick Forcelli PhD
Personal Statement: Prior to starting pediatric residency, I had extensive experience in basic science research focusing on the normal human brain development, analyzing fetal and neonatal brain tissue with histology, immunohistochemistry and post-mortem magnetic resonance imaging. Our research team’s focus expanded to clinical research, which involved a multidisciplinary team of neonatomists, neuroradiologists and neuroscientists. My research was further expanded to include analysis of rodent brain development using electron microscopy when our team wanted to clarify the underlying morphological changes of the corpus callosum during the phase of its exuberance during the early postnatal period. Transitioning into clinical practice as a pediatrician, and now a neonatology fellow, my scientific interests have shifted from analyzing solely normal developmental patterns of the human brain in the perinatal period to how our clinical interventions could influence brain maturation on morphological and functional levels. The intriguing aspect of this project for me is the potential of affecting future therapeutic choices in treatment of neonatal seizures.

Kendell R. German MD – University of Washington
Title: Urine Hepcidin as a Measure of Iron Regulation in Preterm Infants
Mentor: Sandra (Sunny) Juul, MD, PhD
Personal Statement: I developed an interest in working with children with special developmental needs through my former position as a therapist for children with autism, and my research with Dr. Elizabeth Rogers at UCSF, examining neurodevelopmental outcomes of former preterm infants. This interest brought me to the University of Washington where I am pursuing fellowship training in neonatology and clinical research training under the mentorship of Dr. Sandra Juul. My current research focuses on iron sufficiency in neonates. Iron sufficiency is essential for neurodevelopment and despite national iron supplementation guidelines published by the AAP, premature infants remain at-risk for iron deficiency. With support from the Marshall Klaus Award, we aim to improve our understanding of iron regulation in neonates and in so doing, guide optimal iron supplementation. I hope to improve the neurodevelopmental outcomes of neonates through translational research during my career in academic neonatology.

Ellen Coley Ingolfsland MD – University of Minnesota
Title: Role of Anemia in Pathogenesis of Retinopathy of Prematurity: Evaluation of Mechanism through Multi-point Transcriptome Pathway Analysis in a Rat Model
Mentor: Michael Georgieff MD
Personal Statement: I am a neonatal-perinatal fellow at the University of Minnesota. I have a passion for research in retinopathy of prematurity (ROP), with the overall goal of improving understanding of this devastating disease in order to develop targeted preventative and therapeutic approaches. In the lab of my mentor, Dr. Michael Georgieff, I have collaborated with a multidisciplinary team to develop this proposed project to investigate the impact of anemia on ROP and determine its molecular mechanism of action on a transcriptomic level. With a background in clinical research, I have previously developed approaches to investigate outcome-driven questions and explore causative factors of disease. My interest in the molecular mechanism of ROP and my desire to delineate causative clinical factors promoting this disease, however, led me to
The overall objective is to elucidate underlying mechanisms of inflammation and oxidative stress during in utero delay, and based on animal data, exposure to chronic general population for neurodevelopmental disability and becoming urgent. These infants are at higher risk than the incidence worldwide, an understanding of the relationship between maternal obesity and infants’ health outcomes is becoming urgent. My focus is on the impact of obesity-related inflammation and oxidative stress on offspring's NDO. My long-term goal is to devise and evaluate clinical interventions targeted at these mechanisms, in order to improve NDO. The receipt of this award allows me to develop specific skills that will augment my expertise in the performance and interpretation of neuroelectrophysiological and neuropsychological assessments.

**Viral Jain MD – Cincinnati Children’s Hospital**

**Title:** Role of Progesterone in Suppressing Fetal Membrane Inflammation  
**Mentor:** Louis Muglia MD, PhD

Personal Statement: I am a first year neonatology fellow at Cincinnati Children's and have research interest in genomics of preterm birth, newborn genital development and evidence-based medicine. I started my research career early in medical school in India to understand the role of endocrine disruptors in newborn genital development. During residency, I continued this work by serving as the Resident PI to investigate the role of steroid hormones in newborn infants. I simultaneously worked on investigating the mechanism of fetal membrane rupture as a cause of preterm birth. To further advance my understanding of placental inflammation and preterm birth, I moved to Cincinnati to work under Dr. Louis Muglia. Using my background knowledge of studying steroid hormones, I want to study the role of progesterone and its analogues in suppressing inflammation in human fetal membranes. This project will lay a solid foundation for my future career as a physician-scientist.

