LEADERSHIP

Derdeyn new Chair and DEO of Radiology

Colin P. Derdeyn, MD, has been appointed as the new Chair and Departmental Executive Officer of the Department of Radiology, effective Dec. 31, 2015. Dr. Derdeyn has been working since Aug. 31, 2015, as a visiting professor of Radiology, using this time before assuming his role as Chair to work with Interim Chair Joan Maley, MD, on various departmental projects. Dr. Maley will continue in her interim role through Dec. 30, 2015.

As Chair and DEO of Radiology, Dr. Derdeyn will focus on recruiting and mentoring world-class faculty; developing clinical, research, and academic programs of excellence; and providing strong leadership across the UI Health Care enterprise. We look forward to his partnership with UI Health Care leaders in fostering clinical growth, improving clinical efficiency and service excellence, enhancing patient and staff satisfaction, developing research programs, and educating our medical students.

Prior to coming to Iowa, Dr. Derdeyn was Professor of Radiology, Neurology, and Neurological Surgery, Director of the Stroke and Cerebrovascular Center, and Program Director for the Endovascular Surgical Neuroradiology Fellowship at Washington University School of Medicine, in St. Louis. He earned his undergraduate and medical degrees from the University of Virginia, and completed residencies in both general and neurological surgery at University of North Carolina Hospitals in Chapel Hill, N.C., and in radiology at the Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology at Barnes Hospital and Washington University School of Medicine. He is a member of many national professional and scientific societies, including the Radiological Society of North America and the American Council on Graduate Medical Education. He also currently serves on the editorial boards of the American Journal of Neuroradiology and the journal Stroke. In the course of his career, he has been primary or coauthor on many papers and other publications, has received several prestigious awards, and has served on many review panels, all to further the field of neurological radiology.

Wong new Chair and DEO of Anesthesia

Cynthia Wong, MD, has been named the Chair and Departmental Executive Officer of the Department of Anesthesia, effective Nov. 15, 2015.

As Chair and DEO of Anesthesia, Dr. Wong will focus on recruiting and mentoring world class faculty, and developing clinical, research, and academic programs of excellence. We look forward to Dr. Wong’s commitment to building on the strong foundations already in place in the department, and to striving for increased research funding and department rankings by developing strong leadership at all levels in the department as well as focusing on academic depth for physician-scientists, clinician scholars, and trainees.
Prior to coming to Iowa, Dr. Wong was Professor and Vice Chair of the Department of Anesthesia and Chief of the Section on Obstetric Anesthesia, at Northwestern University. She earned an undergraduate degree in biology and chemistry, with distinction, from Indiana University and completed a fellowship in immunobiology and immunochemistry at the University of Würzburg, Germany, before obtaining her medical degree from the Pritzker School of Medicine at the University of Chicago. She is a member of many national professional and scientific societies, including the American Medical Women’s Association and the American Society of Anesthesiologists. She also currently serves as a section editor of the journal Obstetric Anesthesiology and on the editorial boards of the International Journal of Obstetric Anesthesia, Obstetric Anesthesia Digest, Anesthesia & Analgesia Case Reports, and the British Journal of Anesthesia. In the course of her career, she has been primary or coauthor on many papers and other publications, has received several prestigious awards, and has served on many review panels, all to further the field of anesthesia.

Weiner named new president

Dr. George Weiner, director of the Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center, the C.E. Block Chair of Cancer Research, and professor of internal medicine, is now president of the Association of American Cancer Institutes (AACI). The AACI comprises 92 leading cancer research centers in the United States. Dr. Weiner’s term as president will last two years, and he has been serving as the association’s vice-president/president-elect since Jan. 1, 2013.

Marsh named ABOS President

The American Board of Orthopaedic Surgeons (ABOS) recently elected Dr. Larry Marsh as its 62nd president. The ABOS establishes educational and competency standards for the initial certification of Orthopaedic Surgeons and through its re-certification process ensures that board certified orthopaedic surgeons continue to provide excellent patient care. Individuals elected to ABOS board of directors have demonstrated exceptional clinical skills and meet the highest standards of ethical and professional conduct.

Gellhaus is President-elect

Dr. Thomas M. Gellhaus, clinical associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology, has been elected “President Elect in Nomination” of the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. His term as President will begin in 2016.

Ballas named Co-Editor-in-Chief

Congratulations to Dr. Zuhair Ballas, professor of internal medicine, for being named a Co-Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (JACI). This is a great honor that reflects Dr. Zuhair’s well-deserved, national and international reputation. Dr. Zuhair joined the Department of Internal Medicine in 1980. He has previously sat on the JACI Editorial Board and also served as Associate Editor of the Journal of Clinical Immunology.
Skeete named Chair
Congratulations to Dr. Dionne Skeete, clinical associate professor of surgery, for being recently named chair of the Committee on Trauma of the American College of Surgeons for the State of Iowa. The mission of the American College of Surgeons Committees on Trauma is to develop and implement meaningful programs for trauma care in local, regional, national, and international arenas. These programs must include education, professional development, standards of care, and assessment of outcomes.

Moser named Assistant Dean
Dr. David Moser, was named Assistant Dean for Faculty Affairs and Development in the UI Carver College of Medicine beginning May 1, 2015. Dr. Moser is a neuropsychologist and professor of psychiatry. Dr. Moser has served as Director of the Psychology Division in the Department of Psychiatry since 2011. Dr. Moser will be an integral part of the office and will be available to assist in all activities related to faculty.

Gruber elected to American Surgical Association
Dr. Peter J. Gruber, was recently elected a member of the American Surgical Association (ASA), the nation’s oldest and most prestigious surgical organization for his body of work and contribution to the advancement of the field. Dr. Gruber has the unique distinction of being the only pediatric cardiac surgeon, and one of only four cardiac surgeons the country, who is a member of both the ASA and the equally prestigious American Society of Clinical Investigation. The University of Iowa is proud to have eight members of ASA and 34 members of ASCI among the faculty.

