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The Beat



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College of Medicine

JULY 1996

EYE ON SURVIVAL

The molecular basis of microbial stress responses to two diarrheal pathogens, Salmonella typhimurium and Escherichia coli O157:H7, is under intense scrutiny by Dr. John W. Foster in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology and Dr. Michael P. Spector in the Department of Biomedical Sciences. S. Typhimurium is a well known and prolific cause of gastroenteritis whereas E. Coli O157:H7 is an emerging pathogen that causes a serious enterohemorrhagic disease.

Life is frequently challenged by harsh environments. Hence, the ability to endure environmental stress is crucial to the existence of all life, from bacteria to plants to humans. Research from several areas indicate that stress management at the cellular level requires mechanisms to sense ominous environments and to transmit regulatory signals to the transcriptional/translational machinery. The result is a major molecular realignment leading to a survival, rather than growth, physiology.

A resurgent interest in microbial stress has been fueled by reports that pathogenic microorganisms altered in their ability to survive low pH, heat, osmolarity and oxidative stresses are avirulent. Consequently, stress survival mechanisms are important virulence properties of pathogenic microorganisms. The infectious process is, in effect, an elaborate battle of stress responses. Host animals first attempt to repel potential invaders by relying on a series of harsh environments set up at portals of entry. A prime example is the acid barrier of the stomach. Many microorganisms cannot survive this harsh environment long enough to reach the relative safety of the intestine. Once the invading microorganism successfully breaches the primary defense, it can launch its own attack, inflicting one or more stresses on its prey (for example, toxin production). The infected animal, in turn, redresses the microorganism via the immune system. Ultimately, the disease outcome depends in large measure on the relative abilities of the combatants to adapt to the opposing stress.

Professor John Foster, coauthor of a well known textbook in Microbial Physiology, has studied the genetics and physiology of *Salmonella typhimurium* for over 20 years. Starting as a graduate student at Hahnemann University in Philadelphia and later as an Assistant and Associate Professor at the Marshall University School of Medicine in West Virginia, his work has constantly focused on the relationship between *Salmonella* and its environment.

Dr. Michael Spector joined the University of South Alabama in 1988 after postdoctoral training at the University of Texas where he studied DNA replication in *E. Coli*. His interest in *Salmonella* stress responses originated during his predoctoral training at Marshall University, coincidentally under the tutelage of Dr. Foster. The reunion of these

scientists at the University of South Alabama has led to a synergistic research effort focused on two major microbial stress responses.

The Spector Lab probes how *Salmonella* handles extended periods of starvation, a stress that is encountered in the competitive environment of the intestine and, since *Salmonella* is an intracellular parasite, in the nutrient poor phagolysosomal environments of epithelial and phagocytic cells. Dr. Spector and his undergraduate students have discovered that starvation induces cross-resistance to other forms of stress (e.g., heat, osmolarity, oxidation) and to antimicrobial peptides. Their work has revealed a core set of survival proteins induced by several different forms of starvation that is important to surviving these varied stresses. Members of the Spector lab are currently seeking the identity of these proteins and are defining the molecular basis for their control.

Dr. Foster's laboratory examines how *Salmonella* and *E. Coli* adapt to survive periods of acid stress encountered in the stomach following the ingestion of contaminated food. An adaptive process discovered by Dr. Foster, coined the acid tolerance response, is induced when the organism experiences transitions to acidic environments. The process includes (1) the induction of emergency pH homeostasis systems that help maintain a less acidic internal pH and (2) a series of 50 acid shock proteins designed to prevent or repair acid damage to macromolecules. The graduate students in his laboratory have been instrumental in unraveling the complexities of acid tolerance. Bradly Bearson has proved the importance of inducible amino acid decarboxylase in pH homeostasis mechanisms and is now exploring redundant platoons of acid shock proteins that are critical for surviving organic acid stress. Shawn Bearson has discovered a new signal transduction pathway that controls the proteolytic turnover of an alternative transcription factor. This transcription factor is essential for the synthesis of key acid shock proteins and starvation inducible proteins. Holly Hall, a microbiology graduate student and a faculty member in the College of Allied Health, has discovered that the major iron regulatory protein, Fur, senses pH independently of its ability to sense iron. Finally, Thomas Penfound, a postdoctoral fellow and former graduate student of Dr. Foster's,

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has switched from his Ph.D. project detailing the repressor activity of the bifunctional NasR regulatory protein to the acid resistance properties of enterohemorrhagic *E. Coli*.

