Sundaram to lead translational research at JCESOM

Dr. Uma Sundaram joins us from West Virginia University, where he served as professor of medicine, microbiology, immunology and cell biology; director of the West Virginia Clinical and Translational Science Institute; and assistant vice president of the WVU Health Sciences Center.

Since 1989, he has been a practicing gastroenterologist specializing in the care of patients with inflammatory bowel disease and hepatobiliary diseases and in therapeutic biliary endoscopy. Dr. Sundaram was the founding director of the West Virginia Clinical and Translational Science Institute, and he established the Digestive Disease Fellowship Training Program at the Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center of West Virginia University, the only GI fellowship training program in the state.

Dr. Sundaram began his education studying bioengineering at Johns Hopkins University, where his interest in basic, clinical and translational research was born. He earned his medical degree at the Medical College of Virginia.

At JCESOM, Excellence Matters

Excellence matters not only to the reputation and goals of our institution, but also to the satisfaction and intellectual fulfillment of our academic community. JCESOM faculty are committed to excellence in their areas of responsibility. By developing an intellectually rich environment, we are creating a climate that is both dynamic and caring which translates into a culture of appreciation for those who model the values of excellence in their everyday work.

Darshana Shah

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“Excellence is not a skill. It is an attitude.”
– Ralph Marston
Dear colleagues,

Besides the LCME, spring brings a lot to the JCESOM. At this point, we have picked our entering class of students, although some additional changes can be expected right up until the class begins. We’ve just had “Match Day,” so our seniors know where they will be going. Overall, I’d say the match was a big success for our students as well as our own residency programs. On May 10, 75 students received their doctor of medicine degrees, including three whose parents also graduated from the school.

That said, the LCME remains the “elephant in the room,” and it is difficult to think too much beyond this.

We find ourselves in the final stages of preparing for this upcoming LCME visit. We know who the site visitors are, and we know whom they want to visit with. We are making final changes to the briefing book and associated appendices as well as preparing the groups that will be interviewed by our site visitors. We’ve done a huge amount of work, and I remain optimistic that we’ll have a good visit. I emphasize to our faculty, staff and students that we have a lot to be proud of, and this positive energy that characterizes the JCESOM will truly impress our site visitors. If you review the briefing book (preliminary drafts have been viewable to anyone with a JCESOM sign on and the final version will be available to the public), you will be pleased and proud of what we have accomplished. Looking beyond the site visit, albeit a hard thing to do, I would emphasize to our faculty, staff and students that we need to sustain the great things we have done into the future. If we are able to do that, I expect we will become an exemplar of an excellent and relevant medical school.

Warm regards,

Joseph I. Shapiro, M.D.
Dean, JCESOM
The Office of Faculty Affairs and Professional Development

For news about the revised Promotion and Tenure Guideline, the Faculty Mentoring Program, upcoming events and so on, please visit musom.marshall.edu/fdp/.

Sundaram continued from page 1

of Ohio (University of Toledo College of Medicine) and completed his residency in internal medicine at the University of Michigan Medical School. Dr. Sundaram then completed a fellowship at the Division of Digestive Diseases of Yale University School of Medicine.

His board certifications include the National Board of Medical Examiners, internal medicine and gastroenterology. Throughout his career, Dr. Sundaram has demonstrated a commitment to basic, clinical and translational research that has resulted in him being awarded a variety of research project grants from the National Institutes of Health and other agencies.

Academy of Medical Educators appoints chair and chair-elect

Approximately nine years after its inception, the academy is restructuring according to criterion-based categories for Acceptance and Advancement, allowing for the opportunity to receive funding for innovative Educational Project (iEP). Gerald McKinney, M.D., has been appointed as chair, and Adam Franks, M.D., as chair-elect. They both graduated from the academy in 2006.

Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine picks up national award for family medicine

The JCESOM has received a Family Medicine “Top Ten” award from the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) for being one of the nation’s top schools in the percentage of graduates entering family medicine residencies.

