

# Leadership and Mentoring Directory

JOAN C. EDWARDS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



"We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give."

- Winston Churchill



The faculty-mentors highlighted in this publication share a common passion for shaping the future by nurturing and encouraging junior faculty to become the next generation of leaders in science and medicine at Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine.

This publication will be revised annually. If you have any suggestions or recommendations, please email Darshana Shah at **shah@marshall.edu** in the Office of Faculty Affairs and Professional Development.

### Joseph W. Werthammer, M.D.



Joseph Werthammer, M.D., is senior associate dean for clinical affairs. He earned his medical degree at West Virginia University

in 1973 and served his residency at University of California, San Diego, and his fellowship in neonatal/ perinatal medicine at Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.

A native of Huntington, Dr. Werthammer returned home in 1976 to join fellow neonatology pioneer, Dr. Gilbert Ratcliff, to create the first Neonatal Intensive Unit (NICU). Today, this NICU is one of only three Level III units in West Virginia. The NICU encompasses emergency, critical, diagnostic and therapeutic care for premature babies or those born with special needs.

Dr. Werthammer's clinical and research interests focus on assisted ventilation and control of breathing in the premature infant. In addition to his clinical interest in neonatology, Dr. Werthammer has been involved in designing academic medicine and residency education programs for more than 25 years and has collaborated in publishing multiple scientific articles.

**Other activities and interests:** Golf, reading, skiing.

#### Family:

Wife Toby and sons Matt, Jeff and Nick.

#### What attracted you to JCESOM?

Small size and personal feel; the ability to provide clinical services to a population in need.

# Why is it so important to give back as a mentor?

Sharing our experience is the most satisfying thing we can give.

EMAIL: werthhammer@marshall.edu

### Ali Oliashirazi, M.D.



Dr. Ali Oliashirazi is professor and chair of the Department of Orthopaedics, as well as its program director. He also is director of the Mary H. Hodges

Joint Replacement Center/Program at Cabell Huntington Hospital. Dr. Oliashirazi is an orthopaedic surgeon with special interest and expertise in joint replacement and minimally invasive surgery. His other interests include computerassisted surgery, arthroscopy and trauma. He is a graduate of George Washington School of Medicine, where he was the valedictorian of his class. He is the past president of the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society at GWU. He received his postgraduate training in orthopaedic surgery at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons and a

diplomate of the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery. He lectures extensively, and his research has been presented both nationally and internationally.

#### Other activities and interests:

My family and all of the kids.

#### Family:

Corinna and three girls: Nicole (13), Sophie (11), Madeline, 2, and a 2-year-old son, Alex.

#### What attracted you to JCESOM?

The possibility (and hope) of building something that would change a community.

# Why is it so important to give back as a mentor?

Helping others reach their potential as fully and painlessly as possible.

#### EMAIL: olishiraze@marshall.edu

### David C. Jude, M.D.



David C. Jude, M.D., FACOG, is professor and chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. In addition to serving

as chair, he formerly served as both the residency program director and clerkship director for the department. Dr. Jude joined the faculty of the School of Medicine in 1994. He was named the Zacharias Professor for Obstetric and Gynecologic Education in 2004. Dr. Jude is active in developing tools to evaluate medical student and resident performance. He is a member of the USMLE Step II Interdisciplinary Review Committee and the Council on **Resident Education in Obstetrics** and Gynecology examination committee. Dr. Jude serves as a reviewer for the American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology. He is a member of the West Virginia Perinatal Partnership Central Advisory Committee. Dr. Jude has won numerous teaching awards in his tenure at JCESOM, including the Teaching Excellence Award in Obstetrics and Gynecology, the APGO Excellence in Teaching Award and the CREOG National Faculty Award. He also was presented the Attending of the Year Award by the JCESOM Class of 2005.

He received his B.S. and M.D. degrees from Marshall University. Dr. Jude completed his residency in obstetrics and gynecology at the Medical College of Pennsylvania, Allegheny Campus, in Pittsburgh. In addition to being a fellow of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Dr. Jude is a member of the Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics and the Central Association of Gynecology and Obstetrics. He is a graduate of the **APGO Educational Leaders and** Scholars program. He is a faculty selection into Alpha Omega Alpha.

#### Other activities and interests:

I play golf and enjoy spending time with my wife, children and pets (all rescues).

#### Family:

Wife Lori, daughter Amy (22), son Benjamin (19).

#### What attracted you to Marshall?

I received both my undergraduate and medical degrees from Marshall. As a native of southern West Virginia, I wanted the opportunity to improve health care in those rural communities. As a faculty member of the school, I feel that I can have a significant impact on the healthcare of not only West Virginia, but all of rural Appalachia, by educating students and residents at the JCESOM.

# Why is it so important to give back as a mentor?

I learn much more by serving as a mentor than does the person that I am mentoring.

#### EMAIL: jude@marshall.edu

### Michael A. Krasnow, D.O., Ph.D.



Michael A. Krasnow, D.O., Ph.D., is chair of the Department of Ophthalmology and a specialist in glaucoma, cataract surgery

and ophthalmic plastics at University Eye Surgeons. He is also clinical associate professor of ophthalmology at the West Virginia Osteopathic Medical School, and an associate staff member at the Cabell Huntington Surgery Center, Cabell Huntington Hospital.

