MINUTES

Members present: Drs. Gartenburg (for Brewer), Cuccurullo, Dhib-Jalbut, Dreyfus, Eisenstein, Goodell, Haftty, Kim, Lee, Levine, Menza, Pilch, Pine, Rosen, Kiss (for Roth), Rabson (for Walworth), Whitely - Williams

Also present: Drs. Barone, Escobar, Jahn, Kelly, Kostis, Kountz, McCathern, Rabson, Radovick, Swee, Terregino, Ms. Patricia Hansen, and Messrs. Mesica and Prodoehl

Members not present: Drs. Bachmann, Bershad, DiPaola, Fratzola, Gatt, Gabriel, Green, Hegyi, Millonig, Nosher, Rao, Stock, Tallia, Walker, Wondisford,

1. Approval of Minutes of September 24, 2015
   • The minutes of the September 24, 2015 meeting were approved as submitted.

2. "Radiation and Cancer Biology Research in the Department of Radiation Oncology"
   – Zhiyuan Shen MD, Professor of Radiation Oncology, Professor of Pharmacology, Chief of Division of Radiation Cancer Biology. His presentation focused on the work being done in the Department of Radiation Oncology. Dr. Shen provided the meeting with a brief description of the area of cancer research that each department member specializes in.

3. Dean’s report – Sherine E. Gabriel, MD, MSc.
   Dr. Carol Terregino deputized for Dr. Gabriel who was absent.
   
   The following represents the information contained in the Dean’s report which was not discussed in detail at the meeting

**HIGHLIGHTS**

*Dr. Joseph Barone has been named the senior associate dean for clinical affairs for Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, effective immediately. In this position, reporting directly to the dean, Dr. Barone will oversee all clinical operations of the Robert Wood Johnson Medical Group and immediately begin transitioning from his current role as chief strategy officer and director of programs at The Bristol-Myers Squibb Children's Hospital at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital.*

Kerry O'Rourke, campus library director, Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Library of the Health Sciences, will be honored by the National Library of Medicine (NLM)/Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries as a mentor in the 2014-2015 NLM/AAHSL Leadership Fellows Program.

Dr. Chen Liu, will serve as chair of the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at both Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and Rutgers New Jersey Medical School. Dr. Liu joins us from at the University of Florida, where he was associate chair and was the endowed chair in liver research and the director of the Gastrointestinal and Liver Pathology Service and Fellowship Program.

Dr. Catherine Monteleone appeared on Eyewitness News at 6 pm to discuss fall allergies and available treatments with reporter Toni Yates.
Dr. Bhavik Bhandari, assistant professor of medicine, spoke with *The Record* about the FODMAP diet, which may help to identify foods that promote symptoms in individuals with irritable bowel syndrome and other chronic digestive illnesses.

Dr. John B. Kostis, the John G. Detwiler Professor of Cardiology and director of the Cardiovascular Institute, led the SPRINT trial at Rutgers, an NIH study which showed that intensive treatment to lower systolic blood pressure in persons over age 50 can reduce the risk cardiovascular-related events by 30 percent. The story was published in the Star Ledger and NJ.com.

A new study published in *Human Molecular Genetics*, by Dr. Emanuel DiCicco-Bloom and Dr. James Millonig, suggests that altered behavior in neurodevelopmental disorders may be related to a disruption in the development of neurotransmitters systems that originate in the back of the brain.

New research from Dr. Davide Comoletti at the Child Health Institute of New Jersey has defined the three-dimensional structure and mechanism of the association of two brain proteins that are linked to attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). The discovery provides a potential target to design therapeutic interventions that may alter the association and improve symptoms of the neurodevelopmental disorder.

Dr. Melvin Weinstein, will be honored with the 2016 Hardy Diagnostics ABMM/ABMLI Professional Recognition Award, which recognizes a diplomate of the American Board of Medical Microbiology (ABMM) or the American Board of Medical Laboratory Immunology (ABMLI) who has enjoyed a compelling career and noteworthy personal achievements. Dr. Weinstein is professor of medicine and pathology and laboratory medicine, and chief of allergy, immunology and infectious disease at the medical school and director of the microbiology lab at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital.

*Dr. Joseph R. Bertino, American Cancer Society Professor, chief scientific officer, Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey, and University Professor of Medicine and Pharmacology at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, received the Distinguished Investigator Award at the 2015 Annual Meeting of the American College of Clinical Pharmacology in September.*

The Home News Tribune and Mycentraljersey.com published an article on Jason Lunden, a postdoctoral student who is studying how brain circuits affect behavior in the lab of Emanuel DiCicco-Bloom, professor of neuroscience and cell biology and pediatrics. The situation is both unique and advantageous, as Dr. Lunden has autism.