Based on a three-year average ending in October 2012, AAFP reports 18.5 percent of Marshall medical school graduates have chosen family medicine residencies. The average places the school as number five in the country and the only medical school in West Virginia in the Top Ten.

Since 1992, Marshall has been honored 19 times by the AAFP for its high percentage of medical students choosing family medicine residencies.

Dr. W. Mitchel Shaver, residency director for Marshall’s Department of Family Medicine, accepted the award during a ceremony May 3 at the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine Annual Spring Conference in Baltimore.

For more information about the academy, please visit musom.marshall.edu/fdp/academy.asp.
2013 JCESOM Faculty Awards Winners
Presented on May 15, 2013

Dean’s Award of Excellence

Clinical Care: Adam Franks, M.D., in appreciation of his commitment, dedication and pursuit of excellence in clinical care. Award presented by Joseph I. Shapiro, dean.

Adam M. Franks, M.D., is an associate professor and associate residency director of the Department of Family and Community Health. Born at Cabell Huntington Hospital, he received his undergraduate degree in the Fifth Yeager Scholar Class at Marshall University, where he also received his medical degree. During his third year of medical education, he completed the Marshall Primary Care Curriculum, a longitudinal clinical year with the Family Medicine Department. This led to acceptance into the Accelerated Program, allowing the simultaneous completion of his fourth year of medical school and intern year of his family medicine residency. In addition to receiving the Bertha Lake Polan award for the highest GPA in his medical school class, he was inducted into the medical honorary Alpha Omega Alpha and voted the most “Outstanding Resident” in his class for all three years of his residency. After his residency, he attained his CAQ of Advanced Maternal Care and Surgical Obstetrics at the University of Tennessee in Memphis.

Dr. Franks has been a member of the faculty of the Department of Family Medicine since 2002 with an office situated in Lavalette, W.Va. His unique training allows him to see a diverse outpatient population with specific emphasis on obstetrics, pediatrics and procedures. The hospital also finds prominence in Dr. Franks’ schedule, both on the Family Medicine service and Labor and Delivery.

He has been the Family Medicine section chief at Cabell Huntington Hospital since 2011. He is a graduate of the Academy of Medical Educators. He has been involved in mentoring both students and residents, leading to teaching awards both at Tennessee and Marshall universities. Out of his ten years at Marshall, he has won awards in nine of those years, including the 2013 Rural Preceptor of the Year.

Clinical Research: Yoram Elitsur, M.D., in appreciation of his commitment, dedication and pursuit of excellence in clinical research. Award presented by Joseph I. Shapiro, dean.

Dr. Yoram Elitsur is professor, associate chair and director of research development in the Department of Pediatrics. He received his medical degree from Hadassah Medical School in Israel, and completed a residency in pediatrics at Soroka Medical Center in Israel. Following the completion of pediatric gastroenterology fellowships at Children’s Hospital of Buffalo in New York and Detroit Medical Center in Michigan, Dr. Eltsur accepted a Gastroenterology Research Fellowship at Wayne State University.

Dr. Eltsur joined Marshall University in 1990 as director of the Pediatric GI Division. He has been a research mentor to 25-plus residents and fellows. His primary clinical and research interests focus on Helicobacter pylori, inflammatory bowel and celiac disease. He regularly presents his work at national and international conferences. Dr. Eltsur is the recipient of 25-plus extramural grants from many agencies, including NIH, and has published 123 manuscripts and 98 abstracts. He is on several editorial boards including World Journal of Gastroenterology, and is a journal reviewer for more than 15 journals. Dr. Eltsur’s has a special interest in research on gut immunology with over 20 publications on the topic.

He was honored in 2008 with the Marshall University Distinguished Artists and Scholars Award (MU-DASA) for Excellence in Science and Technology. As a clinician, he has
organized several community Celiac Awareness events. He has also won the “Patients’ Choice” doctor award for two consecutive years (2009 & 2010). He is listed in the Marquise Who’s Who in the World for 2011 and 2012.

