After another successful year in 2016, we are excited to present to you the first edition of The Bulletin, the semi-annual newsletter for the Pediatric Cardiology Fellowship. This newsletter offers an opportunity to see what the fellows have been up to. We are grateful for the support of our program leadership and the cardiology faculty for a great year. More to come!

Recent Publications


Fellowship is an important function of training programs. We as faculty and staff help provide an environment that stimulates the potential of talented, hardworking trainees while channelling their aspirations into results. On this first edition of The Bulletin, we bring to you the semi-annual report of these results. From presentations in national meetings and various awards to funded grants and faculty positions/advanced fellowships over the 2016 cycle, our fellows continue to build a tradition of excellence. We have accomplished much over the year but the most important accomplishment is the solid, collaborative and friendly culture that reigns among the fellows. It is the soul of the fellowship - real fellowship. In addition, Fellows continue to achieve significant personal accomplishments beyond their training. We are thankful to Lora Clark, Crystal Bartel, Sue Denfield, Buck Kyle and the Faculty for their dedication to our program.

- Antonio
Oral Abstracts 2016


AAP: Hitesh Agrawal - Familial clustering of cardiac conditions in patients with anomalous aortic origin of coronary arteries and myocardial bridges.

AAP: Raysa Morales-Demori - Outcomes of hospitalized children with Turner syndrome and congenital heart disease.


AAP: Rob Loar - Echocardiographic prediction of surgical coarctation of the aorta from fetal-to-neonatal periods.

HRS: Rob Loar – Risk of sudden death due to cardiac arrest in pediatric heart transplantation: query of the UNOS database; Young Investigator Award Section.

HRS: Andrew Landstrom – Incidentally identified variants in genes associated with catecholaminergic polymorphic ventricular tachycardia in a large cohort of referrals for clinical whole exome genetic testing.


CHOP: Andrew Landstrom – Novel long QT syndrome-associated missense mutation, L762F, in CACNA1C-encode L-type calcium channel imparts a slower inactivation tau and increased sustained and window current.

Phoenix Fetal Symposium: Lindsay Edwards – Novel congenital heart disease: understanding cardiac and pulmonary interplay.

Posters 2016

PCICS: Gary Dhillon – Cardiac arrests in the cardiovascular intensive care unit, an evaluation of the medical cardiac population: a single-center experience.

AAP: Hitesh Agrawal - Perception of family needs following a diagnosis of congenital coronary anomalies in children: results of a survey.

HRS: Rob Loar - Percutaneous pulmonary valve implantation-associated ventricular tachycardia in congenital heart disease.


HRS: Yukiko Asaki – Arrhythmias and increased thrombus and stroke on Berlin Heart EXCOR support.


ASE: Lindsay Edwards – A pilot study of chronic maternal hyperoxegenation and effect on cerebral and placental vasoregulation and neurodevelopment in fetuses with left heart hypoplasia.

ASE: John Colquitt – Delayed time to peak relaxation as assessed by speckle-tracking echocardiography is a predictor of late graft failure in pediatric heart transplant patients.


Awards/Grants

Joseph Spinner and Chris Broda: 2016 Simmons Mini Collaborative Grant, “Intelligent pulmonary artery band for patients with congenital heart disease.” $25,000

Andrew Landstrom: BCM Pilot Grant, “The role of junctophilin type 2 in cardiac nodal automaticity and the nodal calcium clock.” $50,000

Andrew Landstrom: PACES Paul Gillette Research Award, “The role of Junctophilin-2 in the development of youthful sinus and atrioventricular nodal disease.” $5,000

Kriti Puri: Best abstract at Heart Failure Society Summit.

Lindsay Edwards: Best poster, BCM CVRI symposium.

Lindsay Edwards and Joseph Spinner: Selected attendee, Duke Clinical Research Institute Fellows’ Presentation Skills Course.

In Review: 11 peer-reviewed publications, 13 oral abstracts at national meetings, 10 poster presentations at national meetings, 8 awards/grants
Where To Next?

Advanced imaging  Interventional  Adult Congenital  Advanced Imaging  EP  Critical Care
TCH/BCM  TCH/BCM  Duke  Stanford  TCH/BCM  TCH/BCM

Top left: Jordan Awerbach and Elizabeth Reilley married September 17th; Upper middle: Hannah Beth Spinner born November 12th; Top right: Sherrill Gutierrez and Aaron Caprarola married September 24th; Bottom left: Annual Fellows’ White Elephant Gift Exchange; Bottom middle: Caroline Elise Loar born September 13th; Bottom right: Fellows with Dr. Cabrera at AAP conference, San Francisco, October 2016.

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