General Faculty Meeting – Tuesday, March 19, 2019

AGENDA

1. Introductions
   – Monica Kraft, MD, Chair, UA Department of Medicine
2. Introduction & Q&A
   – Chad Whelan, MD, CEO, Banner – University Medicine
3. P&T Updates
   – Terri Buchanan, Personnel Coordinator, UA Department of Medicine
4. “Physician Training for Potential Support – How to Work, Partner with Development Office to Identify, Cultivate Relationships with Donors”
   – Manon O’Connor, Acting Assoc. Vice President and Chief Development Officer, UAHS, and Sr. Development Director, UA College of Medicine – Tucson
5. Accolades & Awards
   – Monica Kraft, MD, Chair, UA Department of Medicine
6. Clinical Affairs Update
   – Tammy Ojo, MD, Associate Chair, Clinical Affairs, UA Department of Medicine
7. Educational Update
   – Dr. Amy Sussman, Associate Chair, Education, UA Department of Medicine

NEW HIRES

**Rocio Zapata-Bustos, PhD**  
Research Assistant Professor | Endocrinology

**Oleh Haluszka, MD**  
Clinical Professor | Gastroenterology & Hepatology

**Anne Marie Canelas, MD**  
Clinical Assistant Professor | Geriatrics, General Internal Medicine and Palliative Medicine (GGP)

**Bulbul Cibei, MD**  
Clinical Assistant Professor | GGP – General Internal Medicine

**Julie B. Jernberg, MD**  
Clinical Assistant Professor | GGP
Malvika Varma, MD  
Clinical Assistant Professor | GGP – GIM

Mark Schomogyi, MD  
Clinical Assistant Professor | Infectious Diseases

Jamilah Shubeilat, MD  
Clinical Assistant Professor | Infectious Diseases

Bobu Mohan, MD  
Clinical Assistant Professor | Inpatient Medicine

Ritika Ohri, MD  
Clinical Assistant Professor | Nephrology

Kosuke Kato, PhD  
Research Assistant Professor | Pulmonary, Allergy, Critical Care & Sleep Medicine

ACCOLADES & AWARDS

Education – National/Global Recognition

On top of an earlier gift of $5 million, Dr. Andrew Weil, founding director of the UA Center on Integrative Medicine, now renamed in his honor, commits another $15 million to the center. It establishes the Andrew Weil Endowed Chair in Integrative Medicine, Andrew Weil Endowed Chair for Research in Integrative Medicine (which will go to Dr. Esther Sternberg) and Andrew Weil Endowed Program Fund for Integrative Medicine. Pictured above at the HSIB event to announce his gift are UA President Dr. Robert Robbins, Dr. Weil, UAHS Sr. V.P. Dr. Michael Dake and the center’s executive director Dr. Victoria Maizes.

As editor-in-chief of Circulation: Heart Failure, Dr. Nancy Sweitzer joins 28 other journal editors and 22 publications worldwide in publishing an editorial “Medical Misinformation: Vet the Message!” in January as part of an effort to stop dissemination of misleading medical information on social media.

Dr. Rachna Shroff speaks at the 3rd Asia-Pacific Cholangiocarcinoma Conference in Taipei, Taiwan, for which she served on the Scientific Committee. Her topic: “Parallel Multidiscipline Approach for Locally Advanced Diseases – Down-Staging.” She and Dr. Hani Babiker also were presenters at the GI Cancers Symposium in San Francisco, and she presented at the Spring Series of UA CBIO Seminars as well.

Cardiologist and director of the UA’s Arizona Center for Advanced Biomedical Innovation, Dr. Marvin Slepian co-chairs an international forum March 7-8 on Virtual Reality and Healthcare from the UA Student Union Memorial Center.