**Carmen T. Monthe-Dreze MD - Boston Children’s Hospital**

**Title:** Maternal Obesity-associated Inflammation and Oxidative Stress: Impact on Offspring Neurodevelopmental Outcomes  
**Mentor:** Sarbattama (Rimi) Sen MD

Personal Statement: I am a second year fellow in the Harvard Program in Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine. I aspire to be a neonatal physician-scientist with a focus on neurodevelopmental outcomes of children of obese mothers. Maternal obesity, which affects one in three women of childbearing age, is associated with profound impact on the child’s health throughout the lifespan. Given that obesity is a growing public health issue with increasing incidence worldwide, an understanding of the relationship between maternal obesity and infants’ health outcomes is becoming urgent. These infants are at higher risk than the general population for neurodevelopmental disability and delay, and based on animal data, exposure to chronic inflammation and oxidative stress during in utero development may play a key role in this association. My overall objective is to elucidate underlying mechanisms of the neurodevelopmental effects of maternal obesity on offspring, and to contribute to the development of the tools needed to assess neurodevelopmental outcomes (NDO) in infants born to obese mothers. My focus is on the impact of obesity-related inflammation and oxidative stress on offspring’s NDO. My long-term goal is to devise and evaluate clinical interventions targeted at these mechanisms, in order to improve NDO. The receipt of this award allows me to develop specific skills that will augment my expertise in the performance and interpretation of neuroelectrophysiological and neuropsychological assessments.

**Julie Margaret Ngee MD – Washington University**

**Title:** Oligogenic Variants in Familial Atrioventricular Septal Defect  
**Mentor:** Patrick Jay MD, PhD

Personal Statement: I am a second year Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine fellow at Washington University in St. Louis and St. Louis Children's Hospital. I have a background in basic science research in cardiovascular proteomics and neonatal brain injury. As a clinician, I have always had a special interest in children who have congenital diseases with genetic origins. Under the mentorship of Dr. Patrick Jay, I am currently exploring the oligogenic nature of congenital heart disease. We hypothesize that a few genes may interact to result in the development of a heart defect, and use genetically engineered mouse models to explore these interactions. My current project involves using CRISPRCas9 mice to investigate oligogenic variants identified in a human family. I have a long-term goal of investigating the oligogenic interactions in the genome that may have both protective and deleterious effects on the development of birth defects. Ultimately, I hope that this work may provide a mechanism to pursue genome-based strategies for the prevention and treatment of severe congenital diseases, and provide a foundation for a career as an academic physician-scientist.

**Laurie Gorham Sherlock MD - University of Colorado**

**Title:** Impact of SOD3 on Neonatal Lung and Vascular Development  
**Mentor:** Eva Grayck, MD

Personal Statement: I am a second year NICU fellow with research interests in pulmonary developmental biology and the pathophysiology of bronchopulmonary dysplasia and pulmonary hypertension. I am studying the role of redox state and signaling within the developing lung. BPD and PH are diseases we see and treat daily at the bedside, but lack effective prevention or treatment strategies. My time in lab is fueled by this clinical link caring for sick infants and their parents. It is
invigorating that through research, we can aim to improve patient outcomes by developing a deeper understanding of the mechanisms contributing to a clinical problem.

