Welcome Our New Fellows

As a new year begins, we are excited to welcome six new Cardiovascular Disease fellows and three new fellows in our subspecialty programs for the 2016-2017 year. We are also delighted to have old friends in new roles in Cardiac Imaging, Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology, and Advanced Heart Failure and Transplant Cardiology.

Our incoming class is an accomplished group and we are confident they will all be great additions to our Section. To get to know each of our new fellows, please see their photos and read their bios on subsequent pages. Here's to a great year!

A Year for the Books: 2015 to 2016 Fellowship Year

We have just completed a remarkable 2015-16 fellowship year. Our talented fellows made us proud with many accomplishments, honors, and more. They have dedicated many hours to our Section, providing incredible care to our patients, all while developing as leaders, teachers and scientists. On behalf of all Cardiology faculty and staff, we thank you for all for your hard work and offer big congratulations to our six graduates.
The New Faces of Cardiology Fellowship

Lane Benes

I was born and raised in Milwaukee, WI, then went over to the wonderful city of Madison to attend the University of Wisconsin. There I majored in kinesiology. I was a member of UW's Lightweight Women's Crew Team, which has been one of my most valued life experiences. I continued at UW for medical school, then came to the University of Chicago for residency. I have loved exploring Chicago, especially the exciting neighborhoods and restaurants. In my free time, I enjoy visiting my family in Wisconsin, traveling, and being active, especially running along the lakeshore and doing yoga at North Ave Beach. I look forward to meeting all of my co-fellows and to continuing my training at the University of Chicago!

Tharian Cherian

I was born and raised in 'God's own country' -- Kerala, India. At the age of 14, my family and I moved to the Boston suburbs, where I caught Boston sports fever and have been suffering the complications of that condition since that time. After finishing my undergraduate studies in Brain and Cognitive Sciences at MIT, I moved to the windy city for medical school here at the University of Chicago. After four unforgettable years, I left for my residency training at Stanford in sunny California. Chicago was definitely on my mind throughout this time, and I’m beyond excited to be back to start my fellowship. I look forward to meeting my co-fellows and faculty.

Luise Holzhauser

I was born in southwest Germany in a town practically sitting on top of the French border. Later my family moved to Dresden, which is on the other side of the country close to the Czech border, where I attended medical school and completed my doctoral thesis. After graduating I moved to Berlin to work in the Cardiology department of the Charité University where I gained more experience in basic research in heart failure and myocarditis. However, I decided I wanted to further my internal medicine training and came to New York City to complete my residency and chief residency at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine where I also had the chance to continue my research in heart failure.

Now it seems time to leave the Big Apple and move to the Windy City! I am very excited to start fellowship, to experience Chicago and its museums, arts, parks, and restaurants.
Paul Larsen
I was born and raised in a suburb of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. I went to Washington University in Saint Louis for college, where I majored in Earth and Planetary Sciences and Geobiology. I returned to Milwaukee and worked for two years, and then eventually attended medical school at Tulane University in New Orleans. Having finished my Huck Finn trip down the Mississippi, I went westward for residency to the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF). I have been working for the past year as a Hospitalist on the Advanced Heart Failure service at UCSF while my wife applied for medical school, and we are thrilled to be in Chicago together (she will be starting at UIC in August). Our first child was just born in April and he occupies most of my free time; but when I’m not changing diapers I love to play golf, watch sports, and eat at fun restaurants. I’m very excited to start at U of C and meet everyone!

Andrew Putnam
I was born in Utah and grew up enjoying the mountains, especially camping in the summer and skiing in the winter. Later, my family moved to the Chicago suburbs where I finished high school. I attended Saint Louis University where I studied Chemistry, Biology and Spanish. During college, I enjoyed coordinating medical relief trips to Honduras. I attended Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine, where I met my wife. We moved to Ann Arbor for residency at the University of Michigan. While in residency, I enjoyed working with Dr. Geoff Barnes and Dr. James Froehlich studying the changing characteristics of patients with atrial fibrillation anticoagulated with warfarin in light of the growing number of patients being started on DOACs. When I’m not working I enjoy playing basketball, golf, travelling, and trying new types of bourbon and scotch. I am very excited to be back in Chicago and look forward to starting fellowship at the University of Chicago.

