



WLA SPOTLIGHT

A Report on Woodruff Leadership Academy Fellows

Fall 2013 – Volume XVII

Accomplishments, Appointments, Awards...

David Guidot 2007 was appointed to the Emory Healthcare Board of Directors.

Effective January 1, 2014, **George Grant 2012** will become the Executive Director for the Emory Center for Pastoral Services.

Keith Delman 2011 received the 2013 Dean's Teaching Award. Recipients of this award are nominated by colleagues and students and chosen by the Teaching Awards Committee for their superior teaching of medical and allied health professions students and their many contributions as course directors and mentors.

Usha Ramakrishnan 2008 was promoted to Full Professor effective in June.

Julie Hollberg 2013 was selected to teach a pre-course at the 14th Annual Southern Hospital Medicine conference on 'How to Become Your Hospital's IT Leader and Get Paid for It' and is one of four faculty members planning and presenting at the national CMIO conference at the American Medical Informatics Association annual conference.

In May, **Roxann Arnold 2007** became President elect of the Georgia Chapter of Healthcare Financial Management Association.

Anne Dunlop 2012 was appointed to the School of Nursing faculty as of January 2013, and in September 2013 received an R01 grant for \$2.7MM to study the Microbiome and Preterm Birth together with Dual-PI, Elizabeth Corwin, PhD.

Sandi Dunbar 2006 was inducted into the International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame by the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing.

Lance Waller 2003 was appointed interim chair of the medical school's Department of Biomedical Informatics and interim director of the Center for Comprehensive Informatics.

Chad Ritenour 2005 began his appointment as Associate Chief Medical Officer for EUH on September 1. He has played a key role in the Department of Urology, and in this new position he will focus on driving quality and value at EUH, and serve as chair of the peer review committee.

Judy Belt 2010 and **Lori McLelland 2006** presented at the national conference of the Society for Healthcare Strategy and Market Development (SHSMD) in Chicago on September 30th. The session focused on the Primary Care Planning Process that Emory Healthcare conducted in early 2013.

The Department of Pediatrics recently appointed the following as new Marcus Professors:

- **Nael McCarty 2012** in cystic fibrosis
- **Sampath Prahalad 2013** in rheumatology
- **Hal Simon 2007** in emergency medicine and faculty development



Amy Chen 2010 was named the Willard and Lillian Hackerman Professor in Otolaryngology.

Viola Vaccarino 2010 is the inaugural recipient of the Wilton Looney endowed chair in cardiovascular research. She was also named the inaugural recipient of the Tracy Faber Award for Women in Imaging Science and Engineering given by Emory's Department of Radiology and Imaging Sciences.

Greg Martin 2011 will be chairing the international Annual Congress for the Society of Critical Care Medicine in January 2015.

Marilyn Margolis 2005 won the 2013 GHA Heroic Lifetime Achievement Award. This is awarded to one individual annually who has provided impactful service to one hospital/health system for over 30 years.

Gary Miller 2005 became Editor-in-Chief of Toxicological Sciences on September 1. ToxSci is the flagship journal of the Society of Toxicology.

On November 15th in Tucson, Arizona, **Ray Young 2014** was recognized as a Fellow of the Academy of Psychosomatic Medicine at their 60th annual conference. This Fellowship status is in recognition of his contributions to the field of Psychosomatic Medicine.

Kathryn Yount 2012 is now:

- Faculty Counselor, Academic Affairs Committee, Board of Trustees, Emory University
 - Member, Faculty Advisor Board to Michael Mandl, Emory University
 - Member, Class and Labor Committee, Phase II of the Provost's Office, Emory University
 - Program Committee, 2014 Population Association of American Annual Meeting
 - Co-Chair, Panel on Family Demography and Health in Developing Countries, International Union for the Scientific Study of Population
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The laboratory of **Erwin Van Meir 2006** participated in the landmark manuscript of The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA) establishing The Somatic Genomic Landscape of Glioblastoma, a highly malignant brain tumor in adults (Brennan C et al, 2013, *Cell* 155, 462-477. He also collaborated with University of Toronto researchers to define the importance of *TP53* gene and *TERT* promoter mutations in medulloblastoma, the most malignant pediatric brain tumor (Zhukova N et al, 2013, *Journal of Clinical Oncology* 31, 2927-35 and Remke M et al, 2013, *Acta Neuropathologica*, in press).

Lisa Carlson 2013 was elected to be the 2013-14 Chair of the Executive Board of the American Public Health Association.

