

Perspectives

From the Office of Faculty Development



HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL
TEACHING HOSPITAL

Director: Hans Oettgen, MD, PhD; **Associate Director:** Nicole Ullrich, MD, PhD, MMSci; **Basic Science Career Development:** Carla Kim, PhD;

Program Director: Maxine Milstein, MBA; **Editor:** Jill Dobriner, PhD

My Boston Children's Story – Accepting Unexpected Challenges and Meeting Social Needs

By Sharon Levy, MD, MPH, HMS Associate Professor of Pediatrics and BCH Chief, Division of Addiction Medicine

I did my internship and residency in Pediatrics at New York's Bellevue Hospital, a safety net institution that cared mainly for underprivileged families. After serving as a Chief Resident, I was excited to become an Advocacy Fellow in the Department of General Pediatrics here at BCH. I learned a grab bag of research and clinical skills, but not much, or really anything, about substance use, so I was caught off guard when I was offered the opportunity to develop a teen substance use disorders program. I was excited by the challenge of creating something so unique. I enrolled in all the professional training courses I could find and spent the next few decades trying to figure out the best ways to help young people and their families through clinical experience and research. The Adolescent Substance Use and Addiction Program has provided care for thousands of kids and families over the years. But the need goes well beyond what any clinical program can do and so we try to stretch the work by supporting primary care pediatricians to treat substance use disorders in their patients, and by training fellows who will lead the field forward.

As the mother of 3, I practice what I preach. I discussed substance use frequently, honestly, and openly so often with my children when they were growing up that they may have been the only kids that found the topic boring. Imagine how hard it is to look cool while your mother is giving the substance use assembly at your school.

I have been asked whether I have a personal connection to addiction. Until a few years ago, the answer was no. Tragically, in early 2016, a young relative died of an overdose. The event was a shocking reminder of the need to do more. I am so pleased that BCH is leading the nation in this important field.



Sharon Levy, MD, MPH

Directors' Perspectives, by Hans Oettgen, MD, PhD, and Nicole Ullrich, MD, PhD, MMSci

We are spending the summer taking a deep dive into existing faculty development resources and considering potential initiatives for the future. In the fall we will be meeting with the leaders of BCH Departments, Divisions and Programs to assess faculty progress. In preparation for those discussions, the OFD and Health Affairs Data Analytics team has worked hard to create an innovative and effective instrument for the acquisition and maintenance of faculty data. This will facilitate improved analytics related to promotion, retention, race/ethnicity and gender-related issues. We look forward to discussing the outcomes with hospital leaders as well as BCH faculty.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to us regarding any topics that you would like our program to consider in 2023-24. Our best source of program content derives from your minds, of course, and we can meet with any faculty member either virtually or in-person.

As always, the Office of Faculty Development welcomes the new faculty who are beginning their Boston Children's stories this summer and fall. Take a few minutes to review Dr. Levy's career path in her article above.

Enjoy the New England summer!



Hans Oettgen, MD, PhD



Nicole Ullrich, MD, PhD, MMSci

Faculty CV and Career Development Consultations Available

The Office of Faculty Development will continue to offer individual consultations with faculty members on HMS promotion, career trajectory, and CVs. Drs. Hans Oettgen, Nicole Ullrich, and Carla Kim are available for these meetings. To make an appointment, email ofd@childrens.harvard.edu.

Tina Young Poussaint, MD, FACR, Appointed Radiologist-in-Chief

Congratulations to Tina Young Poussaint, MD, FACR, Lionel W. Young Chair in Radiology at Boston Children’s and HMS Professor of Radiology, who has been appointed Radiologist-in-Chief, starting on July 17. In an April 28 announcement to the BCH community, Kevin Churchwell, MD, President and CEO, and Peter Laussen, MBBS, FANZCA, FCICM, Executive Vice President, Health Affairs, highlighted Dr. Poussaint’s excellence in a wide-ranging network of medical activities: “Driven by her love of science and dedication to helping people, Dr. Poussaint’s work has been defined by an extraordinary balance of patient care, teaching, and groundbreaking research. With more than 30 years of service to the Department of Radiology and the Division of Neuroradiology, there are few who understand the inner workings of Radiology — or its foundational importance to the care we provide — better than Dr. Poussaint.” In addition, among her many accomplishments, Dr. Poussaint is the Director of Neurooncologic Imaging and the Director of the Pediatric Brain Tumor Consortium Neuroimaging Center funded by the NIH and located at BCH.