UA Center on Aging research and education director, Dr. Linda Phillips authors op-eds for Arizona Daily Star and DC-political-newspaper The Hill on image of the elderly and impact of higher drug prices.
Cardiologist **Dr. Joseph Alpert** speaks at UC San Diego/Scripps Memorial Hospital, La Jolla, on “The Universal Definition of MI: Consensus & Controversy” and the University of Rochester on “What I Learned from More Than 40 Years of Clinical Medicine.”

sheMD.org, a virtual community for women in medicine, posts blog by **Dr. Indu Partha** on “**Why Internal Medicine?**”—where she discusses importance of internal medicine education in inpatient settings for residents and medical students.

The Division of Integrative Medicine’s **Drs. Victoria Maizes** and **Andrew Weil** are featured on a “Diet and Health” radio show from Humankind for NPR. The one-hour documentary podcast focuses on nutrition, health, and the food system. It also includes speakers from the Environmental Working Group, Tufts University and an integrative health physician in Princeton, N.J.

Co-chief of Division of Genetics, Genomics and Precision Medicine, **Dr. Deb Meyers** chosen to be a council member for the Collegium Internationale Allergologicum, which **Dr. Donata Vercelli** will lead as first female secretary general-elect.

**Dr. Rachna Shroff** invited to co-chair the 2020 Annual Meeting of the Cholangiocarcinoma Foundation in Salt Lake City and serve on the foundation’s Scientific and Medical Advisory Board. Cholangiocarcinomas are cancers that form in the bile ducts.

**Dr. Victoria Maizes** reports in article at DrAxe.com that chronic inflammation is at root of most diseases and a suspected link between depression and increased blood levels of C-reactive protein (CRP) may increase in response to inflammation.

**Education – UA/State Recognition**

**Dr. John Galgiani** coordinates with Arizona Department of Health Services and the Maricopa County Department of Public Health to launch a Valley fever billboard awareness campaign in Phoenix in March funded by UA Foundation grant from diagnostic testing company, IMMY.

A dozen winners are announced in last fall’s statewide Valley Fever Awareness Youth Poster Art Contest sponsored by the Arizona Department of Health Services in coordination with the UA Valley Fever Center for Excellence. They ranged in age from 5 to 17.

**Dr. Christian Bime** accepted as a faculty member for the Clinical Translational Sciences Graduate Program at the UA Health Sciences, in addition to his role as assistant professor of medicine, Division of Pulmonary, Allergy, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine and MICU medical director, Banner – UMC Tucson.

**Dr. Esther Sternberg** was named member of the UAHS Strategic Planning Committee in two key areas: 5.1 – Tech Solutions for Health and 3.3 – Next Generation Model for Healthy Aging.

Among 18 DOM faculty and staff to be recognized at **UA Years of Service Awards** (for milestones such as 10, 15 and 20 years, etc., as UA employees) are: **Drs. Clara Curiel, Emad Elquza, Steve Knoper, Linda Snyder, Amy Sussman** and **Eugene Trowers**. In addition, **Drs. Rick Ahmann, Faiz Anwer, Steve Goldschmid, David Johnson** and **Victoria Sanguinetti** also are to be honored at the UA Retiree Dinner.
The Division of Genetics, Genomics & Precision Medicine’s Drs. Xingnan Li, Deb Meyers and Gene Bleecker kicked off the 2019 UA Spring Weekly Colloquium on Problems in the Biology of Complex Diseases that runs from January through April.

**Dr. Eugene Trowers** lauds South Campus Internal Medicine Residents for taking 1st and 2nd prizes in four of six contests at ACP Arizona Chapter Scientific Meeting.

