

# On the Inside

July-September 2018

School of Medicine  
School of Graduate Studies  
School of Allied Health Professions  
Graduate Medical Education  
Office of Research

## Honors & Appointments

**Rita Y. Horton, MD**, Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry, was appointed to the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners by Governor John Bel Edwards.

**Jane Eggerstedt, MD**, Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs and Vice Dean of the School of Medicine, was appointed as the inaugural Provost of LSU Health Shreveport.



**Jeff Reynolds** was appointed Vice Chancellor of Administration and Finance.

**Dennis Wissing, PhD**, was named Interim Dean of the School of Allied Health Professions.

**Martin Sapp, PhD**, was appointed Chairman of the Department of Microbiology & Immunology.

**Andrew Yurochko, PhD**, Carroll Feist Endowed Chair of Viral Oncology, was named Vice Chairman of the Department of Microbiology & Immunology.

**Debbie Chandler, MD**, Associate Professor and Clinical Director of Anesthesiology, and Assistant Dean of Diversity Affairs, has been named Vice Chair of the Department of Anesthesiology.

**Joseph A. Bocchini, Jr., MD**, Professor and Chairman of Pediatrics, was named President of the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases.

**J. Arthur Saus, MD, FASA**, Associate Professor and Director of Anesthesiology Simulation was designated a Fellow of the American Society of Anesthesiologists. Dr. Saus is the first Anesthesiologist at LSU Health Shreveport to achieve this designation.

**Steven A. Conrad, MD, PhD, MCCM**, Director of Critical Care Medicine Service and Ike Muslow MD Endowed Chair in Healthcare Informatics, was named a LSU Shreveport 2018 Circle of Excellence Award Recipient.

Summer graduation was held on Saturday, August 11. Sixty-three School of Allied Health Professions students and three School of Graduate Studies PhD students received their hard-earned and well-deserved diplomas. Congratulations, graduates!

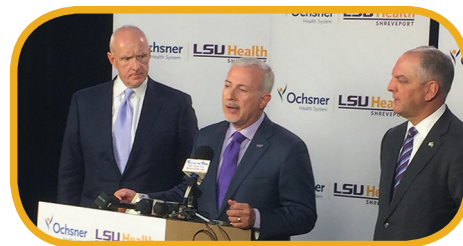


**Elizabeth Disbrow, PhD**, Center for Brain Health Director, was awarded a \$50,000 grant from the American Parkinson Disease Association for her project "Diversity in Biomarker Discovery" which began on September 1, 2018.

**Shafiq Alam, PhD**, was awarded a \$106,532 postdoctoral fellowship grant from the American Heart Association for his two-year project, "Sigmar1 autophagic function in protecting cardiac proteotoxicity," which began on July 1, 2018. Shenuarin Bhuiyan, PhD, Assistant Professor of Pathology and Translational Pathobiology, is Dr. Alam's mentor.

**Montie' Dobbins, MLIS**, Associate Professor of Medical Library Science and Assistant Director of Library Technical Services, received the Professional Development Award from the National Network of

## OCHSNER LSU HEALTH SHREVEPORT PARTNERSHIP



On September 24, the State of Louisiana, LSU and Ochsner Health System announced the Public Private Partnership Agreement in Shreveport and Monroe had been finalized. On October 1, Ochsner and LSU Health Shreveport's 50/50 partnership, known as *Ochsner LSU Health Shreveport*, became effective. Under the new structure, LSU will continue to successfully oversee the LSUHSC-S School of Medicine, School of Allied Health Professions, School of Graduate Studies, Graduate Medical Education, and research initiatives. Ochsner Health System will manage the operations of the partner hospitals and clinics in Shreveport and Monroe.

Libraries of Medicine, South Central Region, and the Postell Professional Development Award from the South Central Chapter of the Medical Library Association.

**Julia Esparza, MLS, AHIP**, Professor of Medical Library Science and Associate Director, Health Sciences Library, was elected President-Elect of the national Medical Library Association, 2018-2019.

**David Duggar, MLIS, AHIP**, Professor of Medical Library Science and Head of the Library Liaison Program, was elected Secretary, Hospital Libraries Interest Section of the South Central Chapter of the Medical Library Association, 2018-2019.

**Lucy Robinson, PhD**, Associate Professor of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, received the Top Faculty Performer Award for the Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology for the 2017-2018 school year.

**Harold Chen, MD**, was selected as the recipient of the Association of Chinese Geneticists in America (ACGA) Excellence in Genetics Education Award.