Kent Haythorn 2013 was asked to present at the UHC Perioperative Conference this year. His presentation was called "Aligning Incentives in Perioperative Services". He also presented a poster at the International Nursing Administration Research Conference on November 15.

Laurence Sperling 2008 was named president-elect of the American Society for Preventive Cardiology. His two-year-term will begin next year.

This year's UHC Quality Conference featured posters on more than 20 projects, with top recognition awarded to four. **Jennifer Zreloff 2007** was a member of the four top teams recognized for their project, Improving Blood Pressure Control at Emory Patient-Centered Primary Care (PCPC).



Listed below are the WLA Fellows that were recognized as 2013 award members of the MilliPub and 1% clubs, which respectively recognize scientists with publications that have received 1,000 citations or scored NIH grants in the 1st percentile:

2013 MilliPub Club Awardees: [Volkan Adsay 2012](#), [Sagar Lonial 2012](#)
2013 Emory 1% Club Awardee: [Viraj Master 2014](#)

[Fellows in the News](#)

R&D Magazine | [Steering stem cells with magnets](#)
July 16, 2013

The paper was a result of collaboration between the laboratories of **W. Robert Taylor 2007**, MD, PhD, and Gang Bao, PhD. Taylor is professor of medicine and biomedical engineering and director of the Division of Cardiology at Emory University School of Medicine. Bao is professor in the Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering at Georgia Tech and Emory University. | [Health Canal](#)

MedPage Today | [Top ACOs get good marks, CMS reports](#)
July 16, 2013

David Howard 2013, PhD, of Emory University's Rollins School of Public Health in Atlanta, said that the results could be seen as good news. "Even if some of the pioneer sites are able to save money, why yes, that's a positive for the Medicare program," Howard told MedPage Today in a video interview.

Atlanta Business Chronicle | [Emory researchers seek biomarkers for Parkinson's disease](#)
July 25, 2013

Emory researchers are examining the possibility of diagnosing Parkinson's disease (PD) before physical symptoms occur. "Since Parkinson's disease is a progressive disorder, we believe that by learning to recognize pre-motor symptoms for PD, we may be able to develop therapies that would delay or prevent the onset of the impaired movements, tremor and gait problems in PD patients," **Stewart Factor 2011**, professor of neurology at Emory University School of Medicine, said in the statement.

US News & World Report | [Bigger lungs improve odds of transplant survival, study finds](#)
August 1, 2013

Seth Force 2008, of Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta, commented on the study's strength in an accompanying journal editorial. "The data in this manuscript make a compelling argument for the lung transplant community, as well as (United Network for Organ Sharing), to consider changing to a pTLC method for lung sizing for listed patients," Force concluded. | [Newsday.com](#)

Telegraph UK | Video: [Doctor explains George W. Bush's heart surgery procedure](#)
August 6, 2013

Cardiologist **Habib Samady 2013** of Emory University Hospital explains the heart surgery procedure undergone by George W. Bush to unblock an artery.

MedPage Today | [Mental distress after disaster best ID'd early](#)
August 6, 2013

"The authors were proposing that there be a means to assess the cases, that they get triaged to the appropriate intervention, and that the appropriate intervention then be executed," commented **Alexander Isakov 2010**, MD, of Emory University in Atlanta, who wasn't involved in the study.



CNN | [Cyberbullying can be the last straw](#)

August 7, 2013

At the CNN studio **Nadine Kaslow 2003**, professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at Emory University School of Medicine, discusses the serious effects of cyberbullying and ways to protect children.

Drug Discovery News | [Magnetic Mesenchymals](#)

August 12, 2013

This work was the result of collaboration between the laboratories of Dr. **W. Robert Taylor 2007**, professor of medicine and biomedical engineering and director of the Division of Cardiology at Emory University School of Medicine, and Dr. **Gang Bao**, professor in the Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering at Georgia Tech and Emory University.

MSN Healthy Living | [Poor oral hygiene tied to cancer-linked virus, study finds](#)

August 21, 2013

The study is hampered by some limitations, said Dr. **Amy Chen 2010**, a professor of otolaryngology, head and neck surgery at Emory University in Atlanta.

Atlanta Journal-Constitution | [From the bedside to the boardroom](#)

August 23, 2013

After years of working in critical care and directing emergency department operations for Emory Healthcare, **Marilyn Margolis 2005** reluctantly took the job as interim CNO at Emory Johns Creek Hospital, where she fell in love with the "down-home feel and phenomenal medical care at this community hospital." Now CNO and vice president of patient services and operations, Margolis is leading her nursing staff on a journey to Magnet status.