Cooper named Executive Secretary
Dr. Christopher Cooper, professor and vice chair of urology and associate dean of the UI Carver College of Medicine, was recently elected executive secretary for the Pediatric Urology Advisory Council (PUAC) by its membership. The PUAC is the representative leadership group of four pediatric urology societies that work with the American Board of Urology to develop a certificate of subspecialization in pediatric urology. Congratulations to him on this important appointment.

Leslie appointed to council
Congratulations to Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology’s Chair and Departmental Executive Officer and Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology Dr. Kimberly Leslie for being elected to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Council of Councils, a body that directly advises the NIH director.

Stoltz elected to ASCI
Dr. David Stoltz, MD, PhD, was elected to the American Society of Clinical Investigation (ASCI) in 2015. Established in 1908, it is one of the nation’s oldest and most respected medical honor societies. The ASCI is dedicated to the advancement of research that extends our understanding and improves the treatment of human diseases, and members are committed to mentoring
future generations of physician-scientists. The ASCI considers the nominations of several hundred physician-scientists submitted from among its members each year and elects up to 80 new members each year for their significant research accomplishments.

**HONORS and AWARDS**

*Distinguished Medicine Alumni Honored*

**Award for Service: G. Patrick Kealey**  (66BA, 69MD, 75MS, 77R-Surgery)

G. Patrick Kealey is truly “Iowa grown.” He received his bachelor’s, master’s, and medical degrees from the University of Iowa, where he also completed a surgery residency and clinical pharmacology fellowship. He has been a member of the UI Carver College of Medicine faculty since 1985 and has held an array of leadership positions within the UI Department of Surgery, including director of the Burn Treatment Center and director of the Division of Trauma, Burns, and Critical Care. Throughout his career, Kealey has worked to standardize and improve trauma services for patients across the state and region, and he was key in guiding UI Hospitals and Clinics to attaining Level 1 Trauma Center status.

**Award for Achievement: Chris Cooper**  (87BA, 91MD, 97R-Urology)

Christopher Cooper, associate dean for student affairs and curriculum in the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine, has made his mark on patients, students, and colleagues alike over the course of his career. After completing a pediatric urology fellowship in Philadelphia in 1999, Cooper returned to his alma mater as an assistant professor in the UI Carver College of Medicine. As a professor and vice chair of the UI Department of Urology, Cooper’s dedication to his students and patients has earned him wide recognition, including the 1999 Frank Hinman, Jr. Award for Clinical Research from the Society for Pediatric Urology, multiple teaching awards from students and residents, and the 2007 Carver College of Medicine Collegiate Teaching Award.

**Award for Achievement: Jesse Joad**  (71BS, 78MD, 81R-Pediatrics, 85MS, 86F-Pediatrics)

Jesse Joad has enjoyed a distinguished career as a pediatrician, scientist, teacher and mentor, administrator, and champion for diversity and inclusion across academic medicine. At the University of California, Davis School of Medicine, Joad’s research on the impact of air pollutants on lung function provided key insights into the physiology of pediatric asthma. As an associate dean at UC Davis, she established a career mentorship program for faculty and other initiatives to promote diversity and cultural competency awareness. Now a professor emerita, Joad serves as an executive coach and speaker, and she is president-elect of GLMA, an organization of health professionals committed to LGBT issues and health equality.
Award for Achievement: Craig Reynolds (74BA, 78-PhD-Microbiology)
For more than 35 years, Craig Reynolds has been an active member of the National Cancer Institute (NCI) as a scientist, program director, and administrative leader. His research interests include studies of the innate immune system, the development of new immunotherapies to treat cancer, and enhancing translational research at the NCI, including the testing of clinical cancer vaccines. Since 2002, Reynolds has served as associate director at NCI, overseeing the NCI campus in Frederick, Md. At the NCI-Frederick, he is responsible for the oversight of nearly 3000 employees and more than $500 million in research activities each year, focused on accelerating the translation of laboratory research into new diagnostic tests and treatments for cancer and other life-threatening diseases.

Award for Achievement: David S. Warner (82R-Neurosurgery, 84R-Anesthesiology)
One of the world’s most respected authorities in the field of neuroanesthesiology, David Warner’s research focuses on the treatment and management of acute central nervous system injury. As a faculty member in the University of Iowa Department of Anesthesia and, since 1994, at Duke University, Warner has led multidisciplinary teams and implemented a range of research approaches to better understand damage to the central nervous system, and the impact of anesthetics in treating these conditions. He has published hundreds of research papers and scientific book chapters; mentored dozens of medical students and postdoctoral fellows; participated on the editorial boards of premier journals in his field; served as a guest lecturer and visiting professor at universities and institutions around the world; and cared for many patients and families facing the challenge of brain and spinal cord injuries.

Award for Early Career Achievement: Andrew Doan (02R-Int. Medicine, 05R-Ophthalmology)
Andrew Doan, assistant professor of surgery at Loma Linda University in California, has excelled in the field of ophthalmology as a surgeon, clinician, and teacher. Born in Saigon, Vietnam, Doan completed an internal medicine internship and general clinical surgical ophthalmology residency at the University of Iowa. During that time, he co-founded and designed EyeRounds.org, an educational website now used by ophthalmologists all over the world to enhance their knowledge of the field. He was awarded the prestigious Heed Fellowship and was elected into the Society of Heed Fellows—a rare honor.

