



Special Delivery

Issue 7

September 10, 2010

Welcome to the Residency Program!!

The new class of interns has finished their first rotations and are all off to a great start. Here is some information to help us get to know them better.



Nana-Ama Ankunah, MD
Undergrad: University of Florida
Medical School: University of Wisconsin School of Medicine
Hometown: Auburn, AL
Interesting Info: Fluent in Spanish, rivals Caroline for “happiest intern ever” award



Jonathan Boone, MD
Undergrad: University of Tennessee Knoxville
Medical School: University of Tennessee Health Science Center, College of Memphis
Hometown: Memphis, TN
Interesting Info: Claims to be a professional “calf model” and vegan . . .
hmmm, I wonder???



Laura Divine, MD
Undergrad: Texas A&M
Medical School: University of Texas Medical Branch School of Medicine
Hometown: San Antonio, TX
Interesting Info: Makes plum tarts that would rival Paula Deen’s!!



Jennifer Durst, MD
Undergrad: Duke University
Medical School: University of Alabama School of Medicine
Hometown: Huntsville, AL
Interesting Info: Can hook you up with a Nip and Tuck (her father is a plastic surgeon); amazing soprano vocalist . . .
la, la, la!!!



Deidre Gunn, MD
Undergrad: University of Virginia / Samford University
Medical School: University of Alabama School of Medicine
Hometown: Birmingham, AL
Interesting Info: New mom (we love adorable baby, Jack); first Miss America go to Medical School.
Spouse: Andrew Gunn, history teacher / football coach at Homewood HS.



Caroline Juneau, MD
Undergrad: University of South Alabama
Medical School: University of Alabama School of Medicine
Hometown: Mobile, AL
Interesting Info: AKA: “Nugget” — She’s a newlywed!!
Spouse: Jeffrey Juneau, 4th year UASOM student



Jovana Martin, MD
Undergrad: Emory University
Medical School: Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine
Hometown: Amityville, NY
Interesting Info: Spent a month in South America; won the Boys and Girls Club of Cleveland volunteer of the year award!!



Blake Porter, MD
Undergrad: DePauw University
Medical School: University of Oklahoma College of Medicine
Hometown: Norman, OK
Interesting Info: Newlywed, played college soccer, and his father is an Ob/Gyn in OK.
Spouse: Kendall Porter, entering culinary school to become a pastry chef — *yum!!*

Important Dates

September

- 1: ABOG App Process Opens
- 25-26: Resident Retreat

October

- Faculty Mentor Mtg
- Sign up / Submit portfolio: Mid-year Reviews
- 1: PGY2 -Contact Dr. Landen w/ Research Title; PGY3: Contact Dr. Landen w/ progress report; PGY4: same as PGY3s, if you have not yet presented
- 7: EBM Journal Club (CAMS)
- 8: Robotic Training
- 11-13: MS Blk2 Oral Exam
- 15: MS Blk2 Final Exam
- 18-24: MS Scholar's Week
- 25: MS Blk3 Orientation
- 22: Porcine Lab (PGY4s)
- 29: Applicant Interviews; CREOG Review Series; Resident Mtg

November

- Mid-Year Reviews Begin
- 1, 8: Applicant Interviews
- 12: Porcine Lab (PGY3s); Resident Mtg
- 14: ABOG App Deadline
- 15: OB Orientation for Switchover Students
- 15, 19: Applicant Interviews
- 19: Resident Mtg

December

- 3: Applicant Interviews
- 9: EBM JC (CAMS)
- 10, 13: Applicant Interviews
- 13: PGY2: Submit Preliminary Research Abstract to Dr. Landen
- 13-15: MS Blk3 Oral Exam
- 17: Porcine Lab (PGY2s); Resident Mtg
- 17: MS Blk3 Final Exam
- 20-Jan 2: MS Holidays
- 20-26: Res Christmas Holiday
- 27-Jan 2: Res New Year Holiday
- 31: Deadline: AL state license and ACS#
- 31: ABOG App Deadline w/fees

Faculty In The News: "UAB Reporter" Articles



UAB researcher selected for inaugural Ovarian Cancer Academy Award - A researcher in the UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center has been selected for the inaugural Ovarian Cancer Academy Award, part of the U.S. Department of Defense funding for cancer research. Assistant Professor Charles Landen, M.D., of the Division of Gynecologic Oncology, is one of seven early career investigators chosen for the grant. The award is \$1.06 million from the Office of Congressionally Directed Medical Research. Dr. Landen works to identify and characterize a subpopulation of ovarian cancer cells that have enhanced ability to survive chemotherapy and cause recurrence. Understanding this class of cells may lead to discoveries of key pathways that can be targeted with novel anti-cancer therapies.

