

# Med-Peds News

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April-June 2002

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## From the Director

The end of another academic year is upon us. We welcome the new interns and congratulate the graduates. For many of us the end of the year is a time for reflection and contemplation of our accomplishments, successes and failures.

The retreat this year explored those areas that as physicians we find most stressful. Paul Sutherland led a philosophical discussion about personal financial management. Mr. Sutherland wrote, "Your medical education and standings amongst professions are all at once esteemed, honorable, financially rewarding, and at best spiritually fulfilling. During those inevitable time of on-call duress, or the torpor that accompany a dying patient, remind yourself of the aforementioned positives. Take pleasure in them." Mr. Sutherland's book "Physicians Financial Sourcebook," addresses specific strategies on investing, managing money, developing a personal insurance program, managing debt, tax planning, and choosing financial professionals. Let me know if you would like to receive a copy of his book.

Our other guest speaker, Pat Harris, addressed how managed care has affected and

complicated the practice of Medicine.

Our small group sessions discussed the challenges inherent in Med-Peds training. Balancing professional and personal life, staying current with a daunting breadth of information, meeting program requirements and addressing career choices are just some of the issues that were addressed.

In a special luncheon the accomplishments of our interns were recognized. Scott Upton and Andrew Bremer were recognized for exemplary conference attendance. The graduates were honored and received their Med-Peds Pins. Irma Vela and Cindy Alegria received well deserved recognition for their hard work and efforts on behalf of the program.

As we move forward remember the words of Dr. Jordan Cohen when he was asked how he and his colleagues survived their residency 30 years ago. "The feeling of camaraderie was intense, the light at the end of the tunnel was clearly visible, we were totally caught up in the excitement of caring for our own patients and learning how to be good physicians." ■

BY CYNTHIA ALEGRIA

It is hard to believe that almost a year has passed since I started my job at Baylor. Providing administrative support for the Medicine-Pediatrics Residency Program has been challenging and has brought me great satisfaction. While finding a job might not be the most difficult task, finding a **good** job is. When I was looking for a job, I wanted a position that would provide a balance between my work and home life. While a job can provide financial rewards, nothing can compare to a company's good name or working with good people. It's similar to the value of time spent with family. The challenge for me has been to learn how the medical community operates from an administrative standpoint. I get great satisfaction in being a part of a program that is well respected. ■

## Birthdays

<u>April</u>		<u>May</u>	
Anita Szwast	8	Kenyatta Shamlin	9
Julie Olivo	17	Anoop Agrawal	12
		Mark Hoffman	24
		Christian Sanchez	26
<u>June</u>		<u>July</u>	
Andrew Bremer	13	Charles Miranda	3
Cynthia Peacock	14	Edward Francois	7
Rassa Shahidzadeh	25	Paul Pettinato	13
		Scott Upton	25
		Richard Miranda	26
		Suneil Koliwad	28
		Tasha Shamlin	29
		Rebecca Gross	30

## Meet the New Med-Peds Interns

The new interns will be here for orientation the week of June 17 and will begin work on June 24. Dr. Cynthia Peacock will again be hosting this year's pool party on June 22 at 3:00 pm at 10623 Dunlap Street. Come by and celebrate the end of another academic year and meet the new interns. ■



### **Debra Brooks, M.D.**

University: Baylor University  
Medical School: Baylor  
Career: General Med-Peds and International Medicine

Interests: Long-distance running, golf, and basketball. Writing poetry and attending Broadway musicals and orchestra concerts.  
email: db692316@bcm.tmc.edu



### **Rachana Shah, M.D.**

University: Vanderbilt  
Medical School: Baylor  
Career: General Med-Peds  
Interests: Travel, reading, distance running, ethnic cooking, modern Indian dance.  
email: rachana\_01@yahoo.com

### **David Edwards, M.D.**

University: UTEP  
Medical School: Texas Tech  
Career: General Med-Peds  
Interests: Calligraphy, playing the piano and guitar, gardening, playing basketball and tennis.  
email: davidedwards23@hotmail.com



### **Premilia Singh, M.D.**

University: Trinity University  
Medical School: Baylor  
Career: General Med-Peds  
Interests: Travel and spending time with my family.  
email: ps692414@bcm.tmc.edu



### **Charlotte (Chrissie) Ott, M.D.**

University: University of Houston  
Medical School: Baylor College of Medicine  
Career: General Med-Peds  
Interests: Keeping in touch with close friends, yoga and Pilates, reading, palm computing, traveling, reading and writing poetry, spending time at the local dog park and co-counseling.  
email: docsprite@hotmail.com