The research efforts of Drs. Foster and Spector are now directed toward (1) identifying specific stress survival proteins, (2) characterizing the molecular events involved in their regulation and (3) determining the mechanisms by which these proteins protect the cell. Applications that may be realized from these studies include improved vaccine development through the construction of conditionally crippled vaccine delivery strains and the improved manufacture of commercially useful biological proteins achieved by linking their synthesis to stress-controlled promoters. Although their goals seem formidable, these long time collaborators clearly thrive on stress.

NEW CHAIR OF FAMILY PRACTICE AND COMMUNITY MEDICINE APPOINTED



Frank V. deGruy, M.D., has been appointed Chair of the Department of Family Practice and Community Medicine and named University Distinguished Professor of Family Practice. Dr. deGruy is a native Mobilian who completed his undergraduate degree at Princeton University with a B.A. in sociology. In 1977, he received the Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of South Alabama, and

then completed an internship in Family Practice at USAMC and a residency at Duke University. He also received a Robert Wood Johnson Faculty Fellowship in Family Medicine from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. Dr. deGruy is the first USA alumnus to be appointed Chair of an academic department in the College of Medicine.

Dr. deGruy's academic career began at Duke University as Assistant Professor of Community and Family Medicine. He returned to USA in 1985 as Assistant Professor and in 1988 was promoted to the position of Associate Professor with Tenure. Before his appointment as Chair of Family Practice and Community Medicine, Dr. deGruy served as Acting Chair for the department.

Dr. deGruy's interests include mental disorders in medical settings, somatization in primary care, family determinants of health and disease, and primary care health services research. He is a member of numerous organizations including the American Medical Association, American Academy of Family Physicians, Society of Teachers of Family Medicine; he has served as a consultant and contributor for The Institute of Medicine in their report on "The Future of Primary Care." He is a grant reviewer for both NIMH Primary Care Services and for AHCPR Services Research Grants. Currently, his goals for the department are to augment and extend the training of family physicians for the state of Alabama; to introduce innovative models of care for patients by organizing teams of primary care physicians, mid-level practitioners, and medical specialists in new ways, and to build a world class primary care services research medical informatics program.

NEW FACULTY



Robert H. Lokey, M.D., (Associate Professor of Medicine) received a B.A. from the University of Alabama and a M.D. from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He completed a residency in medicine and a infectious disease fellowship at the University of South Alabama.



Robin P. Lowry, M.D. (Professor of Medicine) received a B.S. in Chemistry and a M.D. from McGill University. He completed his residency training in internal medicine and a nephrology fellowship at McGill University. Dr. Lowry will assume responsibilities in the renal transplant program as a transplant nephrologist.



Ferdinand O. Ukah, M.D., (Associate Professor of Surgery) received a B.S. in Biology and Psychology at Portland State University and a M.D. from Howard University. He completed a internship and residency in general surgery at Howard University. He also completed a multi-organ and cell transplant fellowship at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. Dr. Ukah will head the new Transplant

Division and was previously the Associate Director of a Transplant Program at the University of Iowa.

*If you would like to submit
an article for publication,
please forward it to:*

Karrye E. Jackson
College of Medicine
CSAB 170
or
FAX (334) 460-6073

Congratulations.....

Jack A. DiPalma, M.D., Director of the Division of Gastroenterology, has been named to the Gastroenterology Expert Advisory Panel of the United States Pharmacopeia (USP). USP is a voluntary, not-for-profit organization that promotes the public health by establishing and disseminating officially recognized standards of quality and authoritative information for the use of medicines and other health care technologies by health professionals, patients, and consumers. Members of the advisory panel will develop and approve drug and therapeutics information relating to gastroenterology, as well as provide advice to USP on health care, public health, patient care issues and product packaging and labeling.