**Katelyn Hopper, MD, PGY3 Anesthesiology Resident**, was recognized by the American Board of Anesthesiology on her outstanding performance on the June 2018 BASIC Examination. Dr. Hopper scored in the top 10 percent of those who took the exam.

**Meghna Chadha, MD**, Director of the Non-Invasive Vascular Lab, and **Linda Nail, MD**, Professor and Vice Chairman of the Department of Radiology, received re-accreditation from the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission for the Non-Invasive Vascular Laboratory as an accredited facility in the areas of Extracranial Cerebrovascular Testing, Peripheral Venous Testing, and Peripheral Arterial Testing.

**Lynn Harrison, PhD**, Professor of Molecular & Cellular Physiology, was awarded a NASA grant for \$299,862 for her project, "Are Rel and SigH required for survival and biofilm formation of LSMMG-grown *Mycobacterium marinum*?" which began August 20, 2018.

**Hai Sun, MD**, Assistant Professor of Neurosurgery and Director of Epilepsy Surgery, was awarded an Epilepsy Research Program Idea Development Award for \$721,000 from the U.S. Department of Defense Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs for his research project, "Evaluating Impact of Cerebral Contusions on Brain Network Dysfunction and Epileptogenesis Among Patients with Traumatic Brain Injuries."

**Richa Aishwarya**, Graduate Student and Principle Investigator, was awarded the spring Malcolm Feist Pre-Doctoral Fellowship Award of \$84,000 for her project, "Role

of Sigmar1 in regulating mitochondrial dynamics under pathophysiological conditions in the heart," which began July 1, 2018. **Shenuarin Bhuiyan, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Pathology and Translational Pathobiology, is Richa's mentor.

**Shenuarin Bhuiyan, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Pathology and Translational Pathobiology, was awarded a \$25,000 Feist-Weiller Cancer Center Idea Grant for his project, "Atg7 overexpression protects the heart from Doxorubicin cardiomyopathy."

**Margaret Olmedo, MD**, Associate Professor and Residency Director of Orthopaedic Surgery, was named a finalist for the 2018 Virginia K. Shehee Most Influential Woman Award.

**Jennifer Woerner, DMD, MD**, Professor, Residency Program Director, and Fellowship Director of the Craniofacial and Cleft Surgery program for the Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, was named the inaugural Tilakram and Bhagwanti Devi Distinguished Professorship in Cleft Lip and Palate Surgery and Training.



**Sarwat Umer, MD**, Associate Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics, Director of the Pediatric Rheumatology Clinic, and the Associate Program Director of the Rheumatology Fellowship, was named the inaugural Alice Coleman Endowed Professorship in Pediatric Rheumatology.



**Lucile Guion**, Graduate Student, won "Best Talk" by a Graduate Student at the DNA Tumor Virus meeting held in Madison, WI, July 31-August 4.

This award came from the Journal of General Virology and was presented by Dr. Michelle Ozbun.

**Stephanie Blackburn, MHS, MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>**, Program Director and Assistant Professor of Clinical Laboratory Science, was awarded the Allen A. Copping Excellence in Teaching Award for Allied Health Professions.

**Manikandan Panchatcharam, PhD**, was awarded an administrative supplement of \$102,200 from the Alzheimer's Disease Initiative to his current NIH R21 grant. The title for this supplement is "Alcohol-Autotaxin-LPP3 axis in Alzheimers disease risk."

**Chris Kevil, PhD**, Vice Chancellor for Research, was awarded a NIH Supplement of \$263,409 from the Alzheimer's Disease Initiative to his current COBRE grant. **Drs. Elizabeth Disbrow; J. Steven Alexander;** and **Karen Stokes** will lead the one-year project.

**John A. Vanchiere, MD**, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and Chief, Section of Pediatric Infectious Diseases, received an additional nine months of funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration for his project, "Ryan White Tail III: Early Intervention Services," totaling \$605,491 for 2018-2019.

## Presentations

**Cherie-Ann Nathan, MD, FACS**, Professor, Program Director and Chairman of the Department of Otolaryngology/Head & Neck Surgery, gave a talk as the invited Roger Lehman Lecturer for the Best Evidence ENT Conference Meeting on the latest clinical care pathways and practice guidelines, sponsored by the University of Milwaukee, Department of Otolaryngology/Head & Neck Surgery. Dr. Nathan also spoke on a panel for "Adult Neck Masses."

**Peggy Murphy, PhD**, Associate Professor of Academic Affairs, gave the commencement address at Bossier Parish Community College's summer graduation ceremony.