Dr. Krasnow earned a master of arts degree in anthropology at the University of Cincinnati; a doctorate in anthropology from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst; post doctorate, Committee on Social Thought, University of Chicago; a doctor of optometry degree at the New England College of Optometry, Boston, Mass.; and a doctor of osteopathic medicine from the College of Osteopathic Medicine of Pacific, Pomona, Calif. He was a rotating intern at Chicago Osteopathic Hospital; an ophthalmology resident at Tulsa Oklahoma Regional Medical Center; a Glaucoma Fellow at the University of Iowa Hospital and Clinics; and a Health Policy Fellow at the New York Institute of Technology/Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine.

### Other activities and interests: Biking and traveling.

#### Family:

Dr. Krasnow is married and has two step-daughters.

#### What attracted you to Marshall?I

was attracted to Marshall because of its association with Family Practice.

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### Shirley Neitch, M.D.



Dr. Shirley Neitch is the Maier Professor of Clinical Research, and chief of the Sections of Geriatrics and General Internal Medicine in the

Department of Internal Medicine. A native of Marion, Va., she received her B.S. and M.D. degrees from Virginia Commonwealth University. Her internal medicine residency training was completed at the University of Virginia affiliated program in Roanoke, Va. She came to West Virginia in 1980 to repay a National Health Service Corps scholarship by working at the clinic in Fort Gay, W.Va., and has lived in Wayne County ever since.

She joined the Marshall University/ Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine faculty in 1983. Dr. Neitch has extensive experience in ambulatory care of the elderly and in long-term care, and she has special expertise in the dementias, in assessment of elderly drivers and in palliative care. She is medical director of the Hanshaw Geriatric Center and of the West Virginia Alzheimer's Outreach and Registry Program of the Blanchette Rockefeller Neurosciences Institute.

Dr. Neitch was the 2008 winner of the Rockefeller Award from the West Virginia Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association for her commitment to the care of Alzheimer's patients. She is also the 2010 winner of the West Virginia Geriatric Education Center's David Z. Morgan Award for leadership and service in geriatrics education in the state.

Other activities and interests: Listening to Bluegrass music.

#### Family:

Married (husband L. Edwin Kahle); one son and daughter-in-law (Travis and Kim Kahle); three dogs of our own, and most of the neighbors' dogs stay in our yard.

#### What attracted you to JCESOM?

Have been here for 30 years, ever since I completed a three-stint in Ft. Gay, W.Va., paying back a National Health Service Corps scholarship.

# Why is it so important to give back as a mentor?

I came here many years ago as a rather unlikely candidate for an academic career and the mentoring I received has truly helped me define myself.

#### EMAIL: neitch@marshall.edu

### Patricia J. Kelly, M.D.



Patricia Kelly, M.D., professor of pediatrics, serves as director of the Adolescent Medicine Rotation for pediatric, combined

medicine—pediatric and family practice residents and a student elective for fourth year students. She was instrumental in the development of school-based health centers, including the centers at Cabell Midland and Huntington High schools. These centers provide opportunities for residents and students to participate in adolescent patient care and advocacy. This year, there is a pilot program for pregnant and parenting teens at Lincoln County High School that will feature monthly "Ask the Doc" sessions that have been integrated into the adolescent rotation. Dr. Kelly also has served on the **Clinical Advisory Panel-Center for** Technical Assistance and Training of the National Assembly of School Health and has participated as faculty and site reviewer for quality improvement initiatives. She has been active in many West Virginia School Based Assembly initiatives and received their 2010 Advocate Award.

Dr. Kelly has had many different roles at the School of Medicine and in the Department of Pediatrics including co-program director of the Medicine-Pediatrics combined residency program and an early curriculum initiative—the Generalist Curriculum Project. As chair of the Promotions Committee for the Department of Pediatrics, faculty guidance and a review process were implemented. Currently Dr. Kelly is a member of the School of Medicine Promotions Committee.

Active in community and state programs, Dr. Kelly serves on the board of directors for Cammack Childrens Center, a residential group home for teenagers in

# PATIENT CARE

Huntington; West Virginia on the Move (chair of Schools on the Move), an organization that promotes physical activity initiatives; and The Healthy Kids and Families Coalition. She is currently vice chair of the advisory board for the WV T-CHIC, part of a national collaborative and continuous quality improvement demonstration project by CMS through CHIPRA to improve children's health care quality.

Dr. Kelly is past president of the West Virginia Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics and recipient of its (2005) Pediatrician of the Year Award. She also was elected as the District III representative to the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) National Nominating Committee. Dr. Kelly serves on the Pediatric **Review and Education Program** (PREP): Adolescent Medicine advisory board and has previously served on the PREP: General Pediatrics self-assessment editorial board of the AAP.

**Other activities and interests:** Outdoor activities.

#### What attracted you to JCESOM?

Outreach to underserved children; medical students and residents

# Why is it so important to give back as a mentor?

To facilitate the mentee's development of strategies to achieve their short term and long term career goals.

### Maria Tirona, M.D.



Maria "Marissa" Tria Tirona, M.D., F.A.C.P., is professor of medicine and chief of the Hematology/

Oncology Section of the Department of Medicine. She also is director of medical oncology for the Edwards Comprehensive Cancer Center.