At the spring meeting of the National Association of Medical Minority Educators (NAMME) in Hampton, Virginia, Dr. Hattie Myles, Assistant Dean for Special Programs and Student Affairs, was elected to serve as the new Director for the Southern Region. One of the objectives of NAMME is to promote the increase of medical minority personnel within the health professions through support of admissions, retention, and graduation, and

COLLEGE RECEIVES FULL ACCREDITATION

The Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) granted a full seven year accreditation of the education program leading to the M.D. degree at the University of South Alabama College of Medicine. The survey team identified many strengths of the College of Medicine, the most evident include the following areas: (1) Dean Pruitt is to be commended for his concerns for the welfare of the institution, his accessibility to the faculty and students, his frankness in dealing with people and his integrity. (2) There have been substantial progress in the medical school under Deans Baugh and Pruitt since the last survey by the LCME in 1988. Concerns of the previous survey team have been addressed. (3) The student body is composed of talented and enthusiastic individuals who are committed to the school and supportive of each other as evidenced by the success of the peer student advisory program. (4) The faculty are dedicated to teaching medical students and are readily accessible to students for academic assistance as well as counseling. (5) Written informational materials for students including the Student Handbook and Admissions Policies and Procedures Manual are well developed and useful sources of information for students. (6) The system of career counseling for fourth-year students is organized, effective and well regarded by the students. (7) The accessibility of the financial aid officer is appreciated by the students and the service provided by the office is timely and of high quality. (8) There has been dramatic improvement in the biomedical library with the move to new facilities. (9) The preclinical faculty are productive in scholarly activities and in securing extramural funding for research. (10) There is an effective summer student research program that is well funded and able to accommodate all students who are interested in participating. (11) All chairs are filled except for the recent departure of the chair of Family Medicine."

The site visit by the LCME team followed a year-long self study of the College of Medicine. The self study was conducted by more than 100

the promotion of quality health care for minority populations. Dr. Myles will serve a two-year term as Southern Region Director and a member of the organization's Executive Board.

Gil Brogdon, M.D., Emeritus University Distinguished Professor of Radiology, was awarded the Gold Medal of the American Roentgen Ray Society, its highest honor during the Annual Meeting of the Society in San Diego. He has previously received the Gold Medal of the American College of Radiology and the Association of University Radiologists, and the Schinz Medal of the Swiss Society of Medical Radiology.

Wladimir Wertenleki, M.D., Professor and Chair of Medical Genetics, has been selected to receive the award for Professional of the Year on behalf of The Arch of Alabama and the Awards Committee.

Richard L. Wesenberg, M.D., Professor of Radiology, presented a course on "Low Cost and Dose Pediatric Imaging" at the meeting of the American Roentgen Ray Society. The 96th annual meeting of the society was held in San Diego Convention Center, and was attended by more than 3,000 radiologists. Dr. Wesenberg was also awarded a certificate of added qualification in pediatric radiology, which is his primary sub-specialty.

faculty, staff and students who were organized as 15 committees. Each committee examined its area of focus thoroughly and submitted a written report to a Steering Committee. During the site visit, the LCME team spent four days reviewing data, meeting with faculty, students, members of the administration, and visiting facilities. At the completion of the visit, the members of the team expressed appreciation for the hospitality of the institution and efficiency of the review process. A written progress report addressing the following issues must be submitted by September 1, 1997:

- The need for educational program planning, including the participation of the dean, dean's staff, and the Curriculum Committee in long-term planning and resource assessment for the curriculum.
- The relatively low level of active learning experiences and clinical exposure, and the dependence on lectures, in the first two years.
- The reasons for the relatively high rate of attrition/delayed graduation in some classes, and the problems with recruitment and retention of minority students.
- The financial status of the institution, including the availability of funding for capital improvements.
- The security of the campus, including the Medical Sciences building.
- The need to ensure adequate patient volume for the third-year psychiatry clerkship.
- The lack of a review process for departments and department chairs.
- The limited scholarly productivity in clinical departments.

The next full survey is scheduled for the academic year 2002-2003 and will require an institutional self-study.