**Education – Community Presence**

A January article in Tucson Lifestyle, “There’s More to the Snore,” takes UA sleep medicine expert and Pulmonary Chief Dr. Sai Parthasarathy’s pulse on the latest treatment options for sleep apnea. Others winning magazine ink around the New Year include: Dr. Peter Ott (Tucson Lifestyle); Vivian Shi, MD (Experience Lifel); and Dr. Esther Sternberg (New York Magazine)

Hospitalist Dr. Bujji Ainaipurapu was among parents at standing-room-only Fourth “A Pathway to Success” High School Health Career Fair at Banner – UMC South. The event, inspired by South Campus internal medicine residents, drew 135 participants: 81 students, 46 parents and guests, and 8 teachers

Nine DOM physicians among 17 instructors at THE TUCSON CONFERENCE, an 8.5-CME event held Feb. 2 at Tucson Marriott University Park: Drs. Edwin Aquino, Julie Bauman, Tara Carr, Jason DuPont, Steve Knoper, Deb Meyers, Merri Pendergrass, James Sligh, and Nancy Sweitzer. Drs. Monica Kraft and Robert Segal serve on organizing committee. Four instructors represented TMC, Northwest Medical Center, El Rio Community Health and Arizona Oncology. Attendance exceeded projections at ~75.

**Dr. Monica Kraft** a finalist as Healthcare Champion at Inside Tucson Business’ “Women of Influence Awards.”

Cardiac electrophysiology director, Dr. Matthew Hutchinson among featured speakers at now quarterly UA/Banner Doc Talk lecture March 5 on “Heart Health.”

Twenty DOM physicians make preview list for “Top Doctors” to appear in Tucson Lifestyle’s June 2019 issue—about a quarter of those from UA College of Medicine – Tucson/BUMG Tucson to make the list.

Infectious Diseases’ Dr. John Galgiani is interviewed for Tucson Lifestyle article on Valley fever, “Digging for a Diagnosis,” that highlights efforts to train primary care physicians statewide on new clinical guidance protocols developed in collaboration with Banner Health.

Dr. Sachin Chaudhary co-chairs a complimentary 3.5-CME event, “Empowering the IPF Patient,” Dec. 3, at Aloft Tucson University with National Jewish Health’s Dr. Gregory Cosgrove, who also is CMO for the Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation.

Dr. Ken Ramos, a pulmonary faculty member, UAHS associate vice president for precision medicine and director of the Center for Applied Genetics and Genomic Medicine, gives keynote address at 2019 Living Healthy With Arthritis Annual Conference on “The Power of Precision Medicine.” Shortly after, it’s announced he’ll move to Houston to serve as vice chancellor for health services for Texas A&M.
**Clinical – National/Global Recognition**

UA pulmonologists and rheumatologists worked together to get UAHS research facilities and Banner – UMC Tucson and South clinical facilities named a Scleroderma Research & Treatment Center—an effort led by **Drs. Sachin Chaudhary** and **Alicia Rodriguez-Pla**. Benefits include greater patient referrals, clinical trials and research funding.

UA TREAT Program director, **Dr. Karen Herbst** received an R13 grant from the NIH/NHLBI to support a conference, “**Standard of Care for Lipedema in the United States**” to be held April 11-12 in Baltimore. It is the first U.S. conference of its kind on the adipose tissue disorder. After, she’ll give keynote address at Fat Disorders Resource Society’s annual meeting, April 12-14, also in Baltimore, where she’ll discuss surgical and non-surgical treatment options in managing both Lipedema and Dercum's Disease.

**Clinical – UA/State Activities**

UA President **Robert C. Robbins** presents the Mary Anne Fay Women’s Heart Health Advocate of the Year Award to UA Sarver Heart Center’s **Dr. Nancy Sweitzer**.

Rheumatologist **Dr. Dominick Sudano** represented the DOM on a Health Care Disparities Forum panel Feb. 18 to discuss, “Putting the ‘U’ in U of A! Health-care Disparities and How You Can Help.” He focused on his Eli Lilly-funded collaboration with the Arizona Telemedicine Program and Indian Health Services to provide remote medical consultations for underserved Native Americans in rural areas.

**Dr. Hani Babiker** highlights novel work done with Spirita Oncology on an Early Phase Clinical Trial for patients with brain metastases from BRAF- or MEK-mutated melanoma. Participants will receive an investigational MEK inhibitor called E6201, a “targeted” drug.