### **Neill White, M.D.**

University: Tulane  
Medical School: Baylor  
Career: General Med-Peds  
Interests: Spending time with family and close friends, martial arts, piano, guitar, basketball, snow skiing, traveling, urban and underserved ministry.  
email: nwhite01@sprynet.com

### **Amber Podoll, M.D.**

University: Cal Tech Poly  
Medical School: Ohio State  
Career: Academics either General Med-Peds or Specialty  
Interests: Fitness, mountain biking, cooking, reading, jazz and art appreciation.  
email: podoll.1@osu.edu



### **Brian Zanoni, M.D.**

University: St. Joseph's University  
Medical School: Georgetown  
Career: Academic Med-Peds  
Interests: Hiking, photography, racquetball, snorkeling, SCUBA diving, biking, camping, yoga, acting, playwriting, and playing guitar.  
email: zanonib@georgetown.edu



## BIG SIB PROGRAM

The Med-Peds “Big Sib Program” will begin its second year. The role of the “Big Sib Group” is to provide support both professionally and socially. The chief residents will be responsible for organizing “Big Sib” functions. “Big Sib” assignments are as follows:

### Group 1

Suneil Koliwad  
Ed Francois  
Andrea Wong  
Neill White

### Group 3

Debra Patt  
Jenny Hinson  
Susanna Goheen  
Amber Podoll  
Christian Sanchez  
Hugo Narvarte  
David Edwards

### Group 5

Kathleen Ferrer  
Mark Hoffman  
Sharvari Parghi  
Chrissie Ott

### Group 7

Vipul Parikh  
Joydip Roy  
Andrew Bremer  
Brian Zanoni

### Group 2

David Butler  
Mammen Maliakkal  
Amy Lothian  
Rachana Shah

### Group 4

Weiming Li  
Wanika Williams  
Shemeka Banger  
Premi Singh

### Group 6

Anita Szwast  
Julie Olivo  
Hilary Suzawa  
Debra Brooks

## GRADUATES

*Congratulations to all of our graduates. I deeply appreciate all of your efforts made on behalf of the program and on behalf of all of the patients who you have cared for. May you always carry with you fond memories of those experiences. I wish you continued success in all future professional and personal endeavors. Below are excerpts from your residency application personal statements, explaining why you chose Med-Peds as a career. I hope that you always carry these words with you.*



**Dr. Alava Roche**  
Private Practice; New Orleans, Louisiana

“When there was a difficult choice to be made she (mother) would ask, “Why can’t you do both?” It may take a little extra effort and some sacrifices may be required, but if something is important enough to me then there is no obstacle that I cannot overcome... I have chosen a more difficult path. However, by choosing to enter a Combined Medicine/Pediatrics Residency, I have also chosen a career that will allow me to care for my patients through each stage of their lives.”



**Dr. Paul (PJ) Pettinato**  
Private Practice-Boston, MA

(Unavailable)



**Dr. Kenyatta Shamlin**  
Private Practice  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

“Since childhood, I’ve always viewed a doctor as one who is capable of treating patients of all ages. Society expects a doctor to not only treat and heal patients, but also to counsel, advise and to meet the emotional needs of the entire family. It is for these reasons that I have chosen to pursue a career in Internal Medicine/Pediatrics.”



**Dr. Tasha Shamlin**  
Private Practice  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

“The Internal Medicine/Pediatrics program has always been of interest to me because of the broad range of opportunities it provides. It would enable me to train with both adults and children which is the patient population I would like to work with in my future practice. The diversity of patients and medical problems would provide a challenge during my residency training for which I am prepared.”



**Dr. Scott Upton**  
Fellowship Sports Medicine  
Private Practice– Southern Calif.

“Growing up my dreams of becoming a doctor revolved around synthesizing Eastern and Western medicine... My diverse and open interests as well as my love for children best suit a practice serving children and adults in a primary care setting. I would also like to take advantage of the inpatient and outpatient settings and utilize longitudinal care possibly in an underserved area. The combined medicine/pediatrics program seems ideal for these goals.”



**Dr. David Elvin;**  
Academic Private Practice  
Boston, MA

“My decision to pursue a career in internal medicine/pediatrics springs from an insatiable curiosity about life. The third year of medical school was the most intellectually fertile time of my academic career... I felt that the combination of internal medicine and pediatrics would be unsurpassed in providing an opportunity to gain deeper insight into the continuum of pathological processes and to participate in a more complete range of human experience.”

