

Division of Nephrology and Hypertension Newsletter

January 2022 – Issue 4

Stay warm and toasty in January...

Happy New Year! Check out some of our fabulous news and important highlights!



Division Announcements

Thurs, Jan. 6 Renal Grand Rounds – Dr. Tara I. Chang, division Chief and Associate Professor of Medicine from Stanford University

Fri, Jan. 14 Renal Research Conference – Dr. Susan Gurley, Associate Professor of Medicine from Oregon Health & Science University

Mon, Jan. 17 Martin Luther King, Jr Day (not VUMC official holiday)

Thurs, Jan. 20 Renal Grand Rounds – Dr. Toby Coates, Professor of Medicine from the University of Adelaide, Australia

Clinical News:

U.S. News & World Report: Now is the time to claim, correct and/or complete your Doximity profile. Voting should start in late January (timing based on previous years information.)

Diversity News:

From the desk of Dr. Umeukeje

Diversity Events: The next Division Diversity Committee Meeting is January 12th. Let Dr. Umeukeje know if you would like to attend. Check out some great Diversity events and opportunities for the month of January. Attached is a poster for the most recent happenings at VUMC.

Research News:

Research Training: We are accepting applications for 2022 Summer Research Training Program through January 24th. If you know of any 1st and/or 2nd year medical students who may be interested in the program, please encourage them to apply. Here is the [link to the application](#).

Research Publications:

Dr. Craig Brook's lab recently had one of their manuscripts accepted to JoVE (Journal of Visualized Experiments) titled "Identification of the Source of Secreted Proteins in the Kidney by Brefeldin A Injection." This paper describes a technique using brefeldin A (BFA) to prevent the secretion of proteins, enabling the staining of cytokines in kidney tissue using standard immunofluorescent techniques. This allows the identification of the cell types secreting specific cytokines or other proteins, and the quantification of cytokine production by these cells with preservation of histological and pathological data.

<https://www.jove.com/t/63178/identification-source-secreted-proteins-kidney-brefeldin>

Kudos:

Congratulations to **Dr. Ambra Pozzi** on being elected President of the American Society for Matrix Biology starting January 2022! The mission of the ASMB is **to promote basic, translational, and clinical research on** the extracellular matrix (ECM), cell-ECM interactions, and ECM-based therapies and devices, and to support the growth and professional development of the ECM research community.

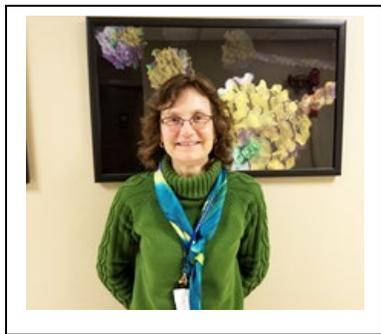
Congratulations to **Dr. Edward Gould** on accepting the role of Quality and Patient Safety Director (QPSD) for the Department of Medicine, effective January 2022.

Congratulations to **Dr. Anna Burgner** who will be taking over as Nephrology Clinical Fellowship Director effective January 2022. Dr. Julia Lewis will continue to be involved as Associate Program Director. Dr. Lewis served as fellowship Director for over 30 years and has grown and developed the robust and excellent program that is today.

Congratulations to **Dr. Kerri Cavanaugh** who will be serving as the Divisional Neilson Society Liaison, effective January 1, 2022. The Neilson Society is a resource for junior faculty to help them to develop the skills needed to navigate the course toward tenure and promotion.

Spotlight Newsletter Recipients

Ambra Pozzi, PhD



Ambra Pozzi, PhD is a Professor of Medicine in the Division of Nephrology and Hypertension at Vanderbilt University Medical Center and the Deputy-Associate Chief of Staff at the Nashville VA.

20 years ago, Dr. Pozzi has established a major research program at VUMC investigating how extracellular matrix binding receptors such as integrins and discoidin domain receptors control matrix synthesis and deposition during kidney disease.

Dr. Pozzi is also involved in the administration of two Centers: the Vanderbilt Center for Kidney Disease (Associate Director since 2013), and the Vanderbilt O'Brien Kidney Center (co-director since 2017). Moreover Dr. Pozzi is also committed in mentoring students, postdoctoral fellows and young investigators and in 2016 she was appointed Associate Director of Graduate Program of the Vanderbilt Medical Scientist Training Program. Dr. Pozzi has been on the organizing committees of national and international meetings including the American Society of Nephrology and the American Society for Matrix Biology. Recently, she was elected Chair of the 2023 Gordon Research Conference 'Fibronectin and other related molecules' as well as the President of the American Society for Matrix Biology.

Dr. Pozzi enjoys running and taking long walks as well as baking cakes as it reminds her of performing experiments with different reagents/ingredients...and at the end you get to eat the results!!!!