Joseph Venturini
I grew up in Indianapolis playing travel hockey in the winter and golf in the summer. I attended the University of Notre Dame, where I studied in a liberal arts “Great Books” program and met my wife, Mary Kate. After college, I moved to Chicago for medical school at Loyola and came down to the University of Notre Dame for medicine residency. Away from the hospital I try to take advantage of all that Chicago has to offer – great food, great festivals and great summers. Even though I grew up in Indiana, I am a lifelong Blackhawks and Cubs fan. My primary sports passion, though, is Notre Dame football. I make the short drive to Notre Dame for games as often as possible, and you are all welcome at the Venturini family tailgate if you find yourself in South Bend for a game. I look forward to meeting my new co-fellows and to starting fellowship at U of C!
The Advanced Fellows of 2016 - 2017

Ajay Patel – Interventional Cardiology
I was born across the pond in a small town you may have heard the name: Toronto. My family and I moved to North Carolina in 1998 settling down in a small town called Greenville, where I attended high school, college, and eventually Medical School. Residency took me to San Francisco where I finished my Internal Medicine residency, and decided to stay in California for Cardiology Fellowship at University of California, Irvine. Besides traveling the country for training, I also love a new adventure, traveling around the world and hope to see every continent before 2020. I’m ready to start my final chapter of post graduate training here in Chicago. What else can a guy ask for? Looking forward to a epic year.

Kelvin Chua – Electrophysiology
I come from Singapore and have literally not ventured out of my home country till the past year. I completed my medical school at the National University of Singapore in 2006. My medical training mirrored that of the British system, having to complete my Internal Medicine Basic Specialist Training and obtaining the Membership of the Royal College of Physicians in 2011 before completing my Cardiology Advanced Specialist Training at the National Heart Centre Singapore in 2014. I just completed my first year Cardiac Electrophysiology fellowship at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, where I had a wonderful learning experience in electrophysiology procedures as well as research on sudden cardiac death. My interests outside the hospital include travelling and sports especially volleyball, badminton, cycling and diving. I am very excited to start this new chapter of my training and life in the Windy City and look forward to meeting and working with all my fellow colleagues at the University of Chicago.

Noreen Nazir – Cardiac Imaging
I am born and raised in a suburb of Cleveland, Ohio, where I also stayed for undergrad, medical school and residency. Then one day I ended up in the great city of Chicago for my general cardiology fellowship and have been in love with the city ever since. I did some cardiac MRI research in residency, but didn’t have much exposure to advanced imaging modalities during fellowship. Missing sitting in a dark room for hours prompted me to seek out advanced imaging training! Looking forward to all that the University of Chicago has to offer and am excited to work with such a warm and welcoming group. Can’t wait to meet everyone!
Let’s Get Personal

Fellows DO have a life outside of Cardiology! Here are a few major events that took place over the course of 2015-2016:

**Married!**
- Luke Laffin married Mara Beveridge on September 12, 2015
- Adam Oesterle married Heather Provencher on May 19, 2016

**Engaged!**
- Ben Chung got engaged to Elisabeth Donahey on April 25, 2016

**Fellowship Class of 2043**
- Jonathan Grinstein and wife Alexis welcomed Ethan Coby Grinstein to their family on May 22, 2016
- Both Amita Singh and Sara Kalantari have babies on the way. We are excited for them to join the class of 2043!
Congratulations to the 2016 Graduates!