(Media Contact: Troy Goodman, tdgoodman@uab.edu)

August 27, 2010, <http://main.uab.edu/Sites/MediaRelations/briefs/79656/>

Peds/Adolescent Gynecologic Clinic provides care, education

The UAB Department of ObGyn long has served as a referral center for complex gynecologic health care. However, until two summers ago, it had been without the services of a gynecologic team dedicated to children/adolescents for more than 10 years. Kimberly Hoover, M.D. developed the UAB Pediatric/Adolescent Gynecologic Clinic within Children's Hospital. It is one of only two such dedicated children's clinics in the Birmingham area and positions UAB and Children's Hospital as leaders in diagnosis and treatment of pediatric/adolescent gynecologic disorders. The once-a-week, half-day clinic is open Wednesdays and provides inpatient/outpatient care for pediatric/adolescent gynecology from birth until age 19. Dr. Hoover says, "We're currently in discussion to open up an afternoon clinic. We're hopeful we're going to be able to get something done soon so we can have an afternoon clinic to better serve those that are in school during the day." June 16, 2010

To read full story: <http://main.uab.edu/Sites/reporter/articles/78055/>



Message from the Program Director . . .

What a great year! We have moved in and are enjoying our beautiful new space at the UAB Women and Infants Center, an amazing group of chiefs has graduated and moved on while a tremendously strong group of new interns has joined the program - all of the residents are settling in with their new roles and responsibilities. It is hard to believe that applicant interview season is almost upon us, but we look forward to selecting another class of excellent future Ob/Gyn physicians.

A big 'thank you' to the Resident Executive Education Committee (see pg 4) for their hard work in continuing to improve the program. This group of dedicated faculty representing each division has been invaluable to me and is serving the program well. Also, special thanks to Dr. Chip Landen who has agreed to supervise the resident research program (see above and pg 3) - he will not replace the important individual faculty research mentors, but will facilitate the completion of each resident's research project through well-organized expectations, timelines,

resources, didactics, progress reports, etc. Please visit the resident Website, "Curricular Programs and Resources," for more details. <http://www.obgyn.uab.edu/residency/edmaterial.htm>

I continue to be amazed at the energy and accomplishments of our residents, fellows and faculty. Keep up the great work and keep having fun!
— Alice Goepfert, MD

PGY2s Have Stepped Up To The Plate!!!

No longer relegated to the MEU and post-partum calls, the PGY2s have moved on to another challenging level of training. The PGY2s are taking on a multitude of new responsibilities including caring for sick Gyn Oncology patients, Emergency Department consultations, repeat Cesarean sections, more complicated surgeries, in addition to directly supervising the new interns.

They are meeting this challenge with enthusiasm and tenacity.

Congratulations to the new PGY2s!



Message from the Administrative Chiefs . . .

The 2010-2011 academic year is off to a great start! Our new interns are a hard-working and intelligent bunch, and they are on their way to being one of the strongest classes in the residency program and leaders in our field.

We are excited about this year and want to keep the energy level high. The annual Intern Party, hosted by the Straughns again this year, was a success. If you didn't have fun at this party then you need to be voted off the island! Our Resident Retreat is scheduled for September 25-26. This important event focuses on improving our program and strengthening our resident team. We are grateful to the faculty and fellows who cover the services for this event, which is truly a unique privilege for our program. In addition to social events, there are several great educational opportunities to look forward to this fall. We have revitalized both the Laparoscopy Curriculum and the Robotic Surgery Curriculum. Also, our Journal Club and the Ultrasound Curriculum will be starting in September and October!

So, we have an exciting agenda in the coming months. Before you know it we'll be reviewing applications for the 2011-2012 academic year!

Thanks again and KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!

-- Amelia and David

Department Headlines

Welcome New ObGyn Faculty

- *Gyn Oncology*: Dr. Jacob Estes
- *REI*: Drs. Janet McLaren and Melissa Wellons
- *WPMRS*: Dr. W. Jerod Greer
- *WRH*: Dr. Heather Greer

Progress in ObGyn 2011

- Mark your calendars for February 24-25, 2011. More to come . . .

Resident Research Program Director Named

- Dr. Charles "Chip" Landen has accepted the position as the director for this research program.

Residency Program Internal Review Final Report

- The result of our GME Internal Review (reported on Sept 7 at the Dean's Council) - **Excellent Program!!** Thanks to all faculty / residents who helped in this review.

Education Corner

CERT Website Has Launched

As many of our residents have already participated in, the Creating Effective Resident Teachers (CERT) Program [PI: Dr. Alice Goepfert] is a multidisciplinary project intended to ensure that all resident physicians are prepared to better teach fellow residents and medical students. Although the CERT 2-year project period (funded by the HSF-GEF) has ended, residents can expect to periodically have teaching skills lectures included into their curriculum to continue to enhance their teaching skills for medical students, peers, and patients.