Tina Young Poussaint, MD, FACR

BCH Faculty Elected to American Academy of Arts and Sciences

Congratulations to Elizabeth Engle, MD, HMS Professor of Neurology in the BCH Department of Neurology, and David Pellman, MD, HMS Professor of Cell Biology in the Dana-Farber/Boston Children’s Cancer and Blood Disorders Center, who have been elected to the prestigious American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

In a 5/11/23 memo to the BCH community, Kevin Churchwell, MD, CEO and President, and Nancy C. Andrews, MD, PhD, EVP and Chief Scientific Officer, highlighted their stellar research track records:

Dr. Engle’s research delves into the sources of facial and vision disorders: “Her lab has defined the clinical manifestations and identified the genetic causes of a series of disorders, including various forms of congenital fibrosis of the extraocular muscles (CFEOM), Duane syndrome, facial weakness, and atypical Moebius syndrome. This work has established cranial motor neuron development as a powerful paradigm for the study of neuronal identity and axon growth and guidance.”

Dr. Pellman’s research focuses on genomic duplication: “Dr. Pellman’s laboratory discovered mechanisms explaining catastrophic mutational processes that cause cancer and congenital disease. His group determined that whole genome duplication, the doubling of the cell’s chromosomes because of cell division failure, can promote tumorigenesis. Whole genome duplication is now known to occur at some point during the development of about 40% of human cancers, including almost all childhood osteosarcomas.”



Elizabeth Engle, MD



David Pellman, MD

Congratulations to the following BCH physician-scientists who have been elected to the Association of American Physicians (AAP) in recognition of their extraordinary accomplishments:

Wanda Phipatanakul, MD, MS, Director of the Asthma and Allergy Clinical Research Center at Boston Children’s and the inaugural incumbent of the S. Jean Emans, MD, Professorship of Pediatrics at HMS

Vijay Sankaran, MD, PhD, the Lodish Family Chair in the Division of Hematology/Oncology at Boston Children’s and Associate Professor of Pediatrics at HMS

Akiko Shimamura, MD, PhD, Director of the Bone Marrow Failure and Myelodysplastic Syndrome Program at Boston Children’s and Professor of Pediatrics at HMS

The AAP is an honorary society for the advancement of scientific and practical medicine. Election is extended to less than 100 physicians per year for their outstanding basic or translational research.



Wanda Phipatanakul, MD, MS



Vijay Sankaran, MD, PhD



Akiko Shimamura, MD, PhD

Dr. Frances Grimstad Receives 2023 Prism Award

Congratulations to Frances Grimstad, MD, MS, HMS Assistant Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Biology, who received the BCH 2023 Prism Award which recognizes outstanding service and advocacy for the LGBTQ community at the hospital and in the community. She is the founder of the Boston Children's Reproductive Health Service and is also involved in the Center for Gender Surgery and the Being-U clinic for intersex patients. *See additional information on the BCH Prism Award on p. 4.*



Frances Grimstad, MD, MS

Congratulations to the 2023 OFD/BTREC/CTREC Fellowship recipients!