Beth Israel Deaconess Neonatology Education Research Award (sponsored by Brodsky & Martin’s Neonatology Review)

Brittany Schwarz MD - University Hospitals of Cleveland Rainbow Babies and Children’s Hospital

Title: Flash Cards in the NICU: A Novel Approach to Resident Education

Mentor: Mary Elaine Patrinos MD

Personal Statement: For as long as I can remember, I wanted to be a teacher. My interest in science led me to pursue a career in medicine, but I was concerned that I would be giving up my passion for teaching. I am very grateful to Dr. Kermis, my pre-med advisor, who opened my eyes to the many teaching opportunities within the field of medicine and convinced me that my passion for teaching would only enhance my career as a physician. After completing my pediatric residency at Rainbow Babies and Children’s Hospital, part of my decision to stay at Rainbow for fellowship was a desire to improve the educational experience for other trainees. Ongoing restrictions to resident work hours along with fewer NICU rotations during residency limit the amount of time residents are involved in the care of high risk newborns. Innovative strategies that provide effective and efficient resident education are needed. My experiences in the NICU as a resident gave me great insight into how neonatologists could improve resident education. My goals for this project are to improve the educational experience for residents and fellows in the Rainbow NICU, and to gain experience in curriculum development and education research.

The Section for Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Research Committee:

Jörn-Hendrik Weitkamp MD, FAAP (Chair) Vanderbilt University Medical Center
Mary Nock MD, FAAP (District V), Rainbow Babies and Children’s Hospital
Susan Aucott MD, FAAP (District III), Johns Hopkins University
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Gil Martin, MD: A Man for All Seasons
Stephen A. Pearlman MD, MSHQS, FAAP

Gil Martin, MD is a well-respected neonatologist and has been an active member of the Section on Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine (SoNPM) for many years. He has made significant contributions to the field of neonatology and has been involved in various capacities, including serving as the Chair of the Coding Committee for the SoNPM and as the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Perinatology. His dedication and commitment to the field have been recognized by his colleagues and peers.

Most neonatologists currently practicing probably know Gil through his work in neonatal coding. His work in this area began in 1997 as the founding Chair of the Coding Committee. During his tenure as Chair, Gil once again used his writing and editing skills to create 5 editions of the Perinatal Coding Toolkit and 2 editions of the Quick Reference Guide to Neonatal Coding and Documentation. He was the steward of the committee as it completely rewrote all of the CPT codes for neonatal services which we continue to use today. Gil’s insight helped to simplify the process of neonatal coding and in doing so, improved the revenue stream for neonatal practices, both private and academic, around the country. Even after stepping down as the Chair of the Committee, he remained active on the Committee and took on a new assignment, serving on the Tactical Advisory Group (TAG). This group developed ICD-10 and the next iteration, ICD-11. Gil served as the TAG liaison to the Executive Committee of the SoNPM from 2011-2017, keeping us abreast of all the newest developments related to ICD coding and ensuring that Section members knew how to match the correct ICD diagnostic code with their CPT billing codes to promote optimal reimbursement.

Perhaps the only thing in Gil’s life that surpasses the duration of his service to our Section is his marriage to Pat. Together they have 3 wonderful children and 6 grandchildren (all boys!). Where he found the time to raise so many other activities for the Section is truly beyond his family while running a busy neonatal practice, editing a journal, writing articles, developing new billing codes, and those responsibilities.

Over the span of my career, I have had the good fortune of meeting many neonatologists across the country. They all seem to have one thing in common…..they all know Gil! Not only that, they all like him! I attribute this phenomenon to the fact that Gil possesses the uncanny ability to see the good in each of us and that feeling is returned in kind.

Some may know that Gil is also an accomplished pianist who had his own group at one time. During high school and college, he performed regularly at places such as the large hotels in the Catskill Mountains of New York. So you see, many different types of activity”. Neonatologist, Family Man, Editor, Art Collector, Wine Connoisseur, Golfer, Musician and SoNPM supporter. So as Gil begins a new phase in his career, we recognize and thank him for all his service to the Section on Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine. It seems fitting to end this tribute with a musical reference to a song that I think epitomizes Gil’s philosophy. The song is “A Hundred Years from Today” written in 1933 and later recorded by Frank Sinatra:

Life is such a great adventure
Learn to live it as you go,
No one in the world can censure,
What we do down here below.
The SONPM would like to thank Abbott Nutrition for sponsoring the following section activities!

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