RESEARCH!AMERICA AN ALLIANCE FOR DISCOVERIES IN HEALTH

Research!America, established in 1989, is a national nonprofit alliance dedicated to increasing public awareness about the value of medical research and its significance in improving the quality of life for all. Their overall mission is to make medical research a much higher national priority. Research!America is a membership-based, public education and advocacy based organization of more than 350 academic institutions, corporations, hospitals, professional societies, foundations, voluntary health agencies and individuals. Research!America, in their efforts to raise public awareness of and support for medical research, have conducted some very interesting polls and has created a variety of useful resource materials. Details of such have been incorporated into monthly newsletters, speaker's kits, information pamphlets, public opinion polls, letter-writing campaigns and many other resources. These materials serve as tools in tracking the issues and facts essential to linking the research enterprise to the national interest. Research!America's public opinion polls indicate the public is not only supportive of medical research but would like to hear more about it, especially from its practitioners and academic communities. This organization surveyed the U.S. public during June 1995 to evaluate the assertion that scientists are among the most respected professionals in the U.S. and that citizens strongly support publicly funded research. They commissioned Louis Harris and Associates to conduct a nationwide survey, which consisted of 1004 adults with a estimated 3.1% margin of error. The nationwide Harris telephone poll provide several indicators as outlined in an editorial entitled "From Rhetoric to Reality" for *Science* written by Mary Woolley, President of Research!America. The survey found that (i) 94% believed that it is important for the U.S. to maintain its role as a world leader in medical research (ii) 65% opposed cuts in federal support for universities and hospitals, (iii) 73% would pay more taxes to support medical research, (iv) 61% wanted their senators and congressman to support legislation that would give tax credits to private industries to conduct more medical research (v) 69% agreed with the statement "Even if it brings no immediate benefits, basic science research which advances the frontiers of knowledge is necessary and should be supported by the Federal Government." People who are interested in the future of health care by definition care about research. Research!America states that only three cents of every health care dollar is spent on research. In addition, only about 2 of 10 approved grant proposals can be funded and this ratio could diminish unless individuals become involved and demand that medical research be given a higher national priority.

Creating a strong advocacy base for medical research requires targeting a variety of audiences which include: the research community, general public, educators, students, and members of Congress. Scientists must work together to foster support for research both in and out of their fields of speciality. To help ensure a brighter future for medical research advocacy, faculty in the College of Medicine are encouraged to help strengthen public support for research. For additional information, Research!America can be reached at 1-800-366-CURE or check out the web site examples of Research!America's materials, "fast facts", news briefs, etc., at <http://www.nicom.com/~ramerica>.

BASIC MEDICAL SCIENCE DOCTORATES AWARDED

Four graduate students received the Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Basic Medical Sciences at the June commencement. Congratulations to the following individuals—

Liming Bao: Dissertation entitled "Molecular Cloning, Expression, and Autoepitope Mapping of a Novel 228-kDa Centrosome Autoantigen, PCM-1", sponsored by Dr. Ronald D. Balczon, Department of Structural & Cellular Biology.

Nancy Johnston Boerth: Dissertation entitled "Regulation of Phenotype in Cultured Vascular Smooth Muscle Cells by cGMP-Dependent Protein Kinase," sponsored by Dr. Thomas M. Lincoln, formerly of the Department of Pharmacology.

Holly Kaufmann Hall: Dissertation entitled "Fur Regulated Gene Expression and the Effects of Fur on Acid Tolerance in *Salmonella typhimurium*," sponsored by Dr. John W. Foster, Department of Microbiology and Immunology.

Thomas Armstrong Penfound, Jr.: Dissertation entitled "The Purification and Characterization of NadR: A Bifunctional Regulator from *Salmonella typhimurium*," sponsored by Dr. John W. Foster, Department of Microbiology and Immunology.



GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

Residency Program Accreditation Reviewed

The office of Graduate Medical Education (GME) was organized in January 1996 under the auspices of Dr. Albert W. Pruitt, Dean and Vice President for Medical Affairs. Since the establishment of the GME office, Mrs. Jean Bailey has been appointed as Coordinator of the Office of Graduate Medical Education. She is actively involved in coordinating GME activities, policies and procedures throughout the USA Hospitals and Clinics. As coordinator of the GME office, Mrs. Bailey's goal is to not only ensure that institutional and program requirements of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) are being met, but also to centralize much of the information regarding GME, which up until now has been located in many different sites.

