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# ACADEMIC PEDIATRIC ASSOCIATION

*APA Focus*

The Official Newsletter of the Academic Pediatric Association

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June 2013



## Communications Director's Message

Happy Summer APA Members and New Tweetiatricians!

It was great to see everyone at the 2013 PAS meeting last month in Washington DC. As you'll see in several of our board member reports, the meeting was a huge success. For those of you who were unable to attend the meeting, I hope you were following #PAS2013 on Twitter! We sent out several APA tweets (@AcademicPeds) during the meeting to be sure APA members knew about plenary sessions, regional breakfasts, and other special events. Thank you to Terry Kind (@Kind4Kids) who provided a great [PAS2013 Tweeting Guide](#). Many APA members signed up for Twitter during the PAS meeting and began their new careers as Tweetiatricians, including Benard Dreyer (@BenardDreyer) who now has over 230 followers - Go Benard! The other communication tool used during the PAS meeting was a new mobile APA meeting app. During the meeting we discovered a few scheduling glitches with the app and we apologize for any frustration this caused. We recently sent out a survey to assess your use of and satisfaction with the meeting app. We plan to make modifications based on your feedback and have a better app for next year's meeting. If you didn't get a chance to reply to the survey, please email me ([bsolomon@jhmi.edu](mailto:bsolomon@jhmi.edu)) with any suggestions. As for other communication news on the horizon, based on feedback from several SIGs who piloted our new APA wiki, we are in the process of making final modifications and the APA wiki will be coming soon. All APA SIGs, Regions and Committees will have their own wiki pages. Stay tuned!



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Have a great summer! Good luck with the July 1<sup>st</sup> transition with new trainees!

Happy Tweeting!

Barry Solomon (@DrBarrySolomon on Twitter)

Communications Director

Academic Pediatric Association

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## President's Message

Wow. What a meeting! I can truly say that the state of our Association is strong. I'm told that more than 1,000 APA members registered for the meeting. What other organization can get half of its membership to come to a meeting? During our four days in DC, I got a taste of all that you do for children, and it was awesome; a great way to kick off my year as your President. I wanted to highlight a few things:



1. Advocacy and public policy: While we were in Washington, our members took the opportunity to link up with policy makers and government officials from CMS, ACF, AHRQ, DPC, HRSA, CMMI, PCORI, ASPE, CDC and NIH, as well as Academy Health, CDF and MOD (Props to anyone who identifies all of the acronyms correctly). We had a great planning session on the APA Task Force on Childhood Poverty, building on Benard Dreyer's invited science session to develop an action plan that continues to put the issue in front of key government officials. Equally important was Dave Jaffe's focus on gun related violence in his Presidential Address. The visit and speech by Secretary Sebelius showed many paths through which we can address the needs of children in the context of the Affordable Care Act, and the extraordinary panel of Hill staffers convened by the Pediatric Policy Council showed us how to make honest arguments in the face of the dense politics looming over the city. We have their attention, folks- let's build on that.

2. Research: Eleven sets of platforms on General Pediatrics, 3 themed sessions on quality science, more themed session on all of the generalist specialties; this we have come to expect of our members. Awards to the best among us- a hard choice, but Dr. Cooper's work on vulnerable populations using health services research and large databases to protect children was certainly worth recognizing. Most importantly, our Young Investigator Grantees were on the agenda, nurturing the next generation of generalist pediatric researchers.

3. Innovative health care delivery: From the Pre-Conference on Quality Improvement Science to the measurement of medical homes, our members clearly showed their interest in the creative restructuring of the health care system. The Board reflected that interest in their decision to embrace the Pre-conference as a Core Activity of the APA. Jane Knapp organized a fabulous Committee meeting, featuring staff from Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation and pediatric recipients of the last round of Innovation Awards. One week later, CMMI put out a call for the next round of Innovation Awards, with a focus on special populations including children. Coincidence? I think not.

4. Education and Educational Scholarship: The APA continues its leadership role in medical education, promoting high-quality teaching through workshops, working with junior faculty to develop teaching into educational scholarship and partnering with APPD, COPS and COMSEP to promote "Pediatric Educational Excellence Across the Continuum". This year, we created new awards for teaching to complement the existing array of awards for Teaching Programs, Mentoring and Educational Scholarship. Much fun in watching the APA continue to strive for excellence in this critical area.

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5. Career Development: With the creation of the new Board position for SIGs and the New Century Scholars program, the APA has reaffirmed its overarching commitment to work with our members to enhance their careers and their ability to make a difference for children. Darcy Thompson is new to the APA Board, full of energy and already working to develop a Leadership "pre-meeting" for our SIG and Region Chairs. Watch for it.

My first PAS meeting was also in Washington; in the spring of 1988, my wife and I drove across country with our newborn son and stayed at a hotel in Woodley Park where what was then called the APS-SPR-APA meeting took place. It was an amazing experience, to be able to hear and to question the science that was the basis of our art and to meet the iconic figures that were shaping a profession that I was just starting to understand. I've rarely missed a meeting since; it really is the place I go to recharge my professional batteries. I have always come away with a sense of awe at the intellectual prowess, moral courage and deep commitment to children and families that you, my colleagues, bring to the endeavor. This time was no exception. I hope that works for you as well.

See you in Vancouver. Now, back to work. And thanks for all that you do for children.

David Keller  
President  
Academic Pediatric Association  
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## President-Elect's Message

In recent months, there has been a lot of focus, understandably, on firearm legislation and immigration policy. However, there is another topic that seems to have been forgotten but which is also quite relevant to the population we care for. In his State of the Union address, President Obama proposed "working with states to make high-quality preschool available to every child in America." More specifically, he is seeking to expand access to preschools for all children, especially those from low- and moderate-income homes. Supporters of the effort argue that increased access would help level the playing field among children across the socioeconomic spectrum and reduce disparities in school readiness, leading to long-term educational (and thus health) payoffs. Critics counter that federal investments will be squandered in inefficient and potentially low-quality programs. They also question whether preschool has the long-term benefits that some studies have suggested. Members of our association might fall on either end of the debate or somewhere in between, but at a minimum, I believe it's important for us to know about it - and if it moves forward, to engage on it. The following web pages provide further information on the policy:



1. <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2013/02/13/fact-sheet-president-obama-s-plan-early-education-all-americans>
2. <http://www.brookings.edu/blogs/brown-center-chalkboard/posts/2013/02/20-preschool-proposal-whitehurst>
3. [http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/wonkblog/wp/2013/02/13/hey-congress-pre-k-is-a-better-investment-than-the-stock-market/?wprss=rss\\_ezra-klein](http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/wonkblog/wp/2013/02/13/hey-congress-pre-k-is-a-better-investment-than-the-stock-market/?wprss=rss_ezra-klein)
4. <http://www.bostonreview.net/forum/promoting-social-mobility-james-heckman>

If you're interested in this policy or others, our Public Policy and Advocacy Committee provides a great vehicle through which to learn about and advocate on this issue.

Mark A. Schuster  
President Elect  
Academic Pediatric Association  
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## Past President's Message

To Do Lists:

Reflections on the PAS Annual Meeting



Whew! What a meeting! Based on the best data we have, approximately 1,000 APA members attended the PAS Meeting in Washington DC, which means that nearly half us were there!! Furthermore, I am told this was the largest attendance at a PAS Meeting ever. There was so much to do, that I created a daily schedule which began at 7 AM and ended after 10 PM each night. At nearly every moment, I found myself wishing that I had the ability to be in more than one place at the same time. While I was not able to attend as many of the scientific sessions as I would have liked, I did learn more about childhood poverty, firearm violence among children and youth, the forecast for health care delivery in hospital and emergency care as it pertains to equity and diversity, fever in young children, quality improvement in emergency medicine and the evidence regarding health outcomes of children whose parents are lesbian or gay.

Reflecting about the meeting experience, though, I have also come to value the networking opportunities I have with so many colleagues and APA members. Whether in speed mentoring or meeting Young Investigator award winners or New Century or having a discussion at a poster, these were some of the best moments I spent at PAS.

During the Program Committee Evaluation Meeting early Tuesday morning, two themes emerged. We want to include more content, and we want to create less competition, so that more members can attend important events. There may be no simple resolution to the dilemma posed by these two competing values, but to me, success is measured by a PAS program that has sufficient diversity of content so that all of our members can engage in world class educational events that supplement routine learning activities and inspire us to new possibilities of achievement.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank each of you for your continued work on behalf of the health and well-being of children. Whether in research, education, advocacy or daily health care delivery, your work is creating a better future for children and families. Special thanks go to the SIG and region chairs, the Board of Directors and the staff of the APA.

Every year I leave the PAS meeting with new additions to my "To Do" list. This year is no exception. While my list is long, I want to focus on the two areas of work I have selected for my Presidential Projects:

1. Firearm Injury in Children: I will help write and shepherd the APA Policy on firearm injury, and work with the Public Policy Committee and other pediatric organizations to keep this topic on the pediatric public health agenda.
2. LGBT issues: I will work to find an appropriate structure in the APA for members interested in children whose parents are lesbian or gay, or LGBT children themselves. Most likely this will mean formation of a SIG, but I am exploring opportunities for synergy between the APA and the other pediatric organizations like the AAP and APPD which are also doing foundational work in this area.

I encourage and welcome anyone interested in either or both of these issues to contact me either directly or

through the APA office.

I ended my address at the Presidential Plenary with this quotation.

"You really can change the world if you care enough." Marian Wright Edelman

Please join me in this work!!

David Jaffe  
Immediate Past President  
Academic Pediatric Association  
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### Treasurer's Message

The APA board approved the 2013 audit which was presented and discussed at the May, 2013 meeting. The APA's 2012 assets have increased and liabilities have decreased, as compared to 2011. In the first quarter of 2013, the net return of the APA's investment portfolio was 4.35%. The APA's funds continue to support the organization's strategic priorities. Please consider making a tax-deductible gift to the APA. The financial gift will support new programs that are aligned with the APA's mission, as well as Young Investigator grants and trainee scholarships to the annual meeting.