One of the specific aims of the CERT program is to develop a compendium of online modules on various clinical teaching methodologies that will support the CERT Teaching Program and serve as a resource for residents across the UASOM. That aim has been met and the CERT Website is now online.* Although the module list will continue to expand, currently the following modules have been posted:

- Dysfunctional Teams
- Effective Feedback
- Effective Questioning
- Five Clinical Microskills
- Orienting Learners
- Resident as Team Leader
- Role Modeling
- Effective Presentations
- Using Visual Aids

The modules within this site contain "Quick References" to assist the residents (*faculty and fellows, too!!!*) with their teaching activities. This is a brief, bulleted list of information designed to help you target select instructional areas.

For more extended learning and for teaching purposes, modules also contain some or all of the following material: slideshows, handouts, and online resources including relevant websites and articles.

CERT Website: <http://www.obgyn.uab.edu/cert/index.htm>

* The website is currently under review by the UGME and GME before release to other departments within the UASOM.

Resident Executive Education Committee

The Department of ObGyn's Resident Executive Education Committee (RExec) was established in December 2009 by Dr. Goepfert. The monthly meeting is attended by the Residency Program Director (Alice Goepfert, MD), representatives from each division (G. Wright Bates, MD [REI], Joey Biggio, MD [MFM], Bob Holley, MD [MS], Kim Hoover, MD [RWH], Michael Straughn, MD [Gyn Onc], Associate Director for Education (Julie Walsh-Covarrubias, EdD), Residency Program Coordinator (Nancy Atkins, BA), and the Administrative Chiefs (David Ellington, MD and Amelia Sutton, MD).

The purpose of the committee is to provide oversight and improve the educational aspects of the Residency Program. Additionally, the committee is designed to develop better lines of communication throughout the divisions by having the representatives serve as liaisons in communicating issues discussed as well as communicating educational issues of the division back to the committee.

Teaching Tip: *Giving Effective Presentations*

Giving effective presentations (i.e., public speaking) is an important event for residents since it is a requirement throughout training to present to faculty, peers, medical students, and perhaps even to members of the community. While subject knowledge is an essential part of a good presentation, success hinges on two factors:

1. ***the ability to clearly communicate your message***
2. ***engaging the audience by creating interest and showing subject relevance***

The importance of these two factors are often underestimated or perhaps overlooked by many presenters because the focus is typically only on content and how much you can fit into your time period.

Giving presentations can be a very challenging event. Too often, presenters become so nervous that they stumble through the presentation, feeling as if the audience is being judgmental of them. It is important to remember . . . the audience is not judging you. They want you to succeed. Therefore, calm your fears and share your planned material with the audience. Also, realize that there is no great secret to giving a great presentation. The key to an effective speaker is that he/she has developed some essential presentation skills.

Organizing and Preparing for your Presentation

1. Start with the end in mind - *what does the audience expect or what are the take-home points?*
2. Know your audience - *how much background information do they have?*
3. Content, content, content - *make it solid, concise (i.e., don't do a "data dump")*
4. Outline your content - *write down ideas / objectives then determine logical flow*
5. So what? - *if you can't answer that question then cut out that bit of material*
6. Consider using cases / metaphors - *helps audience understand, makes it memorable*
7. Confidence, how do I get it?
 - Know your material, but don't over-prepare or you may become boring
 - Audibly rehearse your presentation because it sounds different in your head
 - Anticipate questions - think of what those may be and prepare your answer

For more information on this as well as "how to deliver an engaging presentation," please visit the CERT website at: <http://www.obgyn.uab.edu/cert/lectures.htm> (see "Quick Reference").

Teaching Tip: *Orienting the Learner*

A good orientation is the foundation for a successful rotation and establishes your role as the team leader. It will ultimately save time and energy by clearly explaining how you want the clinical service to operate. When the learners know what to expect, they will become a much more productive learner.

A Well-Organized Orientation Should Include the Following Topics:

- ***Standards and expectations*** - rotation objectives, clinical duties, what to do in down time, roles, etc.
- ***Patient care activities*** - clinical assignments, charts/medical records, key personnel, format for "case presentations"
- ***Explain rotation organization*** - length, clinics, schedules
- ***Evaluation*** - how, when, by whom; forms used; policies for attendance, behavior, etc.
- ***Needs / Goals of learners*** - what skills do they want to develop? Ask them!!
- ***Positive learning climate*** - your team needs to know that they can approach you with any question, problem, or issue
- ***End with questions from the learners!!***

To read more, <http://www.obgyn.uab.edu/cert/orientation.htm>

This newsletter is from the Department of Ob/Gyn's Office of Education.

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