An Institutional Site Visit of the University of South Alabama Residency Program was completed in April of 1996 and while it is impossible to predict the outcome of such visits, Mrs. Bailey stated that she is confident that USA will be found in substantial compliance with the Institutional Requirements. The previous institutional site visit was held in 1991, at which time no deficiencies were noted. The importance of this type of site visit is clearly stated in the requirements: "An institution's failure to comply substantially with the Institutional Requirements may jeopardize the accreditation of all of its sponsored residency programs."

Each of the residency programs must meet its own program requirements, as well as be in compliance with institutional requirements for all residency programs. Accreditation of residency programs is a voluntary process. By participating in the process, residency programs undergo regular review, which in turn helps programs in their goals of achieving and maintaining educational excellence. The review also serves to inform the public, specialty boards, residents, and medical students whether specific residency programs are in substantial compliance with the standards that have been established for GME.

The Graduate Medical Education Committee (residency oversight committee) meets on a monthly basis and is chaired by Dr. Robert C. Boerth, Professor and Chair of the Department of Pediatrics. The committee must conduct regular "internal" reviews of all residency programs to assess their compliance with both Institutional Requirements and Program Requirements of the relevant ACGME Residency Review Committees (RRC).

The Graduate Medical Education Committee has received a recent charge from Dr. Pruitt. The outline for this charge of the Committee is as follows: "(1) Establishment of institutional policies for graduate medical education, (2) Establishment and maintenance of appropriate communication with residency program directors and with the administrators of the hospitals and medical school, (3) Regular review of all residency training programs of the institution in relation to their compliance with institutional policies and the program requirements of the relevant ACGME review committee. This review may be conducted by internal or external examiners, (4) Establishment and implementation of policies and procedures for the selection, evaluation, promotion, and dismissal of residents, (5) Establishment and implementation of institutional policies and procedures for discipline and the adjudication

of complaints and grievances relevant to the graduate medical programs. These policies and procedures must satisfy the requirements of fairness and of due process, (6) Assurance of appropriate and equitable funding for resident positions, including benefits and support services, and (7) Assurance of appropriate working conditions and duty hours of residents."

Mrs. Bailey stated it is her desire for the GME office to become a valuable resource for the institution and each of the residency programs by providing assistance with a) the completion of required ACGME forms; b) preparation for RRC site visits; c) scheduling of internal reviews of the individual programs; d) medical licensure of all residents; e) documentation of appropriate credentials for entering residents; f) tracking of graduates of all USA residency programs; and g) assistance in the implementation of educational programs at the institutional level for all residents.

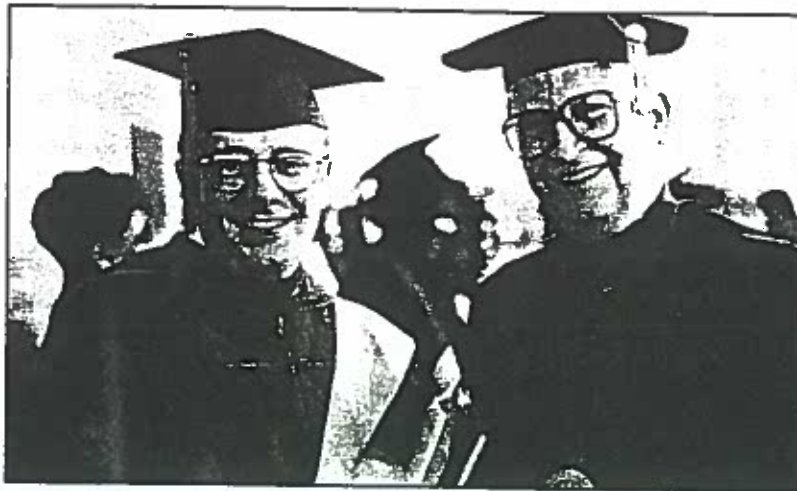
COLLEGE CHAIRS ASSUME NATIONAL POSITIONS

Christian Abee, D.V.M., M.S., Professor and Chair of Comparative Medicine, has been appointed to the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine, representing the Veterinary Speciality of Laboratory Animal Medicine. Dr. Abee will serve as Vice President during the 1996-97 term, President Elect in 1997-98, and President in 1998-99. He will serve a four year term on the Board of Directors.