Denice Cora-Bramble  
Treasurer  
Academic Pediatric Association  
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### Membership and Regions Chair's Message

Changing of the Guard: Membership and Regions

Hello fellow APA'ers!

It has been a great past three years for the APA membership. We now number over 2,000 consistently for the past two years; we continue our renewed focus on how we can best serve members new and established; and Regional activities are thriving. During our strategic planning process in 2011, we identified several goals to work on to assure and enhance the value of membership (available at [http://academicpeds.org/aboutUs/strategic\\_plan.cfm](http://academicpeds.org/aboutUs/strategic_plan.cfm)), and we are working steadily toward achieving those goals.



Several initiatives both recent and under development deserve mention. They include a temporary Young/New Members Task Force, convened early this year to produce a survey (thanks to those who answered it!) to help focus activities in this area, as well as to inform the creation of a new liaison to the Board (stay tuned). Another is ensuring that new members get all the information they can use to take full

advantage of their membership: it isn't just all about the PAS meeting! Finally, the value of Region Chairs is hard to overestimate, and training to enhance their ability to provide regional leadership is one of our "works in progress." Please check the website periodically for updates on these activities.

I (Chris) will miss very much working with all of you, but of course plan to stay involved with my APA "family", and leave you with an extremely capable successor in Marilyn.

And I (Marilyn) am very excited and looking forward to collaborating with the APA Region Chairs and membership on the activities which Chris described above. He has been a very productive and energizing Chair and all of us in the APA have benefitted from his enthusiasm and vision to enhance opportunities for networking, leadership development, recruitment and retention within our organization. He has provided us with the insight and stepping-stones which are strategic for the APA but will no doubt be challenging for me following in his footsteps, though I know he won't be more than a phone call away in the beautiful, Denver sunshine!

And so as I begin a 3 year term in this position (in the flatlands, albeit sunny, north central Florida UF Gator territory), I look forward to all the input, suggestions, advice and energy you can continue to muster and provide our wonderful organization. As individuals you have done so much and together we can achieve our goals to enhance medical education, research and health care for children and their families.

Again, my thanks to Chris, all past and present APA board members, the APA tireless staff, especially Marge, Connie and George and to each of you for your ongoing support, continued energy, and commitment to achieving the APA mission and goals.

And while that may sound daunting or like hard work, the joy and camaraderie we share throughout our activities and collaboration make the APA our "professional home" one like no other!

Marilyn C. Dumont-Driscoll  
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Christopher Stille  
Past Membership/Regions Chair  
Academic Pediatric Association  
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## APA New Members

Welcome to all of the new APA Members!

Joel Clingenpeel  
Arti Desai  
Jennifer Dioszeghy  
Robert S. Gerstle  
Suhas Nafday  
Stephanie Perlman  
Angela Thompson-Busch

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## Upcoming Conferences

### Pediatric Hospital Medicine (PHM) 2013



#### [Pediatric Hospital Medicine 2013](#)

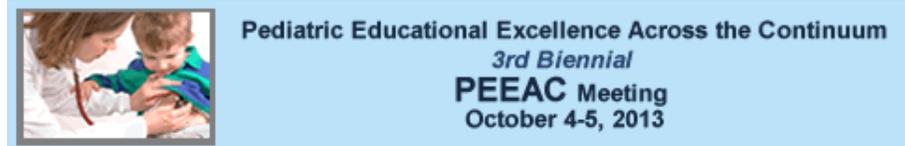
August 1- 4, 2013

New Orleans Marriott

New Orleans, LA

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### Pediatric Educational Excellence Across the Continuum (PEEAC) 2013



#### [PEEAC 2013](#)

October 4- 5, 2013

Renaissance Arlington Capital View Hotel

Arlington, VA

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## Committees

### Education

Colleagues,

I wanted to write to express my gratitude to each of you for your active and enthusiastic participation in the core programs and new initiatives of the education committee. It has been an honor to serve as the Chair of the Education Committee and I have truly appreciated the opportunity to work with you all. I thought I would share a few brief updates with you and with this column, demonstrate the seamless transition to Latha's leadership of the committee's ongoing great work.

Update on Core programs:

Educational Scholars Program—the ESP has enrolled its 6<sup>th</sup> cohort of scholars. Over 120 scholars have enrolled in the program and over 40 faculty teach and serve as advisors in the program. As of May

2013, 60 scholars have graduated from this 3 year, certificate granting program. The program focuses on educational scholarship and at the 2013 PAS meeting alone, scholars and graduates presented over 30 abstracts and 15 workshop sessions.

The Academic General Pediatric Fellowship Accreditation Program has accredited or reviewed 15 fellowship programs over its 5 years as a core APA activity. This program also provides consultation to those who want to start a fellowship training program with a focus on health services research, hospital medicine, environmental health, clinical effectiveness research and community pediatrics.

The Educational Guidelines for Pediatric Residency—a revision of the Guidelines Resources component of the Guidelines has begun. This project will incorporate efforts to map the updated resources to the Milestones. Indicative of efforts to enhance collaboration across pediatric organizations, the plan for mapping was created in consultation with members of the Milestone Project Working group and members of both APA and COMSEP have been recruited to participate in this project.

Speaking of collaboration—The 3<sup>rd</sup> biannual Pediatric Educational Excellence Across the Continuum (PEEAC) meeting is scheduled for October 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. The meeting is co-sponsored by APA, APPD, COMSEP and CoPS and will include interactive workshops, "work in progress" posters and sessions focused on the career development of educators.

Awards—This year's winners of the awards overseen by the education committee include:

Teaching program award: The Longitudinal Faculty Development and Departmental Educational Academy Initiative at Children's National: The Master Teacher Leadership Development Program and the Children's Academy of Pediatric Educators

***Children's National Medical Center, Department of Pediatrics,***

The George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences

Miller Sarkin Award: *Iris Borowsky*, University of Minnesota

Helper Award: PDA-Based Self-Work Sampling Study of Pediatric Residents Quantifies Educational Value of Workday Activities

*Michael Ortiz*<sup>1</sup>, *Joyce Campbell*<sup>1</sup>, *Sarah Birch*<sup>1</sup>, *Nelson Lee*<sup>2</sup>, *Mary Ottolini*<sup>1</sup> and *Dewesh Agrawal*<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>Pediatric Residency, Children's National Medical Center, Washington, DC and <sup>2</sup>Rapid Modeling Corporation, Cincinnati, OH.

New initiatives:

A Resident as Teachers Web-Based Platform has been approved by the board. This site will serve as an online resource for peer-reviewed Resident as Teacher curricular materials for use by educators. The site will be a part of the APA website and will also serve to connect educators for communication and collaboration on scholarly activities. Keep posted for additional information about this exciting new resource.

In response to the APA strategic plan, a proposal for the creation of Teaching Awards for junior and mid-career faculty and for trainees is in its final stages of preparation for review by the board. The hope is that if the proposal is approved, the awards can begin to be granted in 2014.

Once again, I want to thank you all for your engagement in the APA and for your commitment to the educational activities of the organization. I look forward to being a part of these and other wonderful new programs and activities of the APA and specifically, of the education committee.

-Maryellen

First, let me thank all those who participated at the Education Committee Meeting during the PAS meeting this year. The brainstorming session at that meeting was particularly helpful in organizing our action plan. As

the new Chair of the Education Committee, I would like to welcome your ideas and thoughts on areas of improvement. The responsibilities of the APA education Committee has been updated on our website. We are in the process of establishing an executive committee of the education committee to coordinate the various activities and programs. We will also be sending out a short survey to all members of the Education Committee to understand the current needs of our membership. Please return these surveys promptly to us so we can begin planning for the next few years. We plan to work closely with COMSEP and APPD in the coming years. Lastly, I will be tweeting on and off regarding events of importance for the Education Committee. Please feel free to follow me on twitter@dlrathachandran.

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Maryellen Gusic  
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## Health Care Delivery

### S.R.O. for PAS Health Care Delivery Committee Meeting

A standing room only crowd turned out for the Health Care Delivery Committee meeting at PAS on May 5. Pediatric innovation center grantee awardees, Drew Hertz and Kelly Keleher reported on their projects followed by a discussion with attendees. A number of SIG representatives were present to report on their SIGs and how they can connect to innovation in Health Care Delivery. Jen Walthall and Barbara Bayldon were on hand from the Advocacy in Training SIG. Denise Dougherty reported on the activities of the Quality Improvement SIG. Michael Weisgerber represented the Family-Centered Care SIG. Carl Tapia talked about the Complex Care SIG and Doug Thompson related the work of the Hospitalist Medicine SIG. Also present were Iris Mabry-Hernandez from the Race in Medicine SIG and Scott Krugman from the Teaching in Community Settings SIG. Thanks to all the SIG reps for their contributions to the meetings success.

The HCD Committee will be forming a task force this summer to work on the strategic plan for the committee. We are still looking for representatives from the SIGs to join us on the task force. If you are interested please contact Jane Knapp at [jknapp@cmh.edu](mailto:jknapp@cmh.edu).

The HCD Committee-sponsored Topic Symposium, *The 10 Year Forecast for Pediatric Health Care Delivery*, also drew a large crowd of attendees. Speakers David Keller, Bruder Stapleton, Rich Ruddy and John Cowden did a fantastic job identifying the trends that will affect health care in the near and more distant future.

The APA Board of Directors voted to make the Quality Improvement Pre-conference an APA core activity. This helps to insure the future and financial security of the conference. The conference was a rousing success again this year with sold out attendance and a strong curriculum with expert faculty. Make plans now for the next conference to be held before the 2014 PAS meeting in Vancouver.

Follow the link below to see the youtube video of Ken Roberts and friend perform their song of epic proportions *Don't Click Twice* originally unveiled at this year's APA Debate at PAS. The debate was great fun as the Flintstones (John Frohna, Ken Roberts) met the Jetsons (Joe Zorc, Carol Berkowitz) on the topic of electronic health records. Both teams kept the crowd in laughs while debating the utility of the EHR in improving patient care and medical education. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SpmNTwmr0y8>

Jane Knapp  
Health Care Delivery Committee Chair  
[jknapp@cmh.edu](mailto:jknapp@cmh.edu)

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## Core Activities

### CORNET



#### PAS 2013

**CORNET** enjoyed a successful and productive series of events at PAS this year. It is always a joy to see the faces of our members as well as network with many other dedicated pediatricians.