Dr. Dasgupta is a member of several prestigious scientific associations like the American Society for Investigative Pathology, American Association of Cancer Research and the American Society of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics. She was the only junior investigator selected nationally to receive the ASPET-Astellas Award from the American Society of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics in 2009. Marshall University has honored her with the Marshall University Distinguished Artists and Scholars Award (MU-DASA) in 2009 and the John and Francis Rucker Graduate Faculty Award in 2010. She regularly presents her work at National and international conferences. She was invited to chair a minisymposium entitled “Modeling Cancer: Biological and Therapeutic Implications” in Experimental Biology Conference, San Diego, 2012. She has more than 20 peer-reviewed publications, most as first author or corresponding author, in acclaimed journals including the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, USA, the Journal of Clinical Investigation, and Cancer Research.

Basic Science Research: Piyali Dasgupta, Ph.D., in appreciation of her commitment, dedication and pursuit of excellence in basic science research. Award presented by Joseph I. Shapiro, dean.

Dr. Dasgupta is a tenured associate professor in the Department of Pharmacology, Physiology and Toxicology. Originally from India, she arrived at Marshall University after completing postdoctoral fellowships at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, N.Y., and the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center, Tampa, Fla. During her postdoctoral fellowship, she explored the mechanisms by which nicotine could protect non-small cell cancer cells from the action of chemotherapeutic drugs.

After her postdoctoral fellowship, Dr. Dasgupta joined JCESOM in August 2007. At the present time, studies in Dr. Dasgupta’s laboratory examine how components of tobacco can promote the progression of lung cancer. Nicotine is the major active and addictive component of cigarette smoke. Specifically, her research focuses on how nicotine can facilitate the growth and metastasis of small cell lung cancers. She is also part of the Nutrition and Cancer Center at Marshall University and investigates the anti-cancer activity of capsaicin (the active ingredient of chili peppers) in small cell lung cancer. Dr. Dasgupta is the recipient of extramural grants from several agencies like the NIH, Flight Attendant Medical Research Institute, PhRMA Foundation, American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics and the American Retina Foundation.

Education: Stephen Petrany, M.D., in appreciation of his commitment, dedication and pursuit of excellence in education. Award presented by Joseph I. Shapiro, dean.

Stephen M. Petrany is professor and associate chairman of the Department of Family and Community Health. A native of Brooklyn, N.Y., he received his medical degree from Georgetown University and completed his residency training at the Virginia Commonwealth University Fairfax Family Medicine Program. He was introduced to Marshall when he practiced across the river in Chesapeake, Ohio, in the 1980s as part of a Public Health Service commitment. After returning east to a private practice in Connecticut,
Dr. Petrany in 1989 joined the full-time faculty at Marshall, where he found the perfect environment to engage in his two professional passions: working with the underserved and teaching. Dr. Petrany served as the family medicine residency director for 15 years through 2005, during which time he developed several innovative educational initiatives including the state’s first rural residency program at Lincoln County and the accelerated residency program.

Most recently he, with Jennifer Plymale, developed the Paul Wesley Ambrose Health Policy Program, the nation’s first formal health policy track in a family medicine residency. Dr. Petrany is medical director for Ebenezer Medical Outreach, which provides health care services to the uninsured of our region. He has been an invited speaker regarding his special interests in medical ethics and the cultural perceptions of physicians in our society. He has published several papers on medical education research and is a peer reviewer for American Family Physician. Dr. Petrany has secured several Department of Health and Human Services grants for innovations in residency education. He is actively involved in teaching Marshall’s medical students during all four years of their education, as well as residents in family medicine. He has been honored with several departmental and medical school awards for teaching excellence.

**Best Idea Award**

**Kevin Conaway, M.D.**, for fostering connections and communication in the School of Medicine. Award presented by Leah Payne, director of public affairs.

**Espirit de Corps Award**

**Franklin Shuler, M.D., Ph.D.**, for encouraging collaboration and camaraderie across the School of Medicine community. Award presented by Linda S. Holmes, director, development and alumni affairs.