**Dr. Khadijah Breathett** gives third and final lecture in at UAHS African American Heritage Month lectures on “Racial and Gender Disparities in Heart Failure.”

A **69-year-old congenital heart defect patient** singles out **Drs. Raj Janarhanan**, **Franz Rischard** and **Michael Seckeler** for praise in UA Sarver Heart Center Newsletter article on a procedure to repair a her condition made possible by using a 3D printer to model her heart.
Clinical – Community Presence

Charles Katzenberg, MD, and Sarver Heart Series partners are collaborating with El Rio Health to extend positive patient results from a study of 105 Heart Series participants able to lose weight, lower their blood pressure and improve lipid values. Only one of 105 participants experienced a hospitalization, necessary for the placement of a coronary stent. Those results were published in the *American Journal of Medicine*.

Dr. Janet Funk reports in Inquisitr.com article on links of turmeric supplements with liver disease and warns people to let their medical providers know about all over-the-counter supplements they’re taking: “Natural is not synonymous with safe.”

UA Petersen HIV Clinics, a clinical care and outreach program overseen by the UA Division of Infectious Diseases at Banner – UMC Tucson and South, participates in local festivities for the 16th Annual National Latino AIDS Awareness Day (NLAAD) at the Abrams Public Health Center.

In MedPage Today article, Dr. Khadijah Breathett calls blood pressure intervention in barbershops on behalf of African Americans as “a landmark study (that) heralds the need to engage community members where they live.”

Research – UA/State Activities

Integrative Medicine’s Dr. Esther Sternberg was among three keynote speakers at the UA College of Medicine – Tucson’s Research Day 2019, which served as the inaugural event for the new Health Sciences Innovation Building. Her TED-style talk was on: “Measuring Health, Wellbeing and Performance Non-invasively: From Molecules to the Environment.”

Taking part in the Data Blitzes portion of Research Day 2019 from the UA Department of Medicine or its research-affiliated centers were (in order of appearance): Dr. Craig Weinkauf, Micah Donovan, Dr. Fariba Donovan, James Fusaro, Dr. Daniel Powell, Dr. Lisa Shubitz, Dr. Nancy Casanova, Ike Chinyere, Dr. Daniel Combs, Dr. Jen Koevary, Dr. Julie Ledford, Dr. Yana Roka-Molia, Dr. Nancy Sweitzer, Dr. Khadijah Breathett, Anastasia Miramontes, Marisol Allen, Dr. Joanne Berghout, Marleen Ibarra, Sanga Shir and Maxwell Li.

And for the grand finale of Research Day 2019, the Shark Tank competition, the department was represented by Dr. Louise Hecker, Dr. Marvin Slepian and a two-person team of Dr. Monica Kraft and Julie Ledford that won the $10,000 prize.

Third annual P.I. Poster Night showcases key research and investigators across Department of Medicine, with 40 posters on display. See Research Academic Half Day poster contest April 18 for Tucson Campus internal medicine residents’ and some fellows’ research as well.

New UA sleep medicine specialists Drs. Salma and Imran Patel among multidisciplinary team members featured in new website for UAHS Center for Sleep and Circadian Sciences.

The UA Department of Medicine launches an exclusive Statistical Support Service for research of faculty, fellows and residents with the UAHS/BIOS StatLab.
Cardiology’s Dr. Jil Tardiff gives keynote address at “Inspiring Women in STEM” event hosted by UA BIO5 Institute in month-long showcase of work it does to promote innovation, collaboration at university.

A startup firm led by Dr. Louise Hecker, Fibronox licenses UA-developed small molecule inhibitor for therapy to treat life-threatening scarring diseases such as idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis.

A UA cardiovascular research team that includes Sarver Heart Center Director Dr. Nancy Sweitzer and Henk Granzier report in study published in the Journal of General Physiology discovery in a lab model that metformin, a common diabetes drug, could be an effective treatment for heart failure with preserved ejection fraction (HfPfEF).