MedPage Today | [Most docs still take medicare, report finds](#)

August 22, 2013

"Payment rates may be stingy compared to private reimbursements, but few physicians can afford to disengage from Medicare," **David Howard 2013**, PhD, associate professor of health policy and management at Emory University in Atlanta, said in an email to MedPage Today. "It covers too many people (46 million) and there are too many dollars at stake (over \$550 billion)."

Medpage Today | [Young adults unaware of ACA exchanges](#)

August 21, 2013

"If young, healthy people do not enroll, premiums will be much higher for those that do," **David Howard 2013**, PhD, associate professor of health policy and management at Emory University in Atlanta, told MedPage Today. "Efforts to publicize the exchanges are just getting off the ground, but clearly the federal government and participating states have their work cut out for them between now and January 1, when coverage becomes effective."

WXIA-TV | [Study: Yelling at teens is not effective](#)

September 4, 2013

Emory University's Dr. **Nadine Kaslow 2003**, who is also president-elect of the American Psychological Association, told 11Alive News that yelling at teens informs them that raising their voices is the way to deal with stressful situations. | [WFMY News](#)



Lansing State Journal | [Study: Few grasp even basic medical terms](#)

September 24, 2013

"I was surprised by the magnitude of it, by just how poorly understood these terms are -- these terms we use every single day with every single patient," said Dr. **Viraj Master 2014**, a physician and researcher at Emory University's Winship Cancer Institute, also a lead investigator of the study. "We have our work cut out for us."

Atlanta Business Chronicle | [Emory-Children's testing bird flu vaccine](#)

September 24, 2013

This bird flu vaccine trial is important, because humans have not developed any immunity to this newly identified H7N9 virus, said Dr. **Mark Mulligan 2008**, professor of medicine in Emory University School of Medicine and executive director of the Hope Clinic.

Medpage Today | [ED use could surge under ACA, study suggests](#)

September 17, 2013

Increases in California emergency department (ED) use were driven in large part by Medicaid patients, presaging increased burdens after the Affordable Care Act kicks in completely, researchers found. These costs may represent a bigger picture of burdens on acute care across the U.S. under expansions to Medicaid under the ACA, according to **David Howard 2013**, PhD, at the Department of Health Policy and Management at Emory University's Rollins School of Public Health in Atlanta.

Huffington Post | [Testing Together: Providing HIV testing for male couples](#)

September 30, 2013

September 27th was National Gay Men's HIV Awareness Day, a day aimed at encouraging gay men to test for HIV and to adopt risk reducing behaviors. "With funding from the National Institutes of Health and the MAC AIDS Fund, we at Emory have worked with community based organizations to test over 300 male-male couples so far," says **Rob Stephenson 2013**, associate professor of Global Health at Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University.

Science Daily | [Alternative approaches to surgical valve replacement offer comparable outcomes](#)

October 1, 2013

"Our experience demonstrated that cardiac surgeons and cardiologists must utilize a multitude of access options in TAVR to achieve minimal morbidity and mortality with excellent outcomes," said **Vinod H. Thourani 2011**, MD, from Emory University in Atlanta and lead author of the study.

Medpage Today | [ACA exchanges open with heavy traffic, site crashes](#)

October 1, 2013

David Howard 2013, associate professor at Emory's Rollins School of Public Health, is featured in a discussant video panel on the Affordable Care Act.

WABE-FM Atlanta | [Emory Professor: Insurance exchange issues won't influence long-term success or failure of Obamacare](#)

October 6, 2013

But Emory University associate professor **David Howard 2013** says it's not how the Affordable Care Act will be judged long-term. Instead, he says, the real test will involve answers to questions like, "To what degree is it successful in extending insurance coverage? How do employers react? Do they drop coverage or continue to provide coverage?"



NBC News | [Side effects of breast cancer treatment](#)

October 11, 2013

"In the past, we weren't focused on referring patients as aggressively to rehab as we are today. With early intervention, we can have a woman go back to her normal quality of life with excellent range of motion, minimal swelling of her arm, and any other effects that surgery or radiation might cause," said Dr. **Sheryl Gabram 2008**, a breast surgical oncologist at Emory Winship Cancer Institute.

Atlanta Business Chronicle | [Emory launches Lou Gehrig's disease trial](#)

October 10, 2013

In the Phase II trial, the first 12 patients will receive injections in the cervical spinal cord only, the region that may help in preserving breathing function, noted Dr. **Jonathan Glass 2008**, professor of neurology, Emory School of Medicine and director of the Emory ALS Center.