**Academic Citizenship Excellence Awards**, for exemplifying the traits of a “lifelong learner.”

**Bronze** Todd Gress, M.D. and Richard Eagleton, Ph.D. The other award recipients are Ellen Thompson, M.D., and Richard Eagleton, Ph.D.

**Silver** John Parker, M.D. (The other award recipients are Houssam Mardini, M.D., Susan Jackman, Ph.D., and Maria Lopez-Marti, M.D.)

**Gold** Adam Franks, M.D.

**Best Teaching Team**

The Department of Family Medicine

John Walden, M.D., and Paulette Wehner, M.D.

**Best Research Team: The Department of Pharmacology, Physiology & Toxicology**, for the highest number of grants received.

Gary Rankin, Ph.D., and Todd Gress, M.D.

**Most Published: The Department of Internal Medicine**, for the highest number of scholarly publications.

Larry Dial, M.D., and Richard Niles, Ph.D.
On Feb. 14, 2013, the JCESOM joined almost 60 medical schools and institutions from across North America in taking a stand for humanism in medicine by observing the third Gold Humanism Honor Society (GHHS) Solidarity Day for Compassionate Patient Care. Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin issued a proclamation announcing the week of February 11 as the Compassionate Patient Care Week in West Virginia. The week’s activities included an information booth in the lobby of the Marshall University Medical Center where GHHS student members distributed Compassionate Patient Care GOLD buttons to health care providers, wrist bands with “Herd of Hearts,” and fruit and popcorn to visitors. Additionally, an assembly was held on Friday, Feb. 15, in the Harless Auditorium where JCESOM faculty members shared brief stories from their careers that have helped them understand the importance of compassion in patient care.

Faculty members participating in the GHHS Solidarity Day Assembly included Drs. Werthammer, Shapiro, Touchon, Douglas, Patton-Tackett, Neitch, Evans, Oliashirazi, El-Hamdani, Wehner and O’Hanlon

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I am in the middle of a controversy with your mother, and her mother about why you have been pulling at your ear, while you just sit there with pampered potbelly saying nothing.

The crunch of the examining table’s crinkled paper in your double-fisted hands makes you smile responsively and tune out their cacophony over antibiotics.

They do not buy into my normal exam or the presence of sticky waxy or the idea that you just found your ears after six months; or my internal thought you are just being a baby.

So they pack you up in haste, unsatisfied with me because of your habit, acquired from watching too much baseball with dad and his ESPN babysitter who has infected you with signaling everyone to steal second.

Aaron M. McGuffin, M.D.
Welcome New Faculty Members

Uma Sundaram, M.D.
Internal Medicine

Jennie Yoost, M.D.
Obstetrics & Gynecology

Komal Sodhi, M.D.
Surgery

Glennis Peters, MA-LPC
Psychiatry & Behavioral Medicine

Terrence Julien, M.D.
Neuroscience

Samrina Hanif, M.D.
Neuroscience

Todd Davies, Ph.D.
Internal Medicine

John Cornell, M.D.
Neuroscience

Kelly Melvin, M.D.
Psychiatry & Behavioral Medicine

Jennie Yoost, M.D.
Obstetrics & Gynecology

Komal Sodhi, M.D.
Surgery
AWARDS, HONORS & SERVICE

JCESOM- FACULTY EXCELS IN SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY- JANUARY 2013- MAY 2013

NATIONAL

Anatomy & Pathology
Darshana Shah has been elected president, January 2013 to present, of the Group for Research in Pathology Education (GRIPE), a 42-year-old national organization of pathology educators whose purpose is to promote and facilitate excellence in pathology education. GRIPE is made up of institutional subscriptions and individual memberships of pathology educators across the United States, Canada and several international countries.

Darshana Shah was invited as a special delegate to participate in TEDMED Live Great Challenges Day, hosted at George Washington University, to discuss the 20 Great Challenges of Health and Medicine.