## Graduates



**Dr. Rebecca Musher-Gross**  
Academic Practice  
Houston, Texas

“As a pediatrician and internist, I look forward to the challenge of providing comprehensive care, both physical and spiritual, for my patients, from the newborn—who must be treated physically, his parents emotionally—to the adolescent-whose care demands a delicate balance of authority, respect, and trust—to the octogenarian—who requires attention to issues of dying, comfort care, and communication with family members... In setting out for a career in med-peds, I can honestly expect to wake up each morning, even when incredibly sleep deprived, having no doubts that what I'll do that day will be important and fulfilling.”



**Dr. Tony Boonyasai**  
“I found that lessons I learned in Medicine or Pediatrics often enhanced my understanding of the other field. As a result of these experiences, the hard distinctions between the two fields have faded in my mind, giving way to a concept of medicine as a whole art...I welcome the joys and frustrations of caring for a variety of patients of all ages, and I hope to play a positive role in their lives.”



**Dr. Melissa Appel**  
“The lure of Internal Medicine/Pediatrics is the opportunity to develop long-term relationships with patients of varying ages with a wide variety of problems. I am drawn to the comprehensive training in both inpatient and outpatient care and believe that this base of knowledge will provide a stimulating challenge. In addition, the interpersonal relationships developed with patients and their families will continue to furnish me with a feeling of deep satisfaction with my career choice.”



**Dr. Anoop Agrawal**  
Private Practice  
Northern Calif

“I believe a physician is in a position to contribute to society in many unique ways: as a teacher, community or government leader, advocate, scientist and healer. I feel strongly that a combined residency in Internal Medicine and Pediatrics provides the opportunity for me to develop and to become active in these roles... Medicine and pediatrics challenges the physician to apply and to maintain a broad working knowledge, in order to care for a wide range of clinical problems.”

## Continuity Clinic

Kudos to Ms. Irma Vela and the rest of the staff in continuity clinic. We are grateful and appreciate their commitment and hard work on behalf of our patients.

Continuity clinic will be closed June 24-28. Clinic for upper levels will start back up on July 1. Clinic will be closed Thursday, July 4 for Independence Day. The new interns will begin continuity clinic on July 22.

Continuity clinic assignments for the upcoming academic year are as follows:

<b>Monday AM</b>	<b>Monday PM</b>
Dr. Parghi	Dr. Butler
Dr. Banger	Dr. Narvarte
Dr. Maliakkal	Dr. Ott
Dr. Francois	Dr. White
<b>Tuesday AM</b>	<b>Tuesday PM</b>
Dr. Swast	Dr. Li
Dr. Olivo	Dr. Parikh
Dr. Hinson	Dr. Podoll
	Dr. Shah

## Continuity Clinic

<b>Wednesday AM</b>	<b>Wednesday PM</b>
Dr. Williams	Dr. Hoffman
Dr. Bremer	Dr. Edwards
Dr. Lothian	Dr. Brooks
Dr. Appel (July)	Dr. Gross (July)
<b>Thursday AM</b>	<b>Thursday PM</b>
Dr. Wong	Dr. Ferrer
Dr. Roy	Dr. Zanon
Dr. Koliwad	Dr. Singh
	Dr. Scott Upton
<b>Friday AM</b>	<b>Friday PM</b>
Dr. Sanchez	Closed
Dr. Suzawa	
Dr. Goheen	
Dr. Patt	

## Announcements

New members to our Med-Peds Family:

**Eliana Sarah Patt** was born at 4:07 pm on May 27, 2002. She weighed 6 lbs. 8 ozs. and was 20 1/2 inches in long. Congratulations to Debra and Hanoch.

**Zachary Brian Gross** was born at 12:30 pm on May 7, 2002. He weighed 7 lbs. 0 ozs. and was 19 3/4 inches long. Congratulations to Rebecca and Jonathan.

Congratulations to **Shemeka Banger** and her fiancé Toby Hill who will be tying the knot in an evening ceremony in Memphis, TN on June 22, 2002.

Monthly Conference June 21, 2002, St. Luke's Medical Tower, 11th floor, rooms 2 & 3. This month there will be a Med-Peds Feud. Have your teams ready!

Med-Peds Orientation for incoming residents. June 18, 2002, Tuesday from 4:30—6:00 p.m. at Smith Tower. 10th floor conference room.

**Pool Party hosted by Dr. Cynthia Peacock June 22 starting at 3:00 pm at 10623 Dunlap Street. Dress casual**

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