- Andrew Beaser will be the Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology fellow here at the University of Chicago
- Jonathan Grinstein will be an Advanced Heart Failure and Transplant fellow here at the University of Chicago
- Sara Kalantari will be an Advanced Heart Failure and Transplant fellow here at the University of Chicago
- Dave Pandya will be a Clinical Associate in General Cardiology at University of Chicago
- Amita Singh will be the Advanced Cardiac Imaging fellow here at the University of Chicago
- Bryan Smith will be an Advanced Heart Failure and Transplant fellow at Northwestern Memorial Hospital.

Congratulations to our Graduating Advanced Fellows too!

**Advanced Cardiac Imaging**
Anuj Mediratta will be moving to New York where he will be an Assistant Professor at Hofstra Northwell School of Medicine.

**Interventional Cardiology**
J. Raider Estrada will be moving to Maine where he will be an attending Cardiologist at Maine Medical Center.

**Advanced Heart Failure and Transplant Cardiology**
Karolina Marinescu will be an Assistant Professor at Rush University in Chicago, IL.

**Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology**
Zaid Aziz will be continuing his University Chicago career as a Clinical Associate in EP. John Green will be pursuing a career as an Electrophysiologist.
Honors & Achievements
Here’s a closer look at just a few of the stellar work of our fellows this year:

**Akhil Narang**
- 2016 National Chairman, ACC Fellow’s In-Training Committee
- 2016 FIT Section Leadership Council, IL FIT Co-Representative

**Adam Oesterle**
- First place in National ACC Fellow’s “Jeopardy” Tournament
- Cardiovascular Research Day: Featured Abstract Presentation

**Amita Singh**
- Cardiovascular Research Day: Featured Abstract Presentation

**Bryan Smith**
- 2016 Pritzker Poetry Contest Winner

2015-2016

Rory R. Childers Cardiology Teaching Award

Dr. Childers came to the University of Chicago in 1963 as a Cardiology fellow and remained here for 50 years. He became a renowned authority on the movement of electrical impulses within the beating heart and the use and interpretation of electrocardiograms. He lectured widely and received many honors. He was awarded the teaching award by the fellows so many times that the award was named after him.

Each year the fellows have the difficult task of choosing a faculty member to give the prestigious Rory Childers Teaching Award. It goes to a faculty member who the graduating class feels has inspired them and provided and outstanding mentorship and teaching.

This year, The Rory R. Childers Cardiology Teaching Award was presented to **Gaurav Upadhyay**

Congratulations, Dr. Upadhyay!
Morton Arnsdorf
Cardiovascular Research Day
April 15, 2016

The Sixth Annual Cardiovascular Research Day (CRD) Symposium was held on April 15, 2016 at DCAM. The symposium highlighted the research within the Sections of Cardiology, Cardiothoracic Surgery, Vascular Surgery, Cardiac Anesthesiology and Interventional Radiology. This day is named in honor of our esteemed friend, mentor and colleague who we continue to miss greatly.

Keynote lecture, “Vulnerable Patient or Vulnerable Plaque?” was given by our guest of honor was Dr. Jagat Narula, MD, PhD, MACC, FRCP.

Research Day: Featured Abstracts and Presentations
Adam S. Vohra
Predicting Heart Failure Readmissions Using a Simplified Actionable Model
Amita Singh
Assessment of Inter-Chamber Functional Relationships in Severe Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension Using Simultaneous Strain Measurements in Four Cardiac Chambers
Adam Oesterle
Prophylaxis of Atrial Fibrillation after Non-Cardiac Surgery: A Meta-Analysis
Willard W. Sharp
Pharmacological induction of torpor/hypothermia as a novel therapy for improving cardiac arrest resuscitation outcomes
Myung-Jin Oh
Targeted VCAM-1 micelles combined with miR-92a inhibition significantly reduce atherosclerosis in apoe-/-mice

Four of the five featured abstract winners show off their plaques on Cardiovascular Research Day while posing with Keynote speaker and faculty members.

Front Row: Jagut Narula, MD; James Liao, MD; Francis Alenghat, MD Back Row: Willard W Sharp, MD; Adam Oesterle, MD; Parker Ward, MD; Amita Singh, MD; Myung-Jin Oh.