Maria A. Serrat was on the Poster Judging Committee for the American Physiological Society Scholander Competition, held at the Experimental Biology Meeting in April 2013.

Obstetrics & Gynecology
David Jude is a member of the USMLE Interdisciplinary Review Committee, National Board of Medical Examiners.

Orthopaedics
Franklin Shuler is co-chair, Second Annual Arthroplasty Course, International Congress for Joint Reconstruction.

Pediatrics
Jenna Dolan is a member of and contributor to the Pediatric Nurse Education Committee, beginning January 2013.

Pharmacology, Physiology & Toxicity
Monica A. Valentovic is secretary/treasurer for the ASPET Division of Toxicology through May 31, 2013.

Monica A. Valentovic is chair of Judges for Division of Toxicology Best Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Fellows Abstract Awards.

LOCAL & STATE

Anatomy & Pathology
Linda Brown is chair of the credentials committee and president-elect of the Medical and Dental Staff, Cabell Huntington Hospital.

Family & Community Health
Charles Clements is a member of the board, Clinical Service, Doctors Care for Cabell County, beginning Jan. 13, 2013.

Obstetrics & Gynecology
David Jude is vice chairman of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, West Virginia section.

Professional Milestones

Obstetrics & Gynecology
Jennie Yoost received her master of science degree in clinical investigational sciences from the University of

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Awards & Honors continued from page 9

Louisville Department of Public Health and Informational Sciences. (Thesis defended and accepted April 2013; degree awarded May 2013.)

Ophthalmology
Russell Fry has been certified on the VISX laser and wavefront correction in St. Louis, Mo., with Dr. Stephen Wexler of TLC Laser Eye Centers. This laser is used for the correction of hyperopia, astigmatism and myopia. University Eye Surgeons makes this technology available monthly. Fry joins Dr. Charles Francis as the only two ophthalmologists certified on this laser in the area.

Industry Sponsored Clinical Trials

Cardiovascular Services
Heather Carver, CS-FNP (Contributor). “Global Registry on Long-Term Oral Anti-thrombotic Treatment in Patients with Atrial Fibrillation (Phase II/III).” Boehringer Ingelheim, April 2013-ongoing.

Mehair El-Hamdani (PI). “Global Registry on Long-Term Oral Anti-thrombotic Treatment in Patients with Atrial Fibrillation (Phase II/III).” Boehringer Ingelheim, April 2013-ongoing.


Robert Touchon (PI) and Ellen Thompson (Co-PI). “OMEGA-3’S IN METABOLIC SYNDROME: The objective of this study is to determine the efficacy of VASCAZEN in increasing blood concentrations of long-chain omega-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids in enrolled subjects, as well as safety of use.” Pivotal Therapeutics, July 2013-ongoing.

Books and Book Chapters

Biochemistry & Microbiology

Family & Community Health


Multidisciplinary


Orthopaedics

Pharmacology, Physiology & Toxicology


Journal Reviewers & Editors

Anatomy & Pathology
Darshana Shah is associate editor, Journal of Medical Science Educators, 2013.


Biochemistry & Microbiology
W. Elaine Hardman reviews papers for Nutrition and Cancer, Carcinogenesis.

Obstetrics & Gynecology

David Jude reviews manuscripts for Teaching and Learning in Medicine, an international journal, March 2013.

Pharmacology, Physiology & Toxicology

Travis B. Salisbury reviews manuscripts for and contributes to Biology of Reproduction and Molecular Endocrinology.
Nalini Santanam is a journal reviewer for Atherosclerosis, Journal of Nutrition and Metabolism Brain Research, Life Sciences, Cardiology Research and Practice, PLoS One and Neuroscience.

Monica A. Valentovic reviewed for the following journals: Biochemical Pharmacology, Toxicology, Journal of Toxicology and Environmental Health, Toxicology Letters, Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, and Chemical Research in Toxicology.

Grant Reviewers

Biochemistry & Microbiology
Hongwei Yu is a member of and contributor to the NASA Space Biology (Microbiology) Study Section, NASA Research & Education Support Services (NRESS), February 2013.