Esra Abaci Turk, PhD; Instructor in Pediatrics, Newborn Medicine; Assessment of Placental Function before and after laser treatment in twin transfusion

Milena Andzelm, MD, PhD; Instructor in Neurology; Human Genetic Variation in the Central Nervous System Response to Interferon-Gamma

Philip Boone, MD, PhD; Instructor in Pediatrics, Genetics; Genome misfolding in neurodevelopmental disorders

Margaret Chang, MD, PhD; Instructor in Pediatrics, Immunology; Tissue resident memory T cell and stromal cell interactions in the inflamed joint

Ai Wern Chung, PhD; Instructor in Pediatrics, Newborn Medicine; In congenital heart disease, does altered brain connectivity correlate with neurodevelopmental outcomes in infants and executive function in adults?

Jaelyn Davis, MD; Instructor in Pediatrics, Pulmonary; Innovative Care Delivery in Cystic Fibrosis: assessing patient perspectives on the role of telehealth and the impact of remote patient monitoring

Matthias Lambert, PhD; Instructor in Pediatrics, Genetics; Understanding muscle fiber size disproportion in TPM3-related myopathy

Kelsey Miller, MD, EdM; Instructor in Pediatrics, Emergency Medicine; Examining Physician Development Through Emergent, Informal Collaborations with Other Health Professionals

Kévin Moulin, PhD; Instructor in Pediatrics, Cardiology; Myocardial Microstructure in Repaired Tetralogy of Fallot Patients Using Diffusion Tensor MRI

Prathima Nandivada, MD; Assistant Professor of Surgery, General Surgery; Tight junction mediated epithelial barrier dysfunction in Hirschsprung disease

Isdin Oke, MD, MPH; Instructor in Ophthalmology; Newborn Genetic Screening to Improve Equity in the Visual Outcomes of Retinoblastoma Survivors

Lara Wahlster, MD, PhD; Instructor in Pediatrics, Hematology-Oncology; Mapping Genetic Predisposition to Pediatric B-Cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia

Allison Wu, MD, MPH; Instructor in Pediatrics, GI-Nutrition; Intervening in Food Insecurity to Reduce and Mitigate (InFoRM) Childhood Obesity

Daniel Zeve, MD, PhD; Instructor in Pediatrics, Endocrinology; The role of aging on human intestinal stem cell function

Yanjia (Jason) Zhang, MD, PhD; Instructor in Pediatrics, GI-Nutrition; Microbially derived lipids in a mouse model of obesity

SAVE THE DATE! Tuesday 9/12/23; Live at Folkman Auditorium and via Zoom
Special event on recent book exploring pivotal actions that pertain to institutional gender discrimination

Making History: The Exceptions: Nancy Hopkins, MIT, and the Fight for Women in Science by Kate Zernike

Panel begins at 4 PM, Meeting panelists and book signing starting at 5:30 PM

Panelists:

Nancy Hopkins, Amgen Professor Emerita of Biology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

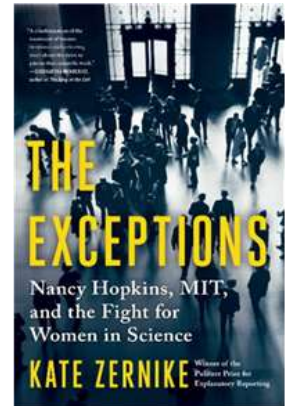
Kate Zernike, National Correspondent for New York Times

Marcia McNutt, President, National Academy of Sciences

Robert Birgeneau, Chancellor Emeritus, UC Berkeley

Nancy Andrews, Executive VP, CSO at BCH; Home Secretary, National Academy of Sciences

Moderated by Eman Ansari, Division of Emergency Medicine, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, HMS



Hosted by the Office of the Executive Vice President and Chief Scientific Officer, the Office of Faculty Development, the Office of Health Equity and Inclusion, the Division of Emergency Medicine, the Emergency Division Book Club, and the Network Community of Care Program.

Space will be limited. Zoom registration details to follow.