Cardiovascular Research Day wouldn’t have been possible without the participation of our faculty!

Francis Alenghat, MD, PhD
Dottie Hanck, PhD
Marion Hofmann Bowman, MD, PhD, FAHA
James K. Liao, MD
Victor Mor-Avi, PhD
Matthew Sorrentino, MD
Gaurav Upadhyay, MD
Arnsdorf Cardiovascular Research Day: Abstracts

- **Zaid Aziz**, Hemal Nayak, Martin Burke, Joshua Moss, Cevher Ozcan "Predictors of Atrial Fibrillation Recurrence after Catheter Ablation"

- **Ben Bow Chung**, Jose Chavez, David Zhang, Gabriel Sayer, Sirtaz Adatya, Nitasha Sarwar, Jing Zhou, Linlin Zhang, Maura Knapp, Eltayeb Karrar MD1, Nir Uriel MD1, James Liao MD1 "Elevated Rho-associated Kinase (ROCK) Activity Correlates with Acute Rejection in Heart Transplant Patients"

- **Jonathan Grinstein**; Daniel Rogers; Gabriel Sayer; Gene H. Kim; Nitasha Sarwar; Sirtaz Adatya; Takeyoshi Ota; Valluvan Jeevanandam; Daniel Burkhoff and Nir Uriel "HVAD Waveform as a Surrogate Marker of Cardiac Index and Pulmonary Capillary Wedge Pressure"

- **Sara Kalantari Tannenbaum MD**: Jonathan Grinstein MD; Bryan Smith; Karolina Marinescu MD; Nitasha Sarwar MD; Sirtaz Adatya MD; Gabriel Sayer MD; Gene H. Kim MD; Takeyoshi Ota MD PhD; Valluvan Jeevanandam MD; Daniel Burkhoff and Nir Uriel MD "The Hemodynamic Effects of Intravenous Inotrope/Vasodilator Therapy in the Beta-Blocker Era"


- **Diego Medvedofsky**, Eric Kruse, Karima Addetia, Victor Mor-Avi, Gabriel Sayer, Sirtaz Adatya, Gene Kim, Takeyoshi Ota, Valluvan Jeevanandam, Nir Uriel, Roberto M. Lang "Utility of Echocardiographic Particle Image Velocimetry Analysis During Ramp Studies"


- **Akhil Narang** MD; Mita Patel, MD; Victor Mor-Avi, PhD; Savitri E. Fedson, MD; Nir Uriel, MD; Roberto M. Lang, MD; Amit R. Patel, MD "Vasodilator stress cardiovascular magnetic resonance imaging in post-orthotopic heart transplant recipients: evaluation of safety, hemodynamics, and myocardial perfusion"

- **Adam Oesterle** MD, Benjamin Weber MD, Niteesh K. Choudhry MD PhD, Jagmeet P. Singh MD DPhil FHRS, Gaurav A. Upadhyay MD "Prophylaxis of Atrial Fibrillation after Non-Cardiac Surgery: A Meta-Analysis"

- **Dave Pandya**, Karima Addetia, Megan Yamat, Anuj Mediratta, Joshua D. Moss, Hemal Nayak, Martin Burke, Roderick Tung, Victor Mor-Avi, Roberto M. Lang, Gaurav Upadhyay "Verification of Pacemaker Lead Tip Location Using 3D Echocardiography: An Alternative To Chest X-ray or Biplane Fluoroscopy?"
**Arnsdorf Cardiovascular Research Day continued…**

- **Amita Singh**, MD; **Anuj Mediratta**, MD; Francesco Maffessanti, PhD; Shelby Kutty, MD; Amit Patel, MD "Alterations in Regional Right Ventricular Shape in Patients Following Tetralogy of Fallot Repair Involving a Transannular Patch"

