Message from the Chairman

Colleagues,

The November issue of the department’s eNewsletter highlights a number of awards earned by our faculty and trainees. As is the case each year, the recent Evans Days celebration serves as a remarkable affirmation of the commitment of the departmental community to discovery, mentorship, service, and excellence. The poster session was full of energy and curiosity - the quality of the science and the passion for discovery were palpable! Selection of the awardees for their respective presentations by the reviewers was quite a challenge. We should acknowledge the accomplishments, not just of the awardees and their mentors, but of all the participants in the poster session. The eNewsletter also lists several awards given to an outstanding group of faculty and trainees for their service as mentors, clinicians, and teachers. I hope each of you share my pride in being part of a department with such an exceptional group of colleagues! I hope you enjoy the Thanksgiving Holiday with family and friends - we have much to be grateful for!!

David Coleman, M.D.
AWARDS

The DOM Awards Committee honored four faculty members for their outstanding contributions. They received recognition and a plaque at the Evans Days Dinner on November 3, 2011.

Outstanding Citizenship
Jason Worcester, MD
General Internal Medicine

Always the first to volunteer, you demonstrate the selfless devotion to collective mission that embodies outstanding citizenship. Your colleagues can count on you to provide clinical coverage, precept on Friday afternoons, and ward attend in July and to do so with good humor. Your helpfulness extends beyond your job description to include arranging logistics for clinical research, solving pharmacy problems, and volunteering to teach physical diagnosis to medical students. Whether adding a last-minute patient to the schedule or attending an after-hours meeting, you reliably demonstrate goodwill to all.

Junior Faculty Mentoring
Alexander Walley, MD, MSc
General Internal Medicine

Medical students, residents, and fellows identify you as a role model of compassionate, committed care. Seeing your enthusiasm for addiction medicine has motivated trainees to make opioid addiction their own chosen specialty. You are nurturing a new generation of clinician researchers with genuine concern for their professional development. With mentees, you establish an appropriate balance between autonomy and feedback while treating them as future colleagues. The Department of Medicine applauds your outstanding record of empowering learners to reach their academic goals.
Research Mentoring

**Emelia J. Benjamin, MD, ScM**
Cardiovascular Medicine

Your unflagging enthusiasm conveys to mentees the joys of research while your exacting standards inspire them to perform at the highest level. Combining empathy and reflection with wisdom, you help each protégé develop an individual career plan and access the resources necessary to fulfill it. Mentees form lasting intellectual and personal relationships with you even as they identify unique academic niches. In your role as Vice Chair of Faculty Development and Diversity, you have helped institutionalize a culture of mentoring that ensures the success of early career faculty and nurtures the next generation of translational discoveries.

Special Recognition Teaching

**Anand Kartha, MD, MSc**
General Internal Medicine/VA

**Other Awards:**

Your concise questions and knowledge of evidence-based medicine guide trainees to see the complete picture of inpatient care. On rounds, residents can expect a relaxed atmosphere with you as consultant rather than boss. Yet you capture every teachable moment to offer constructive feedback. As a result, residents become self-directed in their learning. In addition to receiving personally outstanding teaching evaluations, the rotation you developed in quality improvement and patient safety has set a national standard. Your work to expand that effort through interprofessional collaboration exemplifies an unstinting commitment to our educational mission.
On October 2, 2011, Dr. Eric Hardt of the Section of Geriatrics received the Provider of the Year Award at the 25th Annual Meeting of the International Medical Interpreters Association [IMIA]. The IMIA is the largest and oldest professional organization for medical interpreters in the world. Its founders 25 years ago included Dr. Hardt and Racquel Cashman, then Director of Interpreter Services at Boston City Hospital. Dr. Hardt is also on the board of directors of the National Board for Certification of Medical Interpreters, the profession's first national certifying body. He continues to work closely with BMC's new Director of Interpreter Services, Gerard Barsoum, as Medical Consultant to Interpreter Services.

Dr. Richard Saitz has been invited by the Medical Scientific Conference Program Planning committee of the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) to present the keynote plenary address of their 2012 Annual Medical Scientific Conference on Friday, April 20, 2012. He will receive the R. Brinkley Smithers Distinguished Scientist Award from the Society for contributions to the field of addiction medicine.

Dr. Barbara Corkey has been awarded the Zoltan Kohn Professorship. Dr. Avrum Spira has been awarded the Alexander Graham Bell Professorship.

**GRANTS**
The U.S. Department of Defense Lung Cancer Research Program awarded BUSM a $13.6 million grant to study technology for early detection of lung cancer. Avi Spira, MD, MSc, (Computational Biomedicine) leads the five-year study.

Robert Lafyatis, MD (Rheumatology) received two NIH grants totaling $11.3 million to help design early stage clinical trials for potential therapies for scleroderma.

Jeffrey Samet, MD, MPH and Richard Saitz, MD, MPH (General Internal Medicine) will help direct a study of the impact of alcohol on HIV-infected patients. The five-year study received a $10 million grant from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.
Dr. Martin Steinberg, Corresponding Investigator, and Drs. George Murphy, Gustavo Mostoslavsky and David Chui, Co-principal investigators, received a $9 million grant from the NHLBI for a project to help develop a way to study the genetic basis of fetal hemoglobin expression and develop new treatments for sickle cell disease using a sample of patient’s blood.

