

Spring 2020

PROGRESS NOTES

NEWSLETTER of the UVA MD/PHD PROGRAM

SPECIAL EDITION for 2020 2nd LOOK

MATCH DAY 2020

Interviews with matching students

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

How program, students are responding

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MSTP

The University of Virginia Medical Scientist Training Program

UVA MSTP 4TH YEAR MEDICAL STUDENTS MATCH TO TOP U.S. PROGRAMS, LOOK FORWARD TO RESIDENCY

By Jessica N. Little

Bert Cortina – Anesthesiology at Duke University in Durham, NC



Bert hiking in the Blue Ridge.

Bert is from Poquoson, Virginia and received his undergraduate degree from the College of William & Mary. He completed his Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering in Dr. Peter Kasson's lab, where he identified mutations that altered antibiotic resistance using computational modeling techniques, and then verified them on the bench.

J: Why did you choose anesthesiology?

B: Once third year rotations completed, anesthesiology really stood out. It was both clinically interesting for me and there were a lot of great questions around the use of data science and artificial intelligence.

J: Why did you feel Duke's program was a good fit for you?

B: UVA helped me set up part of my fourth year at Duke doing research after I had found a potential collaboration. During that time, I became really familiar with the program. Additionally, Duke

has an accelerated anesthesiology clinical training program that then allows for increased research. The combination of complex cardiothoracic surgery cases with the option to continue my research both really drew me to the program.

J: How has the UVA MSTP supported you in meeting your goals?

B: The MSTP has been so supportive of my training throughout. For instance, when I asked if I could spend part of my fourth year away at Duke, they not only said yes but helped me set everything up. The medium size of the program means that all of us are very close. Through my time, I've been able to find great advice from people in the years ahead and helped those in the years behind.

J: What are you most excited about doing as a resident?

B: I am really excited for my transplant cases. Transplant was one of my favorite third year rotations at UVA and [I] can't wait to participate.

Allissia Gilmartin – Pediatrics-Medical Genetics at UC Irvine in Irvine, CA

Allissia is from South Burlington, Vermont and received her undergraduate degree from the University of Virginia (soon to be a Triple Hoo!). She completed her Ph.D. in the Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Cancer Biology under the direction of Dr. William Petri. Her lab discovered that *Entamoeba histolytica* kills human cells by nibbling them to death in a process called trophocytosis; Allissia found that amebic lysosomes and cysteine proteases play a key role in this process. Allissia lives with her dog Pippin, a Sheltie mix.

J: Your specialty may not be well known to everyone. How did you make the choice?

A: All of my research background is in infectious diseases, so I thought I would end up in pediatric or adult infectious disease. But when I did a pediatrics genetics rotation I knew I had found the perfect specialty for me. I really enjoyed the longitudinal physician-patient-family relationships that our Pediatric Geneticists developed as our patients grew up, and I was really excited about the opportunities for translational research.



Allissia with friends on the C'ville downtown mall.

J: What are your best memories of your time in Charlottesville and the UVA MSTP?

A: Some of the highlights were my MSTP, med school and lab families, hiking Old Rag and the waterfalls at White Oak Canyon, lazy weekend afternoons at the wineries around Cville, eating way too much food during Restaurant week, working in the lab and the field in Bangladesh with our awesome collaborators, visiting the Taj Mahal with my labmates after a conference, swimming through caves in Belize and climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro with my fellow MSTPers.

J: What are you looking forward to the most about residency?

A: I'm so excited to put all of my MSTP training into practice!

Angela Zeigler – Pediatrics at Yale in New Haven, CT

Angela is from Clemson, South Carolina and received her B.S. in Chemistry from Furman University. She completed her Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering in Dr. Jeffrey Saucerman's lab, where she studied how fibroblasts respond to the changing chemical environment during wound healing in the heart by computationally modeling fibroblast signaling.

J: Why did you decide to apply for pediatrics? Was it a hard decision for you?

A: I was torn between pediatrics and surgery, but ultimately it came down to being much more interested in the mundane parts of pediatrics than in the mundane parts of surgery. Basically, I find working with kids/families and the physiology of pediatric illness much more interesting and rewarding than adult medicine. I will likely go into a procedural based specialty like PICU.

J: Why did you choose to rank Yale?

A: I meshed really well with the people at Yale. Yale gives its residents a lot [of] clinical independence because they spend some time at community hospitals with no fellows, and Yale's research strength lies in ethics and access to care which I'm hoping to get in to.