Pulmonary’s Dr. Louise Hecker among three panelists on Tech Launch Arizona’s “Eureka! Recognizing when Research Gives Rise to Invention” luncheon March 7 at UA BIO5 Institute.

Geriatrics’ Drs. Nima Toosizadeh and Pulmonary’s Dr. Christian Bime, pre-pilot project award winners in the Resilience and Independence in Aging Seminar/ChiiLi Program, present on their research Feb. 19 at BIO5. Topics cover frailty and septic shock, and predicting post-op outcomes in older adults.

Dr. Khadijah Breathett was among nine Sarver Heart Center members, trainees or students to share in its 2018-19 Investigator Awards from the center to foster career development.

Research – National/Global Activities

UA GI Chief Dr. Juanita Merchant is elected to National Academy of Medicine governing council. She also is picked to serve as chair of the Board of Scientific Counselors for the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, a unit of the NIH.

Dr. Clara Curiel picked to serve as Scientific and Educational Initiative Liaison between U.S. Melanoma Prevention Working Group and International Dermoscopy Society, based in Austria, for 3-year term.

Dr. Steve Klotz and infectious diseases fellow Dr. Norm Beatty present at Infectious Diseases Society of America and ASTMH conferences on latest UA research on kissing bugs and Chagas disease.

Geneticist Christina Laukaitis, PhD was recognized March 8 in London with the Mendel Medal by the Mendelianum from the Moravian Museum of Brno, Czech Republic, for her “contribution to the propagation of Mendel’s scientific legacy.” The date is both International Women’s Day and International Mendal Day, which recognizes 19th Century Augustinian Friar Gregor Johan Mendel—who is considered the father of genetics.

The American Thoracic Society named Dr. Monica Kraft winner of the Elizabeth A. Rich Award, to be presented during the Women’s Forum at ATS 2019 in Dallas in May. It recognizes her as a female role model and mentor as well as for her contributions to lung disease research.

UA cardiologist Dr. Marvin Slepian was published Feb. 27 in Scientific Reports, “Device Thrombogenicity Emulation: An In silico Predictor of In vitro and In vivo Ventricular Assist Device Thrombogenicity.” The culmination of six years of work, it defines, captures and predicts—from fluid mechanic principles—the clot-forming likelihood of a device to be placed in the blood stream by its shape or structure.
A review article published by the journal *Frontiers in Immunology* and written by the UA Division of Infectious Diseases’ **Drs. Matthew Bronniman** and **Elizabeth Connick** highlights recent research findings regarding the barriers to a cure for HIV that are posed by the B cell follicle.

**Dr. Karen Herbst** was among authors of a seminal paper on the subcutaneous adipose tissue (SAT) disorder Lipedema published in the *Journal of Obesity*, “Dilated Blood and Lymphatic Microvessels, Angiogenesis, Increased Macrophages, and Adipocyte Hypertrophy in Lipedema Thigh Skin and Fat Tissue.”

UA Cardiology Chief **Dr. Nancy Sweitzer** was among the key opinion leaders to present at the MyoKardia Inc. R&D Day last fall in San Francisco.

**Drs. John Galgiani, Lisa Shubitz** and **Neil Ampel** present on Valley fever at “Vaccine Strategies for Endemic Fungal Pathogens,” hosted in Rockville, Md., by the NIH/National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases—Drs. Galgiani and Shubitz on “Vaccines to Prevent Coccidioidomycosis: 60 Years and Counting” and Dr. Ampel on “Markers of Protective Immunity in Human Coccidioidomycosis.”

Sleep medicine researcher and pulmonary division chief **Dr. Sairam Parthasarathy** among three Strategic Research Award recipients for the AASM Foundation, the foundation of the American Academy of Sleep Medicine, **featured in FOCUS Newsletter**.

UA cardiologist **Dr. Khadijah Breathett**, who is a passionate advocate for health equity and conducts research on bias in health care, was selected as one of the National Minority Quality Forum’s “40 Under 40 Leaders in Minority Health” for 2019.

