HONORS & APPOINTMENTS

Congratulations to the following Family Practice residents in Alexandria who were recognized by the Region 6 Office of Public Health Medical Director for their extraordinary efforts during Hurricane Ida. These residents treated 899 patients at the Alexandria Shelter over a 32-day period with 100 of those patients being seen in a 24-hour period. These individuals were praised for their steady, personable, and competent efforts which resulted in outstanding patient care.

Dr. Ashley Billings  Dr. Kayvindra Heiner
Dr. Rosak Shah  Dr. Brisiona Shaffer
Dr. Cade Burns  Dr. Stephen Finney
Dr. James Shute  Dr. Lesi Buher
Dr. Bethany Clark

Harish Siddaiah, MD, Associate Professor of Anatomy, was appointed to be an examiner for the APPLED exams for the American Board of Anesthesiology.

Sudha Pandit, MD, Associate Program Director and Assistant Professor of Gastroenterology, was appointed to the American College of Gastroenterology Women in GI Committee.

The Microbiology and Immunology Department entered into a collaboration agreement with the Banne Foundation to implement the Sponsors Underserved poster fellowship program in Microbiology and Immunology. With this agreement, two fellowships will be offered with a stipend and an annual living allowance will be offered to Galilean undergraduate students each year.

Andrew Yurochko, PhD, Professor of Microbiology and Immunology, Director of the Combine, and Chair of P & A, and Associate Director of Research for Feist-Weiller Cancer Center, was selected by LSU System President William Tate IV to serve on the Health and Medical Advisory Committee. This Committee is a group of experts in medicine, epidemiology, virology, and environmental engineering tasked with ensuring the administration has the most current information needed to make decisions that keep members of our LSU family safe.

Richard Mansour, MD, Professor of Medicine and Program Director of Hematology/Oncology Fellowship, and Tamar Wajngam, MD, Clinical Assistant Professor at Feist-Weiller Cancer Center, were honored by the American Cancer Society at the Out of the Shadows Gala. Honorees are professionals in the NWA area that are recognized for their distinguished talents and achievements.

Samuel Igbinodion, MD, PGY6, Gastroenterology and Hepatology Fellows, received an advanced fellowship award for his distinguished talents and achievements.

Ashton Jorgensen, Graduate Studies student in the Lin Lab, was awarded the Malcom Feist Predoctoral Fellowship for her grant proposal titled “The Effects of Neurotranspin on Birth-Related Activation”.

Rob Schilke, Graduate Studies student in the Women Lab, was awarded an H. Mustow Predoctoral Fellowship for his grant proposal titled “Microglia-associated Apoptin regulates B-cell proliferation to promote continuing efficacy.”

Mabrouka Afatdi, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Pathology at LSU Health Shreveport, is the 2021 recipient of the ATVB Investigator Training Award from the Cardiovascular Research, Thrombosis and Vascular Biology of the American Heart Association (AHA). Dr. Afatdi virtually presented her selected poster abstract, “The Signaling Role Of The Adaptor Protein Nck In Atherosclerosis,” at the ATVB Investigator Training Award Competition of the Vascular Discovery. From Genes to Medicine 2021 Scientific Sessions virtual event held Sept. 22-24.

Janmaris Marin Fermin, MD, Assistant Professor of Research Associate and Fellow in Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, won the Best of Basic Science Award for the project titled “mTOR Inhibitor Induces Prevent Tumor Growth of TP53 Mutant HNSCC” at the American Head & Neck Society 10th International Conference March 17-19.

Presentations

E.J. Muxeaux, Jr., MD, DABFM, FAAP, DABFM-CL, Professor of Family Medicine, Associate Vice Chancellor for Clinical Affairs, and Associate Dean for Population Health and Primary Care, was invited to speak for The International Federation for Cytokine and Growth factor Society virtual event held Sept. 22-24.

Jammaris Marin Fermin, MD, Post-doctoral Research Associate in Otolaryngology-Throat and Neck Surgery, won the Best of Basic Science Award for the project titled “Inhibition of Fibroblast Growth Factor Receptor (FGFR) Abrogates Ultraviolet-B (UVB)-Induced Skin Carcinogenesis” at the American Head & Neck Society 10th International Conference on Head and Neck Cancer in July.