J: What professional experiences have been meaningful to you during your time in the MSTP?

A: Faculty at UVA have really opened up opportunities for me to be flexible. I got to spend time in another lab during the end of my PhD. I got to round a lot in the PICU during graduate school and leave lab early to volunteer at the free clinic. I got to do work on a great translational project with a NICU research group during my fourth year of medical school.

J: What are you most excited about doing in the next several years of your residency?

A: I'm excited to be a doctor! Knowing I'm going to have some responsibility is exciting - I feel ready.



Angela with a patient support dog.

Scott Seki – Anesthesiology at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, PA

Scott is from Honolulu, Hawaii and received his undergraduate degree from Stanford University. He completed his Ph.D. in Neuroscience in Dr. Alban Gaultier's lab, where he studied the metabolic proclivities and vulnerabilities of immune cells participating in central nervous system destruction. Scott lives with his wife Lydia Zodda, whom he met at Stanford, and his Pomeranian-Corgi mix Mugen, who he adopted from the Charlottesville SPCA in 2013.

J: What attracted you to the field of anesthesiology?

S: I want to have a clinical and research career oriented around optimizing the perioperative experience, especially with regards to pain management. I also enjoyed the very hands-on, procedural nature [of anesthesiology], and being the patient advocate throughout the surgery.

J: Looking back on your time in the MSTP, what have been your most memorable experiences?

S: Medical students at UVA are wonderful people. They helped drag [me] through the first few clerkships after returning from Ph.D. world and I ended up making a lot of really good friends. Outside of the hospital, there are lots of patches of green that are nice to sit on or run around in with pets.

J: Why would you encourage people to consider moving to Charlottesville?

S: Charlottesville is a community that you can be a part of and do things for...[it is] easier to set down roots and be perceived as a member of the community than in a big city.

J: What are you looking forward to most about starting residency?

S: Practicing anesthesiology!



Scott and Mugen.

Jacqueline Stevens – Preliminary Year in Internal Medicine at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center; Dermatology at Harvard Combined Program, in Boston, MA

Jacqueline is from Burlington, Vermont and also received her undergraduate degree from the University of Virginia! She completed her Ph.D. in the Microbiology, Immunology and Cancer Biology Department under the direction of Dr. Alison Criss. She studied neutrophilic inflammation initiated by gonococcal-endocervical cell interaction, finding that *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* stimulates proinflammatory lipid production and release from cervical epithelial cells and human neutrophils to promote neutrophil migration across the cervix to the bacteria.

J: What drew you to the field of dermatology?

J: I love thinking about, diagnosing, and researching inflammation at epithelial cell barriers, so dermatology is a natural fit for my clinical and scientific interests!

J: What have been your favorite experiences in Charlottesville?

J: I have loved hiking and exploring Charlottesville restaurants with friends and colleagues. Me and my dog Lilly have had a great time in this town!

J: Why should students consider moving to Charlottesville to join our MSTP?

J: Our program is supportive and tight-knit, and Charlottesville is a fabulous place to spend time during the MD-PhD!

J: What opportunities are you most excited about taking on as a resident?

J: Getting involved in health care policy, becoming a good clinician, and learning dermatology!



Jacqueline and Lilly.

Annie Carlton – Internal Medicine at the University of Chicago in Chicago, IL

Annie has lived in New York, Maine and Atlanta, GA, and received her undergraduate degree from Bates College in Lewiston, Maine. She completed her Ph.D. in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics, under the direction of Dr. John Bushweller. She studied the role of CBF β in ovarian cancer, finding that inhibition of CBF β /RUNX interaction decreased ovarian cancer cell growth.

J: What are your favorite memories from your time in Charlottesville?

A: I have enjoyed getting to know my fellow MSTPs and spending time hiking around Charlottesville!

J: Why would you encourage students to consider joining the UVA MSTP?

A: Charlottesville is a fun and easy place to live, especially if you like the outdoors.



Annie sea-side.