Dermatologist **Dr. Clara Curiel** invited to serve as a stakeholder member in the Melanoma Research Program, part of the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs under the U.S. Department of Defense.

UA GI Medical Oncology Chief **Dr. Rachna Shroff** was first author on a March paper published in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, “Adjuvant Therapy for Resected Biliary Tract Cancer: ASCO Clinical Practice Guideline.” It was the result of an ASCO Expert Panel convened to conduct a systematic review of literature and provide recommended care options for this patient population.

**Drs. Ernest Vina** and **Kent Kwoh**, in the Division of Rheumatology, had two papers published that they co-authored, “Modifiable Determinants of Exercise Use in a Diverse Ethnic Population with Osteoarthritis” (*Arthritis Clinical Research*) and “Social and Psychological Factors Associated with Oral Analgesic Use in Knee Osteoarthritis Management” (*Osteoarthritis and Cartilage*).

**Dr. Clara Curiel** serves as Melanoma Symposium director at the American Academy of Dermatology Annual Meeting on March 1, 2019.

An article on how your office space may affect your health, featuring research by **Drs. Esther Sternberg** and **Casey Lindberg**, made No. 3 on the UANews’ Top 10 Science Stories of 2018—with numerous pickups by media outlets across the country and globe. A separate list by *Inside Tucson Business/Tucson Weekly* included a “Lung on a Leaf” project by **Drs. Ken Knox, Ting Wang** and **Louise Hecker** at No. 7 for its top science stories of the year.
**Drs. Liz Connick** and **Lori Fantry**, and **Shannon Smith** attended the Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI 2019) in Seattle, with Dr. Connick presenting on five accepted research abstracts and posters on her HIV research.

UA Cancer Center director, **Dr. Andrew Kraft** was an author on a paper published in the journal, *Clinical Cancer Research*, on “Targeting PIM Kinase with PD1 inhibition Improves Immunotherapeutic Anti-Tumor T Cell Response” that suggests a triple-combo therapy involving a blocker for the protein PIM kinase and immunotherapy could enable a longer-lasting immune response to fight cancer.

**Dr. Steve Klotz** headed a research team that published a study in the *Journal of the International Association of Providers of AIDS Care* on how the latest antiretroviral drug regimens may offer a “Lazarus Effect” for patients with respect to HIV-associated frailty, returning them to a “non-frail state.”

As part of the PALISADE Group of Clinical Investigators, **Dr. Tara Carr** co-authored a paper in the *New England Journal of Medicine* that found in a national clinical trial oral immunotherapy in children and adolescents could be effective in reducing allergic reactions to peanuts by desensitizing them.

A research team led by **Dr. Jared Churko**, UA iPSC Core director in the Sarver Heart Center, reported in *Nature Communications* about using a transcriptomic approach — studying what genes are expressed — to identify gene signatures of cells identified as atrial-like or ventricular-like. This could lead to regenerative therapies for millions of people living with damaged heart muscles from heart attacks or other chronic heart conditions.

**Research – Contracts & Awards**

**Drs. Joe G.N. “Skip” Garcia, Francisco Moreno** and **Sai Parthasarathy** are multiple-PIs on a $2.15-million R25 research career training grant from the NIH/NHLBI to address health disparities in treatment of lung and obstructive sleep apnea disorders. Known as the Advanced Respiratory Research for Equity (AiRE) program, it will offer opportunities for up to nine junior faculty.

**Dr. Joe G.N. “Skip” Garcia** also won a $1.84 million NIH/NHLBI award for a study on “Novel Involvement of NAMPT and TLR4 in Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension (PAH) Vascular Remodeling.”

**Dr. Rachna Shroff** serves as national PI on the first “Phase III Randomized Trial of Gemcitabine, Cisplatin, and Nab-Paclitaxel Versus Gemcitabine and Cisplatin in Newly Diagnosed, Advanced Biliary Tract Cancers.” NCI and the Southwest Oncology Group activated the trial in December.

