



# The Aesculapian

A WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE PUBLICATION

DECEMBER 2012  
VOLUME I • ISSUE VII

In November I attended the 2012 Association of American Medical Colleges annual meeting with a number of Wayne State University colleagues. There were many takeaways from the meeting, but in particular I'd like to share with you the address by AAMC Chairman Mark Laret, chief executive officer of University of California - San Francisco Medical Center. His message about how the world of academic medicine must become a hotbed of "radical new thinking" in the face of funding cuts to education, research and patient care certainly strikes what I believe is an appropriate chord for all of us. You can view the video of his message in its entirety at [https://client.blueskybroadcast.com/aamc/am\\_2012/aamc\\_2012\\_leadership\\_pt1/index.html](https://client.blueskybroadcast.com/aamc/am_2012/aamc_2012_leadership_pt1/index.html). His address begins at the 8:45 mark.

We are adapting to these challenging and changing times to continue pushing forward. The new Multidisciplinary Biomedical Research Building is off the drawing board and now a reality with the Oct. 26 ceremonial groundbreaking. Even the weather cooperated with a beautiful day that welcomed a few hundred faculty, dignitaries, university officials and School of Medicine students to mark the launch of WSU's largest project ever. Our Professor of Pediatrics Sylvie Naar-King, Ph.D., spoke of the need for the new facility on behalf of faculty.

Once fully operational in early 2015, the MBRB will house 68 principal investigators and 500 researchers and staff members. While the state will provide \$30 million for the project, we have a goal of raising \$20 million through philanthropy. We all have work to do to raise that money, but I remain confident that we will be successful.

Despite ongoing funding challenges to academic medicine and studies, we have secured several significant private gifts that will support our missions.

The first is a \$1 million gift from Cheryl McKee of Clinton Township. Ms. McKee recently suffered the loss of both of her parents. She is using a portion of an inheritance to establish the Dorothy Ann McKee Endowed Fund for Ovarian Cancer Research, Prevention and Treatment at the School of Medicine. Ms. McKee's only sibling, Dorothy Ann, succumbed to ovarian cancer in 2005 after battling the disease for nine years.

The second, a \$1 million gift from Sindgi Dattu Sastry, Ph.D., and Pushpa Sastry, creates the Sastry Foundation Clinical Neuroscience Endowed Research Fund to support research in the Department of Neurology. The Sastrys, of Bloomfield Hills, are the owners of Jogue Inc., one of the nation's largest developers and producers of flavors and fragrances for food and other products. The funding comes from the Sastry Foundation, an organization the couple founded to give back to the community.

Gifts such as these have become all the more valuable given how challenging securing research grants from federal entities has become.

A third gift benefits our students and supports our mission of educating the finest physicians for Michigan and the country. Mort Harris, a longtime Michigan businessman and supporter of the university, has given a significant financial gift to establish



Medical students with Dean Valerie M. Parisi, Vice Dean Maryjean Schenk and Nancy Schlicting of Henry Ford Health System at the MBRB groundbreaking.

the Mort and Brigitte Harris Endowed Scholarship Fund (Harris Scholars) in the School of Medicine. This gift will provide full-tuition scholarships so that the best and brightest students, and students with financial need, won't have to worry about costs. The long-term impact is not just more doctors with less debt, but thousands of patients receiving care from highly skilled, compassionate and motivated physicians. I'm certain that this commitment will serve as a catalyst that prompts others to help ease the debt load of a medical education.

Please join me in thanking Tracy Muscat, our associate vice president of Development and Alumni Affairs, and her staff, in particular Susan Miller and Lori Robitaille, who were instrumental in securing these gifts. Tracy and her group are not often in the spotlight, but they are on the front lines daily, engaged in securing gifts to support our School of Medicine, our faculty and our research. The momentum of good news often begets additional successes, and we look forward to more as we begin to move into 2013.

We all are representatives of the School of Medicine and it is critical that we are all engaged in development efforts to support our missions.

Valerie M. Parisi, M.D., M.P.H., M.B.A.  
Dean  
Wayne State University School of Medicine



Dean's message  
page 1

Awards & appointments  
page 2-3

Faculty appointments  
page 4

Grants  
page 5

Worth reading  
page 6

Save the date!  
page 6

PAGE  
1

This newsletter is published by the Office of the Dean, Wayne State University School of Medicine.