2020 Match Results

Name	Institution	Specialty
Anne Carlton	University of Chicago	Internal Medicine
George Cortina	Duke University	Anesthesiology
Allissia Gilmartin	University of California-Irvine	Pediatrics-Medical Genetics
Scott Seki	Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania	Anesthesiology
Jacqueline Stevens	Massachusetts General Hospital	Dermatology
Angela Zeigler	Yale New Haven Hospital	Pediatrics

By Jessica N. Little

The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the lives of people worldwide in an unprecedented way, and we at the University of Virginia and the Medical Scientist Training Program are no exception. The willingness of our community to adopt necessary social distancing measures has helped to contain the virus in our area. Nevertheless, these changes have presented challenges to medical and graduate students alike as they strive to continue their work from home and online. Many find that it is important during this time to not simply press on with business as usual, but to take a step back and reconnect to family, friends, and our larger community.

Katie Kraichely is one of the newest members of our MSTP class and had almost finished her first year of medical studies before she was confronted with a move to exclusively online education.

“I’ve been trying to maintain a little structure to my days,” Katie noted. “I listen to lectures in the morning, study in the afternoons, and take a break after dinner. Lectures and problem sets are pretty much unchanged, but it’s challenging to learn neuroanatomy online!”

Katie has also taken this opportunity to brush off her New Year’s resolutions, getting back into jogging and trying to revive her garden. She is participating in a program connecting MSTP students to isolated senior citizens, through a pen-pal program started by one of our members.

“I’ve been really inspired by all the efforts of medical students to help our community during this time”, Katie recognized.

Blair Towers, a second year MSTP student, was just transitioning from medical school basic science courses to start work in her lab. She is also participating in the pen-pal project; she hand-made ladybug themed cards for senior residents at Westminster-Canterbury Retirement Center, where her grandparents also reside.

“In addition to writing letters for residents at WMC, I have been spending time with my family, getting back into mountain biking, and working on a review on sex differences in addiction with my PI [Dr. Wendy Lynch]” Blair mentioned.

UVA medical and graduate students are giving back to the Charlottesville community in many ways, including sewing and creating masks and other personal protective equipment, gathering medical supplies, thanking faculty and administrators through creative works, and organizing coffee drives for healthcare workers. Brandon Podyma, a second year graduate student, is volunteering with the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank.

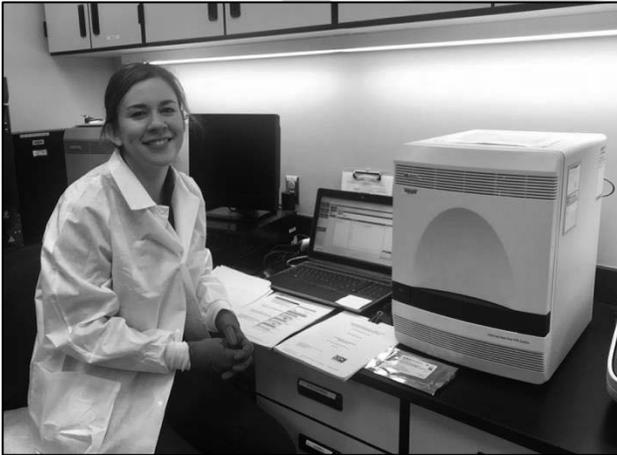
“I’ve been helping sort through donated food for quality control and pack boxes of non-perishables for distribution to seniors and the community,” Brandon reported. “I will help distribute food over the next few weeks.”



Blair Towers with cards she made for community senior citizens.

Some students are working to combat the pandemic head-on, participating through their laboratories in efforts to identify, understand, and treat the effects of the virus on patients. Bert Cortina, a fourth-year medical student, has spent the year at Duke University, where he will be starting the anesthesiology residency research track program in the fall. Working in the Duke Institute for Health Innovation (DIHI), his research focuses on predicting post-operative patient decompensation and death in cardiothoracic step-down units, with the goal of implementing an early-warning system.

“DIHI has also been involved in adapting these projects to the COVID response”, Bert tells us. “The institute has launched a data driven clinical trial, and I have been helping with COVID data analysis in different capacities. It is my hope that models like mine can be adapted to aid the decision on whether COVID patients need admission or can stay home.”



Carol Rowley calibrating a PCR machine for COVID patient testing.

Carol Rowley, a 4th year graduate student who will defend her thesis next week, had a unique opportunity to contribute to COVID-19 scientific efforts – the UVA Clinical Microbiology lab used her lab’s (Dr. Melissa Kendall’s) real-time PCR machine to start the first COVID testing at UVA, because it was the only model that met CDC requirements.

“I was able to help the Microbiology lab calibrate the machine and set up a template to run patient samples for COVID testing,” Carol explained.