**Drs. Nancy Sweitzer** and **Sai Parthasarathy** are co-site PIs on a subcontract through Ohio State University on an NHLBI-funded study on Low Flow Nocturnal Oxygen Therapy on Hospital Admissions and Mortality in Patients with Heart Failure and Central Sleep Apnea (LOFT-HF) addressing comorbidity issues in patients suffering from heart failure with preserved ejection fraction (HFpEF).

Omniscient LLC awarded $599,250 to **Dr. Bhaskar Banerjee** for his work related to a device to allow “Dual View Endoscopy for Colonoscopy.”
Dr. Hani Babiker won a $478,125 clinical trial award from Endocyte Inc. for “An International, Prospective, Open-Label, Multicenter, Randomized Phase 3 Study of 177Lu-PSMA-617 in the Treatment of Patients with Progressive PSMA-Positive Metastatic Castration Resistant Prostate Cancer (mCRPC).”

The Albert Einstein College of Medicine presented a $472,915 award for a “Clinical Coordinating Center (CCC) for NHLBI Prevention and Early Treatment of Acute Lung Injury PETAL Network (Crystalloid Liberal or Vasopressors Early Resuscitation in Sepsis) CLOVERS” to Dr. Jarrod Mosier.

Dr. Rachna Shroff was awarded a $458,293 clinical trial award for “A Phase 1b, Randomized, Open-Label Study of PEGylated Recombinant Human Hyaluronidase (PEGPH20) in Combination with Cisplatin Plus Gemcitabine and PEGPH20 in Combination with Atezolizumab and Cisplati” from Halozyme Inc.

Dr. Franz Rischard received a $453,857 award for “A Phase 2, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Randomized Study to Compare the Efficacy and Safety of Sotatercept (ACE-011) Versus Placebo When Added to Standard of Care for the Treatment of Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension (PAH)” from Acceleron Pharmaceuticals.

The UAHS Asthma and Airway Disease Research Center’s Dr. Donata Vercelli won a $442,846 grant from NIH/NIAID for a research study on the “Role of Gamma delta-17 T Cells in Asthma Protection by Amish Farm Exposure.” She also received a $131,243 award from the Helmholtz Center Munich for an “Assessment of the Asthma-Protective Properties of Cow Shed Dust Fractions from Bavarian Farms.”

Dr. Andrew Kraft won a $360,000 Institutional Research Grant from the American Cancer Society.

Dr. Jarrod Mosier received $312,471 for the SCARLET-2 clinical trial, “A Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Phase 3 Study to Assess the Safety and Efficacy of ART-123 in Subjects with Sepsis and Coagulopathy,” from Asahi Kasei Pharma America Corp.

“A Phase 1, Open-Label, Multicenter Study to Assess the Safety, Tolerability, and Immunogenicity of mRNA-4157 Alone in Subjects with Resected Solid Tumors and in Combination with Pembrolizumab in Subjects With Unresectable Solid Tumors” earned Dr. Julie Bauman a $324,676 award from PPD investigator Services.

Dr. Hani Babiker won a $304,413 award from eFFECTOR Therapeutics Inc. for “A Study of Subjects Administered Anti-PD-1/Anti-PD-L1 Therapy (in Cancer) That Are Experiencing Insufficient Response to Checkpoint Inhibitor Alone.”

Dr. Hani Babiker was presented with a $299,841 award for “A Randomized, Open Label, Multicenter Phase 2/3 Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of Rogaratinib (BAY 1163877) Compared to Chemotherapy in Patients with FGFR-Positive Locally Advanced or Metastatic Urothelial Carcinoma Who Have Received Prior Platinum-Containing Chemotherapy” from Bayer Healthcare.