2015 UIP Clinical Award Winners
- Clinician of the Year: Abby Hardy-Fairbanks, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
- Patient Satisfaction and Service Excellence Award: Veronika Kolder, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology
- Best Consulting Provider: Milena Gebska, MD, Internal Medicine
- Excellence in Our Workplace Award: Anil Marian, MD, Anesthesia
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Recognition Highlights

- Innovations in Clinical Care Award: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Questioning (LGBTQ) Clinic Team, which includes Katie Imborek, MD; Nicole Nisly, MD; Michelle Miller, PharmD; Nancy Dole, RN, Maria Luna, Medical Assistant
- Excellence in Quality Award: Department of Internal Medicine Quality & Safety Group, which includes Karl Thomas, MD; Krista Johnson, MD; Aparna Kamath, MD; Michele Fang, MD; Melinda Johnson, MD; Ethan Kuperman, MD; and Mony Fraer, MD

2015 University of Iowa Faculty & Staff Awards

- Regents Award for Faculty Excellence: John Engelhardt, PhD, Professor and Chair of Anatomy and Cell Biology
- Regents Award for Faculty Excellence: Carol Scott-Conner, MD, Professor of Surgery
- Regents Award for Faculty Excellence: Gail Bishop, PhD, Professor of Microbiology
- Regents Staff Excellence Award: Kathi Huebner, Director of Admissions, Office of Student Affairs and Curriculum
- UI Outstanding Staff Award: Dr. Ehab Sarsour, Adjunct Assistant Professor of Radiation Oncology

UI Faculty Service Awards
Several UI Carver College of Medicine faculty have been recognized for their extraordinary contributions. Recipients of these awards will be recognized at this year’s Faculty Awards Banquet, on Wednesday, Feb. 25. The Collegiate Teaching Award recognizes faculty for meritorious achievement in teaching. This year’s recipients are: Dr. Pamela Geyer, professor of biochemistry and obstetrics and gynecology; Dr. Barry Kasson, associate professor of pharmacology; Dr. Joseph Szot, clinical professor of internal medicine; and Dr. Joseph Turek, assistant professor of cardiothoracic surgery. The Faculty Service Award acknowledges faculty who have made significant contributions in the area of service. The 2014 recipient is Dr. Eva Tsalikian, professor of pediatrics. The John P. Long Teaching Award in the Basic Sciences honors a faculty member who has demonstrated meritorious achievement in teaching. This year’s recipient is Dr. Alexander Sandra, professor emeritus of anatomy and cell biology. The Dr. Ernest O. Theilen Clinical Teaching and Service Award goes to a faculty member who is a dedicated physician, advocate of the college, and thoughtful team member. This year Dr. William John Sharp, professor of surgery and radiology, is honored.

2016 U.S. News and World Report rankings
In its 2016 edition of Best Graduate Schools, U.S. News and World Report has once again ranked the UI Carver College of Medicine among the nation’s best medical schools. In addition, the news magazine ranks the college’s Departments of Physician Assistant Studies and Services and Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science among the top five in the nation. The UI Carver College of Medicine was ranked for both its research and primary care missions—No. 29 in research and No. 16 in primary care—which were also our rankings last year. Physician
Assistant Studies and Services (No. 2) and Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science (No. 5) also held steady in their rankings.

*U.S. News & World Report* released its annual list of “The Best Hospitals,” and once again, UI Hospitals and Clinics is included among the leading hospitals in the United States, with seven specialties ranked in the Top 50 and five more listed as high-performing. In addition, UI Hospitals and Clinics was ranked again as the Number 1 hospital in Iowa. Such national recognition of the work done by all with UI Health Care is clearly well-deserved and a confirmation of the high-quality care provided to our patients and families every day. Congratulations! The seven specialties ranked among the Top 50 in the nation are: Cancer; Ear, Nose, and Throat; Gynecology; Neurology and Neurosurgery; Ophthalmology; Orthopaedics; and Urology. The specialties recognized as high-performing are Cardiology and Heart surgery; Gastroenterology and GI Surgery; Geriatrics; Nephrology; and Pulmonology.

University of Iowa Children’s Hospital was included among the nation’s top children’s hospitals, according to the 2015-2016 rankings of “Best Children’s Hospitals” released by *U.S. News & World Report*. UI Children’s Hospital is ranked in nine specialties: cancer (47), cardiology and heart surgery (30), diabetes and endocrinology (26), neonatology (23), nephrology (26), neurology and neurosurgery (49), orthopedics (45), pulmonology (49), and urology (24). To be consistently ranked among America’s top children’s hospitals is a testament to the expertise of UI Health Care’s faculty and staff who serve its pediatric patients and their families.

**Chatterjee AHA honors**

The American Heart Association’s Council on Clinical Cardiology presented its highest honor, the James B. Herrick Award for Outstanding Achievement in Clinical Cardiology, to Kanu Chatterjee, MD, clinical professor of internal medicine.

**Murray, Rubenstein named AAAS Fellows**

Two UI Health Care faculty members have been awarded the distinction of 2014 Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the world’s largest general scientific society and publisher of the journal Science. Dr. Jeffrey C. Murray, professor of pediatrics, epidemiology, nursing, dentistry, and biological sciences, “for distinguished contributions to the fields of genetics and medical genetics, particularly discoveries in cleft lip and palate and early term birth,” and Dr. Peter A. Rubenstein, professor of biochemistry, internal medicine, and pediatrics, “for distinguished contributions to the fields of actin cytoskeletal biochemistry and cell biology and to innovations in the teaching of basic science in medical education.

**Rosenbaum wins top teaching award**

Congratulations to Dr. Marcy Rosenbaum, professor of family medicine, for being selected as one of four 2015 President and Provost Award for Teaching Excellence recipients in recognition of their years of outstanding teaching. Dr. Rosenbaum spearheaded the implementation of a comprehensive, integrated clinical communication curriculum that provides medical students
with an experiential model for learning communication skills throughout their four year training. She also developed and delivers comprehensive training for faculty seeking to refine their teaching skills.

