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FOREWORD

The Annual Report of the USA College of Medicine outlines the achievements of faculty, students, residents, and staff in teaching, research, patient care, and community service during the 2007-2008 academic year. Significant administrative changes included the appointment of Dean K. Naritoku, M.D. as the new chair of the Department of Neurology, A. Michele Schuler, D.V.M., Ph.D. as the interim director of the Biological Resources Laboratories, Michael B. Jacobs, Ph.D. as the Director of the Medical Simulation Program and Karen Fagan, M.D. as Director of the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine for the Department of Internal Medicine. The Clinical Skills Simulation Laboratory at Children’s & Women’s Hospital was completed and a facility at the USA Medical Center should be operational before the end of the year. An exercise devoted to the topic of professionalism, which grouped students from allied health, medicine, nursing and pharmacy, was implemented as part of the curriculum. Several new faculty were recruited in basic science and clinical departments to strengthen our education and research programs. Goals for the 2008-09 year include the recruitment of a new chair for the Department of Surgery, the transfer and conversion of the biomedical library at the medical center campus from the Mastin Building to the Hospital, the consolidation of out-patient sites used in the clinical practice, and the development of an effective means to deal with significant budgetary cuts in the University and Hospital State appropriations, the reduction in reimbursement for patient care, and the downturn in the economy while striving to maintain the quality of our programs.

[Signature]

Samuel J. Strada, Ph.D.
Dean
University of South Alabama
College of Medicine
I. PUBLISHED JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

A. Full-length published articles and book chapters

**Barik S.** An intronic miRNA silences genes that are functionally antagonistic to its host gene. Nucleic Acids Res 2008 Sep;36(16):5232-41.

**Bitko V, Barik S.** Nasal delivery of siRNA. Methods Mol Biol 2008;442:75-82.


B. Articles in press


II. PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS


Zuo Z, Rutland B, Honkanen RE, Tucker JA. Correlations among the expressions of Ser/Thr protein phosphatase 5, hypoxia inducible Factor-1, activated leukocyte cell adhesion molecule, HER2/neu and hormone receptors in breast cancer. Pathology of the 21st Century Integrating Diagnostic and Molecular Pathology 2008 May 2–3; University of Texas, M. D. Anderson Cancer Center; Houston, TX. Abstract 138.

III. BOOKS PUBLISHED

IV. PRESENTATIONS


Barik S. Viral counterattack on RNA interference: a novel mechanism destroying Argonaute and its role in host-virus interaction. Paper presented at: Department of Molecular Microbiology and Immunology, St. Louis University; 2008 Sep 18; St. Louis, MO.

Gerthoffer WT. Mechanisms of smooth muscle relaxation by HSP20. Paper presented at: Department of Pharmacology, University of Vermont; 2008 Mar 5-7; Burlington, VT.


Gerthoffer WT. Novel mechanisms of vasodilation and bronchodilation by HSP20. Paper presented at: Division of Cardiology, Northwestern University; 2008 Jun 5-6; Evanston, IL.


Honkanen RE. Structural and mutational analysis of unique regions in PP2A, and PP4 reveal insight into the structure-function relationship of fostriecin and cytostatin A derivatives. Paper presented at: FASEB Summer Research Conferences; Protein Phosphatases; 2008 Jul 13-18; Snowmass, CO.

Honkanen RE. Tautomycetin and fostriecin-induced mitotic arrest is associated with the formation of aberrant mitotic spindles and lagging chromosomes, resulting in part from the suppression of PP2Aα. Paper presented at: FASEB Summer Research Conferences; Protein Phosphatases; 2008 Jul 13-18; Snowmass, CO.

Honkanen RE. Ser/Thr phosphatases: are they better targets for drug development than their kinase counter parts? Paper presented at: Department of Biochemistry, Emory University; 2008 Sep 4-5; Atlanta, GA.

V. NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Sailen Barik, Permanent Member, Standing NIH Study Section: Virology-B, 2006-2010.

Sailen Barik, Reviewer for American Heart Southeast and Ohio Valley, Study Section 5B, 2007.


William T. Gerthoffer, Reviewer for American Heart Southeastern Affiliate, Study Section, 2008.

William T. Gerthoffer, Associate Editor, Amer. J. Physiol., Cell Physiology

Richard E. Honkanen, Member of the Tumor Biochemistry and Endocrinology Study Section of the American Cancer Society.

Richard E. Honkanen, Editorial Board Member; The Open Enzyme Inhibition Journal.

VI. BRIEF SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS

The department underwent significant changes in personnel in 2007-2008. Dr. William T. Gerthoffer assumed the Chair of the department September 1, 2007 upon the retirement of Dr. Nathan Aronson. Professor Jane Funkhouser retired after 31 years of service to the College of Medicine. Two tenure-track Assistant Professors were hired in 2008. Dr. Petra Rocic came to the department from Northeast Ohio Universities College of Medicine where she served previously as Assistant Professor. Dr. Rocic brings an active research program focusing on redox signaling in regulation of collateral blood vessel formation in the ischemic heart. A second Assistant Professor, Dr. Sachin Gupte, comes to the department after serving as Assistant Professor of Physiology at New York Medical College. Dr. Gupte’s expertise in cardiac and vascular smooth muscle cell signaling complements the interests of several established labs in the areas of vascular biology, and mechanisms of cardiac failure. He will collaborate with a new Adjunct Professor, Dr. Rikuo Ochi. Professor Ochi is former Professor of Physiology at Juntendo University and is an experienced electrophysiologist who pioneered studies of cardiac ion channels. Dr. Rakhee Gupte was appointed as Assistant Professor, non-tenure track. Her research interests are in regulation of enzymes of mammalian DNA replication. Several postdoctoral trainees were also added to the department in 2008. Drs. Manoj Tyagi and Kotaro Abe joined Dr. Gerthoffer’s lab. Dr. Tyagi is studying HSP20 and 14-3-3 chaperone proteins in airway smooth muscle. Dr. Abe is a cardiologist on faculty of Juntendo University who is pursuing novel surveys of microRNA expression in a rat model of pulmonary hypertension. Dr. Abe is part of a developing collaboration between Dr. Gerthoff’s lab and the labs of Drs. Masahiro Oka and Ivan McMurtry in the Center for Lung Biology. These labs are investigating cellular and molecular mechanisms of pulmonary hypertension using a hypoxic rat model. A third new fellow, Dr. James N. Byrd joined the department to pursue a third year research fellowship as part of the pulmonary medicine residency program. Dr. Byrd’s clinical and research interests are in the causes and treatment of COPD and asthma.

Activities in graduate student education included faculty participation in several courses and graduation of Dr. Lauren Amable (Dr. Honkanen, advisor). Students received extramural support for their training from the Alabama Structural Biology Consortium (ASBC) that includes the University of South Alabama, University of Alabama at Birmingham, and University of Alabama at Huntsville.
This year three students, Samer Swedan (Dr. Barik), Joel Andrews (Dr. Barik) and Dana Skarra (Dr. Honkanen) received research and stipend awards through the Consortium.

Members of the department also participated in the summer BEAR program. Dana Skarra was awarded the Excellence in Teaching Award by the second year students. Drs. Roger Lane served as course coordinator and Dr. Gerthoffer contributed lectures. The department was honored as Best Overall Course in the second year BEAR curriculum.

Drs. Gerthoffer, Rocic and Gupte all participated in the institution of a new graduate training track in Vascular Biology directed by Dr. David Weber, Department of Physiology.

With expansion of the department the level of research activity and funding has increased substantially. Existing successful research programs directed by Drs. S. Barik (respiratory syncytial virus) and R. Honkanen (Protein phosphatase-5) continue to be supported by NIH, EPSCOR and the Alabama Structural Biology Consortium (ASBC). Dr. W. Gerthoffer transferred an existing NIH ROI on small heat shock proteins and smooth muscle plasticity, and is a co-investigator on an ROI directed by Dr. J. Miano, Univ. Rochester. Dr. S. Gupte also transferred an existing NIH ROI grant to USA to investigate the role of glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase in regulation of ion channel function in ischemia reperfusion injury. Dr. P. Rocic transferred an AHA-funded project and obtained a new NIH ROI to support her work on regulation of collateral blood vessel formation in the heart. Departmental research funding, submission of new grant applications and publication rates have improved substantially in the past year due to successful recruiting efforts.
2007-2008
Summary of Scholarly Activities
Department of Cell Biology & Neuroscience

I. PUBLISHED JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

A. Full-length published articles and book chapters


B. Articles in press


II. PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS

Fields PA, Fields MJ. The effects of fetal and placental numbers on blood concentrations of Relaxin in the rabbit. Proceeding of the 5th International Conference on Relaxin and Related Peptides; 2008 May 18-23; Maui, HI. Abstract no. P-17, p. 20.


Rachek L, Wilson G. Troglitazone, but not rosiglitazone, damages mitochondrial DNA and thus initiates apoptosis in human hepatocytes. American Diabetes Association Annual Meeting; 2008 Jun 6-9; San Francisco, CA. Abstract no. 558-P.


III. BOOKS PUBLISHED


IV. PRESENTATIONS

Alexeyev MF. Oxidative stress indues degradation of damaged mitochondrial DNA. Poster presented at: International Symposium on Mitochondrial Physiology and Pathology; 2008 Jun 21-26; Bari, Italy.

Fields PA, Fields MJ. The effects of fetal and placental numbers on blood concentrations of Relaxin in the rabbit. Poster presented at: 5th International Conference on Relaxin and Related Peptides; 2008 May 18-23; Maui, HI.

LeDoux SP. Mitochondrial DNA repair: a critical player in the cellular response to oxidative damage. Paper presented at: Washington State University; 2008 Aug 8; Pullman, WA.


V. NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Dr. Ronald Balczon served as Ad Hoc reviewer for the Lytmos Group LLC.

Dr. Mohan Bhatnagar served as a member of the Science Advisory Board.

Dr. Phillip Fields served on the Society for the Study of Reproduction Awards Committee.

Dr. Anthony Gard served as an Ad Hoc reviewer for Journal of Neuroscience Research.
Dr. Steve Kayes served as a Member of the Board for the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services.

Dr. Susan LeDoux served as a member of the NIEHS Environmental Health Sciences Review Committee; served on the NIH Special Emphasis Panel PO1 ES011163; served on the NIH Cancer Etiology Study Section as an Ad hoc member; served on the Editorial Board, DNA Repair; President, Mitochondrial Research Society.

Dr. Glenn Wilson served on the Editorial Board of Molecular Development and Aging; served on the NIAAA Study Section; served on the NIEHS Study Section; served on the NIEHS Outstanding New Environmental Scientist (ONES) Study Section; served on the NIEHS Superfund Review.

VI. BRIEF SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS

The Department continues to place strong emphasis on both teaching and research. To enhance its research efforts, the Department sponsored visits from three distinguished scientists to meet with members in the Department and to present seminars on their research. Dr. David Wilson from NIH/NIA presented a seminar titled “DNA repair protein APE1: Role in disease manifestation and as a target in cancer therapy”, on September 13, 2007; Dr. Bevin Engelward from MIT presented a seminar titled “Visualizing clonal expansion of mutant pancreatic cells in mice in situ”, on January 10, 2008; Dr. Mary Goldring from the Hospital for Special Surgery in New York presented a seminar titled “Defining the roles of catabolic and anabolic factors in osteoarthritis”, on April 24, 2008.

In the area of education, the Department continued to provide over a quarter of the instruction given to medical students in the first two years. The mean scores of our first year medical students on the mini board in both Gross and Developmental Anatomy and Cell Biology and Histology were over the 80th percentile. For second year medical students, the Department played the lead role in presenting the Neuroscience course. Virtually all the problems that were experienced in this course when it was originally presented two years ago have been resolved. This is evidenced by the fact that the class average on the Neuroscience mini board was over the 90th percentile, with 25 percent of the class scoring in the top 10th percentile and 50 percent of the class scoring in the top 25th percentile. It is clearly evident that in only its third year this course has become one of the top Neuroscience courses in this country. Also, a remedial course in Neuroscience was presented for medical students in the summer. This course was successful in helping specific students, predominantly from other schools, overcome their deficiencies. The average score for these students on the mini board was at the 70th percentile. In the area of resident training, a course on Pelvic Anatomy was provided for Residents in the Department of Obstetrics

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and Gynecology. Additionally, undergraduate courses were presented on Gross Anatomy for Physician’s Assistant students and Histology for Biomedical Sciences students in Allied Health. Also, the Department presented two courses in the BEAR Program and won the award for best first year course for Gross Anatomy.

In the area of community service, the Department expanded its efforts to provide health related education to several hundred students in the public school system. Additionally, we played an integral part in the SCRUBS Program to attract students into the Medical Profession. The Department also presented a workshop for high school science teachers organized by the College of Education.

The Department is actively recruiting new faculty members and in the past year added a very talented young neuroscientist, Dr. Wensheng Lin. Dr. Lin, who did postdoctoral work at the University of Chicago, will hold a joint appointment in both this Department and the Department of Comparative Medicine.
2007-2008
Summary of Scholarly Activities
Department of Comparative Medicine

I. PUBLISHED JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

A. Full-length published articles and book chapters


Scammell JG, Funkhouser JD, Moyer FS, Gibson SV, Willis DL. Molecular cloning of pituitary glycoprotein α-subunit and follicle stimulating hormone and chorionic gonadotropin β-subunits from New World squirrel monkey and owl monkey. Gen Comp Endocrinol 2008;155:534-41.


B. Articles in press

II. PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS


III. BOOKS PUBLISHED

IV. PRESENTATIONS


V. NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Dr. Alan G. Brady serves on the Program Committee for the American Society for Primatology and is Chair of the Website Committee of the Association of Primate Veterinarians. He co-authored a manual on Training Clinical Veterinarians in Non-Human Primate Clinical Medicine with primate veterinarians at the MD Anderson Cancer Center in Bastrop, TX. Dr. Brady is also a consultant on animal care to the U.S. Air Force at the Clinical Research Laboratory at Keesler Air Force Base, MS, where he serves as a voting member of their Animal Care and Use Committee.

Dr. Jonathan G. Scammell serves on the Editorial Advisory Board of the Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics. He also served as a reviewer for Biology of Reproduction, Endocrinology, and American Journal of Physiology and as a reviewer for the American Diabetes Association's Nationwide Research Program. Dr. Scammell was an external examiner for Carmel Clunig's Ph.D. thesis at the University of Western Australia and has been invited to participate in a panel on FKBP5 and Depression and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder at the upcoming meeting of the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology.

Dr. A. Michele Schuler served as a reviewer for the Journal of Medical Primatology, Journal of the American Association of Laboratory Animal Science, Comparative Medicine, and Theriogenology. Dr. Schuler serves as a consultant on animal care to the U.S. Air Force at the Clinical Research Laboratory at Keesler Air Force Base, MS, where she also serves as a voting member of their Animal Care and Use Committee.
VI. BRIEF SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS

The faculty and staff of the Department of Comparative Medicine participate in service, education, and research in the university’s animal care and use program. During 2007-2008, Dr. Brady served as Interim Director, and Dr. Schuler served as Associate Director of University Biological Resources. The department continues to upgrade and maximize the use of facilities with the goal of enhancing our research capabilities for the benefit of investigators throughout the university. Having set up a site for hypoxia studies in 2007, we have turned our attention to developing a surgical skills laboratory, imaging capabilities, and a facility for irradiation of biological specimens. The department hosted a demonstration of the Vevo imaging system from VisualSonics. During the course of the year, the department prepared for the evaluation by and site visit from representatives of AAALAC, which was held in June, 2008.

This year was otherwise a period of transition. The squirrel monkey and owl monkey colonies associated with the Center for Neotropical Research and Resources were transferred to their new home at the UT MD Anderson Cancer Center in Bastrop, TX. We said farewell to Drs. Brady and Ruiz, and Mr. George Tustin, long-time supervisor in the department, who followed the colonies to Texas. Mrs. Laverne Grissett, Accounting Data Specialist, also retired from the department. Dr. Schuler has been appointed Acting Director of University Biological Resources, and under Gayle Francis, Manager of Vivarial Services, we have reorganized supervisory roles including promotion of Cindy Van Hook, who will be responsible for overseeing breeding and quarantine of the expanding rodent lines. In addition, we entered into a contract to provide veterinary services to the laboratory animal research program at Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, MS.

The faculty continued their expansion of formal educational commitments both within the department to technical staff, supervisors, and colleagues and outside the department to graduate students. The department hosted visits from scientists, who participated in the Distinguished Scientist Seminar Series: Dr. Carl Pinkert (Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies, College of Veterinary Medicine, Auburn University) and Dr. Philip Wood (Professor and Director, Division of Genomics, University of Alabama at Birmingham); we also hosted a visit from Dr. Karyn Armstrong, Site Director for Covance Research Products, who served as a consultant to our vivarial services mission. We welcome Dr. Wensheng Lin from the University of Chicago as an Assistant Professor with a joint appointment in Cell Biology and Neuroscience and Comparative Medicine. Dr. Lin’s research focuses on understanding the etiology of demyelination in mouse models of multiple sclerosis.

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2007 - 2008  
Summary of Scholarly Activities  
Department of Emergency Medicine

I. PUBLISHED JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

A. Full-length published articles and book chapters


B. Articles in press


II. PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS

III. BOOKS PUBLISHED


IV. PRESENTATIONS


Pettyjohn FS. Aviation medical evaluation of the pilot with significant coronary artery disease. Paper presented at: FAA Aviation Medicine Seminar; 2008 Aug 2; Washington, DC.


V. NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Michael R. Ambrose serves as a member of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee for Former Prisoners of War.

Melissa W. Costello serves in the following positions: Member, Council on Medical Education for State of Alabama; American Medical Association, Young Physicians Section, House of Delegates Handbook Review Committee; Medical Director, National Disaster for Medical Services; AL-3 Disaster Medical Assistance Team and Urban Search and Rescue Team, City of Mobile Fire & Rescue/ Federal Emergency Management Agency, United States Department of Homeland Security; Deputy Director, Gulf Coast MedEvac Helicopter Service; AMA, Foundation Leadership Award 2008; Board of Directors (Alabama Chapter), American College of Emergency Physicians; EMS Core Curriculum Committee, American College of Emergency Physicians; Medical Association State of Alabama, Chair, Young Physician Section; Medical Association, State of Alabama Council of Medical Education.

Alan E. Heins serves in the following positions: American College of Emergency Physicians Academic Affairs Committee; SAEM Membership Committee; Reviewer: Journal of Opioid Management; Journal of Pain Medicine; Annals of Emergency Medicine; Academic Emergency Medicine, EM Pain Line, American College of Emergency Physicians, Public Health and Injury Control (PHIC) Committee; Public Health and Injury Control (PHIC) Subcommittee Chair; Emergency Medicine Practice Committee (EMPC); Affairs Committee (AAC); Society for Academic Emergency Medicine, Membership Committee.

Frank S. Pettyjohn served in the following positions: Chairman, Department of Emergency Medicine; Cardiology Consultant to the Federal Aviation Administration; Board of Directors and Past-President, International Academy of Aviation and Space Medicine; Board of Directors, American College of Emergency Physicians (Alabama Chapter); Councilor, Air Medical Transport Section, American College of Emergency Physicians; Medical Director, Region 6 State of Alabama EMS Region.
Michael L. Sternberg served in the following positions: Vice Chairman, Department of Emergency Medicine; Board of Directors, Southwest Alabama Emergency Medicine Services; Chairman, Bylaws Committee, American College of Emergency Physicians (Alabama Chapter); Public Relations Committee, American College of Emergency Physicians (Alabama Chapter); Board of Directors, American College of Emergency Physicians (Alabama Chapter).

VI. BRIEF SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS

The Department of Emergency Medicine continues to emphasize excellence in Clinical Emergency Medicine, education of the housestaff and medical students, and the ongoing academic development for the Faculty. The primary objective is to develop and implement broad-based educational programs utilizing bedside clinical teaching and advanced educational technologies. The goal of acquiring a full Residency Program in Emergency Medicine continues. It is supported by the Dean, College of Medicine, Vice President for Health Sciences, and the Faculty. Recruitment of additional faculty is underway to maintain clinical capabilities, enhance the teaching program and provide the basis for the Emergency Medicine Residency Program.

EDUCATION: The Faculty of the Department of Emergency Medicine continues to emphasize education. Alan Heins, M.D., Melissa Costello, M.D. and Michael L. Sternberg, M.D. provide dedicated lectures for medical students in addition to participating in the Introduction to Clinical Medicine course for the second year medical students. The Emergency Medicine Interest Group continues to have an active program. Medical students continue to voluntarily select the Emergency Medicine rotation as one of the most sought after training sites.

The Department of Emergency Medicine provides teaching in the Introduction to Clinical Medicine course. This adds to the educational experience for the medical students and provides the initial interaction with Emergency Medicine Attending Faculty. Alan E. Heins, M.D. directs the teaching activities for the third- and fourth-year medical student elective and the Acting Intern Program. Frank S. Pettyjohn, M.D. serves as Medical Director School of Continuing Education, EMS training providing education for Physicians, Medical Students and Emergency Medical Technicians.

RECRUITING PROGRESS: The recruiting program continues to be active with the goal of obtaining Emergency Medicine Residency Trained and Board Certified Emergency Medicine Physicians to meet the Emergency Medicine Residency Review Committee requirements. Frank S. Pettyjohn, M.D., Michael L. Sternberg, M.D. Melissa W. Costello, M.D., Alan E. Heins, M.D., Christen A. Zuschke, M.D. and George Atwell, M.D. form the core faculty group. Additional staff physicians provide a broad-base for educational efforts which include
Michael R. Ambrose, M.D., Lynne A. McDonnell, M.D., W. Scott McNair, M.D., Shannon Morgan, M.D., Antonio L. Pacheco, M.D. and Terry N. Rivers, M.D.

**FACULTY DEVELOPMENT:** Melissa W. Costello, M.D. has been appointed Program Director for the Emergency Medicine Residency Program development. Alan E. Heins, M.D. has been appointed the Research Director for the Department of Emergency Medicine.

Joint Faculty activities continue in coordination with the Departments of Internal Medicine, Surgery, and Radiology. Dr. Samy Saleeb provides overall emergency medicine radiology educational programs. Dr. W. Scott McNair and Dr. Lynne A. McDonnell provide educational programs for the joint Emergency Medicine and Pediatrics effort. Dr. Alan E. Heins will serve as the Medical Director of the USA Children’s and Women’s Hospital Evaluation Center. Increased internet capabilities continue to provide the Faculty with updated technologic capabilities for educational programs. Photographic capabilities utilize an improved digital camera and LCD projector to provide clinical presentations and research reviews. The updated digital camera, with close up and distance lens are used as the primary photographic capability for patient documentation and clinical case presentation. Dr. Michael L. Stemberg serves as the primary faculty contact for the development and coordination of these activities.

**CLINICAL FACILITIES:** During the 2007-2008 program year, the Department of Emergency Medicine continued to support the operations of the University of South Alabama Medical Center, Level I Trauma Center and Emergency Department. The Department is also responsible for providing Faculty support to the Children’s and Women’s Hospital Evaluation Center.

The Departmental offices are on the 10th floor of the University of South Alabama Medical Center. These facilities continue to be upgraded to include advanced audiovisual capabilities, 35mm and digital photographic laboratory, powerpoint slide development and presentation production areas, and a multi-center computer learning system. A simulation laboratory is under construction in the USA Medical Center. The overall computer support system in the University of South Alabama Medical Center Emergency Department has implemented an upgraded hospital intranet providing ready access to laboratory data and x-ray. The ED has received an updated computer and viewing screen for teleradiology which provides exactly the same resolution as the Department of Radiology utilizes in their readings. A telemedicine capability is installed in the Emergency Medicine Conference Room to facilitate educational conferences by national and international experts.
The Department of Emergency Medicine continued to provide on-going support to the University of South Alabama Children’s and Women’s Hospital. Alan E. Heins, M.D., and Melissa W. Costello, M.D. provided Attending coverage for the Children’s Evaluation Center. Close coordination between the University of South Alabama Medical Center, Level I Trauma Center, and the Children’s and Women’s Evaluation Center has been maintained to provide rapid response for appropriate patient care and transfer requests. Coordination is also maintained between the Department of Obstetrics/Gynecology at the U.S.A. Children’s and Women’s Hospital and the U.S.A. Medical Center Emergency Department to provide rapid treatment capabilities for adult patients presenting to Children and Women’s Hospital with acute medical or surgical conditions.

RESEARCH: The Division of Clinical Research entered the thirteenth year of operation. The primary clinical site has been relocated from the Medical Office Park Three at the Infirmary West Hospital Campus to the Moorer Building which is located on the University of South Alabama Medical Center Campus. The program is under the direction of the Principal Investigator, Frank S. Pettyjohn, M.D., with Afifa Halim-Kirollos, M.D., as the Director of the Clinical Research Division. All members of the Attending Faculty of the Department of Emergency Medicine support the ongoing clinical research studies. Current projects cover a wide range of clinical areas, ranging from anti-hypertensive agent trials, dyslipidemic treatment trials, and cardiovascular therapy trials. This clinical research provides a unique opportunity, clinical support, and an educational location for the Department of Emergency Medicine.
2007-2008
Summary of Scholarly Activities
Department of Family Medicine

I. PUBLISHED JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

A. Full-length published articles and book chapters


B. Articles in press


II. PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS

III. BOOKS PUBLISHED

IV. PRESENTATIONS

Atkinson T. So you want to start your own practice. Paper presented at: American Medical Student Association Annual Meeting; 2008 Apr 23; Mobile, AL.

McBane A, Motley C, Perkins A. This ain’t your father’s clerkship. Paper presented at: Society of Teachers of Family Medicine Annual Meeting; 2008 May 3; Baltimore, MD.

McBane A, Motley C. Motivating medical students in community service by longitudinal experience. Poster presented at: Society of Teachers of Family Medicine Predoctoral Education Conference; 2008 Jan 25; Portland, OR.


Perkins A. Creating a pipeline for rural physicians at the University of South Alabama. Poster abstract presented at: Ninth Annual Rural Health Conference, The Future of Health Care; 2008 Sep 4; Tuscaloosa, AL.

V. NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Allen Perkins continues to serve on the Board of Directors of the Alabama Academy of Family Physicians, the Alabama Academic Family Medicine Council and the Alabama Rural Health Association. He is a member of the Communications and Technology Committee for the Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors and a member of the Program Committee for the Association of Departments of Family Medicine. Dr. Perkins also served as Peer Reviewer for the HRSA Title VII Study Section in Rockville, MD.

Ehab A. Molokhia serves as the Vice Chair of the Alabama Breastfeeding Committee. The Alabama Breastfeeding Committee’s mission is the promotion, support and protection of breastfeeding across Alabama.

VI. BRIEF SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS

Dr. Amanda McBane transferred to USA Student Health on August 1.

An ACGME-accredited Primary Care Sports Medicine Fellowship began August 1 under the directions of Dr. Michael Linder.

In collaboration with the Mobile Housing Board extramural funding was acquired to implement a Center for Chronic Disease Self-Management at the Central Plaza Towers.

Dr. Allen Perkins was recognized by the College of Medicine Class of 2008 as distinguished faculty.
Dr. Michael Linder, in his capacity as Medical Director of the Physician Assistant Studies program, accepted a departmental award from the Department of Physician Assistant Studies in recognition of exemplary teaching during the 2007-08 academic year.

Dr. Tangelo Atkinson and Dr. Lamar Duffy were honored by the graduating Family Medicine residents as “Clinical Teachers of the Year.”

Dr. Martha Adams and Dr. Diana Snow were promoted to the rank of Adjunct Associate Professor.
I. PUBLISHED JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

A. Full-length published articles and book chapters


Dost T, Cohen MV, Downey JM. Redox signaling triggers protection during the reperfusion rather than the ischemic phase of preconditioning. Basic Res Cardiol 2008 Jun;103(4):378-84.


Tissier R, Cohen MV, Downey JM. Protecting the acutely ischemic myocardium beyond reperfusion therapies: are we any closer to realizing the dream of infarct size elimination? Arch Mal Coeur Vaiss 2007 Sep;100(9):794-802.


B. Articles in press


Arrieta MI, Foreman RD, Crook ED, Icenogle ML. Providing continuity of care for chronic diseases in the aftermath of Katrina: from field experience to policy recommendations. Forthcoming.


Cohen MV, Yang XM, Downey JM. Acidosis, oxygen, and interference with mitochondrial permeability transition pore formation in the early minutes of reperfusion are critical to postconditioning’s success. Basic Res Cardiol. Forthcoming.


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Kuno A, Solenkova NV, Solodushko V, Dost T, Cohen MV, Downey JM. Infarct limitation by a protein kinase G activator at reperfusion in rabbit hearts is dependent on sensitizing the heart to A_{2b} agonists by protein kinase C. Am J Physiol. Forthcoming.


II. PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS


Davis A, Downey JM, Cohen MV. Brief exposure to intracoronary Bradykinin at reperfusion limits infarct size in isolated rabbit hearts by a mechanism that involves both free radical production and PKC. FASEB J 2008;22. Abstract no.750.11.


Herman ME. Predicting cardiovascular events after liver transplantation. Hepatology 2007;46(S1):480A. Abstract no. 545.


Krieg T, Richter H, Kuno A, Förster K, Cohen MV, Downey JM, Felix SB. Cardioprotection from GSK-3β inhibition requires activation of PI-3 kinase and Src but not Akt, PKC, or ERK. Circulation 2007;16(suppl):II-164.


Moore TM. Pulmonary microvascular endothelial cells expressing CD40 exhibit increased permeability to sCD40L. Proc Am Thorac Soc 2008 Apr 6;5(3):370.
Parra-Bonilla G, Alvarez D, Cioffi D, Stevens T. Lung microvascular endothelial cells utilize aerobic glycolysis (e.g., Warburg effect) to sustain rapid proliferation. FASEB J 2008; 22:1178.9.


III. BOOKS PUBLISHED

IV. PRESENTATIONS


Alvarez D. Cell-based therapies in the horizon for treating ALI/ARDS. Paper presented at: Experimental Biology Meeting; 2008 Apr 6; San Diego, CA.

Alvarez D, Robinson D, ElZarrad MK, Stevens T, King JA. Apical secretion of collagen II from endothelial cells precedes blood vessel formation during postnatal vasculogenesis. Poster presented at: Experimental Biology Meeting; 2008 Apr 6; San Diego, CA.

Alvarez D, Yoder MC, Alexeyev M, Stevens T. Nucleosome assemble protein 1 (NAP-1) determines the progenitor status of endothelial cells. Poster presented at: Experimental Biology Meeting; 2008 Apr 6; San Diego, CA.


Arrieta MI. Because they know they are going to get seen. Paper presented at: the Regional Meeting of the National Hospital Association; 2007 Nov 15; Birmingham, AL.
Arrieta MI. Because they know they are going to get seen. Paper presented at: the Regional Meeting of the National Hospital Association; 2007 Nov 15; Birmingham, AL.


Bauer NN, Moore TM, Kapadia PD, Townsley MI, McMurry TF. Hypoxia-induced pulmonary endothelial microparticle (EMP) generation regulates pulmonary microvascular endothelial cell (PMVEC) permeability. Poster presented at: Experimental Biology Meeting; 2008 Apr 6; San Diego, CA.


Cohen MV. Cardioprotection from GSK-3β inhibition requires activation of PI-3 kinase and Src but not Akt, PKC, or ERK. Papers presented at: American Heart Association 80th Scientific Session; 2007 Nov 5 - 6; Orlando, FL.

Cohen MV. Brief exposure to intracoronary bradykinin at reperfusion limits infarct size in isolated rabbit hearts by a mechanism that involves both free radical production and PKC. Paper presented at: Experimental Biology 2008; 2008 Apr 6; San Diego, CA.

Cohen MV. Redox signaling triggers protection during the reperfusion rather than the ischemic phase of preconditioning. Paper presented at: International Society for Heart Research 28th European Section Meeting; 2008 May 30; Athens, Greece.

Cohen MV. Pericardial disease: forgotten and misunderstood. Paper presented at: American College of Physicians Alabama Chapter Meeting; 2008 May 30; Orange Beach, FL.

Crook ED. Why medical research is more important than ever. Paper presented at: University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center 46th Medical Student Research Forum; 2008 Jan 22; Dallas, TX.


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Culpepper GR, Crook ED, Arrieta MI. Course of type 2 diabetes in substance abuse patients. Poster presented at: The Southern Regional Meeting of the American Federation for Medical Research. 2008 Feb 22; New Orleans, LA.


Fagan KA. Treatment of pulmonary hypertension. Paper presented at: Southern Association for Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation; 2008 Apr 12; Fairhope, AL.


Foreman RD, Crook ED, Icenogle ML, Arrieta MJ. From disaster medicine anecdote to shared experiences: qualitative methods for improving preparedness knowledge. Poster presented at: The International Society for Hypertension in Blacks Annual Meeting (Abstract 009); 2008 Jul 20; New Orleans, LA.

Green WK. MRSA update. Paper presented at: 17th Annual Obstetrics and Gynecologist Conference; 2008 Apr 3; Mobile, AL.

Green WK. Bad bugs and new drugs. Paper presented at: USA Medical Alumni Perdido Beach Resort; 2008 Jun 6; Orange Beach, AL.


Haynes Jr. The most difficult part of understanding sickle cell disease is not defining the person by the disease. Paper presented at: East Alabama Sickle Cell Association and AKA Sorority; 2008 Mar 24; Dothan, AL.


Hovey J, Blair-Elortegui J. Why are you so short of breath? Poster presented at: Society of General Internal Medicine Southern Regional Meeting; 2008 Feb 22; New Orleans, LA.

Hovey J, Montgomery T. The ominous underlying diagnosis. Poster presented at: Society of General Internal Medicine Southern Regional Meeting; 2008 Feb 22; New Orleans, LA.
Hundley G, Hundley T. Ethylene glycol intoxication. Poster presented at: Society of General Medicine Southern Regional Meeting; 2008 Feb 22; New Orleans, LA.


Hundley T, Amato A, Peters-Harris M, Westbrook A, Blair-Elortegui J. Quality improvement project targeting resident perceptions of a continuity clinic. Poster presented at: American College of Physicians Alabama Chapter Meeting; 2008 May 30-31; Orange Beach, AL.


Keller B, Montgomery T. Tainted love. Poster presented at: Society of General Internal Medicine Southern Regional Meeting; 2008 Feb 22; New Orleans, LA.

Keller CB, Montgomery T. Upon further review. Poster presented at: Society of General Internal Medicine Southern Regional Meeting; 2008 Feb 22; New Orleans, LA.

Knowles K, Montgomery T. The proof is in the path. Paper presented at: Society of General Internal Medicine Southern Regional Meeting; 2008 Feb 22; New Orleans, LA.

Kumar M, Rao S. Korsakoff’s psychosis & Wernickie’s encephalopathy. Poster presented at: Society of General Internal Medicine Southern Regional Meeting; 2008 Feb 22; New Orleans, LA.

Landry JB, Arrieta MI. Resources for healthy living: perceptions of older residents in a low income neighborhood. Poster presented at: The Southern Regional Meeting of the American Federation for Medical Research; 2008 Feb 21; New Orleans, LA.
Landry JB, Arrieta MI. Self-reported health status and attitudes towards community based health promotion resources in underprivileged neighborhoods. Poster presented at: The International Society for Hypertension in Blacks Annual Meeting; 2008 Jul 20; New Orleans, LA.

Malozzi C, Montgomery T. Too much metal can make you wet your pants. Paper presented at: Society of General Internal Medicine Southern Regional Meeting; 2008 Feb 22; New Orleans, LA.

Mann A, Blair-Elortegui J. Finding the hidden cause. Poster presented at: Society of General Internal Medicine Southern Regional Meeting; 2008 Feb 22; New Orleans, LA.

Massey CM. Health disparities in Mobile County/Alabama. Paper presented at: Mobile County Health Department; Via All Purpose Center; 2008 Jun 7; Mobile, AL.


Moore TM. Pulmonary microvascular endothelial cells expressing CD40 exhibit increased permeability to sCD40L. Poster presented at: American Thoracic Society International Conference; 2008 May 17-22; Toronto, ON Canada.

Myers L, Hundley T. Lightening headache with visual changes. Poster presented at: Society of General Medicine Southern Regional Meeting; 2008 Feb 22; New Orleans, LA.


Parra-Bonilla G, Alvarez D, Cioffi D, Stevens T. Lung microvascular endothelial cells utilize aerobic glycolysis (e.g. Warburg effect) to sustain rapid proliferation. Poster presented at: Experimental Biology Meeting; 2008 Apr 6; San Diego, CA.


Prasain N, Alvarez D, Frank DW, Stevens T. Exo Y increases Pseudomonas aeruginosa virulence. Poster presented at: Experimental Biology Meeting; 2008 Apr 6; San Diego, CA.


Roth S, Montgomery T. The Italian stomach ache. Poster presented at: Society of General Internal Medicine Southern Regional Meeting; 2008 Feb 22; New Orleans, LA.

Voelkel J, Montgomery T. Lung mass zebra. Poster presented at: Society of General Internal Medicine Southern Regional Meeting; 2008 Feb 22; New Orleans, LA.


Westbrook A, Montgomery T. The weed that grows in the garden of steroids. Paper presented at: Society of General Internal Medicine Southern Regional Meeting; 2008 Feb 22; New Orleans, LA.


Zhao J, Montgomery T. Fire in the operating room. Poster presented at: Society of General Internal Medicine Southern Regional Meeting; 2008 Feb 22; New Orleans, LA.

V. NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Ronald Allison. Tri-State Thoracic Conference-Coordinator/Sponsor of presentation by University of South Alabama Pulmonary Fellows, January 2008, New Orleans, LA.


Michael V. Cohen serves on the Editorial Board of Basic Research in Cardiology.


Jorge L. Herrera served in the following capacities: Board of Advisors B Liver Institute for Education and Research; Section Editor B Viral Hepatitis, Practical Gastroenterology; Governor for Alabama, American College of Gastroenterology; Editorial Board, Gastroenterology and Hepatology Journal; Best Doctor's in American 2006-2007.

