Welcome Our New Fellows

As a new year begins, we are excited to welcome six new Cardiovascular Disease fellows and four new fellows in our subspecialty program for the 2014-2015 year. We are also delighted to be bringing three old fellows on to new roles in Electrophysiology and Interventional Cardiology at the UC.

Our incoming class is an accomplished group. With education backgrounds stretching from New York to Texas we are confident they will all be a great addition to the Section. To get to know each of our new fellows, you can view their photos and bios on subsequent pages. Here’s to a great year!

A Year for the Books: 2013 to 2014 Fellowship Year

The 2013-14 Fellowship year was filled with many highlights, honors, accomplishments and more among our outstanding fellows. Our fellows have worked hard and dedicated many hours to the Department and we could not be more proud. Thank you for all of your hard work and congratulations to the five graduates. Please take a look to learn more about our outstanding year.

HAIL TO THE CHIEF

We’d like to welcome Amita Singh as the new Chief Fellow for the 2014 – 2015 fellowship class! We look forward to what you will bring to the team. And a big thank you to Raider Estrada for his outstanding work as Chief Fellow for the past year.

This fall UC Cardiology Fellows got the opportunity to meet with Dr. Peter Libby, Chief of Cardiovascular Medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital.
The New Faces of Cardiology Fellowship

**Isida Byku**

I was born in Tirana, Albania and came to the US at the age of 18 on a scholarship at Dowling College (a small liberal arts college in Long Island NY). This was followed by medical school at Dartmouth and Internal Medicine residency at Johns Hopkins. My parents and most of my family are still in Albania, but my sister (who is also a Cardiology fellow) lives in Saint Louis. She recently made me an aunt and I am extremely excited to move to Chicago and be closer to my little nephew, Alden. I am also thrilled to finally be in the same city as my significant other, Tom.

My favorite hobby is traveling to new places and learning about foreign cultures and languages. In my free time, I enjoy running, snowboarding, and spending time with friends and family. I also love cats, taking lots of pictures (as you will soon find out), scotch and of course, cardiology. Long-term I aspire to become an academic interventional cardiologist and look forward to joining the U of C family.

**Ben Chung**

I was born in Seoul, South Korea and moved to the U.S. when I was less than a year old. I grew up in the Chicago suburb of Lake Forest, and then attended Harvard as an undergraduate. I received my MD from Jefferson Medical College in Philly before coming to University of Chicago for residency. I’ve since had the privilege of working with many of the incredible faculty at the Forefront. I’ve additionally studied cardiac CT in liver transplant candidates with Amit Patel, LVAD readmissions with Jonathan Rich, and CRT devices with Hemal Nayak. I look forward to getting to know my future co-fellows in the coming months. For those who haven’t met me yet, don’t worry: I’ll be badgering you to go to concerts, restaurants and bar trivia soon enough.

**Akhil Narang**

I was born in the Chicago suburbs. After attending high school at the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy, I majored in Biological Sciences at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. I then returned to Chicago to attend medical school at the University of Illinois in Chicago. I spent a research year after third year of medical school pursuing a Doris Duke Clinical Research Fellowship at University of Texas Southwestern Medical. I was an intern, resident, and chief resident at the University of Chicago. On to the fun stuff: I met my future wife (Disha) during residency (she was scandalously my intern in the CCU) and will be getting married in August 2014. I am an avid Chicago sports fan (especially the Bears and Blackhawks and very controversially support both the White Sox and Cubs). I spend more time than necessary checking out new restaurants in Chicago, recently developed a liking for specialty coffee, and plan on buying my first bike since childhood. Very excited to meet everyone and start fellowship!
Ann Nguyen

I was born and raised in Houston, Texas. Craving the experience of a big city, I left the Lone Star State for New York City where I attended NYU and majored in history, cultivated my gastronomic senses, and developed a love for city-living. Thereafter, I returned to Houston for medical school, completed residency at UT-Southwestern in Dallas, then moved to Chicago to be with my husband. I have spent the last two years working as a hospitalist at U of C, creating an LVAD database with Dr. Jonathan Rich, collecting stamps in my passport, fine-tuning my culinary skills, and raising two beautiful Cavalier King Charles Spaniel puppies named Harry and Dottie. I am grateful for the opportunity to be a cardiology fellow at U of C, and am looking forward to meeting everyone.