**Weinstein and Dolan awarded**

Congratulations to **Drs. Stuart Weinstein and Lori Dolan** for winning the 2015 Orthopaedic Research and Education Foundation Clinical Research Award. This honor comes as a result of their paper, “The Evidence Base for the Prognosis and Treatment of Adolescent Idiopathic Scoliosis,” which summarized decades of research that followed patients with adolescent idiopathic scoliosis throughout childhood, adolescence, and adulthood. Learn more here.

**Schwinn to receive award**

**Dr. Debra A. Schwinn**, dean of the UI Carver College of Medicine, will receive the prestigious J.E. Wallace Sterling Lifetime Alumni Achievement Award from the Stanford University Medical Center Alumni Association.

**Robinson receives award**

Congratulations to **Dr. Robert G. Robinson**, professor of psychiatry, for receiving the 2015 Gary J. Tucker Award for Lifetime Achievement in Neuropsychiatry at the 26th annual meeting of the American Neuropsychiatric Association (ANPA). Dr. Robinson is recognized for his seminal work on the neuropsychiatry of stroke; his seven textbooks on both the neuropsychiatry of stroke and on psychosomatic medicine; his more than 350 peer-reviewed papers and 84 chapters published to date; and his major contributions as a former President of ANPA and a longtime advisor to the organization.

**Brenner receives award**

The American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB) named 15 scientists the winners of its annual awards. Winners were nominated by colleagues and other leaders in their fields for making significant contributions to biochemistry and molecular biology. **Dr. Charles Brenner**, professor and chairman of the biochemistry department, won the 2016 ASBMB Award for Exemplary Contributions to Education. This award includes a cash prize of $3,000 and is given annually to a scientist who encourages effective teaching and learning of biochemistry and molecular biology through his or her own teaching, leadership in education, writing, educational research, mentoring, or public enlightenment.

**Shriver recognized**

**Dr. Erin Shriver**, assistant professor of ophthalmology and visual sciences, was recognized as an Emerging Leader by Women in Ophthalmology (WIO). The award honors individuals who are newer to practice and have already made significant contributions to WIO and to the profession and have demonstrated the potential for leadership and continuing service.
Faculty named as APS fellows
Several UI Health Care faculty were recently named to the inaugural class of Fellows of the American Physiological Society including: Dr. Francois Abboud, Dr. Kevin Campbell, Dr. Gerald DiBona, Dr. Kevin Kregel, Dr. Curt Sigmund, Dr. William Talman, and Dr. Michael Welsh. Congratulations to all for receiving this outstanding honor.

Grobe receives award
Congratulations to Dr. Justin Grobe, assistant professor of pharmacology, for being selected as the Harry Goldblatt New Investigator Award Recipient at Hypertension 2015 Scientific Sessions. This award is named after Dr. Harry Goldblatt, a pathologist who established the first animal model of hypertension in 1934. The award recognizes a new independent investigator working in hypertension or cardiovascular research who has significantly contributed to the understanding of the causes of hypertension and related cardiovascular disease.

Schlievert honored by American Society for Microbiology
Dr. Patrick Schlievert, chair and department executive officer of the Department of Microbiology, has been selected to receive the 2016 ASM Graduate Microbiology Teaching Award. This award from ASM (the American Society for Microbiology) honors exemplary teaching and recognizes an individual for distinguished teaching of microbiology and mentoring of students at the graduate and postgraduate levels (e.g., graduate school, medical school, or other health professional schools) and for encouraging students to subsequent achievement. Schlievert will be presented with the award at ASM Microbe 2016, to be held in Boston, Massachusetts, in June 2016.

Rahmouni receives award for research excellence
The American Heart Association’s Council on Hypertension is pleased to announce that Kamal Rahmouni, PhD, Associate Professor of Pharmacology and Internal Medicine has been named the recipient of the 2015 Mid-Career Award for Research Excellence.

The Hypertension Mid-Career Award for Research Excellence recognizes a mid-career investigator working in hypertension or cardiovascular research who has significantly contributed to our understanding of the causes of hypertension and related cardiovascular disease.

UI Comprehensive Stroke Center honored
The Comprehensive Stroke Center at UI Hospitals and Clinics has been awarded the Gold Plus Target: Stroke Elite Plus by the American Heart Association (AHA). The Gold Plus Target: Stroke Elite Plus is the highest award currently available from the AHA and the Stroke Center is the first in the state of Iowa to achieve this level of recognition.
In addition to the AHA award, the Stroke Center has again been recognized by The Joint Commission and the American Stroke Association as meeting The Joint Commission’s standards for Disease-Specific Care Comprehensive Stroke Center Certification, which means it is part of an elite group of providers focused on complex stroke care. Complex Stroke Centers are recognized as industry leaders and are responsible for setting the national agenda in highly-specialized stroke care.

**Scott-Conner honored member of AACA**

Dr. Carol Scott-Conner, EH, MD, PhD, FACS, was named a 2015 Honored Member of the American Association of Clinical Anatomists (AACA). She was a founding member of the AACA, has served on the Executive Council, has been on the editorial board of Clinical Anatomy, hosted the annual meeting at the University of Iowa, has served as president, and was the honored recipient of the society’s R. Benton Adkins Jr. Distinguished Service Award in 2011.

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**PHILANTHROPY**

**2015 Investitures**

- **Raphael Hirsch, MD**, was invested as the Joel and Jay Stead Chair for Leadership in Children’s Medicine in the Stead Department of Pediatrics (April 2015).

- **Patrick Brophy, MD**, was invested as the Jean E. Robillard, MD, Chair in Pediatric Nephrology in the Stead Department of Pediatrics (April 2015).