Here are a few highlights from this year's meeting:

- **CORNET** had two poster presentations this year: Pediatric Residents' Attitudes and Experiences with Electronic Health Records, which assessed pediatric residents' experiences with medical IT, and Assessing the Value of the Continuity Research Network after a Decade, which gathered invaluable information on what drives member commitment to the network. Thanks to Janet Serwint and Bill Stratbucker for presenting those posters.
- Teaching Pediatric Residents Quality Improvement Using Adolescent Immunization Delivery as the Focus: National Partnerships for Adolescent Immunization (NPAI) Workshop. This workshop served as a precursor for **CORNET's** upcoming NPAI project and was a wonderful event to initiate progress on study design. This session was videotaped and we are working on developing segments of the workshops into educational webinars for dissemination.
- The Executive Committee Meeting took place in the days immediately following PAS and included a brainstorming session on potential projects for the CORNET-PROS collaboration in development. A handful of topics were assessed for their interest, feasibility, and study design, and will be presented to the AAP PROS network for further steps.

#### PROJECT UPDATES

National Partnerships for Adolescent Immunization (NPAI) Learning Collaborative (LC)  
**CORNET** is beginning the recruitment phase for this exciting quality improvement (QI) project. This is an opportunity through which multiple residency programs that provide medical care to underserved children can participate in a national quality improvement project. Participating sites will be able to share and learn practice improvement strategies from other teams involved in the collaborative, with ongoing guidance and support. Invitations to participate will be sent out soon so please let us know if you are interested!

#### Bright Futures Oral Health

The first paper from this study was published in the March/April edition of *Academic Pediatrics*:  
Bernstein H, Dhepyasuwan N, Connors K, Volkan K, Serwint JR. for the CORNET investigators. Evaluation

of a National *Bright Futures* Oral Health Curriculum for Pediatric Residents. *Acad Pediatr.* 2013 Mar;13(2):133-9.

For everyone who participated in this study, be sure to update your CV by adding a section called "Research Participation" and listing the title of the study and your role:

Maternal and Child Health Bureau; Bernstein (PI)  
10/01/2005 - 09/30/2010  
Evaluation of a Bright Futures Oral Health Intervention for Pediatric Residents  
Role: Site Investigator

We are looking into developing two additional manuscripts from BFOH:

1. Bright Futures and Oral Health Concepts for Pediatric Residents
2. How well do pediatric residents incorporate *Bright Futures* and oral health concepts during health supervision visits?

If you served as a site co-investigator and are interested in co-authoring one of these manuscripts, please let us know by contacting Beth King, [beth@academicpeds.org](mailto:beth@academicpeds.org).

Thanks to everyone who attended PAS!

Those of you who were unable to attend PAS this year were missed! We are anxious to receive your input on potential future projects for CORNET as it is the collaboration which has been so professionally and personally fruitful. It has been the networking with similarly devoted colleagues who share common educational and health care visions which has enriched the network as a whole, and each of us individually.

Let's keep in touch and continue with our exciting activities!

Marilyn Dumont-Driscoll  
CORNET, Chair of Membership  
[dumonmd@peds.ufl.edu](mailto:dumonmd@peds.ufl.edu)

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## Regions

### Region I

Region 1 had a good showing at our region breakfast early Monday morning, May 6 at the Pediatric Academic Societies meeting in Washington, DC. In our introductions this year we shared "one word resolutions" for the upcoming academic year, which ran the gamut from "change" to "move" to "produce" to "breathe".

Incoming APA president David Keller from University of Massachusetts is a Region 1 member and came to breakfast to give updates from the Board of Directors on the organization's strategic priorities. We are pleased to note here that president-elect Mark Schuster from Boston Children's is also from our region.

Marcia VanVleet from Brown addressed the region on updates on the newest APA practice based research network BORN (Better Outcomes through Research for Newborns). Marcia stepped down after two terms as region co-chair, and we had the pleasure of welcoming Matthew Sadof from Baystate to a three-year term as a new region co-chair. Matthew is a general academic pediatrician with interests in school health and

asthma. He joins Melissa Held from the University of Connecticut and Alison Holmes from Dartmouth as the Region 1 leaders.

Planning is in full swing for our regional meeting. It will most likely take place quite soon-in fall 2013, as spring dates that do not conflict with holidays, school breaks, other meetings, or late season snowstorms have proven elusive. The planned theme is "Professional Development in Academic Pediatrics." A save the date will be coming to your inbox soon, so please watch for it, alert your colleagues, and think about trainees who could have abstracts ready to present this fall.

In a final note, the co-chairs are hard at work on maintaining and expanding APA membership in our region. If you have been a member in good standing for some time, we may solicit your help in retention and recruitment efforts in your home divisions and departments.

Hope to see you this fall at our region meeting.

Region Co-Chairs:

Melissa Held

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Alison Holmes

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Matthew Sadof

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## Region III

Thanks to everyone who attended the APA Region III breakfast at PAS, and to the faculty who mentored trainee posters during the meeting. We decided to again hold a combined meeting with Region II for next year's regional meeting, which will be held in March 2014. We discussed how to be even more inclusive of submissions to that meeting with a novel suggestion for 'modern poster presentations' using PowerPoint rather than print posters-more discussion to follow as next year's meeting is planned.

Region Co-Chairs:

Cynthia Rand

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Deepa Sekhar

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## Region IV

We enjoyed catching up with the many members of Region IV who attended the PAS meeting, this year in our "backyard." We had just enough seats at our regional breakfast to accommodate all who showed up at the early hour. We would like to take the opportunity to thank Drs. Daniel Neuspiel, Janet Serwint, Kate Connor, Sarah Armstrong, Clifton Lee, Lisa DeCamp, Martha Hellems, Barry Solomon, Julia Kim, Eliana Perrin, Greg Groman, John Harrington and Virginia Moyer for helping view, provide mentorship and feedback

to the nearly 70(!) trainee poster presenters at the meeting. Clearly, research is alive and well in Region IV.

We were happy to announce the winner of our first Region IV Collaborative Grant, Dr. John Harrington, at the regional breakfast at PAS. Dr. Harrington and his collaborators, Drs. Colleen Kraft, Martha Hellems and Kelly Kimple will use the grant funds to develop a web-based screening platform for autism based on the M-CHAT. The resource developed will also serve as a registry for positive autism screens within the region. The grant was conceived after a larger than expected turn out for the 2011 regional meeting (and therefore a resultant small surplus of regional funds) with the desire to increase collaborative efforts within Region IV. Four applicants submitted abstracts that were discussed at the 2012 regional meeting at which point the applicants identified interested collaborators and fleshed out the details of their work. After the meeting, applicants submitted full proposals for consideration. Although ultimately we could only fund one project, our goal was for the process to spark collaborations among institutions beyond the grant. We will be interested to hear the results of Dr. Harrington's and his collaborators' efforts at the 2013 regional meeting. Hopefully, we can offer the Region IV Collaborative Grant in future years. All the more reason to stay involved in region IV and attend our annual meeting!

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Mike Steiner

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## Region V

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Region V breakfast at PAS in Washington DC this year. We had a great discussion about the needs of the region members. We are always open to hearing from our members about topics that they would like to hear more about, either through the webinars or at the Region V meeting in the early spring. Thank you as well to all of the faculty who agreed to provide feedback for our trainees who were presenting posters at PAS. We had 59 trainee posters at PAS this year. Great job to all of our trainees!

We would also like to take a moment to say good-bye and thank you to Allison Brindle who has served as the Region V co-chair for the last couple of years. She will be moving to Region I later this summer. We thank her for her dedication to the Region and to the APA, and know that Region I will greatly benefit from having her join their ranks.

We would also like to welcome Chris Peltier as the new Region V co-chair. Chris is the Community Pediatrics Section Director in the Division of General and Community Pediatrics at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, and is an adjunct assistant professor of Pediatrics at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. He practices general pediatrics at Pediatric Associates of Mount Carmel, located in suburban Cincinnati, Ohio. He has taught both residents and medical students for almost fifteen years in his private pediatric practice. Chris's main areas of interest are the teaching of medical students and residents in community practices and how to train community faculty to be better educators. He currently serves as the Co-Chair of the APA's Teaching in Community Settings SIG and is a member of the APA Teaching Award Task Force.

Region Co-Chairs:

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## Region VI

The Region VI Breakfast was very successful. About 25 attendees networked and listened to brief presentations from 3 national officers (David Jaffe, President, Jane Knapp, Health Care Delivery Chair and David Keller, President Elect). The Region was able to support two trainee awardees - Kelly Bush from the University of Wisconsin and Shri Chinta from Washington University. They were also introduced and had their posters available to discuss.

Coming up this year will be three new initiatives:

1. A new wiki for the region and other APA activities.
2. Trainee poster mentoring at the PAS - volunteers will be sought and will go to trainees' posters and give feedback.
3. Teaching awards - this new program is in its formative stages but start thinking about excellent teachers at your institution to nominate for these new awards.

Bernie Eskridge from the University of Missouri at Columbia was thanked for his leadership over the past 3 years. Bernie is not going away because he will be continuing as the region's web and wikimaster. Anita Moonjely from the University of Iowa is the new Region VI co-chair. Congratulations to both Anita and Bernie.