Adam Oesterle

I grew up in Glen Ellyn, 25 miles west of Chicago. I left to go to Colby in Maine for undergrad and returned to the Midwest for medical school at Northwestern. I did my internal medicine residency at the University of California, San Francisco. After residency I spent a year as a community hospitalist and completed an echo fellowship at UCSF. I also worked with Dr. Greg Marcus examining healthcare utilization for patients with supraventricular tachycardia. In my free time I have acquired typical west coast past times like food, wine, hiking, skiing, and sailing. But, there is nothing that compares to an October Bears game. I am excited to be doing my cardiology fellowship at the University of Chicago and returning to the Midwest!

Jonathan Rosenberg

I grew up in Highland Park, Illinois, just north of Chicago. For my undergraduate education I ventured out of the Chicago area to the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, where I played sprint football and club baseball. I couldn’t resist coming back to Chicago, so I decided to return home for medical school at Northwestern, which is also where I am currently completing my internal medicine residency training. At Northwestern I worked with Dr. Keith Benzuly, an interventional cardiologist, on research involving the use of the excimer laser within non-dilatable intracoronary stents. With my free time I enjoy playing or watching sports and spending time with family and friends. My twin brother also lives in Chicago and my sister is a junior at Berklee College of Music in Boston. I’m extremely excited to continue my medical training in Chicago and to join the U of C family!
The Advanced Fellows of 2014 - 2015

Jawwad Yusuf

I graduated from Allama Iqbal Medical College Pakistan and decided to pursue my future training in United States. I completed my residency and fellowship at University Of Tennessee Health Science Center, Memphis, TN where I had the chance to work with gurus in heart failure like Dr Weber that not only helped me in understanding the pathophysiology of heart failure but also excelling in the field of clinical Cardiology. I am interested in diastolic mechanisms and the heart failure symptoms with special interest in right ventricular failure. I enjoy traveling, dining, biking and spending time with my beautiful family. Chicago has always been my favorite cities because of its cultural diversity and the most amazing lake. I am looking forward to my training at University of Chicago with its stimulating educational atmosphere, traditional teaching and research opportunities.

Sukit Ringwala

I grew up in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Yes, I’m a Packer through and through. I went to the University of Wisconsin Madison as an undergraduate, and completed both medical school and a master's in public health there as well. Residency brought me to New England where I finished my internal medicine training at the University of Vermont. During this time, I began to work on lab research evaluating the anti-platelet effects of direct factor Xa inhibitors as well as clinical research to assess factors that predict long-term success in atrial fibrillation ablation. I’m excited about living in the Midwest again and look forward to EP fellowship at U of C.

Diego Medvedofsky

I was born in Buenos Aires Argentina on 1977, grow up loving soccer and basketball, finished my MD at the University of Buenos Aires in 2002, then moved to Israel where I finished my Internal Medicine residency (which is 4 years long!!) at Meir Medical Center and then the cardiology fellowship at Sheba Medical Center (3 years long!!). I am married to Danit since 2007 and we have two lovely girls called Alma (almost 6 years old) and Naomi (a baby of 8 month old). Hoping to meet you and to start the cardiac imaging fellowship with Professor Lang.

Mita Patel will also be joining us in Cardiac Imaging.
Congratulations to the 2014 Graduates!

- Ryan Cunnane will be a Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology fellow here at the University of Chicago.
- Maya Kommineni will be a General and Preventive Cardiologist at Park Ridge Health in Asheville, NC.
- Olusegun Oyenuga will be a Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology fellow here at the University of Chicago.
- Elizabeth Retzer will be the Interventional Cardiology fellow here at the University of Chicago.
- David Zhang will practice at Franciscan Heart and Vascular Associates at St. Joseph in Seattle, WA.

Above: The five graduating fellows (Ryan Cunnane, Maya Kommineni, Olusegun Oyenuga, Elizabeth Retzer and David Zhang) pose for a picture at the June 17th graduation ceremony. Left top: The graduates pose with their supportive families at the celebration. Left bottom: Faculty members pay close attention during a game of Cardiology Jeopardy (Faculty vs. Fellows) at the graduation celebration.