The Book:

<https://www.simonandschuster.com/books/The-Exceptions/Kate-Zernike/9781982131838>

Copies of the book will be available at the Boston Children's Hospital library, local public libraries, and from standard vendors. For assistance in borrowing a copy, please contact: jill.dobriner@childrens.harvard.edu

Updates from the BCH Office of Health Equity and Inclusion

Diversity, Inclusion and Community Partnership Faculty Fellowship Awardees (2023-2025):

Jessica Addison, MS, MD, MPH, Attending Physician, Division of Adolescent/Young Adult Medicine, Co-Medical Director, Boston HAPPENS, Department of Pediatrics, Boston Children's Hospital, Instructor of Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School. Project title: *Retention of Care in Adolescents and Young Adults Living with HIV Who Are Engaged in a Multidisciplinary Healthcare Program*

Medina Jackson-Browne, PhD, MPhil, MS, Scientist, Boston Children's Hospital, Member of Faculty of Pediatrics, HMS. Project title: *Associations between Perfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Exposure and Aeroallergen Sensitization among Infants at High-Risk for Developing Asthma*

2023-2024 Pediatric Health Equity Grant Recipients:

Faye Holder-Niles, MD, MPH, Division of General Pediatrics, Co-Chair Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Council, Ethics Advisory Committee, Medical Director, Community Primary Care, Director, Primary Care Asthma Program, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, HMS. Project title: *Enhancing Care Excellence and Equity in Ethics Services*

Mia Taylor Chandler, MD, MPH, Rheumatology Section, Division of Rheumatology; Instructor in Pediatrics, HMS, Attending Physician, Rheumatology Section, Division of Immunology. Project title: *Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis and School-Related Concerns*

2023 Prism Award Winners

The Prism Award celebrates individuals who make a significant difference in the Boston Children's Community and beyond through advocacy, public policy, clinical care, and/or research to support the LGBTQ+ community. The 2023 Prism awardees are:

Frances Grimstad, MD, MS, Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecologist, Boston Children's Hospital, Assistant Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Biology, Harvard Medical School, and **Lee Prunier**, Ambulatory Supervisor, Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine, Boston Children's Hospital.

Basic Science Corner, by Carla Kim, PhD, Professor of Genetics and Pediatrics, OFD Basic Science Career Development Director

I wish a warm welcome to all of our new faculty. In my role as Director, Basic Research Career Development, I am available if you wish to meet one-to-one to discuss any aspect of your faculty career, whether you are a new faculty member or already established in your trajectory. Chiefs and Chairs, please connect me with faculty who could benefit from interacting with me or other faculty mentors outside of your division. We all need multiple mentors and sponsors in our careers. Please email ofd@childrens.harvard.edu to arrange an appointment this summer.

Laboratory Leadership Program for Lab-based Research Faculty: The objective is to form a close-knit, inclusive community of BCH basic research faculty aligned around the purpose of enhancing skills related to running a lab such as leadership skills, personnel management, and preparing for career advancement. The course will kick off with a 1-day event in-person (November 6, 2023), which will include focused sessions on Leadership topics led by BCH faculty and staff, followed by monthly sessions. The Request for Applications will be available in late July.

Monica Kleinman, MD, Appointed as BCH Chief Safety Officer

Congratulations to Monica Kleinman, MD, HMS Associate Professor of Anesthesia, who has been named Boston Children's Chief Safety Officer; in a 6/30/23 memo to the BCH community, Dr. Kevin Churchwell, CEO and President, highlighted Dr. Kleinman's commitment to ensuring the best possible outcomes for patients: "As one of the founders of our commitment to be a High Reliability Organization, Dr. Kleinman brings unmatched expertise, experience and passion to one of our most important enterprise goals — delivering the safest, highest-quality care, an optimal patient and family experience, and superior outcomes for all those we care for."



Carla Kim, PhD



Monica Kleinman, MD

News from the Sandra L. Fenwick Institute for Pediatric Health Equity and Inclusion

Annapurna (Ann) Poduri, MD, MPH, was awarded the inaugural Fenwick Institute Research Seed Grant. The two-year Seed Grant aims to improve the understanding of factors contributing to the inadequate participation of underrepresented and/or underserved populations in research studies and ultimately to inform interventions to increase the diversity of study populations in pediatrics.