**Rosario Maria S. Riel-Romero, MD, FAAP, FAAN, FACNS**, Professor of Neurology and Pediatrics and Vice-Chairman Department of Neurology: "Cannabis and Epilepsy," University of the Philippines Medical Alumni Society of America Annual Grand Convention, San Francisco, CA, July 3-7.

**Michelle M. Arnold, PhD**, Assistant Professor, and **Samantha K. Murphy**, Graduate Student, from the Department of Microbiology & Immunology, attended the 37th Annual Meeting of the American Society for Virology at the University of Maryland, College Park, MD, July 14-18. Samantha presented a talk titled, "Rotavirus NSP1-Mediated Inhibition of IRF3 and NF- $\kappa$ B Nuclear Translocation."

**Rini Ravindran**, Graduate Student in Dr. Kelly Tatchell's lab in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology: "New ubiquitin-dependent mechanisms regulating the Aurora B-Protein Phosphatase 1 balance in *S. cerevisiae*," FASEB meeting on Protein Phosphatases, Snowmass Village, CO, July 15-20. Rini won one of four awards at a poster session.

## NEW & NOTEWORTHY

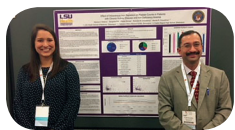
On May 23, the Louisiana Board of Regents approved a name change for the Clinical Laboratory Science degree and program. Beginning with the 2018 summer semester, the name of the degree changed from "Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology" to "Bachelor of Science in Medical Laboratory Science." Additionally, the program has been renamed the Medical Laboratory Science (MLS) program.

## Presentations continued

**Julia Esparza, MLS, AHIP**, Professor of Medical Library Science and Associate Director, Health Sciences Library; **David Duggar, MLIS, AHIP**, Professor of Medical Library Science and Head of the Library Liaison Program; **Meher Mavuram, MD**, Clinical Fellow, Internal Medicine; **Eric Thomas, MD**, Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine; **Grace Dodd**, Centenary College, previously Research Apprentice, JSEP; **Derrick Murcia**, LSU-S, Research Apprentice, UGRAP; **Jessica Sims**, LSU-Baton Rouge, Research Apprentice, UGRAP; et. al.: "Community Knowledge Assessment of HPV Vaccination in Males," presented at the Annual Meeting of the Medical Library Association, Atlanta, GA, awarded 2nd place award for contributed papers, given by the Research Section of the Medical Library Association.

**Cherie-Ann Nathan, MD, FACS**, Professor, Program Director and Chairman of the Department of Otolaryngology/Head & Neck Surgery: "Targeted Therapy in the HPV Era," Guest Lecturer at the University of Minnesota Department of Otolaryngology's George L. Adams Annual Lectureship/Grand Rounds, Minneapolis, MN, August 24.

**Madelynn Watkins, MSII**; **Neville R. Dossabhoy, MD, FACP, FASN**, Professor of Medicine and Chief of Nephrology, VA Medical Center; **Sangeeta Pal, MD, MD**, Nephrology and Hypertension Fellow; **Pallavi Shirsat, MD**, Nephrology and Hypertension Fellow; and **Rohinton N. Dossabhoy**, Caddo Magnet High School: "Effect of Intravenous Iron Repletion on Platelet Counts in Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease and Iron Deficiency Anemia" National Kidney Foundation's 2018 Spring Clinical Meetings, Austin, TX.



## Publications

**Shoujun Chen, MD**, Chief Pathology Resident; **Elba Turbat-Herrera, MD**, Professor of Pathology, Medicine, OB/GYN and Medical Director of FWCC Histopathology Research Laboratory; **Guillermo Herrera, MD**, Chair of Pathology and Translational Pathobiology; **Meghna Chadha, MD**, Associate Professor of Radiology and Director of Ultrasound; **Rodney Shackelford, DO, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Pathology & Translational Pathobiology, and Medical Director of Molecular Pathology; and **Eric Wei, MD, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Pathology & Translational Pathobiology: "Metastatic TFE3-overexpressing renal clear cell carcinoma with dense granules: a histological, immunohistochemical, and ultrastructural study," *Ultrastructural Pathology*, July-August 2018.

**Rini Ravindran**, Graduate Student; **Paula Polk**, Manager of Research Core Facility; **Lucy C. Robinson, PhD**, Associate Professor of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology; **Kelly Tatchell, PhD**, Assistant Dean of Graduate Studies: "New ubiquitin-dependent mechanisms regulating the Aurora B-protein phosphatase 1 balance in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*," *Journal of Cell Science*, August 16, 2018.

