



We are in full-speed-ahead mode with the start of 2016, mindful of the potential for renewal that each new year brings.

We are delighted to welcome two new faculty members to the UofL School of Medicine family as department chairs. [Eyas Hattab, M.D., M.B.A.](#), is the newly appointed chair of the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine. He comes to Louisville from Indiana University School

of Medicine where he served as professor of pathology and laboratory medicine and neurological surgery. [Joseph Neimat, M.D.](#), has joined the school as chair of the Department of Neurological Surgery. Dr. Neimat comes to UofL from Vanderbilt University where he held a variety of positions, including associate professor and director of human neurophysiological research, neurotrauma, epilepsy surgery, and the functional neurosurgery fellowship in the Department of Neurosurgery. In addition to these new hires on our leadership team, I am pleased with the ascension of two of our own into new leadership

roles. [Sean Francis, M.D.](#), has assumed the chair of Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Women's Health. Dr. Francis came to UofL in 2012 and was appointed interim chair in February 2015. Last, but certainly not least, [David Casey, M.D.](#), who joined the UofL faculty in 1985, has been named chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. Dr. Casey has served as interim chair for the past year.

Please join me in welcoming our new chairs and applauding their leadership appointments.

—*Dean Toni Ganzel*

## EDUCATION

The Distinction Track Program was created in 2010 to increase the number of students in the School of Medicine choosing a career in academic medicine and to provide students with opportunities to focus on areas in medicine for which they have a passion. The four distinction tracks include: Business and Leadership, Global Health, Medical Education and Research. Ninety-eight first-year medical students attended the 2016 Distinction Track Program Lunch & Learn on Jan. 5.

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## RESEARCH

The Jewish Heritage Foundation for Excellence Research Enhancement Grant program offers funding to School of Medicine faculty principal investigators to gather new data to improve a previously submitted multi-year, nationally peer-reviewed grant application that scored well but was not funded. Applications are accepted quarterly: Jan. 15, April 15, July 15, and Oct. 15.

For the application and guidelines, [click](#) or call Anne Noe 852-2253.

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## PATIENT CARE

UofL physicians recently performed two procedures involving identical twins. In one case, adult identical twins underwent a first-of-its-kind, fat-grafting procedure at University of Louisville Hospital, a part of KentuckyOne Health that used fat from one twin to restore the other twin's appearance following a bout of childhood cancer. In the other, a team of UofL physicians at Kosair Children's Hospital separated 7-week-old twin girls conjoined at the chest and abdominal cavity.

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## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Dave McIntosh, Ph.D., joined the Office of Community Engagement and Diversity in November as associate dean for urban health innovation and chief diversity officer. In addition, Dwayne Compton has joined the office as executive director for diversity initiatives, and Ron Welch rejoined the team as AHEC program manager. The office is working on a diversity plan to serve as a blueprint for the school which will address the tenets of presence, climate and policy/practice.

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## Faculty and staff in the national spotlight

**Roberto Bolli, M.D.**, received the 2015 Jay and Jeannie Schottenstein Prize for Cardiovascular Sciences from the Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center's Heart and Vascular Center.

**Mariusz Ratajczak, M.D., Ph.D., D.Sci.**, received the Gold Cross of Merit from the president of Poland in January.

**Toni Ganzel, M.D., M.B.A.**, has been selected for membership on the Liaison Committee on Medicine Education (LCME)

**Diane Harper, M.D., M.P.H., M.S.**, has been appointed to the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force.

**J. Christopher States, Ph.D.**, is editor of a book published in November on the health and environmental risks of arsenic exposure, "Arsenic: Exposure Sources, Health Risks, and Mechanisms of Toxicity."

**John Pierce Wise, Ph.D.**, will be honored by the Society of Toxicology in March with a 2016 Education Award.

**Carrie Bohnert** was elected vice president of operations for the Association of Standardized Patient Educators (ASPE).

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## Health Sciences Center Leadership

Gregory Postel, M.D., CEO and chairman of the board for UofL Physicians, is serving as UofL's interim executive vice president for health affairs. Mary Nan Mallory M.D., M.B.A., is serving as the interim vice dean for clinical affairs for the UofL School of Medicine and James Reed, M.D., is serving as interim chair of the Department of Radiology. In addition, Gerard Rabalais, M.D., is serving as interim CEO and chairman of the board for UofL Physicians.