She earned her medical degree from the University of the East **R.M.** Memorial Medical Center in the Philippines. She completed her internal medicine residency training and also served as chief resident at Mercy Hospital in Buffalo, N.Y. She then completed her hematology/ oncology fellowship training at Emory University. Before joining the JCESOM faculty, she led the cancer clinical trials program of the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency and served as director of medical oncology at the Allan Blair Cancer Center in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada. She is a fellow of the American College of Physicians and is board certified in internal medicine and medical oncology by the American Board of Internal Medicine. Dr. Tirona initiated the cancer clinical trials program at JCESOM, where she was one of the principal investigators of the National Cancer Institutesponsored Clinical Trials Support

Unit. In 2010, through her leadership, the ECCC was accepted as a member of the North Central Cancer Treatment Group, a major NCI-sponsored cooperative group based at the Mayo Clinic. She also actively participates in the teaching and education of medical students and residents through mentorships and lectures. She took over the directorship of the medical oncology fellowship program, which will start in July 2012. She serves as member-at-large of the West Virginia Oncology Society and was one of its founding members. She is also the cancer liaison physician of Cabell Huntington Hospital. Dr. Tirona has an active clinical practice at the ECCC. Her main interests are breast cancer, lung cancer and gastrointestinal malignancies.

#### What attracted you to JCESOM?

I came to JCESOM because of the opportunity to start and build a new medical oncology/hematology program. This has provided me excellent growth and fulfillment professionally and personally.

# Why is it so important to give back as a mentor?

Giving back as a mentor is important to share knowledge and experiences (good and bad) to hopefully help future physicians make informed choices about their path in their career.

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### Lynne J. Goebel, M.D.



Dr. Goebel graduated from the Medical College of Pennsylvania in 1986 and completed an internal medicine

residency at Temple University in 1989. She was elected to the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society as a third year student and served as councilor/advisor to the local chapter for three years. Dr. Goebel has been a member of the Marshall University faculty since 1993 and is now a tenured professor of medicine. Dr. Goebel is further distinguished as being a fellow of the American College of Physicians. Her research interests and publications in the areas of tobacco cessation, teaching, geriatrics and preventive medicine led to her election in the Southern Society of Clinical Investigation. Dr. Goebel is board certified in internal medicine and geriatrics

by the American Board of Internal Medicine. She practices at the Hanshaw Geriatric Center where she sees patients over the age of 65 and also at University Physicians Internal Medicine where she sees patients over the age of 16. She has published many articles in preventive care and geriatrics.

**Other activities and interests:** Cooking, travel, tennis, guitar.

#### Family:

I am married with two children ages 16 and 18. My husband is an oncologist in Ashland, Ky. I have two dogs, two cats and a fish.

#### What attracted you to JCESOM?

I love teaching. It is very rewarding. I was in private practice for two years before moving to this area and I love teaching so much I didn't want to go back to private practice. I also have a better lifestyle working for the university and can spend more time with my family.

# Why is it so important to give back as a mentor?

I had a wonderful mentor as an undergraduate student, Dr. Arthur Breyer, who encouraged me to be a doctor. While at Marshall I'd have to say Dr. Maurice Mufson has been an outstanding mentor. He taught me what I know about research and writing papers. Dr. Mufson nominated me for membership in the Southern Society of Clinical Investigation and encouraged me to be an associate editor of the *West Virginia Medical Journal*.

#### EMAIL: goebel@marshall.edu

### Nader G. Abraham, Ph.D.



Dr. Nader G. Abraham received three degrees, a Ph.D. from Mount Sinai Medical School in 1976 and doctoral degrees in medicine/

pharmacy from Italy in 2002. He was an American Heart Association Fellow in 2005 and was chair of Physiology and Pharmacology at the University of Toledo until December 2012. Dr. Abraham is currently vice dean of the JCESOM.

While at Rockefeller University in 1977, Dr. Abraham isolated the gene called heme oxygenase (HO-1), which causes jaundice in newborn babies. He is a great leader, mentor, educator, and engaged in clinical trials.

In 1982-1994, he focused on the effect of this gene in bone marrow function, which led him to discover a new type of stem cells, now used to treat heart attacks and can be used to treat diabetes Type 1 or Type 2.

The broad objective of his laboratory is the investigation of the participation of heme oxygenase in the regulation of vascular systems in human and animal models of hypertension, diabetes and metabolic syndrome. Based on ample published studies and our preliminary results, we demonstrated that HO-1 is a key defense system in the vascular endothelium and that its expression and activity improve vascular function and ameliorate O2-mediated oxidative stress in vitro and in vivo. We are also investigating the effect of anti-diabetic drugs on stem cell differentiation. Antidiabetic and insulin sensitizers with a Thiazolidinediones (TZD) structure, such as pioglitzone and rosiglitazone and, in addition, metmorphin, are currently used in clinical treatment for type 1 and 2 diabetes. TZD derivatives and metmorphin agonists for peroxisome proliferation-activated receptors are an important factor that regulates the expression of genes closely related to stem cells differentiation, glucose and lipid metabolism.