Students on the MSTP Scientific and Clinical skills committees are working to create a “COVID-19 Mini-Symposium” slated for this spring, where MSTP students will educate each other on the viral mechanisms of COVID-

19 infection, host responses, and clinical presentations of patients exposed to the virus.

“We envision this as a relatively peer-driven exercise where the varied expertise of our trainees can educate the rest of us on various topics relevant to SARS-CoV-2/COVID,” Sarb Nagdas, of the Scientific Committee, explained.

Still other MSTP students are using this time to reconnect with family and pick back up old hobbies that may have fallen by the wayside in busy clinical and research times. Dan Hess is currently residing at his parent’s house in Augusta, GA and has been able to spend time with his mother through their shared interest in woodworking.

“It’s been a great way to spend time and bond with my mom during the quarantine... making gifts for friends and family,” Dan mused. “A few things we’ve made together are wine racks, beer caddies and planters,”



Planters and caddies made by MSTPer Dan Hess.

Dan also made some beautiful cards for our pen-pal project, using his little sister's watercolor paintings.

"On a less serious note, this weekend I threw it back to the late 90s, busted out my lego stockpile, and got lost in a 'build.'"

Many students are working hard to continue their research and clinical projects while quarantined, including learning new computational skills. Dane Sessions, who just completed his first year of graduate school, is preparing for his qualifying exam, taking classes using the Zoom platform, and spending time with his wife and his dog.

"After qualifying, I'd like to put some effort into expanding my statistical assessment skills in R, for once I'm able to get back in the lab," Dane explained. "Personally, my wife and I have been showing our dog Darwin a ton of attention – dogs are the real winners of COVID!"

Dane says he is also enjoying cooking new recipes, such as baking sourdough bread from a sourdough starter he cultured at home.

"It failed miserably," he admitted.

Yet in true MSTP spirit, he plans to keep up the effort.

HeeJin Cheon, who is beginning her second graduate year, has also picked up a new hobby with already considerable success – acrylic painting, in addition to expanding her skillset.

"I'm taking three online classes and auditing two bioinformatics classes while I prepare for my candidacy exam, and trying to still make progress on my research!"

It comes as no surprise that UVA MSTP students are responding to this crisis with creativity, compassion, ingenuity and good humor. Perhaps most importantly, they are willing to admit that this is a challenging time, and to come together to face those challenges head-on.

Angela Zeigler, a fourth-year medical student who recently matched to pediatrics at Yale, is spending her time working on publications, running, reading, baking bread, and face-timing her new nephew.

"Honestly," Angela wisely acknowledged, "I am trying not to go crazy!"



Acrylic painting by student HeeJin Cheon.

UVA MSTP RECEIVES GENEROUS ENDOWMENT



The UVA MSTP thanks Drs. Vesna Jevtovic-Todorovic and Slobodan Todorovic (former Professors of UVA Department of Anesthesia and neuroscience investigators, now on faculty at the University of Colorado, Denver), who have enthusiastically agreed to provide ongoing support specifically earmarked for our MD/PhD-program.

This recent good news comes after a series of highly productive conversations with Drs. Jevtovic-Todorovic and Todorovic, coordinated through the effort of Barry Collins (Executive Director of the UVA Medical Alumni Association).

Critically, their generous gift will support specific initiatives, each of which meets the benefactors' overall goal of augmenting existing School of Medicine support to attract and train the nation's top MD/PhD candidates.

The initiatives will include the following:

1. **The Jevtovic-Todorovic MD/PhD Travel Award**
2. **The Jevtovic-Todorovic MD/PhD Clinical Skills Program**
3. **The Jevtovic-Todorovic MD/PhD Distinguished Physician-Scientist Lectureship**
4. **The Jevtovic-Todorovic MD/PhD Teaching Award (and ceremony)**
5. **The Jevtovic-Todorovic Outstanding MD/PhD Candidate Award**



AMERICAN PHYSICIAN SCIENTIST ASSOCIATION (APSA) AT UVA UPDATES



By Heejin Cheon, UVA APSA President

The American Physician Scientists Association (APSA) Local Chapter at the University of Virginia seeks to foster and facilitate the development of students pursuing careers in science and medicine. Through close collaboration with the Medical Scientist Training Program, APSA will provide information and opportunities for any student interested in learning about career paths in translational medicine and scientific innovation. UVA APSA supports a variety of committees which are all student-led.