### Save the Date

Region VI's fall meeting will be Friday September 20, 2013 in Kansas City. The Clinical Advances in Pediatrics Symposium will be September 17 to 20 at noon. We will meet on Friday afternoon starting with a box lunch networking and business meeting (we hope with their famous barbeque). We are trying to include one of the national officers along with workshops and presentations. Kansas City has excellent museums (new aquarium, National WW1 museum, and world-class art museum), events and festivals (the art festival is this weekend), restaurants and unique shops. Registration and hotel information will be available soon. If you have suggestions for the program please send those suggestions to one of the Region Co-Chairs

### Upcoming Important Dates:

1. Invited science proposal deadline - June 28, 2013
2. Call for reviewers -July 9, 2013 - remember to volunteer or help a junior faculty learn to review.
3. Workshop proposal deadline - September 9, 2013
4. Region VI meeting in Kansas City - September 20, 2013
5. Original science submission deadline - November 19, 2013
6. PAS in Vancouver May 3-6, 2014

### Other Important Information

1. Newsletter items can be submitted to the national office or the regional co-chairs at anytime
2. Nominations for regional co-chair - nominate yourself or someone else at anytime by contacting the region co-chairs

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## Region VII & VIII

The 2013 Pediatric Academic Societies' annual meeting in Washington, DC featured many important events. The new smartphone app was used by many members to navigate meeting activities. In case you missed it, highlights included State of the Art Plenaries on Contemporary Issues in Environmental Health and A National Agenda to End Child Poverty, Topic Symposia such as Child Health Policy in the New Congress and the 10-year forecast for Pediatric Health Care Delivery, and Dr. David Jaffe's Presidential Address with a focus on gun violence. APA Special Interest Groups and Committees were also active, with reminders to watch for Young Investigator Award and Research Scholar program applications later this summer. A special thank you also goes out to our region members who mentored trainees at the poster sessions, a popular service among mentees now in its second year.

We welcome our new Region VIII co-chair, Kristina Gustafson. Dr. Gustafson is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC). She completed residency at Crozer-Chester Medical Center, and fellowship in General Academic Pediatrics at MUSC. Dr. Gustafson has been active in the APA Continuity SIG since 2005, participating in APA PROS and CORNET research projects. Her academic areas of interest are primary care quality improvement, QI education, and the patient centered medical home. Welcome Dr. Gustafson!

As previously announced, Region VII also welcomed their new co-chair at the PAS Regional Breakfast, Dr. Jennifer Andrews. Jennifer is Assistant Professor in the Department of Pediatrics, Section of Neonatology at UAMS & Arkansas Children's Hospital. She graduated medical school from UAMS in 2008, and then completed a pediatric residency at UAMS/ACH in 2013. Her career interests are practicing clinical medicine and supporting medical student and resident clinical training. Outside of work, she enjoys running, cooking, and traveling. We're so happy to have Jennifer as the new Region VII co-chair.

Thank you to our outgoing co-chairs Annie Church (Region VIII) and Nancy Kelly (Region VII) for the outstanding job they have done over the past three years. Their hard work and dedication to the APA and the children of our regions helps make our organization what it is today.

Looking forward, remember to put our combined Region VII and VIII Southern Regional Meeting on your calendar (New Orleans, LA - February 20-22, 2014). The call for workshops in a new 90-minute format has been sent. The abstract deadline for original work and case presentations will be October 11, 2013. More information will be coming soon. Please do not hesitate to contact us with questions about involvement in any APA activity.

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## Region IX & X

APA Region IX and X joined together at PAS this year for our annual breakfast. Although a little bit "groggy" with the time difference (4am PST), we had a productive and informative meeting. Wendy Hobson-Rohrer gave awardee highlights from this year's meetings and it was inspiring to see the number of awards from our region (listed below). We encouraged those in attendance to participate in the APA Research Networks (CORNET, PRIS and BORN) which has information located on the APA website. This year's Paul Young Travel award winners had an opportunity to present their updated research findings to the group as well. The presentations were:

- Emily Johnston (Stanford): The Spectrum of Reproductive Health Care Needs of Detained Adolescent Girls: From Community to Incarceration.
- Elizabeth Rogers (UCSF): I Can Help Prevent Diabetes-Development and Pilot of a Youth Led Type 2 Diabetes Prevention Social Marketing Campaign.



***(R to L: Emily Johnston, Paul Young, and Elizabeth Rogers)***

Gina French from the University of Hawaii will now serve as the co-chair for Region IX. Please join us welcoming and congratulating Gina, Tamara and Mandy for volunteering their time and leadership.

We want to express our great thanks to outgoing co-chairs, Wendy Hobson-Rohrer from University of Utah (Region IX) and Anda Kuo from UCSF (Region X).

Finally, we want to remind all of the members to please consider submitting your 2014 PAS abstract to our local Region IX & X Conference held annually in Monterey, CA on January 25-26, 2014. The meeting will be held on the historic U.S. Navy Postgraduate School campus. This is a great opportunity for trainees, housestaff and junior faculty to present their research (whether complete or in the works) and most importantly receive mentorship from the esteemed faculty.

Hope to see members from all the states covered in our regions at PAS and at our Regional Meeting in Monterey!

Awardees from Region IX and X at this year's PAS:

- APA New Century Scholars:
  - Elysia Alvarez-Stanford University
  - Nneka Edwards-Jackson-University of California San Francisco
  - Maryann (Abi) Pitts-Stanford University
  
- APA RAPID Scholars: Patricia Castillo-University of Southern California
  
- APA Research Scholars:
  - Gabrielle Z. Hester - University of Utah
  - Christopher J Russell - University of Southern California
  - Paul Carbone - University of Utah
  - Lauren Destino - Stanford
  
- APA Educational Scholars:
  - Kelly Callahan - Harbor-University of California Los Angeles
  - Joni Hemond - University of Utah
  
- APA Young Investigator Awards:
  - Elizabeth Barnert - University of California, Los Angeles
  - Suzanna Martinez - University of California, San Francisco
  
- APA Resident Investigator Award: Jessica Cataldi - University of Colorado
  
- APA Student Research Award: Angela Anne Green - University of Utah
  
- APA Public Policy and Advocacy Award: Bruce P. Lanphear - British Columbia Children's Hospital, Simon Fraser University
  
- Maureen Andrew Mentor Award: Roberta A. Ballard - University of California San Francisco
  
- House Officer Research Award: Amy C. Blake - University of Colorado
  
- SPR Thomas Hazinski Distinguished Service Award: Elena Fuentes - Afflick-University of California San Francisco
  
- David G Nathan Award in Basic Research: Sujana Subbaiah Gunta - University of California San Diego

- SPR Young Investigator Award: Heather Christy Mefford - University of Washington

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## Special Interest Groups

### Child Abuse & Serving the Underserved

Once again, it was a great PAS meeting in Washington, DC and the Child Abuse and Serving the Underserved Special Interest Groups had a combined session which intersected both SIGs entitled "Human Trafficking, Immigration and the Common Challenges to Healthcare Delivery". Jordan Greenbaum gave a great talk on human sexual trafficking, and introduced the participants to the legislative protections against trafficking; the international and domestic realities of trafficking; and, how children and adolescents are at risk for this pervasive form of maltreatment. She discussed the healthcare implications and provided some key characteristics that could help to improve detection of a sexually trafficked patient and what supports and referrals are available. Fernando Mendoza spoke on the challenges in providing healthcare to immigrant children in the U.S and described some of the key factors that affect health and well-being in this population. He informed the participants of specific risks and vulnerabilities and reiterated the common theme that places children and adolescents at risk for sexual trafficking. Practice opportunities to improve immigrant children's health were outlined into a practical framework for clinical practice. Finally, Cristina Meneses, an attorney from the Network for Public Health Law in Baltimore, MD, spoke about immigrant children and the legal issues they face. She began her presentation by speaking in Spanish, which helped the audience understand how challenging it can be to navigate life in a country where one doesn't speak the language. Ms. Meneses reviewed the numerous ways that individuals and families from other countries might come to live in the U.S., and how access to resources such as assistance for domestic violence victims can vary significantly by visa status. Finally, she spoke about undocumented immigrants and the particular challenges that undocumented children face in accessing health care, education, and other services. The session concluded with a small group exercise where the participants discussed their clinical experiences with regards to the sexually trafficked and/or immigrant pediatric patient in the healthcare system, and how to enhance their clinical care to improve healthcare delivery to these patients.

Child Abuse SIG Co-Chairs:

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## Continuity

Our SIG had a terrific meeting on Saturday of PAS in Washington.

We first focused on the Milestone Project (<https://www.abp.org/abpwebsite/publicat/milestones.pdf>) and how it might relate to continuity clinic. The Milestone Project will be at the heart of the RRC's New Accreditation System. Groups at each table analyzed how their assigned 3 milestones might apply to continuity clinic, and we had a verbal report-out. Additionally, each table took notes and we will be compiling them to post on our WIKI site (information and access coming soon). However, we are still missing a few tables worth of information - if you are holding on to some notes please send them to Sue Feigelman at [sfeigelm@umaryland.edu](mailto:sfeigelm@umaryland.edu).

Our second annual Quick Conti Consult session was focused on EMRs in continuity settings. While most of us are using Epic, there was a smattering of other EMRs used. Notes were taken by some intrepid folks, and those should be emailed to Ada Fenick at [ada.fenick@yale.edu](mailto:ada.fenick@yale.edu) so that we can compile them.

At the meeting, we also had a few updates from our board and from our research network, and heard about the aforementioned wiki where we will be able to host some of our documents and also have the ability to store some of those questions/answers that we've all seen flying through the list-serve over the years.

Have a terrific summer!

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## Culture, Ethnicity and Health Care & Women in Medicine

At the PAS meeting in Washington, DC this year we had our first ever combined meeting of the Culture, Ethnicity and Healthcare SIG and the Women in Medicine SIG. The session consisted of a panel of distinguished speakers who focused on the interaction of gender and race/ethnicity and how these have influenced their career development, teaching, research, and leadership experiences.