Science Daily | [Packaging stem cells in capsules for heart therapy](#)

October 11, 2013

"This approach appears to be an effective way to increase cell retention and survival in the context of cardiac cell therapy," says **W. Robert Taylor 2007**, MD, professor of medicine and director of the cardiology division at Emory University School of Medicine and professor in the Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering at Georgia Tech and Emory.

Atlanta Magazine | [Emory endowment for palliative care](#)

October 21, 2013

The Emory School of Nursing just received a \$6.5 million endowment to establish a palliative care fellowship program to develop nurse leaders in the growing field of care for people facing life-threatening and chronic illness. We talked to geriatric nurse practitioner **Carolyn Clevenger 2013**, a clinical associate professor at Emory School of Medicine, about the sizable endowment.

Atlanta Business Chronicle Paid subscription | [Heart experts tout knowledge plus prevention](#)

October 18, 2013

By age 65, however, gender differences are much attenuated for both chest pain and death, according to Dr. **Viola Vaccarino 2010**, co-author of the Emory study and chair of the Rollins School of Public Health Epidemiology Department at Emory.

Reuters | [Doctors rarely discuss risks of cancer screening](#)

October 21, 2013

It's possible some people in the study were told about overdiagnosis, but they don't remember it or doctors talked over their heads, said **David Howard 2013**, a health policy researcher at Emory University in Atlanta, who was not involved in the new study. | [Baltimore Sun](#)

WSB-TV | [Schools benefit from nursing program](#)

October 21, 2013

Michelle Mott 2011, an Emory nurse practitioner, was interviewed on the benefits of a nursing program partnership with Georgia Perimeter College.

Medical Xpress | [More opportunities found for respiratory infections to spread among staff in emergency departments](#)

October 24, 2013

"Our goal of the study was to see how the spread of infections, like influenza, might be transmitted in a busy place like an emergency room," says **Douglas Lowery-North 2003**, MD, MSPH, associate



professor of emergency medicine at Emory University School of Medicine, and vice chair for clinical operations for emergency medicine at Emory Healthcare.

United Press International | [New encapsulation stem cell technique could be used to treat damaged hearts](#)

October 25, 2013

Dr. **W. Robert Taylor 2007**, professor of medicine at Emory and the director of Emory's cardiology division, recently published a paper about a new procedure that encapsulates stem cells in a gummy substance called alginate.

WCPT Radio | [Affordable Health Care Act](#)

October 26, 2013

Dick Kay discusses the Affordable Health Care Act with guest **David Howard 2013**, PhD, associate professor of the Department of Public Health Policy and Management at the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University.

Georgia Health News | [A new center to help rebuild lives](#)

November 4, 2013

Researchers at Emory's Rollins School of Public Health have opened a new center that aims to improve the lives of people with mental and substance use disorders. The center's director, Dr. **Benjamin Druss 2006**, says he hopes it will become "a center of gravity within the Atlanta community," to help people with these disorders.

CNN | [Improved brain injury survival furthers organ shortage](#)

November 5, 2013

"You can't look at this in any other way but to celebrate better medical care," said Dr. **Thomas Pearson 2004**, executive director of the Emory Transplant Center and director of the Kidney Transplant Program at Emory University Hospital in Atlanta. While these outcomes should be celebrated, Pearson also acknowledged the potentially negative implications for transplant organ availability. This story appeared in multiple news outlets.

Atlanta Journal-Constitution Subscription required | [New rule requires 'parity' for mental health and physical health coverage](#)

November 8, 2013

"This is excellent news," said Dr. **Nadine Kaslow 2003**, a professor at the Emory University School of Medicine and the president-elect of the American Psychological Association. "It's one thing to say there's parity. It's another thing to put concrete realities behind that." **Ken Thorpe**, a health policy professor at Emory University, said that for the costly patients battling multiple medical problems, mental illness is often among the list of conditions. Giving doctors the ability to adequately treat all the problems could help make treatment more effective -- and even less expensive.

Fox 5 News Atlanta | [Pit bull tests cancer treatment](#)

November 11, 2013

Veterinary neurologist Simon Platt was working with **Emory University's Winship Cancer Institute** neurosurgeon and professor **Constantinos Hadjipanayis 2014** on a new drug combination. They were taking cituximab, which is used to treat other types of cancer in humans, and attaching it to iron nanoparticles that would guide the drug right to its target.



Fox 5 News Atlanta | [Georgia men undergo risky surgery in battle against ALS](#)

November 20, 2013

When Emory ALS specialist **Jonathan Glass 2008** confirmed why, John decided to fight. That's why he decided to try the experimental surgery..."So our first goal is to keep people alive longer and that's why injecting the cervical spinal cord is the most important," said Dr. **Nicholas Boulis**, an Emory neurosurgeon. "On the other hand, it's also the most dangerous."