Gauri Shidhipa, PhD, Post-doctoral Research Associate and Fellow in Otolaryngoh-Head and Neck Surgery, won the Best of Basic Science Award for the project titled “Dependence of cell cycle checkpoint proteins in HPV- and HPV- head and neck squamous cell carcinoma cells following 4MG-induced DNA damage” at the AHNS 10th International Conference on Head and Neck Cancer in July.

Md Maksudul Alam, PhD, Post-doctoral Research Associate and Fellow in Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, won Best of Basic Science Award for the project titled “mTOR Inhibitor Induces Autophagy and Reduces Tumor Vascularization at the Prevent Tumor Growth of TP53 Mutant HNSCC” at the 10th International Symposium on Head and Neck Cancer in July.

MEETINGS

W. Christopher Newman, MD, Assistant Professor of Neurosurgery, organized the 4th Virtual Brain Tumor Board held by the Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS) and the Society of Neuro Oncology (SNO). For the second consecutive year, Dr. Newman created the pre-questions, planned items for discussion and moderated questions during the course 4-part quarterly webinar.

Nicholas Pelliccio, MD, PGY5 General Surgery, presented his work on Computer Tomography (CT) (Electromagnetic Induction Heating of Composite Mesh in the Treatment of Mesh Infections) at SAGES 2021 Annual Meeting – The Next Big Thing. Aug. 31- Sept. 3 in Las Vegas, NV

Margaret Butler, Outstanding Mentoring of Women in Head and Neck Surgery. This award recognizes individuals with significant impact and measurable outcomes in the mentoring of women in head and neck surgery. Dr. Butler was honored at the AHNS International Conference on Head and Neck Cancer in July.

Tamy C. Davis, PhD, Division Chief for Healthcare Disparities and Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics, was appointed to the National Institute for Nursing Research (NINR) Strategic Planning Group to propose research agenda.

Krista Queen, PhD, was named to the position of Director of Virtual Genomics and Surveillance.

Wayne Nix, MBA, was named Chief Innovation Officer of Research.

Will Olinstedt, MSLS, MPH, AHP, Executive Director of the Library, was approved as a professional member of Beta Phi Mu, the international library and information studies honor society.

Martin Sapp, PhD, Chairman of Microbiology and Immunology and Willis-Knighton Chair of Molecular Biology, was invited to serve as Chair of the Viva Entry and Ticking Session of the 34th International Papillomavirus Conference being held virtually Nov. 15-19.

Marie Vazquez Morgan, PT, PhD, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Institutional Wellness and Clinical Assistant Professor of Physical Therapy, received $36,525 in grant funding from the LWCC Foundation for LSU Health Shreveport to support the Eat Right and Move program.

Ashtron Jorgensen, Graduate Studies student in the Lin Lab, was awarded the Malcom Feist Predoctoral Fellowship for her grant proposal titled “The Effects of Neurotranspin on Birth-Related Activation”.

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Hugo Cuellar, MD, PhD, MBA, DABR, FAHA, Chairman, Professor of Radiology, Neurosurgery and Neurology attended the International Stroke Conference March 17-19.
SAGE Honor Society STAR

SAGE is an honorary and service organization composed of medical students, residents/fellows, faculty, and alumni. The criteria for nomination includes, but is not limited to, scholastic achievement which reflects excellence in physicianhood, diversified leadership capabilities, adherence to ethical standards, fairness in dealing with colleagues, achievement in medical and/or research, and a record of service to school and community.

Leadership of the Louisiana Gamma Chapter of Alpha Omega Alpha Fall Inductees from the Class of 2022:

Ben Becnel
Kyle Boudreaux
Blaine Bullock
Nicholas Callais
Hannah Hansen
Patrick Ingraffia
Christian Karam
Linh Nguyen
Mackenzie Noonan
Kelsey Rooney
Bryce Rushing
Caroline Sagera
Robert Spragins
Samantha St. Pierre
Winston Suh
Katie Trotter

Alpha Omega Alpha

Founded in 1950, Alpha Omega Alpha is a national medical honor society comprised of over 4,000 students, residents, fellows, faculty and alumni. The mission of AOA is to recognize and honor students, residents, fellows, and faculty for their achievements in academic work, research, and/or service. AOA is an honorary and service organization comprised of medical students, residents/fellows, faculty, and alumni. The criteria for nomination includes, but is not limited to, scholastic achievement which reflects excellence in physicianhood, diversified leadership capabilities, adherence to ethical standards, fairness in dealing with colleagues, achievement in medical and/or research, and a record of service to school and community.

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