Pharmacology, Physiology & Toxicology
Elsa I. Mangiaria reviews grants for the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program, January 2013.

Nalini Santanam is a grant reviewer for the American Heart Association, Cardiovascular Committee 2B; National Institutes of Health, NIH ZRG1 EMNR, Endocrinology, Metabolism, Nutrition and Reproductive Sciences IRG-S 90 study section.

Monica A. Valentovic reviewed grants for the NIH study section 2013/08 ZDK1 GRB-N (M2), March 14-15, 2013.

Peer Reviewed Publications

Anatomy & Pathology


Biochemistry & Microbiology


J.F. Fahrmann and W.E. Hardman. “Omega 3 fatty acids increase the chemo-sensitivity of B-CLL-derived cell lines EHEB and MEC-2 and of B-PLL-derived cell line JVM-2 to anti-cancer drugs doxorubicin, vincristine and


Cardiovascular Services


Family & Community Health


Internal Medicine
Nader G. Abraham. “HO-1 Induction Improves Type-1 Cardiorenal Syndrome in Mice with Impaired AngII-induced Lymphocyte Activation (SCID Mice).” Hypertension Journal. Accepted for publication.


Multidisciplinary

R. Ahmed (Internal Medicine resident), Stephen Petranj (Family & Community Health), R. Fry and M. Krasnow (both Ophthalmology).


A.D. Belalcázár, J.G. Ball, L.M. Frost, M.A. Valentovic (Pharmacology, Physiology & Toxicology) and John Wilkinson (Anatomy & Pathology).


Christopher A. Drummond, George Buddry, Steven T. Haller, Jianli Liu (Pharmacology, Physiology & Toxicology), Yanling Yan, Zijian Xie, Deepak Malhotra, Joseph I. Shapiro (Internal Medicine) and Jiang Tian.


Terry D. Hinds Jr., Komal Sodhi (Surgery), Charles Meadows, Larisa

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Drs. Rankin and Franks will be joined on the council by two representatives from each member academic specialty society. The diversity of medical school faculty members represented in CFAS will identify issues critical to faculty members; suggest potential solutions and remedies; and, inform the AAMC of the views of faculty as it plans programs, services and policies.

Representatives to the Association of American Medical Colleges Inaugural Council of Faculty and Academic Societies (CFAS)

Fedorova, Nitin Puri, Dong Hyun Kim, Stephen J. Peterson, Joseph Shapiro (Internal Medicine), Nader G. Abraham (Internal Medicine) and Attallah Kappas. “Increased HO-1 Levels Ameliorate Fatty Liver Development Through a Reduction of Heme and Recruitment of FGF21.” *Obesity*. Accepted for publication.


Awards & Honors continued from page 12

Obstetrics & Gynecology

Orthopaedics


Pediatrics


Pharmacology, Physiology & Toxicology


Psychiatry & Behavioral Medicine


Surgery

Grants Funded

Anatomy & Pathology
María Serrat (PI) and undergraduate student Jenna Vance were awarded a $5,000 research grant from the NASA West Virginia Space Grant Consortium to fund Jenna’s Undergraduate Fellowship project titled, “Unilateral heating: A novel model to induce differential extremity growth in mice.”

Biochemistry & Microbiology

W. Elaine Hardman (PI). “Omega 3 induced epigenetic change in CLL.” WV-INBRE, $10,000, October 2013 to April 2014.

W. Elaine Hardman. Pilot Trial: Feasibility and Safety of Nutritional Supplementation with Omega-3 Fatty Acids to Reduce Prostate Specific Antigen Rise in Men with Biochemical Failure after Prostatectomy or External-Beam Radiotherapy – a clinical trial to determine the efficacy of omega 3 fatty acids to slow or reverse the rise of PSA in men with recurrent prostate cancer.” JCESOM. $25,000, January 2013 to January 2014.

Donald Primerano (Contributor). “Nutrition and Cancer Center of Biomedical Research Excellence.” NIH NIGMS, $7,500,000, November 2013 to October 2018.