Clara V. Massey served on the National Speaker Board for ACC: State Speaker Panel for AL AHA Get with the guidelines campaign.

Majid Mughal. ACCP Clinical Pulmonary Medicine NetWork Steering Committee 2008.

Bassam Omar serves as Manuscript Reviewer: Medical Education Online.

Slagle D, Haynes J Jr. (D. Slagle contacted Dr. Haynes for his professional opinion and he was quoted in her article) How One Mother Helps Her Son Cope With Sickle Cell Disease. Jet Magazine, Johnson Publishing Company, Inc. Chicago, IL. Sep 17, 2007; p 24-25.

VI. BRIEF SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS

Education

The department has continued to receive excellent evaluations from medical students and residents for its educational activities. For 10 consecutive years the Internal Medicine Clerkship has been recognized as the best clerkship for third year medical students. The Class of 2008 again honored the department with this award. That class also recognized Dr. Errol D.Crook with the John Bass Award for Best Clinical Teacher. Finally, several of the departmental faculty were recognized with the red sash award for their educational efforts. Within the department Dr. John Schultz was honored by the internal medicine housestaff with the John Bass Award for Best Teacher. Clearly, the department continues to meet its educational mission and is being recognized by its chief customer, the pupils, for success for this endeavor.

Administration

The department has had changes in leadership for two divisions. Dr. Clara Massey is now the interim Division Chief for Cardiology, replacing Dr. Frank Pettyjohn who is concentrating his efforts in Emergency Medicine. Dr. Pettyjohn will remain as a senior faculty member in Cardiology. Dr. Karen Fagan was recruited to lead the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care. She joined us from the University of Colorado Health Sciences and will also be a leader in the Center for Lung Biology. The department has continued its active role in enhancing philanthropic efforts as the John Bass, Jr., M.D. endowment was started this year and there is continued growth in the Dr. Robert A. Kreisberg Clinical Scholars Endowment Fund.

Scholarly Efforts

The department has continued to be productive in scholarly achievements, particularly in the area of publications. Again, the Divisions of Gastroenterology and Pulmonary and Critical Care had particularly successful years in this arena.
The department continues to have activity in clinical investigation. The majority of these endeavors pharmaceutically involve sponsored initiatives and many involve fellows as co-investigators. The residents have been active in scholarly activity primarily through case reports and presentations at regional meetings. The chair will encourage activities in investigator initiated, hypothesis driven research amongst facility and residents. Finally, Errol D. Crook, MD, department chair, is principal investigator of a Center of Excellence Grant in Health Disparities from the National Center for Minority Health and Health Disparities.

Service

The department continues to deliver excellent clinical service. The pulmonary hypertension service is growing considerably with the addition of Dr. Karen Fagan. In general, clinical activities have increased across the department. We continue our clinical activities at both Infirmary West Hospital and the Mobile Infirmary Medical Center.

Departmental faculty continue to serve on editorial boards, as journal reviewers, on advisory boards and on grant review panels. Our faculty contribute to the Greater Mobile Community through individual service within organizations (faith-based, not for profit, disease oriented) and individual initiatives. Some examples include the efforts of Dr. Clara Massey in fighting heart disease in women and the Division of Infectious Diseases efforts on behalf of patients with HIV.
2007-2008  
Summary of Scholarly Activities  
Department of Medical Genetics

I. PUBLISHED JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

A. Full-length published articles and book chapters


B. Articles in press

II. PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS


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III. BOOKS PUBLISHED

IV. PRESENTATIONS


V. NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Tian-Jian Chen, Ph.D. was nominated as a board director for the Association of Chinese Geneticists in America. He is continuing to serve on the Editorial Board of "Applied Immunohistochemistry and Molecular Morphology".

W. Wertelecki, M.D. is the International Coordinator – OMNI-Net – Ukraine, a not-for-profit international organization registered in Kyiv, Ukraine.

W. Wertelecki, M.D. was the opening session keynote speaker at the 1st Central and Eastern European Summit on Preconception Health and Prevention of Birth Defects held in Budapest, Hungary during August 27-30, 2008.

VI. BRIEF SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS

The COM II Medical Genetics Course continues to be updated. The latest changes included expansion of small group learning and web-based assignments. Every student is asked to explore and analyze our IBIS web site (http://www.ibis-birthdefects.org) and requires each student to engage in several hours of web explorations focused on a specific domain of human developmental pathology. The course is uploaded annually to the University’s e-Companion online system, improving student-faculty interaction, as well as providing student access to learning materials and course schedules. Course evaluation by the students showed that the majority of this year’s class rated the course as “very good” or “excellent”. Furthermore, USMLE Step 1 scores in Genetics were again among the highest this year. Supplemental materials for the course on e-Companion included “Perspectives in Medical Genetics”, Part One – Mythology, Religion, Medicine, Genetics, Teratology, Genomics and Ethics; Part Two – Teratology and Information Systems; Part Three – Antecedents to Darwin-Wallace; Part Four – Impact of Malthus and Darwin-Wallace; Part Five – Drosophila-Chromosomes-Mendel Re-discovered; Part Six – Theodosius Dobzhansky.
Two new elective courses were developed by the faculty this year (CSD 694-102 and CSD 694-103). They are offered to interested Communication Sciences doctoral students from the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology. Dr. Martinez serves as instructor for this course.

Clinical activities have expanded and continue to offer opportunities for training throughout southern Alabama. Medical and nursing students, pediatric residents and fellows actively participate during patient evaluations, not only in our core clinic in Mobile, but throughout our outreach system, as well.

In this context, nursing students from the University of South Alabama, Troy University and Wallace College rotate regularly through our clinics. In addition, our department offers a pediatric genetics elective rotation for our pediatric residents. Most residents elect to participate in this experience and have offered high marks to the rotation.

Increasing demand for clinical services has required further expansion of the frequency of outreach clinics held in Dothan and Montgomery, Alabama. Yearly, over 900 patients and families affected by a variety of genetic disorders, birth defects, mental retardation and other developmental disabilities are offered comprehensive medical evaluations and counseling in our core and outreach clinics.

The Diagnostic Molecular Genetics Laboratory is continuing to expand molecular diagnostic clinical service. Testing panels have been recently updated. Clinical application of micro array-CGH analysis is successfully offered to patients with malformation and mental retardation, and prenatal diagnosis. Research projects have been focused on the molecular mechanism of mental retardation diseases.

The Clinical Cytogenetics Laboratory has continued to increase its testing menu, especially in the area of FISH analysis. We now offer several FISH testing panels for oncology, including panels of probes to assay for chromosome abnormalities common in CLL, Lymphoma, Myeloma, as well as the newly added MDS/AML panel. In the past year the average turn-around time by the lab has decreased by one to 2 1/2 days for most tests. Both the Cytogenetics and the Molecular Genetics Laboratories moved into newly designed laboratories this year. This move will allow for growth in test volume, as well as for increases in the number of new tests our laboratory can offer.

The Department continues to foster close links with state agencies and continues to receive financial assistance from the Alabama Department of Mental Health/Mental Retardation. Dr. Wertelecki was recently presented the 2006 Alabama Association for Retarded Citizens' (ARC) Peter Leibert Community Prevention Action Award. The State March of Dimes called for an initiative to
ensure that the “Alabama Birth Defects Surveillance and Prevention Program”, implemented by this department, secures state funding. The result is a consortium composed of the Alabama Departments of Public Health, Mental Health, Rehabilitation Services, March of Dimes, University of South Alabama and other agencies. The “State-wide Fetal Alcohol Prevention Program” coordinated by this department continues. The International Consortium for collaborative initiatives on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders funded by the National Institutes on Alcohol and Substance Abuse continues its’ collaborative project with this department focused upon prospective studies of fetuses exposed to alcohol. The International Birth Defects Information Systems (IBIS) continues to attract a large number of unique visitors (approaching 1.8 million).

The Department was recently awarded funding from the Centers for Disease Control to co-organize the First Central Eastern European Summit on Preconception Care and Prevention of Birth Defects, which was held in Budapest, Hungary from August 27 – 30, 2008. The overriding goal of the summit was to assemble participants with a variety of backgrounds from the United States, Europe and in particular from Central Eastern Europe, in order to provide a forum to better understand and identify common challenges, priorities, and strategies as central to the prevention of birth defects and childhood disabilities through improvements in preconception health. As a member of the Executive Committee, we will contribute to the post-summit recommendations for follow-up conferences, policy recommendations and initiatives. Within four weeks following the summit our team submitted an NIH proposal to undertake research on drug endangered children inclusive of alcohol through a partnership of USA with Emory University and OMNI-Net in Ukraine. “Drug Endangered Children” is also an initiative by the Governor of the State and currently under development in Alabama.
2007-2008
Summary of Scholarly Activities
Department of Microbiology and Immunology

I. PUBLISHED JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

A. Full-length published articles and book chapters


B. Articles in press

Sayed A, Foster JW. Sodium levels modulate the activities of the GadX and GadW regulators of Escherichia coli acid resistance. Microbiology. Forthcoming.
II. PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS


III. BOOKS PUBLISHED

IV. PRESENTATIONS

Audia JP. Session of genetics, physiology and metabolism: a biochemical study of the energetic requirements of the Rickettsia prowazekii GTP/GDP transporter belonging to the translocase family of nucleotide carriers. Paper presented at: American Society for Rickettsiology 21st Meeting; 2007 Sep 8-11; Colorado Springs, CO.

Audia JP. Apparent orphaned enzymes and metabolic redundancies in the epidemic Typhus Rickettsia: perspectives on Rickettsial transporters and possible roles as metabolic virulence factors. Paper presented at: 5th International Conference on Rickettsiae and Rickettsial Diseases; 2008 May 18-20; Marseille, France.


Audia JP. The wonderful world of Rickettsia prowazekii: insights into Rickettsial physiology and reductive evolution. Paper presented at: Rocky Mountain Laboratories, Laboratory of Intracellular Pathogens, National Institutes of Health; 2008 Sep 12; Hamilton, MT.

Brewer JW. Membrane biogenesis induced by the unfolded protein response. Paper presented at: Annual Meeting of American Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Stress and Lipid Metabolism Mini-Symposium; 2008 Apr 8; San Diego, CA.


V. NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION


Dr. John W. Foster was Chair: Division K, Microbial Physiology and Metabolism, American Society of Microbiology; Subsection Editor for Escherichia coli, Salmonella Cellular and Molecular Biology ASM Press. He is on the editorial advisory board for the journal Molecular Microbiology and is a reviewer for The Journal of Bacteriology, Trends in Microbiology, and MICROBIOLOGY.

Dr. Robert N. Lausch is Special Reviewer, Visual Science A Study Section, NEI; Member Panel of Primary Reviewers, Journal of Immunology; Ad Hoc Reviewer: Investigative Ophthalmology and Visual Science, Experimental Eye Research and Journal of Leukocyte Biology.

Dr. John E. Oakes is Primary Reviewer, Journal of Immunology, and Ad hoc Reviewer for Investigative Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences.

Dr. David O. Wood is Chair, American Society for Microbiology Membership Committee and a member of the ASM Committee on Ethics. He also serves on the Editorial Board of Infection and Immunity and is an ad hoc reviewer for several other journals.
VI. BRIEF SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS

Dr. David Wood during his second year as Chair continued the search for new faculty members and has overseen departmental renovations. Dr. Paul Brett and Dr. Mary Burtnick, currently postdoctoral fellows at the National Institutes of Health, Rocky Mountain Laboratories, Hamilton, MT, and Dr. Robert Barrington, recently a Junior Faculty in the Department of Pediatrics, Children’s Hospital, Boston, MA and currently working for a private company, will be joining the Department in November. Renovation of departmental research and office space on the second floor of the Medical Science Building has continued with completion of sections 1 and 2 of the renovation process and initiation of section 3. These renovations include removal of asbestos which has deterred work in certain areas in the past.

Dr. Joseph W. Brewer, Associate Professor, has completed his first year and moved into newly renovated labs.

As a department we continued to place a strong emphasis on teaching both medical and graduate students. This includes using electronic testing for Medical Microbiology and Immunology course MIC 211/MIC 530. All of the Faculty participated in the Medical Microbiology course and in the IDL interdisciplinary courses. Dr. Rohrer served as Course Director for Medical Microbiology, and Dr. Audia served as Course Director for the 2007-2008 IDL courses. Dr. Oakes was Course Director for the Microbiology section of the BEAR program. The Department continued to conduct a hands-on medical microbiology laboratory directed by Dr. Foster.

Drs. Audia, Foster, and Brewer each sponsored a medical student during the summer as part of the Summer Medical Student Research Program. Dr. Foster also mentored a student Jason Tucker from the University Summer Undergraduate Program UCUR and a graduate student Matthew Eveland from the Biology Department.

The Department continues several active research programs that remain a major focus of faculty activities. These include research on the obligate intracellular bacterium, *Rickettsia prowazekii*, by Drs. Audia, Winkler, and Wood, herpes virus ocular immunobiology studies conducted in the laboratories of Drs. Lausch and Oakes, studies on the unfolded protein response by Dr. Brewer, and research on the physiology and genetics of enteric pathogens by Dr. John Foster. Drs. Rohrer and Barsoum, continue to investigate the role of a unique oncofetal immunogen (OFA).
Drs. Coggin, Barsoum and Rohrer continued their work, funded by VRI, Inc. entitled: “OFA/iLRP-Dendritic Cell Vaccine Immunotherapy Trial in Breast Cancer Patients” with an approved budget of $1,000,000 for the 2007 - 2009 funding period. These funds are being used to conduct a clinical trial of their Oncofetal Antigen (OFA), a patented immunizing agent used in the preparation of a customized vaccine.

Drs. Audia and Wood were asked to participate in a grant proposal for a Southeastern Regional Center of Excellence. If funded, the Audia subproposal will be one of the five main research efforts of the Center and Dr. Wood will serve on the Steering Committee.

The Department also hosted five scientists for the Distinguished Scientist Seminar Series and to meet with the department faculty and students. Dr. Greg Plano from the University of Miami Department of Microbiology and Immunology presented a seminar entitled “Calcium- and Cell Contact-Regulated injection of virulence proteins by Yersinia pestis, the Causative Agent of Plague”. Dr. Paul Kincade from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center presented a seminar entitled “New Perspectives on Replenishments of the Immune System”. Dr. Eduardo Groisman from the Washington University School of Medicine St. Louis Missouri presented a seminar entitled “Genetic Control of Bacterial Virulence”. Dr. J. Stephen Dumler from The Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions presented a seminar entitled “Host Pathogen Interactions of Anaplasma”. Dr. Robert A. Heinzen from the Rocky Mountain Laboratories presented a seminar entitled “Coxiella Host Pathogen Interactions”.

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2007-2008
Summary of Scholarly Activities
Department of Neurology

I. PUBLISHED JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

A. Full-length published articles and book chapters


B. Articles in press


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II. PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS


III. BOOKS PUBLISHED

IV. PRESENTATIONS


Bassam B. Painful Neuropathy, update. Paper presented at: University of Arkansas Medical Center Neurology Grand Rounds; 2008 Mar 24; Little Rock, AR.


Zweifler R. Managing ischemic stroke in 2007. Paper presented at: Martinsburg, VA Medical Center Grand Rounds; 2007 Nov 7; Martinsburg, WV.

Zweifler R. Best practices for stroke management; strategies for optimizing care in 2008. Paper presented at: Mercer University Medical Center Grand Rounds; 2008 Mar 12; Macon, GA.

V. NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Bassam A. Bassam served as Workshop Committee Chairman member of the CME Advisory Committee, Annual Meeting Program Coordination Committee Co-chair of the American Association of Neuromuscular and Electrodagnostic Medicine (AANEM), national examiner of the American Association of Neuromuscular and Electrodagnostic Medicine (AANEM) Annual Board Examination 2008 May 3; Chicago, IL.

Jorge Ivan Lopez rendered services at Walter Reed Army Hospital Medical Center as a staff neurologist from Jan to April 2008.
Paul Maertens served as a member of the Examination Committee of the Society of Neuroimaging, editor and member of the Editorial Board of the Journal of Neuroimaging.


VI. BRIEF SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS

During the 2007-2008 academic year the department of Neurology went through several changes. The former Chairman, Dr. William Hamilton, retired, and Dr. Richard Zweifler accepted a position at another institution. Dr. Bassam A. Bassam was appointed as Interim Chairman, and Dr. Ivan Lopez as Director of USA Stroke Center. A team and search committee were successful in recruiting a highly qualified new Chair, Dr. Dean Naritoku, Professor of Neurology at Southern Illinois University, an expert in epilepsy. The department has initiated an intense recruitment search for additional faculties in all neurology subspecialty areas, and a few perspective candidates have been interviewed.

Despite our small faculty size, the Department of Neurology continued to serve efficiently large number of outpatient, inpatient and consultation services. The neurology residents' performance on the national service neurological examination continues to increase, and they excel on the national neuromuscular examination.

The major directions for the department is to establish a comprehensive academic department, nationally renown for excellence in patient care, research, and education. The faculty and the new chair are committed to make strides in achieving these goals in each academic area, and increase scholarly activities.

In conclusion, the department has made notable progress, including successful recruitment of a departmental chair, providing unique clinical services and patient care, excellent teaching, and increased their research activities and funding.
2007-2008
Summary of Scholarly Activities
Department of Neurosurgery

I. PUBLISHED JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

A. Full-length published articles and book chapters


B. Articles in press

II. PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS


III. BOOKS PUBLISHED

IV. PRESENTATIONS

Quindlen EA. X-Stop for lumbar stenosis-the USA experience. Paper presented at: Neurosurgical Society of Alabama; 2008 May17; Santa Rosa, FL.

Martino AM. Shunts and shunt malfunction. Paper presented at: Mississippi Spina Bifida Support Group; 2008 Feb 26; Ocean Springs, MS.

Martino AM. Kyphoplasty regional training seminar. Paper presented at: Providence Hospital Faculty; 2008 Mar 11; Mobile, AL.

Martino AM. Radiosurgery: a neurosurgical perspective. Paper presented at: Gulf Coast VA Tumor Board; 2008 Jul 22; Biloxi, MS.

V. NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION
VI. BRIEF SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS

The Department of Neurosurgery has had continued success with its electronic health record which allows web based patient registration. Patient feedback has been very positive concerning this feature. The neurosurgical clinic has experienced an increase in referrals. The department continues to sponsor a weekly conference at USAMC which serves as an excellent collaborative effort with neurology and neuroradiology.

Dr. Eugene Quindlen continues to participate in medical education in the College of Medicine, giving lectures in Neuroanatomy, Neuropathology, Neurophysiology and lectures for third-year medical students rotating on the surgical clerkship. The rotation of general surgery residents and neurology residents on the neurosurgical service continues to be a main, ongoing teaching function.

Dr. Anthony Martino continues the department's participation in Children's Rehabilitative Services for the state of Alabama and continues to participate in medical education in the College of Medicine, giving lectures in Neuroanatomy, Neuropathology, and Neurophysiology. In addition, Dr. Martino has been named as the team physician for the new USA football program. Dr. Martino has recently completed Cyberknife training.

Dr. W. George Rusyniak, Jr., joined the Department of Neurosurgery on September 1, 2008. Dr. Rusyniak has expertise in the surgical treatment of epilepsy, deep brain stimulation and other facets of functional neurosurgery.
I. PUBLISHED JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

A. Full-length published articles and book chapters


B. Articles in press


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II. PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS


Reynolds, S, White K, Anachebe N, Sanders D, Geary F, Olatinwo M. Obesity is associated with a higher risk of operative delivery in pregnant adolescents at Grady Memorial Hospital. Obstet Gynecol 2008 Apr;111(4 Suppl):96S.


III. BOOKS PUBLISHED


IV. PRESENTATIONS


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Brooks N. Urologic problems in women. Paper presented at: 17th Annual OB/GYN CME Conference; 2008 Apr 8; Mobile, AL.

Bodie FL. Birth control pills and difficulties with estrogen. Paper presented at: 17th Annual OB/GYN CME Conference; 2008 Apr 8; Mobile, AL.

Finan M. Gynecologic cancer update. Paper presented at: 17th Annual OB/GYN CME Conference; 2008 Apr 8; Mobile, AL.

Kennedy R. Burnout. Paper presented at: 17th Annual OB/GYN CME Conference; 2008 Apr 8; Mobile, AL.

LaFleur JK. Cesarean on demand: creating the potential for high risk problems. Paper presented at: 17th Annual OB/GYN CME Conference; 2008 Apr 8; Mobile, AL.


Olatinwo M. Hormonal contraception and the risk of thromboembolism in women with sickle cell diseases: What does it mean to clinicians and their patients? Paper presented at: 8th Conference of the University of South Alabama Comprehensive Sickle Cell Center, University of South Alabama; 2008 Apr 19; Mobile, AL.

Owens SA. Abnormal uterine bleeding and GYN ultrasound. Paper presented at: 1st Annual Women’s Imaging Conference; 2008 Apr 9; Mobile, AL.

Porter KB. Fetal anomalies reason and treatment. Paper presented at: 17th Annual OB/GYN CME Conference; 2008 Apr 8; Mobile, AL.

Porter KB. Lethal fetal anomalies. Paper presented at: 1st Annual Women’s Imaging Conference; 2008 Apr 9; Mobile, AL.

Porter KB. Emergency preparedness from the OB/GYN perspective. Paper presented at: Luncheon Conference, 56th Annual Clinical Meeting (ACM); 2008 May 6; New Orleans, LA.

Porter KB. Preparing for disaster with a team approach. Alabama Department of Public Health, March of Dimes and University of South Alabama. Paper presented at: Perinatal Initiatives Summit - Alabama Department of Public Health; 2008 Feb 15; Birmingham, AL.

Rizk B. Adnexal masses and GYN ultrasound. Paper presented at: 1st Annual Women’s Imaging Conference; 2008 Apr 9; Mobile, AL.


Rizk B. Total prevention of OHSS is that possible? Paper presented at: Thirteenth McGill International Symposium for Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility Precongress Course for Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists International Meeting; 2008 Sep 17; Montreal, Canada.


V. NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Dr. Kathy B. Porter is a National Board Examiner for the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Dr. Porter has been a reviewer for the American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Dr. Botros Rizk has been invited guest speaker for the Mediterranean Society for Reproductive Medicine, Egyptian Fertility Society, McGill International Symposium and Precongress course for the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Dr. Rizk has edited the leading international textbook on infertility and assisted reproduction with contributions from six continents and 18 countries. He has been an Ad hoc reviewer for 12 years to the Journals of Fertility and Sterility, Human Reproduction, Molecular Human Reproduction, Middle East Fertility Society, Reproductive Biomedicine Online, American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology and is on the Editorial Board of the Middle East Fertility Society Journal Publication. In addition, Dr. Rizk has been invited by professor Robert Edwards, the father of IVF, to edit a symposium on Ovarian Hyperstimulation Syndrome for Reproductive Biomedicine Online.
This publication should set the International, European and American Guidelines for prevention and management of OHSS. Dr. Rizk has successfully attracted a two year fellowship in Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility to the University of South Alabama Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

VI. BRIEF SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS

The Department once again sponsored a very successful CME program this academic year. The 17th Annual Continuing Education Conference in Obstetrics and Gynecology, held at the Mobile Convention Center in Mobile, was widely supported and attended by physicians, nurse practitioners, nurse midwives and nurses from a large geographic area.

On April 5th, 2008 the Department sponsored the 1st Annual Women’s Imaging Conference, which attracted ultrasonographers from three states.

Dr. Nicole Brooks serves as the Medical Director for the Center for Women’s Health and Center Street OB/GYN. She is establishing urogynecology and aesthetic services within the OB/GYN Department.

Dr. Susan L. Baker is part time faculty and focuses on clinical care. She is working on substance abuse issues with pregnant women.

Dr. Frankie Bodie serves as generalist and received the “Most Outstanding Faculty Member” Award from the OB/GYN Residents.

Dr. Michael Finan has a dual appointment with the Department of OB/GYN and the Mitchell Cancer Center. He is Chief of Gynecologic Oncology for the OB/GYN Department. Dr. Finan was awarded the CREOG 2008 National Faculty Award for Excellence in Resident Education as voted by the residents.

Dr. Walter Hogan functions as a part time clinical faculty member and focuses on clinical care and the Colpo clinic.

Dr. James Hole, a specialist in Maternal Fetal Medicine joined the department in February 2008. He has established a CVS program for clinical care, and he is working on ICU criteria for the USA Children’s and Women’s Hospital. In August Dr. Hole began seeing High Risk OB patients in Fairhope, Alabama. He was awarded Best Teaching Faculty by the residents for 2008.
Dr. John LaFleur serves as generalist and received the “APGO Excellence in Teaching” Award by the recommendation of the OB/GYN Residents. Dr. LaFleur was honored by the Medical Students with his invitation to wear the Red Sash at Convocation 2008. He functions as the assistant clerkship director. He has been involved with the establishment of our hysteroscope program.

Dr. Meshood Olatinwo joined the department in August of 2007 as a generalist. In addition to his duties in OB/GYN he has worked closely with Dr. Jonathan Scammell in the Department of Comparative Medicine to further enhance his training in molecular endocrinology. This will provide him with the technical expertise for a career in translational medicine. In this regard, Dr. Olatinwo submitted a grant titled Pituitary Regulation of Chorionic Gonadotropin in an Animal Model Lacking Luteinizing Hormone Signaling, for the Harold Amos Medical Faculty Development Program. Although that application was not funded, Dr. Olatinwo has continued to pursue other projects that may be used as preliminary data for subsequent research proposals. He is developing a weight loss program within the OB/GYN Department.

Dr. Sheri Owens continues as Clerkship Director for the department. Dr. Owens was honored by the Medical Students with her invitation to wear the Red Sash at Convocation 2008.

Dr. Kathy B. Porter serves as Chair of the State Perinatal Committee and is a committee member for the Fetal Infant Mortality Review for Mobile County and the Alabama Baby Coalition. She is a reviewer for Obstetrics and Gynecology, the American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology and the American Journal of Kidney Disease. Dr. Porter has been the principal investigator on the Columbia Laboratory study Prochieve, DEEP study, Ortho Clinical Trial and recipient of a State Grant for regional perinatal development. Dr. Porter is the Assistant Program Director, and she is in the process of establishing a Maternal Fetal Medicine Fellowship. Dr. Porter is a member of the Department Education Committee, she is Director of the Ultrasound unit, which is AIUM and ICAEL accredited. In May, Dr. Porter started a High Risk OB Clinic in Biloxi, Mississippi and in August she started another satellite in Fairhope, Alabama. Dr. Porter was honored by the Medical Students with her invitation to wear the Red Sash at Convocation 2008.

Dr. Botros Rizk has received the Award for Excellence in Endocrine Education and Teaching by the 2008 graduating residents. Dr. Rizk has established a two year fellowship in Reproductive Endocrinology. The first recipient Dr. H. Moustafa has completed his thesis on preimplantation genetic diagnosis. The fellowship included stipend and research and educational expenses. Dr. Rizk is a member of Department of OB/GYN Laboratory QA Committee, Chairman 1999-Present, Medical and Scientific Director of the University of South Alabama IVF Program, Chairman of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine International Membership Committee. Ad hoc reviewer for the Journals of
Fertility and Sterility, Human Reproduction, Molecular Human Reproduction Middle East Fertility Society, Reproductive Biomedicine Online, American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology and is on the Editorial Board of the Middle East Fertility Society Journal.

Dr. Rodney Rocconi has a dual appointment with OB/GYN and the Mitchell Cancer Center. He teaches the residents Gynecologic Oncology. OB/GYN Residents spend a total of six months working with Doctors Finan and Rocconi during their 4 year residency. Dr. Rocconi along with Dr. Finan was awarded the CREOG 2008 National Faculty Award for Excellence in Resident Education. This award is voted by the residents.

Dr. Craig Sherman serves as the Program Director and as Medical Director for the Women’s Center. Dr. Sherman served as the Rotation Director for the Physician Assistant Students’ in OB/GYN through June 2008.

Dr. Sherri Taylor joined the Department in November, 2007 as a generalist. She is involved with the development of the aesthetics program.

Dr. Steven Varner continues in his capacity as Director of the Division of Gynecology. He has pioneered a vaginitis and vulvar disease clinic and receives referrals from the panhandle of Florida, Louisiana, and Birmingham, AL. Dr. Varner established the hysteroscope program for the department. He received the 2008 National APGO Excellence in Teaching Award as voted by the OB/GYN residents, and he was voted Best Faculty for Excellence in Medical Student Education by the students. He also was honored by the Medical Students with his invitation to wear the Red Sash at Convocation 2008.
2007-2008
Summary of Scholarly Activities
Department of Orthopaedic Surgery

I. PUBLISHED JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

A. Full-length published articles and book chapters


B. Articles in press


II. PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS


III. BOOKS PUBLISHED

IV. PRESENTATIONS

Handwerger A, Pearsall AW. Posterior sternoclavicular dislocation: a case series with patient follow up. Paper presented at: Seventh Joint Meeting of the Alabama and Mississippi Orthopaedic Societies; 2008 May 1-4; Destin, FL.

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Meyer FN. Athletic injuries of the hand. Paper presented at: The Southeastern Trauma Symposium; 2008 Jul 31-Aug 3; Destin, FL.

Meyer FN. Entrapment neuropathies of the foot and ankle. Paper presented at: 19th Annual Southeastern Orthopaedic Foot Club Meeting; 2008 May 1; Sandestin, FL.

Meyer FN. Fractures of the distal radius. Paper presented at: The Southeastern Trauma Symposium; 2008 Jul 31-Aug 3; Destin, FL.


Pearsall AW, Madanagopal SG. Clinical and microscopic evaluation of large implanted refrigerated and frozen osteochondral allografts in the knee. Paper presented at: The combined meeting of the American Orthopaedic Association and Canadian Orthopaedic Association; 2008 Jun 4-7; Quebec, Canada.

Pearsall AW. Open anterior-inferior capsular shift. Paper presented at: AAOS/ASES Open and Arthroscopic Techniques in Shoulder Surgery Course; 2008 Jan 18-19; Rosemont, IL.

Pearsall AW. Update on COX-2 inhibitors and non-selective NSAIDS: safety and patient risk. Paper presented at: 19th Annual Southeastern Orthopaedic Foot Club Meeting; 2008 May 1; Destin, FL.


Perry MD. Amputations of the foot and ankle. Paper presented at: Dallas short course: Orthotics and Prosthetics; 2007 Oct 24; Dallas, TX.


Randall J, Smith JD, Madanagopal SG, Pearsall AW. Biomechanical fixation of tibial plateau fractures. Paper presented at: Seventh Joint Meeting of the Alabama and Mississippi Orthopaedic Societies; 2008 May 1-4; Destin, FL.


V. NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION


Albert W. Pearsall M.D., President, Alabama Orthopaedic Society, 2008-2010.

Mark D. Perry, M.D., Course Chairman, Southeastern Orthopaedic Foot Club, 2008, AAOS Representative for “Capitol Hill Day” Washington DC, February 12-14, 2008.

VI. BRIEF SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS

The Department of Orthopaedic Surgery continues to be engaged both clinically and academically. Scholarly activities from faculty members in the department include three manuscripts and one published abstract in the medical literature. In addition, there is one abstract currently in press. This year nineteen presentations were given at regional, national and international professional meetings as invited lecturers and as scientific papers. The Department of Orthopaedics continues to be engaged in the pain pump research study for which we received a $10,000 grant last year. Dr. Mark D. Perry was promoted to the level of professor. In addition, we have recently added Dr. Jorge Alonso formerly the Chief of the Orthopaedic Trauma Center at the University of Alabama, Birmingham and now heads up the Orthopaedic trauma service at the University of South Alabama. Dr. Alonso is an internationally known trauma surgeon who has been past president of AO North America, one of the leading trauma societies in the country, and is also on the board of AO International, one of the leading trauma societies in the world. Dr. Alonso is known for his innovative product design as well as for his academic and scholarly activities. Finally, he is a superb
clinician who is extremely well thought of both nationally and internationally. The USA Orthopaedic residency program continues to improve. We now have three residents in the PGY III, PGY II and PGY I years. All residents since the year 2000 have passed the written boards in orthopaedics and have only recently had one resident fail the oral of one examination. All others have passed the oral board examination. We graduated Drs. Matt Barber and Dusty Smith both did fellowships. Dr. Barber went to Phoenix to do a fellowship in adult reconstructive surgery, and Dr. Smith went to Louisville to do a one year fellowship in spine. Dr. Dusty Smith is currently an attending planning to go back to Montgomery to practice and Dr. Matt Barber will be returning to Mobile to join the Alabama Orthopaedic Clinic. Dr. Fred Meyer was course chairman again this year for the Southeastern Orthopaedic Foot Club. This job will be passed on to Dr. Mark Perry next year. Dr. Albert Pearsall is currently serving as President of the Alabama Orthopaedic Society. Dr. Frederick Meyer is President-Elect of the Clinical Orthopaedic Society, one of the two oldest orthopaedic societies in the country, and one of the two societies which was the parent organization for the American Academy of Orthopaedic surgeons. In addition, Dr. Fred Meyer will be the course chairman for the 2009 Clinical Orthopaedic Society which will be held at Point Clear, Alabama. Our Orthopaedic Residency Coordinator, Mrs. Gail Driver, is nationally known and serves in a leadership position in ARCOS, a nationally recognized society of orthopaedic residency coordinators. She is currently serving as secretary-treasurer. In addition, she is on the steering committee for the Academy certification process. The Department of Orthopaedic Surgery has gained accreditation for a one year sports medicine fellowship from the ACGME.
2007 – 2008
Summary of Scholarly Activities
Department of Pathology

I. PUBLISHED JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

A. Full-length published articles and book chapters


B. Articles in press


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II. PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS


Hunt AG, Sosnowski JS. Individuals with ruptured cerebral berry aneurysms arising from the posterior circulation have an increased mortality rate compared to ruptured aneurysms arising from the anterior circulation of the brain. Lab Invest 2008;88(Suppl 1):6A. Abstract no. 11.


III. BOOKS PUBLISHED

IV. PRESENTATIONS

Boudreaux CW, Pienetti M, Carter JE, Cain K, Taylor J, O'Connor A, Holmes S. Atypical glandular cells and hybrid capture II high risk human papillomavirus DNA testing from SurePath pap specimens with histologic follow-up. Poster presented at: American Society of Cytopathology Meeting; 2007 Nov 2-6; Houston, TX.


Chandra S, Patterson KV, Rao A. Unusual presentation of aplastic crisis secondary to parvovirus B19 in a child with T-cell lymphoblastic lymphoma. Poster presented at: Society for Pediatric Research, Southern Regional Assembly; 2008 Feb 21-23; New Orleans, LA.

Goel S, Carter JE, Kahn AG. Primary renal zygomycotic infarction mimicking renal neoplasia in an immunocompetent patient. Poster presented at: American Society for Microbiology Annual Meeting; 2008 Jun 3; Boston, MA.


Laurini JA, Carter JE, Kahn AG. Tricuspid valve and pacemaker endocarditis due to Pseudallescheria boydii (Scedosporium apiospermum). Poster presented at: American Society for Microbiology; 2008 Jun 1-5; Boston, MA.

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Martin SH, Patterson KV. Silent cardiovascular ischemia due to polyarteritis nodosa-like vasculitis diagnosed at autopsy in a patient with Hepatitis B and C. Poster presented at: Southern Medical Association Annual Scientific Assembly; 2007 Nov 15-18; New Orleans, LA.

Mizell KN, Laurini JA, Carter JE. Kluyvera infections in the pediatric population: characteristics of an emerging pathogen. Poster presented at: American Society for Microbiology Meeting; 2008 Jun 1-5; Boston, MA.

Mizell KN, Morris CG, Carter JE. Antemortem diagnosis of asbestosis by screening chest radiograph correlated with postmortem histologic features of asbestosis: a study of 274 cases. Poster presented at: United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology Meeting; 2008 Mar 1-7; Denver, CO.


Mizell K, Patterson KV. Concurrent herpes simplex virus pneumonia and esophagitis: report of two cases with autopsy pathology and review of the literature. Poster presented at: Southern Medical Association Annual Scientific Assembly; 2008 Aug 7-9; Nashville,TN.


Nelson JJ, Manci E. An autopsy case report of bronchopulmonary dysplasia. Poster presented at: Southern Medical Association Annual Scientific Assembly; 2008 Aug 6-8; Nashville, TN.

Polski JM, King JA, Chapman S, Ofori-Acuah S. CD166/HCA/ALCAM Immunoreactivity patterns in hematopoietic tissues and neoplasms. Poster presented at: United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology Annual Meeting; 2008 Mar 1-7; Denver, CO.


Sullivan J, Kakati D, Carter E, Agah A. Abnormal collagen synthesis in the wounds of tight skin mice. Poster presented at: Symposium on Wound Care, Wound Healing Society; 2008 Apr 23-26; San Diego, CA.


Tucker JA. The international academic pathology connection: APC looking beyond North America. Workshop presented at: Association of Pathology Chairs Annual Meeting; 2008 Jul 16-19; Colorado Springs, CO.


Whithaus KC, Carter JE. Mycobacterium marinum skin infections: a case series from a Gulf Coast-university healthcare system and review of the literature. Poster presented at: American Society for Microbiology Annual Meeting; 2008 Jun 1-5; Boston, MA.


Whithaus KC, Rutland BM. Acute eosinophilic pneumonia associated with inhaled methamphetamine, a previously unreported correlation. Poster presented at: College of American Pathologist Annual Meeting; 2008 Sep 27; San Diego, CA.


Zuo Z, Kahn AG, Tucker JA. A data mining analysis of pathological findings in 11259 placentas. Poster presented at: American Society for Investigative Pathology Meeting; 2008 Apr 5-9; San Diego, CA.

