DOM Faculty Winners of First Ever Miller School Faculty Citizenship Awards

Below is an excerpt of the comments made by Dean Goldschmidt in his Thanksgiving remarks. For a complete copy please click here.

Joshua Lenchus, D.O., Division of Hospital Medicine
Since his residency, Lenchus has advocated for graduate medical education and served as the resident representative on the Graduate Medical Education Committee and he continued his advocacy when he joined the committee as a faculty member. Lenchus and the committee worked tirelessly with the 60+ training programs to ensure that the educational curricula and evaluation systems were consistent with the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education criteria. In the Department of Medicine, Lenchus has been the force behind the development and implementation of an innovative curriculum to teach invasive bedside procedures, and is now the medical director of the campus-wide procedure service.

Paola Lichtenberger, M.D., Division of Infectious Diseases
Described as an unsung hero among her peers, Dr. Lichtenberger offers help whenever it is needed. She is an advocate for world health and provided her expertise during the H1N1 epidemic and after the earthquake in Haiti. Within the first days after the earthquake, Lichtenberger set up systems to allocate and share supplies among international groups and established mechanisms for triaging patients with the highest risk of infection. After returning from Haiti, Lichtenberger continued to support the mission by encouraging others to volunteer and offering to cover clinical duties to facilitate efforts.

Braman Family Breast Cancer Institute Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Joyce Slingerland, M.D., Ph.D., Director, Braman Family Breast Cancer Institute at the Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, welcomed Norman and Irma Braman, UM President Donna E. Shalala, Dean Pascal J. Goldschmidt and Chair of Medicine, Marc Lippman, M.D. to an event marking the official opening of the institute’s research facility. The ribbon cutting was held November 16th in the newly constructed Biomedical Research Building.

Guests were given unprecedented access to the institute via guided tours of the facility. Mr. & Mrs. Braman discussed future goals for the institute with President Shalala and Dean Goldschmidt.
¡Bienvenidos!

Please join in welcoming the following faculty* to the DOM.

Tamara Isakova, M.D., Assistant Professor in Nephrology
Marco A. Ladino Avellaneda, M.D., Instructor in Nephrology
Mohammad Jahanzeb, M.D., Professor in Hematology/Oncology
Reshma L. Mahtani, D.O., Assistant Professor in Hematology/Oncology
Leila Chaychi, M.D., Assistant Professor in Endocrinology
Gianluca Iacobellis, M.D., Associate Professor in Endocrinology
Sharhabil S. Ammus, M.D., Assistant Professor in Hematology/Oncology
Azad Kabir, M.D., Assistant Professor in Hospital Medicine
Dana Ascherman, M.D., Associate Professor in Rheumatology
Sanford Baim, M.D., Assistant Professor in Endocrinology
Lazaros Lekakis, M.D., Assistant Professor in Hematology/Oncology
Adela Mattiazz, M.D., Assistant Professor in Nephrology
Peter Hosein, M.D., Instructor in Hematology/Oncology
Robin N. Fiore, PhD., UM Ethics Programs, Department of Medicine
Raul Mitrani, M.D. Associate Professor in Cardiology

*Some of the faculty listed are pending approval faculty rank.

Rheumatology Adding Clinics and Physicians to Increase Access to Care

The Division of Rheumatology & Immunology created a new Intake Service Clinic to increase access for new patients. "The goal is to ensure patients have access to the care they need, when they need it," said Division Chief, Eric Greidinger, M.D. They also reorganized their entire intake system, placing greater emphasis than ever before on evaluating new patients. Now physicians devote additional days and shifts to new patient consultations and examinations. As a result, the Intake Clinic sees 20 additional patients each week. Most importantly, new patients can schedule their appointments with a UHealth rheumatologist in less than two weeks from the time of their inquiry.

The Division is adding new physicians as well. Dana Ascherman, M.D., an internationally respected expert in autoimmune muscle disease, will staff a new specialty clinic starting December 9th focused on in autoimmune muscle disease. The developer of the first animal model of anti-Jo-1 autoimmunity, the most common form of autoimmune muscle disease, Dr. Ascherman's research is supported by a grant from the NIH. He is particularly interested in the pathogenesis and treatment of the autoimmune interstitial lung disease that can accompany autoimmune muscle disease and other rheumatic diseases, and has additional grant support from the Arthritis Foundation to study this phenomenon.