Mark Rudolf and Anson Chen register guests at the 2018 South Atlantic Medical Scientist Meeting hosted by the UVA APSA Chapter at UVA.

This year, Diversity Committee has hosted a lunch session open to MSTP students to provide a safe, respectful space to share triumphs and tribulations that may be related to life as an MD/PhD student.

UVA APSA board members are also organizing a career/speaker event for this upcoming July retreat to explore PSTP (Physician Scientist Training Program) options during residency training. We are thrilled to have former Johns Hopkins PSTP residency director, **Dr. Kathleen Burns**, who is now at Dana-Farber, to come join us for our retreat. Additionally, in close collaboration with AFFIRM, we invited **Dr. Linda Resar** from Johns Hopkins for a talk this October. Dr. Resar is a strong advocate for women in science and we are excited to host her. Stay tuned!

Spring 2020 APSA Leadership Team

President	Heejin Cheon	Diversity Committee	Bri Wilson
Vice President	Chris Henderson	Events Committee	Dane Sessions
Treasurer	Dane Sessions	Medical Student Outreach	Ryan Mulligan & Sahi
Secretary	Blair Towers	Regional Conference	Jeff Xing
Clinical Skills	Amanda Ward	Scientific Committee	Adi Narahari & Chris Henderson
Communications	Mark Rudolf		

THROUGH “GRANT BREWING” SESSIONS, MSTP TRAINEES DRAFT F30 PROPOSALS

By Sarb Nagdas and Adi Narahari

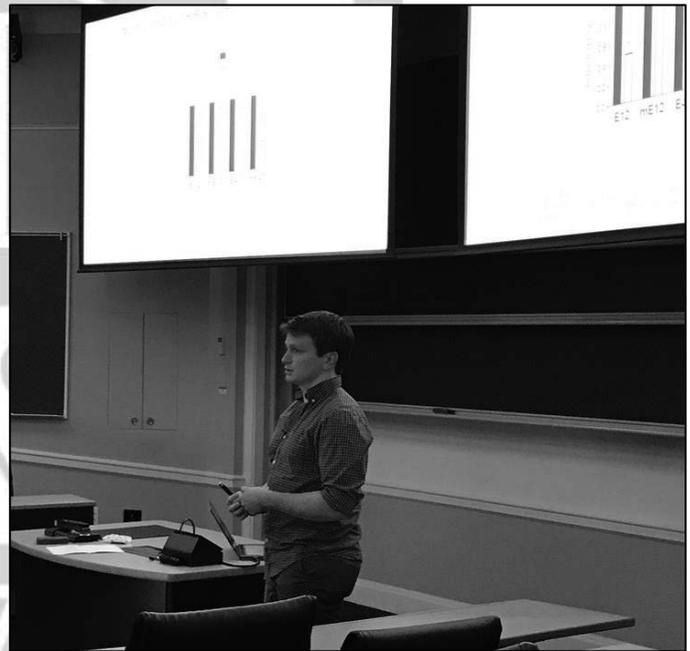
While grant season brings meticulous figure making, furious writing, and copious cups of coffee, the MSTP is helping our trainees brew up extramural funding success with input from our peers. Over the past few years, the UVA MSTP Scientific committee has been hosting Grant Brewing sessions to provide another set of eyes and ears prior to submission.

The MSTP as part of the official curriculum already offers courses that provides students with the opportunity to write research aims as well as conduct a mock grant review panel during the initial phases of training. While this exercise is viewed as extraordinarily beneficial, students inevitably supplemented this training experience with critiques from friends when it came time for their own grant submission. To better organize this and expand the number of peers who could help the students, the Scientific Committee started Grant Brewing sessions before each of the three NIH F30/31 submission deadlines.

Any students who are submitting during a cycle are invited to take part in a session. Applicants send their Specific Aims page and prepare one overview figure to help applicants gain feedback on their grants. Beyond providing individualized advice on a grant’s scientific proposal, we also discuss other components of the application. While these sessions are student-led, some of the various PI’s join to provide valuable insight. With over 15 students having extramural funding and many others having submitted in previous cycles, there were plenty of friendly peer voices with experience who could offer advice to current applicants.

These Grant Brewing Sessions have not only benefited students applying during any given submission. Our younger trainees gain early insight into the totality of the fellowship grants process and our more experienced trainees gain mentorship experience and are able to give back to the MSTP community at large. And in the end, we all will cheers with our favorite brew!