Human blood and animal models are used in this lab (obese and diabetic rats and mice). Dr. Abraham was also able to use gene transfer expressed only in fat cell, which results in prevention of development of fat expansion and in adiposity in general by reprogramming obese stem cell phenotype to lean phenotype. This will be the first therapy to treat obesity in human

Human biological materials and experimental animal models of diabetes and obesity are used to examine the use of molecular, gene therapy and stem cell interventions that amplify the heme oxygenase system. Additionally, one of our research approaches represents a powerful tool to identify therapeutic strategies and novel biomarkers for cardiovascular and metabolic diseases (e.g., circulating endothelial cells and progenitor stem cells [EPCs] for better prognosis). We believe that the effect of anti-diabetic drugs alone or in combination with the antioxidant genes have a differential impact on stem cell function and vascular diseases as well as on stem cells differentiation into adipocytes and osteoblasts. The genomic approach and gene array analysis described in these studies represents a powerful tool to systematically investigate therapeutic approaches, and hence, facilitate translational research in hypertension, diabetes and the metabolic syndrome. Additionally, his lab is developing genetic testing for several human genetic diseases to predict future pathphysiological conditions using cell therapy for disease prevention.

#### Other activities and interest:

Tennis, volleyball, baseball, hiking, biking and chess.

#### Family:

Son, an aerospace engineer, and daughter, head of the media division at Blackstock Corporation, New York.

#### What attracted you to Marshall:

After achieving an excellent career in basic science, I decided to crown my career by doing clinical and translational research. Marshall attracted me to do just that.

# Why is it so important to give back as a mentor?

Success of our students and faculty is dependent on true and dedicated mentoring. I received

### RESEARCH

great mentoring from the vice president of Rockefeller University, the chair of Biomedical Science at Mount Sinai Medical School, and the chair of Medicine at New York Medical College. My achievement is due to the outstanding mentoring I received, and I hope to share some of my experiences by mentoring medical and graduate students and junior faculty to reach their goals in academic medicine or basic science.

#### EMAIL: abrahamn@marshall.edu

### Richard M. Niles, Ph.D.



Richard M. Niles, Ph.D., is professor and chair of the Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology, and senior associate dean

for research and graduate education. He has served on the Dean's Advisory Committee since 1992, and is CEO and founding member of Progenesis Technologies, LLC, a Marshall University-associated research and development company established to demonstrate the feasibility of manufacturing geneticallyengineered bacterial alginates on an industrial scale for a competitive price.

He has served on and chaired many grant review panels for the NIH, the DoD Breast Cancer Research Program, the DoD Prostate Cancer Research Program and the American Institute for Cancer Research. He is the principal investigator of a \$9.2 million Center of Biomedical Research Excellence grant from the NIH. In 1995, he was appointed to the executive committee for the American Institute for Cancer Research (AICR) Annual Conferences.

Niles received his bachelor of science degree in biology from Rhode Island College; his master of science degree in botany from the University of New Hampshire; and his doctorate in plant pathology and biochemistry from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst. In 2009 he was awarded the Graduate Faculty Achievement Award from the **Biomedical Sciences Graduate** Student Organization in recognition of teaching and mentoring excellence. With the rapid increase in the incidence of melanoma, especially in the under 40-yearold population, Dr. Niles's major research interest is investigating the mechanism by which dietary constituents such as vitamin A. resveratrol (red wine), quercetin (apples), etc., arrest growth of melanoma cells and prevent melanocytes from being converted to melanoma cells.

**Other activities and interests:** Tennis and cooking.

#### What attracted you to Marshall:

I wanted to move to a smaller university that was not in a big city. Marshall was a good fit and everyone was very welcoming. The scientific side that attracted me was the genomics core facility headed by Dr. Donald A. Primerano.

# Why is it so important to give back as a mentor?

When I started at Boston University School of Medicine, I had no mentor and had to learn, for the most part, by making a lot of errors. I would like to give newer faculty the knowledge that I have accumulated through my career, so they can avoid some of these error and achieve their full potential at an earlier point in their career.

#### EMAIL: niles@marshall.edu

### Gary O. Rankin, Ph.D.



Gary O. Rankin, Ph.D., is professor and chair of the Department of Pharmacology, Physiology and Toxicology. He received

his doctoral degree from the University of Mississippi in medicinal chemistry. In 1978, after completing postdoctoral training at the Medical College of Ohio, he joined the JCESOM faculty as one of the four original members of the Department of Pharmacology. He became chair in 1986.

Dr. Rankin has published more than 135 peer-reviewed articles and 15 book chapters, primarily in the fields of pharmacology and toxicology. His research has appeared in many prestigious scientific journals, including the Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology, Toxicology, and the American Journal of Physiology. With funding from several agencies, including the National Institutes of Health, his research has mainly focused on how chemicals induce toxicity to the kidney. Dr. Rankin has examined mechanisms by which drugs (antiepileptic drugs), agricultural agents (fungicides, herbicides) and industrial chemicals (halogenated anilines) are converted to toxic intermediates (metabolites) by the body and how these metabolites damage kidneys. His laboratory, in conjunction with the West Virginia Office of the Medical Examiner, is also examining how pharmacogenetics (altered DNA) may play a role in unexpected death due to the drug methadone.

