



# WLA SPOTLIGHT

## *A Report on Woodruff Leadership Academy Fellows*

Winter 2016 – Volume XXVI

### Accomplishments, Appointments, Awards...



On May 1<sup>st</sup>, **Nael McCarty 2012** will become the Director of the Graduate Division of Biological and Biomedical Sciences within the Laney Graduate School at Emory. The Division is the home of the eight interdisciplinary training programs at Emory. Nael is the Marcus Professor of Cystic Fibrosis in the Department of Pediatrics in the School of Medicine.

**Alex Isakov 2010** received the Keith Neely Outstanding Contribution to EMS Award by the National Association of Emergency Medical Services Physicians. This award recognized his work to improve the EMS community's preparedness and his competency to manage and transport patients with serious communicable diseases, along with his leadership nationally on this subject.

**David Kooby 2015** was named Chief of Emory Surgery in the Northern Arc. This is a new Division Chief position in the Department of Surgery that oversees the efforts at Emory Saint Joseph's Hospital and Emory Johns Creek Hospital. He will also be co-chairing the first international symposium on minimally invasive pancreatic resection in Sao Paulo Brazil next month. Dr. Kooby was recently elected to executive council for the video-based education committee for the American College of Surgeons and also invited to lecture in Istanbul for the Turkish Chapter of the American College of Surgeons.

Effective January 1, **Kimberly Arriola 2010** was appointed as the Rollins School of Public Health Associate Dean for Academic Affairs,.

**Kevin Andrews 2015** has been named Chief Operating Officer of Emory Saint Joseph's Hospital.

**Stacy Higgins 2010** will be given the Society of General Internal Medicine 2016 National Award for Mid-Career Education Mentorship. This award recognizes a member for mentoring activities of general medicine educators.

**Joyce Doyle 2006** will receive the 2016 Jane F. Desforges National award from the American College of Physicians. This award is bestowed upon a Fellow or Master of the College who has demonstrated the ennobling qualities of a great teacher as judged by the acclaim and accomplishments of former students who have been inspired and have achieved positions of leadership in the field of medical education, primarily as teachers.

**Wendy Book 2012** will be receiving the Alumni Award of Honor in April.

**Jonathan Glass 2008** was elected the co-chair of the Northeast ALS Consortium (NEALS), which is the largest international organization focusing on clinical trials for patients with ALS.

**Jada Bussey-Jones 2014** was selected to participate in the 2016 America's Essential Hospitals Fellows Program, *Innovative and Adaptive Leadership: Essential in Times of Change*. This program provides a valuable opportunity to network with colleagues who share similar missions and understand the unique challenges of the safety net to gain the knowledge and tools to help mobilize your organization during times of change.



**Wendy Armstrong 2011** was named chair-elect for the HIV Medicine Association.

**Haian Fu 2015** was named to a Winship Partner in Research Endowed Chair.

**Lucky Jain 2003** received the Duane Alexander Award from the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health & Human Development.

**Jaffar Khan 2009** received the Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, given to those who foster innovation and improvement in their residency programs and serve as exemplary role models for residents.

**Traci Galatas 2015** celebrated her 20th Anniversary with Emory on March 1<sup>st</sup>.

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## *Fellows in the News*

**WAGA-TV Atlanta** | [How to break your nervous habits](#)

January 5, 2016

They're little quirks that calm us: we bite our nails, crack our knuckles, fidget with our cell phones when we should be listening. Emory/Grady psychologist Dr. **Nadine Kaslow 2004** says these nervous habits are really common.

**Associated Press TV** | [Powerball jackpot climbs to estimated \\$700M](#)

January 7, 2016

Atlanta lottery sales outlets and Powerball ticket buyers are looking forward to a record jackpot. Emory psychologist **Nadine Kaslow 2004** says it gives players hope and a chance to daydream, and also provides a big rush in the part of their brain that's drawn to pleasure and action.

**Atlanta Business Chronicle** | [Emory University and UGA agree to reciprocal use of core facilities](#)

January 13, 2016

Emory University and The University of Georgia researchers agreed to the reciprocal use of core facilities at their institutions. **Michael Zwick 2016**, assistant vice president for research in the Woodruff Health Sciences Center and assistant dean of research in Emory University School of Medicine, said, "We hope to expand this kind of facilities collaboration with our other partners."