William A. Gardner, Jr., M.D., Louise L. Locke Professor and Chair of Pathology, presided over the 85th Annual Meeting of the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology. Dr. Gardner was elected to the Presidency of the Academy the previous year, having served on its Executive Council for a number of years. The Academy is an educational organization representing approximately 8,000 pathologists in the U.S. and Canada. This year's annual meeting in Washington, DC provided over 1,000 individual scientific presentations, a number of courses, and a series of renowned lecturers.

Richard deShazo, M.D., Professor and Chair of Medicine, has been appointed to the Association of Professors of Medicine (APM), representing chairs of medical schools in the U.S. Dr. deShazo will serve on a twelve member Executive Board. His duties will include participation in activities of the organization to improve medical education and research at US medical schools. The APM also serves as a liaison with most other academic organizations such as the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM), American Association of Medical Colleges (AAMC) and the American Federation of Clinical Research (AFCR). Currently, the APM is in the process of developing a nationwide network of academic departments of medicine involved in clinical research.

MEDICAL GRADUATES CHALLENGED "TO ACCEPT DUTY AND LEAVE MEDICINE A BETTER PROFESSION"



Dr. Bart L. Scott, recipient of the Dean's Award for the graduating senior with highest scholastic average, receives congratulations from Dr. Frederick P. Whiddon, President of the University.

On June 9 the Class of 1996 convened together one last time to celebrate their graduation from the College of Medicine and to wish each other future success as they prepare to enter the medical profession.

Dr. Jack A. DiPalma, Associate Professor of Internal Medicine, Division of Gastroenterology, was selected by the graduating seniors to deliver the convocation charge. He requested that they "leave the profession better than they find it" and to have "an unwavering commitment to their patients". Medicine is facing change but "hold firm to moral principles" and not forget your enthusiasm or obligation to "be your patient's advocate".

Dr. Michael S. Pursley, President of the Senior Class, responded for his class. Dr. Frederick P. Whiddon, President of the University extended congratulations to the graduating class and their families. Dr. Albert W. Pruitt, Dean of the College of Medicine, presided over the hooding ceremony and Colonel Frank S. Pettyjohn, M.D., administered the Military Oath of Office to Capt. John Brewer and Capt. Joseph Amato, graduating seniors.



HONORS CONVOCATION AWARDS

Bart L. Scott	Dean's Award
Mark A. Bordenca	Merck Award in Ophthalmology
Stacey W. Wing	Upjohn Achievement Award in Pharmacology
Robert L. Dean, Jr./Ronnie J. Herring	Merck Award For Superior Academic Achievement
Rhonda L. Carter/ Stacey W. Wing	American Medical Women's Association Scholarship Achievement Citation
Rhonda L. Carter	John W. Donald Memorial Award in Surgery
Rebecca S. Miller	Obstetrics/Gynecology Award
Michelle R. Eberly	Hollis J. Wiseman Award for Excellence in Pediatrics
Mounang P. Desai	Honors Award in Biochemistry
Mounang P. Desai	Outstanding Student in the Anatomical Sciences
Lynne E. Potts	Family Practice and Community Medicine Student Award
Janis P. McNeil	Pathology Award
Patrick J. O'Hare	Excellence in Emergency Medicine
Michael S. Pursley	Medical Alumni Leadership Award
Rhonda L. Carter	Neurology Award
Laura S. Ray	Samuel Eichold Award
Vetta V. Barnes	SNMA Leadership Award
Bart L. Scott	Lang Award
Steven C. Richards	Charles W. Urschel Achievement Award in Physiology
Steven C. Richards	Mutual Assurance Award
Susann Kircher	Community Service Award

CLASS OF 1996 RESIDENCY APPOINTMENTS

ALABAMA

Baptist Health System:

Kevin Lee Cox - *Internal Medicine*

Carraway Methodist Medical Center:

Cynthia Holcomb Baker - *Internal Medicine*

Michael Francis Rapp - *Family Practice*

University of Alabama/Birmingham:

Mark Adam Bordenca - *Ophthalmology*

UAB College of Community Health Sciences:

Lucius Bedford Freeman - *Family Practice*

Ronald Wayne Helms, Jr. - *Family Practice*

UAB/ Selma Family Medicine Center:

Elbert Marion Belk, III - *Family Practice*

University of Alabama/Huntsville:

John Christopher Brewer - *Family Practice*

University of South Alabama Medical Center:

Grady Judson Bazzel - *Family Practice*

Heather Elizabeth Bazzel - *Internal Medicine*

Judy Victoria Blair-Elortegui - *Medicine/ Pediatrics*

Tonya Lee Caylor - *Family Practice*

Cris Wayne Cole - *Pediatrics*

James Martin Cunningham - *Internal Medicine*

Jennifer Abercrombie Cunningham - *Obstetrics/Gynecology*

Renee Searcy Davis - *Family Practice*

Robert Lee Dean, Jr. - *Radiology*

Shelia Diane Dillard - *Family Practice*

Gary Allen Eberly - *Pediatrics*

Michelle Register Eberly - *Internal Medicine*

David Vincent LaRosa, Jr. - *Internal Medicine*

William Scott McNair - *Medicine/ Pediatrics*

Janis Petersen McNeil - *Pathology*

Rebecca Stewart Miller - *Obstetrics/Gynecology*

Sherry Lou Morgan - *Internal Medicine*

Robert Edward Percy - *Internal Medicine*

Lynne Elizabeth Potts - *Family Practice*

Steven Craig Richards - *Internal Medicine*

Steven Mark Schepens - *Family Practice*

Kenneth Shermer - *Family Practice*

Kenneth S. Snell - *Internal Medicine*

Kevin Keith Varden - *Internal Medicine*

Stacey Woodall Wing - *Internal Medicine*

Lisa Dyer Young - *Pediatrics*

FLORIDA

Mayo Graduate School of Medicine:

Ronnie James Herring - *Internal Medicine*

Orlando Regional Healthcare System:

Benjamin Charles Griggs - *Obstetrics/Gynecology*

Sacred Heart Hospital:

Myra Louise Freeman-Ladd - *Pediatrics*

University of South Florida College of Medicine:

Kevin Troy Greene - *Anesthesiology*

Christian Lee Grinaker - *Internal Medicine*

GEORGIA

Medical Center of Columbus:

Connie Walker Richardson - *Family Practice*

KENTUCKY

University of Kentucky Medical Center:

Patrick Joseph O'Hare - *Emergency Medicine*

LOUISIANA

Tulane University School of Medicine:

John Anthony Payne - *Internal Medicine*

MARYLAND

Johns Hopkins University Hospital:

Bart Lee Scott - *Internal Medicine*

MISSISSIPPI

Keesler Air Force Base Medical Center:

Joseph Amato - *Internal Medicine*

NORTH CAROLINA

Bowman Gray / Baptist Hospital:

Rhonda Leigh Carter - *Internal Medicine*

James Ryan Conner - *Internal Medicine*

Stephanie Lynn Jackson - *Pathology*

Karole Leigh Nelson - *Pediatrics*

Michael Scott Pursley - *Internal Medicine*

Duke University Medical Center:

Ajay Kumar Makhija - *Psychiatry*

University Medical Center of Eastern Carolina:

Vetta Vernesa Barnes - *Internal Medicine*

University of North Carolina Hospital:

Tina Aram Jin - *Psychiatry*

OHIO

University of Cincinnati Hospital:

Lara Beth Watkins - *Internal Medicine*

RHODE ISLAND

Brown University:

Thomas A. Miller - *Psychiatry*

SOUTH CAROLINA

Medical University of South Carolina:

Patricia Colleen Davis - *Radiology*

Self Memorial Hospital:

Locke Eugene Simons - *Family Practice*

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TENNESSEE

Bristol Regional Medical Center:

Vince Donald Gilmer - *Family Practice*

University of Tennessee College of Medicine:

Pamela Gay Starnes - *Internal Medicine (Preliminary)*

Vanderbilt University Medical Center:

Laura Susan Ray - *Internal Medicine*

TEXAS

University of Texas Health Science Center/ San Antonio:

Susann Kircher - *Internal Medicine*

University of Texas Medical School/ Houston:

Mounang Praful Desai - *Emergency Medicine*

VIRGINIA

University of Virginia/Charlottesville:

Suzanne Miller D'Auria - *Internal Medicine (Preliminary)*

WEST VIRGINIA

Marshall University School of Medicine:

Kathryn Knodel Danner - *Obstetrics/Gynecology*

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