Physicians in Touch Spotlight

Our 1st Year Residents – 2014

Row 1 (bottom): Amrita Singh, Minni Meka, Allison Pierce, Ruchi, Bhavsar, Sriviya Parvataneni Neil Hamilton
Row 2: Pranay Parikh, Nene Ugoeke, Kalpit Devani, Mohsen Pourmorteza, Jacob Brazee
Row 3: Christopher Cook, Sukumar Gandra, Manar Jbara, Tyler Dean, Jared Pack
Row 4: Hasan Ahmad, Badar Siddiqui, Jordan Godbey, Fady Tawadros, Allen Elster, Calvin Green

Congratulations on completing your first 6 months!
The Department of Internal Medicine is now the home to 12 of the most beautiful photographs created by our own Kenton Hall. We are fortunate to have access to his rich talent and eye behind the camera. Take a moment when you visit our department to also visit our gallery of North East Tennessee beauty.

Whenever I went hiking in the mountain empire, the walk was not really that important to me. I wanted the big payoff at the end of the hike; the beautiful view, a waterfall, or the unexpected treat…. and I wanted to take a picture of “it”. No matter how proficient a photographer is, being at the right place at the right time with the right light makes all the difference in how a photograph ultimately ends up looking.

I think we live in a beautiful location; all you have to do is take a short drive in any direction from Johnson City to see sights that people all over the world travel long distances to see.

The high country located along the Tennessee – North Carolina border with elevations over 6000 feet gives us plants usually found in Canada. The Rhododendron Gardens on top of Roan Mountain produce a show stopping display every June. Who would think you could have ski resorts in the south? But the area around Banner Elk and Blowing Rock is home to three ski resorts due to our elevation and altitude. It just goes to prove that driving 30 to 60 minutes from town will get you into a whole new ecosystem with different weather patterns; diversity has been our greatest gift to both scientists and tourists.

The Great Smoky Mountain National Park is another region preserved because of the diversity of its flora and fauna with every community interesting to explore and photograph. Roaring Fork and Cataloochee are my favorite areas within the Great Smoky Mountain National Park; both have ample large mammals such as bear, deer and elk plus preserved historical structures. The area encompassing Transylvania County, south of the Great Smoky Mountain National Park in North Carolina is known as the Land of Waterfalls. Due to a drop in elevation of 2000 feet or more within a couple of miles as the mountains drop to the piedmont, the area contains a few waterfalls over 400 feet high such as Whitewater Falls (by comparison, Niagara Falls is 165 feet tall).
Seeing 20 to 30 major falls in a day trip is possible. Nearly every turn on route 64 traveling through Brevard, Cashiers, Highlands and Franklin has a new vista or waterfall.

Connecting all these areas is one road that is our national treasure, the Blue Ridge Parkway. Go drive the Blue Ridge; you will find that you cannot take a bad picture.

I am honored that the department wanted to hang a dozen of my landscape photographs in our Building One offices. The photographs come from all the places listed above; areas that I have used pretty much as a playground since I got my driver’s license. Growing up in Boones Creek, I just could not get over how many stunningly beautiful places existed within an hour’s drive from home. All of the photos reflect easy day trips from Johnson City, and I’ll be happy to provide guidance to anyone wanting to see these locations in person.

Kenton Hall, Quillen College of Medicine, Internal Medicine

Kenton Hall is a graduate of Milligan College and started with the College of Medicine in 1981 working for Drs. Katy Jane Mayberry-Carson, Donald Ferguson and Dwight Lambe in Microbiology. Kenton moved on to Internal Medicine where he worked with Dr. Stephen Berk on his Strongyloides project; “Clinical and Epidemiologic Features of Strongyloidiasis - A Prospective Study in Rural Tennessee”, JAMA Archives of Internal Medicine. After working in clinical cytogenetics for a number of years Kenton returned to research and working directly with Drs. Kelly Smith and Guha Krishnaswamy. Kenton feels fortunate to have worked with Dr. David Chi in immunology until his retirement. Currently part of the research team headed by Dr. Charles Stuart, Kenton has 12 publications and over 70 abstracts and poster presentations. Kenton’s current position is Lab Manager for the Internal Medicine Research Labs where with his abundant experience ensures that our research labs run safely and smoothly for our researchers.
THE NEWEST ADDITIONS TO OUR FAMILY

Omkar
Parents: Prakash and Dhara Chaudhari

August 23, 2014

Weight: 6lbs. 14ozs  Length: 19"
Parents: Leslie and Tommy Little
Brothers and sisters: Tristan, Jacob, Madalyn, Grace, Katie

Rylee Jean
July 17, 2014
CONGRATULATIONS!
Tennessee ACP Conference
Franklin, Tennessee

Submission Winners - 2014 TN ACP Poster Contest

Jack Ghably, MD
Aaysha Kapila, MD
Mehdi Pourmorteza, DO
Mohsen Pourmorteza, MD

Oral Presentations

Jack Ghably, MD presented by Leslie Fitzgerald, MD
“Disseminated Strongyloidiasis Masquerading as Encephalopathy and Failure to Wean from Mechanical Ventilation”

Aaysha Kapila, MD presented by Jennifer Phemister, MD
“A Not So Common Cause of GI Bleeding: Hemosuccus Pancreaticus”

Mehdi Pourmorteza, DO
“Mysterious Intussusception in an Adult”

Mohsen Pourmorteza, MD
“A Case of Hyponatremia Potentiated by NSAIDS”

Medical Jeopardy Team Quillen—State Competition

Charles Rives, MD
Ahmed Al-Sheyyab, MD
Mehdi Pourmorteza, DO
Publications, Abstracts, Presentations, Grants, Awards

Notice: Publications listed are current as of 9/30/14. Publications will not be included if: older than our current academic year, not listed in PubMed, submitted but not yet published. If you have publications and published/presented abstracts not listed in this or the last newsletter please submit those to heatonka@etsu.edu. These publications will be submitted to the Dean’s Office at the end of our academic year. All submissions should be in the National Library of Medicine (NLM) format.

JOURNAL ARTICLES


ABSTRACTS, POSTERS—Presented


ABSTRACTS, POSTERS Presented—Continued


ABSTRACTS

Presented and Published

ABSTRACTS, Presented and Published—Continued


GRANTS

1. NIH R-15 (three years). A novel prodrug to treat melanoma. Total requested $438,000. PI- Dr. William Stone, Co-investigator: Dr. K. Krishnan MD

2. Department of Defense (DOD). Oxidized protein hydrolase (OPH) as a prostate cancer drug target. Total requested $108,000. PI- Dr. William Stone, Co-Investigator: Dr. K. Krishnan MD

AWARDS, RECOGNITION and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Koyamangalath Krishnan has been selected to serve as Academic Editor on the Editorial Board of PLoS One for a three year term.

Dr. Stephen Geraci has been selected as Vice Chair of the Communications Committee for AAIM