He is the principal investigator for the West Virginia INBRE award from the National Institutes of Health. This program involves Marshall University, West Virginia University and numerous West Virginia primarily undergraduate institutions (PUIs) with goals that include improving the biomedical research capacity and competitiveness of the state and providing research opportunities for undergraduate students at PUIs. An important part of this award is the Appalachian Cardiovascular Research Network (ACoRN), which studies the role of genetics in cardiovascular disease. The

program also hosts undergraduate students at Marshall University and West Virginia University in a summer biomedical research program each year. Dr. Rankin has been active in leadership roles in many professional organizations, including serving as president of the Association of Medical School Pharmacology Chairs, Mechanisms Specialty Section of the Society of Toxicology, and the Division of Toxicology for the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics

#### Other activities and interests:

Birding, gardening,fossils, astronomy, hiking.

#### Family:

Wife, Monica A. Valentovic, Ph.D.

#### What attracted you to Marshall:

I joined the Marshall University School of Medicine as an original faculty member in 1978. I wanted to be part of a new medical school and help it build and grow.

# Why is it so important to give back as a mentor?

Sharing knowledge is one of the more important activities someone can contribute to. Having served as a chair at Marshall since 1986, one of my greatest pleasures is helping my faculty and students develop their careers and be successful. Without the mentoring I received, I would never have been able to be where I am today.

EMAIL: rankin@marshall.edu

### Todd Gress, M.D.



Dr. Todd Gress received his medical degree from the Marshall University School of Medicine in 1993, and served his residency in

internal medicine here as well. He went on to complete a General Internal Medicine Fellowship and masters of public health degree at the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Md.

Gress joined the Department of Internal Medicine in 1999. He served as program director for the Internal Medicine Residency and director of education. He was appointed director of research for the Department of Internal Medicine and the Department of Cardiovascular Services, and recently transitioned into an assistant dean position as director of clinical research for the JCESOM. He is actively involved in research and serves as a biostatistical consultant. Gress teaches epidemiology to the second year medical students. He has expertise in study design and analyses of large datasets.

### Monica Valentovic, Ph.D.



Dr. Monica Valentovic obtained a B.S. in chemistry from Michigan Technological University in 1978 and then obtained

a master's in pharmaceutical sciences from the University of Toledo School of Pharmacy in 1980. She went on to complete a Ph.D. in pharmacology from the University of Kentucky School of Pharmacy in 1983, and then did a postdoctoral fellowship examining health effects of cigarettes on autacoids. Her research projects in graduate school examined alterations in drug metabolism and disposition associated with renal failure and the effects of diabetes on autacoid generation in the lung, vasculature and kidney. She joined the Pharmacology Department at Marshall University School of Medicine in November 1984.

Dr. Valentovic's teaching is in medical pharmacology, the Forensic Science Program, and graduate toxicology and pharmacology. She is a member of the following professional societies: Society of Toxicology, American Society of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, and the American Society of Nephrology. Dr. Valentovic has been president of the In Vitro Specialty Section and secretary/treasurer of the Mechanisms Specialty Section of the Society of Toxicology. She is the current secretary of the Division of Toxicology within the American Society of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics. She has served as an ad hoc member and chair of many NIH study sections. Dr. Valentovic has published 85 peer reviewed research articles and over 120 presentations at scientific meetings in the area of pharmacology and toxicology. Research papers have been published in the areas of drug metabolism, drug disposition, pesticide and aromatic amine renal and hepatic toxicity. She has also published studies examining acetaminophen hepatic toxicity and attenuation by S-adenosyl-I-methionine as well as cisplatin renal toxicity and the impact of diabetes. Dr. Valentovic has been funded by extramural grants from NIH. She has been the advisor for one M.D./Ph.D. student, two M.S./M.D. students and five Ph.D. students who are working in private practice, university hospitals, private business and pharmaceutical companies.

**Other activities and interests:** Gardening, hiking, golf.

#### Family:

Married to Gary Rankin; pets are golden retriever and rescued English Setter.

#### What attracted you to JCESOM?

Young medical school with small size of faculty and students. Good interactions between individuals in different departments allows for many research collaborations.

# Why is it so important to give back as a mentor?

We all must make many decisions in our career. Some of these decisions relate to the balance between research, teaching, service and our own personal lives. Research requires individuals to constantly make decisions about research questions to pursue and I believe I can contribute to mentoring individuals regarding research.

#### EMAIL: valentove@marshall.edu

### Franklin D. Shuler, M.D., Ph.D.



Dr. Franklin D. Shuler is the director of orthopaedic research, assistant program director for the Orthopaedic Residency Program

and an associate professor of orthopaedic traumatology. As an orthopaedic traumatologist, he takes care of the most severe fracture cases at Cabell Huntington Hospital. He and his team provide a supportive environment for families and patients during the difficult time of fracture care. He specializes in acute and delayed fracture care, surgery of bone malunions and nonunions, peri-articular fracture management (joint surface reconstruction), surgery using osteobiologics, fracture augmentation using bone stimulators, and management of trauma-related wound healing issues. He is the director for the

Senior Fracture Program at Cabell Huntington Hospital, which is the first of its kind for our state. He is actively sought for local and national speaking engagements with both he and his patients featured in print and broadcast media, including the London Times and Washington Post.

