

TRUTH ABOVE EVERYTHING



The Evans Memorial Department of Medicine

Message from the Chairman

Colleagues,

In this issue of the Department's newsletter, we again feature the faculty who have received notable recognition from peers for their contributions. We are delighted to recognize Drs. Weintraub, Saitz, Ramachandran, and Alford in this issue for their recent honors. I would also like to acknowledge our recent Evans Employees of the Month recipients- Kathy Muldoon (GI), Fei-Ying Cheong (Rheumatology), and Fredric Majoun (Rheumatology). The contributions of our staff to our core missions are immeasurable and critical to our success. As the demand for excellence in all of our core missions accelerates, we will be increasingly dependent upon having a motivated, skillful, and thoughtful staff in the Department. Please consider recognizing our exceptional staff by nominating staff from your respective work areas for the Evans Employee of the Month!

David Coleman, M.D.

Awards

Boston Medical Center awarded **Lewis Weintraub, MD** (Hematology/Oncology) the 2011 Jerome Klein Award for Physician Excellence. The award recognizes BMC doctors who embody excellence in mentoring, clinical practice, and leadership. Dr. Weintraub has spent 39 years at BMC.



Ravin Davidoff, Chief Medical Officer at BMC, presents Lewis Weintraub with a plaque.

Dr. Richard Saitz, MD has been awarded the 2012 Research Society on Alcoholism Distinguished Researcher Award.



Dr. Vasan Ramachandran, MD, DM, FACC, FAHA has been appointed to the Sleep Epidemiology Section at the Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health.



Dr. Ramachandran has also recently won the 2012 Epidemiology and Prevention Mentoring Award presented by the American Heart Association. He was nominated by Dr. Emelia Benjamin. This award, sponsored by the Council's Early Career Committee, honors a person who has provided exceptional individual and institutional mentoring and advocacy for cardiovascular epidemiology researchers. The award was presented at the Council Dinner at the American Heart Association's Epidemiology and Prevention 2012 Scientific Sessions in San Diego in March.

SAMHSA is happy to announce the winners of the [2012 Science and Service Awards](#). Three Opioid Treatment Programs (OTPs) and five Office-Based Opioid Treatment (OBOT) practitioners were selected for their commitment to excellence in the treatment of individuals with opioid-related conditions.

The purpose of these awards is to promote excellence in the treatment of opioid addiction by recognizing OTPs and OBOT practitioners who use pharmacotherapy as part of their treatment protocol and who have demonstrated implementation of exemplary innovative services, practices, and/or strategies, resulting in improved patient outcomes.

Applications for the award were reviewed by a panel of experts in the field of addiction medicine using five specific [criteria](#): (1) treatment population(s)/subpopulation(s) served, (2) the EBP/EBT, (3) improved patient outcomes, (4) innovativeness, and (5) management and staff capabilities. Each application received three independent reviews by panel members who then nominated the program or individual practitioner for the award.

The award recipients are:

For [Office-Based Opioid Treatment](#)

1. Marc Fishman, MD – Mountain Manor Treatment Center, Baltimore, Maryland
2. **Colleen T. LaBelle, RN, CARN, Boston Medical Center-Massachusetts Department of Public Health Treatment Expansion STATE OBOT B, Boston Massachusetts**
3. Joseph O. Merrill, MD – Project ROAM/ECHO – Seattle, Washington
4. Patricia A. Pade, MD – New Mexico Veteran's Administration Health Care System, Albuquerque, New Mexico
5. Amanda Wilson, MD – CleanSlate Centers, Northampton, Massachusetts

Evans Employees of the Month 4th Quarter 2011

October – Kathy Muldoon, RN, BSN from the section of Gastroenterology. Nominated by Linda Neville.

November – Fei-Ying Cheong from the section of Rheumatology. Nominated by Fredric Majnoun.

December – Fredric Majnoun, MSAS from the section of Rheumatology. Nominated by Lisa Massa.



Innovations

James Rosenzweig, MD (Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Nutrition) and **Roberta Capelson, NP, MS** have received support from the Hearst Foundations and Thermo Fisher Scientific to launch the Diabetes Patient Navigation Program. "As many as one in two people do not show up for their first appointment in BMC's Diabetes Clinic after a referral from their physician. Our new patient navigators will help these individuals make their way through a complex health care system," said Dr. Rosenzweig.

Research

Irene Gavras, MD and **Haralambos Gavras, MD** (Hypertension) published a paper debunking the common conception that excess salt causes high blood pressure by triggering an increase in blood volume, which exerts extra pressure on the arteries. "The body's circulatory system is a highly flexible vascular system with the capacity to open up new capillaries and distend veins in order to accommodate increased fluid volume," says Irene Gavras. Hypertension, they write, results from the excessive consumption and retention of salt that stimulates the sympathetic nervous system to increase adrenaline production.

[Gavras I, Gavras H. 'Volume-expanded' hypertension: the effect of fluid overload and the role of the sympathetic nervous system in salt-dependent hypertension. *J Hypertens* 30(4):655-659. April 2012.]

Joanne Murabito, MD, ScM (General Internal Medicine) and fellow researchers have located 13 genetic loci that are factors in the age of the onset of menopause. Murabito, director of the research clinic at the Framingham Heart Study, said, "It will be important to determine if a genetic variant that directly influences age at menopause also increases risk for later life health conditions, such as breast cancer."