The Home News Tribune and Mycentraljersey.com published a story on Rick Lang, who joined us as a first-year medical student, after serving as a fighter pilot and Top Gun instructor for the U.S. Navy.

Robert Wood Johnson Medical School Family Medicine Residency Program and Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital received the 2014-15 Senior Immunization Grant Award of $10,000 from the American Academy of Family Physicians Foundation in recognition of a project in which there was a 25 percent increase in the number of patients over the age of 65 who had received flu and pneumonia vaccinations over the current baseline rate at RWJ Family Medicine at Monument Square.

**From the Office of Community Health**

The Eric B. Chandler Health Center has received two additional grants:

- $286,410 as part of $500 million in grants awarded nationwide through the Health Infrastructure Investment Program Awards, to expand health care services and increased access to comprehensive primary health care services, and

- $78,135 in additional funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), because the center achieved Patient Centered Medical Home Level III recognition.
From the Office of Research

Dr. Estela Jacinto was selected to represent Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in the competition for "AAMC Basic Research Snapshot to Highlight Basic Biomedical Research." The goal of the program is to raise the profile of promising new research at member institutions and to communicate to the public the human face of discovery at medical schools and teaching hospitals. The winning submission will be honored by the AAMC's Group on Research Advancement and Development (GRAND) with an award. Dr. Jacinto was nominated by Dr. Gary Brewer, interim chair of biochemistry and molecular biology, for her research into the effects of metabolism on cancer cell proliferation, which is funded through an NIH grant.

Dr. Cheryl Dreyfus, professor and chair, of Neuroscience and Cell Biology, is the recipient of a five-year R01 grant from the NIH to study “The role of neurotrophins in oligodendrocyte function” in the amount of $1,739,065.

Dr. Jeffrey Carson, MD, the Richard C Reynolds Professor of Medicine, and Provost, RBHS-New Brunswick, was awarded a two-year R34 award for $740,535, from the NIH to determine “Does plasma reduce bleeding in patients undergoing invasive procedures.”

Dr. Nancy Woychik, professor, of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, received a one-year R56 grant from the NIH/NIAID to pursue her studies on “M. tuberculosis MazF toxins: target identification and stress adaptation” in the amount of $548,706.

Dr. Chi-Wei (pronounced Kiwi) Lu, assistant professor, of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences, and member, Child Health Institute of New Jersey is a dual PI on a collaborative multi-PI R21 grant for $397,500 from the NIH along with Dr. Bin Tian, professor, of Microbiology, Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics at New Jersey Medical School to study “Alternative cleavage and polyadenylation in trophoblast differentiation.”

Dr. Todd Rosen, assistant professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences and chief, of the division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine, published a study in Science Signaling, together with Assistant Professors Dr. Bingbing Wang and Dr. Valeria Di Stefano, have discovered a “switch” that starts the process which induces labor. The finding may lead to treatments of pre-term labor, which is the number one related cause of infant death and disability in the US. A podcast about the work accompanied the release of the article.

Dr. Maral M. Mouradian, (William Dow Lovett Professor in Neurology wrote an invited editorial for the journal Neurology entitled: “Rare genetic variants support mitochondrial dysfunction in Lewy body disorders.”

Dr. Ramsey Foty, Associate Professor, of Surgery authored a study published in PLOS One describing a new role for Dexamethasone as a suppressor of glioblastoma multiform dispersal and growth. The study is entitled: “Dexamethasone-mediated activation of fibronectin matrix assembly reduces dispersal of primary glioblastoma cells”.

From the Clinical Enterprise

Dr. Shawna Hudson was appointed Chief of the Research Division of the Department of Family Medicine and Community Health, replacing Dr. Benjamin Crabtree. Dr. Hudson served as the Associate Director of the Division for three years and has been a member of the research faculty for 13 years. Her research interests are a combination of qualitative and quantitative methodological research and development of multi-level healthcare interventions.

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Todd Demmy as Associate Chief of the Division of Surgical Oncology at Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey, and Professor of Surgery and Chief, section of Thoracic Surgery at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. Dr. Demmy joins us from Roswell Park Cancer Institute.
Upcoming Events:

October 29, 2015 - 12:00 noon

Dr. Kenneth S. and Audrey S. Gould Lecture in Molecular and Cellular Medicine

Conference Room 3101
Child Health Institute of New Jersey
89 French Street - New Brunswick, NJ

Speaker:  W. Ian Lipkin, MD
John Snow Professor of Epidemiology
Director, Center for Infection and Immunity
Mailman School of Public Health
Professor of Pathology and Neurology
College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, New York

OLD BUSINESS

None.

New BUSINESS

Finance presentation by Phil Mesisca, Associate Dean - Finance and Operations.

There being no additional business for discussion the meeting was adjourned at 5:06pm

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Anderson
Office of the Dean