Our panelists (pictured from top left) were Dr. Valerie Maholmes, Acting Chief of the Pediatric Trauma and Critical Illness Branch and Program Officer for the Child and Family Processes/Child Maltreatment and Violence Research Program in the Child Development and Behavior Branch at NICHD, Dr. Elena Fuentes-Afflick, Professor of Pediatrics, Epidemiology, and Biostatistics and Vice Dean for Academic Affairs at the University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine, Dr. Tumaini Coker, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, Dr. Rita Mangione-Smith, Professor of Pediatrics in the Division of General Pediatrics at the University of Washington and Director of the Outcomes Assessment Program at Seattle Children's Hospital, Dr. Iris Mabry-Hernandez, Project Officer for pediatric research grants and contracts at the Center for Primary Care, Prevention, and Clinical Partnerships at the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, and Dr. Raquel G. Hernandez, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. The interactive discussion consisted of questions about how issues of gender, culture, and race/ethnicity have augmented and detracted from panelists' careers, how to obtain and provide mentoring, and how to continue to advance opportunities for success for women and underrepresented minorities. We were also fortunate to have an outstanding presentation from Drs. Maria Marquez and Brooke Schuster on a cultural competency curriculum for 3<sup>rd</sup> year medical students.

Finally, the Co-chairs of the Culture, Ethnicity and Healthcare SIG announced a transition in leadership. Dr. Darcy Thompson was elected to the APA Board as the Chair of New Century Scholars and Special Interest Groups and stepped down from her position as SIG Co-chair. Dr. John Cowden, Medical Director of the Office of Equity and Diversity at Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City, has joined Dr. Shetgiri as Co-chair of the Culture, Ethnicity and Healthcare SIG. Congratulations to Dr. Thompson and Dr. Cowden on their new positions!

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## Division Directors

Division Directors and Fellowship Training SIG Update from the PAS meeting in Washington, DC

Thank you to all the participants at our combined SIG meeting with the Fellowship Training and Division Directors on May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Our topic on enhancing the diversity of our physician workforce appeared to strike common ground with many. Mary Rogers, Iris Borowsky, Paul Darden, and John Harrington facilitated discussion with breakout questions on how the represented programs score on diversity/inclusion and gender/generational issues.

Brief presentations were provided on "Future Workforce Predictions" and "The Basics: Culturally Competent Recruitment and Hiring." The three hour session concluded with a group discussion and expert panel including Tina Cheng and Fernando Mendoza. Common themes focused on mentoring, identifying, and improving the pipeline of candidates through middle school and beyond.

[Click here for the Mary Roger's presentation](#)

[Click here for the "The Basics: Culturally Competent Recruitment and Hiring"](#)

[Click here for References](#)

We would like to again thank Tina and Fernando for finding time in their busy schedule to meet with our SIG. We hope to see even a bigger crowd in Vancouver next year!

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## E-Learning in Medical Education



We had a very exciting e-Learning SIG meeting at the PAS 2013 meeting in Washington, DC. The attendance was great and we received highly positive reviews and helpful suggestions from attendees. We would like to thank all presenters who provided timely, insightful materials for the advancement of online education. Dale A. Coddington and her colleagues who conducted a fantastic workshop on e-Learning

modalities including blogs and wikis, webinars, podcasting and mobile, audio, and video applications and how those tools can be incorporated into a medical curriculum. Erik Black and Lindsay Thompson shared their study results on "Online Schools and Children with Special Health and Educational Needs: Comparison with Performance in Traditional Schools." Grant P. Christman presented his Moodle site, and shared with us a step by step how to develop a learning module with Moodle, and how to turn a Moodle site into a collaborative academic community for faculty, residents, and medical students. Presentation by Bernhard L. Wiedermann discussed cognitive load theory, followed by quick ideas about how to design an effective PowerPoint slides, modify slide titles, legibility, and pictures, as well as novel approaches to speakers' notes and handouts. A special thanks is extended also to those who attended and for your contributions to the discussion. These are the elements of a successful meeting and we look forward to planning and pursuing our ideas together.

Webinar Coming in August!

Our August webinar will be held on Wednesday, August 21, 2013, from noon until 1pm EST. Registration information will follow via the APA listserv.

The summer webinar will provide attendees with the opportunity to hear Drs. Erik Black and Lindsay Thompson's presentation: Online Schools and Children with Special Health and Educational Needs: Comparison with Performance in Traditional Schools.

Invitation for Webinar Proposals

Do you have a special topic that might be of interest to our e-Learning SIG? For consideration for the coming webinars, please send a brief outline and summary of your topic and how it relates to the interests of SIG members

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## Environmental Health

This year in Washington, DC we had another exciting SIG meeting. Our focus was on food policy and safety. We started off with a talk on food and additive policy by Tom Neltner, the Director of the Food Additives Campaign from the Pew Health Group. The next speaker was Dr. Joel Forman, one of the lead authors of the AAP Clinical Report on Organic Food, who provided information on organic food. The last speaker was Dr. Clara Filice, Pediatric Environmental Health and Food Policy Fellow from the AAP. Dr. Filice spoke about food safety and foodborne illness.

After these stimulating sessions and discussion, we elected a new SIG co-chair. We also discussed ideas for next year's SIG and collaborative topics for PAS sessions. We are grateful for the participation of our members. We would like to welcome our new SIG co-chair Mateusz (Matt) Karwowski and offer a heartfelt thank you to our outgoing co-chair Sheela Sathyanarayana!

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## Ethics

The Ethics SIG had an exciting and very informative session on May 5, 2013 at PAS in Washington, DC. It was attended by a very interested and invested audience and we received very nice comments.

Our session started with the announcement of the winners of our second ethics SIG essay contest. Dr. Ashley Treece, a second year pediatric resident from Oregon Health and Sciences University won first place. In her essay titled "*For Life*", Dr. Treece wonderfully described the moral distress of physicians while taking care of technology dependent children. Her essay was powerful, honest, daring and yet suffused with care.

Drs. Kimberly Canfield and Maheen Quadri-Sheriff, fellows in Academic General Pediatrics at Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, won second place. In their essay titled "*Winning the Battle but Losing the War: Communication, Professionalism, and Ethics of Dismissing Families Who Refuse Vaccines*", they tackled an important public health issue with an excellent ethical analysis. They emphasized the importance of communication and trust which is not only the foundation of pediatrics but all of medical practice.

We were delighted that Dr. Treece and Dr. Quadri were able to join us in person and read their essays during the session. [Click here to read the winning essays](#)

The rest of the session was dedicated to the theme of adolescent healthcare and ethics.

Dr. Yoram Unguru talked about research ethics and children in general and adolescents in particular. His talk was very informative and generated great discussion on ethical issues especially consent, assent and the best approaches for including adolescents in research. Dr. Unguru is a pediatric hematologist/oncologist and has joint faculty appointments at The Herman and Walter Samuelson Children's Hospital at Sinai and The Berman Institute of Bioethics, John Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD.

Dr. Diane Plantz discussed ethical issues encountered in the emergency department in caring for adolescent patients, from confidentiality to digging deeper to look for a cause of illness that may not be what they seem. Dr. Plantz is a pediatric emergency medicine physician and ethicist and Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics in Kansas City, MO.

Dr. Zeynep Salih's talk focused on adolescents as parents in the NICU and ethical issues while they are deciding for their critically ill infants. Her talk was enlightening by showing how little is known on that subject yet how much speculation is out there. She echoed the other speakers' point that empathy, active listening and attending the vulnerabilities are the keys in caring for the adolescent as a parent as well as a patient. This topic generated great discussion on how to approach the potential psychological and behavioral issues that adolescent parents may have. Other comments were on the social, cultural and ethnic variability on the attitudes toward adolescent parenthood in the US. Some participants questioned how we can improve the understanding of adolescent parents in the NICU by visual aids. Dr. Salih is a neonatologist and an ethicist at Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis, IN.

Dr. Jennifer Linebarger joined us again this year leading a discussion on adolescents and palliative care. She focused on resiliency and how adolescents are amazing in their ability to deal with their own death and dying. She showed how much we can learn from our patients who have not quite reached adulthood but show the strength, courage and intuition when faced with dying. Dr. Linebarger is the medical director of palliative care and an adolescent medicine physician at Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics in Kansas City, MO.

As we have already started to plan for next year we would love to hear any ideas/topics that you would like to be presented. In this way we can plan our next session according to your needs/wishes.

We will keep in touch via our newsletter and we will continue to be a platform sharing our views and concerns about the impacts of ethics in our clinical work, research and teaching.

Warmest wishes,

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## Emergency Medicine

### Quality in Pediatric Emergency Medicine: Progress, Challenges and Next Steps

The Emergency Medicine SIG kicked-off the 2013 PAS meeting on May 4 in Washington D.C. with a session on *Quality in Pediatric Emergency Medicine: Progress, Challenges and Next Steps*. The session sought to build on the 2010 SIG on Quality presented in Vancouver.

Nationally and internationally established PEM Quality investigators presented their work on Septic Shock - Dr. Graham Thompson, Family-Centered Experience - Drs. Terri Byczkowski and Patricia Chambers, and Pain Management - Dr. Scott Reeves. Drs. Lalit Bajaj and Rich Ruddy then tackled the Quality imperative, "Where do we go from here?" The program concluded with a lively question and answer session between our speakers and the standing room only crowd.

The Ludwig Seidel award for the best research project by a fellow in PEM was presented by Dr. Stephen Ludwig to Dr. Deborah Schonfeld, from Boston Children's Hospital. Her abstract, *Impact of Duration of Emergency Department Observation on the Rate of Computed Tomography in Children with Minor Blunt Head Trauma*, was selected over a very strong field of worthy fellow projects.

In addition, brief presentations were made by Dr. Jane Knapp representing the APA Health Care Delivery Committee Task Force and Dr. Nathan Kuppermann who described opportunities in the Emergency Medicine/PEM K12 Program.

We are currently accepting applications for the new APA SIG in PEM co-chairs for the 2014-16 3 year term. Candidates must be members of the APA in good standing and have identified themselves as members of the Pediatric Emergency Medicine SIG. Prospective candidates should include the following in their submission:

1. A 150 word biography

2. A position statement including the candidate's credentials and ideas on how they plan to promote the mission of the APA within the PEM community (250 words or less)

Please send email of interest to Mark Roback: [mgroback@umn.edu](mailto:mgroback@umn.edu), and Anne Stack: [Anne.Stack@childrens.harvard.edu](mailto:Anne.Stack@childrens.harvard.edu)

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## Evidence-Based Pediatrics

The Evidence-Based Pediatrics Special Interest Group met on Saturday, May 4, 2013 in Washington, DC, on the first day of the Pediatric Academic Societies meeting with 35 in attendance. The meeting included a variety of interactive presentations from invited speakers. Maribeth Chitkara and Rachel Boykan presented new findings from their longitudinal curriculum development for teaching evidence-based medicine at Stonybrook University. Of note, they will make available through the SIG web page the products from those efforts including their residents' completed Critical Appraisal of Topics on topics both inpatient and outpatient.