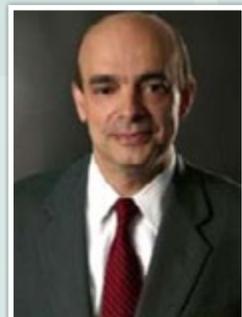


## AWARDS AND APPOINTMENTS

**Adi Tarca, Ph.D.**, a member of the Center for Molecular Medicine at the School of Medicine and director of the Bioinformatics and Computational Biology Unit at the National Institutes of Health's Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development Perinatology Research Branch, and branch Chief **Roberto Romero, M.D.**, placed first in an international computational biology competition.



researcher, Dr. Rosenberg is often sought out by national media as an expert on issues of child psychiatry. He wrote the first ever textbook on pediatric psychopharmacology, "Textbook of Pharmacotherapy for Childhood and Adolescent Psychiatric Disorders," now in its third edition. He is a member of the editorial boards of the Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Psychology Research and Behavior Management, and Biological Psychiatry.



The pair co-authored the work that triumphed over 54 other teams from the United States and Europe in the Industrial Methodology for Process Verification in Research contest organized by Philip Morris International and IBM Research Computational Biology. Their winning work can be applied to predict clinical outcomes from gene expression data, including adverse pregnancy outcomes. The goal of the contest was to assess and verify

computational approaches that classify clinical samples based on transcriptomics data obtained using microarray technologies. The PRB team was named the overall best performing team.

**David Rosenberg, M.D.**, was appointed chair of the Wayne State University Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences effective Nov. 1. The Miriam L. Hamburger Endowed Chair of Child Psychiatry and professor of Psychiatry, Dr. Rosenberg is a 15-year veteran of the School of Medicine faculty and the department. In addition to his role as psychiatrist-in-chief for the Detroit Medical Center, Dr. Rosenberg also serves as the chief of Child Psychiatry and Psychology for the School of Medicine and as director of Child and Adolescent Neuropsychiatric Research at Children's Hospital of Michigan. He is the director of the Obsessive Compulsive Disorder Clinical Research Program and the Child and Adolescent Research Division, as well as medical director for Behavioral Health Research and Development for Children's Hospital of Michigan. A strongly funded and widely published



**Seemant Chaturvedi, M.D., F.A.H.A., F.A.A.N.**, professor of Neurology, was appointed to the American Stroke Association's Guidelines Writing Committee for the Primary Prevention of Stroke. The committee produces the American Stroke Association's most comprehensive document on the treatment of major risk factors for stroke, including hypertension, diabetes, atrial fibrillation and obesity. Dr. Chaturvedi, who also serves as director of the Wayne State University/Detroit Medical Center Stroke Program, helped develop new national guidelines for stroke prevention adopted by the American Heart Association and the American Stroke Association.



### Four faculty members received new awards during the school's Faculty Awards Program on Oct. 18.

**James Meza, M.D.**, assistant professor of Family Medicine & Public Health Sciences, won the Faculty Award for Excellence in Clinical Science Teaching. The award is given to a faculty member who, through long and meritorious teaching of clinical or behavioral sciences, has left a mark of excellence and provided students with a critical understanding of the faculty member's discipline. The award recognizes faculty who have demonstrated excellence in teaching students in the clinical or behavioral sciences over an extended period of time and who consistently serves as an effective and inspiring educator.



*continued next page*





# The Aesculapian

A WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE PUBLICATION

DECEMBER 2012  
VOLUME I • ISSUE VII

**Noreen Rossi, M.D.**, professor of Internal Medicine, received the Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award, which goes to a faculty member who has served as an outstanding mentor to other faculty, and who demonstrates a gift and passion for mentoring faculty. The award is meant to recognize the process by which faculty serve as role models for each other, promoting the professional development of others and creating a supportive, positive working environment.



**Chih Chuang, M.D.**, was named director of the school's Office of Global Health and Education. The assistant professor in the Department of Student and Academic Programs will lead the school's initiative on the development of a School of Medicine Global Health program. Dr. Chuang also plans to develop a Global Health track as a longitudinal curriculum, possibly as part of the Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences' Master of Public Health program, he said. As a student, Dr. Chuang earned the 2006 Gold Humanism Honor Society's Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award. He was named Resident Teacher of the Year, and received the Excellence in Teaching Award.

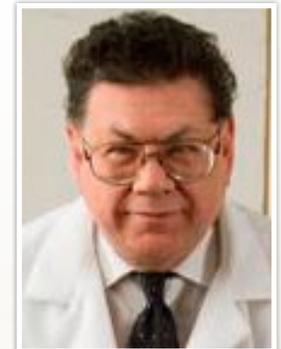


**Gloria Kuhn, D.O., Ph.D.**, professor of Emergency Medicine, received the Women in Medicine and Science Leadership Award. Presented to an individual who has supported and brought recognition to women faculty members or activities for women faculty, the award was created to recognize those who, by their leadership, have specifically promoted the advancement of women faculty members.