Red Orbit | [Stress particularly dangerous for young women who've had heart attacks](#)

November 20, 2013

"This is the first study to examine the cardiovascular effects of psychological stress as a possible mechanism for the greater mortality after myocardial infarction among younger women," said study leader Dr. **Viola Vaccarino 2010**, chair of the epidemiology department at Emory.

[Happy Trails...](#)

Sanjay Dhall 2012 accepted a neurosurgery faculty position at the University of California, San Francisco.

Dubois Bowman 2007 shared that he will be transitioning to Columbia University to become the Chairman and Professor of Biostatistics in the Mailman School of Public Health. This is effective January 1, 2014. He shares the news with great excitement on one hand about his new role, yet with ambivalence because he will move on from the wonderful WLA (and more broadly Emory) community. Here are some links to the Columbia announcement:

<http://www.mailman.columbia.edu> (select the corresponding story in News & Research)

<http://www.mailman.columbia.edu/news/dr-dubois-bowman-named-chair-mailman-school-department-biostatistics>

Kevin Kim 2013 is now at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine serving as:

- Vice Chair, Image Guided Therapy and Interventional Oncology Research
- Director, Interventional Oncology Translational Laboratory
- Chief, Interventional Radiology

He can be reached at Kimk7@upmc.edu.

[Staying Linked](#) - *A feature to keep you connected with other fellows:*

Ned Waller 2007 directs Winship's Bone Marrow Transplant team, which this year expects to reach a milestone of 4,000 transplants performed. Other members of his team include **Amelia Langston 2010**, BMT medical director. The team was called "bringers of hope" in a recent Winship magazine. The team is Georgia's largest, most diversified program for bone marrow transplants and takes on the full range of cancer cases, turning despair to hope.



Tammie Quest 2008 announced the following:

We have been officially funded by the **Fuld Trust in the amount of \$6.5M to train subspecialty Palliative Care Advance Practitioner Nurses Leaders**. This is pivotal in the field and I want to thank all of the nurses in the Center that have made this type of award possible by your outstanding commitment to Palliative Care Nursing as we are now one of the distinct leaders in the nation in training Palliative Care Advance Practice Nurses with only several others in the nation.. I especially want to



thank **Debbie Gunter** and **Maggie Riley** for their ability to communicate with the Fuld Trust, directly when they visited Atlanta, their extraordinary passion and commitment to excellence in training advance practice nurses in palliative care. **Carolyn Clevenger 2013**, our amazing faculty partner in palliative care education and training in the School of Nursing, is to be commended on her vision in the School of Nursing to add this to the curriculum and to be committed to adding this subspecialty training curriculum. This award was funded by Fuld because of their belief in the amazing education and clinical programs we have her at the Center at all sites.

Here is the press release: http://www.nursing.emory.edu/news_and_events/links/2013/10/fuld-palliative-care.html



The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases has awarded Emory a contract to test new vaccines and therapies for infectious, immunologic, and allergic diseases. Emory is one of nine NIH Vaccine and Treatment Evaluation Units (VTEUs) receiving contracts for vaccine evaluation. The contracts for the VTEUs are valued up to \$135 million annually over a seven-year period. **Mark Mulligan 2008** is principal investigator of Emory's VTEU.

WLA Lunch & Leadership – The next WLA Lunch & Leadership will be held on **Friday, December 6th from 11:30am – 1:00pm at the School of Medicine, Room 190P.** *(Please note that the room assignment is subject to change, depending on attendance estimates.)* We will be viewing “**Building a Winning Team**”, and then Gary will lead the group in what is sure to be a lively and informative discussion.

Don't forget we have a number of new books and CDs in the WLA Library and hope you will be able to take advantage of this leadership resource.

If you would like to checkout a book, DVD or CD from the library, let us know, and we'll deliver it to your office within a few days. Send a request via email to: WLAlibrary@emory.edu.

As many of you know, **Becky Provine 2005** passed away earlier this month. Becky spent 42 years of her life as a nurse and worked until the end of her life. She was recently named the 2013 Georgia Nursing Leader by the Georgia Organization of Nursing Executives.

One of Becky's last initiatives was to attain the goal of having Emory Hospital recognized by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) Magnet Recognition Program. Emory has been working to earn the award for the last couple of years. Due to Becky's leadership, a site visit by the ANCC is planned, which is the last step in the designation process. To get to this point has been an enormous accomplishment and Becky led nursing at Emory to this point.

Becky was a blessing to all whose lives she touched and she will be missed.