Zuo Z, Rutland B, Tucker JA, Honkanen RE. Correlations among the expressions of ser/thr protein phosphatase 5, hypoxia inducible factor-1, activated leukocyte cell adhesion molecule, her2/neu and hormone receptors in breast cancer. Poster presented at: Pathology of the 21st Century Integrating Diagnostic and Molecular Pathology Meeting; 2008 May 2-3; Houston, TX.

V. NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

At the 2008 meeting of the National Association of Medical Examiners, Dr. LeRoy Riddick was presented with that society’s Outstanding Service Award. The award was presented to Dr. Riddick in recognition of outstanding service to the National Association of Medical Examiners and for his significant contributions to the advancement of medicolegal investigation of death in the United States. In addition, Dr. Riddick, along with Dr. Andrea Kahn and Dr. John Nelson, one of the pathology residents, received funding from the Forensic Sciences Foundation Lucas Research Grant Program. The grant is to support research on viral hepatitis in the forensic population of south Alabama.

Dr. Allan Tucker was elected treasurer of the Society for Ultrastructural Pathology, and continues as chair of the Pathologist-in-Training Award Committee of that international group. He also serves as secretary/treasurer of the History of Pathology Society, which is therefore based at the University of South Alabama. He was selected by the College of American Pathologists to serve as the alternate member on the American Medical Association/Specialty Society Relative Value Scale Update Committee (RUC), the twenty-nine member panel which develops relative value recommendations to the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services. He also serves on the Economic Affairs Committee of the College of American Pathologists, and chairs the practice management committee of the Association of Directors of Anatomic and Surgical Pathology. He is an advisory board member of the American Registry of Pathology, and serves on the Advocacy Committee and Graduate Medical Education Committee of the Association of Pathology Chairs. In the United States and Canadian Academy of
Pathology, he serves as an ambassador, and was also selected this year to serve on the abstract review board. He continues his membership on the Electron Microscopy Ad Hoc Review Group, performing quality assurance for the Veterans Affairs Electron Microscopy Program. He is an associate editor for the journal *Ultrastructural Pathology* and serves on the editorial boards of *Southern Medical Journal* and *Annals of Clinical and Laboratory Science*. He is a co-principal investigator (principal investigator: Dr. Lalita Samant) on a Department of Defense-funded research project involving the hedgehog pathway and bone metastasis in breast cancer.

Dr. Gary Carnahan is an assessor for the American Association of Blood Banks, and was selected for an inspection of the facilities at the University of Wisconsin Hospitals and Clinics in Madison, Wisconsin. He is also an inspector for the College of American Pathologists and was the team leader for an inspection at the Twin Cities Hospital in Niceville, Florida.

Dr. Elliot Carter is also a laboratory inspector for the College of American Pathologists. He participated in the inspection of Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans, Louisiana, and was the lead inspector for the Columbia-Fort Walton Beach Medical Center, Fort Walton Beach, Florida. Dr. Carter was also selected an Associate Councilor of the Southern Medical Association. In addition, he was the principal investigator on a successful antimicrobial susceptibility testing grant from a pharmaceutical company.

Dr. Elizabeth Manci is a principal investigator on a NIH subcontract with Rockefeller University on beta-3 integrins in platelet and vaso-occlusive disorders. She is also involved in collaborative studies with researchers at Emory and NIH involving sickle cell disease.

Two of the residents, Dr. John Zuo and Dr. Javier Laurini, were presented with the College of American Pathologists’ Junior Member Award for their abstract entitled, “Prevalence of Sexually Transmitted Diseases and Rate of Coinfection: A Study of 10,114 Females from a University-Based Healthcare System” at that society’s 2008 annual meeting.

Dr. Andrea Kahn was selected to membership in the International Union Against Cancer Global Cancer Control Community.

Dr. Jacek Polski serves as an editorial board member on the *Annals of Clinical and Laboratory Science*.

Dr. Kimberley Patterson serves on the editorial board of the *Southern Medical Journal*. 
Dr. Jeff Sosnowski continues to work in national courses for USMLE Step 1 preparation, providing 150 hours of lectures per year in embryology, histology, gross anatomy, and pathology.

Mr. Michael Titford serves on the Health and Safety Committee of the National Society of Histotechnology.

VI. BRIEF SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS

Yet again, this was another year of change in the department. Dr. Elliot Carter, after eight successful years serving as director of the second year pathology course, decided to step down. He implemented many improvements in the course, including a uniform lab structure, on-line PowerPoint presentations and handouts, and on-line testing. Very fittingly, the course this year was selected as the best basic science course. Dr. Jeff Sosnowski and Dr. Beth Rutland have now assumed the directorship of the course, and they have already brought additional innovations to the course. Dr. Sosnowski also served as director of the neuroscience course this past year.

Also administratively, Dr. Kimberley Patterson continued to do an outstanding job as director of the autopsy service, and implemented unprecedented improvements in the turnaround times. This year, she was appointed director of surgical pathology, and Dr. Andrea Kahn was appointed director of immunohistochemistry and molecular pathology. Both did outstanding jobs in these roles. Very unfortunately for us, an excellent opportunity developed for Dr. Patterson at Spring Hill Hospital, and she very recently left the department to take that position. We wish her all the best and look forward to continuing to work with her. Dr. Andrea Kahn has now assumed the directorship of surgical pathology, and has similarly done an outstanding job in that position.

Dr. Carole Boudreaux has continued her work in what has become the very busy task of program director, ably assisted by Dr. Kahn as the associate program director. This was a particularly busy year, as the department had to prepare for its five year inspection by the Residency Review Committee, which was just completed. While the official results are not back yet, thanks to the extraordinary efforts of Dr. Boudreaux and Dr. Kahn, the department seemed to be in excellent shape for this review.

The department’s work with Gulf Regional Pathologists (the Mobile Infirmary pathology group) continues to go smoothly, with Dr. Polski continuing to lend his expertise as director of flow cytometry at Mobile Infirmary and performing some of the hematopathology sign out there, and with members of the USA department’s surgical pathology team rotating as part of the private group at Infirmary West. The private group utilizes its dermatopathology expertise to the benefit of the residency training experience, and they also provide a residency rotation at Mobile Infirmary and sign out surgical pathology cases with the
residents at Infirmary West. One aspect of this relationship is that it made the development of computer-assisted quantitative imaging of immunohistochemical stains feasible to undertake. That effort was lead by Dr. Kahn, with significant input by Dr. Beth Rutland, both of whom along with Dr. Tucker undertook specialized training. The result has been highly successful, and now provides breast cancer patients with an advanced service not previously available locally.

The department is looking to further develop molecular testing, and in that regard, has explored closer ties with the Department of Medical Genetics to look for efficiency in development of that testing. Medical Genetics has recruited a new cytogeneticist, Dr. Holly Hobart, and Dr. Hobart will have a joint appointment in medical genetics and pathology.

Dr. Elizabeth Manci was elected to membership through the faculty track to Alpha Omega Alpha. As such, she was the speaker at the annual banquet, and gave an outstanding presentation on the rise and fall of the Mobile Bay steamboat industry. In university leadership roles, Dr. Elliot Carter served as president of the College of Medicine Faculty Assembly. Dr. Carter also continued service on the university faculty senate, and Dr. Andrea Kahn and Dr. Kimberley Patterson were elected to the senate.

Four residents completed the program this year. Dr. Steve Carlson embarked on a surgical pathology fellowship at the University of California at Davis. Dr. Jolie Rodriguez began a forensics fellowship at Miami-Dade County. Dr. Jesalyn Taylor began a hematopathology fellowship at Methodist Hospital in Houston. Dr. John Zuo began a molecular pathology fellowship at MD Anderson. After a very active interview season, the match yielded four outstanding new residents: Dr. Ioan Cucoranu, Dr. Kristi Esses, Dr. Monica Klein, and Dr. Bhavesh Papadi.

Out of all the thousands of employees of the institution, Ms. Debbie Buck was one of 16 individuals selected to the 2008 US A-Team, being honored as an outstanding employee. Criteria used included performing beyond the call of duty, exemplifying professionalism, dedication to excellent service, and working as a team player. This year, the Betsy D. Bennett Award for outstanding teaching in the second year small group by a resident was awarded to Dr. Kelly Mizell and Dr. Ken Whithaus, both of whom had perfect scores from the medical students for the year. The faculty recognition award for excellence in residency teaching was presented to Dr. Andrea Kahn. Mr. Adrian Hoff in medical imaging received the award from the housestaff as the outstanding staff member contributing to their educational experience. The graduating student receiving the William A. Gardner, Jr., Pathology Award was Mr. Jared Burkett. The electron microscopy elective received the award as the best senior rotation. Three faculty members received the red sash award by the graduating students this year: Dr. Elliot Carter, Dr. Jeff Sosnowski, and Dr. Allan Tucker. Further, Dr. Sosnowski was selected as the best basic science professor by the graduating class.
2007-2008
Summary of Scholarly Activities
Department of Pediatrics

I. PUBLISHED JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

A. Full-length published articles and book chapters


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Swingle HM, Wilmoth R, Aquilino ML. Barriers to children having a medical home in Johnson County, Iowa: notes from the field. Matern Child Health J [Internet]. 2007 Sep 29 [cited 2008 July 31]; Available from: http://www.springerlink.com/content/7397jhm70r564328/?p=44e9e329da8341ebb0914f3175357e51&pi=0


B. Articles in press


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II. PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS


Pearl HB, McCarthy CK, Estrada B, Inge GB, Nolan P, Erazo K. Vertical transmission of human immunodeficiency virus to offspring and resulting pediatric opportunistic infections in San Pedro Sula, Honduras. ACOG District VII meeting; 2007 Oct 26; Lake Las Vegas, NV.


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III. BOOKS PUBLISHED

IV. PRESENTATIONS


Chung A. Pediatric over-the-counter cough and cold preparations...what do we do now? Paper presented at: Alabama Health System Pharmacist Summer Meeting; 2008 Jun 18; San Destin, FL.

Connelly R. Simple strategies for health communication. Paper presented via internet web at: The University of Houston, School of Communication, Doctor-Patient Communication Seminar Series; 2008 Feb 27; Houston, TX.


Estrada B. Diagnosis and management of viral co-infections in HIV infected children. Paper presented at: First Central American Meeting on HIV at the Mario Catarino Rivas Hospital; 2007 Nov 28-30; San Pedro Sula, Honduras.

Estrada B. Community acquired MRSA infections in children. Paper presented at: Mobile Infirmary Medical Center; 2008 Apr 21; Mobile, AL.

Eyal FG. The case for non-invasive respiratory support in neonates. Paper presented at: Spring American Society for Respiratory Care Educational Conference & Exhibits; 2008 Mar 16-18; Orange Beach, AL.


Hundley TJ, Amato A, Peters-Harris M, Westbrook A, Keller B, Blair-Elortegui J. Quality improvement project targeting resident perceptions of a continuity clinic. Paper presented at: American College of Physicians Alabama Chapter Annual Scientific Meeting; 2008 May 29-Jun 1; Orange Beach, AL.


Mizell J, Blair-Elortegui J. An unusual case of sore throat in a 16-year-old girl. Poster presented at: American College of Physicians Alabama Chapter Annual Scientific Meeting; 2008 May 29-Jun 1; Orange Beach, AL.

Preud'Homme D. Childhood obesity. Paper presented at: Mobile Infirmary Medical Center, Continuing Education Seminar for Nurses; 2008 Mar 26; Mobile, AL.

Preud'Homme D. Childhood obesity. Paper presented at: University of South Alabama, Junior League Association; 2008 May 2; Mobile, AL.

Preud'Homme D. Childhood obesity. Paper presented at: University of South Alabama, Medical School Café; 2008 May 15; Mobile, AL.

Preud'Homme D. Children with weight concerns: how we help them in everyday practice. Paper presented at: University of South Alabama, Nurse Symposium; 2008 May 28; Mobile, AL.

Preud'Homme D. The war on obesity. Paper presented at: University of South Alabama, Bay Area Nurse Practitioners Association; 2008 Aug 1; Mobile, AL.

Preud'Homme D. Concurrent seminars. The war on obesity: practical approaches to the child with severe obesity and co-morbidities. Papers presented at: American Academy of Pediatrics, Practical Pediatrics CME Course; 2008 Aug 29-30; Chicago, IL.

Preud'Homme D. Constipation and encopresis; Framing obesity in childhood; and Gastroesophageal reflux in infant and children. Papers presented at: American Academy of Pediatrics, Practical Pediatrics CME Course; 2008 Aug 29-31; Chicago, IL.

Preud'Homme D. GERD and obesity. Paper presented at: the American Academy of Pediatrics, Louisiana Chapter, National Chapter Meeting; 2008 Sep 19; Lafayette, LA.

Preud'Homme D. Framing obesity in childhood; and GER in infancy and in older children. Papers presented at: the American Academy of Pediatrics, Louisiana Chapter, National Chapter Meeting; 2008 Sep 19-21; Lafayette, LA.

Rao A. Pathophysiology and management of sickle cell and related hemoglobinopathies. Paper presented at: Sickle Cell Disease Association of America Education and Certification Course; 2007 Nov 11; Mobile, AL.
Rao A. Pathophysiology and management of sickle cell and related hemoglobinopathies. Paper presented at: Sickle Cell Disease Association of America Education and Certification Course; 2008 May 5; Mobile, AL.


Swingle H. My child’s not talking. Paper presented at: Bay Area Speech and Hearing Association; 2008 Feb 1; Mobile, AL.

Trimm F. Multiple paths, one destination: building a career in medical education. Paper presented at: Meet the Professor Breakfast for Medical Education. Pediatric Academic Societies’ Annual Meeting; 2008 May 5; Honolulu, HI.

Trimm F. Consultant for the 2008 grant recipient, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center – Amarillo Pediatric Residency Program. Performed a mock residency accreditation site visit and provided 8 hours of faculty development sessions on medical education program building and evaluation. Association of Pediatric Program Directors (APPD), Walter W. Tunnison, Jr., M.D. Consultation Grants Program; 2008 May 26-29; Amarillo, TX.

Vidal R. Pediatric procedural sedation analgesia. Paper presented at: D.W. McMillian Memorial Hospital; 2008 Mar 5; Brewton, AL.

Vidal R. Pediatric septic shock. Paper presented at: D.W. McMillian Memorial Hospital; 2008 Jun 3; Brewton, AL.

Wilson F. Pathophysiology of cancer; and Overview of pediatric malignancies. Papers presented at: USA Children’s and Women’s Hospital Chemotherapy Certification Course; 2007 Oct 1; Mobile, AL.

Wilson F. Medical consultant. Sickle cell disease; and Overview of thalassemia. Papers presented at: Novartis Pharmaceuticals Training Session; 2007 Oct 17; Morristown, NJ.


Wilson F. The history of sickle cell disease. Paper presented at: Sickle Cell Disease Association of America, Mobile Chapter – Education and Counselor Certification Course; 2007 Nov 12; Mobile, AL.

Wilson F. Introduction to genetics; and Thalassemia. Papers presented at: Sickle Cell Disease Association of America, Mobile Chapter – Education and Counselor Certification Course; 2007 Nov 16; Mobile, AL.

Wilson F. Medical consultant. Sickle cell disease; and Overview of thalassemia. Papers presented at: Novartis Pharmaceuticals Training Session; 2008 Feb 6; Florham Park, NJ.

Wilson F. How the benefits of an oral iron chelator can reach your patients. Paper presented at: the University of Mississippi Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Conference; 2008 Apr 2; Jackson, MS.

Wilson F. The history of sickle cell disease. Paper presented at: Sickle Cell Disease Association of America, Mobile Chapter – Education and Counselor Certification Course; 2008 May 5; Mobile, AL.

Wilson F. Teleconference panelist. Sickle cell disease; and Iron overload. Papers presented at: Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation; 2008 May 6; Mobile, AL.

Wilson F. Introduction to genetics; and Thalassemia. Papers presented at: Sickle Cell Disease Association of America, Mobile Chapter – Education and Counselor Certification Course; 2008 May 7; Mobile, AL.


V. NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Surendra Baliga serves as a Reviewer for *Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine*.


Judy Blair served as a member of the State of Alabama Obesity Task Force (Alabama Department of Public Health).

Allison Chung serves on the following American College of Clinical Pharmacy committees: Member Relations (Chair), Pediatric Practice and Research Network (PRN), PRN Educational Planning Committee, Education and Training PRN, PRN Networking Committee and PRN Finance Task Force. She also serves on the American Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists; American College of Clinical Pharmacology; Pharmaceutical Association of Mobile County; Pediatric Pharmacy Advocacy Group; Alabama Society of Hospital Pharmacy Section of Clinical Specialists and Scientists; and the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, AACP Pharmacy Practice Section, and Section of Teachers of Pharmacy: ACCP Partnership Task Force.


Jennifer Cole served as the State Community Access to Child Health (CATCH) grant facilitator for the American Academy of Pediatrics. She was also elected as a member of the Alabama AAP chapter Executive Board, representing pediatricians and their interests in Mobile, Baldwin, Conecuh, Escambia, Monroe, Wilcox, Marengo, Choctaw, Clarke, and Washington counties.

LaDonna Crews served as Chair, Adolescent Medicine Committee of the Alabama Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics in collaboration with ACOG for Teen Pregnancy Reduction Project. She continues to serve as a Reviewer for *Clinical Pediatrics*.

Benjamin Estrada was elected as a council member to the Southern Society for Pediatric Research. He serves as the Institutional Representative and as Judge for Clinical Young Investigator Research Award of the Southern Society for Pediatric Research. He is a member of the Scientific Advisory Council of the Society for Clinical Pediatrics. He serves as alternate institution representative and member of the curriculum task force of the Committee on Medical Student Education in Pediatrics (COMSEP). He also serves on the Editorial Boards of *Pediatric Infectious Diseases Forum* and *Infections in Medicine*. He is a Reviewer for *Clinical Pediatrics, Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology, and Infections in Medicine*.
Charles Hamm is a Reviewer for Clinical Pediatrics, and continues to serve on the State Perinatal Advisory Committee. He is the Institutional Representative to the Vermont Oxford Neonatal Network.

Mary Mancao was promoted to Professor of Pediatrics. She served on the Alabama Department of Public Health Sexually Transmitted Disease Medical Advisory Council.

Daniel Preud'Homme serves as Co-Chair of the Council on School Health, Alabama Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics and a reviewer for the Journal of Pediatrics, Annals of Epidemiology and the AAP – Child and Adult Food Program, Summer Food Service Program, Special Milk Program, and Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Snack Program.

Kenneth Rettig served as a Reviewer for Clinical Pediatrics.

Hanes M. Swingle is a reviewer for the Journal of Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics, and the Society for Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics Annual Scientific Meeting. He is the Vice-Chairman, Intervention Subcommittee of the Alabama Autism Task Force. He serves as a member of the Region IV Perinatal Advisory Committee and the Alabama Baby Coalition. He also serves on the Needs Assessment Advisory Committee to the Alabama Autism Task Force, on the Regional Perinatal Advisory Committee, and he is a member of the State Infant Mortality and Morbidity Task Force.

R. Franklin Trimm was nominated and appointed to the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) Pediatric Residency Review Committee. He serves as Co-Director for the AAP PediaLink Resident Center (National website for resident completion of ACGME required Individualized Learning Plan [ILP]). He is Chair of the Education Committee of the Society of Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics (SDBP), and he is a member of the SDBP Program Planning Committee. He served as Associate Editor for the American Academy of Pediatrics Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics Self-Assessment. He was a member of the DB PREP 2008 Planning Committee and a member of the AAP Committee on Pediatric Education. He continues to serve as a Faculty Member, Pediatric Academic Societies Educational Scholars Program, and he is again a member of the Project Team for revision of the Ambulatory Pediatric Association’s Educational Guidelines for Residency Training in General Pediatrics. He serves on the Advisory Committee, dbpeds.org, a website aimed at professionals interested in child development and behavior, especially in the medical setting that is sponsored by the American Academy of Pediatrics, Section on Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics and The Commonwealth Fund of NYC. He continues to serve as a Reviewer for the Journal of Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics.
Felicia Wilson continues to serve on the Alabama State Sickle Cell Disease Oversight & Regulatory Commission and as Co-Chair of the Education Committee. She also served as a member of the American Board of Pediatrics Hematology/Oncology Study Section; the State of Alabama Hemophilia Advisory Committee; the State of Alabama Newborn Screening Advisory Committee; Co-Chair of Hemoglobinopathy Subcommittee; and as Chair of the National Advisory Committee for Hemoglobinopathy Trait Education and Counselor Certification.

VI. BRIEF SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS

The Department of Pediatrics welcomed several new faculty members in 2008. Dr. Rosina Connelly joined the Division of General Pediatrics; Dr. Ananthasekar Ponnambalam joined the Division of Pediatric Gastroenterology; Dr. Kimberly Cole accepted a position in the Division of Pediatric Critical Care Medicine; and Dr. Thomas Martinko accepted a position in Adolescent Medicine.

The following Pediatric Faculty members were recognized by the COM students as Distinguished Faculty Members at the 2008 Honors Convocation: Drs. Judy Blair-Elortegui, Kenneth Rettig, Katherine Savells and Franklin Trimm. Special recognition was given to Dr. Gautam Malkani, who was presented the Leonard Tow Humanism Award at the Honors Convocation. The fourteenth recipient of the Hollis J. Wiseman Award for Excellence in Pediatrics during the Pediatric Clerkship was Eugene W. Brabston, III.

Six of the graduating medical students chose residencies in pediatrics or combined Medicine-Pediatrics. Of the pediatric residents completing residency this year, one joined our Division of Pediatric Critical Care Medicine, four entered private practice, one entered fellowship training, and two joined the Department as Chief Residents. One graduating Medicine-Pediatrics resident assumed Chief Resident duties in the USA Department of Medicine, and one accepted a hospitalist position in private practice. On July 1, 2008, nine first-year residents entered the pediatric residency program, and two first-year residents entered the combined Medicine-Pediatrics residency program. Dr. Susan Haynes completed her duties as Pediatric Chief Resident, and Drs. Jessica Kirk and Suzanne Stuckey were named Chief Residents for the coming year.

The 2008 Children’s Miracle Network was very successful and raised over $978,000, a record amount, to benefit the USA Children’s and Women’s Hospital.

The scholarly activity of the Department of Pediatrics during the past year was productive. There were 36 original articles published or in press; 30 abstracts were also published by faculty members of the department.
Clinical operations of the Department of Pediatrics continued to grow during the past year. Ambulatory visits exceeded 39,000, an increase of 10% over the previous year. Comparable increases occurred for pediatric in-patient services at the USA Children’s and Women’s Hospital.

The activities of the Center for Chronic Diseases in Children have also expanded. The Center is devoted to designing and implementing new approaches for delivering comprehensive healthcare to children who suffer from chronic health disorders. During the past year, clinical activities commenced in two novel new specialty clinics. The Pediatric Healthy Life Center occupies new facilities designed to provide multi-disciplinary services for the treatment and prevention of childhood obesity. In addition, the department dedicated a unique new clinic, Cabana Row, where children with cancer or hematologic disorders receive specialized care in a comforting setting designed to reduce the stress and anxiety experienced by children requiring multiple clinic visits.

The USA Breathmobile, a novel school-based community outreach program for children with asthma, completed its second year. Over 400 children with asthma have been evaluated and treated at 19 elementary, middle, or high schools of the Mobile County Public School System. This program is a partner in a national network for the study and development of improved asthma treatment practices.

Major goals for the coming year include: 1) Ongoing development of electronic patient management applications that integrate patient care activities, clinical data collection, patient education, and, most importantly, that improve health outcomes; 2) Establish a comprehensive Asthma Disease Management Program that will coordinate the clinical and educational functions of all USA Pediatric and USA Children’s and Women’s Hospital care sites; and 3) Enhance the regional role and national prominence of the USA Department of Pediatrics as an advocate and resource for efforts that champion the best interests of children. The department will continue to seek productive alliances with others in the community who are dedicated to this goal.
I. PUBLISHED JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

A. Full-length published articles and book chapters


Mozaffari MS, Schaffer SW. Effect of pressure overload on cardioprotection of mitochondrial K$_{ATP}$ channels and glycogen synthase kinase 3β: interaction with the MPT pore. Am J Hypertens 2008 May;21(5):570-5.


B. Articles in press

Bailey SW, Ayling JE. Methods and compositions containing reduced folates for treating hypertension and for reducing blood pressure. PCT patent application, filed May 2, 2008. Forthcoming.


II. PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS


Capley GC, Pastukh V, Wilson GL, Gillespie MN. Base excision DNA repair enzymes are components of the transcriptional complex forming on the hypoxic response element of the VEGF gene in hypoxic A549 cells. ATS 2008; May 16-21; Toronto, Ontario, Canada;177:A561.


Feinstein W, Xin WK, Rich TC. Quantitative evaluation of cellular mechanisms underlying the spatial segregation of cAMP signals. Second International Conference on Anchored cAMP Signaling Mechanisms 2007; October 12-14; Portland, OR.


Parra-Bonilla G, Alvarez DF, Cioffi DL, Stevens T. Lung microvascular endothelial cells utilize aerobic glycolysis (e.g. Warburg effect) to sustain rapid proliferation. FASEB J 2008;22(1):419. Abstract no. 1178.9.


III. BOOKS PUBLISHED

IV. PRESENTATIONS


Gillespie MN. Bending and breaking the DNA code: implications for signal transduction. Paper presented at: Indiana University School of Medicine; 2007 Oct 16-17; Indianapolis, IN.

Gillespie MN. Base excision DNA repair enzymes are components of the transcriptional complex forming on the hypoxic response element of the VEGF gene in hypoxic A549 cells. Paper presented at: ATS International Conference 2008; Apr 5-9; San Diego, CA.


King JA, Shardo JD, Smith PR. Organization of the gills from the South American freshwater stingray, Potamotrygon humerosa. Paper presented at: the Southeastern Microscopy Society Meeting; 2008 Apr 16-18; Pensacola Beach, FL.


McMurtry IF. Rho GTPases and Rho kinase in pulmonary hypertension. Paper presented at: World Symposium on Pulmonary Hypertension: Cellular and Molecular Basis of PAH; 2008 Feb 12; Dana Point, CA.

McMurtry IF. Consideration of aberrant Rho GTPases signaling in the EC dysfunction of PAH. Paper presented at: 4th World Symposium on Pulmonary Hypertension, Cellular and Molecular Basis of PAH; 2008 Feb 12; Dana Point, CA.
McMurtry IF. Animal models of human severe PAH. Paper presented at: The 1st Pulmonary Hypertension International Workshop of Tohoku University; 2008 Mar 19; Sendai, Japan.

McMurtry IF. Animal models of human severe PAH. Paper presented at: The Pulmonary Hypertension Association’s 8th International PAH Conference and Scientific Sessions; 2008 Jun 20; Houston, TX.


Polski JM, King JA, Chapman S, Ofori-Acquah S. CD166/HCA/ALCAM immunoreactivity patterns in hematopoietic tissues and neoplasms. Paper presented at: USCAP Meeting; 2008 Mar 2-7; Denver, CO.

Rich T. Towards a quantitative understanding of cyclic nucleotide signaling. Paper presented at: University of Tennessee Health Science Center Department of Pharmacology; 2007 Nov 13-14; Memphis, TN.

Rich T. The roles of receptor desensitization and phosphodiesterase activity in shaping compartmentalized cAMP signals. Paper presented at: University of South Carolina; 2007 Dec 11; Columbia, SC.


Ruchko M. Formation of signaling-related oxidative base modifications in the hypoxic response element (HRE) of the VEGF gene in hypoxic pulmonary artery endothelial cells (PAECs) is associated with chromatin remodeling. Paper presented at: Experimental Biology; 2008 Apr 5-9; San Diego, CA.

Schaffer SW. Role of mitochondrial DNA damage in angiotensin II-mediated apoptosis. Paper presented at: Ohio State University; 2008 Mar 27. Columbus, OH.

Schaffer SW. Mechanism of taurine action. Paper presented at: Tulane University; 2008 Mar 31; New Orleans, LA.


Stevens T. Pulmonary endothelium. Paper presented at: Fourth World Symposium on PAH; 2008 Feb 11-14; Orange County, CA.

Stevens T. Pulmonary endothelium. Paper presented at: Gordon Research Conference on Endothelial Cell Phenotypes in Health and Disease; 2008 Aug 4-7; Biddeford, ME.

Stevens T. Pulmonary endothelial cell heterogeneity. Paper presented at: NHLBI Workshop on Resident Cellular Components of the Human Lung; 2007 Sep 7; Bethesda, MD.


V. NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Dr. June Ayling serves as a reviewer for Biochemistry, Analytical Biochemistry, Journal of Biomolecular Structure and Dynamics, Photochemical and Photobiological Sciences.

Dr. Natalie N Bauer was an invited reviewer for manuscripts submitted to American Journal of Physiology, Lung, Cell and Molecular Physiology.

Dr. Michael Chinkers serves as a reviewer for Biochemistry Journal.

Dr. Mark N. Gillespie serves on the Editorial Board, American Journal of Physiology, Lung Cell and Molecular Physiology; Program, Leadership, and Long Range Planning Committees, American Thoracic Society; AD hoc member, SBIR/STTR study section; Ad hoc member of NIH PPG study sections (1), Special Emphasis Panel (1); Member, NIH Study Section for K99-R00 grants; American Lung Association Research Peer panel; Manuscript reviewer for all major journals relevant to his field of research.
Dr. Gillespie also was elected Chairman of the Pulmonary Circulation Assembly of the American Thoracic Society and will begin his two-year term in May, 2009.

Dr. Judy A. King served in the Southern Medical Association as: Councilor, Alabama 2004-07; Advisory Committee on New Physicians, Co-Chairman, 2004-06, Chair 2006-07; Coordinating Committee on Education, 2004-07, Co-Chair 2006-07; Coordinating Committee on Long Range Planning, 2004-07; Advisory Committee on Coordinating Committee on Membership, 2005-07; SMA Representative to SGEA Meeting, 2006-07; Coordinating Committee on Budget and Administration, 2006-07. She served as President of Sigma Xi, University of South Alabama, 2007-08.

Dr. Ivan F. McMurtry serves as a Member of Biology Reports’ Faculty of 1000 for the Cardiovascular and Respiratory Pharmacology Section. He was elected as member at-large of the Leadership Committee of AHA Council on Cardiopulmonary, Perioperative, and Critical Care, November 6, 2007. He was appointed as Editor (along with Drs. M. Gillespie, T. Stevens, and W. Wagner) of American Physiology Society’s new edition of Handbook on Pulmonary Circulation and Non-Respiratory Functions, March 2008. He reviewed manuscripts for AJP Lung Cell Mol Physiol (recognized as “Star Reviewer” for 2007); Am J Respir Crit Care Med, Am J Respir Cell Mol Biol, Br J Pharmacol, Cardiovasc Res, Chest, J Appl Physiol, and Nature Med. Dr. McMurtry reviewed a biomedical grant for Czech Science Foundation, July 30, 2007; Ad hoc member of NIH NHLBI special emphasis panel for review of Research Scientist Development Awards (K01’s), Baltimore, MD, October 26, 2007. Ad hoc member of HIN NHLBI review group ZRG1-RES-B 03 M RIBT Member Conflicts, March 5, 2008; and Ad hoc member and chairman of NIH NHLBI review group ZRG1 RES-B 04 M RIBT Member Conflicts, July 8, 2008. Dr. McMurtry participated with Majid Mughal, MD, in an interview with two of Dr. Mughal’s pulmonary hypertension patients and a Mobile Press Register reporter on the USA pulmonary hypertension clinic and the basic research on identifying new therapies, Fall 2007. He participated in patient/doctor panel discussion on Basic Research in Pulmonary Hypertension: The Door to New Therapies at the PHA’s International Pulmonary Hypertension Conference and Scientific Sessions in Houston, TX on June 21, 2008.


Dr. Stephen Schaffer serves on the editorial board of Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry; Section Editor, Amino Acids, Canadian Journal of Physiology and Pharmacology Special Issue, 2008 and Competitive Continuation of Biomedical Research Excellence Panel, NIH, November 2007.
Dr. Troy Stevens serves as Associate Editor, Microvascular Research; Associate Editor, American Journal of Physiology, Editor, Experimental Biology and Medicine; and Chair, Pulmonary Circulation Program Workshop Committee, American Thoracic Society.


Dr. Songwei Wu is an Ad hoc reviewer for the American Journal of Physiology.

VI. BRIEF SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS

The Department hosted visits from several scientists who participated in the Distinguished Scientist Seminar Series: Dr. Bruce A. Freeman, Professor and Chair of Pharmacology, University of Pittsburgh; Dr. Serpil Erzurum, Professor & Chair, Pathobiology Department, Lerner Research Institute, Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine, Case Western University, Cleveland, OH; Dr. Navdeep S. Chandel, Associate Professor, Section of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, The Northwestern University School of Medicine, Chicago, Illinois; Dr. Raymond Penn, Associate Professor of Medicine, Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, Division of Molecular Medicine, Department of Physiology and Pharmacology, Wake Forest University Health Science Center, Winston-Salem, NC.

Four students in the Department received their Ph.D. degree during 2007-2008. Jennifer Clark received her Ph.D. on February 25, 2008. The title of her dissertation was "Essential Role for Nucleosome Assembly Protein in the Proliferative and Vasculogenic Phenotype of Pulmonary Microvascular Endothelial Cells." She is now a Post-Doctoral Fellow at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Troy Stevens served as her major professor. Mohammed Khair Elzarrad received his Ph.D. on March 17, 2008. The title of his dissertation was "The Role of Connexin-43 in Breast Cancer Metastasis to the Lung." He is employed as a Post-Doctoral Fellow with NIH in Washington, DC. Dr. Abu-Bakr Al-Mehdi served as his major professor. Brad Michael Swiger received his Ph.D. on July 16, 2008. His dissertation was entitled "Vectorial Mitochondrial Movement and Cell Signaling in Hypoxia." He has a faculty position at the University of Mobile. Dr. Mark Gillespie served as his major professor. Craig David Ricci received his Ph.D. on August 18, 2008. His dissertation was entitled "Mechanism of Angiotension II-Mediated Apoptosis: Role of Mitochondrial DNA Damage." Dr. Stephen Schaffer served as his major professor. He is an attorney with the U.S. Patent Office.
I. PUBLISHED JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

A. Full-length published articles and book chapters


Cohen MV, Yang XM, Downey JM. Acidosis, oxygen, and interference with mitochondrial permeability transition pore formation in the early minutes of reperfusion are critical to postconditioning’s success. Basic Res Cardiol 2008 Sep;103(5):464-71.


Dost T, Cohen MV, Downey JM. Redox signaling triggers protection during the reperfusion rather than the ischemic phase of preconditioning. Basic Res Cardiol 2008 Jun;103(4):378-84.


Tissier R, Cohen MV, Downey JM. Protecting the acutely ischemic myocardium beyond reperfusion therapies: are we any closer to realizing the dream of infarct size elimination? Arch Mal Coeur Vaiss 2007 Sep;100(9):794-802.


B. Articles in press


II. PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS

Bauer NN, Moore TM, Kapadia PD, Townsley MI, McMurtry IF. Hypoxia-induced pulmonary endothelial microparticle (EMP) generation regulates pulmonary microvascular endothelial cell (PMVEC) permeability. FASEB J 2008 22:1178.7.


Davis A, Downey JM, Cohen MV. Brief exposure to intracoronary bradykinin at reperfusion limits infarct size in isolated rabbit hearts by a mechanism that involves both free radical production and PKC. FASEB J 2008;22:750.11.

Dey N, Busch JL, Francis SH, Corbin JD, Lincoln TM. Down-regulation of type-1 cGMP-dependent protein kinase by the ubiquitin/proteasome pathway. Circulation 2007;116(Suppl II);II-83.


Krieg T, Richter H, Kuno A, Förster K, Cohen MV, Downey JM. Felix SB. Cardioprotection from GSK-3β inhibition requires activation of PI-3 kinase and Src but not Akt, PKC, or ERK. Circulation 2007;116(16Suppl);II-164. Abstract no. 84.


III. BOOKS PUBLISHED

IV. PRESENTATIONS


Ballard ST. Pro-Con debate: will treatment to reduce hyperabsorption of sodium cure CF lung disease? Paper presented at: Dundee Lung Symposium in honor of Professor Richard Olver; 2007 Sep 5-6; Dundee, Scotland.

Ballard ST. Possible role of submucosal glands and cystic fibrosis lung disease. Paper presented at: University of Iowa; 2008 Feb 4; Iowa City, IA.


Brown FM, Choi CS, Lincoln TM. PKG and SRF, important regulatory factors involved with vascular smooth muscle gene expression. Poster presented at: Experimental Biology ’08; 2008 Apr 5-9; San Diego, CA.

Cohen MV. Pericardial disease: forgotten and misunderstood. Paper presented at: American College of Physicians Alabama Chapter Meeting; 2008 May 29-Jun 1; Orange Beach, FL.


Davis A, Cohen MV, Downey JM. Brief exposure to intracoronary bradykinin at reperfusion limits infarct size in isolated rabbit hearts by a mechanism that involves both free radical production and PKC. Poster presented at: Experimental Biology ’08; 2008 Apr 5-9; San Diego, CA.

Dey N, Busch JL, Francis SH, Corbin JD, Lincoln TM. Down-regulation of type-1 cGMP-dependent protein kinase by the ubiquitin/proteasome pathway. Poster presented at: Scientific Sessions, American Heart Association; 2007 Nov 3-7; Orlando, FL.

Dost T, Cohen MV, Downey JM. Redox signaling triggers protection during the reperfusion rather than the ischemic phase of preconditioning. Poster presented at: 26th European Section Meeting of International Society for Heart Research; 2008 May 30; Athens, Greece.


Downey JM. Adenosine: is there a role for this agent in the clinical setting? Paper presented at: the Hatter Cardiovascular Institute Workshop; 2008 Apr 2-8; Johannesburg, South Africa.

Downey JM. Mechanism of ischemic preconditioning. Paper presented at: University of Greifswald; 2008 May 28; Greifswald, Germany.