Dr. Poduri's project is titled "Improving Access to precision medicine for Patients with Epilepsy from populations underrepresented in biomedical research." Dr. Poduri and her team will utilize the grant funding to expand the reach of their epilepsy genetics efforts to offer research enrollment and answers to a greater number and diversity of patients throughout the BCH community and the region. Dr. Poduri will mentor a college student from a group identified as underrepresented in the biomedical, clinical, behavioral, and social sciences in completing an aspect/portion of this funded research project during the summer of 2024.



Annapurna Poduri, MD, PhD

Wellness Tip – Take a Slow Day

We live in a culture that encourages and rewards the constant rush of adrenaline as we hustle from work to home, engaging with a constant stream of activities. To balance the rush, designate at least one day per week as a Slow Day. In Somerville, Tai Chi teacher Tarsha Bethel-Stacke introduced a sequence by emphasizing that the technique is best approached through relaxation: “it is not how fast you go, but how relaxed you are.” This Tai Chi mantra can guide you in the designated Slow Day.

- If you like, begin the day with a gentle exercise routine, in-person or virtual. Remind yourself that the day will not be competitive but mindful.
- A weekend or vacation Slow Day can be dedicated to a long walk. Try to avoid any route that might release your hustle instincts; instead, find an alternative that can prompt you to explore and take notice of nature or new landmarks/shops. To slow down your steps, load a backpack with books – perhaps a library visit can be your first stop. A weighted vest can also be used, if needed.
- Enjoy the long walk and leave the mobile in the backpack. If you are in a park, track the seasonal plants and gardens. If you are exploring a neighborhood, drop in to local shops. Bookstores, health food stores, and artisan shops offer a soulful reprieve from big box shopping. While the Slow Day is not intended to bring about a purchasing spree, buying small items, like teas or books, can be refreshing.
- Close the day with your own version of a tea ceremony and collapse into a comfortable chair for a reading session. Note in a journal your Slow Day’s insights.

Make Monday Magical – Start the Week by Practicing Kindness

It might seem odd to initiate a kindness practice at home and at work, but often intentional acts or behaviors are needed. While it is not necessary to pay for a stranger’s coffee at Starbucks, there are some simple gestures that can both help someone else and also benefit your mood. Generosity seems to have a bounce-back effect.

- As children prepare for their day, ask them who they can help out: does a neighbor need assistance with a chore? Does a friend seem sad or depressed? Guide family members in practical ways to extend kind gestures. Sometimes just offering compliments to someone can help.
- In your own routine, recognize the efforts of colleagues. Does a team member seem overwhelmed? Provide support or guidance on how to receive assistance. A few gracious words can also go a long way.
- Front-line staff anywhere are placed in pressurized environments. As always, patience, gratitude, and eye-contact from you to them humanizes the mercantile process; the cashier is not a machine.
- We all have difficult days; being kind to yourself ought to be part of the kindness practice. Insert whatever provides a cup of joy into your schedule.



Where the world comes for answers



A few items in the new Time Capsule

News from the Archives: by Katie Loughrey, MLIS

The Archives Committee is pleased to announce that in April we sealed a time capsule in the new Hale Family Building’s Wolbach Atrium. The capsule aims to capture the impactful events and general culture of our community from 2020 to 2022. Materials include photographs, paper records, and an array of artifacts including various PPE, an empty Moderna vial from one of the hospital’s first COVID-19 vaccine lots, the first LGBTQ+ and transgender pride flags flown at the hospital from 2018-2021, and a Boston Children’s team singlet from the 2021 Boston Marathon. It is to be opened in 2089, a year that commemorates the 175th anniversary of our Longwood Avenue campus; 200 years since the opening of the Children’s Hospital School of Nursing; and the hospital’s 220th year of caring for kids and their families from Boston and all around the world.