- **Yatin Vyas, MD**, was invested as the Mary Joy and Jerre Stead Professorship in Pediatric Hematology/Oncology in the Stead Department of Pediatrics (April 2015).

- **Marlan Hansen, MD**, was invested as the Marvin and Rose Lee Pomerantz Professorship in Otolaryngology in the Department of Otolaryngology (May 2015).

- **Deborah Kacmarynski, MD, MS**, was invested as the Paul N. Johnson Professorship in Craniofacial Abnormalities in the Department of Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery (Oct 2015).

**Trueblood gift to enhance genetic research**

University of Iowa alumnus Franklin D. Trueblood’s lifelong interest in medical innovation inspired an estate gift that will dramatically enhance cutting-edge genetics research in the UI Carver College of Medicine. The $7.8 million gift contributes to For Iowa. Forever More: The Campaign for the University of Iowa, the UI’s $1.7 billion comprehensive campaign. The gift will substantially enhance research, help the college recruit and retain top faculty, and speed the translation of discovery to patient care for people throughout Iowa and beyond.
Dance Marathon: For the Kids
Dance Marathon is not just a fundraiser, it’s a celebration of life. Last weekend, in a show of solidarity for pediatric cancer patients who are unable to take a break from the burden of this life-threatening illness, University of Iowa Dance Marathon participants stayed on their feet for 24-plus hours raising funds “For The Kids” at UI Children’s Hospital. I am pleased to share that they did a remarkable job—surpassing last year’s numbers and raising a total of $2,001,856.21 million.

Howard F. Ruby Endowment for Human Retinal Engineering
The University of Iowa Stephen A. Wynn Institute for Vision Research recently announced two large steps forward in the battle against blinding eye disease. Both are made possible by a major gift from California businessman, photographer, environmentalist, and philanthropist, Howard F. Ruby. The Howard F. Ruby Endowment for Human Retinal Engineering will accelerate the Wynn Institute’s effort to create living retinal grafts from patient-derived stem cells. The endowment will be used to purchase state-of-the-art equipment including a 3D printer capable of printing biopolymeric scaffolds on a sub-cellular scale, and to create an endowed chair in the new field of Human Retinal Engineering. Mr. Ruby’s gift also provides funding to establish a laboratory dedicated to studying Usher syndrome, a genetic disorder that is the most common cause of combined deafness and blindness. The William J. Kimberling Usher Research Laboratory in the Wynn Institute will be named in honor of Dr. Kimberling, a leading researcher in Usher syndrome. Dr. Kimberling, who recently retired after a long and distinguished career at Boys Town National Research Hospital in Omaha, Nebraska, also held a faculty position at the University of Iowa in recent years.

RESEARCH

Campbell, Welsh renewed as Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigators
Two researchers in the University of Iowa Roy J. and Lucille A. Carver College of Medicine have been renewed for another five years as investigators of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI). Both researchers, Kevin Campbell, Ph.D., and Michael Welsh, M.D., have been HHMI investigators since 1989.

Kevin Campbell, PhD, professor and head of molecular physiology and biophysics, holds the Roy J. Carver Biomedical Research Chair in Molecular Physiology and Biophysics. Campbell, who joined the UI faculty in 1981, is internationally known for his neuromuscular disease research and directs the Wellstone Muscular Dystrophy Cooperative Research Center at the UI. Campbell also is a professor of internal medicine and neurology. Campbell’s work has led to the identification of the molecular and genetic basis of several forms of muscular dystrophy and provided a clearer understanding of muscular dystrophy disease processes. Campbell’s findings have already greatly improved the diagnosis of muscular dystrophy and
point to strategies for developing therapies for these devastating inherited neuromuscular diseases.

**Michael Welsh, MD**, professor of internal medicine, molecular physiology and biophysics, and neurosurgery, holds the Roy J. Carver Chair of Internal Medicine and Physiology and Biophysics. Welsh, who also joined the UI faculty in 1981, directs the UI Cystic Fibrosis Research Center and will serve as director of the new Pappajohn Biomedical Institute. Welsh is internationally recognized for his research on cystic fibrosis. Work from his lab elucidated the cellular and molecular bases of the disease. The improved understanding of cystic fibrosis laid the foundation for several new therapeutic and preventive strategies for this inherited disease.

**UI’s Wellstone Muscular Dystrophy Center awarded $7.4 million grant renewal**
The University of Iowa, Paul D. Wellstone Muscular Dystrophy Cooperative Research Center (MDCRC) has received a five-year, $7.4 million grant renewal from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), to advance its work on finding treatments for muscular dystrophies.

**Kevin Campbell, PhD**, chair and DEO of molecular physiology and biophysics at the UI Carver College of Medicine, directs the Iowa MDCRC and leads the group’s basic science research; **Steven Moore, MD, PhD**, UI professor of pathology, is co-director of the center and director of a national shared resource muscle biopsy and cell culture repository; and **Katherine Mathews, MD**, UI professor and director of the division of pediatric neurology at UI Children’s Hospital, the is principal investigator for the clinical research component of the MDCRC. Campbell, Mathews, and Moore also share responsibility for administration and for research training and education of the next generation of muscular dystrophy specialists, which Campbell notes is a primary focus of the center.

The UI center is one of six around the country named after Sen. Paul D. Wellstone (D-Minn.) who died in 2002. As a senator, Wellstone was instrumental in passing the Muscular Dystrophy Community Assistance, Research, and Education Amendments, which mandates that the NIH establish centers of excellence for basic and clinical research into Duchenne and other forms of muscular dystrophy.