## SMART staff retreat scheduled for May 18

School of Medicine staff members are invited to the inaugural SMART staff retreat, scheduled for May 18. The free, day-long event will begin with breakfast and include 12 breakout sessions, lunch and a closing wine social, all at the Kosair Charities Clinical and Translational Research Building. UofL SOM alumna Alex Gerassamides, M.D., wife of Mayor Greg Fischer, will serve as plenary speaker. Registration information will be emailed to all staff members in the coming weeks.



### UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

**Feb. 25, 2016** – “Mindfulness: What it is, how it can help you, and how to get started,” by Jon Klein, M.D., Ph.D.

**March 16, 2016** – “Inclusion, Diversity and Privilege: Lessons from Dr. Seuss,” by David McIntosh, Ph.D.

**April 2016** – “Communication Skills,” by the [Boomerang Training Group](#): Jennifer Wells – Physiology, Stefani McCormack – Diagnostic Radiology, Phyllis Harris – Family and Geriatric Medicine, Anna Chalfant – Dean’s Office, Monica Sivori – Medicine, Cardiology, and Paula Kommor – Health Management.

In an effort to encourage physical activity, the Cardinal Fitness Trail on the HSC Campus is scheduled to be completed this spring. In the meantime, the Stair Masters campaign is stepping up to remind everyone to get extra activity by taking the stairs with a kickoff scheduled for February.

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## Hope Scarves Supports UofL Research

In December, Jason Chesney, M.D., Ph.D., deputy director of the James Graham Brown Cancer Center, shared highlights of research currently under way with board members of Hope Scarves and their families. Hope Scarves, founded by Louisvillian Lara McGregor, provides scarves to women undergoing treatment for cancer and raises money to help combat metastatic breast cancer. During the presentation,



Hope Scarves presented \$50,000 to Chesney to help continue the research being conducted by UofL scientists.

## Residents assist Toys for Tots



The resident physicians at the UofL School of Medicine, along with the school’s faculty, staff and medical students, made the holidays a little brighter for underprivileged children in the Louisville community by collecting 570 toys for Toys for Tots.

## Faculty collaborate with Chinese institutions



Lu Cai, M.D., Ph.D., scientific director of the Kosair Children’s Hospital Research Institute (KCHRI), led a team from UofL, including Gerard Rabalais, M.D., Jan Sullivan, M.D., and Kupper Wintergerst, M.D., to China for academic meetings and presentations, part of ongoing

efforts to expand collaborative research and training agreements with academic institutions in China.

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## Office of Faculty Affairs and Advancement

Ronald I. Paul, M.D., joined the Office of Faculty Affairs and Advancement as vice dean for faculty affairs and advancement in January. His responsibilities include managing all faculty personnel actions, conducting new faculty and chair orientation meetings, serving as a resource to the School of Medicine’s Promotion and Tenure Committee and Performance Criteria and Economic Welfare Committee, and advising faculty, the dean and the dean’s staff. Gerard Rabalais, M.D., became the associate dean of faculty development. He is charged with the creation and oversight of a comprehensive program in faculty development to help our faculty become better teachers.

To launch the new faculty development program in January, the office hosted the **Harvard Faculty Development Conference** on better teaching, sponsored by the School of Medicine. Over two days, 120 faculty attendees received practical advice on how to maximize teaching skills from two senior faculty members from the Harvard Medical School and the Shapiro Institute for Education and Research.

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### UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

Promotion, Appointment and Tenure workshops: Clinical Faculty – March 30, Noon-1:30 pm. Basic Science Faculty – April 14, Noon-1:30 pm.

Registration information will be sent via email. Contact the Office of Faculty Affairs and Advancement at 852-6266. See the [Meet the Staff webpage](#) for additional contact information.

### NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

*The stories included here were selected from the information submitted by the departments. Content for the next issue of the newsletter should be directed to [karan.chavis@louisville.edu](mailto:karan.chavis@louisville.edu).*