Downey JM. Adenosine in preconditioning. Paper presented at: the University of Virginia 2007 Nov 28-30; Richmond, VA.

Krieg T, Richter H, Kuno A, Förster K, Cohen MV, Downey JM, Felix SB. Cardioprotection from GSK-3β inhibition requires activation of Pl-3 kinase and Src but not Akt, PKC, or ERK. Poster presented at: 80th Scientific Sessions, American Heart Association; 2007 Nov 3-7; Orlando, FL.

Lincoln TM. Cyclic cGMP and smooth muscle specific gene expressions: is it pro or anti atherosclerotic? Paper presented at: Department of Molecular Physiology and Biophysics, Vanderbilt University; 2008 Oct 5; Nashville, TN.

Lincoln TM. Cyclic cGMP and smooth muscle specific gene expressions: is it pro or anti atherosclerotic? Paper presented at: Graduate Center for Nutritional Sciences, University of Kentucky; 2008 Oct 10; Lexington, KY.


Sellak H, Wu S, Lincoln TM. Involvement of cGMP-dependent protein kinase in colon cancer cells: analysis of cell proliferation, apoptosis and beta-catenin expression. Poster presented at Experimental Biology ’08; 2008 Apr 5-9; San Diego, CA.


Taylor MS. Localized Ca²⁺ signals at the myoendothelial nexus. Paper presented at: Experimental Biology ’08; 2008 Apr 5-9; San Diego, CA.

Torres R, Drake D, Weber DS. The slingshot family of phosphatases mediates coflin activation during PDGF-induced migration in vascular smooth muscle cells. Poster presented at: Experimental Biology ’08; 2008 Apr 5-9; San Diego, CA.


Townsley MI. Etiology and treatment of acute lung injury: view of bedside outcomes from the bench. Paper presented at: Department of Medicine, Sapporo University; 2008 Feb 19; Sapporo, Japan.

Townsley MI. TRPV4 - a novel participant in acute lung injury. Paper presented at: Experimental Biology ’08; 2008 Apr 8; San Diego, CA.


Townsley MI. TRPV4 and lung endothelial permeability. Paper presented at: Gordon Research Conference: Lung Endothelial Phenotypes; 2008 Aug 5; Biddeford, ME.

Weber DS. Neointimal formation is exacerbated following vascular injury in p22phox overexpressing mice. Paper presented at APS-CV section featured topics sessions: arteriogenesis and vascular remodeling, Experimental Biology ’08; 2008 Apr 5-9; San Diego, CA.

Weber DS. Manogue M, Drake D. Neointimal formation is exacerbated following vascular injury in p22phox overexpressing transgenic mice. Poster presented at: Experimental Biology ’08; 2008 Apr 5-9; San Diego, CA.

Yang J. AMPK, regulation of liver gene expression, and type 2 diabetes. Paper presented at: Department of Molecular Pharmacology and Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Southern California School of Pharmacy; 2008 Sep 19; Los Angeles, CA.

V. NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Stephen T. Ballard served in the following capacities: Member - American Physiological Society, European Cystic Fibrosis Society, American Association for the Advancement of Science; Reviewer - American Journal of Physiology: Lung, Cellular and Molecular Physiology; Journal of General Physiology; American Journal of Respiratory, and Cell and Molecular Biology; Reviewer - Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Research Development Program Grants; NHLBI ad-hoc Program Project Study Section.
Michael V. Cohen served in the following capacities: Editorial Board of *Basic Research in Cardiology*.

James M. Downey served in the following capacities: Editorial board member for *Circulation Research, Journal of Molecular and Cellular Cardiology, Basic Research in Cardiology*. Co-organizer of Adenosine Symposium held in conjunction with American Heart Association Scientific Sessions.

Thomas M. Lincoln served in the following capacities: Member: American Physiological Society; American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology; American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics; American Association for the Advancement of Science; Southeastern Pharmacology Society; American Heart Association: Council on Basic Sciences; American Society for Gene Therapy; and The Oxygen Society. Served on as Editorial Board Member for *Journal of Biological Chemistry, Molecular Pharmacology*, and *Journal of Vascular Research*, reviewer for approximately 20 other journals. He also serves as a special reviewer for the NHLBI on Program Project Proposals and Institutional Training Proposals.


Mark S. Taylor served in the following capacities: Member: American Physiological Society, American Heart Association. Reviewer: *American Journal of Physiology (Heart and Circulatory Physiology); Journal of Biological Chemistry; Brazilian Journal of Medical and Biological Research*.

Mary I. Townsley served in the following capacities: Assistant Dean and Director, COM Office of Faculty Affairs; Director, Training Programs, Center for Lung Biology; Director, Mentoring Core, EXPORT, NHLBI NITM Study Section (T32 review); regular member, 2007-2009; NIH Ad Hoc review, ZRG1 RES-B (02) M; American Heart Association (AHA) National/Great America Region IV Steering Committee (Chair, 2007-2009), AHA Greater Southeast Affiliate Research Committee, AHA Council on Cardiopulmonary, Perioperative and Critical Care (Chair, 2005-2007, Immediate Past Chair, 2007-2009); AHA Mobile County Division Board of Directors; Editorial Board of Microvascular Research. Reviewer: *American Journal of Physiology, American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine, Circulation Research, Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics*, Organizing Committee, 2006, 2008 Grover Conference.

Jian Yang served in the following capacities: Member: American Heart Association; American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology; American Physiological Society.

VI. BRIEF SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS

The Department of Physiology saw an increase in overall extramural funding for the 2007-2008 year. A new four-year competing renewal from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) was awarded to Dr. James Downey, and Drs. Mark Taylor and David Weber successfully competed for NH funding. Dr. Stephen Ballard was awarded a consortium grant from the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Dr. James Parker has a proposal pending at NIH. In total, the Department of Physiology has approximately $2.5 million in extramurally funded awards for the past year at a time when extramural resources have been scarce and highly competitive. Faculty in the Department of Physiology maintained high visibility in the national and international scientific community. Several faculty members presented invited symposium talks at scientific meetings. Dr. Mary Townsley continues to serve on the American Heart Association Research Committee. Drs. Cohen, Downey, Lincoln and Townsley all serve on the Editorial Boards of several scientific journals.

Increased graduate student training activity was seen over the past year. Six Basic Medical Sciences (BMS) graduate students are training in the Department of Physiology this year (Kiana Bradley, Felicia Moyer Brown, Amanda Davis, Michael Francis, Tray Hamil, and Rebecca Torres). In addition, Departmental faculty sponsored Summer Medical Student Research students funded by the American Heart Association and Summer Undergraduate Research participants. The summer student working with Dr. Mark Taylor received first place honors for his presentation at the 35th Annual Medical Student Research Day activities. The Department of Physiology is leading an effort to create a focus group for Doctoral Research Training in Vascular Biology. The Program is being coordinated by Dr. David Weber, and will be added to the BMS Program website. Teaching activities continue to be a high priority in the Department of Physiology. Dr. Townsley continued her role as course director for “Statistics and Experimental Design in Biomedical Research” and “Effective Scientific Writing; while Dr. Mark Taylor directed “Literature Reports” for first-year students. Dr. Weber organized a new graduate course “Research in Progress in Smooth Muscle/Vascular Biology”.

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Physiology faculty continue to be actively involved in the Fundamentals of Basic Medical Sciences course offered in the first year. Dr. Mary Townsley continues to serve as the Principal Investigator on the NIH-funded Institutional Training Grant in Lung Biology. With regard to medical student teaching, Dr. Lincoln served as course director this past year. Dr. Cohen continues to lead the case study/small group learning experience in Medical Physiology while Drs. Cohen, Downcy, Parker and Weber conduct the Medical Physiology Laboratories.
2007-2008
Summary of Scholarly Activities
Department of Psychiatry

I. PUBLISHED JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

A. Full-length published articles and book chapters


B. Articles in press


II. PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS

III. BOOKS PUBLISHED

IV. PRESENTATIONS


Lorenz RA, VandenBerg AM. Medication reconciliation in a psychiatric hospital. Poster presented at: Annual Meeting of the College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacists; 2008 Apr 13; Scottsdale, AZ.

Saitz M, Holmes, C. Treatment strategies for methadone maintenance and prenatal care and the implications of methadone maintenance on perinatal and neonatal care. Paper presented at: Regional Nurse Manager's Meeting for Neonatal and Perinantal Nursing; 2008 May 9; Mobile, AL.

Simkin DR. Adolescent psychiatry, adolescent substance abuse, comorbidity and treatment issues. Paper presented at: Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Practical Review. Two Harbors; 2008 May 4; Minnesota, MN.

Tageldin M. OACS (optimize, augment, combine and switch) strategy. Poster presented at: Alabama Psychiatric Society; 2008 Mar 29; Destin, FL.
Youssef NA. The missing pole. Paper presented at: Veterans Affairs Medical Center; 2008 Mar 27; Lebanon, PA.

Youssef NA. Bipolar or unipolar? That is the question. Paper presented at: Grand Rounds, Behman Hospital; 2007 Oct 7; Cairo, Egypt.

V. NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION


VI. BRIEF SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS

Dr. Charles Rich retired as of December 31, 2007 having served for 15 years as Chair of the Department. Dr. Rich was instrumental in expanding the scholarly activity of the Department and played an important role in the integration of the Department with AltaPointe. Dr. Cepeda will be retiring October 1, 2008. Dr. Cepeda has had an active academic practice caring for the needs of children, especially from underserved populations from throughout this region, and has been active at the national and state level. He has also contributed significantly through his scholarly activities to elevating the care of children with psychiatric problems. Dr. Ron Franks, Professor of Psychiatry and Vice President for Health Sciences will serve as Acting Chair of the Department during this interim period.

The Department of Psychiatry’s integration with AltaPointe to provide quality patient care and educational training for our faculty and students is working well. Dr. Sandra Parker oversees the administrative aspects with Dr. Deborah Simkin as the Director of Resident and Student Education.

The Department now has 14 residents and 24 faculty members, employed through AltaPointe with adjunct appointments in the Department Psychiatry. Psychiatric care is provided to both pediatric and adult patients at the AltaPointe location, VA Outpatient Center, and the Lemoyne Center (child psychiatry). The residency program has been expanded to four residents per year from three through the generous support of the Commissioner of Mental Health. This expansion will assist in the alleviation of the serious shortage of psychiatrists throughout the State of Alabama. Dr. Simkin has submitted an application to initiate a child psychiatry fellowship and is in the process of responding to various recommendations made by the RRC.

Current research includes participation by Dr. Deborah Simkin in a double blind study on the effects of Straterra® on children from ages 11-16 with reading disorders and/or ADHD.

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2007-2008
Summary of Scholarly Activities
Department of Radiology

I. PUBLISHED JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

A. Full-length published articles and book chapters


B. Articles in press

II. PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS


III. BOOKS PUBLISHED

IV. PRESENTATIONS

Brogdon BG. The history of forensic radiology: the early years. Paper presented at: Imaging in Forensic Medicine, Danish Society of Forensic Science; 2007 Nov 2; Odense, Denmark.

Brogdon BG. Forensic imaging: current status and the future. Paper presented at: Imaging in Forensic Medicine, Danish Society of Forensic Science; 2007 Nov 2; Odense, Denmark.

Brogdon BG. Forensic radiology- in death there is new life. Paper presented at: The Southern Radiological Conference; 2008 Jan 25; Point Clear, AL.


Brogdon BG. Personal and professional experiences in forensic and in dealing with the medical examiner system for 40 years. Paper presented at: International Imaging Symposium; 2008 Jul 4; Dublin, Ireland.


Khullar S. Use of contrast in oncology PET/CT. Paper presented at: the Southern Radiological Conference; 2008 Jan 27; Point Clear, AL.

Qureshi Y. Digital mammography and CAD. Paper presented at: 2008 AAR Fall Meeting; 2008 Sep 13; Birmingham, AL.

Qureshi Y. Interventional breast imaging procedures. Paper presented at: 2008 AAR Fall Meeting; 2008 Sep 13; Birmingham, AL.

V. NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Byron G. Brogdon serves on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Forensic Sciences: is a member of the Advisory Board of Virtopsy Foundation, Berne, Switzerland; Chairman, Research Committee, Forensic Sciences Foundation; is a referee for Skeletal Radiology. He’s a member Board of Trustees, Forensic Sciences Foundation. There is a film panel named in the honor of Dr. Brogdon at the Southern Radiological Conference annual meeting and the Brogdon Panel is an annual event at the meeting of the American Alliance of Academic Chief Residents in Radiology. To add to Dr. Brogdon’s accomplishments for this past year, Dr. Brogdon was the featured speaker at the Danish Society of Forensic Medicine Annual Meeting in November 2007. To add, Dr. Brogdon was the Keynote & featured speaker in Dublin, Ireland at an International Symposium on “Practical Approaches to Imaging in Forensic Investigation” in July 2008. Dr. Brogdon has contributed expert testimony to numerous civil and criminal cases across the United States. He reviews manuscripts and abstracts for the Journal of Forensic Sciences and Forensic Science International. He is Patron of the International Association of Forensic Radiographers.

Dr. Maria Figarola is the CME Director for the Department of Radiology. Dr. Figarola continues to bring in outside Radiologists/Speakers for Grand Rounds for the Department. Dr. Figarola continues to organize the Journal Club’s quarterly meeting.
Dr. Donald E. Herbert serves as Associate Editor of Medical Physics. He is also a member of the Advisory Committee to the Statistical Research Center of American Institute of Physics. He has been re-appointed to a 2nd 3 year term (2006-2009).

Dr. Brad A. Steffler has been appointed to the Economics Committee/Work Group of The Society of Interventional Radiology. He serves as the Carrier Advisory Committee representative in Alabama for Interventional Radiology for the Society of Interventional Radiology.

Steven K. Teplick is a manuscript reviewer for Radiographics, Journal of Vascular and Interventional Radiology, Journal of Radiology, Journal of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy, Journal of the Society of Cardiovascular and Interventional Radiology, Radiology, Southern Medical Journal, American Journal of Gastroenterology, and Journal Digestive Diseases and Sciences, Editorial Board for Southern Medical Journal and Online Journal of Digestive Health. He is a Board examiner for the American Board of Radiology and a Fellow of American College of Radiology. He is a member of the Educational Research Council for Radiological Society of North America (RSNA) and is also a RSNA reviewer for Awards in Excellence in Research and Education and a RSNA Grant Reviewer. Dr. Teplick is a Board member of the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology. Dr. Teplick is president elect of the Alabama Academy of Radiology, and also serves as a Councilor of the ACR. Dr. Teplick published a “Letter to the Editor” which appears in the May, 2008 issue of the Journal of the American College of Radiology (JACR).

VI. BRIEF SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS

Dr. Byron G. Brogdon conducts two to three Orthopaedic conferences as well as two to three Interesting Case conferences per month for the Radiology Residents as Distinguished Emeritus Professor.

Dr. James V. Courtney is a new faculty member in the department.

Dr. Allan E. Green serves as the Director of the New Breast Care and Imaging Center at Children’s and Women’s. He is also the treasurer for the Southern Radiological Conference.

Dr. Donald E. Herbert has been invited to prepare another chapter on Modern Statistical Modeling for the monograph Advances in Medical Physics 2010 to be published in late 2009.
Dr. Shikha Khullar serves as reviewer for operations/practice based outcomes research within general specialties track for the Annual Meeting of Society of Nuclear Medicine.

Dr. Samuel A. McQuiston serves as the Director of Courses for COM Students interested in Radiology as a profession and as a part of their electives. Dr. McQuiston provides CME lectures on Thoracic Radiology and he also reviews cases of interest to residents. Dr. McQuiston gave 1st Year Orientation to 2008 incoming Radiology Residents. Dr McQuiston served as a member of USAMC Professional Improvement Committee. Dr. McQuiston serves as a member on the Curriculum Committee (CUR) and the Continuing Medical Education Committee (CME), as well as a member of the Radiology Residency Review Committee.

Dr. Yasmeen A. Qureshi serves as a member of the Resident Interviews/Selection Committee for the Department of Radiology. She also serves as a member on the Trauma/Burn Q/A Committee for the University. Dr. Qureshi gives CME lectures on Mammography and she also reviews cases of interest to residents. Dr. Qureshi continues to promote Breast MRI Service. Dr. Qureshi is also involved in Women’s Imaging and initiated new programs including U/S guided and MRI guided breast biopsies. In addition, she is involved in new INTACT Biopsy device for breast masses treated non-operatively. Dr. Qureshi has recently been appointed to the Biomedical Environment and Diversity Committee for the University.

Dr. Brad A. Steffler continues to serve as the Chief of Interventional Radiology. Dr. Steffler performed the first Hepatic Yttrium 90 embolization of Hepatocellular carcinoma in Alabama with Dr. Raymond Wynn. He introduced, to USAMC, a new method of Hepatic chemo-embolization of liver tumors: Precision Trans-Arterial Chemo-Embolization using LC Beads, which carry anti-cancer, drugs for slow elution in the liver. (The beads are “loaded” with a chemotherapeutic agent (Doxorubicin in the case of HCC) and placed with high precision via the particular hepatic artery branch(es) feeding the tumor(s) and deliver essentially No drug outside of the liver. The technique shows great promise for HCC and metastases, much more effective than conventional chemo-embolization. Initial reports indicate 3-year survival in HCC after precision LC Bead chemo-embolization is greater than 60%. Dr. Steffler set up a prostate biopsy program at USAMC. Dr. Steffler is in the process of setting up a fiducial placement program for Cyberknife therapy. This will be the only Cyberknife in Alabama and will be located at the Mitchell Cancer Institute. Dr. Steffler is contributing a major part of a chapter on diagnosis (radiographic part) in Musculoskeletal textbook for Physical Therapy students, which is edited by Dr. Dennis Fell, Chairman of the Physical Therapy Department. Dr. Steffler is in the process of setting up a Cryo- ablation program for local control, palliation and pain relief of tumors that are not operable or treatable by surgery, chemotherapy and/or radiofrequency ablation. He’s also in the beginning stages of developing a Microwave Ablation program for superseding microwave ablation for certain
tumors. Dr. Steffler is in the beginning stages of getting IRB application and approval of submission of LC Bead precision chemo-embolization cases to the national registry. Dr. Steffler continues to serve on the Cancer Care Committee of the College of Medicine, help develop CT Arteriography and Venography at USAMC (This is a less invasive form of Angiography, which offers some diagnostic advantages over invasive catheter angiography), & runs the outpatient Interventional Radiology Clinic (Probably the only one in Mobile). He ablates tumors of liver, adrenal, bone, kidney, and various metastases. Dr. Steffler is one of the few centers to perform Radiofrequency Ablation of tumors of lung in Alabama and the Southeast United States.
2007-2008
Summary of Scholarly Activities
Department of Surgery

I. PUBLISHED JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

A. Full-length published articles and book chapters


B. Articles in press

Ellis CN. Anorectal abscess. BMJ Point of Care [Internet]. Forthcoming.


Ellis CN. Knight M. Short term outcomes with the use of bioprosthetics for the management of parastomal hernias. Dis Colon Rectum. Forthcoming.


Shevde LA, Riker AI. Current concepts in biobanking: development and implementation of a tissue repository. Front Biosci. Forthcoming.


II. PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS


III. BOOKS PUBLISHED

IV. PRESENTATIONS


Dyess DL. Mammary gland disease. Paper presented at: University of South Alabama Mitchell Cancer Institute Conference: Perspectives in Oncology; 2008 Aug 1; Mobile, AL.


Ellis CN. Inherited colorectal cancer syndromes. Paper presented at: Core Subjects Update, American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons; 2008 Jun 7-12; Boston, MA.


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Ellis CN. Management of rectovaginal fistula. Paper presented at: Modern Management of Fistulas Symposium, American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons; 2008 Jun 7; Boston, MA.


Gandy RE. Cancer through the ages: an historical perspective. Paper presented at: University of South Alabama Mitchell Cancer Institute Conference: Perspectives in Oncology; 2008 Aug 3; Mobile, AL.


Gandy RE. Residency training under new educational mandates. Paper presented at: Alabama Chapter of the American College of Surgeons; 2008 Jun 12-14; Point Clear, AL.

Gandy RE. Surgeons and disasters. Paper presented at: Alabama Chapter of the American College of Surgeons; 2008 Jun 12-14; Point Clear, AL.

Hodge JS. Disaster medicine – surgeon as first responder. Paper presented at: Alabama Chapter of the American College of Surgeons; 2008 Jun 13; Point Clear, AL.


Rodning CB. Surgical profession. Paper presented at: Reception, Chief Residents, Department of Surgery, College of Medicine and Medical Center, University of South Alabama, Convention Center; 2008 Jun 21; Mobile, AL.

V. NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Patrick L. Bosarge, Jr. is currently pursuing a Fellowship in Traumatology and Surgical Critical Care at the University of California, San Diego, California. He is a Major, Medical Corps, United States Army Reserve.

D. Lynn Dyess serves as a member of the Breast Disease Committee for the National Surgical Adjuvant Breast & Bowel Project (NSABP); the American College of Surgeons Council – State Chair for the Commission on Cancer; and the Alabama District 2 Committee on Applicants.

C. Neal Ellis, Jr. serves as a Reviewer for the following journals: Diseases of the Colon and Rectum, Surgical Endoscopy, Journal of Surgical Education, Lancet, World Journal of Surgery, and Saudi Medical Journal. He serves on the following committees: American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons, Board of Directors and Chair of the Program Committee; Vice-Chair, Quality Assessment and Safety Committee; Chair, Subcommittee for Pelvic Floor Diseases; and Member, Research Foundation and Research Committee; Society of astrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons Membership Committee, Flexible Endoscopy Committee, Fundamentals of Endoscopic Surgery Committee; American College of Gastroenterology Patient Care Committee; International Society for Laparoscopic Colon and Rectal Surgery, Executive Council and Secretary-Treasurer; and Collaborative Group of the Americas for Inherited Colorectal Cancer Standards Committee, Chair.

Roy E. Gandy serves on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Surgical Education. He was nominated to the Advisory Council for the American College of Surgeons.

Richard P. Gonzalez serves on the Board of Censors, Medical Society, County of Mobile and the Committee on Trauma, Alabama Chapter, American College of Surgeons.
Curtis N. Harris serves on the Finance and the Maxillofacial News Committees of the American Society of Maxillofacial Surgeons.

Juwonda S. Hodge serves as Medical Team Manager, Urban Search and Rescue – ALTF1.

Celeste M. Hollands serves on the Executive Council of the Association of Women Surgeons; Vice-Chair of the Committee on Simulation for the Association for Surgical Education; Executive Council of the American College of Surgeons Medical Student Committee; and Publication Committee of the American Academy of Pediatrics, Section on Surgery.

Arnold Luterman is the Assistant Dean for Graduate Medical Education and Chairman of the Graduate Education Committee, and serves as the Designated Institutional Officer in liaison with the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education of the American Medical Association. He serves on the Editorial Board of the following journals: American Surgeon, Journal of Surgical Education, New Directions in Critical Care Nursing, Journal of Burn Care and Rehabilitation, and Journal of Burns. He also serves on the ad hoc Editorial Board and as a Reviewer for the Journal of Trauma and the Journal of the American College of Surgeons; as a Reviewer for the Advanced Trauma Life Support Course of the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma; on the Clinical Studies Subcommittee of the Shriners Hospitals for Children Research Advisory Committee; and on the Advanced Burn Life Support Committee of the American Burn Association.

Randall W. Powell serves on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Pediatric Surgery and as an Editorial Reviewer for the Journal of Trauma.

Charles B. Rodning serves as a Member of the Board of Directors, Mobile (Eichold-Heustis) Medical Museum; a Physician Member of the American College of Surgeons Oncology Group; a Member of the Alabama Quality Assurance Foundation; a Member and Secretary-Treasurer of the Board of Censors, Medical Society, County of Mobile (Continuing Medical Education Committee and Mobile Medical Endowment Trust); a Member and President of the Board of Directors, Department of Public Health, County of Mobile; a Member of the Mobile County Medical Reserve Corps, Department of Health and Human Services; a Member, Officer, Councilor, and Secretary-Treasurer of the Alabama Chapter, American College of Surgeons; and a Member of the Association for Surgical Education. He is certified and re-certified in General Surgery by the American Board of Surgery, Inc. He was a recipient of the Physicians’ Recognition Award from the American and Alabama State Medical Associations.

Frederick M. Silver serves on the Alabama 3 Disaster Medical Systems Team (DMAT).
Dan Taylor serves as Executive Director, Christian Medical Ministry of South Alabama and is a Member of the Christian Medical and Dental Association.

VI. BRIEF SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS

The Department of Surgery continues to mature. In the changing medical environment that we are currently experiencing, the heightened morale and enthusiasm of the department portends an optimistic outlook and bright future. The core value system of this Department—a commitment to surgical education and training, service to the community in which we reside, and research in the science and art of medicine—remains foremost in our objectives and planning.

Selected highlights this academic year include: J. David Richardson, M.D., F.A.C.S., Professor and Vice-Chairman, Department of Surgery, University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky, graciously served as the William A. L. Mitchell Endowed Lecturer in Traumatology and Surgical Critical Care. He is a preeminent authority in relationship to the topic, with prominent leadership roles within the American College of Surgeons and the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma.

Bruce MacFadyen, Jr., M.D., F.A.C.S., Professor and Chairman, Department of Surgery, and Chief, Section of Gastrointestinal Surgery, Medical College of Georgia, Augusta, Georgia, superbly served as the 27th Emmett B. Frazer, M.D., F.A.C.S., Memorial Lecturer. He is an expert in relationship to minimal access operative technology and is of national and international stature.

Several faculty members were recipients of the Red Sash Award for their teaching excellence from the Graduating Class 2008 including: Drs. Gandy, Hodge, Luterman, Maltese, O’Gorman, and Rodning.

Dr. Gandy and Dr. Rodning served as coordinators and moderators of the Annual Meeting, Alabama Chapter, American College of Surgeons, June 12-14, 2008, at the Marriott Grand Hotel, Point Clear, Alabama.

Dr. Riker, Associate Professor, Department of Surgery, and Chief Surgical Oncologist, University of South Alabama Mitchell Cancer Institute, served as coordinator and moderator of the “Perspectives in Oncology” Conference, August, 2008, held at the Battle House Hotel, Mobile, Alabama. Drs. Boehm, Dyess, Gandy, Maltese, and Thompson, were among the featured speakers.
2007-2008
Summary of Scholarly Activities
Biomedical Library

I. Published Journal Articles and Book Chapters

A. Full-length Published Articles and Book Chapters


B. Articles in Press


II. Published Abstracts


III. BOOKS PUBLISHED

IV. PRESENTATIONS

Burnham J, Fell DW. Cutting-edge web resources: get familiar with web 2.0 tools for clinical practice and PT education to share evidence-based information. Short course presented at: American Physical Therapy Association Annual Conference; 2008 Jun 14; San Antonio, TX.

Clanton C. Integrating evidence-based practice and library research skills into the physical therapy curriculum. Poster presented at: Medical Library Association Annual Meeting, 2008 May 19; Chicago, IL.

Lemley T, Burnham J. Web 2.0 tools in medical and nursing school curriculum. Poster presented at: Southern Chapter of Medical Library Association Annual Meeting; 2007 Nov 14; Charleston, SC.

Li J, Burnham J, Sayed E. Weathering the storm: preparing for user connection after disaster. Poster presented at: Medical Library Association Annual Meeting; 2008 May 18; Chicago, IL.

Li J, Lemley T, Burnham J. Citation analysis: comparison of Web of Science, Scopus and SciFind Scholar. Poster presented at: Southern Chapter of Medical Library Association Annual Meeting; 2007 Nov 14; Charleston, SC.

Li J, Sayed E, Burnham J. Weathering the storm: preparing for disaster. Paper presented at: Southern Chapter of Medical Library Association Annual Meeting; 2007 Nov 15; Charleston, SC.

Robertson J. Beyond the basics: internet resources for clinicians. Continuing education session presented at: Medical Association of the State of Alabama Annual Meeting, 2008 May 22; Destin, FL.

Rossini B, Staggs GB. Health information literacy. Paper presented at: South District Alabama Occupational Therapy Association Continuing Education Program; 2008 Aug 25; Mobile, AL.

Wells MK, Britton RM. Assisting librarians with assistive technologies. Poster presented at: Alabama Library Association Annual Convention; 2008 Apr 25; Birmingham, AL.
V. NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Robert Britton received the Susan Bzdell Student Travel Award from the University of Alabama School of Library and Information Science.

Judy Burnham served as Section Council Representative for the Nursing and Allied Health Resource Section/MLA and began her three-year term as Medical Library Association (MLA) Section-Council Chair. She also serves on the MLA Board. She is Chair of the Southern Chapter/Medical Library Association (SC/MLA) and serves as a Research Mentor for that group. A poster presented at the 2008 SC/MLA annual meeting was given the 2nd Place Research Poster award. Judy serves on the Alabama HealthInfoNet Advisory Board. Judy is a Distinguished member of the Academy of Health Information Professionals (AHIP).

Clista Clanton serves on the MLA Credentialing Committee, the SC/MLA Honors and Awards Committee, and the Alabama Health Libraries Association (ALHeLA) Nominating Committee. Clista is a Senior member of AHIP.

Trey Lemley presented a poster at the 2008 SC/MLA annual meeting that was given the 2nd Place Research Poster award.

Jie Li is heading up a state-wide planning effort for health science libraries on disaster planning. She serves on the MLA Membership Committee, and is the Section Council Representative for the International Cooperation Section of Medical Library Association (ICS/MLA) and is Chair, Committee on Health Sciences Library Partnership for that Section. Jie is a Distinguished member of AHIP.

Justin Robertson serves on the Editorial Board for the Journal of Electronic Resources in Medical Libraries and is the webmaster for the ICS/MLA, the SC/MLA and the ALHeLA. He is Chair of the Alabama HealthInfoNet Advisory Board and serves on the Fairhope Library Board. He received a grant from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine/ Southeastern Atlantic Region to host the CyberCafe at the annual meeting of the Medical Association of the State of Alabama. Justin is a Senior member of AHIP.

Beverly Rossini was inducted into the Beta Kappa Chapter of the Beta Phi Mu International Library Science Honor Society.

Geneva Staggs continues to serve on the Alabama Public Library Service Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Advisory Council. She serves on the MLA Scholarship Jury, the SC/MLA Bylaws Committee and served on the ALHeLA Nominating Committee and Bylaws Committee. Geneva is a Distinguished member of AHIP.
Andrea Wright received special recognition for contributions to the University of Alabama School of Library and Information Science web presence for her work on the web site and social networking presences.

VI. BRIEF SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS

New resources added this year include Access Emergency Medicine, Mary Anne Liebert e-journal collection (61 titles), EBSCO Medline Full-Text (resulting in about 500 additional full-text titles), Joanna Briggs Institute, OTDBase, and Journal Citation Reports. Health Sciences: Nursing & Allied Health: Comprehensive was dropped because it only provided eight unique full-text titles. The focus of the Historical Collection was reviewed as was the collection. That collection now contains rare medical books and resources related to the history of medicine in Alabama, Mobile or the University of South Alabama, including USA authors.

Additionally, the BL and University Library switched to Serials Solutions for the journal management system, resulting in not only a better tool, but also a cost savings.

The Biomedical Library web page is being redesigned for better access. Portals will be available for each of the major user groups. The domain name will be changed to http://www.biomedicallibrary.southalabama.edu. Dual web pages will be available during Fall Semester with a complete change over to the new page in 2009. A blog is being developed to highlight technology that can be used in the curriculum. The Medical Matters Wiki is continuing to be developed to link to important web pages in medical specialties. The BL is also able to receive reference questions via text messages.

Three open positions were filled during the year. Andrea Wright is serving as Technology Librarian. She received her Masters of Library and Information Studies at the University of Alabama in December 2007. Andrea provides reference services, and she is responsible for web site administration and technology coordination with BL library patrons and with USA faculty and students. Andrea's liaison departments are College of Medicine's Medical Genetics, Cell Biology and Neuroscience, and Neurology departments. Beverly Rossini serves as Outreach Librarian. She also completed her Masters of Library Information Studies from the University of Alabama in December 2007. She will promote the library and health care resources to the university community and surrounding area; direct the library's outreach service to unaffiliated health related professionals; participate in bibliographic instruction, reference services, and hospital services; and supervise interlibrary loan. Beverly's liaison departments are College of Medicine's Pathology, Psychiatry and Physiology. Beverly is also the new editor of the Biofeedback, the Biomedical Library's newsletter. Robert Britton is the Electronic Resources / Collection Development Librarian. He is a May, 2008 graduate of the School of Library and Information Studies at the
University of Alabama. Working in the Technical Services Department, Robert will be managing the electronic resources in the Biomedical Library and coordinate acquisition and collection development of print and electronic resources. He will also participate in reference services and act as library liaison to the Biomedical Sciences Department in the College of Allied Health Professions and liaison to the Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and Radiology Departments in the College of Medicine.

Biomedical Library librarians have participated in several outreach activities including the Health Disparities Resource Group, USA health fairs, a health information literacy (HIL) group sponsored by the Alliance to the Mobile County Medical Association, and on Community Health Committee at the Community Foundation of South Alabama. They also participated in the 3rd Annual Regional Health Disparities meeting. Two librarians participated in the BEAR program and the STARS and STRIPES programs, an effort directed towards at-risk high school students who demonstrate an interest in attending college and pursuing a career in health sciences. Librarians also staffed the CyberCafe at the Medical Association of the State of Alabama annual meeting and presented at the Technology Symposium. Additionally, a BL librarian participated in an outreach project with the University Library at the Mobile Public Library highlighting consumer health resources. Librarians also worked to keep the University faculty with NIH grants informed about the NIH Public Access Policy. BL Librarians staffed a consumer health table at the “Our Body” exhibit at the Exploreum. A BL librarian served as guest lecturer for the Health Informatics course at the University of Alabama School of Library and Information Studies.

Geneva Staggs served as PI on a competitive grant received by the University of South Alabama Biomedical Library for the 2008 Health Information Literacy (HIL) Research Project, part of the National Library of Medicine (NLM) and Medical Library Association’s (MLA) research into health care provider and administrators’ awareness and understanding of health information literacy and of its value in support of patient care. As one of nine national hospital-based libraries chosen to participate in this research as a pilot site, the USA Biomedical Library helped to develop and to test a multi-format health information literacy curriculum designed by NLM for health care providers. The curriculum was presented to over 100 USA health care providers to increase their awareness and knowledge of health information literacy issues and to demonstrate the NLM tools and resources for increasing health literacy levels that are available to them and their patients. Participation in the Health Information Literacy Research Project helped support national efforts to plan and implement consumer health information services that will strengthen an institution’s capacity to address health information literacy barriers to quality patient care.
University activities in which the Biomedical Library librarians have participated this year are the USA College of Medicine (COM) Curriculum Committee, BEAR Committee, CME Committee, Patent Committee, IRB Committee, GIST (Group for Innovative Strategies in Training), the USAMC and C&W Department Head meetings, the USAMC Information Management Committee. BL Librarians are continuing to participate in the Clinical Librarian program, attending the USAMC Multidisciplinary Committee, the USAMC Clinical Practice Committee, the USAMC Medication Use Committee, the USAMC Policy & Procedure Committee, the USAMC Critical Care Committee, the USAMC Quality Control Committee, the USAMC Pressure Ulcer Committee, the USAMC EBP Committee, the USAMC Falls Forum, the USAMC Infection Forum, C&W Medical Use Committee, C&W Policy Committee and the C&W Educational Use Committee. Librarians also participated in the University Library Committee, the University Academic Standards Committee and the Faculty Senate. BL Librarians also served on the University Libraries’ Public Relations Committee planning and overseeing promotions during National Libraries’ Week in April, 2008. BL also participated in COM new faculty orientation.

Plans are being developed to move the Medical Center Library from the Mastin Building into the hospital. Older journal volumes were moved to the campus site and bound journal volumes will be relocated to the basement of the Medical Center. Library representatives are continuing to meet with hospital representatives and others to develop a plan. A University of Alabama SLIS intern developed a consumer health kiosk that will be used in the consumer health area of the new library. With funding from the Colleges of Nursing and Allied Health Professions, two additional group study rooms and eight additional individual study rooms have been added to the Baugh (Campus) facility. Plans are being developed to convert the old Multimedia Lab on the 3rd floor of the Baugh site into a study/conference room available for individual study, for videoconferencing, and meetings.

Notable educational classes taught during the year included evidence-based medicine for the 3rd year medical students. Additionally, librarians participate in multiple online courses for the College of Nursing and Allied Health via a virtual reference desk. A librarian continues to serve as the primary instructor for PT 699, Evidence-Based Practice and Library Research Skills, a required course for the Doctor of Physical Therapy program. A Brown Bag @ the Baugh session focused on citation tracking using resources provided by the Biomedical Library.

The Technology Fair, co-sponsored by the Biomedical Library, the USA Faculty Senate Technology Utilization Committee, the USA Academic Computing Committee, and the College of Education Online Learning Lab was held in October 2007. It was held using grant funding obtained by Jie Li, with the opinion expressed by attendees that it be an annual event.
Also at the Technology Fair, faculty, including Biomedical Library faculty, showcased their use of technology in the curriculum. Dr. Terry Shaneyfeld from UAB, sponsored by the Biomedical Library, presented a lecture on Evidence Based Medicine. Using remaining grant funding, Dr. Martha Gerrity from Oregon will present a session on evidence-based medicine during the Dept of Internal Medicine's Grand Rounds in October 2008.

The disaster plan is continuing to be developed for the Biomedical Library. USA BL and UAB Lister Hill Library have a verbal agreement to serve as “buddy libraries” in case of a disaster.
2007-2008  
Summary of Activities  
USA Center for Lung Biology

General Operations

The CLB’s mission is to provide state-of-the-art scientific development in lung biology that advances the understanding of human health and disease, to improve patient care, and to serve as the foundation for outstanding graduate, post-graduate, and fellowship training. More than 30 faculty members from various departments within the College of Medicine are actively participating in a strong collaborative research environment, a research seminar series and journal club, and graduate, postdoctoral and fellowship training.