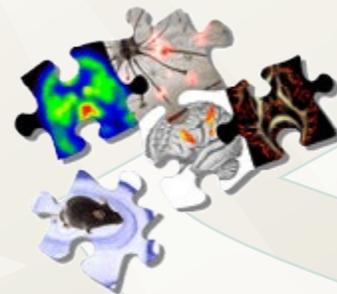
**Bonnie Sloane, Ph.D.**, distinguished professor and chair of Pharmacology, won the Outstanding Research Achievement Award, given to a faculty member in a basic science or clinical department who has made significant and career-long contributions to the advancement of an area of biomedical, behavioral, clinical or medical research. Nominees must have a sustained record of meritorious publication and scholarship, and must have demonstrated a record of nationally and internationally recognized research.



**Nash Boutros, M.D.**, professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences, received the E. Roy John Award for career contribution to Neuropsychiatric Electrophysiology on Sept. 13 at the joint annual meeting of the EEG and Clinical Neurosciences Society, the International Society for Neuroimaging in Psychiatry and the International Society for Brain Electromagnetic Topography. The award is given in recognition of contributions to the understanding of sensory gating or habituation in clinical neurosciences in normal and psychopathological conditions. Sensory gating describes neurological processes of filtering out redundant or unnecessary stimuli in the brain from the environment. Dr. Boutros and colleagues defined the abnormality in schizophrenia patients and the delineation of the neural systems involved in mediating the function.



**Hazem Eltahawy, M.D., Ph.D., F.R.C.S., F.A.C.S.**, assistant professor of Neurosurgery, was selected to become a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons. The distinction recognizes Dr. Eltahawy as one of the preeminent surgeons in the United States. He was previously recognized as a Fellow by the Royal College of Surgeons in England for his work at the National Hospital of Neurology and Neurosurgery in London in 2000-2001.



School of Medicine

Dean's message  
page 1

Awards & appointments  
page 2-3

Faculty appointments  
page 4

Grants  
page 5

Worth reading  
page 6

Save the date!  
page 6

PAGE  
3

This newsletter is published by the Office of the Dean, Wayne State University School of Medicine.



## FACULTY APPOINTMENTS



**Tomomi Ichinose, M.D., Ph.D.,** appointed assistant professor of Anatomy and Cell Biology, and Ophthalmology. Dr. Ichinose received her medical degree in 1989 from the Hamamatsu University School of Medicine in Shizuoka, Japan, and her doctoral degree majoring in Neuroscience and Anesthesiology in 1995 from the Tokyo Medical and Dental University School of Medicine. She completed an anesthesiology internship at Hamamatsu University Hospital, and was an anesthesiologist

at Tokyo Metropolitan Hospital and Shin-Matsudo Chuou Hospital. She also served as an assistant professor at Nippon Medical School in Tokyo. Dr. Ichinose also was a research associate in the Department of Neurology and the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences at the Washington University School of Medicine. From 2011 until joining the WSU School of Medicine in 2012, she was senior scientist in the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences at the Washington University School of Medicine.

**Anupama Reddy Kottam, M.D.,**

appointed assistant professor of Internal Medicine, Division of Cardiology. Dr. Kottam received her bachelor of Medicine and bachelor of Surgery degrees after studying from 1992 to 1998 at Gandhi Medical College in Hyderabad, India. Her post-graduate training includes a residency in Internal Medicine from 2003 to 2007 at Wayne State University/Detroit Medical Center, followed by a WSU/DMC fellowship in Cardiovascular Medicine from 2007 to 2010. She serves as attending physician at the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute and the Detroit Medical Center, and as consulting cardiologist at the University Health Center. She is the liaison of Resident Education for the Division of Cardiology. Her clinical and research interests include non-invasive cardiology; echocardiography, nuclear cardiology and PET Imaging; coronary artery disease; coronary artery ectasia; and geriatric cardiology.



**Roger Pique-Regi, Ph.D.,** appointed assistant professor of Molecular Medicine and Genetics and of the Department of Clinical and Translational Sciences. Dr. Pique-Regi received his bachelor's and master's degree in Telecommunication Engineering in 2002 from the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya in Spain, and his doctoral degree in Electrical Engineering in 2009 from the University of South California. He performed Chicago Fellows post-doctoral work in Human Genetics at the University of Chicago. He has served as a research assistant at the University Politècnica de Catalunya and at Children's Hospital of Los Angeles, Keck School of Medicine. In 2011 he won a Young Investigator Award from the International Congress of Human Genetics. Dr.