Family & Community Health


Internal Medicine
Henry K. Driscoll is a co-investigator on a grant which was funded by the NASA West Virginia EPSCoR program. Miaozong Wu, who is headquartered in the School of Pharmacy, is the Principal Investigator, and the project is titled, “Obesity-Induced Alteration of Bone Structure and Function: Molecular Mechanisms and DMSO Intervention.” The objective of the project is to study how obesity affects bone quality and to prevent metabolic syndrome-induced bone dysfunction.

Pharmacology, Physiology & Toxicology


Travis B. Salisbury (PI). “Defining adipokine and aryl hydrocarbon receptor regulatory targets.” NIH, $1,250,000, July 2013.

Surgery

Multidisciplinary
Nalini Santanam (Pharmacology, Physiology & Toxicology) is the recipient of the first Marshall Health Translational Grant Program, “Impact of technology-based intervention on molecular and clinical parameters in patients with Type 2 Diabetes.” She collaborates with Abid Yaqub and Todd Gress, both Internal Medicine, $25,000, 2012-2013.

Nalini Santanam (Pharmacology, Physiology & Toxicology) is the recipient of the first Marshall Health Translational Grant Program, “Perivascular Fat relation to Hypertension.” She collaborates with Paulette Wehner (Cardiovascular Services) and Todd Gress (Internal Medicine), $25,000, 2013-2014.

Nalini Santanam (Pharmacology, Physiology & Toxicology) is the recipient of the JCESOM-Internal Medicine Pilot Translational Grant, “Effect of niacin on endothelial cell function in patients with chronic kidney disease.” She collaborates with Tariq Rehman (Internal Medicine), $10,000, 2012-2013.
Nalini Santanam (Pharmacology, Physiology & Toxicology) is the recipient of the JCESOM-Internal Medicine Pilot Translational Grant, “Role of adipokines in Post-menopausal Hypertension.” She collaborates with Abid Yaqub (Internal Medicine), $10,000, 2012-2013.

National Meeting Presentations

Anatomy & Pathology
Maria A. Serrat. “Temperature enhanced bone elongation in cartilage growth plates.” Invited research seminar at the Kopchick Lab, Edison Biotechnology Institute at Ohio University, Athens, Ohio, Jan. 23, 2013.

Biochemistry & Microbiology

Family & Community Health

Internal Medicine

Neuroscience

Obstetrics & Gynecology

Orthopaedics

Pediatrics

Pharmacology, Physiology & Toxicology

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Awards & Honors continued from page 16


Nalini Santanam was an invited speaker in the American Heart Association Scientific sessions held in Los Angeles, Nov. 5, 2012.


Regional Meeting Presentations

Biochemistry & Microbiology

Family Medicine & Community Health

John A. Parker Jr., was program chairman for the Annual Scientific Assembly of the West Virginia Academy of Family Physicians, held April 18-20 in Charleston, W.Va.

Internal Medicine


Pharmacology, Physiology & Toxicology


Local Meeting Presentations

Internal Medicine
Maria R. Tirona. “Cancer Survivorship Issues Pertinent to Primary Care Physicians.” Chairperson and speaker at the Fourth Annual Hematology-Oncology Update for the Primary Care Physician, Huntington, April 26, 2013.

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Awards & Honors continued from page 17

Neuroscience


Online/Satellite Presentations
Biochemistry & Microbiology

W. Elaine Hardman. “Whole foods or their bioactive components? What comes first: the Food or the Nutrient.” An invited oral presentation for the Satellite Session at Experimental Biology, April 19, 2013. Other presenters at this session were Drs. David R. Jacobs, University of Minnesota; David L. Katz, Yale University; Barbara Shukitt-Hale, Tufts University; and Penny Kris-Etherton, The Pennsylvania State University.