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<tr>
<th>SECTION</th>
<th>PI LAST NAME</th>
<th>PI FIRST NAME</th>
<th>PROJECT TITLE</th>
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<td>Cardiovascular Medicine</td>
<td>Miller</td>
<td>Edward</td>
<td>Role and Regulation of the LKB1-AMPK Axis in Diabetic Cardiomyopathy</td>
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<td>Neil</td>
<td>AMPK Regulation and Biological Relevance</td>
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<td>Endocrinology, Diabetes and Nutrition</td>
<td>Cacicedo</td>
<td>Jose</td>
<td>The Role of AMP-Activated Protein Kinase (AMPK) in the Prevention of Diabetic Retinopathy</td>
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<td>Mass General Hosp</td>
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<td>AMPK, SIRT1 and mTOR: Mediators of Nutrient Excess</td>
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<td>General Internal Medicine</td>
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<td>Alok</td>
<td>Older Adult Safety in Surgery (OASIS)</td>
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<td>Hematology and Medical Oncology</td>
<td>Dominguez</td>
<td>Maria Isabel</td>
<td>Control of Embryonic Development by CK2: CK2 as a Core Wnt/beta-catenin component</td>
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<td>George</td>
<td>Globin Gene Expression in Sickle Cell Genotype-Specific iPS Cells</td>
<td>611,392.00</td>
<td>6/30/2012</td>
<td>Trustees of Boston University</td>
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<td>Hematology and Medical Oncology</td>
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<td>Kevan</td>
<td>Enhancing Collectin Medicated Defense Against Influenza</td>
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<td>NIH-NHLBI</td>
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<td>Infectious Diseases</td>
<td>Sulis</td>
<td>Carol</td>
<td>Effect of the Use of Universal Glove and Gowning on Healthcare Associated Infection Rates and Anti</td>
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<td>Yale New Haven Health System</td>
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<td>Nephrology</td>
<td>Salant</td>
<td>David</td>
<td>Role of PLA2R and Anti-PLA2R in Idiopathic Membranous Nephropathy</td>
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<td>7/31/2016</td>
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IN THE MEDIA
The PBS Newshour interviewed Thomas Perls, MD, MPH (geriatrics) about his role as a consultant for the Archon Genomics X Prize. Using centenarian subjects, the prize will award $10 million to the group who can build the fastest, cheapest, and most accurate whole human genome.

Raj Krishnamurthy, MD (General Internal Medicine) spoke to the Boston Globe about MRSA bacteria.

PUBLICATIONS

RESEARCH FINDINGS
Paul Schroy, MD, MPH (Gastroenterology) and Peter Davidson, MD (General Internal Medicine) co-authored a paper in Health Expectations titled “Provider perspectives on the utility of a colorectal cancer screening decision aid for facilitating shared decision making.” They conclude that decision aids for CRC screening can save time and increase patients’ desire to get screened.

Hyon Choi, MD (Rheumatology, Clinical Epidemiology) published a paper in Arthritis and Rheumatism showing that the prevalence of gout in the U.S. has risen over the last twenty years to affect 8.3 million people.

Abstract/Poster Winners Evans Days 2011

Abstract/Poster Winners-Evans Days 2011

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<th>Award</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
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<tr>
<td>Laboratory Based Research</td>
<td><strong>Catalina Perdomo</strong>&lt;br&gt;Computational Biomedicine&lt;br&gt;IDENTIFICATION OF MIR-4423 AS A PRIMATE-SPECIFIC MIRNA HIGHLY EXPRESSED IN AIRWAY EPITHELIUM AND ASSOCIATED WITH LUNG CANCER</td>
<td><strong>Marina Tuzova</strong>&lt;br&gt;Pulmonary&lt;br&gt;William Cruikshank&lt;br&gt;NUCLEAR PRO-IL-16 REGULATES HYPERPROLIFERATION IN CTCL</td>
<td><strong>Nadia Krasner</strong>&lt;br&gt;Endocrinology&lt;br&gt;Neil Ruderman&lt;br&gt;GLUCAGON-LIKE-PEPTIDE-1 (GLP-1) ACTIVATES AMP-ACTIVATED PROTEIN KINASE (AMPK) AND DIMINISHES INFLAMMATION IN HUMAN AORTIC ENDOTHELIAL CELLS (HAECs)</td>
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<td>Clinical/Patient Based Research</td>
<td><strong>Soroosh Kiani</strong>&lt;br&gt;Cardiology&lt;br&gt;Naomi Hamburg&lt;br&gt;PERIPHERAL ARTERY DISEASE IS ASSOCIATED WITH SEVERE ENDOTHELIAL DYSFUNCTION</td>
<td><strong>Joann Kwah</strong>&lt;br&gt;Gastroenterology&lt;br&gt;Sharmeel Wasan&lt;br&gt;AN UNUSUAL CASE OF SMALL BOWEL OBSTRUCTION</td>
<td><strong>K. Hijazi</strong>&lt;br&gt;Pulmonary&lt;br&gt;Avi Spira&lt;br&gt;NASAL EPITHELIAL GENE EXPRESSION PROFILES REFLECT THE HOST RESPONSE TO SMOKINGcessation</td>
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<td>Computational Based Research</td>
<td><strong>Rebecca Kusko</strong>&lt;br&gt;Pulmonary&lt;br&gt;CHARACTERIZING ALTERATIONS IN THE LUNG DISEASE TRANSCRIPTOME WITH RNA-SEQ</td>
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Jordana Cohen
Nephrology
Craig Gordon &
Jean Francis

CINACALCET FOR
HYPERPARATHYROIDISM IN RENAL
TRANSPLANT RECIPIENTS: A
SYSTEMATIC REVIEW AND META-
ANALYSIS

Megan Ruth
Endocrinology

AN AUTOMATED ALGORITHM TO
IDENTIFY AND QUANTIFY BROWN
ADIPOSE TISSUE IN PET/CT SCANS