Andrew Terker



Andrew Terker, MD PhD is currently completing his research training in the physician scientist pathway of his internal medicine residency here at VUMC. He completed his medical school training and graduate work at Oregon Health and Science University, where he studied distal nephron regulation of sodium and potassium transport in David Ellison's laboratory. While working at OHSU he made important observations about how a diet that is high in salt, yet low in potassium, causes salt-sensitive hypertension. During his graduate studies Andy decided on a career in kidney science.

He is currently working in Ray Harris' laboratory, where he studies the interaction of environmental and genetic effects on kidney injury and electrolyte balance. Andy has continued to investigate how our modern dietary habits affect kidney health. In particular, he is studying how a diet lacking sufficient potassium content can drive progression of kidney disease. He is hopeful that this will lead to new ways of treating chronic kidney disease.

When he is not working he spends most of his time hiking, biking, climbing, and skiing with his wife, Samantha, and his three sons, Brody (8), Judah (5), and Ari (3).

VUMC Equity Diversity & Inclusion – January 2022

National Mentoring Month

*“Do all the good you can,
By all the means you can, In all
the ways you can, In all
the places you can, To all
the people you can, As long
as ever you can.”*

John Wesley

*“Mentoring is a brain to
pick, an ear to listen, and a
push in the right direction.”*

John C. Crosby

January 2022

National Mentoring Month, Poverty in
America Awareness Month, Slavery and
Human Trafficking Awareness Month

- 1 – New Year’s Day, Emancipation Proclamation signed in 1863
- 4 – National Braille Day
- 6 – Feast of the Epiphany
- 7 – Christmas (Eastern Orthodox)
- 14 – Makar Sankranti (Hindu)
- 16 – World Religion Day
- 17 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 18 – Mahayana New Year (Buddhist)
- 24 – International Day of Education
- 26 – International Customs Day
- 27 – International Holocaust Remembrance Day

National Mentoring Month is a campaign dedicated to recognizing mentoring and the impact it can have on people’s lives. Whether it’s developing employees, supporting young people, or inspiring and preparing college students, mentoring enables people to unleash their full potential by learning from others.

Learn more:

- <https://www.mentoring.org/campaigns/national-mentoring-month/>
- <https://chronus.com/blog/tips-for-mentors-and-mentees>

DISABILITY ERG

For more info, or membership interest, visit: [Disability ERG](#)

For Employees with Disabilities
Thursday, January 6th
12PM

<https://zoom.us/j/91917517122?pwd=eUZmVmJqNFNleW9yZy9OVkFDNUgrUT09>

Meeting ID: 919 1751 7122
Passcode: 729803

Questions: disabilityerg@vumc.org

PRIDE

For more info and to sign up for the group’s membership survey, visit: [PRIDE ERG](#)

Monthly Meeting:
[January 20, 1-2p](#)

We’ll be using this meeting to brainstorm and plan the PRIDE ERG’s events and collaborations for 2022, so come prepared with your ideas! Email pride.erg@vumc.org for details.

LUV

*Latinos Unidos
en Vanderbilt*

For more info, or membership interest, visit: [LUV ERG](#)

Monthly Meeting
Friday January 28, 12pm
[Teams Meeting Link](#)

Article:

[Latinos Face Disproportionate Health and Economic Impacts From COVID-19](#)

VETERANS Resource Group

Celebrations and Honors

For more info, or membership interest visit: [Veterans ERG](#)

December
1 – New Year’s Day
17 – Martin Luther King Jr’s Birthday
20 – Presidential Inauguration Day
Read more: [Military Calendar](#)

For Veterans Day 2021, we again honored our VUMC Veterans through our 5th annual [Virtual Wall of Honor](#).

If any VUMC Veterans would like to be spotlighted on VUMC’s social media channels please complete this survey: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=MFBX7y>

AFRICAN AMERICAN ERG



For more info, or membership interest, visit: [AA ERG](#)

Volunteer Opportunity with SaLT
(Jan 11, 6-7:30p) *All those that join us to volunteer from the AA ERG will be sharing their career journeys with high school students to expose them to various career possibilities!*

Register here:

<https://forms.office.com/r/ztvG24KdsN>

Contact us here: AAERG@vumc.org



HAAPI

Healthcare Alliance of
Asian Americans and
Pacific Islanders

For more info, or membership interest, visit: [HAAPI ERG](#)

Related activities will be posted in our website

Join Now!

Complete this brief survey if you are interested in joining our group by clicking on the link below or using the QR Code: <https://redcap.link/BeHAAPI>

This link ([AAPI - Gauge AI](#)) is to a resource for those seeking to learn and celebrate our Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage. It includes testimonies, reading resources, and ways to support and engage.



United Voices of Vanderbilt Choir

For more info, or membership interest visit: [UVOV Choir](#)



In memory of Ronnie Yates, UVOV Choir Director, we would like to share this video honoring his life. <https://www.vumc.org/elevate/aug-ust-2021-leadership-assembly>

Please contact uvovchoir@vumc.org for more information

February – Save The Date for Black History Month