Newswatch
Biochemistry & Microbiology

Internal Medicine

Multidisciplinary
Paulette Wehner (Cardiovascular Services) was interviewed by West Virginia Public Broadcasting on her collaborative study with Nalini Santanam (Pharmacology, Physiology & Toxicology). (www.wvpubcast.org/newsarticle.aspx?id=29305)

Staff Achievements
Amy Smith, Office of Medical Education, has earned her master’s degree in medical education from the University of Cincinnati, 2013.

Student Achievements
Kristeena Ray, second year Ph.D. student in Nalini Santanam’s laboratory, was the recipient of the “Best Poster Presentation Award” for her presentation at the first Appalachian Regional Cell Conference in Charleston, W.Va., in October 2012. (www.marshall.edu/wpmu/bms/tag/kristeena-ray/)

Kristeena Ray, second year Ph.D. student in Nalini Santanam’s laboratory, presented at the Marshall University Biomedical Sciences Program Teen Sciences Café held on March 6, 2013, at the Robert C Byrd Technology Center. (www.marshall.edu/wpmu/bms/teen-sciences-cafe-to-be-held-at-marshall-on-march-6-2013/)

Kristeena Ray, second year Ph.D. student in Nalini Santanam’s laboratory, has been awarded the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB) Graduate Minority Travel Award, which is funded through a grant from the Federation of American Societies. Kristeena traveled to Boston, Mass., in April to present her research on the Epigenetics in Endometriosis at the 2013 Experimental Biology Conference. (www.marshall.edu/wpmu/bms/ray-awarded-the-asbmb-graduate-travel-award/)
Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine physician authors book on medical poetry

Dr. Aaron M. McGuffin, senior associate dean for medical education in the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, has published a new poetry book titled *Common Illness* that showcases creative writings from his experiences as a physician.

McGuffin, who is board certified in internal medicine and pediatrics, credits his mother, an English teacher, for stoking his passion for creative writing.

“My mom inspired me to write and express my feelings in a way that isn’t always synonymous with the medical profession,” McGuffin said. “Writing provides a release for me and in some ways has helped me become a better doctor by improving my observation skills and developing a heightened sense of empathy.”

He said he hopes his poetry provides insight into physicians’ perspectives on providing patient care and will allow the reader to laugh and cry through related personal experiences.

In addition to *Common Illness*, McGuffin has authored several poems that have been published in medical journals. *Common Illness* is available on Amazon and for the Kindle beginning in June.

McGuffin is a Huntington native who graduated from the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine in 1999. He also completed a residency in Internal Medicine/Pediatrics at Marshall.

Marshall Health appoints new director of pharmacy services

Brian A. Gallagher, R.Ph., J.D., is the new director of pharmacy services with Marshall Health for the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine and the Marshall University School of Pharmacy. He has a joint faculty appointment in both schools.

Gallagher, a West Virginia native, most recently served as senior vice president of government affairs for the American Pharmacists Association in Washington, D.C.

School of Medicine Dean Dr. Joseph I. Shapiro said Gallagher’s knowledge of the medical and pharmacy industries allows Marshall to expand in new areas.

“As Marshall begins to build on a collaborative system within its health sciences programs, individuals with diverse skills will be required to help design and create our initiatives,” Shapiro said. “Brian Gallagher has the expertise we need and we are thrilled to have him as part of our team.”

In addition to his position with American Pharmacists Association, Gallagher has held a wide variety of posts, including vice president for regulatory compliance for Rite Aid, vice president of risk management and governance for NDCHealth, general counsel for TechRx, director of pharmacy regulatory affairs for the National Association of Chain Drug Stores and general counsel for WVU Hospitals.

Gallagher served for eight years in the West Virginia House of Delegates, where he was chairman of both the Banking and Insurance and Legislative Rule Making Review Committees. He authored a wide variety of statutes, including the Pharmacy Practice Act.

Gallagher graduated from West Virginia University in 1981 with a B.S. in pharmacy and received his law degree from Wake Forest University in 1984. He is admitted to the West Virginia, Georgia and Pennsylvania bars and is licensed to practice pharmacy in West Virginia.