William Graessle presented his work on teaching pediatric residents to pose relevant clinical queries at Cooper University Hospital, and Tom Newman, from University of California San Francisco, gave a third installment of common errors that teachers of EBM make.

Hans Kersten, one of the SIG's co-chairs had participants work in small groups to emphasize the impact that small group learning may have when teaching EBM to trainees. This was based on his work at St Christopher's Hospital and at the Center for Evidence-Based Medicine Oxford, England. Bob Jacobson, of the Mayo Clinic, and the other SIG co-chair, followed with a report from the SIG's year-long project to develop standardized questions and answers for testing EBM proficiency. This led to an introduction as well as an invitation to use the SIG's wiki to develop these standardized questions and answers further.

The presentations were followed by a business meeting. Agenda items included a call for participation in an EBM education project to validate an assessment tool for therapy critical appraisals. The first steps (including an initial focus group and another meeting to use the instrument) will be done with faculty at the University of Rochester. Members of the SIG would then use the instrument in assessing some therapy critical appraisals and obtaining inter-rater reliability. Those interested should contact Justin Lynn for more information at [Justin\\_Lynn@URMC.Rochester.edu](mailto:Justin_Lynn@URMC.Rochester.edu).

The co-chairs encouraged SIG members to utilize the resources posted at the [Evidence-Based Pediatrics SIG's web pages](#) as well as propose revisions and updates to these pages. Members were also invited to access the SIG's wiki pages at <http://www.academicpeds.org/APAWiki/Wiki.cfm>.

The meeting ended with a call for speakers and topics for the next Pediatric Academic Societies meeting May 3 - 6, 2014 in Vancouver, Canada.

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## Faculty Development

The 2013 Faculty Development SIG meeting had 20 participants + 3 faculty and included oral presentations and a panel discussion. The topic centered on milestones and competencies in medical education. The oral presentations were about using milestones as a diagnostic tool to improve resident performance. One presentation was about using the competency project and milestones as a springboard for a reevaluation of assessment during rotations and to improve the program of instruction generally. There was a rich discussion about the implementation of the milestone project logistically and a long discussion about getting faculty buy-in for this new assessment framework. Some ideas for faculty developers include:

1. Having faculty self assess themselves against the milestones as a way to reduce the tendency of faculty to rate all residents highly regardless of their performance.
2. Use the milestones to let the residents self assess themselves as part of their individual learning plan.
3. Teach faculty advisors how to use milestones to chart where a resident is and what an individual resident needs to do to progress to the next level.
4. Teach faculty to use milestones as a diagnostic tool to pinpoint specific deficiencies in performance. Field data suggests that residents like the new milestones as clear descriptive markers of expected performance in residency.
5. Teach faculty the concept of EPA's. Entrustable Professional Activities (EPA's) are statements of work that pediatricians must do as part of their professional duties. EPA's may be easier to understand and teach to core faculty rather than have everyone labor over the specifics of the milestones and competencies.
6. Teach division directors to use the competencies and their accompanying milestone levels to edit down the long list of rotational goals and objectives to those that can be reasonably observed using milestones language.

The group left with suggestions for future ideas for next year's SIG.

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## Global Health

The Global Health SIG had a successful program in Washington DC this 2013 year! Over 80 attendants joined our program this year, and the presentations and discussions were impressive and engaging.

The theme for this year's program was: "Strengthening Capacities in Research, Service, and Education Through Global Academic Partnerships", which was well aligned with this year's PGPR (Program for Global Pediatric Research) theme on "Training for Sustainable Clinical Care and Research".

We were very pleased to have Dr. Fitzhugh Mullan present as keynote speaker from the PAS GH SIG program. Dr. Mullan is a distinguished professor and public health advocate from George Washington University, School of Medicine and Public Health. He gave a powerful and informative presentation of his experience researching human health workforce issues within the African health system. He reviewed the key findings from his 2008-2010 Sub-Saharan African medical school study, and described the PEPFAR and NIH funded Medical Education Partnership Initiative (MEPI) which aims to improve participating African countries' medical education capacity, increase retention and geographic distribution of graduates, and strengthen regionally relevant research training. Finally, Dr. Mullan outlined the history of the Global Health Service Corps's partnership with the Peace Corps to place US clinical faculty for one-year positions in select sites to address local educational challenges augment faculty capacity, and assist host schools in addressing national health system strengthening ([www.globalhealthservicecorps.org](http://www.globalhealthservicecorps.org)).



Fitzhugh Mullan  
George Washington Univ SOM/SPH

Our international panelists spoke on the theme of "What are the Ingredients to Successful international Collaborations? Voices from Pediatric Leadership." We were very pleased to have Dr. Roseda Marshall join the panel from Liberia where she is the President of Liberia's Graduate Medical Education Council. Dr Marshall discussed the importance of developing mutual trust when developing international partnerships, and to monitor for unintended consequences of activities conducted overseas. Establishment of a continuous system of monitoring and evaluation of the partnership is also very critical to ensuring that the collaboration goals are



Roseda Marshall  
Liberia-UMass



Andrew Steenhoff  
Botswana-Penn

being met. Dr Andrew Steenhoff joined the panel from Botswana where he is the Associate Director for the Botswana-UPenn partnership. He described several components of a partnership that he has found to be critical to success, which includes prioritizing moving towards a shared vision with international collaborators, ensuring support from leadership and focusing on long-term goals. Dr. Steenhoff also spoke of the importance of allowing the senior people in the host country to guide the process of collaboration. Finally, Dr. Chandy John, who is the director of the Division of Global Pediatrics, from The University of Minnesota, presented his very interesting findings from an email survey of 5 US research



Chandy John  
UMinn-Uganda

colleagues and 8 African research colleagues on the topic of successful elements of international health research collaborations. The main factors that were identified were mutual respect and benefit, trust, delineation of clear roles, expectations and good communication. Dr. John also described several other factors such as long-term, sustained funding source and ensuring the public health significance of research issue at the research site.

The winner of the 2013 APA International Health Award, was Ruth Kihara, from Nairobi Kenya. Dr. Kihara was awarded for her work developing a SMS communication system that successfully promoted breastfeeding among mothers at the Litein Mission Hospital in Kericho. She was presented with her plaque during the SIG program and gave a presentation about management of children with severe acute malnutrition in Kenya outlining some of the challenges in following the WHO guidelines in low resource settings. She presented the next day her award winning abstract at the Global Pediatric Research Original Science Abstract Platform Session.



*Yvonne Vaucher presenting IH award to Ruth Kihara - May 4 2013 - Wash DC*

The presentations will be made available on the APA SIG website in PDF format.

We were very pleased to have such a great turn-out and are already making plans for next year's program in Vancouver. Please feel free to contact us directly for your suggestions and feedback"

***Please encourage colleagues to become a member of the GH SIG by joining the APA and signing up for our SIG group!***

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### Highlights from SIG meeting at PAS

Once again the SIG drew a large energetic group. During the open hour breakout sessions, the education, QI, and research groups had lots of energy. These sessions are key for networking and helping new members find a niche, but we would love feedback about how to structure them more effectively. We know we need a bigger room and will work with APA again on that for next year. The second hour was highlighted by an acknowledgement of Tamara Simon's impactful service to the PRIS network and HM SIG, and by brief words from the multiple Educational and Research Scholars in attendance. The third hour included updates from the April meeting with PHM leaders and the ABP detailed below, and then a robust panel discussion about the impact of PHM fellowship training and possible accreditation. Other highlights of the meeting included the bus tour of Washington sites and a separate tour of Children's National. We will look to repeat such opportunities to mingle at future PAS meetings. Finally, we would encourage you to consider submitting proposals for invited science relevant to PHM to PAS. The deadline for this is coming up on June 28th.

### APA HM SIG Co-Chair Election

We are excited to announce our newly elected SIG co-chair, Dr. Karen Smith from Children's National in DC. We had three excellent candidates this year with a diversity of interests and accomplishments. This was our second election, and we are pleased that the APA is leading the way in terms of transparency in the process of selecting national leaders for our field. SIG Co-Chairs serve on the Planning Committee for the annual PHM meeting and JCPHM, so for those of you looking to extend your "voice" nationally, we would encourage you to consider throwing your hat into ring next spring.

American Board of Pediatrics National Pediatric Hospital Medicine Leaders Conference  
On April 4-5 a meeting sponsored by the Foundation of the American Board of Pediatrics (ABP) brought national leaders within the community and university PHM universe, including most of the members of the Joint Council of Pediatric Hospital Medicine (JCPHM), together with representatives of the ABP and other invited experts to discuss options and next steps in the potential recognition of PHM as a subspecialty credentialed by the ABP. The meeting included an overview of the information painstakingly gathered through the STP process that has been shared at the past two annual PHM meetings by STP co-chairs, Drs. Suzanne Swanson-Mendez and Chris Maloney. Shared information included: a summary of the ABP process for new subspecialties from Dr. Gail McGuiness; an analysis of current workforce trends using data from those sitting for Pediatric boards and from health services research; and, an overview of the ongoing Recognition of Focused Practice in Hospital Medicine by the American Board of Internal Medicine. In addition, we heard about the impending changes to the structure of Pediatric Residency from ACGME/Peds RRC chair, Dr. Joe Gilhooly, reprising some of the information he discussed at last summer's PHM meeting during his plenary address.