**Wall Street Journal** | [How an NFL star worked out during chemotherapy](#)

January 14, 2016

Emory University Winship Cancer Institute's Dr. **Christopher Flowers 2016** discusses the comeback of Kansas City football player Eric Berry.

**CNN** | [Meet the dogs who can sniff out cancer better than some lab tests](#)

January 19, 2016

Dr. **Sheryl Gabram 2008** of Emory University published a study four years ago showing that a machine, like a dog, could reliably detect the smell of breast cancer from patients' breath samples. The problem, she thinks, is that while cancer-smelling dogs (or machines) make for great headlines - one of her own patients received a great deal of publicity -- it's not always easy to envision how sniffing out cancer could be used commercially but "I think it's an area of research that's still promising."



*Associated Press* via Washington Times | [More Americans making it past 100th birthday](#)

January 20, 2016

"It's a case of if you live to 100, you've escaped cancer and some other causes of death that are more common in younger people," said **David Howard 2013**, an Emory University health economist who studies cancer trends.

*Associated Press* via NBCNews.com | [More Americans making it to their 100th birthday and beyond](#)

January 20, 2016

The ranks of Americans that make it past their 100th birthday is growing, according to a new government report.

"It's a case of if you live to 100, you've escaped cancer and some other causes of death that are more common in younger people," said **David Howard 2013**, an Emory University health economist who studies cancer trends. The ranks of Americans that make it past their 100th birthday is growing, according to a new government report. [Daily Mail](#) | [Christian Today](#)

*Medpage Today* | [Nulojix ups survival in kidney transplant patient](#)

January 27, 2016

The immunosuppressive drug belatacept (Nulojix) reduced the risk of death or graft loss in kidney transplant patients compared with cyclosporine. **Christian Larsen 2003**, MD, PhD, of the Emory University Transplant Center in Atlanta said in an interview, "This is a potential significant advance for patients. There is a big unmet need to develop therapies that improve long-term patient and graft survival."

*KPRC-TV Houston* | [Cost to battle cancer continues to rise](#)

January 22, 2016

The cost to battle cancer increases year after year. The rising price for treatment provides incentive for newer and better medicines, but these drugs can also leave patients bankrupt. "The launch prices of cancer drugs are rising by about 10 percent, or \$8,500 a year," said **David Howard 2013**, associate professor at the Department of Health Policy and Management at Emory University. "Companies are free to set whatever price they like."

*UPI* | [Drug improves survival rate for kidney transplant patients](#)

January 28, 2016

The drug belatacept, sold as Nulojix, showed better organ survival in kidney transplant recipients than the current standard of care, according to a multi-year, worldwide study. "While the best uses of belatacept still need additional definition, these results indicate that using belatacept as standard of care has the potential to improve long-term outcomes that matter to patients," said Dr. **Christian Larsen 2003**, a professor of surgery at Emory University, in a press release. [Nephrology News](#) | [Pulse Headlines](#)

*Georgia Trend* | [Promoting prevention](#)

February 1, 2016

"We see blood pressures in the Southern United States that people don't see in other parts of the country because of the salt in our diets," says **Laurence Sperling 2008**, MD, who started the state's first comprehensive preventive cardiology program at Emory University in 1997...Emory has been a leader in the use of a class of injected agents called PCSK9 inhibitors that can lower LDL by 60 percent on top of what traditional cholesterol-lowering medications known as statins do.

*Infectious Disease News* | [Continuous HIV care critical to viral suppression, long-term outcomes](#)

February 5, 2016

"Retention in care may be the most important step along the care continuum as missed clinic visits are a powerful predictor of mortality and the majority of HIV transmissions result from patients who are diagnosed but not retained," **Carlos del Rio**, MD, professor of medicine at Emory University School of Medicine and chair of the HIV Medicine Association (HIVMA); **Wendy S. Armstrong 2011**, MD, FIDSA, FACP, medical director of the Ponce de Leon Center in Atlanta and vice chair of HIVMA; and colleagues wrote.



**HealthLeaders Media** | [A payer and a partner make the case for extensivists](#)

February 10, 2016

"CareMore's relationship with us is not as a payer, but as a partner, as they teach us, using our staff, to execute their model, and it's focused on Medicare Advantage patients," says **Richard Gitomer 2003**, MD, president and chief quality officer of the Emory Healthcare Network. "We have a partnership with CareMore for financial responsibility for this effort."