Our administrative office is located in the Medical Sciences Building in Room 3340 on the main University campus. Ms. Jennifer Collins joined our administrative office this year as a Word Processing Specialist. Ms. Collins will serve as support staff for the CLB and be responsible for clerical duties for the administrative office and research laboratories.

Detailed information about the CLB is available with a click on our homepage (http://www.usouthal.edu/clb). The web page is interactive and contains a variety of information including faculty and student bibliographies, recent publications, and information regarding scientific and training programs. Our annual report is available through Ms. Charlene Jordan (414-8045) at the CLB office.

Research Activities

The CLB was well represented at national and international scientific meetings with a number of faculty, postdoctoral fellows, and graduate students presenting their work at multiple forums, including the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, the International American Thoracic Society, the American Association for Cancer Research, and the International Society for Stem Cell Research.

The CLB hosted one Distinguished Scientist Seminar. Our guest, Dr. David Pearse, is an Associate Professor of Medicine at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Dr. Pearse’s presentation was entitled The Role of cGMP in Ventilator-Induced Lung Endothelial Barrier Dysfunction.

Dr. Timothy Moore organized a new Critical Care Conference series in conjunction with the Pulmonary Division. This conference focuses on translational research and acute lung injury, and is held monthly on Fridays at 2:30 pm. Dr. Sharon Rounds, Professor of Medicine and Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at Brown University was our guest speaker. Dr. Rounds’ presentation was entitled Apoptosis in Lung Injury and Repair.

Two additional guests were invited to participate in our Research Seminar and Research in Progress series. Our first guest, Dr. Robb Glenny, is Professor of Medicine, and Physiology and Biophysics, and Head, Pulmonary and Critical Care at the University of Washington. Dr.
Glenny's presentation was entitled *The Lung as the Engine for the 'Multi-System' Dysfunction Syndrome.* Our second guest, Dr. Victor Laubach, is Associate Professor of Research at the University of Virginia Health Systems. Dr. Laubach's presentation was entitled *Vascular remodeling during compensatory lung regeneration.*

**Extramural Funding**

In the past year, CLB principal investigators have submitted 38 grant applications to the American Heart Association (AHA), Parker B. Francis Foundation (PBF), American Lung Association (ALA), Department of Defense (DOD), NIH and other foundations. To date, seven of these applications were awarded generating over $939,000 in new revenue over the next four years. This represents a 27% success rate in grant submission for this fiscal year.

The Center received three awards from the American Heart Association. Dr. Diego Alvarez received a Scientist Development Grant, and Drs. Masahiko Oka and Bing Zhu received Beginning Grant in Aids. Dr. Karen Fagan transferred two NIH research grants from the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. Drs. Natalie Bauer and Diego Alvarez both received Parker B. Francis fellowships, but due to scientific overlap, Dr. Alvarez had to relinquish his fellowship to accept his AHA Scientist Development Grant. Two additional grants were awarded from our previous fiscal year submissions. Dr. Donna Cioffi received an NIH Career Development award and Dr. Sarah Sayner received a National Research Service Award from NIH for a postdoctoral fellowship.

**Recruitment Activities**

An objective of the CLB is to enhance clinical, translational, and basic research in the pulmonary sciences. As part of this initiative, the Center recruits research scientists at all academic ranks and across disciplines. Two new faculty members have accepted positions this past year. Drs. Karen Fagan and Masahiko Oka have joined us from the University of Colorado-Health Sciences Center. Dr. Karen Fagan is Associate Professor of Medicine and Chief, Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care. Dr. Fagan brings her expertise in pulmonary hypertension. Dr. Masahiko Oka is Assistant Professor of Medicine, and also brings his expertise in pulmonary hypertension.

**Education**

The CLB provides a vibrant collaborative research environment forming an outstanding framework for training in lung biology and related areas, and offers training opportunities for students and fellows at any academic stage. This past summer, the CLB accepted three students for the Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) program. Students participating in the program and sponsors respectively were Jeffrey Baker from Springhill College (Dr. Tim Moore), John Bozek from St. Vincent College (Dr. Ivan McMurtry), and Kyle Irion from the University of Alabama (Dr. Tom Rich).

CLB faculty played an active role in the 35th Annual Medical Student Research Day sponsoring eight summer medical students. Drs. Judy King (Chair), Sarah Gebb, Susan LeDoux, Kane Schaphorst, and Richard Whitehurst served on the Student Research Committee. Students
participating in the program and sponsors respectively were Sameh Sakla (Dr. James Parker), Sailaja Allamneni (Drs. Diego Alvarez, James Parker, and Judy King), Jason Prater (Drs. Ronald Balciez and Troy Stevens), Walter Beard Jr. (Dr. Richard Honkanen), Tyler P. Black (Dr. Mikhail Alexeyev), Daniel Bonnici (Dr. William Gerthoffer), Brian Dupont (Dr. Stephen Ballard), and Abiodun Ishola (Drs. Mary Townsley and Judy King).

Student training in CLB is interdisciplinary. As part of this concept CLB faculty, clinical fellows, post-docs, graduate students and technicians participate in weekly seminars. CLB holds a research-in-progress seminar on Tuesdays (11:00-12:00 pm). Papers are reviewed and utilized to transition into the presenter's own area of investigation. Up to date research results and future directions are discussed. CLB co-sponsors a research seminar series with the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine on Fridays (2:00-3:00 pm). Presentations rotate between Case Conference, Critical Care Conference, Basic Science Reports, and Research Conference. Research Conference is held in the Pharmacology Conference Room (MSB 3360) whereas other Conferences are held in the Eichold Room at the USA Medical Center.

Dr. Diego Alvarez organized a Special Topics course on Stem Cells (IDL 650) for the spring semester. Dr. Alvarez invited two guests to participate in this course. Our first guest, Dr. Dan Kaufman, is an Associate Professor of Stem Cell Institute and Department of Medicine, University of Minnesota. Dr. Kaufman's presentation was entitled Embryonic Stem Cells. Our second guest, Dr. Mervin Yoder, Richards Pauline Klinger Professor of Pediatrics and Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, at Indiana University School of Medicine. Dr. Yoder's presentation was entitled Adult Stem Cells.

Three of our students received their Ph.D. this year. Jennifer Clark received her Ph.D. on February 25, 2008. Dr. Troy Stevens served as the major professor on her dissertation entitled Essential Role for Nucleosome Assembly Protein in the Proliferative and Vasculogenic Phenotype of Pulmonary Microvascular Endothelial Cells. Dr. Clark is currently a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Pennsylvania. Mohammed Khairel Zarrad received his Ph.D. on March 17, 2008. Dr. Abu-Bakr Al-Medhi served as the major professor on his dissertation entitled The Role of Connexin-43 in Breast Cancer Metastasis to the Lung. Dr. ElZarrad is currently a NIH postdoctoral fellow at the National Cancer Institute. Brad Michael Swiger received his Ph.D. on July 16, 2008. Dr. Mark Gillespie served as the major professor on his dissertation entitled Vectorial Mitochondrial Movement and Cell Signaling in Hypoxia. Dr. Swiger is an Assistant Professor of Biology at the University of Mobile.

Three graduate students in the CLB training program received special recognition. Joel Andrews received a one year Alabama EPSCoR (Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research) Graduate Research Scholars Program Award. This program is funded by the NSF and provides stipend support to selected students for their high quality work. Joel's project is sponsored by Dr. Sailen Barik, Professor of Biochemistry. Cristhian Ochoa Arenas was selected from a pool of applicants to attend the Twenty Third Summer Workshops in Molecular Biology in June, 2008. The workshop was sponsored by New England Biolabs in conjunction with Smith College. Workshops are held at the Clark Science Center in Northampton, MA. The workshop provides an intensive course emphasizing hands-on molecular biology laboratory work covering a variety of techniques. Nutan Prasain was selected to attend the Third Annual
NIH National Graduate Student Research Festival in Bethesda, Maryland in September, 2008. The festival is an annual 2-day event held on the NIH campus and introduces advanced students to the intramural research program with the aim of recruiting them as postdoctoral fellows. Nutan presented a poster entitled *P. aeruginosa ExoY increases endothelial permeability and decreases vascular compliance in rat lungs.*

The NIH-funded training grant directed by Dr. Mary Townsley is currently in its fifth year of funding. A competitive renewal application was submitted in January of this year and received a fundable priority score of 153. To date, the training grant has supported eleven predoctoral students in the College of Medicine. The first of our supported trainees, Dr. Jennifer Clark, graduated from our program in February, 2008.

**Art in Science**

PERCIPIO™-The Art in Science Program was developed by the CLB to increase community awareness about ongoing biomedical research performed at USA. The Art in Science program provides an opportunity for research scientists to present aesthetic aspects of their data to the public. The primary purpose of the program is best defined by its title, PERCIPIO, which means "to learn through the senses".

Percipio received an invitation from the Gulf Coast Exploreum Science Center to exhibit images in conjunction with the educational exhibit OUR BODY-The Universe Within. The Our Body exhibit travels worldwide offering an awe-inspiring human anatomy lesson. The exhibit features 12 whole-body specimens and 75 anatomical displays preserved through polymer impregnation. To coincide with the exhibit, a collection of Percipio images were on display in the atrium from January-May, 2008.
2007-2008
Summary of Activities
Center for Healthy Communities

Introduction
The USA Board of Trustees approved the establishment of the Center for Healthy Communities by the College of Medicine to help the University better address the needs of underserved residents in the Gulf Coast Region. The Center has experienced remarkable growth and development during its five years of existence. It has also achieved local, regional and national recognition as an effective vehicle by promoting education, research and public service for targeted communities. Innovative programs, collaborative partnerships and cohorts of talented individuals are the attributes underpinning the Center’s accomplishments. These attributes were particularly evident in 2007-2008 programs and activities, and helped the Center establish new milestones of achievement in each of its program divisions.

Providing community education, research, public service and health activities to help eliminate health disparities, foster access to health care for underserved populations, enhance the capacity of individuals to better participate in decision making about their health and build healthy communities continue to be the Center’s primary objectives. In this regard, Hurricane Katrina related initiatives were components of programs and activities again this year. The Center also augmented its community development program by developing a collaborative partnership with the Center for Public Policy in the College of Arts and Sciences and the Community Foundation of South Alabama. Similarly, new funding for the CHC Center of Excellence from NIH involves an expanded partnership with USA’s Department of Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology. A new Partnership was also developed with the Mobile County Health Department for the Robert Wood Johnson supported medical technology initiative currently being implemented.

The expanded funding from the National Institutes of Health Center for Minority Health and Health Disparities, resources from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and local and regional contracts are allowing the Center to become more effective in carrying out the mission for which it was chartered. Moreover, the components within the Center have grown substantially during the past 12 months. This was accomplished while also successfully implementing a transition in leadership.

The Center’s activities and services were implemented through five component program divisions:

- Community Development & Nonprofit Management
- Civic Engagement & Community Support
- Faith-Based Initiative-UPRIS
- Research
- Center of Excellence-EXPORT
I. Community Development and Nonprofit Management Program

The USA Center for Healthy Communities, the Center for Public Policy, and the Community Foundation of South Alabama (CFSA) came together in March of 2007 to develop a Community Economic Development Fellows program that is supporting county-wide Community Economic Development Initiatives. The Community Foundation made a commitment for a multiyear investment in the Community Economic Development Fellows program managed by the USA Center for Healthy Communities and the USA Center for Public Policy. The focus of the Community Economic Development Fellows program is to support initiatives at the local, state, and federal levels that advance the wellbeing of families and the sustainable development of communities. A particular emphasis is placed on the economic, physical, and social environment of low and moderate income populations in South Alabama. The Community Foundation of South Alabama’s investment for this initiative was from March 2007 to June 2008. Activities emanating from this initiative are summarized in the following eight areas:

1. **Community Fellows Program** – Resources from the Center for Healthy Communities and Community Foundation of South Alabama supported the development of a cohort group that constituted the Community Fellows Program. Fellows in the program consisted of community members and volunteers who participate in educational activities and training related to community economic development initiatives. This includes learning about affordable housing issues, workforce development of low and moderate income persons, small business development, community-building and problem-solving, green-building efforts on the Gulf Coast, community and preventive health, community design, and related issues pertinent to supporting local community & economic development efforts. Four fellows were trained and participated in the community development program in 2007-08.

2. **Community Economic Development Policy & Strategy Sessions** - Nine lunch sessions were implemented to discuss economic development and to develop strategies for CFSA’s consideration. These sessions address issues of housing affordability, workforce development, asset-building and financial literacy, preventive and community health, community leadership, and other important issues prevalent in Mobile and Southwest Alabama. The initiative facilitated the sharing of information, networking, and collaboration between stakeholders, practitioners, and policymakers. The Community Fellows helped organize and facilitate the economic development and developed strategy sessions.

3. **Southwest Alabama Regional Housing Initiative** – The Center facilitated and supported the activities of the Southwest Alabama Regional Housing Initiative in collaboration with the Community Foundation of South Alabama. This initiative is a coalition of community-based organizations and housing providers from across the South Alabama region. The group meets twice a month at the Community Foundation of South Alabama. This initiative was started through a policy symposium that addressed issues of affordable housing in the region that was cosponsored in collaboration with the City of Mobile, the Mobile Chamber of Commerce, and the Community Foundation of South Alabama.

4. **Youth Employment Strategies and Policies** – Support was provided for a group of youth and young adults who seek to impact public investment and policy related to youth
employment in the Mobile area. This work emerged out of outreach activities of the Community Fellows who observed serious challenges related to violence, crime, drugs, and poverty affecting young people. Recommendations were made by youth and community members to advance an initiative that provides youth with summer employment. Another outcome from this initiative included a strategy session with County Commissioner Merceria Ludgood and other stakeholders within workforce development and youth development systems. The Youth Employment Policy initiative continues to hold meetings and related activities.

5. **Equity and Inclusion Campaign** – Support was provided for the Equity and Inclusion Campaign. As an initiative of the Louisiana Disaster Recovery Foundation (LDRF), this campaign is a policy education and public messaging campaign advocating for fulfillment of the federal commitment to confront persistent poverty and inequity during the Gulf Coast recovery. The Campaign drew together grassroots leaders from three affected states to support and advocate for recovery and equitable development. The Campaign’s primary activity is disaster policy education for candidates in the 2008 presidential election. The Campaign has provided evidence-based policy recommendations and has hosted multiple events throughout the region, one of which was at the University of South Alabama.

6. **Housing and Development Policy** – The Center’s Community Fellows were actively involved with efforts by the Alabama Legislative Black Caucus to develop a network of research and policy partners for housing and community development at the state level. The goal is to bridge the informational and knowledge gaps that are hindering community development strategy and policy-making. This network seeks to involve researchers, consultants, and early practitioners to advance knowledge, policy, and solutions to the challenges facing disadvantaged and marginalized communities in Alabama. The initiative hosted a policy briefing at the State Capitol on Tuesday, April 15th, 2008.

7. **Capacity-Building & Technical Assistance** – A range of technical assistance was provided to a variety of local organizations and community groups. This included helping obtain funding for a lawyer to work with local housing organizations, obtaining resources for a year-long initiative with community organizations, and providing a range of organizational development support activities.

8. **AmeriCorps- Volunteers in Service to America** - The Community Development and Nonprofit Management Program was able to secure a Vista grant to support two full-time volunteers/Community Fellows for twelve months. These volunteers worked with individuals in underserved communities to help develop and utilize social capital for resolving issues of violence, housing, education, and health.

**II. Civic Engagement & Community Support**

The civic engagement and community support activities were primarily focused on supporting community initiatives, youth programs and volunteerism. The following projects were undertaken in 2007/08:
1. **Trinity Gardens Beautification Campaign** - The Center for Healthy Communities partnered with the Bay Area Women's Coalition to implement an eight-week community beautification campaign in Trinity Gardens. The Center's staff and their families, students from the University of South Alabama, high school students, and individuals from the targeted community conducted a series of litter cleanup, grass mowing and community awareness activities. The goal was to not only help the community remove materials that were aesthetically displeasing and health hazards but to encourage residents to continue the initiative beyond this volunteer effort organized by the Center. These volunteer activities were carried out in a 30 block area on Saturday mornings during the months of April, May and June. The Center for Healthy Communities also co-sponsored the Rag Swamp Festival with the Bay Area Women’s Coalition again this year, which is held in the targeted community. The Festival attracted more than 3,000 participants.

2. **Discovery and Quest** - The Discovery and Quest program is for 3rd through 8th grade students from underserved communities to encourage excellence and an interest in health professions. The program consists of classroom activities, art projects, and field trips to help expose students to options and opportunities for self-improvement and better career choices. The Discovery and Quest program was supported through the CHC Center of Excellence at four additional sites this summer. These included Cody Road Boys' and Girls' club, The Dumas Wesley Community Center, the English as a Second Language (ESL) at Denton Middle School, and Kiwanis Boys' and Girls' Club. Discovery and Quest students organized a health fair and participated in the Center for Healthy Communities' Annual Regional Health Disparities Symposium.

3. **100 Hundred Black Men** - The Center continued its relationship with the 100 Black Men of Mobile by serving as a sponsor for its annual gala, organizing vendors for its annual health fair and providing resource persons for its Phoenix School Program. A table for ten participants was purchased through the Center which allowed Center staff, community leaders, and students to attend the 100 Black Men’s featured event of the year. The keynote speaker was the North American chief executive of ThyssenKrupp Steel in the United States, who spoke of his company's plan to bring more than 3,000 jobs to Mobile County. The Center also helped recruit more than fifteen health vendors to the 100 Black Men's health fair which serves approximately 100 participants. Both the Center's Director and Co-Director served as resource persons for the 100 Black Men's Phoenix Program and provided motivational talks to its high school students.

4. **Coden Community Development Association** - The Center continues to collaborate with the Coden Community in South Mobile. Center staff members are serving as a resource for designing and implementing an environmental health assessment survey. They are also serving as a resource for designing and developing programs in the new Coden Community Center.
5. **Bay Area Food Bank** - The Center co-sponsored the Annual Bay Area Food Bank Cook-Off. The event attracted more than 300 participants and raised nearly $40,000 to support the purchase of food assistance programs for underserved communities.

6. **Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA)** - The Center served as a co-sponsor for the YWCA Annual Women's Money, Power and Leadership Seminar. The event attracted more than 70 young women and served as a crucial networking opportunity for young professional women.

### III. Faith-Based Initiative & Health Forum

The Center for Healthy Communities has continued its partnership with the Universal Patient Record Information Systems (UPRIS) Corporation. The purpose of this collaboration is to assist churches with efforts to develop health ministries by providing them with internet based health resources. The Center identified an initial group of churches to participate in the project, to assist with the organization of their health ministries and to utilize the online resources available. UPRIS has developed a website for each church to disseminate information concerning health topics and future health promotion activities. Each church designated a health minister to be the principal contact for the project and to provide pertinent information for use to personalize its website. To assist in the church's website development, the health minister provides photographs and a calendar of special church events.

Each health minister will complete training on how to independently upload items and update the information on their church's website. Upon the completion of the training, health ministers will also have the knowledge necessary to assist church members in establishing personal health records to monitor the progress of their health and medical information. The UPRIS Corporation also developed *ourhealthministry.com* a web-based portal site that was developed to disseminate health information to churches. *Ourhealthministry.com* has been made available to health ministers in churches to utilize and access up to date health information and increase their knowledge concerning various health conditions. Health ministers can prepare informational pamphlets and handouts for distribution with the information provided on this internet site.

The faith-based initiative component of the Center for Healthy Communities has had a productive year assisting area churches. The Center has assisted churches in planning and facilitating various health promotional activities for their congregants and community members. The churches were assisted with health fairs, workshops, exercise classes and a *Go Red for Women* event. Also, the Center is in the process of providing a health assessment to the churches for completion by the members of their congregations. The health assessment will provide the pastor and health minister with valuable information on health issues and concerns of the members of their church. The evaluation of this information will assist in prioritizing the focus of future events and the information disseminated by their health ministry. Through these initiatives and collaborations the Center plans to continue its effort to improve the health and wellbeing of residents living along the gulf coast.
IV. Research

The Center for Healthy Communities Research Division has had a very active and productive year. The primary focus has been on generating and disseminating research on issues affecting underserved communities. This has involved directly supporting empirical research, publishing research findings, making presentations at scholarly meetings, and securing resources to support research activities. The Research Staff has been involved in more than twenty research related activities. These include four externally funded projects.

A summary of research activities for 2007-08 is presented below:

- Supporting empirical research
- Making presentations at scholarly meetings
- Publishing research findings
- Securing resources to support research activities

1. Supporting empirical research - The Research Division supports a variety of empirical research activity. This includes providing primary supervision for projects funded at the University of South Alabama through the CHC Center of Excellence and other Center programs. The staff members provide support for graduate student community based research and technical assistance for the design of “telehealth” meetings/questionnaire. They have also collaborated on environmental assessment activities for the Coden community, conducted focus interviews with health care providers affected by hurricane Katrina and supported research efforts by scholars from the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill that focus on the lingering effects of hurricane Katrina. These and other activities are generating a substantial research database within the Center for Healthy Communities that can be used for further research, publications and scholarly activities.

2. Making presentations at scholarly meetings - Two major avenues for disseminating research generated by the Center for Healthy Communities have been developing abstracts and presentations at professional meetings. The Center has had four poster abstracts accepted for presentations at professional meetings. More than ten presentations have been made at professional meetings that included research generated through the Center. This includes national and international meetings sponsored by the American Public Health Association, the American Society for Public Administration, and the American Federation for Medical Research. Research findings were also disseminated in presentations with the Mobile Housing Board, the University of South Alabama Health Disparities Research Group, and the Annual CHC Regional Health Disparities Symposium.

3. Publishing research findings - Scholarly publications is another avenue through which the Division has helped to disseminate research findings generated through the Center. The American Journal of the Medical Sciences published a symposium on minority health disparities in its April 2008 edition, which featured only papers presented in the Center’s conferences on health disparities. A manuscript “Health Disparities in the Gulf Coast: Challenges and Opportunities” has been accepted by the general Disaster Medicine and Public Health

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Preparedness. The Center also published and disseminated a booklet by the same title that received national attention.

4. **Securing resources to support research activities** - In addition to support from the Mobile Housing Board and the Morehouse College of Medicine, the Research Division was able to partner with the Mobile County Health Department to secure a $275,000 research grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The grant is being used to evaluate interventions aimed at reducing racial and ethnic gaps in health care. The Research Division was actively involved in securing funding for the CHC Center of Excellence and is responsible for implementing the research component of the program.

Although the Research Division houses a variety of programs and activities, a major portion of work that is carried out is in support of other divisions within the Center for Healthy Communities. This has involved support for outreach activities within the Nonprofit and Community Development Division as well as those within the CHC Center of Excellence. Moreover, the Division seeks to foster health disparities research and enhance the quality of research in every division of the Center and throughout the University of South Alabama.

V. Export/Center of Excellence

The USA Center for Healthy Communities EXPORT Program completed the 3rd year of its R-24 planning grant and began the first phase of a new five-year grant award from NIH. The combined resources from these grants enabled the Center to enhance its efforts to address health disparities in the Gulf Coast Region. In addition to an extension to use carryover resources from the R-24 grant, the Center was also awarded a five year P-20 grant from the National Institutes of Health National Center for Minority Health and Health Disparities. This also entailed the transformation into a Center of Excellence.

The overall goal of the USA CHC Center of Excellence is to utilize a broad-based collaborative and multidisciplinary effort to address health disparities within the University of South Alabama (USA) service area. To achieve this goal, the many relationships created with organizations and individuals during the past 5 years were nurtured into more collaborative partnerships. Additional partnerships were also developed this year with a specific focus on building a dynamic group of community health advocates.

In year one of the P-20 grant, the focus was on establishing sustainable programs and relationships within the service area. The partnerships that have developed are expected to be helpful for prioritizing the allocation of resources and use of interventions, identification of health disparities within targeted communities, and strategies for securing additional funds to support the Center’s work.

A Preview of Results and Accomplishments in The CHC Center of Excellence

The CHC Center of Excellence activities are implemented through 4 program cores: Administrative; Community Engagement; Mentoring and Training; and Research. Details of the activities of the Administrative, Community Engagement, Mentoring and Training, and Research
cores will be highlighted in the individual reports of each core (see below). However, some accomplishments of these cores are summarized in this section.

The administrative core has successfully set up appropriate accounts and reporting relationships for the many facets of the grant. Our partners and the broader community were informed of the grant award, leading to the establishment of more partnerships. Core leaders meetings have been established and the internal advisory committee has been developed.

The administrative and community engagement cores have joined efforts to develop additional partnerships with various groups and individuals in the targeted community. There has been considerable success identifying and recruiting community health advocates (CHAs). A leadership council of CHAs has been developed and expanded, and several programs are in place to facilitate the education of CHAs. The pipeline programs of the community engagement core continue to successfully recruit and retain junior high and high school students. The summer programs for these students were successfully implemented with a nucleus of highly qualified teachers and counselors.

The Third Regional Health Disparities Symposium was held in July with strong community participation. At least 3 fellows have been identified already for the Research Training and Mentoring Core and other applications are under review. The on-campus mentoring and training program for these fellows will be held in October.

The Research and Administrative Cores facilitated the initiation of several research projects. A subcontract with Emory University has been executed and individual accounts within the University of South Alabama have been established. Lead investigators of projects have presented updates of their work at Health Disparities Research Group (HDRG) meetings. The HDRG has added members with the momentum of this new award and the Center’s growing partnerships. Three additional grants proposal were also submitted with key partners as Co-PI’s or PI’s this year.

To help address the dearth of research surrounding health disparities, the CHC Center of Excellence is helping to enhance original and secondary research that focuses on issues and concerns underlying these disparities. This includes publications and presentations at professional meetings. Research generated by the Center has been the basis for a variety of local state and national presentations. The Center has also been a stimulus for the publication of several scholarly publications and abstracts over the past year. These include the following listed below.

**Articles**


Monographs

Abstracts


Significance of the CHC Center of Excellence Accomplishments
The EXPORT/Center of Excellence efforts have significantly increased the community’s knowledge about health disparities. With the P-20 grant our partners now see that there is considerable opportunity to reduce and/or eliminate health disparities in the Greater Mobile area. Individuals within the university, government, business, healthcare and broader community have become energized and more willing to work toward the elimination of these disparities. The CHC Center of Excellence is clearly recognized as part of the community, allowing us to better serve our constituents.

The Center is also adding to the body of research on health disparities. It is actively engaged in health disparities initiatives at the regional and national levels. Moreover, the CHC Center of
Excellence achieved significant accomplishments in 2007-2008 and has become positioned to make major contributions for addressing health disparities in the near future. More of the details on Core program areas’ accomplishments are presented in the following sections.

Reports from Individual Cores

Administrative Core

The aims of the Administrative Core are:

- To facilitate the achievement of objectives in all other cores (research, community engagement, research education and training) via support of their activities; and
- To foster, establish and develop new key relationships within and external to the University of South Alabama to expand the Center’s effectiveness in addressing its overall objective.

To achieve these aims the following activities were implemented during the past year:

- Necessary accounts were established within the university business system to facilitate oversight of grant resources;
- Core leader meetings were held on a regular schedule;
- Key individuals within the university were identified to serve on the COE internal advisory board;
- An external advisory committee is being invited with plans to have them meet early in 2009 in Mobile;
- Candidates for the external advisory committee were identified and are being solicited for willingness and availability to serve in this capacity;
- Partnerships within the university and in other areas of the Northern Gulf Coast region that are essential to the Center’s mission continued to be developed; and
- Sustaining existing relationships was made an initial focus by making partners aware of the new award and the Center’s continuing commitment to address the needs of underserved communities.

Many new partners have learned of the Center’s activities through its website. A webmaster was identified and hired to keep the site updated and to expand its use as a source of information dissemination. This person has become quite knowledgeable about the Center’s mission, programs and day-to-day operations and the essence of what it does is being transmitted to the website. Information that will be helpful to the Center’s constituents is also gathered from inquiries that come into the center from the website.

Community Engagement Core

The objectives of the community engagement core are:

- To improve health of the populations at high risk for health disparities via dissemination of health information and community based health advocacy;
- To develop a new generation of healthcare providers and healthcare researchers who will focus on issues underlying health disparities; and
• To provide evidence of the effectiveness of strategies for community engagement in order to understand both the process and outcome in building a community based outreach program.

Studies and Results:

The major interventions to achieve this goal are an expanded community health advocate program designed to empower community members to become leaders in addressing their communities' health issues and enhanced health information dissemination efforts. The Annual Regional Health Disparities Symposium was also a mechanism for enhancing community engagement. Considerable progress was made by implementing each of these interventions.

Success has been achieved in identifying a cohort of community health advocates (CHA). Many of the CHAs have come to the program as representatives of health ministries in their churches. These relationships with churches were initiated in the last grant period and indicate our success in getting local African American churches to make health a priority item on their agendas.

The plan is to have the CHAs identify priority health initiatives within their neighborhoods and of their own personal interest. They have responded accordingly and have developed plans for several programs to enhance information dissemination, acquisition of knowledge, and recruitment of CHAs. Some examples include the development of a “Passport” that CHAs earn with completion of activities that enhance their health IQ. They have identified areas of priority for the next several months including physical activity, obesity, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and hypertension. Speakers and trainers in standardized programs have been identified and training has started. In many cases CHAs are able to use their unique skills to train other CHAs and members of their community. The Center has been fortunate to recruit a number of highly motivated, dedicated and intelligent people to this effort.

Interviews with our CHAs provided insight into the motivating factors and barriers to their participation. The data from these interviews will direct how the program is run in the future and shape future recruitment efforts. The information gained from these interviews over time can help other communities recruit CHAs for their efforts.

In July the Third Regional Health Disparities Symposium was held. The organizational efforts for this symposium included several partners that were instrumental in helping design the first two meetings. This year’s meeting consisted of a series of workshops where the CHAs (established and new recruits) developed work plans focused in five topic areas. This approach was developed in response to the evaluations from the previous meetings indicating the desire to pull multiple groups together and work toward solutions to health disparities in the region. The topics selected were violence in the African American community, the women as healthcare CEO in the family, how public policy affects community health; the connection between environmentally safe and fair housing and health, and nutrition and physical activity. CHAs were consulted on program planning and selection of topics. Several served as facilitators of workshops. More than 100 community representatives and young adults participated in the symposium, which was held at Bishop State Community College. Participants developed what
appears to be workable plans that can impact each topic area. These work plans are to be implemented over the next year by the attendees and CHAs.

Other Selected activities:

- Organized and participated in numerous health fairs;
- Spoke and lectured at various local, regional, and national events;
- Served as regional source of information for health issues;
- Gave interviews to several media outlets regarding the communities' health concerns;
- Conducted a Photo Voice project that provided cameras to targeted residents who took pictures of health concerns; and
- Developed Lay Health Advisor programs that provided training to members of the Vietnamese American community in rural South Mobile County.

Another major intervention for the Center of Excellence is the continuance and expansion of our pipeline programs for school age students which include:

- Pipeline programs for high school (Students Training for Academic Reinforcement in the Sciences, STARS) and junior high school students (Special Training to Raise Interest and Prepare for Entry into the Sciences, STRIPES);
- Continuation of Discovery and Quest programs focused on elementary and middle school students; and
- A program from NIH-NIDDK for 4 of the Center's pipeline students that funded a research opportunity and trip for them to the NIH at the end of the summer to present their work.

Research Core

The overall goal of the Research Core is to Provide Academic and Logistical Support to Promote Multidisciplinary Research in Minority Health and Health Disparities at USA. The specific aims to address this goal are as follows:

- To promote the generation of data from hypothesis driven, multidisciplinary research projects focused on issues of importance to the health of African Americans and low-income groups;
- To expand the cohort of investigators conducting innovative health disparities related research through several mechanisms; and
- To critically review health disparities related research conducted in the U.S. so that appropriate research questions can be formulated to impact the health of our community.

Studies/Results:

The major programs of the research core are hypothesis driven, investigator initiated research, the Health Disparities Research Group (HDRG), and invigoration of research interest in health disparities. A community based participatory research model is pursued whenever possible. Progress to date in the three main areas is outlined below:
Health Disparities Research Group

The HDRG is an assembly of university faculty and community members who gather to discuss health disparities research and determine local strategies to address problems. Members come from all three colleges in the health science division and three colleges in the Academic Affairs Division; Business, Education, and Arts and Sciences. Research staff members have successfully supported HDRG efforts and have been able to grow interest in the group’s activities.

A major objective of the HDRG was to develop and promote collaborative relationships among faculty and community members who do not usually work in the same area. This is being achieved at multiple levels, as numerous inquiries for collaboration are referred to members of the HDRG. In addition, many HDRG members have been able to prepare proposals and research protocols because of newly made acquaintances across the campus.

Invigoration of Research Interest in Health Disparities

Several projects were set in place to achieve this goal. First and foremost is the development of successful research projects that will have an impact. The funding of the Center of Excellence with the P-20 had a significant effect (more than anticipated by the PI) for increasing interest research activities. More inquiries into the Center’s work and into health disparities in general have been forthcoming since the announcement of this award.

Secondly, a focus was placed on identifying credible research projects in health disparities and facilitating their completion. This is done by facilitating the implementation of the research projects that were proposed as part of the initial application as well as encouraging newly developed work via internal RFP mechanisms. Investigators have presented at HDRG meetings so that all partners are aware of their work and can look for ways to collaborate.

Thirdly, distinguished health disparities researchers will be brought to campus for networking and interaction with USA research partners and staff. This will be done through the Distinguished Scientist Seminar series that operates in the College of Medicine and other existing programs at the University. Using these existing mechanisms will enhance the awareness of health disparities research among all investigators on campus including social and basic scientists. Finally, the research core staff members, by monitoring grant opportunities, have been able to bring together investigators to answer RFPs from several organizations. This includes providing local data on health disparities to investigators preparing proposals.

Individual Research Projects

The Research Core has one fully funded research proposal and five active pilot projects. Individual reports from investigators of these projects are below.
Full Research Proposal

Specific Aims:
Breast cancer (BC) affects African-American women at a lower frequency than white women, yet progression of the tumor and mortality from the disease is higher in the minority population highlighting a major health disparity in the United States (US). We reasoned that variation in the biology of tumors played a critically important role in disease outcome than had previously been fully appreciated in the general population and in African-American versus Caucasians women with BC. To this end, we began studying cell adhesion molecules tethered at sites of cell-cell contact with the notion that such molecules are involved at critical stages in the transformation of normal epithelial cells into malignant tumors. We discovered that activated leukocyte cell adhesion molecule (ALCAM/CD166), a member of the immunoglobulin super family localizes to sites of intercellular junctions in various epithelial tissues. We then discovered for the first time that primary BC tumors expressed significantly lower levels of ALCAM mRNA compared to normal breast tissue. Our findings have since been reproduced by two independent investigators, each demonstrating that loss of ALCAM function, either due to reduced expression, or mis-location of the protein inside BC tumors is a bad prognostic indicator (Ofori-Acquah and King, 2008). Collectively, these studies suggested loss of ALCAM function contributed to the aggressive BC phenotype such as the type commonly found in African-American women. To investigate this idea required advancing our understanding of ALCAM gene regulation and identifying specific molecules involved in this process. The ALCAM promoter was therefore cloned into a luciferase reporter gene and this system was used to identify multiple DNA-protein binding sites in the ALCAM promoter. Further studies identified a protein phosphatase called PP5 as a potential negative regulator of ALCAM gene expression. Based on these findings we proposed the OVERALL HYPOTHESIS that “Loss of Function of ALCAM Causes an Aggressive Tumor Phenotype in Breast Cancer that may contribute to Poor Survival in African-American Women”. This overall hypothesis is being tested in three specific aims:

[1] ALCAM gene expression is suppressed in breast cancer
[2] PP5 promotes breast cancer tumor growth, in part by, suppressing ALCAM expression

Studies and Results:
In the current year, major progress was made in several of the experiments originally proposed. We have acquired BC cell lines derived from patients of African-American origin, and have begun comparing ALCAM expression in these cells to those of Caucasian origin. Our initial findings indicate at least some of the African-American BC cell lines express ALCAM at the mRNA level. In other studies we have examined activity of the ALCAM promoter in BC cell lines, and discovered marked suppression of the promoter in promoter sequences extending up to 1200 base pairs. This contrasts sharply with findings in non-BC cells, where the ALCAM promoter is active at sequences beginning at -600. We have confirmed in experiments performed using a BC tumor microarray (TMA) consisting of 400 different tumors that PP5 is up-regulated in BC (Golden et al., 2008). Further studies showed that over-expression of PP5 in MCF-7 BC cell lines increased its tumorigenicity in nude mice. Overall, these studies in the first-year of the grant argue well for studies planned for Year 2 of this grant application.
Significance:
These data are the first to show repression of proximal ALCAM promoter in BC cell lines, and that up-regulation of PP5 promotes tumorigenesis of BC cell lines. If these findings are confirmed in subsequent years, then we may identify repressor proteins that down-regulate ALCAM in BC, and determine whether PP5 up-regulation is directly responsible for ALCAM down-regulation.

Plans:
Identify repressor proteins involved in negative regulation of the proximal ALCAM promoter
Continue ALCAM expression studies in African-American and Caucasian BC cells, and primary tumors
Determine whether PP5 directly down-regulates ALCAM promoter activity, and gene expression in BC cells.

Bibliography


Pilot Projects

Pilot 1
Title: A Family Based Approach for the Treatment of Childhood Obesity
Investigators: Judy V. Blair-Elortegui, MD
Daniel Preud’Homme, MD

Objectives: As the obesity epidemic worsens pediatric obesity also grows at rapid rates. The mainstay of pediatric obesity management (prevention and therapy) involves diet and lifestyle changes such as limiting television viewing and increasing physical activity. Children are dependent on their family unit to be able to achieve any of the recommendations. Low socioeconomic status seems to be a strong circumstantial factor and studies have identified higher than national rates of obesity in the children in that group. Parents of lower socioeconomic status also have significant barriers to accessing healthcare for themselves and therefore may not be aware of their obesity status or its related co-morbidities. We have hypothesized that children will do better in managing their weight when the whole family is involved. Parents will also benefit from weight management as well as detection of silent co-morbidities such as hypertension or diabetes mellitus. The following specific aims are developed to address this hypothesis.