Dr. Shuler's research has resulted in numerous publications and awards with significant experience in both clinical and basic science projects. His articles and book chapters have appeared in peer reviewed journals such as the Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery, Journal of Orthopaedic Research and Journal of Orthopaedic Trauma with his work presented at national and international orthopaedic surgery meetings, including the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgery and Orthopaedic Trauma Association. He is also a grant reviewer, journal reviewer and associate editor for the West Virginia Medical Journal. The top-rated Orthopaedic Department he has joined is expanding an initiative to meet the needs of 21st century orthopaedic care not only by integrating the latest biological and technological advancements in orthopaedic science, but equally by leading the development of novel treatment modalities through distinguished basic science and clinical research programs. With the recruitment of Dr. Shuler, Marshall University has attracted several multicenter, randomized, FDA approved, prospective clinical trials aimed at improving the outcomes of patients sustaining orthopaedic trauma

Dr. Shuler was valedictorian from Bethany College and was the first person in West Virginia to graduate from WVU's combined M.D./ Ph.D. (Medical Scientist) Training Program. He did his residency at the University of Pittsburgh. He is board certified in orthopaedic surgery and has completed a fellowship in orthopaedic trauma, including the first person to be awarded the prestigious FOT North America Travelling Fellowship in Orthopaedic Trauma.

#### Other activities and interests:

My primary enjoyment besides playing with my children is golf where I have a single digit handicap.

#### Family:

Married with two children: MJ and DJ.

#### What attracted you to JCESOM?

The main attraction was the relationship that I started with Dr. Oliashirazi in 2001. He has grown the Orthopaedic Department to the best in the state and I wanted the challenge of making it even better with the development of a top notch research initiative.

# Why is it so important to give back as a mentor?

Simply stated, it is the right thing to do! Providing an opportunity for others is at the heart of being a good mentor.

#### EMAIL: shulerf@marshall.edu

#### Nalani Santanam, Ph.D., M.P.H.



Dr. Nalini Santanam is a professor in the Department of Pharmacology, Physiology and Toxicology with

a secondary appointment in the Department of Cardiology (Cardiovascular Services). Her graduate training in Welcome Research Unit, Christian Medical College, Vellore, India, was in free radical biology, studying the role of free radicals in the etiology of liver and gastrointestinal diseases. After completing her Ph.D., she moved to Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, Ga., in 1993 to pursue her post-doctoral fellowship. Her research at Emory (1993-2003) and at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center (2004-2006), New Orleans, La., focused on the effect of diet and exercise on lipoprotein oxidation in atherosclerosis. She was also involved in a clinical trial (NIH PO1) testing the beneficial effects of antioxidant supplementation in women with endometriosis. She also obtained a master of public health degree from the Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University.

Since joining Marshall in late 2006 as an associate professor, she continues to pursue research in projects related to (i) coronary artery disease (ii) obesity and (iii) endometriosis. Some of her ongoing studies include (i) the effect of dietary

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lipids (omega-6/3 ligands of peroxisome proliferator activated receptors) on atherosclerosis in antioxidant mouse models (NIH) (ii) identification of novel biomarkers (microRNAs, and other novel genes) and mechanistic insights into role of epicardial/perivascular fat on vascular and cardiac function (NIH) (iii) adipose stem cell biology in obesity (NASA) and aging and (iv) role of epigenetics in the etiology of pain in endometriosis (UK-Marshall-CCTS). She actively collaborates on translational projects with clinicians in the Departments of Cardiology, Thoracic Surgery, Medicine, Endocrinology, Nephrology and Obstetrics & Gynecology. She has mentored several clinical residents and fellows in translational research since 1996. She has been funded by American Heart Association (PDF, BGIA, GIA) and NIH (RO1, POI) since 1994. She has published more than 70 manuscripts, reviews and book chapters. She reviews grants for AHA, VA and NIH.

#### **Other activities and interests:**

Reading, traveling, listening to music.

#### What attracted you to JCESOM?

Hurricane Katrina brought me to JCESOM, but the opportunity to pursue independent research attracted me to JCESOM.

# Why is it so important to give back as a mentor?

Knowledge is one wealth that is meant to be shared. I am grateful to those who helped me in my career and I like to pass it on to others.

### W. Elaine Hardman, Ph.D.



Elaine Hardman received her Ph.D. (cell biology) from the University of Texas Health Science Center in 1993 and has conducted research

in the area of nutrition and cancer for 20 years. "My early research was on the effects of dietary fiber on colon cancer. About 15 years ago my research shifted to the effects of omega 3 fatty acids on various cancers, including lung, prostate, breast and colon. I have been an invited speaker at the Annual AICR Research Conferences several times and organized a scientific session at this conference in 2004. In June2010, I was an invited speaker to an International Forum on Omega 3 Fatty Acids and Cancer in Korea. I have served six years as a regular member of NIH Study Section J (training grants), five years on a Susan G. Komen **Breast Cancer Foundation study** section and have been on AICR Study Section II for six years. In addition, I have served as an ad hoc member to the Chemo-and Dietary Prevention of Cancer (CDP) study section of the NIH but declined an invitation to regular membership. I have had continuous grant funding since my first grant as a graduate student. Currently, I have six

externally funded grants including large grants from both the NIH and the Department of Defense to assess effects of omega 3 fatty acids on breast cancer development whether exposure is in utero or post puberty. I am finishing up a very promising pilot translational trial on omega 3 fatty acids for early stage chronic lymphocytic leukemia and hope to increase translational research. I have more than 50 peer reviewed publications and four book chapters, and another chapter is in press."