Pique-Regi's research seeks to further understanding of the human genome by developing computational methods and statistical models that integrate large datasets.

**Deane Aikins, Ph.D.,** appointed associate professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences and of the Department of Clinical and Translational Science in conjunction with the John Dingell Veterans Affairs Medical Center. Dr. Aikins received his bachelor's degree from Northwestern University in 1992 and his master's in science (1996) and his doctoral degree (1999) from The Pennsylvania State University. He completed training as a neuropsychology fellow at the University of Washington and postdoctoral training at the University of California - Los Angeles. He served as director of the Cognitive Neuroscience Laboratory at the National Center for Posttraumatic Stress Disorders Clinical Neuroscience Division at the Yale School of Medicine. Dr. Aikins is a neuroscience and clinical researcher interested in novel treatments of combat stress disorders, investigating both those who are resilient and those diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder in veterans and military families. He is particularly interested in determining dementia risks in aging veterans. His research focuses on neuroplasticity as a model for conceptualizing traumatic stress responses, risk and resilience models of PTSD and potential approaches for PTSD treatment.





## GRANTS

**Jeffrey Withey, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of Immunology and Microbiology, \$100,000 from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for "Linoleic acid as a preventative and/or therapeutic agent for Cholera."

**Leonard Lipovich, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of Molecular Medicine and Genetics, \$390,683 from the National Institutes of Health for "Removing Statistical Bottlenecks in Data Analysis for the ENCODE Consortium."

**Larry Matherly, Ph.D.**, principal investigator and director of the Cancer Biology Graduate Program, professor of Oncology and Pharmacology, and program leader of the Molecular Therapeutics Program at the School of Medicine and the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute, \$1,199,505 from the National Institutes of Health and the National Cancer Institute to renew the five-year Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award to support six doctoral and M.D./Ph.D. graduate students involved in cancer research.

**Aliccia Bollig-Fischer, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of Oncology, \$30,000 from the American Cancer Society for "Characterization of 5-hydroxymethyl-cytosine in breast cancer."

**Lydia Choi, M.D.**, assistant professor of Surgical Oncology, \$30,000 from the American Cancer Society for "Ultrasound tomography for breast imaging."

**Nicholas Szerlip, M.D.**, assistant professor of Neurosurgery, \$30,000 from the American Cancer Society for "Therapeutic implications of the SUR1/TRPM4 complex: and inducible mechanism of cell death in glioblastomas."

**Guojun Wu, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of Oncology, \$30,000 from the American Cancer Society for "The role of PDGFRs in Foxq1 induced stem cell states and breast cancer metastasis."

**Hayley Thompson, Ph.D.**, associate professor of Oncology, \$1,271,000 from the American Cancer Society for "Improving Post-Treatment Resources for Latina Breast Cancer Survivors."

**Felicity Harper, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of Oncology and Population Studies and Disparities Research, \$50,000 from the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute for "Communication about Lung Cancer Risk and Lung Cancer Prevention Behavior in High-Risk Families."

**Sandeep Mittal, M.D.**, assistant professor of Neurosurgery, \$50,000 from the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute for "Histopathologic and molecular correlates of kynurenine pathway and aryl hydrocarbon receptor activation in primary gliomas and metastatic brain tumors."

**Csaba Juhasz M.D., Ph.D.**, associate professor of Pediatrics and Neurology, \$50,000 from the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute for "Histopathologic and molecular correlates of kynurenine pathway and aryl hydrocarbon receptor activation in primary gliomas and metastatic brain tumors."

**Rouba Ali-Fehmi, M.D.**, professor of Pathology, \$50,000 from the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute for "15-LOX 1/2 as a novel Putative Tumor Suppressor and Potential Prognostic and Therapeutic Marker in Ovarian Cancer."

**David Gorski, M.D., Ph.D.**, associate professor of Surgery, and **Bonnie Sloane, Ph.D.**, distinguished professor and chair of Pharmacology, \$100,000 from the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute for "MicroRNA-130a: A potential biomarker and target in triple negative breast cancer."

**Zenquan Yang, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of Oncology and Breast Cancer Biology, and **Olivia Merkel, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences, \$100,000 from the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute for "Nanoparticle delivery of siRNA targeting the oncogenic histone modifying enzyme GASC1 in breast cancer."