Ozlem Pala, M.D., Assistant Professor, will begin holding clinic hours at our Miramar facility starting December 14th in addition to her clinic hours here on campus. Dr. Pala specializes in Rheumatoid Arthritis and her clinical research is supported by a grant from CORONNA. Please find schedules for these new opportunities in UChart or contact our office at 305-243-7545 for more information.

Did You Hear?

Our very own Mauro Moscucci, M.D. has recently published a groundbreaking book.

Complications of Cardiovascular Procedures
Risk Factors, Management, and Bailout Techniques.

The textbook provides a comprehensive resource on the prevention and management of complications in interventional cardiology.

Highlights include:
Guidelines for management of specific complications and chapters by experts in interventional cardiology, structural heart disease, vascular surgery, interventional radiology, neuroradiology, electrophysiology, and pediatric cardiology.

Contributions to the text where made by several UM, Miller School of Medicine physicians including; Dr. Gio Baracco, Dr. Mauricio Cohen, Dr. Alan Heldman Dr. Claudia Martinez, Dr. Christina Matadial and Dr. William O’Neill.

Congratulations to Dr. Moscucci and all involved in producing this tremendous resource.

Send your feedback and story ideas to Terri Hnatyszyn at 305-243-2139 or thnatyszyn@med.miami.edu
On October 18th, full professors from the Department of Medicine shared an evening filed with music, art, gourmet cuisine and collegial conversation. This first installment, of what is to become an annual event, was hosted at the Lowe Art Museum on the University of Miami Coral Gables Campus and included a lecture from Joel D. Howell, M.D., Ph.D. and Victor Vaughan Collegiate Professor of History of Medicine at University of Michigan, School of Public Health. Marc Lippman, M.D. was honored by the participation of President Donna Shalala at the event and pleased to share the evening with Dean Pascal Goldschmidt.

Each professor in attendance sipped libations donated by Bacardi U.S.A., and received a memento of the evening, a tie or scarf designed especially for the group. Watch for this hot new accessory seen only on the Miller School campus.
Do you know Sanford Baim, M.D.?

Dr. Baim started in the Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism this past September and now finds the most rewarding thing about his job to “Develop a multi-disciplinary, system-wide, integrative approach for the prevention of osteoporotic fractures, identify those at risk for bone loss and fracture and effectively treat patients with osteoporosis.”

Drs. Lippman and Bianco’s vision brought Dr. Baim to UM to develop a multidisciplinary, system-wide, integrative approach for osteoporosis and use this successful program as a template for the management of all chronic diseases. When asked what was the biggest opportunity for UHealth, Dr. Baim replied simply, “Develop a systems-based cost-effective and efficiently operated health care delivery system for the prevention and treatment of osteoporosis (disease) and for UM to take a leadership role at a national level in this approach.”

If Dr. Baim were Dean for a day he says he would “continue in the footsteps of our Dean to improve the quality of care for our patients.” To learn more about Dr. Baim’s clinical or research efforts feel free to contact him at 305-243-6253.

Grand Rounds Schedule

12/01 Cameron Dezfulian, M.D., Assistant Professor of Medicine Division of Pulmonary “Novel Neuroprotective Strategies after Cardiac Arrest”

12/08 Robert C. Hendel, M.D., Professor of Medicine and Radiology, Director, Cardiac Imaging, Cardiovascular Division “Quality, Value, and Appropriateness of Cardiac Imaging”

12/15 S. Ananth Karumanchi, M.D., Associate Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center Cunio / Richardson Lecture: “Pathogenesis of Pre-Eclampsia: Implications for Cardiovascular Health”

12/22 NO CONFERENCE – HOLIDAY

12/29 NO CONFERENCE – HOLIDAY

Parting Shot

Our own Carol Cottrell, Division Administrator – Division of Gastroenterology had this beautiful image of the Miami skyline published in the Miami Herald.

Call for Stories

The Pulse is a quarterly electronic newsletter dedicated to news, events, and announcements for the Department of Medicine. If you have information that you want everyone in the Department to know about, please forward it to Terri Hnatyszyn at thnatyszyn@med.miami.edu or (305) 243-2139.

We are always looking for stories that will communicate the great work being done in the Department of Medicine. If you have a story that features a patient testimonial, and describes a new technique, technology or trial, then we want to hear it. Please call either Terri Hnatyszyn (305) 243-2139 or Lisa Worley (305) 243-5184.