#### Other activities and interests:

Anything outdoors – camping, biking, hiking, traveling, reading.

#### Family:

Two children, three grandchildren, two cats.

#### What attracted you to JCESOM?

I like the smaller school and the friendly, collaborative atmosphere.

# Why is it so important to give back as a mentor?

I have been reasonably successful; maybe I can share some insight. At least I can give encouragement to keep going when the papers and grants are rejected. One never knows when a little support will make a big difference.

#### EMAIL: hardmanw@marshall.edu

# TEACHING

### Aaron M. McGuffin, M.D.



Aaron M. McGuffin, M.D., is senior associate dean for medical student education and associate program director for the Department

of Pediatrics. He is also an associate professor of medicine and pediatrics.

Dr. McGuffin earned his bachelor of science degree from Eastern Kentucky University and his doctor of medicine degree from Marshall University School of Medicine. He served his internal medicine/ pediatric residency at JCESOM.

Among his academic and administrative accomplishments, McGuffin led the transfer of the curriculum into iPad using the iAuthor format, creating a universal set of notes for students to improve point of care access to educational material. He also led a major curriculum change in Year One and Year Two, changing the traditional curriculum into a systems-based curriculum. He applied informational technology to create an online test question bank, a curriculum query of curriculum inventory, an online calendar, and a vertical and horizontal integration assessment.

**Other activities and interests:** Running, Scrabble, poetry.

#### Family:

Katelyn, Ryan and Avery.

What attracted you to Marshall? Family atmosphere.

# Why is it so important to give back as a mentor?

It is enjoyable and often ends in the mentor getting more out of the experience than the mentee.

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#### Darshana Shah, Ph.D.



Darshana Shah, Ph.D., is a professor of pathology and serves as chief for the pathology academic section.

Apart from her academic responsibilities, she serves as associate dean for the Office of Faculty Affairs and Professional Development. In this role, she has designed, developed and implemented various professional development platforms to meet the specific needs of the faculty and institution. Dr. Shah is founding chair of the school's Academy of Medical Educators, which was designed to build excellence in teaching and serve as a beacon to recognize passionate educators and promote their future growth through teaching and learning. This faculty development initiative is in its ninth year.

As an educator, Dr. Shah has designed, developed and implemented the fourth-year elective, Academic Medicine, to introduce students to and stimulate their interest in the field of medical education. She enjoys the challenge of strengthening medical education through educational research. Dr. Shah currently serves as elected president of Group for Research in Pathology Education, a national organization of pathology educators whose purpose is to promote and facilitate excellence in pathology education.

She has won several teaching awards, including the Golden Apple Award from the school's chapter of the American Medical Student Association. She was the first basic science faculty to be asked to hood the graduating class in 2005.

Dr. Shah is the first Marshall University faculty member selected as an ELAM Fellow, and completed its one-year program in 2009-2010. She is a Harvard Macy Fellow, and currently participates as faculty facilitator in the program for Harvard Macy Institute Program for Leading Innovations. She regularly presents and serves as a faculty for the national medical education conferences and professional development conferences.

#### Other activities and interests:

Cooking and playing chess with my family.

#### Family:

Husband: Tushar Shah, and daughters Preeya (21) and Anika (17).

#### What attracted you to JCESOM?

Collegial community of educators.

# Why is it so important to give back as a mentor?

I came to the United States from India as a graduate student to attend the University of Maryland, and I am now here at Marshall as a faculty member. During this journey, I have been truly blessed to have mentors, both formally and informally, who have helped and inspired me. Therefore, for me, mentoring is giving back and paying forward.

#### EMAIL: shah@marshall.edu

# Stephen M. Petrany, M.D.



Stephen M. Petrany is professor and associate chairman for medical education 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 and board president for Ebenezer Medical Outreach, which provides health care services to the uninsured of our region. He has a special interest in medical ethics and the cultural perceptions of physicians in our society and is a peer reviewer for American Family Physician. He is actively involved in teaching 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.

**Other activities and interests:** Guitar, painting/drawing, filmmaking.

#### Family:

Wife Nancy-Ann Petrany, six children.

#### What attracted you to JCESOM?

Outreach to underserved, primary care emphasis, teaching opportunities.

# Why is it so important to give back as a mentor?

It's not "giving back," it's just what we all should be doing.

#### EMAIL: petrany@marshall.edu

### Charles E. Giangarra, M.D.



Charles Giangarra, a graduate of State University of New York's Downstate College of Medicine, served residencies at The Staten

Island Hospital and Montefiore Hospital Medical Center at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. A fellowship in sports medicine, which encompassed the orthopaedic care of several professional teams, followed at Kerlan-Jobe Orthopaedic Clinic in Los Angeles, Calif.

Giangarra currently serves as vice chair of the Division of Orthopaedic Surgery and chief of Marshall Athletics & Orthopaedic Sports Medicine, as well as being a tenured professor. He is the medical director for the Marshall University Undergraduate Athletic Training Curriculum, and adjunct faculty for the Division of Exercise Science Athletic Training Education Program in the College of Education and Human Services. In the past, he has served in numerous capacities teaching, consulting in and practicing various levels of sports medicine, from high school to college to professional.