**Guillermo Herrera, MD**, Chair of Pathology & Translational Pathobiology; **Jiamin Teng, PhD**, Division of Research and Department of Pathology & Translational Pathobiology; **Hongzhi Xu, MD, PhD**, PGY3 Pathology Resident; **Man Liang, MD**, Pathology Fellow, **J. Steven Alexander, PhD**, Professor of Molecular & Cellular Physiology; **Bing Liu**, Clinical Assistant in the Department of Pathology & Translational Pathobiology; **Christen Boyer, PhD**, Pathology Fellow; **Elba Turbat-Herrera, MD**, Professor of Pathology, Medicine, OB/GYN and Medical Director of FWCC Histopathology Research Laboratory: "Phenotypic plasticity of mesenchymal stem cells is crucial for mesangial repair in a model of immunoglobulin light chain-associated mesangial damage," *Ultrastructural Pathology*, May-June 2018.

**Hongzhi Xu, MD, PhD**, PGY3 Pathology Resident; **Guillermo Herrera, MD**, Chair of Pathology & Translational Pathobiology; and **Nestor Dela Cruz, MD**, Assistant Professor of Pathology & Translational Pathobiology: "The Role of Electron Microscopy in the Diagnosis of Pulmonary Alveolar Proteinosis: A Case Report," *American Journal of Clinical Pathology*, Volume 150, September 2018.

**Guillermo Herrera, MD**, Chair of Pathology & Translational Pathobiology: contributing

author, "Animal Models of Monoclonal Immunoglobulin-related Renal Diseases," *Nature Reviews Nephrology*, 14(4):246-264, September 19, 2018.

**Alexandra Finney**, Graduate Student, and **A. Wayne Orr, PhD**, Director and Professor, Department of Pathology & Translational Pathobiology Division of Research, and Director of the Center for Cardiovascular Diseases and Sciences: "Guidance Molecules in Vascular Smooth Muscle," *Frontiers in Physiology*, September 18, 2018.

**Guillermo Herrera, MD**, Chair of Pathology & Translational Pathobiology; contributing author, "The Evaluation of Monoclonal Gammopathy of Renal Significance: A Consensus Report of the International Kidney and Monoclonal Gammopathy Research Group," *Nature Reviews Nephrology*, NRNEPH-16-253V1B.

**David J. McGee, PhD**, Associate Professor of Microbiology & Immunology; **Xiao-Hong Lu, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Pharmacology, Toxicology & Neuroscience; and **Elizabeth Disbrow, PhD**, Associate Professor of Neurology and Director, Center for Brain Health: "Stomaching the Possibility of a Pathogenic Role for *Helicobacter pylori* in Parkinson's Disease," *Journal of Parkinson's Disease*, 1-8, 10.3233/JPD-181327.

**Aryeneesh K. Doiwala, MS4**, and **Navdeep Samra, MD, FICS, FACS**, Associate Professor of Surgery: "Anatomy, Head, Tongue," in *StatPearls* [Internet]. Treasure Island (FL): StatPearls Publishing; 2018.

**Robert D. Dayton**, Lab Manager; **Mychal S. Grames**, Graduate Student; and **Ronald L. Klein, PhD**, Professor of Pharmacology, Toxicology, & Neuroscience: "More expansive gene transfer to the rat CNS: AAV PHPEB vector dose-response and comparison to AAV PHP.B," *Gene Therapy*, July 16, 2018.

**Terry C. Davis, PhD**, Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics; **Connie Arnold, PhD**, Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics, with Jennifer A. Dillaha, MD, and Bernard M. Rosof, MD, MACP: "Lessons learned from immunization providers: Strategies for successful immunization efforts among Medicare patients." *NAM Perspectives*, Commentary, National Academy of Medicine, Washington, D.C.

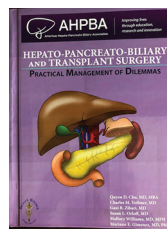
**Patrick Gellings**, Graduate Student Researcher, and **David McGee, PhD**, Associate Professor of Microbiology and Immunology: "Arcanobacterium haemolyticum Phospholipase D Enzymatic Activity Promotes the Hemolytic Activity of the Cholesterol-Dependent Cytolysin Arcanolysin," *Toxins*, May 23, 2018; 10(6) pii: E213. doi: 10.3390/toxins10060213.