- **Amita Singh**, MD; Kanako Kishiki; Francesco Maffessanti; Mardi Gomberg-Maitland; Victor Mor-Avi; Roberto Lang; Karima Addetia "Assessment of Inter-Chamber Functional Relationships in Severe Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension Using Simultaneous Strain Measurements in Four Cardiac Chambers"

- **Bryan A. Smith**, Nir Uriel, Gene Kim, Gabriel Sayer, Nitasha Sarswat, **Sara Kalantari, Jonathan Grinstein, Karolina Marinescu**, Takeyoshi Ota, Valluvan Jeevanandam, Sirtaz Adatya "Plasmapheresis Prior to HVAD Implantation in a Patient with Acute Heparin Induced Thrombocytopenia"

- **Jeremy Stone**, Husam Balkhy, Jeffrey Mueller, Cevher Ozcan “A Unique Case of Non-valvular Cardiac Papillary Fibroelastoma”


- Mitchell J. Coplan, Adam S. Vohra, James K. Liao, Janet Friant, John E. Blair, Jonathon Paul, Sandeep Nathan, Atman P. Shah, Kirk T. Spencer, **Corey E. Tabit** “Distance from Home to Medical Center is Associated with Risk for Readmission in Patients with ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction”


- Adam S. Vohra, Hyuna Yang, Yizhen Dong, Kristin Francoz, Ai Nguyen, Katerina Steele, Patrick R. Ward, Daniel Adelman, James K. Liao, Kirk T. Spencer, Rupa Mehta Sanghani, **Corey E. Tabit** “Predicting Heart Failure Readmissions Using a Simplified, Actionable Model”

- Lynn Weinert, **Diego Medvedofsky**, Victor Mor-Avi, Roberto M. Lang “Three-Dimensional Echocardiographic Approach for Automated Quantification of Left Ventricular Volume Using Adaptive Analytics Algorithm: Comparison against Conventional Two-Dimensional Echocardiography”
**Impressive Academic Production**

**Publications and Abstracts**


- **Beaser AD** and Moss JD. Use of a Force-sensing Ablation Catheter with the RhythmiaTM Mapping System to Facilitate Successful Ablation of Atrial Flutter. Supplement to EP Lab Digest; April 15, 2016.


**CURRENTLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION – NEW WEBSITE COMING SOON!**

[http://cardsfellowsbsd.ucchicago.edu/default.asp](http://cardsfellowsbsd.ucchicago.edu/default.asp)
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- Pursnani A, Narang A, Edelman R. Cardiac computed tomography and magnetic resonance imaging: complementary or competing. EuroIntervention. 2016 May 17;12 Suppl X:X75-X80
continued...


- **Nikhil Narang** “Heart Failure With Preserved Ejection Fraction Is Associated With Increased Rho-kinase Activity” presented at Janet Rowley

- **Nikhil Narang** "A call to action: training internal medicine residents in focused cardiac ultrasound impacts management”; in submission

- **Adam Oesterle MD, Amita Singh MD**, Husam Balkhy MD, Aliya Husain MD, Deborah Moyer APN, Roderick Tung MD, and Hemal M. Nayak MD. Late Manifestation of Constrictive Pericarditis after Limited Epicardial Ablation for Inappropriate Sinus Tachycardia. Heart Rhythm Case Reports - in press


• **Singh A**, Ward RP. Appropriate Use Criteria for Echocardiography: Evolving Applications in the Era of Value-based Healthcare. Current Cardiology Reports. (Accepted for publication)

• **Singh A**, Mor-Avi V, Patel AR. Update on Computed Tomography Myocardial Perfusion Imaging. Current Cardiovascular Imaging Reports. (In press, 2016)


• **Singh A**, Davidson M. Update on PCSK9 therapies for the treatment of dyslipidemia. Expert Review of Endocrinology and Metabolism. (Accepted for publication December 2015)

• Heffron SP, **Singh A**, Zagzag J, Youn HA, Underberg JA, Fielding GA, Ren-Fielding CJ. Laparoscopic gastric banding resolves the metabolic syndrome and improves lipid profile over five years in obese patients with body mass index 30-40 kg/m(2.) Atherosclerosis. 2014 Nov; 237(1):183-90.