Please contact the Scientific Committee Co-Chairs Adi Narahari (akn4uq@virginia.edu) and Chris Henderson (cah5vj@virginia.edu) if you have any interest in joining the committee or any questions!



Grant Brewing sessions helped Chris Henderson obtain an F30 award from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute.

by Sarah Wang

Advocates for Females in Research and Medicine (AFFIRM) is a student run organization with the mission of addressing the specific needs of women MSTP trainees at the University of Virginia. As a group we would like to increase the awareness of the challenges and inequalities women face in the medical sciences, prepare members for successful careers, and develop a network of current students, alumni, and physician scientist mentors. In the past, we have hosted career panels and keynote speakers including Dr. Vivian Pinn and Dr. Andrea Cox. This coming fall we are looking forward to a seminar with Dr. Linda Smith-Resar, a female physician scientist from John Hopkins trained in pediatric hematology-oncology. We often work with the Women in Medical Sciences (WIMS) program in the Graduate School to host and advertise events.



AFFIRM members with Dr. Vivian Pinn in front of her namesake, Pinn Hall.

In addition to these formal presentations, AFFIRM is dedicated to creating a sense of community through social events, including an annual holiday dessert party. Please be on the lookout for future emails regarding Zoom get togethers during this time of social distancing and a Welcome Event this July when our newest members join us. If anyone would like further information about AFFIRM or to be added to our listserv please email Sarah Wang at scw5dn@virginia.edu.



Annual Holiday Party

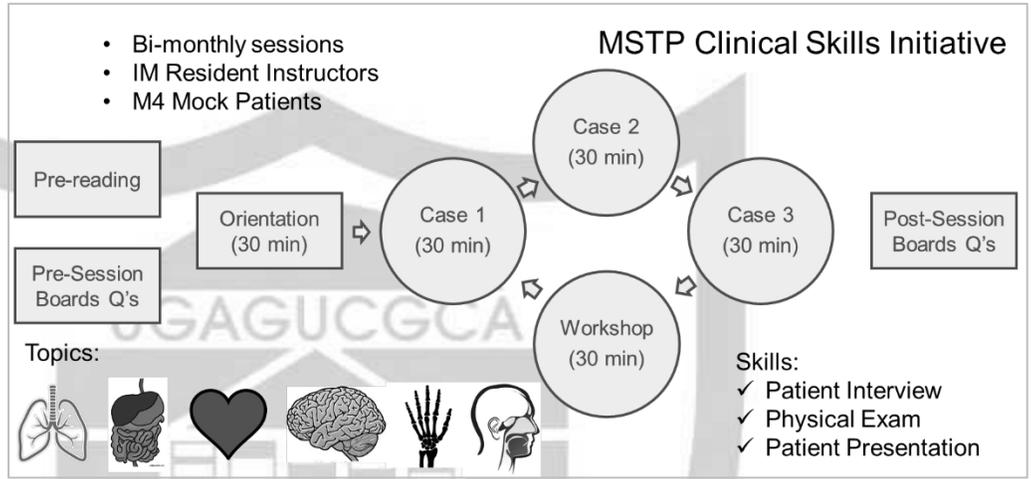


Former President Katie Owsiany with invited speaker Dr. Andrea Cox.

PROGRAM HELPS TRAINEES MAINTAIN CLINICAL ACUMEN IN PHD YEARS

By Amanda Ward, Ashley Bolte and Tommy Scott

Clinical Skill Nights provide bi-monthly opportunities for MSTP students in the graduate years of training to refresh their skills in history taking, physical examination, and note writing in a realistic but low-pressure clinical setting. These evenings are a fun and interactive way to stay fresh



on the clinical exam and allow for increased confidence in students returning to the clinical years after graduate school. The Clinical Skill Nights take place in the UVA Clinical Skills center, in the physical examination rooms. The evenings consist of three to four patient encounters and a review session to cover basic exam findings specific to the organ system being covered on that day. Participants take a short quiz before and after the clinical skills night to assess their knowledge on the topics covered. We are lucky to have

participation from both 4th year medical students as well as internal medicine residents during these evenings. The 4th year medical students serve as the standardized patients and also provide valuable teaching points, and the residents serve to provide feedback and teaching to the MSTP students.