**Caregivers have an influence**
A new University of Iowa study further supports an inescapable message: caregivers have a profound influence—good or bad—on the emotional state of individuals with Alzheimer’s disease. Patients may not remember a recent visit by a loved one or having been neglected by staff at a nursing home, but those actions can have a lasting impact on how they feel. The findings of this study are published in the September 2014 issue of the journal Cognitive and
Behavioral Neurology. The study led by Edmarie Guzmán-Vélez, a doctoral student in clinical psychology, and Dr. Daniel Tranel, professor of neurology and psychology, highlights the need to develop new caregiving techniques aimed at improving the well-being and minimizing the suffering for the millions afflicted with Alzheimer’s.

**UI team will study how seizures disrupt breathing**
University of Iowa neuroscientists led by Dr. George Richerson, chair and department executive officer of neurology, will work with eight other research groups to increase the understanding of sudden unexpected death in epilepsy (SUDEP), the leading cause of death from epilepsy. This consortium of scientists forms the Center for SUDEP Research and will receive funding totaling $5.9 million in 2014 from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), part of the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Richerson will lead the “Center for SUDEP Research: Respiratory and Arousal Mechanisms,” at the UI, which will focus on understanding how seizures can disrupt the brain mechanisms involved in breathing. Dr. Richerson’s colleagues at the UI include Dr. Brian Gehlbach, Dr. Mark Granner, Dr. Mary Ann Werz, Dr. LeBron Paige, Dr. Rup Sainju, Dr. Gordon Buchanan, Dr. Nandakumar Narayanan, Dr. Brian Dlouhy, Dr. Hiroto Kawasaki, Dr. Matthew Howard, and Dr. John Wemmie. UI graduate students Cory Massey, YuJaung Kim, and Katherine Proch, all in Richerson’s lab, are also part of the team.

**Impact of diabetes on brain growth**
A new study conducted by the University of Iowa and four other universities found some areas of the brain grow more slowly in children with Type 1 diabetes than those without, according to findings published in Diabetes. Researchers found that children with the highest blood sugar levels and those whose levels fluctuate the most had the slowest brain growth. The study suggests the importance of preventing glucose levels from dropping too low in people affected by diabetes because very low blood sugar levels may lead to seizures or coma. On the other hand, the study suggests that high blood sugar levels might be harmful to children with Type 1 diabetes. Dr. Eva Tsalikian, a professor of pediatrics, says this study shows a need to balance high blood sugar levels and low sugar levels. “New technology, such as continuous blood sugar monitors, may help prevent large swings in blood sugar levels,” said Dr. Michael Tansey, clinical associate professor of pediatrics.

**New picture, new insight**
Using a different type of MRI imaging, researchers at Iowa have discovered previously unrecognized differences in the brains of patients with bipolar disorder. The study, published Jan. 6 in the journal Molecular Psychiatry, revealed differences in the white matter of patients’ brains and in the cerebellum, an area of the brain not previously linked with the disorder. The study was helmed by Dr. John Wemmie, professor of psychiatry and senior study author, as well as Dr. Casey Johnson, postdoctoral researcher and first author on the study. The study team also included UI researchers Dr. Jess Fiedorowicz, Dr. Vincent Magnotta, Robin Follmer, Ipek Oguz, Lois Warren, and Gary Christensen.
New cells may help treat diabetes

Starting from human skin cells, researchers at the University of Iowa have created human insulin-producing cells that respond to glucose and correct blood-sugar levels in diabetic mice. The findings may represent a first step toward developing patient-specific cell replacement therapy for Type 1 diabetes. In the new study, published Jan. 28 in the journal PLOS ONE, the UI team led by Dr. Nicholas Zavazava, professor of internal medicine, reprogrammed human skin cells to create induced pluripotent stem cells, which were then coaxed into forming insulin-producing cells. When these cells were transplanted into diabetic mice, the cells secreted insulin and reduced blood sugar levels to normal or near-normal levels. The UI research team also included Dr. Sudhanshu Raikwar, Dr. Eun-Mi Kim, Dr. William Sivitz, Dr. Chantal Allamargot, and Dr. Daniel Thedens.

Yeast cells and extended lifespan

University of Iowa scientists have discovered a new wrinkle in the remarkable ability of model organisms to extend lifespan when their caloric intake is restricted. When researchers restrict food to organisms as simple as yeast or as complicated as vertebrates, their lifespan is extended. In a new study, scientists uncovered evidence that baker’s yeast cells not only extend their own lifespan in response to caloric restriction but also communicate with other cells to share the benefit of caloric restriction. In the study, published on Jan. 20 in PLOS Biology, Dr. Szu-Chieh Mei, post-doctoral research scholar, and Dr. Charles Brenner, professor of internal medicine, document a cellular behavior that could be termed communitarian or altruistic. While the health benefits of this research are not yet clear, the yeast system has served as a model for understanding fundamental plant and animal functions and continues to surprise researchers with its complexity and sophistication.

Metabolism discovery

What started as an evolutionary protection against starvation has become a biological “bad joke” for people who need to lose weight. The human body doesn’t distinguish between dieting and possible starvation, so when there is a decrease in calories consumed, human metabolism increases its energy efficiency and weight loss is resisted. In a new study published in the journal Molecular Therapy, a team from the University of Iowa and the Iowa City VA Health Care System has developed a targeted approach to override this “energy saving” mode and allow muscle to burn more energy, even during low to moderate exercise. The new findings might provide the basis of a therapy that could help people get a head start on losing weight by helping to overcome the body’s natural resistance to weight loss. Dr. Leonid Zingman, associate professor of internal medicine and a staff physician at the Iowa City VA Health Care System, and Dr. Denice Hodgson-Zingman, associate professor of internal medicine, co-authored the study. The research team also included UI scientists Siva Rama, Krishna Koganti, Zhiyong Zhu, Ekaterina Subbotina, Zhan Gao, Ana Sierra, Manuel Proenza, and Liping Yang.

