

Department of Pediatrics

Department of Pediatrics Faculty Excellence Awards honorees

We are delighted to acknowledge the following individuals for outstanding performance and contributions to our mission over the past year. There were many qualified candidates for the awards and the selection of finalists was exceedingly challenging. Awards were bestowed in each category by rank (assistant professor/instructor; associate professor/clinician; professor/master clinician). Congratulations!

Excellence in Leadership



Irini Kolaitis (Asst Prof, Hospital-Based Medicine) has been a local leader in the Division of Hospital Based Medicine/Department of Pediatrics for several years. She helped open the first dedicated Intermediate Care Unit (IMCU) in Illinois, which successfully launched in February 2019 after several months of planning. To operationalize this unit, she led a large multi-disciplinary team and collaborated with nearly every department at Lurie Children's Hospital. In Spring 2018, she was selected to be the first Associate Division Head of HBM. In this past year, she contributed to the following notable HBM accomplishments: developing the model for a 4th non-teaching General Medicine Service and helping to launch this service in September 2019; transitioning the overnight Inpatient Psychiatry Unit admissions to a HBM moonlighting service; and establishing a new partnership with Shirley Ryan Ability Lab as a consultative service. In addition, she worked to further the division's input into hospital operations, elevated the local and national presence of the division, and enhanced the role and academic productivity of hospitalist faculty by cultivating the unique skill set and expertise of this group.

Sameer Patel (Assoc Prof, Infectious Diseases) serves as the Director of Antimicrobial Stewardship, where he is the major driver for quality improvement and change in the implementation of information technology to steward antibiotic and diagnostic use. He administers and conducts a series of monthly lectures on antibiotic and diagnostic usage, serves as a faculty mentor, contributes to the Lurie Children's Quality Improvement Writers Course, and belongs to a wide range of important committees across the organization. At the national level, he is one of 15 members of a committee to advise the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Epicenters Program on pediatric research priorities in healthcare-associated infections and antimicrobial stewardship. He was one of 30 mid-career adult and pediatric ID specialists to participate in the Infectious Diseases Society of America Leadership Institute. He has lobbied and testified on a state and national level on the risk of antibiotic overuse in farming, and is a member of a national stewardship QI collaborative for antimicrobial stewardship calling for transnational antibiotic resistance reporting to improve pediatric antibiotic stewardship.





Alexis Thompson (Prof, Hematology-Oncology) is a national leader in the field of sickle cell disease and benign hematology. She is currently the Immediate Past President of the American Society of Hematology. In 2019, she received the Gwynne Hazen Cherry Family/Stephen A. Feig MD Endowed Lecturer at UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital. She is a member of the Governance Counsel for a Cure Sickle Cell Initiative at NHLBI. She has regional and national experience on advisory committees for governmental agencies and non-profit organizations on improving healthcare access and increasing workforce diversity. She has given numerous international invited lectures in 2018/2019, and traveled to Africa to

work on a program focused on increasing sickle cell screening throughout the continent. Closer to home, she serves as a coach in the Dept of Pediatrics Office of Faculty Development and is a member of the Diversity and Inclusion Counsel at NUFSM.

Excellence in Education and Mentorship

Karen Mangold (Assoc Prof, Emergency Medicine) is a key educator in her Division, in the Department of Pediatrics, and at NUFSM. As the initial developer and subsequent leader of the McGaw Scholars Program in Medical Education, she offers residents and fellows a broad educational experience that focuses on their specialized interests and anticipated career paths. In her role as Program Director of the Pediatrics Emergency Medicine Fellowship, Dr. Mangold has excelled in shepherding the program into the new era of ACGME competencies and requirements while still maintaining primary focus on the core mission of training excellent and well-prepared future academic pediatric emergency room physicians. She works with many national emergency medicine educational communities to advance the practice of training new physicians.