**Mychal S. Grames**, Graduate Student; **Robert D. Dayton**, Lab Manager; **Xiao-Hong Lu, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Pharmacology, Toxicology & Neuroscience; **Robert Schilke**, Graduate Student Researcher; **J. Steven Alexander, PhD**, Professor of Molecular & Cellular Physiology; **A. Wayne Orr, PhD**, Director and Professor, Division of Research in the Department of Pathology & Translational Pathobiology; **Matthew D. Woolard, PhD**, Associate Professor of Microbiology & Immunology; **Ronald L. Klein, PhD**, Professor of Pharmacology, Toxicology & Neuroscience, et al.: "Gene transfer induced hypercholesterolemia in amyloid mice," *Journal of Alzheimer's Disease*, July 2018.

**Kevin Moore, MD**, PGY4 Otolaryngology/Head & Neck Surgery Resident: "The Pedicled Levator Labii Superioris Alaeque Nasi Flap: A Durable Single-Stage Option for Reconstruction of Full-Thickness Nasal Defects," *American Journal of Otolaryngology*.

**Shafiqul Alam, PhD**, Postdoctoral Fellow, **Chowdhury Abdullah, PhD**, Postdoctoral Fellow; **Richa Aishwarya**, Graduate Student; **Sumitra Miriyala, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Cellular Biology & Anatomy; **Mani Panchacharam, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Cellular Biology & Anatomy; **Jonette Peretik**, Lab Manager, Department of Pathology & Translational Pathobiology; **A. Wayne Orr, PhD**, Director and Professor, Department of Pathology & Translational Pathobiology Division of Research, and Director, Center for Cardiovascular Diseases and Sciences; **Shenuarin Bhuiyan, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Pathology & Translational Pathobiology, et al.: "Aberrant mitochondrial fission is maladaptive in Desmin mutation induced cardiac proteotoxicity," *Journal of the American Heart Association*, July 9, 2018;7(14). pii: e009289. doi: 10.1161/JAHA.118.009289.

**Sasha A. Alvarado, DO**, Allergy & Immunology Fellow; **Diana Muñoz-Mendoza, MD**, Allergy & Immunology Fellow; **Sami L. Bahna, MD, DrPH**, Chief of Allergy & Immunology Section: "High-risk drug rashes," *Annals of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology*, 2018.



**Quyên D. Chu, MD, MBA**, Professor of Surgery and Chief of Surgical Oncology; **Gazi B. Zibari, MD**, Clinical Surgery Professor, Gratis Faculty; et al.: *Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary and Transplant Surgery: Practical Management of Dilemmas*, Americas Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association (AHPBA), Beaux Books Publishing, 2018.

## International Outreach

**Sami Bahna, MD, DrPH**, Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine, and Chief of Allergy & Immunology Section, represented the American College of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology as a speaker during the Chilean Society of Allergy & Immunology congress in Santiago, Chile, August 30-September 1. Dr. Bahna's presentations were "The dilemma of allergy to food additives" and "Systemic hypersensitivities to corticosteroids".

By invitation from the Hong Kong Institute of Allergy, **Sami Bahna, MD, DrPH**, spoke on "Anaphylaxis to corticosteroids" at the 2018 Hong Kong Allergy Conference, September 29-30.

**G. E. Ghali, DDS, MD, FACS, FRCS(Ed)**, Chancellor and Chairman of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, presented "Distraction Osteogenesis vs. Traditional Osteotomies for Dentofacial Deformities/Aesthetic Surgery," and "Aesthetic Surgery/Head & Neck Cancer Surgery" at Argentine Society of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery - Scientific Programme, Buenos Aires, Argentina, August 31.

**G. E. Ghali, DDS, MD, FACS, FRCS(Ed)**, Chancellor and Chairman of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, presented "Surgical Management of Obstructive Sleep Apnea/Hypopnea Syndrome in the Pediatric Population," at the European Association of Cranio Maxillofacial Surgeons/International Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, Munich, Germany, September 21.

**Radhakrishna Baliga, MD**, Professor of Pediatrics and Chief, Division of Pediatric Nephrology, presented "Protective Effect of Proteasome Inhibitors After Onset of Proteinuria in Minimal Change Disease (MCD)," at the Pediatric Academic Societies National Meeting in Toronto, Canada.