Understanding eating disorders

Building on their discovery of a gene linked to eating disorders in humans, a team of researchers at the University of Iowa has now shown that loss of the gene in mice leads to
several behavioral abnormalities that resemble behaviors seen in people with anorexia nervosa. The team, led by Dr. Michael Lutter, assistant professor of psychiatry, found that mice that lack the estrogen-related receptor alpha (ESRRA) gene are less motivated to seek out high-fat food when they are hungry and have abnormal social interactions. The effect was stronger in female mice, which also showed increased obsessive-compulsive-like behaviors. The study also shows that ESRRA levels are controlled by energy status in the mice. Restricting calorie intake to 60 percent of normal over several days significantly increased levels of ESRRA in the brains of normal mice. In addition to Dr. Lutter, the team included UI researchers Huxing Cui; Yuan Lu; Michael Khan; Rachel Anderson; Latisha McDaniel; Hannah Wilson; Terry Yin; Jason Radley; and Andrew Pieper.

AHA Strategically Focused Research Network on Hypertension
Researchers from four institutions are delving into the causes and possible cures for high blood pressure as part of the American Heart Association’s new Strategically Focused Research Network on hypertension. The new studies seek to change how the condition is diagnosed and treated and to better understand its molecular basis. Scientists also hope to improve its treatment in young people and provide a new predictor of preeclampsia to help pregnant women get better care. At the University of Iowa, investigators including Drs. Curt Sigmund, Kimberly Leslie, Mark Santillan, Gary Pierce, and Justin Grobe, aim to find a reliable, early predictor of preeclampsia to help doctors in areas with lower levels of obstetric care identify the highest-risk patients as early as the sixth week of pregnancy. They were awarded a 4-year, $3.7 million grant to support the new University of Iowa Strategically Focused Hypertension Research Center, which is a part of UI Health Care’s Center for Hypertension Research, which was announced last July.

In search of tinnitus
Tapping the highly specialized expertise of a brain research lab at the University of Iowa, researchers have taken advantage of a rare opportunity to record directly from the brain of a person with tinnitus in order to find the brain networks responsible for this often debilitating condition. The new study, reported in the Cell Press journal Current Biology, reveals just how different tinnitus is from normal representations of sounds in the brain. According to study co-leader Dr. Phillip Gander, postdoctoral research scholar, this has profound implications for the understanding and treatment of tinnitus. Dr. Gander is a member of the Human Brain Research Laboratory (HBRL) led by Dr. Matthew Howard, professor and DEO of neurosurgery. The HBRL is a research team that uses direct recordings of neural activity from inside humans’ brains to investigate sensory, perceptual, and cognitive processes. In addition to Drs. Gander and Howard, the team included UI researchers Drs. Hiroyuki Oya, Christopher Kovach, Kirill Nourski, and Hiroto Kawasaki.

Yu studies treating knee injuries with hydrogel
Current surgical options for repairing damaged cartilage caused by knee injuries are costly, can have complications, and often are not very effective in the long run. But a University of Iowa orthopedics research team is working on a solution with hopes it will result in a minimally
invasive, practical, and inexpensive approach for repairing cartilage and preventing osteoarthritis. According to Yin Yu, the study’s first author and graduate student in the lab of Dr. James Martin, assistant professor of orthopaedics and rehabilitation, the team is creating a hydrogel that can repair cartilage damage, regenerate stronger cartilage, and hopefully delay or eliminate the development of osteoarthritis, and eliminate the need for total knee replacement. The study is featured on the cover of the May 1 issue of the journal Arthritis and Rheumatology. The UI research team also included Marc Broulliette, Dr. Dong Rim Seol, Dr. Zheng Hongjun, and Dr. Joseph Buckwalter.

Rysavy and Bell investigate pre-term infant survival rates
Whether the youngest preterm infants receive potentially lifesaving treatment differs among major academic medical centers nationwide, and that difference could determine whether these tiniest of infants survive, according to a University of Iowa study published in the New England Journal of Medicine. University of Iowa researchers Matthew Rysavy, a senior medical student, and Dr. Edward Bell, professor of pediatrics, studied the cases of nearly 5,000 infants born before 27 weeks gestation at 24 academic hospitals participating in the Neonatal Research Network between 2006 and 2011. By illustrating how differences in the approach to treating infants born at 22, 23, and 24 weeks relate to hospital outcomes, the study provides information that can help improve the evidence used to make decisions about infants’ care. The names of those hospitals surveyed were removed for the study, although the NICU at UI Children’s Hospital was included and is among the 22.1 percent of hospitals to provide active care for infants at 22 weeks gestation. Survival rates at the NICU at UI Children’s Hospital for babies born as 23, 24, and 25 weeks are significantly higher than those at other U.S. hospitals: 71 percent at 23 weeks, 86 percent at 24 weeks and 90 percent at 25 weeks. For more information, visit The Loop.

“French fry hypothesis” busted
In a study that seems to defy conventional dietary wisdom, University of Iowa scientists have found that adding high salt to a high-fat diet actually prevents weight gain in mice. As exciting as this may sound to fast food lovers, the researchers caution that very high levels of dietary salt are associated with increased risk for cardiovascular disease in humans. Rather than suggest that a high salt diet is suddenly a good thing, the researchers say these findings really point to the profound effect non-caloric dietary nutrients can have on energy balance and weight gain. Dr. Justin Grobe, assistant professor of pharmacology, and Dr. Michael Lutter, assistant professor of psychiatry and member of the Pappajohn Biomedical Institute, were co-senior authors of the study, which was published in the journal Scientific Reports on June 11. In addition to Dr. Grobe and Dr. Lutter, the UI research team included Benjamin Weidemann; Susan Voong; Fabiola Morales-Santiago; Michael Kahn; Jonathan Ni; Nicole Littlejohn; Kristin Claflin; Colin Burnett; and Nicole Pearson.