To determine if a family oriented approach to childhood obesity will be more effective in achieving weight loss or weight maintenance than the traditional child focused approach.
To determine if a family oriented approach to childhood obesity will lead to the detection of previously undiagnosed, asymptomatic obesity related co-morbidities in the parents of obese children.

To determine if parents of obese children effectively lose weight in a family oriented approach.

Results and Studies:
In the first year of the grant we have had considerable success in establishing our family based approach to addressing childhood obesity. The Pediatric Healthy Life Center has been established at the University of South Alabama Children’s and Women’s Hospital. The PI's of this project run that center and have established the protocols for the project. Several referrals have been made and data on co-morbidities among the children and their families has been gathered. We have found that a high percentage of family members (parents, grand parents) have hypertension, diabetes or hyperlipidemia, and, in many cases they are unaware of the presence of these diagnoses.

Significance: The family based approach will allow for more comprehensive behavior modification within families. Children’s behavior is learned so effective strategies have to be focused on those teaching children their lifestyle behaviors. We have established our center as regional referral source for these processes.

Plan: For year 2 of the grant we will continue to enroll families into our protocols. With more follow-up we will be able to determine short-term effects on weight gain/loss and control of co-morbid conditions. Follow-up of families having completed the program will provide valuable feedback regarding a culturally based approach.

References:


Pilot 2
Title: Ethical Dilemmas as Tools to Improve Communication Skills With and Trust from the Minority Community
Principal Investigator: Errol D. Crook, MD
Co Investigators: Dan Taylor; PhD, Margaret O’Brien, MD, JD

Objective: Americans from ethnic minority groups have poorer outcomes from several treatable and preventable conditions. It is not surprising that many ethnic minorities do not have trust in the healthcare system. This becomes more of a problem for academic medical centers or other safety net healthcare providers where long-term patient-provider relationships are difficult to establish. In many instances the initial patient-provider encounter is at a time when a very difficult decision, such as those at the end of life, has to be made. We hypothesize that community mistrust, cultural competence, and provider communication skills can be improved via a community directed development and implementation of an education tool for healthcare providers. The overall goal of this project is to enhance the communication skills of providers.
with patients at high risk for health disparities and to improve the trust of this community in their healthcare system.

Specific Aims: The specific aims are as follows: a) to enhance cultural competence and trust by determining opinions and emotions of a community at high risk for health disparities around medical cases with ethical dilemmas; b) to enhance communication skills and cultural competence with patients from communities at high risk for health disparities; c) to develop, implement, and evaluate an educational tool for internal medicine and general surgery residents focused on enhanced communication skills, cultural competence, and building trust in the face of ethical dilemmas.

Results: This study has been scheduled to start in year 2 of the grant. However, the investigators have been gathering cases from their clinical experience and a review of the ethics committee that can serve as the basis of discussion in the proposed focused groups.

Plans: In year 2 we propose to draft the case scenarios from actual case experiences from our Medical Center occurring over the last six years. The cases will be prepared for presentation to focus groups representative of our community. The written material will be written at a 7th grade literacy level and limited to one page. We will review these cases with members of the Community Health Advocate leadership council for assistance with cultural and communication issues. Subsequently we will develop the outline for the facilitated focus groups that should start near the end of year 2 or beginning of grant year 3.

References:


Pilot 3
The Impact of Labor Market Status/Labor Force on Access Health Care Access and Utilization among Low-Income Minority Families in Mobile, Alabama
Investigator: Kenneth Hudson, PhD

Objectives: The primary mechanism for access to health care in the United States is employer provided health insurance. Since the 1970s, the American labor market has become increasingly characterized by labor market dualism, the polarization between good jobs with high wages and benefits (primary labor market jobs) and low wage jobs without benefits (secondary labor market
jobs). The labor market is also increasingly characterized by jobs that combine primary and secondary characteristics (intermediary labor market jobs). This increase in labor market dualism has resulted in an increase in the number of Americans without employer provided health insurance. This segment of the population includes many people who are employed and their families. In this project we hypothesize that individuals and families that do not participate in employer provided health plans, and that rely on public health care resources, have less than optimal utilization of available health care. In this project we will examine how a family's labor market structure (the combination of primary, intermediary, and secondary jobs within each family) affects their access to health care and the family's utilization of health care services.

Specific Aims:
To determine the frequency of access to employer provided healthcare in a minority, low income, and urban population.
To determine the public healthcare resources available to families.
Do changes in labor force status affect access to and utilization of employer provided healthcare.

Studies and Results: We have been successful in continuing data collection in our cluster sample. Households have been selected from high poverty, high minority concentration census tracts. In the first stage of the sampling process blocks are randomly selected within the designated census tracts. In the second stage, locally available GIS information is used to identify and number housing units within the blocks. Housing units are then randomly selected from each block and the address for each housing unit is extracted from the GIS information. Members of the research team are contacting these households, first by letter, and then with a follow up visit. Data has been collected in 30 families. The interviews are semi-structured and entail the construction of an employment life calendar for each member of the family. These calendars enumerate the employment history of each adult household member and the job quality characteristics of each job the subject has held and/or currently holds. The information collected in the interviews fall within four broad rubrics: a) Demographic information on each member of the household; b) Collect current and retrospective LF/LM data on each member of the household age 16 and older; c) Knowledge and utilization of local health care resources; d) Identification of barriers to utilization of local health care resources.

We have also begun to collect stories from our interviewees. As we sit and conduct interviews we get valuable life stories and anecdotes that we have recognized as valuable tools to illustrate important issues in community based participatory research, poverty and survival, and health care consumption among health disparate populations.

Plans: We intend to collect complete family labor and medical histories on 60 households in wave 1 of the study. We expect to complete this by end of year 2. Data collected and analyzed in the wave 1 will provide the basis for a longitudinal follow up study of 60 households to be conducted in Year 3 and 4 of the study. Individual and households participating in wave 1 will be contacted and invited to participate in wave 2 of the study. New household members (that have joined previous households) and new households that include study participants from wave 1 will be invited to participate in wave 2 of the study. Information collected in wave 1 will be collected from first time participants in wave 2.
References:


Pilot 4
Title: Community-Based Asthma Intervention Consortium

Investigators: Jennifer Cole, MD (Assistant Professor of Pediatrics)
Loran Clement, MD (Professor and Chairman of Pediatrics)

Objectives: During the last thirty years, the prevalence and morbidity of asthma has dramatically increased in the United States. Research efforts to characterize this epidemic have shown that the impact of this chronic respiratory disease is disproportionately high among urban dwellers, lower socioeconomic groups, ethnic minorities, and children (1). The inability of contemporary systems and practices to reduce asthma morbidity has stimulated efforts to develop novel interventions that improve the health of children with asthma. A wide variety of disparate strategies have been tested (1). Although these models differ in rationale and approach, several general observations can be made. First, asthma education programs directed at healthcare providers have not translated into significant changes in the quality of asthma care for the disadvantaged. Conversely, almost any intervention that educates patients about the importance of controller medication use and provides serial assessments of disease activity improves health status. One intervention that has shown great promise is the Breathmobile program. This novel school-based outreach program integrates validated strategies for case identification, continuity of care, a structured healthcare encounter, patient tracking, and high levels of patient participation in a "real world" setting. The Breathmobile is a mobile clinic that is staffed and equipped so a multi-disciplinary team can provide highly specialized care in an efficient, economical fashion to asthma patients.

Hypothesis: Asthma can be identified and disease control can be achieved and maintained in urban children participating in an integrated community-based disease management network.
We propose to develop and refine a mobile clinic program that is suitable for use in a medium-sized urban area that will identify and treat pediatric patients with undiagnosed or poorly controlled asthma who would otherwise escape detection.

Specific Aims:
(1) Develop and validate an asthma assessment instrument that can be used both for case identification as well as a point-in-time measurement instrument for detecting uncontrolled (persistent) asthma with a high sensitivity and specificity.
(2) Develop a community-based disease management network that integrates the resources of an academic medical center, a public school system, civic groups, and concerned volunteer individuals.

Studies and Results: In year 1 of the grant we have been successful in continuing our relationship with several schools around the Mobile area (n = 12). Children with respiratory symptoms suggestive of asthma or who are known to have asthma have been identified. We have now conducted 2 full school years of BreatheMobile school based visits. Parents have been involved and data has been collected according to our protocols. We are now conducting our initial statistical analysis of data including: primary measure, a clinical construct of asthma control, is based on the goals of asthma therapy outlined in the NHLBI Guidelines (4), program effectiveness using serial outcome data, which will include: 1) the time to achieve control of asthma; 2) maintenance of asthma control (as the proportion of visits that patients remain in control after they first achieve control; 3) the demographic, treatment, and care-delivery factors characteristic of patients with difficult to control asthma (asthma controlled at less than 50% of visits after control first achieved).

Plan: In year 2 of the grant will conduct another round of school-based visits during the school year with data acquisition according to our protocols. At this point we will have 3 years of visits and will have sufficient follow-up data to make some conclusions. Particular emphasis will be given to recruiting community health advocates, as described elsewhere in this grant application, as well as school site-specific volunteers who will “adopt” each participating school and perform some of the clerical support duties (phone reminders, survey collection, etc.). Careful attention will be given to defining the processes that result in the successful recruitment and training of community volunteers. Moreover, we are optimistic that additional external funding can be obtained given the multi-site nature of this program and its unique school-based approach.

Literature Cited

Pilot 5
Title: A network approach to facilitating continuity of care for chronic diseases in the aftermath of a natural disaster
PI: Martha Arrieta, M.D., Ph.D.

Objective: Disaster preparations usually focus on the provision of shelter for vulnerable individuals, and/or evacuation planning and support. However, in the aftermath of Katrina, the need to provide for continuity of care for populations whose health was already compromised became painfully evident. Uninsured and underinsured individuals, many of them African American, rely on the federally supported primary care infrastructure for health needs in general, and the management of chronic diseases in particular. We hypothesize that a strategy to provide for continuity of care for patients with chronic diseases in the aftermath of a disaster will need to rely heavily on the community health centers that constitute the area’s safety net. Moreover, such strategy will require the development/strengthening of avenues and processes for communication between the distinct federally funded organizations that serve specific geographic units in the Gulf Coast. Additionally, mechanisms should be in place to facilitate the flow of patients across organizations. Finally, links between community health centers, other health care institutions (hospitals, pharmacies) and community based organizations are a critical component in the provision of continuity of care, especially in the event of a disaster. Therefore, our network approach to preparing for and providing care to patients with chronic diseases in the wake of a disaster.

Objectives:
We propose to build the capacity of the primary care infrastructure in the Gulf Coast by fostering the development of a network of primary care providers that would function seamlessly across the Mississippi – Alabama - Florida state boundaries, to provide continuity of care to patients with chronic diseases affected by a disaster.

The present proposal aims at facilitating a structured dialogue among community health centers, hospitals, commercial and not-for-profit pharmacies, and community based organizations in order to: a) identify the critical chronic disease management needs in the immediate aftermath of a natural disaster, both from the provider and the patient perspectives, b) identify the elements of a community based network that would be ready to cover such needs, and c) define the resources required to make such a network functional. We will focus on the management of major chronic diseases and of HIV/AIDS.
**Studies and Results:** We have had considerable success in these endeavors in year 1 of the grant. Building from the projects early studies we have been able to publish as monograph outlining the findings of the key informants and advisory panel during the first wave of the studies. This monograph was distributed to key decision makers in Mississippi and Alabama to enhance the development of policies that will facilitate better response to disasters among the health care infrastructure. We have and continue to prepare other manuscripts from this information (two in submission, one in preparation).

**Plans:** In year 2 we will focus on defining the resources needed to sustain the critical components defined in (3) above; including ways to track patients and facilitate continuity of care. We will extend our efforts to neighboring Gulf Coast counties to the east of Mobile in Alabama (Baldwin) and Florida. These counties were not able to be included in the first wave of studies, but have unique geography and demographics. We will also start surveys and potentially focus groups of key policy makers for disaster preparedness to evaluate the effect of our efforts (media releases, distribution of monograph, papers, etc). This will facilitate determining the best methods to effect policy change. Finally, we will foster the integration of the network across state boundaries, and its sustainability, by establishing an Advisory Board composed of a subset of each of the Advisory Panels formed for the project. Such Advisory Board will include representatives from health care institutions and community based organizations in each of the systems included, representing the southern half of Mississippi, and the Gulf Coast counties of Alabama and the Florida Panhandle.

**Summary**

The 2007-08 has been an outstanding program year for the Center for Healthy Communities. Significant accomplishments have been achieved in each program division area. The Center has experienced tremendous growth both programmatically and financially. It is receiving local, regional, and national recognition for its efforts to address health disparities, the needs of the underserved, and its efforts to help build healthy sustainable communities.

The Center continues to build collaborative partnerships within the university and the broader gulf coast region. It has become a catalyst for community based participatory research as well as basic science and clinically relevant research on health disparities. Its partnerships with faculty in both the division of health sciences and the division of academic affairs experienced considerable enhancement this past year, embracing the Center’s charge from the USA Board of Trustees to serve as a university-wide center.

The Center has also expanded its community relationships. Its work with church ministries and the community health advocates is opening new avenues for addressing health disparities issues. The Center’s partnership with the Mobile County Health Department to explore the potentials of electronic health monitoring is innovative and represents potentially new avenues to enhance the delivery of health care. Moreover, the Center for Healthy Communities is well positioned to help the University of South Alabama enhance its teaching, research, service, and healthcare capacity, particularly for the underserved citizens in our region.
2007-2008
Summary of Scholarly Activities
Center for Strategic Health Innovation

I. PUBLISHED JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

A. Full-length published articles and book chapters

B. Articles in press

II. PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS

III. BOOKS PUBLISHED

IV. PRESENTATIONS

Muisyo JM, Wallace DL. Alabama incident management system. Paper presented at: Southeast Alabama Medical Center; 2007 Oct 11; Dothan, AL.


Taylor CT. 360 degrees of awareness. Paper presented at: University of South Alabama Disaster Conference; 2007 Sep 24; Mobile, AL.

Taylor CT. 360 degrees of awareness. Paper presented at: National Association of City & County Health Officials Public Health Preparedness Summit 2008; 2008 Feb 21; Atlanta, GA.


Taylor CT, Wallace DW. Alabama incident management system. Paper presented at: National Association of City & County Health Officials Public Health Preparedness Summit 2008; 2008 Feb 19-22; Atlanta, GA.
Wallace DL. Alabama incident management system. Paper presented at: Texas Diabetes Institute Diabetes Management during a Disaster Seminar; 2008 May 31; San Antonio, TX.


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Wallace DL. Bioterrorism and infectious disease. Paper presented at: Medical Reserve Corps Power Day; 2007 Dec 12; Mobile, AL.

Wallace DL. Bioterrorism and infectious disease. Paper presented at: Medical Reserve Corps Power Day; 2008 Apr 12; Mobile, AL.

Wallace DL. Bioterrorism and infectious disease. Paper presented at: Medical Reserve Corps Power Day; 2008 Jul 12; Mobile, AL.

Wallace DL. Bioterrorism and pandemic flu. Paper presented at: 3rd Annual Bay Area Nurse Practitioners Association Educational Conference; 2008 Aug 1; Bon Secour, AL.

Wallace DL. Medical Reserve Corps. Paper presented at: North Alabama Medical Reserve Corps Community Disaster Preparedness Workshop; 2007 Oct 14; Huntsville, AL.

Wallace DL. Prevention and personal planning. Paper presented at: Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology Pandemic Flu Seminar; 2008 Aug 15; Mobile, AL.

V. NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

The Center for Strategic Health Innovation (CSHI) enjoyed another successful year in our two major focus areas: health technology development and deployment, and disaster preparedness and response training. Most notably, the Real-time Medical Electronic Data Exchange (RMEDE™), our patient-centric health record and claims management system, experienced unprecedented growth in 2007-2008. Through our efforts, total patient records managed grew from 95,000 to approximately 1,124,122 in 2007-2008, and total patients participating in our in-home monitoring project grew from 180 to 300, a 67% increase from last year. In addition to these successes, CSHI continued to serve as a key player in State disaster preparedness and response. We trained 561 public health, hospital, nursing home, EMA, emergency responders and nursing home staff in our Advanced Regional Response Training Center (ARRTC), and linked more than 774 healthcare, public health and emergency response facilities using Alabama Incident Management System (AIMS), our web-based surge capacity management tool.

Technology Development and Deployment: CSHI continually endeavors to use emerging health technologies to improve the quality, cost, care, and access to healthcare within our state and beyond. One of the keys to our success is Real-time Medical Electronic Data Exchange (RMEDE™), a secure web-based life-state management system including in-home monitoring of patients with chronic
disease and an interventional informatics reporting system. In 2007-2008, CSHI continued its critical partnership with the Alabama Medicaid Patient 1st program and the Alabama Department of Public Health, for the delivery of in-home monitoring of patients using RMEDE™. In this program, patients suffering from chronic illnesses such as diabetes, congestive heart failure, and hypertension are monitored for significant changes by using an innovative Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System. Patients are instructed to dial-in their key physiological parameters, and an ADPH Life Care Nurse is assigned to monitor the results and submit reports to the patient’s provider. Currently, over 300 patients are actively transmitting home monitoring information into RMEDE™, representing a 67% percent increase in participation from last year. Preliminary data shows a reduction in the number of Patient 1st emergency department visits, which translates to improved quality and decreased costs. CSHI also partnered with Alabama Medicaid on the Together For Quality (TFQ) Initiative to provide informatics specialty services, risk stratification, and reporting for the Medicaid patients suffering from asthma and diabetes in Alabama. To date, CSHI has produced quality metrics on over 500,000 Medicaid patients in Alabama, and over 70,000 Medicaid patients with asthma and diabetes.

In addition to Alabama Medicaid and ADPH, CSHI also partners with U.S. Care Management on their Experience Health initiatives in New York, Colorado, and North Dakota. Using, RMEDE™ CSHI provides innovative informatics solutions including identification of patients with chronic disease, and predictive modeling and risk stratification of those patients. CSHI works closely with the U.S. Care Management team to identify patients for the disease management program. In addition, CSHI produces regular reports of program outcomes for U.S. Care Management that are customized for each state. To date, CSHI has analyzed data on more than 800,000 Medicaid patients from New York, Colorado, and North Dakota.

Another application of RMEDE™ is our Black Belt project, which was designed to improve patient outcomes in the Black Belt counties of the State. This project culminated in a one year pilot project for 2008-2009 for in-home monitoring of unfunded patients in the region. A group of two regional community outreach organizations and three rural physician providers will collaborate with CSHI to provide monitoring of patients, to collect patient data, and to assess outcomes. Using best practices and lessons learned, additional funding options will be explored to continue and expand the project.

Another successful technology developed in-house by CSHI is the Alabama Incident Management System (AIMS). AIMS is management information software designed to capture Hospital Emergency Incident Command System (HEICS) reported surge data, or information regarding the real-time status of a hospital’s ability to triage, treat, and transfer victims of a disaster in a timely manner. Critical data such as the number of available beds, supplies, staffing, and equipment are entered into a database at each participating healthcare facility and
then transmitted and displayed at the local or regional Emergency Operations Centers (EOC) for use in making emergent decisions. CSHI boasts at total of 774 users including: 17 Community Health Centers, 11 FMA facilities, 316 EMS providers, 1 EMS EOC facility, 12 ADPH EOC facilities, 5 Evacuee Shelters, 131 Hospitals, 25 Medical Needs Shelters, and 256 Nursing Homes. Under contract with the Alabama Department of Public Health Center for Emergency Preparedness (ADPH CEP), CSHI added several new features to AIMS including four new modules for Evacuee Shelters, Dialysis Centers, Blood Centers, and Alternate Care sites; the addition of an alternate data sorting tool to support hospital regional response networks, rather than public health regions; an enhanced mobile phone interface; new links to important websites used by ADPH and other AIMS users; the addition of a search feature in a geographical context (using maps) to assist ADPH in locating available resources; an enhanced display of evacuation zones; and the standardization of the AIMS bed type list to match the national, HAveBED standard. Of recent significance, AIMS was activated statewide during Hurricanes Gustav and Ike.

Training Programs: Now in its fifth year, ARRTC is regional response training designed to teach effective collaborative healthcare community response to all disasters, natural or man-made. This program is made possible by a grant from the Alabama Department of Public Health Center for Emergency Preparedness through a cooperative agreement from HRSA. On-site training was delivered in Mobile to 561 participants which included representatives from public health, hospitals, nursing homes, community health centers (CHCs), and emergency management and response agencies. This year, CSHI offered three levels of training: 1) ARRTC Basic is a 2-day basic level course designed to provide regional response partners with basic, core disaster response training; 2) ARRTC Advanced is a 1 ½ day course that serves as an advanced forum of healthcare disaster community response information exchange and regional response partnership development; and 3) ARRTC RHP is a 1-day focused training session for regional response partners. For the 23 sessions delivered, evaluation scores are consistently high, with more than 95% rating the program as “Excellent” or “Good.”

In addition to ARRTC training, CSHI partnered with the Medical Reserve Corps to prepare and deliver disaster preparedness and response training to volunteer healthcare responders in Mobile.
2007-2008
Summary of Activities
USA Comprehensive Sickle Cell Center

I. PUBLISHED JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

A. Full-length published articles and book chapters


B. Articles in press


II. PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS

III. BOOKS PUBLISHED

IV. PRESENTATIONS

Haynes J. Adult health care services. Paper presented at: Sickle Cell Association of America; 2007 Nov 14; Mobile, AL.

Haynes J. Adult health care services. Paper presented at: Sickle Cell Association of America; 2008 May 7; Mobile, AL.

Haynes J. Hospital management of sickle cell crisis. Paper presented at: Gulf States Chapter of the Society of Hospital Medicine 4th Annual Conference; 2008 Jul 11; Point Clear, AL.


Haynes J. The most difficult part of understanding sickle cell disease is not defining the person by the disease. Paper presented at: Southeast Alabama Sickle Cell Association, Inc.; 2008 Mar 24; Dothan, AL.


Wilson F. How the benefits of oral iron chelator can reach your patients. Paper presented at: University of Mississippi Medical Center; 2008 Apr 2; Jackson, MS.


Wilson F. Teleconference panelist. Sickle cell disease and iron overload. Paper presented at: Novartis Pharmaceuticals National Sales Training Program; 2008 May 6; Mobile, AL.

Wilson F. The history of sickle cell disease and introduction to genetics and thalassemia. Paper presented at: Sickle Cell Association of America; 2008 May 5; Mobile, AL.

Wilson F. The history of sickle cell disease; introduction to genetics and thalassemia. Paper presented at: Sickle Cell Association of America; 2008 May 7; Mobile, AL.

V. NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Johnson Haynes Jr., Listed in “America’s Top Doctors” by Ltd. Castle Connolly Medical, Castle Connolly Medical, All editions.

VI. BRIEF SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS

General Operations: Dr. Johnson Haynes continues as Director of the USA Comprehensive Sickle Cell Center. Despite cuts in federal and state funding, the USA Comprehensive Sickle Cell Center continues to improve the delivery of clinical and educational services to individuals affected with sickle cell disease, family members of affected individuals, and health care providers.

Research: Most recently, the Center participated in an NIH sponsored study investigating the “Epidemiology of Priapism”. The Center has partnered with the University of Cincinnati and submitted a RO1 application which proposes a phase I/II trial to study zileuton in sickle cell disease. The current basic science focus is addressing arginine and hydroxyurea synergism on hemoglobin F induction in erythroid progenitors.
Clinical Operations: The 2007-2008 academic year marks the close of the 10th year that the Adult Sickle Cell Clinic has operated as a subspecialty clinic. The primary objectives of this clinic are (1) to be a resource for practicing physicians in the University and private community; and (2) to serve as a positive educational experience for primary care residents in the Departments of Medicine and Family Medicine at the University of South Alabama. The clinic is staffed by Dr. Johnson Haynes Jr.; Ms. Ardie Pack-Mabien, Nurse Practitioner; Ms. Stephanie Durgin, R.N.; and Ms. Adrienne Petite, Case Manager. Both Internal Medicine and Family Medicine residents rotate on a monthly basis through the outpatient Adult Sickle Cell Clinic. The Adult Sickle Cell Clinic serves the greater Mobile area in addition to a continuous influx of patients from surrounding areas. Ms. Pack-Mabien and Ms. Durgin continue to support the pediatric outpatient clinical operations and serve as liaisons when transitioning patients from pediatric to the adult services. Drs. Felicia Wilson, Aarati Rao and Hamayun Imran are the physicians caring for patients in the Pediatric Sickle Cell Outpatient Clinic. The absence of an adult hematologist and urologist to support the adult operations remains lacking and there is no proposed solution to this deficit of overall clinical operations currently in sight.

Education: The Center faculty continues to provide a broad series of lectures throughout the academic and private medical community and continue to support the Educator/Counselor Certification Program which took place 3 times this academic year at the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America, Mobile Chapter. On April 19, 2008 the Center hosted its' eighth conference on “Practical Issues in Sickle Cell Disease VIII: “Hypercoagulability in Sickle Cell Disease – Perceived or Reality?” Dr. Cage S. Johnson, Professor and Director of the Comprehensive Sickle Cell Center at the University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine was the Keynote Speaker. Dr. Johnson spoke on, “Hypercoagulability in Sickle Cell Disease.” Other speakers were Dr. Errol Crook who spoke on, “Protein Wasting Nephropathy and Hypercoagulability”, Dr. Moshood Olatinwo who spoke on, “Hormonal Contraception and the Risk of Thromboembolism in Women with Sickle Cell Disease: What Does It Mean to Clinicians and Their Patients?”; and Dr. Hamayun Imran who spoke on “Hypercoagulability in Children with Sickle Cell Disease. What Do We Know?” Our keynote speaker address has been named the “Dr. Cecil Parker Lectureship” in recognition of Dr. Parker’s many contributions to the sickle cell community. The nursing staff continues to provide a series of lectures to the nursing community within the University of South Alabama and private hospitals in the Mobile community and surrounding counties. As we go forward, we plan to continue the clinical operations with the same vigor and integrity as we have in current years. We will continue to seek the grant support necessary to continue all clinical and research activities as well as continue requesting the necessary financial support currently being made available by the University of South Alabama College of Medicine.
**Other Activities:** Drs. Johnson Haynes, Jr and Felicia Wilson continue to serve as Commissioners for the State of Alabama Sickle Cell Oversight and Regulatory Commission. Dr. Haynes also serves on the Sickle Cell National Data and Safety Monitoring Board for the Clinical Trials Consortium, National Institutes of Health. The Center’s newsletter, “Sickle Cell Today”, was distributed across the State of Alabama to clients, client’s families, administrators, community sickle cell foundations, and legislators in March and September, 2008. The Center partners with Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America, Mobile Chapter, Franklin Primary Health Center and the American Red Cross to sponsor an annual blood drive every September during “National Sickle Cell Month.”
2007-2008
Summary of Activities
Office of Development and Alumni Relations

The total number of medical graduates for the College of Medicine is 1,989 (this number does not include Ph.D. in Basic Medical Science graduates or current housestaff or former residents). The Medical Alumni Office assists with the quarterly meetings of the Executive Board of Directors for the Medical Alumni Association and organizes special events.

Dr. Lamar Duffy finished his two-year term as the 2007-08 President. Dr. Tom Montgomery began his term as President serving from June 2008 to June 2010. The president-elect is Dr. Amy Morris. The following physicians served on the Executive Board of Directors: Oscar Almeida '85, William Blaylock '89, Gregory Cotter '80, Cynthia Donnell, Diana Hashimi '90, Russell Hudgens '87, Wanda Kirkpatrick '78, Amy Morris '93, Carol Norden '85, Kit Outlaw '92, Jill Ringold '01, David Ross '79, John Todd '88, Stacey Wing '96. Dr. Christopher Semple '85 has replaced Dr. Norden.

Scholarship development, recognition of academic achievement, and projects designed to enhance medical education continue to be a primary focus for the organization. The following scholarships were awarded: Twenty freshman scholarships ($1,000), the Christian Grinaker Memorial Award Award ($1,000), two Clyde “Sid” Huggins Scholarships ($1,800 each), and the Lester Sockwell Award ($1,000). Thomas Jake Lee was the recipient of the 2008 Medical Alumni Leadership Award.

The Medical Alumni Association has one revenue source for program funding – the Annual Membership Assessment and Fund Drive. A yearly membership is $50 – a lifetime membership is available for $500. The standard amount requested for support of extra projects is $100 per alumnus. The 2007-08 Annual Drive received a total of $67,530. Of that amount, $24,750 was received in dues and $42,780 in fund gifts. Participation in dues increased, but the total amount received was approximately $5,000 less from the previous year.

Activities that involved or were sponsored by the Medical Alumni Office for 2007-08 included:
- Scholarship Recognition Luncheon for the College of Medicine
- College of Medicine Charles Baugh Fall Picnic
- COM faculty and Mobile Alumni Senior Class Reception at the Mobile Museum of Art
- The Annual Medical Alumni Weekend (CME presentations/reunions)
- The White Coat Ceremony
- Spring Alumni Lecture

Donations by the Medical Alumni Association to student activities:
- Student Caduceus Ball - $1,500
- Skit Night Committee - $1,000
- Review of Systems - $500
- Mobile Medical Society Student Interest Group - $500
- Student Intramural Sport fees - $275

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Major gifts by the Medical Alumni Association:
COM Medical Alumni Endowment for Scholarships - $10,000
The John B. Bass Endowment Fund - $5,000
2007-08 Project (Development of Clinical Skills Laboratory) - $20,000
2007-2008 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

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<th>NAME</th>
<th>STATE or COUNTY</th>
<th>UNDERGRAD SCHOOL</th>
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<td>CLYDE &quot;SID&quot; HUGGINS SCHOLARSHIP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms. Lindsay E. Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Charles E. Kirkland, II</td>
<td>Baldwin</td>
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<td>LES SOCKWELL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP</td>
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<td>Ms. Amanda Regan Lou England</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms. Sailaja Allamneni</td>
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<td>University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa University of California, Berkeley University of South Alabama University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa Spring Hill College Auburn University University of South Alabama Samford University Tulane University of Louisiana University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa Emory University Auburn University Saint Louis University Vanderbilt University University of South Alabama University of Richmond Samford University Auburn University University of Georgia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Jacob Batson</td>
<td>Tuscaloosa</td>
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<td>Mr. Daniel M. Bonnici</td>
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<td>Ms. Kimberly Riley Bryan</td>
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<td>Ms. Mary Alice Dearman</td>
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<td>Mr. Brian Dupont</td>
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<td>Ms. Ashley Myers</td>
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<td>Ms. Melissa J. Reimer</td>
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<td>Mr. Jefferson Sabitini</td>
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<td>Mr. Sameh Adel Sakla</td>
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<td>Mr. Micah Whitson</td>
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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE
NUMBER OF GRADUATES BY CLASS

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Total 1,989*

*Total includes thirty-four deceased alumni
2007-2008
OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

The Office of Student Affairs is responsible for all educational programs in the College of Medicine from admission through graduation from medical school. These activities encompass the areas of Admissions, Student and Academic Affairs, and Continuing Medical Education and are primarily overseen by the Associate Dean of Student Affairs. An Assistant Dean of Curriculum oversees curriculum and an Assistant Dean of Graduate Medical Education oversees the residency programs. Two additional Assistant Deans play roles in academic and career counseling.

Activities of the Office of Student Affairs are accomplished through offices in the Medical Sciences Building, Central Services and Administration Building, and Mastin Building.

Student Affairs

Orientation programs, entirely organized by sophomore student efforts, were held for entering Freshmen. The 76 Freshman students attended two and a half days of structured activities which included introductory talks or presentations from the COM administration, Biomedical Library staff, Counseling Services, and various student organizations, a course in CPR and a book and instrument sale. Events included dinners at faculty homes on Thursday night and a variety of optional recreational activities on Friday. Wednesday evening events included dinner at Wintzells sponsored by USA COM Chapter of AMA, MASA and Mobile County Medical Society. These events were all very well attended and enjoyed by everyone.

Ms. Judy Hamm, long-time secretary for Student Affairs in the Mastin Building, retired at the end of 2007. Her years of service and attention to senior students were recognized at a reception in her honor. Ms. Karen Braswell was hired in early 2008 and new scheduling software was utilized so that the old DOS program (repeatedly resuscitated by Ms. Hamm over the years) could rest in peace. Ms. Braswell and Ms. Rhonda Smith had the new program up and running to rave reviews from the students.

Match Day festivities were held at the USA Brookley Magnolia Ballroom on March 20, 2008. Envelopes were distributed a few moments before 11 a.m., and at the stroke of 11, a bell was rung and the students simultaneously opened their envelopes. Students were called to the stage in a random order to announce their matches and “pin the map.” The class had multiple matches traversing Maine to Hawaii. The festivities and subsequent reception were sponsored by the Medical Association of the State of Alabama.

Honors Convocation for the College of Medicine was held on Friday evening May 2, 2008 in the Mitchell Center on Campus. Dr. Margaret O’Brien delivered the remarks of Dr. Roger Lane (the class-selected faculty speaker who could not attend). Matthew DeLaney was the class speaker. Awards for academic achievement were announced and 65 students were hooded by their designated hooders. Dr. Ron Franks administered the Hippocratic Oath. An informal on-site reception followed the ceremony. Graduation was held at 2 p.m. the following day.
Junior Orientation was held in the Mastin Building on the USAMC Campus on May 4, 2008. The Mastin office of Student Affairs organized the program which included advice from faculty and students on how to succeed in the Junior year. Additional presentations were made by staff from Medical Records, Risk Management, Infection Control, Quality Assurance, the Biomedical Library, and Hospital Safety and Security. In addition, the students were recertified in Basic Life Support.

The seventh annual White Coat Ceremony, sponsored again this year by the Medical Alumni Association, was held on Saturday, June 28, 2008, in the Mitchell Center. Rising third-year students and their families were welcomed by Dr. Margaret O’Brien for the Office of Student Affairs and Dr. Tom Montgomery for the Medical Alumni Association. Dr. John Bass of the Department of Internal Medicine gave a short poetic talk on what it means to be a physician. Dr. Ron Franks and Dr. Bass then presented the students with a white coat and a lapel pin (courtesy of the USACOM Alumni Association and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation for Humanism in Medicine, respectively). Dr. Margaret O’Brien administered the USA "Medical Student Oath." The president of the class, Aaron Mates, also addressed the assembly. The newly selected members of the USA chapter of the Gold Humanism in Medicine Honor Society were present and received their pins. The formal program was followed by an on-site reception. The events were well attended and received good reviews from all who came.
Student Affairs supports a tutoring program which pays upperclassman and/or graduate students to tutor Freshman and Sophomore students who request assistance. In 2007-2008, three (3) tutors provided 49 hours of tutoring to five (5) students in Physiology, Neuroscience, Histology, and Pharmacology. The number of visiting medical students who participated in Senior elective courses at USACOM in 2007-2008 is outlined below:

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<td>From Foreign Schools</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
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Letters of evaluation (Dean’s Letters) were written for each of the 65 seniors who graduated in May, 2008. Students applied to 1840 residency programs through the AAMC Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS).