Honors & Achievements

Here’s a closer look at some of the stellar work of our fellows in 2013-2014:

- **Corey Tabit**: was awarded a two year AHA Postdoctoral Fellowship Grant also admitted to PhD program in molecular medicine here at UC
- **Mike Broman**: Awarded the Best Basic Science Abstract by a fellow and Best in Show as the top overall abstract submitted by a fellow at DOM Research Day.
- **Anuj Mediretta**: one of 3 Fellows-In Training to join a 2013 IL-ACC Delegation to Capitol Hill to meet with Congressional leaders to discuss the impact of healthcare reform on cardiovascular practitioners.
Each year the fellows have the difficult task of choosing a faculty member to give this award to. It goes to a faculty member who has both inspired and taught in a way the fellows find outstanding. This award is an extreme honor.

This year, The *Rory R. Childers Cardiology Teaching Award* was presented to **Jeanne DeCara** (pictured to right). Congratulations, Dr. DeCara!
Morton Arnsdorf
Cardiovascular Research Day
April 25, 2014

The Sixth Annual Cardiovascular Research Day (CRD) Symposium was held on April 25, 2014 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. Our guest of honor was Dr. Shaun Coughlin is a Professor and Director at UCSF Cardiovascular Research Institute from University of California San Francisco.

Our ten award winning presenters pose with their plaques on Cardiovascular Research Day. Among the winners is Karima Addetia, cardiac imaging fellow and Ben Chung, 2014-2015 Cardiovascular Disease fellow, pictured with research mentors Francis Alenghat and Marion Hofmann-Bowmann.

The Cardiology fellows pose for a picture with Dr. Liao, Dr. Ward and Dr. Mor-Avi at the 6th annual Cardiovascular Research Day. Front row: Dave Pandya, Corey Tabit, Dr. James Liao, Dr. Parker Ward and Jonathan Grinstein. Second row: Dr. Victor Mor-Avi, Sara Kalantari, Amita Singh, Anuj Mediratta, Liying Cai and Elizabeth Retzer. Back row: Michael Broman, Olusegun Oyenuga, Ryan Cunnane, Shahid Qamar and Bryan Smith.

CRD wouldn’t have been possible without the participation of our faculty!

THANK YOU!

James Liao, MD
Marion Hofmann-Bowman, MD, PhD
Francis Alenghat, MD, PhD
Mardi Gomberg-Maitland, MD
Dottie Hanck, PhD
Gene Kim, MD
Victor Mor-Avi, PhD
Sandeep Nathan, MD, MSc
Hemal Nayak, MD
Matthew Sorrentino, MD
**Arnsdorf Cardiovascular Research Day: Abstracts**

- **Karima Addetia**, Nicole M. Bhave, Benjamin H. Freed, Mardi Gomberg-Maitland, Victor Mor-Avi, Kirk T. Spencer, Karin Dill, Roberto M. Lang and Amit R. Patel "Does 6-Minute-Walk Distance Correlate With Right Ventricular Function In Patients With Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension?"

- **Karima Addetia**, Megan Yamat, Victor Mor-Avi, and Roberto M. Lang "Effects of Respiration on the Echocardiographic Assessment of Tricuspid Regurgitation Severity"

- **Karima Addetia, Anuj Mediratta**, Francesco Maffessanti, Megan Yamat, Lynn Weinert, Joshua D.Moss, Hemal M.Nayak, Victor Mor-Avi, Roberto M.Lang "Impact of Lead Location as Determined by 3D Echocardiography on Tricuspid Regurgitation Severity post Implantable Device Placement"


- Francesco Maffessanti, **Karima Addetia**, Paola Gripari, Gloria Tamborini, Megan Yamat, Lynn Weinert, Victor Mor-Avi, Mauro Pepi, Roberto M. Lang “Influence of Mitral Regurgitation on Adverse Left Ventricular Remodeling in Non-Ischemic Dilated Cardiomyopathy Assessed by 3D Echocardiography”

- **Anuj Mediratta, Karima Addetia**, Megan Yamat, Lynn Weinert, Victor Mor-Avi, Roberto M. Lang “Incremental Value of Transthoracic 3D Echocardiography in Elucidating the Mechanism of Tricuspid Valve Regurgitation”


- Beatriz Miralles Vicedo, **Liying Cai, Karima Addetia**, Francesco Maffessanti, KT. Spencer, Roberto M. Lang, Victor Mor-Avi, Amit R. Patel "Inter-technique Agreement between Two-dimensional Echocardiography and Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance Imaging in the Setting of Bicuspid Aortic Valve Disease”

Arnsdorf Cardiovascular Research Day continued...