[Meta-analyses identify 13 loci associated with age at menopause and highlight DNA repair and immune pathways. *Nat Genet.* 44(3):260-8. January 22, 2012.]

Rene Quiroz, MD, MPH (Cardiovascular Medicine fellow) presented his research at the American Heart Association's Epidemiology and Prevention/Nutrition, Physical Activity and Metabolism Scientific Sessions in San Diego, CA. He described his work on predicting metabolic syndrome in both English (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rduKTRBv7M>) and Spanish (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3plbqtW52zU>).



[Retinol Binding Protein-4 and Fetuin-A Predict Incident Metabolic Syndrome and Metabolic Tracking Prospectively in Younger Adults: A Multimarker Adipokine Panel Approach from the Framingham Study]

New arrivals

On January 23, 2012, **Catherine Rich, MD** (General Internal Medicine) gave birth to a daughter, Emily Rich Groh.



In the News

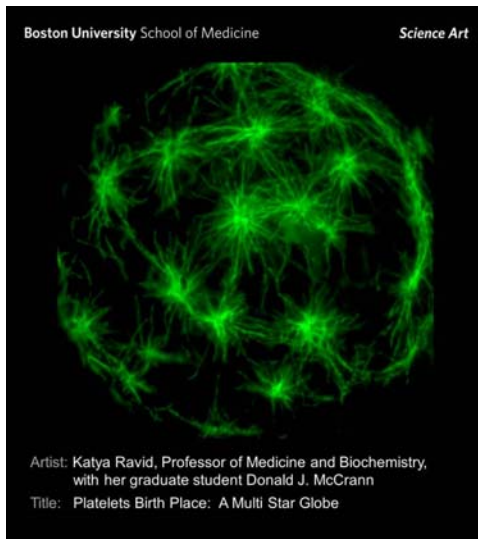


The March 7, 2012 edition of the New York Times featured **Laura Kaufman** (Geriatrics), a fellow in geriatric dentistry. **Sharon Levine, MD** is quoted in the article affirming the need for more training in geriatric care: "There will be at least 70 million Americans over age 65 by 2030, and we only have 7,100 board-certified geriatricians. There will never be enough."

Angela Jackson, MD (General Internal Medicine) assumed the role of Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs in the Boston University School of Medicine. She will focus on clinical teaching site development for medical students.

Barbara Corkey, PhD. was featured in the following article: <http://www.bu.edu/bostonia/winter-spring12/corkey/>

Therese Hammond, MD was featured in the following article: <http://www.bu.edu/today/2012/all-nighters-hazardous-to-health-grades-happiness/>



Katya Ravid, PhD (Evans Center for Interdisciplinary Biomedical Research) contributed an image from her research to the Medical Campus Science Art competition.

PUBLICATION: [Sancharawala V. Role of high-dose melphalan and autologous peripheral blood stem cell transplantation in AL amyloidosis. Am J Blood Res. 2012;2\(1\):9-17.](#)



FACULTY & STAFF HONORS

BU's Lunze Wins National Prevention Award

Boston University School of Public Health's Dr. Karsten Lunze is the recipient of this year's American College of Preventive Medicine's (ACPM) Don Gemson Resident Award. Dr. Lunze received the national award in recognition of outstanding achievement in community service, scholarship, research, teaching and leadership in the field of preventive medicine.

Dr. Lunze underlined the importance of peer support, which he enjoys at the Boston University Medical Center Preventive Medicine Residency and at the School of Public Health - where he is enrolled in the DrPH program in international health. He largely credits his program director, **Dr. Jane Liebschutz**, for facilitating his work and interests.



"Dr Liebschutz is a tremendous role model for my peers and myself. Her unparalleled dedication for mentorship has been an incredibly strong support in developing my interests. Dr Liebschutz' genuine passion for primary patient care, prevention and public health are a constant source of inspiration for me," said Dr. Lunze at the award ceremony.

Dr Lunze is a graduate of Charité Medical School, Berlin, Germany, and the Harvard School of Public Health, and an advocate for breastfeeding within the ACPM. He chaired a session on breastfeeding at this year's Preventive Medicine 2012 Meeting in Orlando, FL, featuring Dr. Miriam H. Lobbok, director of the Carolina Global Breastfeeding Institute, and Dr. Laurence M. Grummer-Strawn, chief of the Nutrition Branch at CDC. The session discussed breastfeeding as prevention starting at birth and advanced new ideas, policies and responsibilities for public health professionals.

Recent Grants

SECTION	PI LAST NAME	PI FIRST NAME	PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT TOTAL COSTS	PROJECT END DATE	FUNDING AGENCY	Date Entered
Endocrinology, Diabetes and Nutrition	Bhasin	Shalender	The Bone Trial of the Testosterone Trial	42,613.00	7/31/2012	University of Pennsylvania	2/9/2012
Geriatrics	Suen	Winnie	Innovation Advisors Program (IAP)	20,000.00	12/31/2012	Oak Ridge Institute for Science & Ed	2/3/2012
Geriatrics	Levine	Sharon	Chief Residency Immersion Training Program (CRIT)	845,371.00	5/31/2015	Duke University	2/9/2012
Geriatrics	Perls	Thomas	Consortium to Study the Genetics of Longevity	310,727.00	8/31/2016	California Pacific Med Ctr Res Inst	2/17/2012
Infectious Diseases	Linas	Benjamin	Improving HIV and HCV Outcomes in US AIDS Drug Assistance Programs	126,898.00	5/31/2012	NIH-NIAID	2/9/2012