After the initial afternoon of presentations and an evening of informal discussion, the pediatric hospitalists in attendance were lead through an open dialog by facilitator Dr. Steven Ludwig to discuss options going forward and to reach some consensus decisions. Dr. Erin Stucky, chair of the JCPHM, led off the deliberations with a call to focus on two key issues: the future care of hospitalized children and the public trust in the providers of that care. A summary of these deliberations has been posted on all PHM-society listservs and there is an ongoing conversation on the STP blog ([STPcommittee.blogspot.com](http://STPcommittee.blogspot.com)). Further, you are encouraged to submit questions to the JCPHM gmail account ([jointcouncilPHM@gmail.com](mailto:jointcouncilPHM@gmail.com)).

The nearly unanimous consensus of the deliberating group was that PHM should pursue ABP recognition as a subspecialty through a 2-year post-residency clinical fellowship. Several key details lead to this consensus:

1. While not guaranteed, the ABP is considering modifying the mandate for 3-year fellowships and may look favorably on a 2-year proposal.
2. Trends in this country show more pediatric residents expressing interest in PHM careers and more children being cared for in hospitals staffed with pediatric hospitalists.

3. ACGME modifications to pediatric residency training, specifically the new 6 months of individualized training, are not intended to produce graduates with specialized skills in hospital medicine (or other specific focus).
4. Wisdom and insight from the Pediatric Emergency Medicine community that their move to subspecialty certification helped solidify a body of knowledge and scholarship that has dramatically improved the care of children in emergency departments.
5. Strong evidence base from health services literature, and strong consensus among attendees, that there is already a gap between the skills of pediatric residency graduates and the skills needed by practicing pediatric hospitalists. The several community pediatric hospitalists in attendance agreed with this sense. Further, the belief was this gap would continue to grow going forward.
6. While still an incomplete experiment, the early sense of the ABIM Focus of Practice experience has been disappointing. An insight that Dr. Bob Wachter hinted at during his keynote address at last summer's PHM meeting.
7. Strong consensus from 2012 annual PHM meeting audience-response process that the current status quo is not acceptable.

Next steps: the JCPHM is seeking further commentary on these decisions via listservs, email, and blogs. Concurrently, JCPHM is engaging other key stakeholders in this process including leaders of our three core societies (AAP, APA and SHM,), pediatric department chairs, and the community pediatric hospitalist community through several webinars. The APA PHM SIG Co-Chairs met with the APA Board during PAS and the Board was quite supportive in principle and will be prepared with a formal written response to ABP when that time comes. Please stay tuned and engaged as this process moves forward. Do not hesitate to contact any of the SIG Co-Chairs with questions or email the JCPHM directly ([jointcouncilPHM@gmail.com](mailto:jointcouncilPHM@gmail.com)).

Pediatric Hospital Medicine (PHM) 2013, New Orleans

The annual PHM meeting is scheduled for August 1-4, 2013 in New Orleans, LA. This year we celebrate our 10th anniversary! Make plans now for the premier gathering of your colleagues from across the spectrum of our field.

Highlights from the planning committee include Society for Pediatric Sedation Provider Course and the Pediatric Fundamentals of Critical Care Support course that is offered by the Society of Critical Care Medicine before the conference; a new community hospitalist track, an early career track and many more workshops, platforms, posters, and conundrums.

Important dates to remember

- Pediatric Hospital Medicine 2013-August 1-4, New Orleans, LA
- Pediatric Education Excellence across the Continuum (PEEAC) Conference October 4-5, Arlington, VA

Please take advantage of these opportunities for personal and professional growth and to contribute to advancements in Pediatric Hospital Medicine.

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## Literacy Development Programs in Primary Care

For our 17<sup>th</sup> annual meeting, the SIG for Literacy Development Programs in Primary Care had an excellent turnout, with about 45 participants. Our keynote address was by Martha Farah, Annenberg Professor of Natural Science and Director of the Center for Neuroscience and Society at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Farah is widely recognized as a leader in cognitive neuroscience. She spoke on "Poverty, Parenting, and Brain Development," detailing the effects of disadvantage on language, memory and executive functions and connecting psychological research with animal models and human brain imaging. Although some parts of this story are NOW coming into focus, questions and complexities remain in the relationships between nurturing, language and specific brain structures. We still have a lot to learn! Tom DeWitt followed with a brief presentation of new work in literacy and neurodevelopment being done in Cincinnati.

Next on our agenda, we heard reports from the winners of the APA Young Investigator Awards for Literacy Promotion, including updates from 2011 winner Meghan Treitz (dialogic reading training); 2012 winner Teri DeLucca (multi-site assessment of school-readiness); and finally this year's winner, Adriana Weisleder, whose project is titled "Identifying Best Practices for *Reach Out and Read* Using Innovative Technologies to Investigate the Home Literacy Environment During the First Year of Life."

Next, we had a panel discussion on resident training in literacy promotion, with presentations by Cathy Wiley (University of Connecticut), Ellen Stevenson (Oregon Health and Science University) and Dipesh Navsaria (University of Wisconsin). There were too many innovations to catalog here, but some highlights included residents taking on leadership roles in literacy promotion training, incorporation of resident training in literacy PROMOTION with advocacy and community pediatrics, creative use of a resident survey and new curriculum ideas. As a result of the discussion, we resolved to establish a national clearinghouse for curriculum ideas and materials, to be housed, we hope, on the Literacy SIG wiki and also at [www.reachoutandread.org](http://www.reachoutandread.org).

Looking ahead, we plan to follow up on the initiatives described above, and to strengthen collaborations with other SIGs such as Primary Care, Serving the Underserved, and Health Literacy. The packed agenda for this year's meeting, and the packed room, signify that literacy promotion in primary care will remain a topic of active interest, innovation and research for years to come.

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## Medical Informatics and Electronic Health Records (EHR)

We had a lively and energizing discussion at the APA Medical Informatics and EHR Special Interest Group at the Pediatric Academic Societies Meeting in Washington, DC. Dynamic discussion swirled around the clinical informatics board certification, meaningful use and the challenges of implementation and change management. We enjoyed learning about how to cultivate clinical informatics research from Eric Kirkendall. We also enjoyed an impromptu rally for Joe Zorc, who stood up for EMR progress at the debate at the membership meeting!

We are in a nomination/transition year for the Medical Informatics SIG. We will be notifying the group in June as to the SIG leadership. The Medical Informatics and EHR SIG will continue to grow and evolve, and we

look forward to future meetings including:

- hosting and soliciting trainees' work
- showcasing clinical informatics projects (such as the "down in flames" or "failed pilots" section that was discussed with such enthusiasm)
- continuing to serve as networking opportunity for informaticians

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## Medical Student Education

Medical Student Education Special Interest Group Update Summer 2013

Greetings from the APA Medical Student Education SIG, home to all with a passion for teaching and for learning new educational techniques. We had a great SIG session at PAS 2013, which was a combined session with the Teaching in Community Settings SIG. A big thanks to COMSEP for providing meeting refreshments!

The first part of our session was a mini-workshop in which the participants discussed strategies on how to enhance time-limited teaching encounters through use of reflection. Michael Barone, COMSEP president, topped it all off with a wonderful facilitated discussion on how to foster and teach humanism even in these brief learner-student encounter settings.

The second part of the SIG session started off with a panel discussion facilitated by Chris Peltier and Scott Krugman, co-chairs of the Teaching in Community Settings SIG that focused on community setting educators and on working effectively with community faculty. The panel featured the clerkship director perspective, coordinator perspective and the perspective of the Teaching in Community Settings SIG chairs. Panel guests included Linda Lewin, University of Maryland and Corrine Lehman, University of Cincinnati.

As SIG chairs we wrapped up the session by eliciting ideas and topics for future sessions and ideas on how to serve you all better. We hope to incorporate these as we think about PAS 2014 in Vancouver, and are always open to other ideas from the COMSEP leadership, the APA Education Committee and any and all of you.

On a final note, there is work in the APA to create a Wiki for each SIG for document sharing. We hope to post documents from the SIG sessions of relevance on this WIKI, which should be available some time in 2013.

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## Newborn Nursery

The Newborn SIG met on Saturday afternoon, May 4th. It was great to network and be face-to-face with 44 colleagues from national and international locations!

SIG updates from the National Child & Maternal Health Education Committee and from the Better Outcomes through Research for Newborns (BORN) Network were presented by Dr. Tony Burgos.

A special thank you is due to Dr. Debra Bogen for her excellent keynote presentation on Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome.

SIG business included a call for volunteers to join the APA Health Care Delivery Committee. Contact Dr. Jane Knapp [[jknapp@cmh.edu](mailto:jknapp@cmh.edu)] if you would like to participate in this energized effort. Dr. Terry Wall was recognized for her excellent SIG leadership these last 3 years. We welcomed Dr. Esther Chung as the incoming co-chair.

A break-out networking session concluded the meeting.

This SIG never rests! Although we are still recovering from PAS, the SIG is already actively circulating questions and announcements on the listserv. If you did not find your name on the circulated member sheet, be sure to make sure your APA membership has not expired! You won't want to miss the helpful advice available from your APA nursery colleagues!

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## Obesity

The 2013 Obesity SIG welcomed over 50 attendees bright and early on Sunday morning, May 5<sup>th</sup>! We first heard from the enthusiastic Children's Hospitals Association's Focus on a Fitter Future Childhood Obesity Multi-Program Analysis and Study System (COMPASS) and Pediatric Obesity Weight Evaluation Registry (POWER) leadership. These groups reviewed the formation of an obesity practice-based research network, its initial 3 projects, and preliminary outcomes from POWER's retrospective cohort study of youth presenting for weight management in 2009-10. Our next presentation was from Charlotte Pratt, Program Officer at NHLBI. Dr. Pratt reviewed the resources available to clinicians and researchers from the National Collaborative on Childhood Obesity Research (NCCOR). This Collaborative's mission is "to improve the efficiency, effectiveness, and application of childhood obesity research and to halt— and reverse-childhood obesity through enhanced coordination and collaboration". Dr. Pratt reviewed the measures registry, a searchable database of relevant diet and physical activity measures, and the catalog of local, state and national surveillance systems. Both are housed on the Collaborative's website ([www.nccor.org](http://www.nccor.org)).