- **Michael Broman**, Harold Olivey, Judy Earley, Eric Svensson, Elizabeth McNally “FOG-2 Upregulation Induces Atrial Electrical Remodeling and Atrial Fibrillation”
- Rangarajan Nadadur, **Michael Broman**, Ivan Moskowitz, Elizabeth McNally “Spontaneous Atrial Fibrillation in Adult Tbx5 Mutant Mice”
- **Olusegun Oyenuga**, John Shin, **Ryan Cunnane, Dina Sparano, Harshal Sheth**, Hemal Nayak, Martin Burke, and Joshua Moss “Prognostic Implication of Tricuspid Regurgitation after Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy In Preventing Progression of Heart Failure”
- Dina M. Sparano, Kyle Ericson, **Ryan Cunnane, Olusegun Oyenuga, Harshal Sheth**, Martin Burke, Joshua Moss and Hemal Nayak “Early Re-Implantation after Infected Cardiac Implantable Electronic Device Extraction Is Safe and Reduces Length of Stay”
- **Maya Kommineni**, Vivek Prachand, Savitri Fedson, Marion A. Hofmann Bowman “New Onset of Left Ventricular Dysfunction associated with Selenium, Zinc and Copper Deficiency Presenting late after Gastric Bypass Surgery: Case Report and Review of the Literature”

 Attendees applaud presenters at the sixth annual Cardiovascular Research Day. Cardiovascular Research Day’s poster session was held in the DCAM atrium where 65 posters were on display with 10 award-winning poster presentations.

Jonathan Grinstein describes his research poster and abstract to fellowship research mentor, Victor Mor-Avi.
Department of Medicine Research Day

- **LiYing Cai** “Inter-technique agreement between Two-dimensional Echocardiography and Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance Imaging in the Setting of Bicuspid Aortic Valve Disease”
- **Anuj Mediratta** “Incremental Value of Transthoracic 3D Echocardiography in Elucidating the Mechanism of Tricuspid Valve Regurgitation”
- **Segun Oyenuga** “Prognostic Implication of Tricuspid Regurgitation after Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy In Preventing Progression of Heart Failure.”
- **Maya Kommineni** “New Onset of Left Ventricular Dysfunction associated with Selenium, Zinc and Copper Deficiency Presenting late after Gastric Bypass Surgery: Case Report and Review of the Literature”
- **Elizabeth Retzer** “Transfemoral versus Iliac Conduit Access for Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation”
- **Dina M. Sparano** “EARLY REIMPLANTATION AFTER INFECTED CARDIAC IMPLANTABLE ELECTRONIC DEVICE EXTRACTION IS SAFE AND REDUCES LENGTH OF STAY”
- **Gillian Murtagh** “Risk Stratification of Cardiac Sarcoidosis with Preserved Left Ventricular Ejection Fraction using Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance”
- **Michael T. Broman** “FOG-2 Upregulation Induces Atrial Electrical Remodeling and Atrial Fibrillation”

Impressive Academic Production

**Publications**

- **Mediratta A, Addetia K**, Lang RM: Reply: Tricuspid Regurgitation Severity Associated with Positioning of Right Ventricular Lead or Other Etiology Assessed by Intracardiac Echocardiography. JACC: Cardiovascular Imaging 2014 (Accepted for publication)
- **Addetia K, Maffessanti F, Mediratta A**, Yamat M, Weinert L, Moss JD, Nayak HM, Patel A, Burke MC, Kruse E, Jeevanandam V, Mor-Avi V, Lang RM: Impact of Implantable Device Lead Location on Severity of Tricuspid Regurgitation. JASE 2014 (Accepted for publication).
The Section of Cardiology was founded in 1950 at the University of Chicago.

Publications continued...


Abstracts


Posters and Presentations


Posters and Presentations continued...


- **Kommineni, Maya.** Retzer, Elizabeth. Catastrophic Amniotic Fluid Embolism and Acute Cardio-Pulmonary Collapse in a Post-Partum Patient with PFO. Transcatheter Cardiovascular Therapeutics (TCT) and Cardiovascular Research Foundation. TCT San Francisco. Oral Presentation 2013

- **Addetia**, Mor-Avi, Lang, Patel, et al. RV Normalization Post Lung Transplantation: Does it happen?