Michael Carr (Assoc Prof, Cardiology) serves as the Program Director for the Cardiology Fellowship Program, and has elevated the program to new heights, attracting superior candidates from the top residency programs in the country. He serves as a clinical and professional mentor and received the 2019 Outstanding Fellowship Teaching Award. He runs the weekly Cardiology/CV Surgery Case Management Conference, which serves as both an important clinical and education forum for the division. He is also a member of the Lurie Children's Hospital Educational Advisory Board, and assumes multiple roles in the pediatric residency program, including the co-director of resident education for the cardiology division. His efforts in resident education led to him being recognized

by the 2019 graduating class as an outstanding faculty member, and as the recipient of the Robert J. Winter, MD, Outstanding Teacher of the Year award.



Sarah Chamlin (Prof, Dermatology) has displayed significant and impactful education and mentorship over the past year. She has had twelve formal mentoring relationships with seven related publications published or accepted in this timeframe. Dr. Chamlin casts a “wide net” to build these mentoring relationships and turn them into lifetime collaborations. In the education realm, her achievements over this period include: serving as invited lecturer for Lurie Pediatric Surgery Grand Rounds on “Pediatric Surgery and the Dermatologist: Hemangiomas and Vascular Malformations”; visiting professor at the University of New Mexico, where she works to refine Skindex-Teen, a quality of life scale for teens with skin disease; editor of the on-line journal review site *Practice Update*; and immediate past president of the Hemangioma Investigator Group, an international research consortium.

Excellence in Scholarship



Larry Kociolek (Asst Prof, Infectious Diseases) is a member of the Host-Microbial Interactions, Inflammation, and Immunity (HMI3) scientific neighborhood at Stanley Manne Children’s Research Institute. He is currently in the fourth year of his K23 award, which he secured shortly after finishing his fellowship. In January 2019, he was awarded his first independent NIH/NIAID research grant upon its first submission, an R21 to investigate *Clostridium innocuum* as an emerging diarrheal pathogen in children and adults. Also in 2019, he submitted an R03 to NIAID to delineate the *C. difficile* immune response in children and adults. He is highly regarded as a national leader in pediatric healthcare epidemiology and *C. difficile* infections and was one of a dozen experts who was invited to the CDC to work with them to shape a national research agenda. This past year, Larry was awarded the PIDS Feigin Apprenticeship Award, which is a one-year Associate Editor position for the *Journal of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society*.



Michelle Macy (Assoc Prof, Emergency Medicine) was awarded her first R01 from the NICHD, shortly after her arrival at Lurie Children’s Hospital in 2018. Her primary research focus is on eliminating disparities and reducing childhood injuries and deaths from motor vehicle collisions. She is also the research co-lead for the Telehealth Programs, and they submitted two HRSA grant submissions in 2019: The Collaborative Neurology Network for Enhancing Care through Telehealth for Children and Youth with Epilepsy (CONNECT for CYE), and a proposal that will develop educational and quality improvement enhancements to our Emergency Care Connect program as it expands into rural, critical access hospitals throughout Illinois and evaluate outcomes of children in EDs that typically see fewer than five children a day. She has been selected to serve as an Associate Editor for *Academic Emergency Medicine* and co-chair of the Academic Pediatric Association’s Injury Prevention and Control Special Interest Group.



Robert Garofalo (Prof, Adolescent Medicine) has distinguished himself with his leadership and stewardship of a pioneering new journal, *Transgender Health*, numerous high-impact peer-reviewed publications, and recent selection by the American Academy of Pediatrics for the Ellen Perrin Lifetime Achievement Award for LGBT Health. Dr. Garofalo has been a highly productive scholar, not only in transgender health, but HIV prevention science, and the health and well-being of high risk sexual and gender minority youth more generally. In 2019, he added 14 publications to his over 100 peer-reviewed publications and more than 5,500

citations of his work. Here at Lurie Children's he is site principal investigator on the institution's first NIH funded grant focused on substance use (The Great Lakes Node of the Drug Abuse Clinical Trials Network, UG1).