Sixty-four (64) of the sixty-five (65) students matched for residency positions. Sixty-two (62) of the May graduates used the NRMP as their primary means of obtaining residency. Three (3) graduates used the Military Match. One (1) student secured a residency training position in the “scramble” that followed the match.
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<td>PRIMARY CARE:</td>
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<td>2008</td>
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194
Sixty-five seniors received the Doctor of Medicine degree at Commencement on May 3, 2008. On the evening of May 2, the College held its thirty-third Honors Convocation, which took place in the Mitchell Center. Dr. Roger Lane's remarks were delivered by Dr. O'Brien and Matthew DeLaney responded for the graduates. Prior to hooding the graduates, the following awards were presented:

Dean's Award ................................................................. Karen Anne Raduazo
Outstanding Student in the Anatomical Sciences .................. Benjamin Alan Davidson
Charles M. Baugh Award in Biochemistry ......................... Kathryn Nicholson Pettit
Medical Assurance Award ................................................. Courtney Lukens Baxley
Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award ......................... Cheryl Marie Law
SNMA Leadership Award .................................................. Erica Michelle Stringer
Community Service Award ................................................ Cheryl Marie Law
Lewis Anderson Medical Student Achievement Award ............ Eugene Willis Brabston, III
Obstetrics/Gynecology Award ............................................. Jacalyn Howze Reese
William A. Gardner, Jr. Pathology Award ............................. Jared Locke Burkett
Merck Award ................................................................. Benjamin Alan Davidson
                                                                 Nicholas George Papajohn
Samuel Eichold Award .................................................... Amy Elizabeth Woodward
Hollis J. Wiseman Award for Excellence in Pediatrics ............ Eugene Willis Brabston, III
Pharmacology Achievement Award ....................................... Amanda Jane Mularz
John W. Donald Memorial Award in Surgery ......................... Eugene Willis Brabston, III
Medical Alumni Leadership Award ...................................... Thomas Jacob Lee, Jr.
Charles W. Urschel Achievement Award in Physiology ................ Thomas Jacob Lee, Jr.
Excellence in Emergency Medicine Award ............................. Tracy Christine Jacobs
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>A</th>
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<td>29</td>
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### Academic Progress of Medical Students

**Source:** Part II of LCME Annual Medical School Questionnaire

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Initial Students in Class</td>
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<td>60</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>67</td>
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<td>Graduates</td>
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<td>56</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>65</td>
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<tr>
<td>True Attrition (will not receive M.D. in any year)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<td>2</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dismissed</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sophomores</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juniors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seniors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Placed on Leaves of Absence (LOA)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophomores</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juniors</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transferred to Another Medical School</td>
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<td>Withdrew</td>
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<td>Admitted with Advanced Standing or Re-entered from Graduate School</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deceased</td>
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<tr>
<td>Repeated All or Part of the Year</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>Enrolled on a Decelerated Schedule</td>
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### Minority Students (Black, Native American, Hispanic)

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<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>31</td>
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<tr>
<td>All Other Classes</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>21</td>
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### United States Medical Licensure Examination (USMLE) Step 1

#### First Time Takers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
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<td>59</td>
<td>65</td>
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<td>69</td>
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<tr>
<td>National Overall Mean</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>218</td>
<td>222</td>
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<tr>
<td>USACOM Overall Mean</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure Rate - National</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failures at USA</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>3%</td>
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</table>

Standard Deviation approximately 20

### United States Medical Licensure Exam (USMLE) Step 2

#### First Time Takers

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<th>2008</th>
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<tr>
<td>Number of Students</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Overall Mean</td>
<td>218</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>NA</td>
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<tr>
<td>USA COM Overall Mean</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure Rate - National</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure Rate at USA</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>NA</td>
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</table>

NA = Not Available. Individual 3-digit scores no longer reported after 2001
Minimum passing score = 170 for Class of 1997-2000; 174 beginning with Class of 2001; 182 beginning with the Class of 2004
Standard deviation = approximately 20

### United States Medical Licensure Examination (USMLE) Step 3

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<th>Class of 2003</th>
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<th>Class of 2005</th>
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<td>National Percentage Passing</td>
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<td>96</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>97</td>
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<tr>
<td>USA Percentage Passing</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA Number of Students</td>
<td>63*</td>
<td>59**</td>
<td>58***</td>
<td>58*</td>
<td>43**</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*51/59 students have taken Step 3 as of 8/03
**63/65 students have taken Step 3 as of 12/05
***59/60 students have taken Step 3 as of 12/06
× 59/60 students have taken Step 3 as of 12/07
××45/59 students have taken Step 3 as of 12/07
Evaluation of Student Performance in the First Postgraduate Year*

The questionnaire adopted by the Curriculum Committee in 1990-91 for assessment of graduates of the College of Medicine was sent to the Directors of the PGY-1 programs of our 2007 graduates. A total of 49 responses were received out of 63 requests. Below is a summary of the responses to the four major areas that were assessed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th>Class of 2005</th>
<th>Class of 2006</th>
<th>Class of 2007</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Medical Knowledge</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Top Fifth</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Upper Middle Fifth</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>48%</td>
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<td>Middle Fifth</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>51%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>7%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bottom Fifth</td>
<td>3%</td>
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<td>0%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Data Collection</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Top Fifth</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Middle Fifth</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>52%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>45%</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Clinical Judgment and Skills</strong></td>
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<td>21%</td>
<td>29%</td>
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<td><strong>Professional Attitudes</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bottom Fifth</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Evaluated by Residency Program Director and/or Faculty
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

The 2007-2008 Curriculum Committee was chaired by Dr. Michael Culpepper, Professor of Internal Medicine. The committee focused on the following issues.

The first subcommittee focused on developing core cases for the basic science courses. The members of the subcommittee developed a disease list including commonly occurring chronic diseases such as hypertension, asthma and atherosclerosis and a form for fully written representative cases which will be supplemented by clinical vignettes and simulator-based cases. The subcommittee recommended creating an on-line repository of cases. Once the cases were in place a dissemination of the information concerning the resource would also be a way of soliciting input from clinicians. It was further suggested that an annual survey of the usage of the on-line repository be conducted. The underlying idea is to make clinical medicine relevant earlier and to keep basic science relevant in the clinical years.

The second subcommittee was charged with evaluating the scheduling of courses within the sophomore year. Currently, the spring semester is extremely intense. During the spring of this year a decision was made by the Pathology Department to shorten the Pathology course to one semester. Based on that decision Medical Genetics will be moved from the end of the second semester to the beginning of the second semester. Consequently, there was no recommendation made by this subcommittee.

The third subcommittee focused on incorporating simulation in the curriculum. A survey was developed and directed to clerkship and residency directors concerning their perceived simulator needs and the ways that simulators are being incorporated into medical education. Information was shared with the Chairs of the Physiology and Pharmacology Departments concerning how other schools are using simulation in their courses. The recommendation from the subcommittee is that workshops to demonstrate simulators be organized in order to provide more faculty contact.

In addition to the three subcommittees, a special task force was formed to address the teaching of clinical skills. On an annual basis our students have participated in a single half-day session at the Tulane School of Medicine as a “dress rehearsal” for the Step 2 CS exam. This past academic year, the Department of Family Medicine introduced standardized patients for use in evaluating clinical performance. The task force members met with clerkship directors including Drs. Estrada, Rettig, Gandy, Billett, Owens, Hundley, Lopez, Motley and Vande Waa. Clerkship Directors were asked to consider how to improve our students’ performance on the clinical skills exam. Changes to the curriculum for the 2008-2009 academic year have been undertaken. Dr. Estrada reported that one of the patient examination rooms for Pediatrics has a two-way mirror which will permit observation of students in patient encounters and Dr. Estrada is structuring clinic time to permit such evaluations. Dr. Billett of AltaPointe (Psychiatry) plans to include a video taped standardized patient encounter and a written and oral standardized patient examination. Dr. T. J. Hundley of Internal Medicine is studying how to incorporate simulators and standardized patient encounters into the Internal Medicine clerkship curriculum. Students will be required to turn in a history and physical on a weekly basis for evaluation.
Dr. Owens reported that students will be expected to turn in five history and physicals which will be evaluated with student feedback. The Introduction to Clinical Medicine course, occurring over the first two years, is currently run under the auspices of Internal Medicine by Dr. John Vande Waa. He is considering the feasibility of video taping student-on-student clinical encounters. In summary, the Clinical Skills Task Force has instigated scrutiny into the clinical skills content of our third year courses with resultant changes in the curriculum of those courses.

During this academic year, six new fourth year electives were approved. They included an Acting Internship in Critical Care, an International Elective in Pediatrics to be based in Guatemala, a Psychiatry Special Elective, an Acting Internship in Psychiatry, a Pediatric Infectious Disease Elective, and an Elective in Obesity and the Pediatric Patient.
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF STUDENT ASSEMBLY

As set forth in the Student Handbook, the Student Assembly addressed issues affecting student life. The Officers for 2007-08 were Will Brabston - President, Jennifer Morrison - Vice President, and Tracy Jacobs – Secretary/Treasurer. The Faculty Advisors were Dr. Judy Blair-Elortegui, Internal Medicine/Pediatrics and Dr. Elliott Carter, Pathology.

ISSUES ADDRESSED BY THE STUDENT ASSEMBLY

1) Student Health Insurance. Historically, the Student Assembly negotiated with and selected a policy for medical students and Allied Health students. Because of the young age and relative good health of most students, the rates have been very reasonable in the past. The College of Medicine policy for 2007-2008 required that it is mandatory for students to have the Student Assembly selected policy unless they are currently covered through a policy held by parents or a spouse. The Student Assembly did meet with representatives of Alabama Administrators and selected a policy for the 2008-2009 academic year with no rate increase.

2) Coordination of the selection of the form of the Hippocratic Oath selected by the Class of 2008 was handled.

3) The White Coat ceremony was moved to the last Saturday before the commencement of the third year.

4) The Residency Fair was held on October 25.

5) Skit night was held at the temple in downtown Mobile in March; it was supported financially by the Student Assembly and was well attended.

6) The Student Assembly supported an Easter egg hunt to benefit St. Mary’s.

7) The Regan Robinson Scholarship fund (in honor of the senior medical student who succumbed to colon cancer in February, 2007) was the beneficiary of the “Relay for Regan” extreme bowling fundraiser. The event was considered a success.

8) Effective April 1, 2008, Dr. Rettig stepped down from the position of Assistant Dean of Student Affairs and Dr. John B. Bass, Jr. assumed the position.
### OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID

<table>
<thead>
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<tr>
<td>Total Financial Aid</td>
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<td>$7,112,209</td>
<td>$7,476,092</td>
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<td>Students on Aid</td>
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<td>University Sponsored</td>
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<td>$1,171,491</td>
<td>$1,123,171</td>
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<td>Average Indebtedness of a Graduating Senior</td>
<td>$88,830</td>
<td>$90,416</td>
<td>$98,952</td>
<td>$126,116</td>
<td>$137,418</td>
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</table>

An Emergency Loan Fund is available to medical students. Loans of up to $500 may be obtained by students through a fund administered by the Office of Student Affairs and Medical Education for a period of up to 60 days for the purpose of alleviating an unanticipated financial need. There is no interest charged. During the period August 1, 2007, through July 31, 2008, six (6) emergency loans were approved for a total amount of $3,000.00. During that period, six (6) payments totaling $3,000.00 were paid back into the loan account.
OFFICE OF EDUCATIONAL ENRICHMENT

Biomedical Enrichment and Recruitment Program (B.E.A.R.)
The summer of 2008 brought new changes to the B.E.A.R. program. A meeting was called by the College of Medicine Dean on February 15, 2008 in the Dean's conference room to discuss the fate of the program. Attending the meeting were the Dean, Vice President for Health Sciences, the University Attorney, the Associate Dean for Student Affairs, the Assistant Dean for Curriculum, the Assistant Dean for Educational Enrichment, and the Admissions Director. The major point surrounding the meeting was whether or not to continue the recruitment program given the expiration of the Federal Court Consent Decree through which the program was created. The meeting was called because of recent court rulings re: affirmative action and special programs directed toward minorities. After much deliberation, a consensus was reached that the pipeline program would be continued for the year 2008 with specific changes in the target audience.

The final understanding within the group was that the focus of the program would change to target educationally and economically disadvantaged students. These terms refer to educationally or academically disadvantaged students as ones who come from low income communities, schools with low test scores, low numbers of students and low graduation rates; or schools with minimal science and math course options. Socially or economically disadvantaged students are considered to come from single parent households, have limited or no exposure to physician role models or the medical profession, or who fall within the categories of families with an annual income below a level which is based on low-income thresholds according to family size published by the U.S. Bureau of Census.

The Assistant Dean of Educational Enrichment instituted the following major change in the program: in the level of student stipends were tied to on their academic performance. This system achieved the desired goal of motivating students to rise and perform at their highest potential. There was an observed increase in student study time and a more competitive spirit among the students that resulted in improved student performance and a desire to maximize efforts to receive the full stipend amount.

Phase I
The composition of the 2008 class of incoming B.E.A.R. students (22nd year of the program) was similar to previous years due mostly to the late decision to continue with the program, and time needed to change the recruitment literature and get the news out to the colleges and universities of the pending changes. Many of the students had already applied based on the previously published and distributed criteria. Therefore, we had a very limited pool of students that fit within the new criteria for admissions requirements. The Phase I class had a total of thirteen students representing seven (7) institutions:

Alabama A&M...............................3
Salem College.............................1
Texas Christian..........................1
Tuskegee...................................5
University of Alabama, Birmingham...1
University of Alabama, Huntsville.....1
University of Notre Dame................1
Ten (10) of the thirteen students are Alabama residents, one (1) is a resident of McKinney, Texas; one (1) of St. Louis, MO; and one (1) of San Pablo, CA. Students from Salem College and Texas Christian are the first representatives from these schools. There were seven (7) females and six (6) males in this class. All students are African American. The grade point averages of Phase I students ranged from 2.85 to 4.0, and ACT scores ranged from 22 to 29. To date, a total of 234 students have participated in the B.E.A.R. program.

Phase II
All of the students who participated in Phase I of the program in the summer of 2007 were successful and returned for Phase II. The Phase II students represent nine different institutions of:

- Alabama A&M.................................................................1
- Alabama State..............................................................3
- Alcorn State.................................................................2
- *Miles College..............................................................1
- Mississippi State..........................................................1
- Mississippi University for Women...................................1
- Springhill.................................................................1
- Stillman.................................................................1
- University of Mississippi............................................1

*This is the first B.E.A.R. matriculant from Miles College. Of the twelve (12) participants in Phase II, seven (7) are Alabama residents; four (4) are Mississippi residents, and one is a Georgia resident.

In August of 2008, five (5) minority freshmen entered the University of South Alabama College of Medicine, four (4) as B.E.A.R graduates.

The selection process for the B.E.A.R. program will change slightly from past years. The applications will initially be screened by the Assistant Dean for eligibility. After initial screening, the B.E.A.R. Advisory Committee members will review applications with the Assistant Dean and rank them according to most qualified and most preferred. The program will be promoted to all students who fit within the educationally and economically disadvantaged categories, and acceptable candidates will be notified by the Assistant Dean.

Other Recruitment
The Office of Educational Enrichment made four college recruitment trips in 2008 to Tougaloo College, Alabama A&M University, University of Georgia, and Spelman College.
OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS
Annual Report for 2007-2008

Applicant Pool and Acceptance Data

The University Of South Alabama College Of Medicine participates in the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS). The period for receiving applications to the College of Medicine for the class entering August 11, 2008, opened June 1 and closed November 15, 2007.

For the Class of 2012, one thousand two hundred nine (1209) applications were received. Three hundred ninety-six (396) applications were received from Alabama residents, seven hundred eleven (711) applications from out of state U.S. citizens, and one hundred two (102) applications from citizens of foreign countries. The Admissions Committee interviewed a total of two hundred eighteen (218) applicants of which two hundred four (204) were residents of Alabama. Of the applicants interviewed, one hundred forty-two (142) were offered admission to fill a class of seventy-four (74). Seventy-two (72) of the matriculating students are Alabama residents. Eleven (11) offers of admission were made to black applicants; five (5) will matriculate. Four (4) of the matriculating black students are BEAR (Biomedical Enrichment and Recruitment) students. This year, our records indicate an increase in the number of applicants (1209 in '08 vs. 1100 in '07); there was an increase in Alabama applicants (396 in '08 vs. 385 in '07). Table 1 gives comparative data since 2005.

The 2008 entering class has an exceptional "mix" of academically well-qualified students who graduated from nineteen (19) colleges and universities. However, 62% of this year's class is made up of students from the four largest universities in the state.

Recruitment and Retention Efforts

1. Undergraduate campus recruiting visits and sophomore interviews were implemented by "teams" of faculty, administration, and medical students. The USACOM recruiting teams counseled over 500 premedical students at 12 colleges and universities.

2. The Director of Admissions served as the admissions counselor and advised prospective students on a daily basis. In addition, selected faculty members advised prospective applicants periodically.

3. Premedical visitation day programs were organized and conducted to provide prospective applicants with an opportunity to tour the College of Medicine facilities, learn about the application process, meet with medical students and faculty, and obtain information on financial aid, housing, and the community.

4. Informative health career related programs were organized and conducted upon request for high school students, community organizations, and premedical special interest groups.

5. Special admissions reports and correspondence were produced and distributed monthly to in-state premedical advisors and selected out-of-state advisors.
6. A total of 16 Applicant Interview Day programs were conducted from September until early April. The interviewers, primarily College of Medicine basic science and clinical faculty, serve as members of the Committee on Admissions and/or ad hoc committee. These members interviewed 218 candidates; each candidate was interviewed by three committee members, giving a total of 654 interviews.

7. The following Admissions Committee subcommittees were active in 2006-07:
   Early Acceptance Program Subcommittee

**Early Acceptance Program**

In 1990, the College of Medicine and the University’s Health Preprofessions Program established an Early Acceptance Program (EAP) for qualified high school graduates interested in a career in medicine. Candidates selected for this program must have a minimum high school GPA of 3.5 and an ACT score of 28 (or comparable SAT). Candidates selected for this program receive early acceptances from the University of South Alabama and the University of South Alabama College of Medicine. The students enter the Health Preprofessions Program at the University of South Alabama, and their curriculums include the core requirements for their selected baccalaureate program and prerequisites for entering medical school. Students in this program must maintain a specific GPA during college, and are required to meet all other requirements for entering medical school. Students participate in a variety of activities selected to provide a broad exposure to medical education. Students participating in the program are expected to enter the College of Medicine following completion of the baccalaureate degree.

In 2008, the EAP Subcommittee interviewed 43 applicants for the program and offered 15 acceptances.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>2005</th>
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<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
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<td>1054</td>
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<td>410</td>
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<td>517</td>
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<td>Female</td>
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<td>95</td>
<td>90</td>
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<td>Service Areas (FL &amp; MS)</td>
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<td>4</td>
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OFFICE OF CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

General:
2007-2008 proved to be a challenge for the office of Continuing Medical Education. Both the CME office coordinator, Donna Skipper and the clerical support staff, Darla Stokes, resigned their positions to take other positions within the University in the spring of 2008. Donna Skipper was very generous with her time during the transition. She worked closely with Carolyn Clark of the Vice President for Health Sciences Office, so that essential planning for unique CME programs in the spring and summer would continue. The CME Coordinator position was subsequently reclassified as a CME Director and Sharrie Cranford was hired as the new director and Yolanda Mack was hired as support staff member. Both Ms. Cranford and Ms. Mack had previously been employed in the USA transplant program. The mission of the CME programs remained unchanged. The goal of the program is still to provide educational activities intended to improve the knowledge, skills, and clinical proficiency of USA physicians and others in the Mobile, Alabama area and to enrich the quality of healthcare provided for the citizens and surrounding communities. The CME Committee met in October, 2007 and in January, March, and June of 2008. The CME Office coordinated CME programs provided by the clinical departments to physicians with 439 ongoing activities accounting for 791 CME credit hours and 10 unique activities, accounting for 55 CME credit hours.

Major Issues Addressed by the CME Committee:
1. To help their planning of ongoing programs, the CME Committee provided individual clinical department program directors with epidemiologic data of the most prevalent disease states in the region.
2. New ACCME policies and procedures were addressed and plans were made to adapt the USA CME Policies and Procedures to the new requirements.
3. In order to address the requirement of measurable outcomes/practice change as a result of CME programs, discussions were held with the Quality Assurance department which has been tracking core measures. Efforts are underway to coordinate QA core measures with CME planning.
4. CME coordinator’s report was made at each meeting summarizing the status of pending unique CME programs and on-going departmental programs.
5. The CME Committee voted to change a prior prohibition against jointly sponsored CME activities. Policies and procedures will have to be developed for the new joint programs and safeguards will have to be structured to maintain control of all CME events and avoid conflicts with “commercial interests.” The CME director, once the policies and procedures are in place, will seek appropriate, non-profit co-sponsors for future programs.

Plans for 2008-2009:
With the office of CME newly staffed, the function of the department will be closely scrutinized, efforts will be made to enhance jointly sponsored programs, improvement of the CME website will be undertaken, and potential on-line CME modalities will be examined.
OFFICE OF GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

The Office of Graduate Medical Education (GME) is responsible for the oversight of GME activities, policies, and procedures throughout the USA Hospitals and Clinics. During the 2007-2008 academic year, USA sponsored 11 residency programs (Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Medicine/Pediatrics, Neurology, OB/GYN, Orthopaedic Surgery, Pathology, Pediatrics, Psychiatry, Diagnostic Radiology and Surgery) and 5 subspecialty programs (Cardiovascular, Gastroenterology, Infectious Disease, Pulmonary Disease, Vascular Neurology), comprised of 218 residents and fellows.

The GME Committee welcomed new members Deborah Simkin, M.D., Program Director for the Department of Psychiatry, Kenneth Brewington, M.D., Medical Director for the Infirmary Health System, and Steve Burford, Assistant Hospital Administrator at CWH. New resident representatives include April Ross, M.D., Department of Pediatrics, Kevin Bradley, M.D., Department of Radiology and Stuart Offner, M.D., Department of Internal Medicine.

The Division of Pulmonary Disease submitted and received accreditation to start a Pulmonary Disease and Critical Care Medicine fellowship program, effective July 1, 2008. With the accreditation of this new program the ACGME voluntarily withdrew the previous Pulmonary Disease fellowship, as of June 30, 2008. The Department’s of Family Medicine and Orthopaedic Surgery both received accreditation by the ACGME to begin a new fellowship program in Sports Medicine. Family Medicine’s effective date is July 1, 2008 and the Orthopaedic Surgery Sports Medicine program will have a fellow beginning August 1, 2008. The Department of Surgery received approval from the ACGME for a temporary increase of 2 residents, effective July 1, 2007 until June 30, 2011. Dr. Craig Sherman was named as the Department of OB/GYN’s new Program Director, effective September, 2007.

USA Hospitals expanded its relationship between the Department of Psychiatry and AltaPoint Heath Systems, Inc. Dr. Deborah Simkin assumed the position of Program Director upon the retirement of Dr. Charles Rich. During Dr. Simkin’s tenure she submitted and received an approval for an increase in resident complement from 12 to 16 residents, effective July 1, 2008. Dr. Simkin also submitted an application to the ACGME to start a fellowship program in Child and Adolescent Medicine, which is currently under review.

Dr. Susan LeDoux presented the results of the Simulation Lab survey completed by the program directors and its use for residency programs. Equipment purchased for this lab was based on the needs of the programs and they would be applying for grants to purchase additional equipment.

Internal reviews were conducted on 4 specialty programs, 2 sub-specialty programs and 1 modified internal review was also performed during the 2007-2008 year. There were no ACGME/RC site visits. The GMEC reviewed 3 progress reports requested by the ACGME as well as 1 from the internal reviews conducted. The GMEC reviewed and discussed the results of the Family Medicine, Med/Peds, Internal Medicine and Neurology programs Resident Surveys administered by the ACGME.

The GMEC reviewed and implemented a revision to the policy on the “Oversight and Monitoring of Resident Duty Hours and the Work Environment.” This allows the GMEC to monitor residents hours and helps maintain compliance with the ACGME’s requirements.

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2007-2008
Summary of Activities
Medical Student Summer Research Program

The Thirty-fifth Annual Medical Student Research Day was held on Friday, August 1, 2008 hosting approximately 120 attendees in the Medical Sciences Building auditorium. Twenty-one first and second-year medical students participated in research projects with basic science and clinical faculty in the College of Medicine during the summer. A weekly seminar series introduced students to important research related topics. The program aims to highlight the relation between scientific discoveries and their application in clinical medicine.

Dr. Bruce Kone, Professor of Medicine and Biochemistry & Molecular Biology and former Dean at University of Florida College of Medicine was the keynote speaker. Dr. Kone’s seminar was entitled, “New Mechanisms and Targets for Aldosterone Action”.

Culmination of the summer’s work was the presentation of nine oral and twelve poster presentations at the Annual Medical Student Research Day. Student presentations and their faculty sponsors were as follows:

**ORAL PRESENTATIONS**

**Fred Kency, Jr.**, sophomore medical student. Gulf coast infant sleep practices. Sponsored by Savells, Katherine, M.D., M. S., Department of Pediatrics.

**Sameh Sakla**, sophomore medical student. The role of alveolar macrophage TRPV4 activation in endothelial monolayer permeability. Sponsored by Parker, James, Ph.D., Department of Physiology.

**Tyler Richard**, sophomore medical student. Psychological functioning of parents with children recently diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. Sponsored by Swingle, Hanes, M.D., M.Ph., and Savells, Katherine, M.D., M. S., Department of Pediatrics.

**Sailaja Allamneni**, sophomore medical student. Systematic analysis of human endothelial cells derived from embryonic stem cells and umbilical cord blood. Sponsored by Alvarez, Diego, M.D., Ph. D., Parker, James, Ph.D., and King, Judy, M.D., Ph.D., Departments of Internal Medicine, Pathology, Pharmacology, Physiology, and Center for Lung Biology.


Walter Beard, Jr., sophomore medical student. Screening of natural product extracts for protein phosphatases inhibitors. Sponsored by Honkanen, Richard, Ph.D., Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

J. Brad Sabatini, sophomore medical student. A retrospective radiological outcome study of supracondylar femur fractures. Sponsored by Mananagopal, Sudhakar G., M.D., Department of Orthopaedic Surgery.


POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Geoffrey Hancy, M.S., sophomore medical student. Vascular compromise of the planta nerve causes ischemia, which over time develops nerve fibrosis and fascicle distortion, a Morton neuroma. Sponsored by Sosnowski, Jeffrey, M.D., Ph.D., Department of Pathology.

Tyler P. Black, sophomore medical student. Cellular defenses against oxidative stress. Sponsored by Alexeyev, Mikhail, Ph.D., Department of Cell Biology and Neuroscience.

Sharon Hong, sophomore medical student. Suppression of sterol regulatory element-binding protein – IC transcription by AMP-activated protein kinase. Sponsored by Yang, Jian, Ph.D., Department of Physiology.

Daniel Bonnici, sophomore medical student. The effects of MiR-21 on proliferation of rat pulmonary artery smooth muscle cells. Sponsored by Gerthoffer, William T., Ph.D., and Abe, Kohtaro, M.D., Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

Sarah Beth Hill, freshman medical student. Elucidating the role of gade in the pathogenesis of shigella flexneri using a macrophage survival model. Sponsored by Audia, Jonathon, Ph.D., Department of Microbiology and Immunology.


Margaret Sims, sophomore medical student. Regulation of fatty acid synthase expression in B-lymphocyte differentiation. Sponsored by Brewer, Joseph, Ph.D., Department of Microbiology and Immunology.

Brian Dupont, sophomore medical student. Cloning of the canine CFTR gene from MDCK cells. Sponsored by Ballard, Stephen, Ph.D., and Spadafora, Dominic, Ph.D., Department of Physiology.
John Meriwether, sophomore medical student. Small and intermediate conductance calcium activated potassium (SK & IK) channels in the endothelium regulate tone of porcine coronary arteries. Sponsored by Taylor, Mark, Ph.D., Department of Physiology.

Abiodun Ishola, sophomore medical student. Morphometric analysis of striated cardiac muscle in pulmonary veins. Sponsored by Townsley, Mary, Ph.D., and King, Judy, M.D., Ph.D., Departments of Physiology, Pharmacology, Pathology, and Center for Lung Biology.

Robert A. Lockwood, sophomore medical student. An assessment of vascular aging in a transgenic mouse model of chronically elevated vascular ROS. Sponsored by Weber, David, Ph.D., Department of Physiology.

Andrew Morris, sophomore medical student. Does home use of long-acting beta-agonists increase requirements for short-acting medications in ED patients with exacerbations of asthma or COPD? Sponsored by Heins, Alan, M.D., Department of Emergency Medicine.

The Clyde G. “Sid” Huggins Medical Student Research Awards were presented to Ms. Sailaja Allamneni, sophomore medical student for best oral presentation entitled, "Systematic analysis of human endothelial cells derived from embryonic stem cells and umbilical cord blood". She was sponsored by Diego Alvarez, M.D., Ph.D., James Parker, Ph.D., and Judy King M.D., Ph.D., Departments of Internal Medicine, Pathology, Pharmacology, Physiology, and Center for Lung Biology, and Mr. John Meriwether, sophomore medical student for best poster presentation entitled, "Small and intermediate conductance calcium activated potassium (SK & IK) channels in the endothelium regulate tone of porcine coronary arteries". He was sponsored by Mark Taylor, Ph.D., Department of Physiology. Each winner was presented with a plaque of recognition and cash award. Both recipients are eligible to make their presentations at the 2008 Annual National Research Forum in Galveston, Texas.
Graduate Program in Basic Medical Sciences

Administration

Dr. Ronald Balezon was re-elected to serve as Director of the Basic Medical Sciences Graduate Program for his second three-year term. His new directorship began June, 2008 and will conclude at the end of May, 2011.

Admissions

The Graduate Program Office continues to work with University Admissions and/or International Services Offices to coordinate the application process. The BMS Graduate Office receives letters of recommendation and personal statements, which are merged with applications, transcripts, and test scores through the other offices to complete files for review.

The Graduate Office hosted formal Interview Days in February, March, April, May, and July for prospective students for the Fall 2008 class. A total of 18 students were formally interviewed for the 2008 Fall Class (US=16; International=2). Additionally, the Director and/or Academic Advisor met informally with four students visiting the USA campus over the year. An admissions summary for the past few years, including the class of 2008, is shown below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>US</td>
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<td>58</td>
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<tr>
<td>International</td>
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<td>113</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>113</td>
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<tr>
<td>Applicants</td>
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<tr>
<td>US</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td>International</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>33</td>
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<td>Acceptances</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10**</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9**</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>*Average</td>
<td>1101</td>
<td>1170</td>
<td>1100</td>
<td>1154</td>
<td>1151</td>
<td>1145</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>3.38</td>
<td>3.45</td>
<td>3.51</td>
<td>3.58</td>
<td>3.30</td>
<td>3.41</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*The sum of verbal and quantitative scores
**Nine new students plus one MD/PHD student who matriculated in 2005

Recruitment Activities

1. Ads, highlighting the program, were placed in special issues of The Vanguard and other local collegiate newspapers during the academic year.
2. Presentations were made to USA's Premedical Honors Society and Freshman Biomedical Sciences students.
3. Information about the graduate program was distributed at several local high schools and regional science fair competitions.

4. Graduate Office personnel also participated in JAGFEST, SCRUNBS, and regional science conferences, including the eighty-fifth annual meeting of the Alabama Academy of Science, Inc. in Troy, Alabama.

5. Dr. Balczon and Lanette Flagge also participated in “Alabama Connection,” a statewide graduate recruiting fair with stops in Huntsville, Birmingham, Auburn, and Montgomery in October, 2007.

6. Dr. Balczon traveled to over a dozen regional colleges and universities to meet with faculty colleagues and distribute program information.

**Curriculum**

1. The student organization (BMSSO) hosted several working lunch sessions on various academic “survival skills”, including writing grants and CV’s.

2. The Physiology Department began work on a new focus group in Smooth Muscle/Vascular Biology. The first seminar series for this group will be held Fall, 2008.

**New Programs/Policies/Requirements**

1. The BMS Student Handbook continues to be updated, as needed.

2. The College of Medicine website is being overhauled, including changes to the Ph.D. description on the site.

**BMSSO-Basic Medical Sciences Student Organization**

The BMSSO completed projects, both on campus, as well as in the community. Members held a “Welcome” event to welcome the Class of 2007. The group sponsored their annual BMSSO T-shirt design/sale to raise a portion of their operating budget for the year. The organization also hosted their annual holiday appreciation luncheon for BMS Graduate Faculty in December, and participated in a number of community and philanthropic activities, including American Heart Association’s Heart Walk and American Cancer Society’s “Relay for Life.”

**Extramural Support for Graduate Training**

1. The NIH Predoctoral Institutional Training Grant on “Cell Signaling and Lung Pathobiology”, through The Center for Lung Biology, was submitted for renewal in Spring, 2008. The grant continues to provide six stipends for predoctoral students. Students receive support from the training grant for a minimum of two years and are required to submit individual proposals for additional extramural funding.

2. In 2007-2008, several BMS Graduate Program students were supported by individual extramural predoctoral fellowships through American Heart Association and EPSCOR.
Graduates

Two students completed all requirements for the Ph.D. degree during the academic year (September 2007-August 2008). They are:

Jennifer Ellen Clark
DISSEPTION TITLE: "Essential Role for Nucleosome Assembly Protein in the Proliferative and Vasculogenic Phenotype of Pulmonary Microvascular Endothelial Cells"
MAJOR PROFESSOR: Troy Stevens, Ph.D.
DEPARTMENT: Pharmacology-Lung Biology
CURRENT POSITION: Post Doctoral Fellow; University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia

M. Khair ElZarrad
DISSEPTION TITLE: "The Role of Connexin-43 in Breast Cancer Metastasis to the Lung"
MAJOR PROFESSOR: Abu Bakr Al-Mehdi, Ph.D.
DEPARTMENT: Pharmacology-Lung Biology
CURRENT POSITION: Post Doctoral Fellow: NIH National Cancer Institute, Washington, D.C.

To date, 154 students have received a Ph.D. degree in Basic Medical Sciences. Degrees awarded by Department/Program are as follows:

- Biochemistry/Molecular Biology 30
- Microbiology/Immunology 36
- Pharmacology 40
- Physiology 22
- Cell Biology/Neuroscience 26
Summary of Extramural Support

Funding for the 2006-2007 academic year includes $17,103,182 and $3,715,427 in awards administered through the Office of Sponsored Programs and the South Alabama Medical Science Foundation, respectively.

Extramural Funds
Totals for Recent Years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>$14,981,699</td>
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<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>18,388,972</td>
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<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>19,108,225</td>
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<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>20,431,119</td>
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<td>2002</td>
<td>20,734,491</td>
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<td>2003</td>
<td>23,244,111</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>26,935,930</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>40,065,869*</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>31,904,662**</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>20,222,905</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>20,818,609</td>
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</table>

*Includes 19.6 million dollar MCI construction grant
**Includes 12 million dollar MCI construction grant
# Extramural Funding

(OCTOBER 1, 2007 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2008)

## Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Principal Investigator</th>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Fiscal Year Funding</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sailen Barik</td>
<td>NIAID 5 R01 AI059267-04</td>
<td>Mechanisms of RNA Virus-Host Interaction</td>
<td>$237,657</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NSF AAMURI08C-0009</td>
<td>Effect of Nonstructural Proteins 1 &amp; 2 (NS1 &amp; NS2) of Human RSV on Host IFN Response</td>
<td>25,000</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ACHE AAMURI08C0020</td>
<td>Association of Host Organelles with the Intracellular Parasite Toxoplasma GONDII: Mechanisms and Significance</td>
<td>40,440</td>
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<tr>
<td>William Gerthoffer</td>
<td>NIH 7R01HL077726-04</td>
<td>Small Heat Shock Proteins in Smooth Muscle Plasticity</td>
<td>380,288</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NIH 5R01HL077726-05</td>
<td>Small Heat Shock Proteins in Smooth Muscle Plasticity</td>
<td>278,765</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sachin Gupte</td>
<td>NIH 7R01HL085352-02</td>
<td>Regulation of Vascular Smooth Muscle Calcium by</td>
<td>165,026</td>
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<tr>
<td>Richard Honkanen</td>
<td>NIH 5 RO1 CA060750-15</td>
<td>Mechanisms of Tumor Promotion and Carcinogenesis</td>
<td>249,183</td>
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<td>ACHE AAMURI08C0020</td>
<td>Determination of the Protein Phosphatase Type 5 Static Interaction Network</td>
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### BIOCHEMISTRY AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY (cont'd)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR</th>
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<th>PROJECT TITLE</th>
<th>FISCAL YEAR FUNDING</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Petra Rocic</td>
<td>NIH 1R01HL093052-01</td>
<td>Regulation of Coronary Collateral Growth</td>
<td>$ 307,472</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AHA 0630285N-01</td>
<td>Reactive Oxygen Species and Redox-Sensitive Signaling in Coronary Collateral Growth</td>
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<td><strong>$ 1,843,356</strong></td>
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### BIOMEDICAL LIBRARY

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<tr>
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<th>AGENCY</th>
<th>PROJECT TITLE</th>
<th>FISCAL YEAR FUNDING</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Justin Robertson</td>
<td>NIH/NLM 080203</td>
<td>Medical Association of the State of Alabama 2008 Annual Meeting – Cyber Café</td>
<td>$ 1,991</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geneva Staggs</td>
<td>NIH/NLM</td>
<td>Health Information Literacy (HIL) Research Project Pilot Training Site</td>
<td>5,000</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 6,991</strong></td>
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**CELL BIOLOGY AND NEUROSCIENCE**

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<th>AGENCY</th>
<th>PROJECT TITLE</th>
<th>FISCAL YEAR FUNDING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mikhail Alexeyev</td>
<td>NIH 5 P01 HL066299-08</td>
<td>Program Project Grant Gene Delivery Core 3**</td>
<td>$ 159,150</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NIH 5R21 RR023961-02</td>
<td>High Density Mutagenesis of Mitochondrial DNA</td>
<td>180,075</td>
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<tr>
<td>Susan LeDoux</td>
<td>NIH 5 R01 ES005865-15</td>
<td>Repair of DNA Damage Induced By Environmental Agents</td>
<td>327,397</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lyudmila Rachek &amp; Lewis Pannell</td>
<td>NIH 5 R01 DK73808-02</td>
<td>Proteins Alterations in Skeletal Muscle Cells with Improved MTDNA Repair</td>
<td>237,699</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glenn Wilson</td>
<td>NIH 2 R01 ES003456-22A2</td>
<td>Environmental Beta Cell Toxins – Mechanisms of Action</td>
<td>330,762</td>
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<td>$ 1,235,083</td>
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**Center for Lung Biology Program Project**

**CENTER FOR HEALTHY COMMUNITIES**

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<th>PROJECT TITLE</th>
<th>FISCAL YEAR FUNDING</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Martha Arrieta &amp; Errol Crook</td>
<td>Robert Wood Johnson Foundation</td>
<td>Real-Time Telemonitoring of Glucose as Adjunct to the Management of Type 2 Diabetes in Primary Care Clinics</td>
<td>$ 49,145</td>
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<tr>
<td>Errol Crook</td>
<td>NIH 5P20 MD002314-02</td>
<td>Broad-Based Research Collaboratives on Minority Health &amp; Health Disparities</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carl Taylor</td>
<td>HRSA C80117131(CEP17QW8-08)</td>
<td>Alabama Incident Management System Alternate Care Care Site Module</td>
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<tr>
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<td>HRSA C80117142(CEP19QW8-08)</td>
<td>Alabama Incident Management System – Evacuee Shelter Module</td>
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<td>Alabama Incident Management System – Dialysis Center Center Module</td>
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<td>HRSA C80117129(CEP18QW8-08)</td>
<td>Advanced Regional Response Training Center-Level 2008 (ARRTC 2008)</td>
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<td>Alabama Incident Management System VI (AIMS VI)</td>
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## COM ADMINISTRATION

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Strada</td>
<td>AHA 0715394B-02</td>
<td>Advanced Cardiovascular Research for Medical Students</td>
<td>$ 10,800</td>
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 **Total** $ 10,800