We have recently fully developed a 2-year curriculum that covers all the major organ systems and have incorporated many new cases into this curriculum in order to cover a wide variety of clinical conditions. Clinical cases are written by MSTP students and also provide an exercise in refreshing clinical knowledge on

the particular case. Currently, we are working on developing opportunities for MSTP students to shadow a resident on an overnight shift and to work with preceptors to have a longitudinal clinical experience in the hospital while in the graduate school years. If you have any questions or are interested in becoming involved in the planning committee please reach out to Amanda Ward (aew2fx@virginia.edu)

2020 Public Defense Dates (since Winter Newsletter)

- 2020, May 20 – Bryan Chun (Saucerman Lab)
- 2020, May 18 – Shambhavi Singh (Janes Lab)
- 2020, April 21 – Carol Rowley (Kendall Lab)
- 2020, April 3 – Katherine Owsiany (Owens Lab)
- 2020, March 23 – Ajay Chatrath (Dutta Lab)
- 2020 March 13 – Nadine Michel (McConnell Lab)


Awards, Scholarships, Honors (since Winter Newsletter)

- 2020 Whitfield Randolph Scholarship recipients: **Adishesh Narahari** (Bayliss Lab) & **Jon Suzich** (Cliffe Lab)
- 2020 Outstanding Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics (BMG) recipient: **Ajay Chatrath** (Dutta Lab)
- **Jon Suzich** (Grad 4, Cliffe Lab) received an Outstanding Poster Award at the 2020 UVA Infectious Diseases and Global Biothreats Research Day.
- **Nadine Machel** received the Raven Scholarship
- Double Hoo Award recipients: **Bri Wilson, Jon Suzich,** and **Janet Arras**

Extramural Funding (since Winter Newsletter)

- Amanda Ward (Grad 4, Tamm Lab) - National Institute of Child and Human Development (NICHD) F30 Pre-Doctoral Award
- Alexander Mathew (Grad 4, Price Lab) - National Cancer Institute F30 Pre-Doctoral Fellowship Award
- Sarah Wang (Grad 2, Dudley Lab) and Alexander Mathew (Grad 4, Price Lab) received 2020 Medical Student Awards from the Melanoma Research Foundation (MRF)

The following students have extramural funding:

- Katherine Owsiany (AHA), enrolled 2014
- Ricky Baylis (F30), enrolled 2013
- Sarb Nagdas (F30), enrolled 2013
- Jessica Neville Little (F30), enrolled 2013
- Mark Rudolf (F30), entered 2013
- Jeff Xing (F30), entered 2013
- Bryan Chun (F30), entered 2012
- George “Bert” Cortina (F31), entered 2012
- Allissia Gilmartin (F30), entered 2011
- Ali Khan (F30), entered 2011
- Scott Seki (F31), entered 2012
- Angela Zeigler (F30), entered 2012
- Adishesh Narahari (F30), entered 2014 - received F30 in 2018
- Chris Henderson (F30), entered 2015 - received F30 in 2019
- Jon Suzich (F30), entered 2015 - received F30 in 2019
- Nadine Michel (F31), entered 2014 - received F31 in 2019



2020 Publications

- Chatrath A**, Przanowska R, Kiran S, Su Z, Saha S, Wilson B, Tsunematsu T, Ahn J-H, Lee KY, Paulsen T, Sobierajska E, Kiran M, Tang X, Li T, Kumar P, Ratan A, Dutta A. 2020. The pan-cancer landscape of prognostic germline variants in 10,582 patients. *Genome Medicine* 12:15. doi:10.1186/s13073-020-0718-7
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- Kozlowski MM, **Rudolf MA**, Corwin JT. 2020. EGF and a GSK3 Inhibitor Deplete Junctional E-cadherin and Stimulate Proliferation in the Mature Mammalian Ear. *J Neurosci* 40:2618–2632. doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.2630-19.2020
- Lammert CR, Frost EL, Bellinger CE, **Bolte AC**, McKee CA, Hurt ME, Paysour MJ, Ennerfelt HE, Lukens JR. 2020. AIM2 inflammasome surveillance of DNA damage shapes neurodevelopment. *Nature* 1–6. doi:10.1038/s41586-020-2174-3
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Special thanks to **Ashley Woodard** and the UVA APSA Communications Committee!

HeeJin Cheon

Jessica Little

Adam Lu

Sarb Nagdas

Adi Narahari

Katie Owsiany

Mark Rudolf

Jeff Xing

Thanks to Karen Blaha (Flickr: [Vironevaeh](#)) whose photographs of UVA and Charlottesville appear throughout the newsletter. The cover image has been cropped.

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