**Popular Science** | [Your exposome is the sum of every place you've ever been](#)

February 18, 2016

**Dean Jones**, Emory professor of medicine, is designing research, along with doctors, toxicologists, systems biologists and children's health specialists around the world, to predict what abnormal substances within the body mean for a person's health. **Gary Miller 2005**, associate dean for research at Emory University's Rollins School of Public Health and director of HERCULES (the Health and Exposome Research Center: Understanding Lifetime Exposures) says the exposome ultimately will become a systematic, comprehensive way of studying the environmental influences of health.

**NPR Marketplace** | [The Ebola outbreak is over, but the hunt for a vaccine continues](#)

February 23, 2016

Dr. **Mark Mulligan 2008**, a specialist in infectious disease and executive director of the Hope Clinic of the Emory Vaccine Center, discusses breakthroughs in potential vaccines to prevent Ebola virus. Mulligan was also interviewed on [WABE-FM](#) Atlanta.

**WGCL-TV Atlanta** | [Cystic fibrosis](#)

February 29, 2016

**Nael McCarty 2012**, PhD, director of the Emory-Children's Cystic Fibrosis Center of Excellence, discusses cystic fibrosis, new treatments targeting a defective protein and innovative research.

**WSB-TV** | [Music is Medicine exhibit](#)

March 1, 2016

The Music is Medicine free exhibit at Winship Cancer Institute is highlighted, including comments by **Sagar Lonial 2012**, MD, Winship Chief Medical officer.

**MD Magazine** | [Physicians see better life by reducing EHR clicks](#)

March 7, 2016

But a project started by Atlanta-based **Emory Healthcare** has targeted a reduction in EHR (electronic health records) clicks through customized workflow as a means to, at the very least, make the use of technology more efficient. "We started with a pilot in cardiology in June," says **Julie Hollberg 2013**, MD, CMIO of Emory Healthcare. "But now we've actually rolled it out throughout the entire clinic."

**CBS News Sunday Morning** | [The other victim of an accidental shooting](#)

March 13, 2016

How common is it for a child to accidentally shoot and kill another child? Dr. **Hal Simon 2007**, a professor at Emory University Medical School in Atlanta, explained a study in which eight- to 12-year-old boys were put in a room with a handgun, modified with the magazine removed and a radio transmitter that could monitor whether the boys pulled the gun's trigger with enough force to have fired it.

**MedPage Today** | [Clinton's health plan gets passing grade from policy experts](#)

March 15, 2016

Emory University scholar **David Howard 2013**, PhD, told MedPage Today that he was troubled by Clinton's proposing of new spending without suggesting how the costs would be offset. "Clinton promises new subsidies for people who buy insurance on the exchanges, new subsidies to help offset out-of-pocket costs, and additional funds



to subsidize state Medicaid expansions. At a time when the federal government is struggling to afford entitlements, it is irresponsible to promise new spending without offsetting spending reductions elsewhere."

**WABE-FM** | [Lassa fever preparedness and protocols](#)

March 16, 2016

Infectious disease physician Dr. **Aneesh Mehta 2015** discusses Lassa fever and preparedness and protocols in the Serious Communicable Diseases Unit at Emory University Hospital. Interview begins at 49:46.

## [Happy Trails](#)

After a transition period of several months, **Francois Villinger 2010** left Emory (after 26 years) to take the lead of the New Iberia Research Center at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.



### **SAVE THE DATE – Don't miss this one!**

WLA Lunch & Leadership – Mark your calendars for **JUNE 7<sup>th</sup>**. Bob Bachman will be speaking on: *The Importance of High Functioning Teams in a Crisis: Managing Ebola at Emory University Hospital*. The location is SOM 110.

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Remember to take advantage of the leadership resources available in the WLA Library.

**Tom Price 2013** recently recommended Console Wars by Blake J. Harris for the WLA Library. The book focuses on Tom Kalinske as he leaves Mattel after rescuing the Barbie franchise and assumes the role of Sega of America as it debuts against Nintendo. Tom said there is ample discussion of corporate culture, and how it can drive a company to compete successfully with overwhelming odds (when Kalinske took over at Sega, Nintendo had a 90% market share). The book is written in a narrative form and is easy to read. We now have it in the library in hardback and CD.

WLA Dean **Gary Teal** recently finished listening to the bestselling biography of John Adams, America's founding father and second president. Gary highly recommends this CD and said it is rich in history.

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.