Thank you to all who attended the SIG. If you have any questions, or suggestions for the 2014 SIG, please email Sarah Hampl ([shampl@cmh.edu](mailto:shampl@cmh.edu)) or Sandy Hassink ([Sandra.hassink@nemours.org](mailto:Sandra.hassink@nemours.org)).

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## Simulation-based Medical Education

### Pediatric Simulation: An International Effort

Simulation applied to pediatrics is undergoing rapid growth as evidenced by widespread expansion of pediatric simulation programs, the development of pediatric simulation research consortiums, and increasing interest by the medical community to utilize simulation for patient safety. This growth is not confined to the U.S. In 2007, the International Pediatric Simulation Society (IPSS) was formed as an international society dedicated entirely to pediatric, perinatal and associated health care providers and organizations that utilize simulation-based education to improve care and safety for children. The mission of IPSS is to promote and support multi-disciplinary simulation-based education, training and research among all pediatric subspecialties, focused on the unique nature and needs of caring for the pediatric and perinatal patient and family. IPSS has seven core goals, which include:

1. To foster innovation in pediatric simulation-based education aimed at promoting excellence in pediatric and perinatal care wherever it is delivered.
2. To create, grow and maintain an international pediatric simulation community.
3. To support and promote multidisciplinary team training and delivery of care to infants, children and their families.
4. To support and promote patient safety through simulation-based training, education and research tailored to pediatric/perinatal health care environments.
5. To promote high quality pediatric simulation research.
6. To advocate internationally for pediatric simulation (technology, funding and legislation, public policy).
7. To collaborate with professional and simulation societies having common goals for the benefit of patient safety and care delivered to children

Today, IPSS is a rapidly growing community of over 300 pediatric clinicians and educators from over 34 countries around the globe dedicated to improving the care of children and families. IPSS provides an international voice for pediatric simulation, speaking on important issues, changes and improvements to benefit the field in the areas of technological advancement, research collaborations, advocacy and funding. Current project-based activities are overseen by eight Core Committees ranging from education to technology to research, all devoted to pediatric simulation. Current international collaborative efforts include work to improve pediatric care through simulation in Malawi Africa, and collaboration between IPSS and Extracorporeal Life Support Organization (ELSO) to develop simulation-based ECMO training modules.

The 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the IPSS, the International Pediatric Simulation Symposia and Workshops (IPSSW), took place on April 23 to 25, 2013. The meeting was held in the historic New York Academy of Medicine, a landmark building on the edge of Central Park in New York City. The meeting included a carefully selected and diverse group of keynote speakers to fit the theme for the meeting- *The Intersection between the arts, humanities and simulation*. The meeting included cutting edge content presented over three days in a variety of formats with 7 lectures, 18 high quality workshops, 24 round tables and 75 poster presentations. The meeting covered a broad set of topics related to the art and the science of simulation-based education and training applied to pediatric/perinatal medicine. Exciting new formats for interactivity at the meeting included professor poster rounds and "speed networking" sessions. Planning for the 6th annual IPSSW meeting is underway. Next year's meeting will take place in Vienna, Austria in April 2014.

To learn more about IPSS, or to join, the please visit the website at [www.ipedsim.org](http://www.ipedsim.org). The IPSS site is a resource portal devoted entirely to international pediatric simulation and a meeting place for the international pediatric simulation community. Check out the IPSS Conference Center for webinars, town meetings, telecasts and international networking.

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## Teaching in Community Settings

The Teaching in Community Settings SIG is the home and voice in the APA for the community academic pediatrician. We represent all facets of community pediatricians who teach, regardless of setting (private practice, community health center, community hospital and anyone else who teaches outside of the traditional medical school affiliated academic center). We view our role as providing community context to all facets of academic pediatrics. We aid different interest groups and individuals in academic pediatrics in assuring that teaching across all community settings is high quality and beneficial to learners at all levels including medical students, residents (both pediatric and family medicine) and nurse practitioner students. One of the benefits and goals of having quality teachers and role models in the community setting is that learners exposed to these settings will be more likely to pursue a career in community pediatrics.

At last month's PAS meeting in Washington DC, our SIG combined with the Medical Student Education SIG to present an informative and unique program geared toward teachers of medical students in all settings. The first part of the program featured a workshop on using reflection as a tool enhance and enrich teaching during time-limited clinical settings. This portion of the meeting was led by Lavjay Butani, Michele Long and Michael Barone. The second part of the program featured an interactive panel discussion which highlighted best practices, challenges, and opportunities of community based medical student education. The panel consisted of Corki Lehmann, Linda Lewin, Scott Krugman and Chris Peltier.

As we look forward to PAS 2014 in Vancouver, we are interested in again pairing with another SIG in which we could bring a community teaching perspective to the issues that your SIG members encounter. Please contact us if you are interested in teaming up in 2014. Also, if you teach learners in any community setting, we encourage you to join our SIG. Please contact us with any questions or suggestions for future programs and initiatives.

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# Announcements

## Global Health Task Force

The [APA Global Health Task Force](#) provides a forum for communication and collaboration for diverse pediatric academic societies and groups to advance global child health. It responds to the APA Strategic Plan to 'Intensify the APA's efforts in setting the course for achieving child health equity from a national and global perspective'.

The Global Health Task Force includes members from the Academic Pediatric Association, the Association of Pediatric Program Directors, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Canadian Pediatric Society and the Programme for Global Pediatric Research. The Task Force's mission, vision and specific goals are:

Mission: Preparing US pediatric faculty to think and act globally

Vision: Pediatric faculty in US Medical Schools who choose to practice globally will be fully competent and their efforts working towards healthier children in all countries will be academically rewarded.

The specific goals of the APA Global Health Task Force are:

1. Foster collaboration between pediatricians, pediatric subspecialists and pediatric professional organizations and societies to maximally synergize and synchronize faculty development in global health with an eye to achieving child health equity.
2. Create a presence around global health at PAS meetings by sponsoring plenary sessions, short courses and workshops for faculty interested in global health.
3. Develop consensus on faculty competencies needed to provide service, research and teaching in global settings.
4. Develop infrastructure for faculty development in global health to encourage academic routes for faculty who wish to incorporate global health into their careers.

For more information, please contact Ruth Etzel, Chair, Global Health Task Force, at [RETZEL@EARTHLINK.NET](mailto:RETZEL@EARTHLINK.NET)

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## Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Maternal Child Health Bureau

Spotlight from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Maternal Child Health Bureau.

The National Child Death Review Case Reporting System: ***Access to Death Review Data as a Research Opportunity to Save Children's Lives***

Child Death Review (CDR) brings together teams of professionals at the state and community level so that they can systematically share information on the circumstances leading to and causing child deaths. CDR

teams work to identify the risk factors that they can mitigate in order to prevent other deaths. There are now more than 1,200 state and local teams in all fifty states. There is now an opportunity for researchers working to understand and prevent deaths to access the rich data generated by review teams.

The National Center for the Review and Prevention of Child Deaths (NCRPCD), a national resource center for CDR funded by the Health Resources and Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, manages the National Child Death Review Case Reporting System. This system is a standardized, web-based reporting tool and database used by 40 states to record, analyze and report on the case information and findings from their reviews. The reporting tool contains over 1,800 data items including information on the child, caregivers, supervisors, cause and manner of death, risk factors relevant to the death (e.g., whether the child was in proper restraints in the car, whether a pool had a fence, whether the home had smoke alarms, where a baby was sleeping, what factors precipitated a suicide or abuse fatality), and team recommendations for prevention, services, and improvements to agency systems. Participating states have agreements with NCRPCD that protect their data while permitting limited access to de-identified datasets.

NCRPCD has developed policies and guidelines for access to the system's data for use by researchers and government policy makers. NCRPCD encourages researchers to apply to use the data to advance their evidence-based studies in order to prevent future deaths. There are countless topics researchers could potentially investigate to enhance current knowledge about how to keep kids safe and alive. There are limitations on the type of data that can be released and many limitations on the way the data can be analyzed and interpreted. For example, because the database includes only the deaths of children reviewed by CDR teams and not all child deaths, the data cannot be used for population studies. In spite of these limitations, it is a rich source of comprehensive information on child deaths not available through other sources.

For more information and an application packet call the center at 800-656-2434 or E-mail: [info@childdeathreview.org](mailto:info@childdeathreview.org). The center's website is [www.childdeathreview.org](http://www.childdeathreview.org).

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## Remembering Past APA Presidents

In the past four months we have sadly lost three past APA Presidents:

Richard W. Olmsted, MD of Portland, OR was our first APA President. He was chair of pediatrics at Oregon Health Science University. The APA was begun in 1961 to address pediatric outpatient issues. Dr. Olmsted became the first president.

To see a clip of him and the history of the APA, go to

[http://www.academicped.org/aboutUs/history\\_of\\_the\\_apa.cfm](http://www.academicped.org/aboutUs/history_of_the_apa.cfm) click on video (takes time to load). To read more about him: <http://obits.oregonlive.com/obituaries/oregon/obituary.aspx?pid=163699334#fbLoggedOut>

Robert A. Hoekelman, MD of Pittsford, NY was APA's 17<sup>th</sup> President. He was associate dean of the University Rochester Medical School and was chair of pediatrics. He authored Primary Pediatric Care (Textbook of Pediatric Care). To read more about him:

<http://obit.johnsonkennedy.com/obitdisplay.html?task=Print&id=1186913>

George D. Comerici, MD of Tucson, AZ was APA's 18<sup>th</sup> President. He was an associate dean at University of Arizona College of Medicine and helped to establish the field of adolescent medicine. He

was also a previous AAP President. To read more about him:

[http://azstarnet.com/news/local/education/college/george-comerci-founding-member-of-ua-pediatrics-department-dies/article\\_abe790e2-3c35-57f6-98be-a181761d1373.html](http://azstarnet.com/news/local/education/college/george-comerci-founding-member-of-ua-pediatrics-department-dies/article_abe790e2-3c35-57f6-98be-a181761d1373.html)

We owe a debt of gratitude to these inspiring leaders!

Submitted by:

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APA Past President (2008-2009)

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