Dr. Sophia Airhart was awarded $245,042 for a clinical trial involving “An International, Double-blind, Randomised, Placebo-Controlled Phase III Study to Evaluate the Effect of Dapagliflozin on Reducing CV Death or Worsening Heart Failure in Patients with Heart Failure” from Astrazeneca.
Dr. Emad Elquza got $232,426 from Bristol-Myers Squibb for “A Randomized Phase 3 Study of Nivolumab plus Ipilimumab or Nivolumab Combined with Fluorouracil plus Cisplatin Versus Fluorouracil plus Cisplatin in Subjects with Unresectable Advanced.”

Dr. Daruka Mahadevan received $216,441 for a clinical trial, “An Open-Label, Phase 1b Multicenter Study of IBI308 in Subjects with Advanced/Metastatic Solid Malignancies,” from Innovent Biologics.

Dr. Hani Babiker won $202,949 from NovoCure for “PANOVA-3: A Pivotal, Randomized, Open-Label Study of Tumor Treating Fields (TTFIELDS, 150 kHz) as Front-Line Treatment of Locally-advanced Pancreatic Adenocarcinoma Concomitant with Gemcitabine and Nab-paclitaxel.”

Dr. Daruka Mahadevan landed a $206,040 award from Parexel International Corp. for “A Phase I Dose Escalation and Expanded Cohort Study of Pf-06821497 in the Treatment of Adult Patients with Relapsed/Refractory Small Cell Lung Cancer (SCLC), Castration Resistant Prostate Cancer (CRPC).”

Dr. Louise Hecker was awarded $202,286 for an “Animal Purchasing and Husbandry Service Agreement in Support of Protocol 17-3129; The Role of Nampt in Age Associated Persistent Lung Fibrosis” from the Veterans Administration.

“A Phase 2 Study of INCMGA00012 in Participants with Squamous Carcinoma of the Anal Canal Who Have Progressed Following Platinum-Based Chemotherapy” earned Dr. Aaron Scott a $181,773 clinical trial award from INCYTE.

Dr. Marvin Slepian won a $175,653 award for a study on “Biomechanical Approaches and Technologies for Enhancing TAVR Outcomes” through the State University of New York (SUNY) system.

Dr. Sai Parthasarathy received $173,368 from Whoop Inc. for an “Assessment of Sleep by WHOOP in Ambulatory Subjects.”

“A Phase I Open Label, Multicenter Study to Assess the Safety, Tolerability, Pharmacokinetics, and Anti-Tumor Activity of Zn-C5 Alone and in Combination with Palbociclib in Subjects with Previously” contract valued at $172,195 from Zeno Pharmaceuticals Inc. went to Dr. Pavani Chalasani.

Dr. Pavani Chalasani was awarded a $161,147 clinical trial for “A Randomized Phase II Study to Evaluate Efficacy of T-dm1 with or Without Palbociclib in the Treatment of Patients with Metastatic Her2 Positive Breast Cancer” from CRITERIUM.

Dr. Frank “Chip” Brosius won a $168,450 grant as part of his role as site-PI on the “Transformative Research In Diabetic Nephropathy” (TRIDENT) national study through the University of Pennsylvania.

A study, “Optimizing LUCAS™ Use for ECPR: 1) Time to Instituting LUCAS at Scene of Out-of-Hospital VF Cardiac Arrest,” earned Dr. Karl Kern a $140,371 award from Physio-Control Inc.

Dr. Nancy Sweitzer was awarded $121,721 for “A Phase 3, Multinational, Randomized, Placebo-Controlled Study of ARRY-371797 in Patients With Symptomatic Dilated Cardiomyopathy Due to a Lamin A/C Gene Mutation” by PPD Investigator Services, LLC.

Drs. Akinlolu Ojo and Titilayo Ilori received $114,301 from U Ghana for ongoing studies in the “H3Africa Kidney Disease Research Network.”
A study of “ADAM8: A Novel Proteinase that Protects against Second-hand Smoke-induced COPD” earned Dr. Francesca Polverino a $108,500 award from the Flight Attendant Medical Research Institute.

A study of the biologic tezeplemab, a TSLP inhibitor for treatment in asthma, was awarded to Dr. Monica Kraft.

Updated: 3/18/2019