**Sami Bahna, MD, DrPH**, lectured on "Allergic & Non-Allergic Drug Reactions" and "Not Every Food Allergy is Allergy" at the World Allergy Training School Program created by the World Allergy Organization and the American College of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology for developing countries. Dr. Bahna also gave a lecture titled, "Systemic Hypersensitivities to Corticosteroids" during the annual Mongolian Society of Allergy conference in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

**Carlos Previgliano, MD**, Professor of Radiology and Director of Cardiothoracic Radiology, attended the 11th Latin American Association of Thorax (ALAT) Congress. Speaker: "Enigmatic Cases." Speaker: "Lateral chest radiography: How to interpret it." Moderator: "From Chest X-ray to PET-CT." Mexico City, Mexico.

**Christopher Nguyen**, a senior student in Dr. Jeremy Kamil's lab, was selected to give an oral presentation titled, "The HCMV Tropism Modulator UL148 Interacts with SEL1L, a Cellular Factor Essential for ER-Associated Degradation of Glycoprotein O During Infection," at the International Herpes Workshop (IHW) held in Vancouver, Canada, July 21-25.

## Meetings

**Terry Davis, PhD**, Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics, presented "Health Literacy Research in Rural Areas: What works? What's needed?" at the Rural Health Disparities Meeting, sponsored by National Institute of Nursing Research and National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities, in Bethesda, MD, July 31.

**Radhakrishna Baliga, MD**, Professor of Pediatrics and Chief, Division of Pediatric Nephrology, attended the Sickle Cell State Wide Meeting in New Orleans as an invited speaker, where he presented "Renal Manifestations of Sickle Cell."

**Lindsay Michel, MPH, RRT**, Assistant Professor Cardiopulmonary Science. Epidemic Proportions: "The Flu and Its Future," 47th Annual Tri-State Respiratory Care Conference, Biloxi, MS, July 26.

**The Bhuiyan Lab** attended the American Heart Association Basic Cardiovascular Sciences (BCVS) Scientific Sessions held in San Antonio, TX, in August. They presented two posters titled, "Autophagy Impairment is Associated with Defects in Mitochondrial Bioenergetics in Doxorubicin Cardiomyopathy," and "Loss of Sigma1 Leads to Impaired Mitochondrial Respiration, Altered Mitochondrial Dynamics and Development of Cardiac Contractile Dysfunction."

**Cassidy Blackburn**, Graduate Student, **Sunitha Chandran**, Postdoctoral Fellow, and **Dongdong Wang**, Postdoctoral Fellow, attended Vasculata 2018 in St. Louis, MO, July 23-26. All three presented posters at the meeting.

**Rosario Maria S. Riel-Romero, MD, FAAP, FAAN, FACNS**, Professor of Neurology and Pediatrics and Vice-Chairman Department of Neurology: "Early Childhood Adverse Events: A Child Neurologist's Perspective," League of Women Voters' Luncheon in Bossier City.

**Michelle M. Arnold, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology convened the workshop titled, "Rotaviruses" at the 37th Annual Meeting of the American Society for Virology at the University of Maryland, College Park, MD, July 14-18.

**Amey Savardekar, MD**; **Danielle Terrell, MD**; and **Garrett Whipple, MD**, all PGY1 Neurosurgery Residents, completed the 10th Annual Neurosurgery Intern Bootcamp hosted by the Society of Neurological Surgeons (SNS) and the Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS) at Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX, July 6-7.

**Cherie-Ann Nathan, MD, FACS**, Professor, Program Director and Chairman of Otolaryngology/Head & Neck Surgery: attended an HPV Vaccination Roundtable meeting in Atlanta on September 12. The HPV Vaccination Roundtable is a national coalition created by the American Cancer Society (ACS), with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to be a trusted source of information on HPV vaccination. Dr. Nathan was selected to be one of 12 members on the Steering Committee, who are chosen based on their organizations' involvement in HPV vaccination activities or prevention of HPV cancers, their ability to deliver education on vaccinations, or their expertise relevant to expanding HPV vaccination.

Purchasing staff members **Cyndi Cox** and **Linda Thomas** attended the 2018 Small Business Summit at the Shreveport Convention Center on September 28.

**Hunter Hall, MSIII**, represented the Shreveport Area Health Education Center (AHEC) Program Office in Washington, D.C. at the National Conference, AHEC on the Hill: Diversity, Distribution & Practice Transformation, in July.

## PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT WHITE COAT CEREMONY

The School of Allied Health Professions held their first White Coat Ceremony for first-year Physician Assistant students. Students received their short white coats, which had positive notes of encouragement in the pocket to students as they begin the school year. They will wear this white coat for the next 23 months as they gain the knowledge to become a Physician Assistant. In August of 2020, this class will transition to long white coats.