**Gilda Hillman, Ph.D.**, associate professor of Radiation Oncology, \$100,000 from the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute for "Targeting Tumor-Associated Macrophages with PLX3397 to Enhance Radiotherapy of Prostate Cancer."

**Izabela Podgorski, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of Pharmacology, \$100,000 from the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute for "Targeting Tumor-Associated Macrophages with PLX3397 to Enhance Radiotherapy of Prostate Cancer."

**Elisabeth Heath, M.D.**, associate professor of Oncology, \$100,000 from the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute for "Targeting Tumor-Associated Macrophages with PLX3397 to Enhance Radiotherapy of Prostate Cancer."

**Robert Lisak, M.D.**, professor of Neurology and of Immunology and Microbiology, \$357,432 from Questcor Pharmaceuticals for "Mechanisms underlying the protective effects of ACTH on oligodendroglia and neurons."





# The Aesculapian

A WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE PUBLICATION

DECEMBER 2012  
VOLUME I • ISSUE VII

## SAVE THE DATE

DEC  
4

The Office of Student Affairs and the Office of Alumni Affairs presents a Medical Specialty Lunch featuring Obstetrics and Gynecology at noon in Room 1358 of Scott Hall. Lunch will be provided for the first 20 students to arrive. Call 313-577-3587.

DEC  
9

The Detroit Medical Orchestra performs with special guest Detroit Symphony Orchestra first violinist Adrienne Ronmark at 3 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Detroit. Admission is free. A post-concert reception will be hosted by the Wayne State University School of Medicine Alumni Association.

DEC  
24

The holiday break begins Dec. 24 and runs through Jan. 1.

JAN  
4

"Preparing for Annual Review for SOM Faculty and Department Administrators" will teach how to optimize your annual review meeting with your chair or chief by learning how to prepare an effective CV, Faculty Activity Summary and Teaching Grid in an interactive workshop setting. Seminar takes place from 10:30 a.m. to noon in the Margherio Family Conference Center.

JAN  
22

"How to Help Women Faculty Members Advance in Academic Rank," the first in a series of Women in Medicine and Science Luncheons for SOM women faculty, takes place from noon to 1 p.m. in the Margherio Family Conference Center. Call 313-577-7947.

FEB  
6

The Office of Alumni Affairs has invited Thomas Simmer, M.D., Class of 1980, senior vice president of Health Care Value and Provider Affiliation and chief medical officer of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, to speak on health care reform. The presentation will be given in the Green Auditorium at 5:30 p.m. Call 313-993-4179.

## A Nobel laureate will present grand rounds at the Wayne State University School of Medicine on Dec. 6.

**Harald zur Hausen, M.D.**, professor emeritus of the German Cancer Research Center in Heidelberg, Germany, and 2008 Nobel laureate in Physiology or Medicine, will present "The Search for Infectious Agents Causing Human Cancers."

Part of the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute's grand rounds, Dr. zur Hausen's talk will begin at 4:30 p.m. in the Margherio Family Conference Center in the Mazurek Education Commons.

Refreshments will be served beginning at 4:15 p.m. For more information, contact Rhonda Federspiel at 313-576-8670 or [federspr@karmanos.org](mailto:federspr@karmanos.org).

## WORTH READING

After nearly three years of legal and political threats that kept President Obama's health care law in a constant state of uncertainty, his re-election all but guarantees that the historic legislation will survive. Now comes another big hurdle: making it work. The election came just 10 days before a critical deadline for states in carrying out the law, and many that were waiting for the outcome must now hustle to comply. Such efforts will coincide with epic negotiations between Obama and Congress over federal spending and taxes, where the administration will inevitably face pressure to scale back some of the costliest provisions of the law.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2012/11/09/health/states-face-tight-health-care-deadlines.html?ref=health>

With the nation facing a shortage of 90,000 doctors over the next decade, the number and diversity of students applying to and enrolling in medical school saw healthy gains this year, according to data released by the Association of American Medical Colleges. More than 45,000 students (45,266) applied to attend medical school in 2012, an increase of 3.1 percent. First-time applicants, considered to be a barometer of interest in medicine, set another record, increasing by 3.4 percent in 2012, for a total of 33,772 applicants. First-time enrollment at the nation's medical schools grew 1.5 percent to 19,517 students, an all-time high.

<https://www.aamc.org/newsroom/newsreleases/310002/121023.html>



School of Medicine

Dean's message

page 1

Awards & appointments

page 2-3

Faculty appointments

page 4

Grants

page 5

Worth reading

page 6

Save the date!

page 6

PAGE  
6

This newsletter is published by the Office of the Dean, Wayne State University School of Medicine.