In 2010, Giangarra was elected to Alpha Omega Alpha at Marshall University. In 2008, he became a master educator, Academy of Medical Educators, JCESOM.

Immediately prior to coming to JCESOM, he was assistant professor (tenured) in the Department of Orthopaedics & Rehabilitation, Creighton University School of Medicine in Omaha, Neb., as well as the school's chief of the Division of Sports Medicine, Department of Orthopaedics & Rehabilitation.

#### Other activities and interests:

Reading, theatre, concerts, dog training.

#### Family:

Wife, Jean; three children. Nick, Jenna, Cristen. Two dogs; Beacon and Ryder (Newfies).

#### What attracted you to JCESOM?

Ability to develop a state of the art sports medicine program.

# Why is it so important to give back as a mentor?

Hope to continue the importance of developing and restoring empathetic compassionate care.

EMAIL: giangarra@marshall.edu

### Kathleen O'Hanlon, M.D.



Kathleen M. O'Hanlon, M.D. and professor of family and community health, served as a medical director and full-time

clinician from 1989 to 1996 in an affiliated practice setting, but now practices at the residency-based MUSOM Family Practice Center. She enjoys delivering and teaching comprehensive care services for the entire family and has been the Family Medicine Clerkship director for third year medical students since 2004.

Her special interest in office procedural medicine prompted her to pursue in-depth training during a sabbatical experience in 2000. She now spends about one-third of her clinical time on procedural medicine. Other accomplishments include serving as the procedures editor for FirstConsult.com from 2005-2009. She has written a number of book chapters which have been published in *Procedures* for Primary Care Physicians, Primary Care Procedures in Women's Health, and Dermatologic and Cosmetic Procedures in Office Practice. She has been an instructor at national medical meetings for the past decade.

Raised in Tucson, Ariz., she moved to West Virginia in 1978 after three years in Washington, D.C. She is a magna cum laude graduate of Marshall University. She then attended the MUSOM, where she was inducted into the medical honorary Alpha Omega Alpha. She completed her family practice residency at Marshall, where she served as chief resident and received the "Outstanding Third Year Resident" award. She has been board certified by the American Board of Family Practice since 1989.

#### Other activities and interests:

Travel, movies, reading, hiking, yoga.

#### Family:

Married to Daniel Patrick O'Hanlon, vice chancellor of technology for the Higher Education Policy Commission and Director of WVNet; Golden Retriever, Murphy, and Yellow Lab, Charley.

#### What attracted you to JCESOM?

Initially, I was interested in living in a smallish town and enjoying a somewhat rural lifestyle. I loved my educational years at Marshall University and then at the SOM, and never had any desire to leave. Great people to work with, a safe and friendly environment, inspiring colleagues, and nice patients.

# Why is it so important to give back as a mentor?

It takes a community to raise a doctor. In order to survive the rigors of the medical school system, I think it's really important to have people who you feel believe in you enough to take time out from their own busy schedules to offer advice and encouragement. Likewise, as

# TEACHING

we mature into our careers we, ourselves, fall and have to get up, over and over again. From our own mistakes, successes and failures – we can hopefully help to ease some of the bumps in the road for someone else.

#### EMAIL: kohanlon@marshall.edu

### Paulette S. Wehner, M.D.



Dr. Paulette Wehner is the senior associate dean for graduate medical education. She is also a professor of cardiovascular

medicine.

Dr. Wehner is a native West Virginian from Kingwood. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Notre Dame and returned to West Virginia to complete medical school at Marshall.

After completing an internal medicine residency, Cardiovascular Medicine Fellowship and a fellowship in interventional cardiology at Marshall, she dove right into graduate medical education by becoming the program director for the Cardiovascular Medicine Fellowship. Over the next decade, she developed the fellowship into a premier program with national acclaim. She serves on the American College of Cardiology Training and Workforce Committee and is an author of the National In-Training Exam for Cardiology Fellows through the National Board of Medical Examiners. She also currently serves as the president of the West Virginia ACC Chapter.

Her passion for teaching is evidenced in copious teaching awards, and she continues to teach a fourth year elective in EKG as well as MSII and MSIII EKG courses. As an inaugural graduate of the Academy of Medical Educators, she developed a vertical EKG curriculum for medical school years one through four.

In her relatively new role in graduate medical education, Dr. Wehner supervises all residency and fellowship programs but still actively pursues what she has labeled, "The Big Three: Patient Care, Teaching and Research."

Other activities and interests:

Skiing and anything with family.

#### Family:

Mitch Charles, spouse; Emilie age 12 and Olivia age 9. The greatest three people in the world!

#### What attracted you to JCESOM?

The initial interview for medical school. I never intended to stay, but career developed, family grew, and here we are!

# Why is it so important to give back as a mentor?

Very simple; it is the right thing to do. When a previous Marshall student calls and says: "Thanks Dr. Wehner, my residency program director says I tested out of my EKG training, and I know more than the senior residents!" OR, when another graduate hands me a book chapter they completed which was "inspired by the teaching" they received from me while they were here, the rest of the week is good and all is right with the world.

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# "Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn."

- Benjamin Franklin



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