• **Singh A**, Addetia K, Maffessanti F, Mor-Avi V, Lang RM: Use of left atrial stiffness to categorize diastolic dysfunction in patients with preserved left ventricular ejection fraction. American Society of Echocardiography 2016, Seattle WA.
continued...

- **Singh A**, Kishiki K, Maffessanti F, Gomberg-Maitland M, Mor-Avi V, Lang RM, Addetia K: Assessment of Inter-Chamber Functional Relationships in Severe Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension Using Simultaneous Strain Measurements in Four Cardiac Chambers. American College of Cardiology 2016, Chicago IL.


- **Smith, B**, Adatya, S. Plasmapheresis Prior to HVAD Implantation in a Patient with Acute Heparin Induced Thrombocytopenia, Poster Presentation, University of Chicago, Section of Cardiology, Chicago, IL, International Society of Heart and Lung Transplant Meeting, April 27-30, 2016, Washington, DC.


- **Stone J**: Case report manuscript: A unique case of non-valvular right-sided papillary fibroelastoma. Submitted to Annals of American Thoracic Society. Cevher Ozcan is PI.

continued...

- **Tannenbaum Sara Kalantari;** Retzer, Elizabeth; Sayer, Gabriel; Kim, Gene; Fedson, Savitri; Juricek, Colleen; Jeevanandam, Valluvan; Shah, Atman; Uriel, Nir. Successful Percutaneous Trans-Catheter Treatment of Left Ventricular Assist Device Outflow Graft Stenosis with a Covered Stent. ISHLT (2015).

- **Kalantari, Sara;** Gomberg-Maitland Marid. Group 5 Pulmonary Hypertension: The Orphan’s Orphan Disease. Cardiology Clinics. Pending publication

- **Kalantari Tannenbaum, Sara;** Uraizee, Imran; Levin, Allison; Grinstein, Jonathan; Marinescu, Karolina; Sayer, Gabriel; Sarswat, Nitasha; Kim, Gene H.; Adatya, Sirtaz; Jeevanandam, Valluvan; Ota, Takeyoshi; Husain, Aliya; Uriel, Nir. Discordance Between C4d Staining by Immunohistochemistry and Immunofluorescence and Clinical Outcomes. Oral presentation. ISHLT (2016).

- **Kalantari Tannenbaum, Sara; Grinstein, Jonathan; Smith, Bryan; Marinescu, Karolina;** Sayer, Gabriel, Kim, Gene H.; Sarswat, Nitasha; Adatya, Sirtaz; Ota, Takeyoshi; Jeevanandam Valluvan; Burkhoff, Daniel, Uriel, Nir. The Hemodynamic Effects of Intravenous Inotrope/Vasodilator Therapy in the Beta-Blocker Era. Moderated poster session. ACC 2016

- **Kalantari Tannenbaum, Sara; Grinstein, Jonathan; Smith, Bryan; Marinescu, Karolina;** Sayer, Gabriel, Kim, Gene H.; Sarswat, Nitasha; Adatya, Sirtaz; Ota, Takeyoshi; Jeevanandam Valluvan; Burkhoff, Daniel, Uriel, Nir. The Hemodynamic Effects of Intravenous Inotrope/Vasodilator Therapy in the Beta-Blocker Era. Mini-oral session. ISHLT 2016
Posters and Presentations


- Singh A, Addetia K, Maffessanti F, Mor-Avi V, Lang RM: Use of left atrial stiffness to categorize diastolic dysfunction in patients with preserved left ventricular ejection fraction. American Society of Echocardiography 2016, Seattle WA.


Posters and Presentations continued...


- Stone: Poster presentation of case "A unique case of non-valvular right-sided papillary fibroelastoma." Shown at O of C Cardiovascular research day, Janet D. Rowley research day, ACC FIT Illinois chapter poster session.