## COMPARATIVE MEDICINE

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<th>PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR</th>
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<th>PROJECT TITLE</th>
<th>FISCAL YEAR FUNDING</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christian Abee</td>
<td>Baxter HealthCare Corp</td>
<td>Experimental Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease in the Squirrel Monkey</td>
<td>$ 24,869</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alan Brady &amp; Jonathan Scammell</td>
<td>NIH 20526/98010395</td>
<td>Squirrel Monkey Breeding and Research Resource</td>
<td>274,422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michele Schuler</td>
<td>NIH 5 K01 RR021871-03</td>
<td>Stem Cell Derivation in Two Neotropical Primate Species</td>
<td>122,850</td>
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 **Total** $ 422,141
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR</th>
<th>AGENCY</th>
<th>PROJECT TITLE</th>
<th>FISCAL YEAR FUNDING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Frank Pettyjohn</td>
<td>Novartis</td>
<td>A Prospective, Multinational, Multicenter, Double-Blind, Randomized, Active-Controlled Trial to Compare the Effects of Lotrel to Benazepril and Hydrochlorothiazide Combined on the Reduction of Cardiovascular Morbidity and Mortality in Patients with High Risk Hypertension</td>
<td>$ 5,975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Novartis</td>
<td>An 8 Week, Multi-center, Randomized, Double-Blind, Parallel-Group Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of the Combination of Valsartan/HCTZ/Amlodipine Compared to Valsartan/HCTZ, Valsartan/Amlodipine, and HCTZ/Amlodipine in Patients with Moderate to Severe Hypertension</td>
<td>10,430</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Novartis</td>
<td>A Multi-center, Randomized, Open-Label, Active Controlled, Parallel Arm Study to Compare the Efficacy of 12 Weeks of Treatments with Vildagliptin 100 mg, qd to Thiazolidinedione (TZD) as Add-On Therapy in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes Inadequately Controlled with Metformin Monotherapy in a Community Based Practice Setting</td>
<td>2,679</td>
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<td>Daiichi Sankyo</td>
<td>A Double-Blind, Randomized, Placebo-Controlled, Parallel Group Study to Compare the Safety and Efficacy of an Olmesartan Medoxomil Based Treatment Regimen to Placebo in Patients with Stage I and Stage II Hypertension</td>
<td>28,765</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR</td>
<td>AGENCY</td>
<td>PROJECT TITLE</td>
<td>FISCAL YEAR FUNDING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank Pettyjohn</td>
<td>AstraZeneca</td>
<td>A 12 Week Open-Label, Randomized, Parallel Group, Multicenter, Phase, IIIb Study to Compare the Efficacy And Safety of Rosuvastatin (CRESTOR) 10mg and 20mg in Combination with Ezetimibe 10mg (fixed dose combination) in Patients with Hypercholesterolaemia and Coronary Heart Disease (CHD) or a CHD Risk Equivalent, Atherosclerosis or a 10 ver CHD Risk &gt; 20%</td>
<td>$ 20,315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Novartis</td>
<td></td>
<td>A Multicenter, Randomized, Double-Blind, Parallel Design Trial to Evaluate the Blood Pressure Lowering Efficacy Comparing Moderate Versus Aggressive Treatment Regimen of Exforge in Patients Uncontrolled on ARB Monotherapy</td>
<td>14,478</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daiichi Sankyo</td>
<td></td>
<td>A Randomized, Double-Blind, Parallel Group Study Evaluating the Efficacy and Safety of Co-Administration of a Triple Combination Therapy of Olmesartan Medoxomil, Amlodipine Besylate and Hydrochlorothiazide in Subjects with Hypertension</td>
<td>12,208</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Research Institute</td>
<td></td>
<td>Efficacy and Tolerability of Nevibolol Compared with Carvedilol in Patients with a Recent Myocardial Infarction and Stage I or II Hypertension</td>
<td>4,000</td>
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### EMERGENCY MEDICINE (cont'd)

<table>
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<th>AGENCY</th>
<th>PROJECT TITLE</th>
<th>FISCAL YEAR FUNDING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Frank Pettyjohn</td>
<td>AstraZeneca</td>
<td>A Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Multicenter, Phase III Study of Rosuvastatin (Crestor) 20mg in the Primary Prevention of Cardiovascular Events Among Subjects with Low Levels of LDL-Cholesterol and Elevated Levels of C-Reactive Protein</td>
<td>$2,575</td>
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Total $101,425

### FAMILY MEDICINE

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<tr>
<td>Carol Motley</td>
<td>HRSA 5 D56 HP05226-04-00</td>
<td>Training Medical Students for a Life of Service</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
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<td>Allen Perkins</td>
<td>AFPRHB 08-0030</td>
<td>A Student Curriculum in Family Medicine for the Medical Students at the University of South Alabama</td>
<td>58,000</td>
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<td>AFPRHB 08-080029</td>
<td>A Resident Curriculum in Rural Family Medicine at the University of South Alabama Family Practice Residency</td>
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<td>AFPRHB 08107</td>
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<td>AFPRHB 080346</td>
<td>Enhancing Teaching Practices in South Alabama through Data</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ronald Allison</td>
<td>Astrazeneca</td>
<td>A 52 Week, Randomized, Double-Blind, Parallel Group, Multicenter, Phase IIIB Study Comparing the Long Term Safety of SYMICORT pMDI 160/4.5ug X 2 Actuations Twice Daily to Budesonide HFA pMDI ug x 2 Actuations Twice Daily in Adult and Adolescent (&gt;12 year) African American Subjects with Asthma</td>
<td>$ 9,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diego Alvarez</td>
<td>AHA 0835134N-01</td>
<td>Infusion of Resident Endothelial Progenitors Promotes Repair of Microvascular Barrier During Acute Lung Injury</td>
<td>77,000</td>
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<td>Barbara Burckhartt</td>
<td>Roche</td>
<td>A Phase III, Double-Blind, Randomized Placebo-Controlled Study to Evaluate the Effects of RO4607381 on Cardiovascular (CV) Risk in Stable CHD Patients with a Documented Recent Acute Coronary Syndrome (ACS), Protocol No. NC20971</td>
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<td>Michael Culpepper</td>
<td>Otsuka Maryland</td>
<td>A Phase 3, Multi-center, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Parallel-Arm Trial to Determine Long-Term Safety and Efficacy of Oral Tolvaptan Tablet Regimens in Adult Subjects with Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease</td>
<td>58,820</td>
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<td>Michael Culpepper</td>
<td>Amgen</td>
<td>EVOLVE – Evaluation of Cinacalet HCl Therapy to Lower Cardiovascular Events</td>
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<td>Genetech</td>
<td>A Phase III, Open-Label, Study of Tenecteplase for Restoration of Function in Dysfunctional Hemodialysis Catheters</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Shire Development</td>
<td>A Phase IV, Long Term, Observational Safety Study in End Stage Renal Disease Subjects Treated with Lanthanum Carbonate (Fosrenol)</td>
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<td>CardioKine BioPharm</td>
<td>Multicenter, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of Oral Lixivaptan Capsules in Subjects with Euvolemic Hyponatremia (CK-LX3405)</td>
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<td>Jack DiPalma</td>
<td>Takeda</td>
<td>Randomized, Placebo-Controlled Trial of Lubiprostone as a Preparation for Capsule Endoscopy</td>
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<td>Karen Fagan</td>
<td>NIH 7 R01 HL066328-05</td>
<td>Pulmonary Hypertension Following Intermittent Hypoxia</td>
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<td>NIH 7 R01 HL071596-05</td>
<td>Effects of BMPR2 Mutations in Pulmonary Hypertension</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jorge Herrera</td>
<td>Schering Plough</td>
<td>Comparison of PEG-Intron 1.5 ug/kg/wk Plus REBETOL versus PEG Intron 1 ug/kg/wk plus REBETOL versus PEGASYS 180 ug/kg/wk plus COPEGUS in Previously Untreated Adult Subjects with Chronic Hepatitis C Infected with Genotype 1</td>
<td>$ 32,208</td>
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<td>Roche</td>
<td>A Randomized, Multi-center, Double-Blinded Phase IV Study Comparing Safety and Efficacy of PEGASYS 180 ug plus Copegus 1000 (&lt;75kg) or 1200mg (&gt;75kg) to the Currently Approved Combination of PEGASYS 180 ug plus Copegus 800 mg in Interferon-naïve Patients with Chronic Hepatitis C Genotype 1 Virus Infection Co-infected With Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV-1), #NV18209</td>
<td>$ 92,210</td>
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<td>Schering Plough</td>
<td>A Safety and Efficacy Study of SCH 503034 in Previously Untreated Subjects with Chronic Hepatitis C Infected with Genotype 1</td>
<td>$ 27,657</td>
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<td>Braintree Laboratories</td>
<td>Evaluation of Various Agents for GI Prokinetic Activity</td>
<td>$ 64,800</td>
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<td>Schering Plough</td>
<td>Long-Term Follow-Up of Subjects in a Phase 2 or 3 Clinical Trial in which SCH 503034 was Administered for the Treatment of Chronic Hepatitis C</td>
<td>$ 4,815</td>
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<td>Schering Plough</td>
<td>A Phase 3 Safety and Efficacy Study of Boceprevir in Subjects with Chronic Hepatitis C Genotype 1 who Failed Prior Treatments with Peginterferon/Ribavirin</td>
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<td>Jorge Herrera</td>
<td>Schering Plough</td>
<td>A Phase 3 Safety and Efficacy Study of Boceprevir in Previously Untreated Subjects with Chronic Hepatitis C Genotype 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clara Massey</td>
<td>Schering Plough</td>
<td>Early Glycoprotein IIb/IIIa Inhibition in Non-ST-segment Elevation Acute Coronary Syndrome: A Randomized, Placebo-Controlled Trial Evaluating the Clinical Benefits of Early Front-loated Eptifibatide in the Treatment of Patients with Non-ST-segment Eleveation Acute Coronary Syndrome (EARLY ACS)</td>
<td>5,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Timothy Moore</td>
<td>Bristol Myers-Squibb</td>
<td>A Phase 3, Active (Warfarin) Controlled, Randomized, Double-Blind, Parallel Arm Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of Apixaban in Preventing Stroke and Systemic Embolism in Subjects with Nonvalvular Atrial Fibrillation</td>
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<td>AHA 0765421B-02</td>
<td>Soluble CD40 Ligand Increases Pulmonary Microvascular Endothelial Permeability</td>
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<td>PB Francis 070028-020-25</td>
<td>Soluble CD40 Ligand Increases Pulmonary Microvascular Endothelial Permeability</td>
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### INTERNAL MEDICINE (cont’d)

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<tr>
<td>Majid Mughal</td>
<td>Actelion</td>
<td>An Open-Label, Multicenter Study Employing a Targeted 6-MWT Distance Threshold Approach to Guide Bosentain-Based Therapy and to Assess the Utility of MRI on Cardiac Remodeling</td>
<td>$ 20,925</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Gilead Sciences, Inc.</td>
<td>ATHENA-I: A Randomized, Multicenter Study of Ambrisentan and Sildenafil Combination Therapy in Subjects with Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension who have Demonstrated a Sub-Optimal Response to Sildenafil</td>
<td>2,100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reynaldo Rodriguez</td>
<td>Braintree Laboratories</td>
<td>A Safety and Efficacy Evaluation of BLI-800 Oral Sulfate Solution vs MoviPrep as Bowel Cleansing Preparation in Adult Subjects</td>
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### MEDICAL GENETICS

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<tr>
<td>Wladimir Wertelecki</td>
<td>CDC U13DD00356-01</td>
<td>1st Central Eastern European Summit on Preconception Care and Prevention of Birth Defects</td>
<td>$ 15,000</td>
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<td>Wladimir Wertelecki</td>
<td>ADMH/MR G8-932638</td>
<td>Genetics and Mental Health Program</td>
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<td>Jonathon Audia</td>
<td>NIH 5 R21 A1069210-02</td>
<td>Identification of Metabolic Virulence Factors in Epidemic Typhus Rickettsia</td>
<td>$ 215,450</td>
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<td>Joseph Brewer</td>
<td>NIH 5 R01 GM061970-10</td>
<td>Homeostasis of the ER in Differentiating B Cells</td>
<td>606,229</td>
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<td>Robert Lausch</td>
<td>Novartis</td>
<td>Lion’s/USA Eye Research</td>
<td>11,725</td>
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<tr>
<td>Herbert Winkler &amp; Jonathon Audia</td>
<td>NIH 5 R01 AI015035-31</td>
<td>Permeability of the Epidemic Typhus Rickettsia</td>
<td>558,107</td>
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<td>David Wood</td>
<td>NIH 5 R37 AI020384-25</td>
<td>Genetic Analysis of Rickettsia Prowazekii</td>
<td>568,694</td>
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<td>NIH</td>
<td>Vaccine for Epidemic Typhus</td>
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<td>Ravi Bhatnagar</td>
<td>Cyberknife Society</td>
<td>The Design, Development and Testing of a Multi-Slice QA Phantom for Quantitative Verification of a 3-D Volume</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
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<td>Michael Boyd</td>
<td>DOE DE-FG02-08CH11477</td>
<td>Department of Energy 2008 Allocation – MC1</td>
<td>$479,000</td>
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<td>Thomas Butler</td>
<td>Novartis</td>
<td>A Randomized, Double-Blind Phase III Study of RAD001 10mg/d Plus Best Supportive Care versus Placebo Plus Best Supportive Care in the Treatment of Patients with Advanced Pancreatic Neuroendocrine Tumor (NET)</td>
<td>$6,414</td>
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<td>Wyeth Research</td>
<td>An Open-Label, Randomized, Phase 3 Study of Inotuzumab Ozogamicin (CMC-544) Administered in Combination With Rituximab Compared to a Defined Investigator’s Choice Therapy in Subjects with Relapsed or Refractory, CD22-Positive, Follicular B-Cell Non-Hodgkin’s Lymphoma</td>
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<td>Roma Hanks</td>
<td>CFSA 08-080073</td>
<td>The Mitchell Cancer Institute/The Community Foundation of South Alabama Health Initiative 2007-08</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
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<td>Hung Khong</td>
<td>Novartis</td>
<td>A Randomized, Open-Label Study of 400mg versus 800mg of Gleevec/Glivec (Imatinib Mesylate) in Patients with Newly Diagnosed, Previously Untreated Chronic Myeloid Leukemia in Chronic Phase (CML-CP) using Molecular Endpoints</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hung Khong</td>
<td>Pfizer</td>
<td>A Randomized Phase 2 Trial of Paclitaxel, Carboplatin and Bevacizumab with or without PF 3512676 as First-Line Treatment of Patients with Advanced Nonsquamous Non-Small Cell Lung Center</td>
<td>$ 8,500</td>
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<td>Pfizer</td>
<td>A Phase 3 Study of SU011248 in Combination with Paclitaxel Versus Bevacizumab with Paclitaxel in the First-Line Advanced Disease Setting in Patients Having Breast Cancer</td>
<td>14,079</td>
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<tr>
<td>Genentech</td>
<td>Pfizer</td>
<td>An Observational Study of Avastin (Bevacizumab) in Combination with Chemotherapy for Treatment of Metastatic or Locally Advanced and Unresectable Colorectal Cancer, Locally Advanced or Metastatic Non-Small Lung (Excluding Predominant Squamous Cell Histology), or Locally Recurrent or Metastatic Breast Cancer</td>
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<td>Pfizer</td>
<td>A Treatment Protocol of Patients Continuing from a Prior SU011248 Protocol</td>
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<td>Pharmexa A/S</td>
<td>Primovax – A Phase III Trial Comparing GV1001 and Gemcitabine in Sequential Combination to Gemcitabine Monotherapy in Advance Unresectable Pancreatic Cancer, Protocol PX115.1.1-302</td>
<td>10,830</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hung Khong</td>
<td>Pfizer</td>
<td>A Randomized Phase 2b Study of Sunitinib Plus Oxaliplatin, 5-Fluorouracil and Leucovrin (FOLFOX) Versus Bevacizumab Plus Folfox as First Line Treatment in Patients with Metastatic Colorectal Cancer</td>
<td>$ 8,500</td>
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<td>Genentech</td>
<td>An Observational Study of Treatment Patterns and Safety Outcomes for Metastatic or Locally Recurrent Breast Cancer</td>
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<td>Schering and New Link</td>
<td>Investigator Initiated: A Phase II Study of an Anti-Tumor Immunotherapy Regimen Comprised of Pegylated Interferon-Alpha 2b (PEG-Intron) and HyperAcute-Melanoma Vaccine for Patients with Advanced Melanoma</td>
<td>70,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hung Khong &amp; Roma Hanks</td>
<td>CFSA</td>
<td>Improving Women’s Health in the Aftermath of Natural Disaster</td>
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<td>Lewis Pannell &amp; Lalita Shevde-Samant</td>
<td>NIH I R21 CA122570-01A2</td>
<td>Profiling Urine Glycosylation of PSA and Other Glyco-Biomarkers in Prostate Cancer</td>
<td>165,375</td>
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<td>NIH UAB LINK NO-238575-04</td>
<td>Induction of Antioxidant Defenses by Oxidized Lipids</td>
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<td>Germana Rappa</td>
<td>NIH I R01 CA133797-01</td>
<td>Design of Therapeutic Strategies Specific for Breast Cancer – Initiating Cells</td>
<td>274,523</td>
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<td>Adam Riker</td>
<td>NIH</td>
<td>Clinical Trial ECOG – PACT1</td>
<td>7,544</td>
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<td>NIH 080382</td>
<td>Clinical Trial ECOG – 1697</td>
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**MITCHELL CANCER INSTITUTE (cont’d)**

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<tr>
<td>Lalita Shevde-Samant &amp; J. Allan Tucker</td>
<td>DOD W81XWH-07-01040-02</td>
<td>Crosstalk Between Cancer Cells and Bone Via the Hedgehog Pathway Determines Bone Metastasis of Breast Cancer</td>
<td>$ 147,000</td>
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<td>Yaguang Xi</td>
<td>AACR 08-30-16XI</td>
<td>Micro RNAs, Novel Prognostic Biomarkers in Colorectal Cancer</td>
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**NEUROLOGY**

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<tr>
<td>Bassam Bassam</td>
<td>Novartis</td>
<td>A 24-Month Double-Blind, Randomized, Multicenter, Placebo-Controlled, Parallel-Group Study Comparing the Efficacy and Safety of 0.5mg and 1.25mg Fingolimod (FTY720) Administered Orally Once Daily versus Placebo in Patients with Relapsing-Remitting Multiple Sclerosis</td>
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<td>Ivan Lopez</td>
<td>NIH 126155-03</td>
<td>Secondary Prevention of Small Subcortical Strokes (SPS3)</td>
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<td>NIH A07223 (M05A00394)</td>
<td>Insulin Resistance Intervention After Stroke Trial (IRIS/Lions)</td>
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<td>NIH SWISS</td>
<td>Siblings with Ischemic Stroke Study (Swiss)</td>
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<td>NIH</td>
<td>A Randomized Multicenter Clinical Trial of Unruptured Brain AVM’S (Aruba)</td>
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<td>NIH</td>
<td>Albumin in Acute Stroke Trial (ALIAS)</td>
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<td>Boehringer Ingelheim</td>
<td>ProFESS-Prevention Regimen for Effectively Avoiding Second Strokes: A Double-Blind, Active and Placebo Controlled Study of Aggrenox versus Clopidogrel + Aspirin, with and without Micardis</td>
<td>10,300</td>
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<td>Schwarz Biosciences</td>
<td>An Open-Label Extension Trial to Determine Safety and Efficacy of Long-Term Oral SPM 927 in Patients with Partial Seizures</td>
<td>9,920</td>
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<td>Ortho-McNeil</td>
<td>Long-Term, Open-Label Safety Study of Oral Almotriptan Malate 12.5mg in the Treatment of Migraine in Adolescents</td>
<td>11,580</td>
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<td>Ivan Lopez</td>
<td>Allergan</td>
<td>A Multicenter Study Evaluating the Efficacy and Safety of Botox Purified Neurotoxin Complex as Headache Prophylaxis in Migraine Patients with 15 or more Headache Day per 4-Week period in a 24-Week, Double-Blind, Randomized, Placebo-Controlled, Parallel Group Phase Followed by a 32-Week Open-Label Extension Phase</td>
<td>$ 5,500</td>
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<td>Minster Research Ltd.</td>
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<td>MultiCenter, Parallel Group, Double-Blind, Placebo Controlled, Dose Ranging Study of the Efficacy and Tolerability of Tonabersat in the Prophylaxis of Migraine Headache and Open Label Extension</td>
<td>8,175</td>
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<td>Paul Maertens</td>
<td>UCB Pharma</td>
<td>A Multi-Center, Open-Label, Long-Term, Follow-up Study of the Safety and Efficacy of Levetiracetam in Children with Partial Onset Seizures</td>
<td>6,017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paul Maertens</td>
<td>Eisai Medical Research</td>
<td>A Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Parallel-Group Study of Rufinamide Given as Adjunctive Therapy in Patients with Refractory Partial Seizures</td>
<td>$ 5,624</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Eisai Medical Research</td>
<td>An Open-Label Extension Study of Rufinamide Given as Adjunctive Therapy in Patients with Refractory Partial Onset Seizures</td>
<td>5,995</td>
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<tr>
<td>Richard Zweifler &amp; Ivan Lopez</td>
<td>NIH A 06760 (M-08-297)</td>
<td>Insulin Resistance Intervention After Stroke Trial (IRIS/Lions)</td>
<td>308,090</td>
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<td>NIH 2 U01 NS40406-01</td>
<td>Albumin in Acute Stroke Trial (ALIAS)</td>
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<td>NIH 080115</td>
<td>A Randomized Multicenter Clinical Trial of Unruptured Brain AVM’s (Aruba)</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Kathleen Porter</td>
<td>ADPH C80117005</td>
<td>FY 2008 Perinatal Coordinator Grant</td>
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<td>Columbia Laboratories</td>
<td>A Phase III, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Multicenter Study to Assess the Efficacy, Safety, and Tolerability of Prochieve 8% Progesterone Gel in Preventing Preterm Delivery in Pregnant Women at Increased-Risk for Preterm Delivery</td>
<td>5,818</td>
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<td>Protherics, Inc.</td>
<td>Digibind Efficacy Evaluation in Preeclampsia or “DEEP” Progesterone Level in Pregnant Women Receiving Prochieve 8% Progesterone Gel for the Prevention of Preterm Delivery</td>
<td>28,529</td>
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<td>Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics</td>
<td>Soluble FMS-Like Tyrosine 1 (sflt-1), Placental Growth (PIGF) Levels as Predictors of Preeclampsia Prior to Onset of Symptoms in Pregnant Women, as Aid in Diagnosis in Symptomatic Women and for Risk Stratification</td>
<td>47,730</td>
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<td>VLS, Ltd.</td>
<td>Prochieve Extending Gestation A New Therapy for Short Cervix – Trial</td>
<td>13,379</td>
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<td>Botros Rizk</td>
<td>Eli Lilly</td>
<td>Teriparatide (rDNA origin) Injection (LY333334)</td>
<td>2,849</td>
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<td>Boehringer Ingelheim</td>
<td>A Twenty Four Week, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Safety and Efficacy Trial of Fibanserin 50mg Daily and, With Uptitration, 100mg Daily in Premenopausal Women with Hypoactive Sexual Desire Disorder</td>
<td>36,462</td>
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## OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY

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<tr>
<td>Botros Rizk</td>
<td>Boehringer Ingelheim</td>
<td>A Twelve Month, Open-Label, Safety Trial of Flibanserin 50mg to 100mg in Women with Hypoactive Sexual Desire Disorder</td>
<td>$ 18,869</td>
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<td>Procter &amp; Gamble</td>
<td>A Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Multi-center, 52-Week Study to Evaluate the Endometrial Safety of Transdermal Testosterone (300mcg/day) in Naturally Post-Menopausal Women in Hypoactive Sexual Desire Disorder</td>
<td>20,315</td>
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<td>Egyptian Cultural &amp; Education Bureau</td>
<td>Support for Hany Abdelwahid Faheem Moustafa, Research Fellow</td>
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### ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY

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<tr>
<td>Sudhakar Madanagopal</td>
<td>Howmedica Osteonics</td>
<td>Research Projects – (1) Supra-condylar Fracture Fixation – A Biomechanical Comparison Between Two Standard Types of Supracondylar Nail, (2) Evaluation of Intremedullary Nailing of Distal Femoral Fractures with the T2 Supracondylar Nail: A Retrospective Review, and (3) Supracondylar Fracture Fixation-A Biomechanical Comparison Between Locked and Nonlocked Plates</td>
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**Total** $ 10,000

### PEDIATRICS

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<tr>
<td>Jennifer Cole</td>
<td>American Academy of Pediatrics (Wyeth funded)</td>
<td>Community Access to Child Health (CATCH) Planning Funds Grant</td>
<td>$ 4,948</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karen Crissinger</td>
<td>Wyeth Pharmaceuticals</td>
<td>A Multicenter, Randomized, Double-Blind Study of the Safety, Tolerability, Pharmokinetics and Clinical Outcomes of Multiple Doses of Pantrapozole Sodium Enteric-Coated Spheroids in Children 1 to 4 Years Old with Endoscopically Proven Systematic GERD</td>
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<td>Karen Crissinger</td>
<td>Centocor, Inc.</td>
<td>A Multi-center, Prospective, Long-term, Observational Registry of Pediatric Patients with Inflammatory Bowel Disease</td>
<td>$ 9,105</td>
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<td>Fabien Eyal</td>
<td>NIH</td>
<td>Gene Targets for IVH</td>
<td>10,258</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Mancao</td>
<td>HRSA 5 H12 HA23027-08-00</td>
<td>USA Family Specialty Clinic</td>
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<td>HRSA RW- USAF-0809</td>
<td>USA Family Specialty Clinic Grant</td>
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<td>German A. F. Perez</td>
<td>American Academy of Pediatrics</td>
<td>Ureaplasma Chorioamnionitis and Fetal Mouse Lung MMP-2 Expression</td>
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<td>Kenneth Rettig</td>
<td>ADPH C80117022</td>
<td>Endocrinology Clinic for State Newborn Screening Program</td>
<td>54,649</td>
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<td>Katherine Savells</td>
<td>AAP 080170</td>
<td>Gulf Coast Booster Seat Initiative</td>
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<tr>
<td>&amp; Joshua Mizell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lawrence Sindel</td>
<td>ADPH C80117020</td>
<td>Cystic Fibrosis Clinic for State Newborn Screening Program</td>
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<td>C002-08</td>
<td>Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Care Center</td>
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### PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

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<tr>
<td>Felicia Wilson</td>
<td>ADPH C80117021</td>
<td>Comprehensive Sickle Cell Center for State Newborn</td>
<td>$ 40,440</td>
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<td>Novartis</td>
<td>A One Year Open Label, Non-Comparative Extension to a Randomized Multicenter,</td>
<td>$ 96,489</td>
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<td>Phase II Study to Evaluate the Safety, Tolerability, Pharmokinetics and the</td>
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<td>Effects on Liver Iron Concentration of Repeated Doses of 5-30mg/kg/day of</td>
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<td>ICL670 Relative to Desferoxamine in Sickle Cell Disease Patients with</td>
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<td>Transfusional Hemosiderosis</td>
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### PHARMACOLOGY

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June Ayling</td>
<td>ACHE SUB2007389</td>
<td>Alabama EPSCOR Graduate Research Scholars Program</td>
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<td>ACHE AAMURI 08C0020</td>
<td>Protection by Folates Against UV-Induced DNA Damage</td>
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## PHARMACOLOGY (cont’d)

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<tr>
<td>Natalie Bauer</td>
<td>Parker B Francis</td>
<td>Pulmonary Microvascular Endothelial Response to Acute Hypoxia: Changes in RHOA/RHO Kinase</td>
<td>$48,000</td>
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<td></td>
<td>AHA 07654113B-02</td>
<td>Pulmonary Microvascular Endothelial Response to Acute Hypoxia: Changes in RHOA/RHO Kinase</td>
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<td>Mark Gillespie &amp; Glenn Wilson</td>
<td>NIH 5 R01 HL 073244-04</td>
<td>Lung Cell Genomic Threats from Physiological Signals</td>
<td>346,086</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mark Gillespie &amp; Glenn Wilson</td>
<td>NIH 5 P01HL 073244-04</td>
<td>Mitochondrial DNA Integrity and Endothelial Cell Free Radical Stress – Project 2**</td>
<td>277,820</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ivan McMurtry</td>
<td>NIH FY090320-01</td>
<td>Adaptations to Hypoxia</td>
<td>34,480</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jack Olson</td>
<td>CMREF03</td>
<td>Polyamines and Human Pulmonary Artery Hypertension</td>
<td>190,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas Rich</td>
<td>NIH 5 KO2 HL081463-05</td>
<td>Modeling Beta2 Receptor Activity in a Cellular Environment</td>
<td>100,197</td>
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<td>AHA 0715101B</td>
<td>Role of PP5 in NPRA Desensitization &amp; Subcellular Distribution of CGMP Signals</td>
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**Center for Lung Biology Program Project**
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<td>Stephen Schaffer</td>
<td>AHA 0825382E</td>
<td>Mechanism Underlying Taurine Deficient Cardiomyopathy</td>
<td>$47,428</td>
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<td>AHA 0755288B-02</td>
<td>Mechanism Behind Angiotensin II Mediated Apoptosis</td>
<td>77,000</td>
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<td>Troy Stevens &amp; Sarah Sayner</td>
<td>NIH 1 F32 HL091651-01</td>
<td>Regulation of Endothelial Barrier Through the Compartment of Cyclic AMP</td>
<td>51,278</td>
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<tr>
<td>Troy Stevens &amp; Donna Cioffi</td>
<td>NIH 1 K99 HL089361-01A1</td>
<td>Inactivation of Endothelial ISOC Through Calcium-Phosphate Complexation</td>
<td>68,502</td>
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<td>NIH 5 F32 HL086124-02</td>
<td>Molecular Determinants of Lung Endothelial ISOC Activity</td>
<td>49,646</td>
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<td>Troy Stevens &amp; Songwei Wu</td>
<td>NIH 5 R01 HL0600024-11</td>
<td>Store Operated Calcium Entry: Lung Endothelial Permeability</td>
<td>356,843</td>
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<tr>
<td>Troy Stevens &amp; Ronald Balczon</td>
<td>NIH 1 P01 HL 066299-08</td>
<td>cAMP Endothelial Cell Permeability Permeability-Project 1**</td>
<td>330,108</td>
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<td>Troy Stevens</td>
<td>NIH 5 P01 HL 066299-08</td>
<td>Program Project Grant Administrative Core 1**</td>
<td>184,586</td>
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<tr>
<td>Troy Stevens &amp; Judy King</td>
<td>NIH 5 P01 HL 066299-08</td>
<td>Program Project Grant Tissue Culture Core 2**</td>
<td>$258,348</td>
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<td>Troy Stevens</td>
<td>AHA 0715456B-02</td>
<td>Activation of Soluble Adenylyl Cyclase Reorganizes Microtubules Sufficient to Disrupt the Endothelial Cell Barrier</td>
<td>19,000</td>
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<td>Songwei Wu &amp; Abu-Bakr Al-Mehdi</td>
<td>NIH 1 P01 HL 066299-08</td>
<td>Type-T Calcium Channels and Von Willebrand Factor Release Project 3**</td>
<td>$259,252</td>
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<td>Bing Zhu</td>
<td>AHA 0865356E-01</td>
<td>PDE5 and Endothelial Cell Angiogenesis</td>
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<td>Stephen Ballard</td>
<td>NIH 5 R01 HL063302-08</td>
<td>Airway Submucosal Glands and Cystic Fibrosis Disease</td>
<td>$ 276,869</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Cystic Fibrosis Foundation</td>
<td>Search for CFTR Mutations in Dogs</td>
<td>97,200</td>
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<td>Cystic Fibrosis Foundation</td>
<td>Mucociliary Clearance Consortium</td>
<td>108,000</td>
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<td>Otsuka Maryland Medicinal Lab</td>
<td>Evaluation of Bio-Efficacy of Murine OM2 Fab in Monkey Cardiac Ischemia Reperfusion Injury Model in Combination with Post Conditioning (0715005)</td>
<td>114,000</td>
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<td>Otsuka Maryland Medicinal Lab</td>
<td>Evaluation of Bio-Efficacy of Murine OMML's Antibody Fab (Murine OM2 and Humanized OMH-8) in Cardiac Ischemia Reperfusion Injury Model in Cynomolgus Monkey Using Open Chest Method (0815002)</td>
<td>70,000</td>
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<td>James Downey</td>
<td>Bayer Healthcare</td>
<td>Inhibition of Ischemic Injury by Activation of A1 Receptors by a New A1 Receptor Agonist, Bay 77-3967</td>
<td>14,000</td>
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<td>Bayer Healthcare</td>
<td>Inhibition of Ischemic Injury by Activation of Soluble Guanylate Cyclase by BAY 58-2667 in Open-Chest Rabbits</td>
<td>16,650</td>
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<td>James Downey</td>
<td>NovelMed Therapeutics</td>
<td>Complement Inhibitor NM9045 and NM3014</td>
<td>$ 3,000</td>
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<td>Orthologic</td>
<td>Determine whether TP508 shows Comparable Cardioprotection in a Rabbit Model of Acute Myocardial Infarction/Reperfusion Injury Compared to the Pig Model</td>
<td>6,244</td>
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<td>James Downey &amp; Michael Cohen</td>
<td>NIH 2 R01 HL020648-28A1</td>
<td>Physical Factors and Coronary Flow</td>
<td>296,352</td>
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<td>Thomas Lincoln</td>
<td>NIH 2 R01 HL066164-08</td>
<td>cGMP-Dependent Protein Kinase (PKG) Expression</td>
<td>330,750</td>
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<td>NIH 5R01 HL053426-12</td>
<td>Control of Vascular Smooth Muscle Cell Phenotype by CGMP</td>
<td>242,261</td>
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<td>Mark Taylor</td>
<td>NIH 1 R01 HL085887-02</td>
<td>Coronary Artery Regulation by Small – Conductance Ca²⁺-Activated K⁺ Channels</td>
<td>257,250</td>
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<td>Mary Townsley &amp; Troy Stevens</td>
<td>NIH 5 T32 HL 076125-05</td>
<td>Training in Cell Signaling and Lung Pathobiology*</td>
<td>181,223</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Townsley &amp; Abu-Bakr Al-Mehdi</td>
<td>NIH 2 P01 HL06629906-08</td>
<td>TRPV4 in Regulation of Lung Endothelial Permeability Project 4**</td>
<td>259,252</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Townsley &amp; Dusty Layton</td>
<td>NPA 080924</td>
<td>Postdoctoral Training at the USA: Incorporating RCT in the Pathway to Independence</td>
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**Center for Lung Biology Program Project
*Center for Lung Biology Training Grant
### PHYSIOLOGY (cont’d)

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<tr>
<td>David Weber</td>
<td>NIH 1 R01 HL084159-01A2</td>
<td>Reactive Oxygen Species Regulation of Vascular Smooth Muscle Cell Migration</td>
<td>$313,830</td>
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<td>Jian Yang</td>
<td>AFAR 080114</td>
<td>A Novel Genetic Mouse Model of Chronic Activation of AMP-Activated Protein Kinases (AMPK) in Liver</td>
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<td>AHA 0635341N-03</td>
<td>The Roles of AMPK in Lipid Metabolism in Living Animals</td>
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### SURGERY

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<tr>
<td>C. Neal Ellis</td>
<td>Ethicon EndoSurgery</td>
<td>A Multicenter Study to Assess the Outcomes of Stapled Trans-Anal Resection (S.T.A.R.R.) in the Treatment of Obstructed Defecation Syndrome (ODS)</td>
<td>$4,110</td>
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<td>Wyeth Research</td>
<td>A Multicenter, Open- Label, Randomized Comparative Study of Tigecycline vs. Ceftriaxone Sodium plus Metronidazole for the Treatment of Hospitalized Patients with Complicated Intra-Abdominal Infection</td>
<td>38,113</td>
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<td>C. Neal Ellis</td>
<td>Wyeth Research</td>
<td>A Multicenter, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Parallel-Group Study of Intravenous Methylnaltrexone (MOA-728) for Treatment of Post Operative Ileus</td>
<td>$18,000</td>
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<td>Cook Biotech Inc.</td>
<td>Magnetic Resonance Imaging Study to Evaluate of Anal Fistulas Using a Porcine Intestine Submucosa Graft (Surgisis)</td>
<td>$20,456</td>
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<td>Innocoll Technologies, Ltd.</td>
<td>A Randomized, Controlled Phase III Study of Gentamicin-Collagen Sponge (Collatamp G) in General Surgical Subjects at Higher Risk for Surgical Wound Infection</td>
<td>$16,200</td>
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<td>Roy Gandy</td>
<td>Wyeth Research</td>
<td>A Multicenter, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Parallel-Group Study of Intravenous Methylnaltrexone (MOA-728) in Adults with Severe Sepsis</td>
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<td>Richard Gonzalez</td>
<td>Takeda Global Research &amp; Development</td>
<td>A Pivotal, Multicenter, Multinational, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of TAK-242 in Adults with Severe Sepsis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arnold Luterman</td>
<td>Targanta Therapeutics, Corp.</td>
<td>Nuvocid (oritavancin) at Single or Infrequent Doses for the Treatment of Complicated Skin and Skin Structure Infections (SIMPLIIF)</td>
<td>$ 11,825</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Convatec</td>
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<td>17,812</td>
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<tr>
<td>Velma Scantlebury</td>
<td>Novartis</td>
<td>A Phase II Prospective, Non-Comparative Evaluation of Carboxymethylcellulose Silver Dressing Reinforced with Nylon in the Care of Partial Thickness Burns</td>
<td>15,580</td>
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<td>A 24-Month, Multicenter, Randomized, Open Label Non-Inferiority Study of Efficacy and Safety Comparing Concentration – Controlled Cetican in Two Doses (1.5 and 3.0mg/day starting doses) with Reduced Neoral versus 1.44mg Myfortic with Standard Dose Neoral in De Novo Renal Transplant Recipients</td>
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<td>$ 155,769</td>
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