Atkins studies cardiac arrest
Dr. Dianne Atkins, professor of pediatrics and cardiology, was recently recognized as a member of the Institute of Medicine (IOM) Committee on the Treatment of Cardiac Arrest: Current
Status and Future Directions, which made recommendations to improve survival and quality of life following cardiac arrest. Estimates suggest that cardiac arrest is the third leading cause of death in the United States behind cancer and heart disease. Following a cardiac arrest, each minute without treatment decreases the likelihood of surviving without disability, and survival rates depend greatly on where the cardiac arrest occurs, said the committee that carried out the study and wrote the report. In addition, there are wide variations in survival rates among communities and hospitals across the U.S. The committee recommended a series of strategies and actions to improve survival and quality of life following cardiac arrest.

_Sah questions, “can fat cells feel fat?”_

Dr. Rajan Sah, assistant professor of internal medicine, studies how cells expand and whether cells can sense changes in their own size to influence growth. He recently received a three-year, $400,000 Carver Trust Young Investigator award to advance this area of research, which has implications for understanding the role of fat-cell expansion in the development of insulin resistance and diabetes. According to Dr. Sah, fat cells are notorious for their tremendous ability to expand and grow. A fat cell can increase its surface area by more than tenfold and volume by more than 30 times in the setting of obesity. Understanding the basic biology of fat storage might help researchers identify new therapeutic targets for the prevention of obesity and associated diseases like diabetes.

_Yang links Obesity-related cell stress to diabetes_

Obesity is associated with chronic inflammation, which in turn has been linked to diabetes. A new study led by Dr. Ling Yang, assistant professor of anatomy and cell biology, finds a surprising molecular connection between obesity-related inflammation and cellular stress that may help explain the link to diabetes. Dr. Yang and her team found that obesity-associated inflammation disrupts a cellular stress defense process called the unfolded protein response, which is important for alleviating stress and restoring normal function in a cell compartment, or organelle, known as the endoplasmic reticulum. The findings were recently published in the journal Science.

_New grant recipients announced in FOEDRC_

The Fraternal Order of Eagles Diabetes Research Center has announced its fourth round of research grants. The grants were awarded to fund innovative pilot projects by early career investigators who are entering the diabetes research field, or established investigators with innovative ideas that focus their research program to address important questions in diabetes research. The new recipients are: Justin Grobe, PhD, FAHA, assistant professor of pharmacology; Vitor Lira, PhD, assistant professor of health and human physiology; and Robert Piper, PhD, professor of molecular physiology and biophysics. In addition, the projects of the three investigators funded last year were awarded a second year of funding including: Charles Brenner, PhD, professor of biochemistry and internal medicine; Michael Lutter, MD, PhD, assistant professor of psychiatry; and Philip Polgreen, MD, MPH, associate professor of internal medicine and epidemiology.
Mullins and Tucker funded to study age-related macular degeneration
UI Carver College of Medicine researchers studying age-related macular degeneration (AMD) have received a four-year, $1.5 million grant from the National Eye Institute, part of the National Institutes of Health, to better understand cell injury and death that can lead to AMD and to develop preventative treatments. Dr. Robert Mullins, professor of ophthalmology and visual sciences, and Dr. Budd Tucker, assistant professor of ophthalmology and visual sciences, are the principal investigators of the study. AMD is a major cause of blindness characterized by deterioration of the part of the eye that is responsible for visual acuity.

Abel awarded $4 million
Dr. Dale Abel, director of the Fraternal Order of Eagles Diabetes Research Center, has been awarded two grants totaling $4 million from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute to study the connection between diabetes, obesity, and heart failure. Dr. Abel and his colleagues will investigate the biological mechanisms that drive this increased risk and the connection between high levels of insulin, a common feature of type 2 diabetes, and heart failure. Using a four-year, $1.6 million grant, the team will determine how these pathways are changed by obesity and examine if such changes alter the effectiveness of commonly used heart failure drugs in obese patients. The second study, funded by a four-year, $2.4 million grant, will directly test the potential of newly identified drug targets for reducing the risk of heart failure in people with diabetes.

ICTS grant renewed
The Institute for Clinical and Translational Science (ICTS) received a $7 million renewal of its Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) from the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences. The new award will support a wide range of activities to strengthen clinical research at the University of Iowa, engage communities and other stakeholders in Iowa research to improve health, and promote a robust and diverse translational workforce. The award is a reflection of the university’s ongoing commitment to turning research insights into more effective health care and to translating those ideas into vibrant, successful companies and high paying jobs in Iowa. The ICTS, which first received CTSA funding in 2007, is one of 62 institutions nationally that are funded through the initiative and that form an integrated network to transform the conduct of clinical research in the United States. The consortium works together to accelerate the translation of research findings into routine medical practice.

Residency program receives grant
The UI Hospitals and Clinics Family Medicine Residency Program received a 5-year $1 million Health Resources and Services Administration grant to train residents to provide care to patients with complex medical problems utilizing care management. The goal of the program’s care management initiative—Collaborative Medical and Behavioral Health (CoMeBeH)—is to improve the health of people with serious mental illness, through collaboration of family medicine residents and psychiatry residents. This partnership helps bridge the gap between patients’ mental and physical health care. The initiative focuses on three different groups: patients with serious persistent mental illness, patients with alcohol use disorders, and patients
with co-occurring depression and chronic illness. After controlling for age and sex, patients were 70 percent less likely to visit the emergency room after being enrolled in the CoMeBeH program for at least 6 months and were 32 percent and 40 percent more likely to visit a primary care clinic or psychiatry clinic, respectively.

**Strack receives GSK grant and award**

Dr. Stefan Strack, professor of pharmacology and pathology, recently received a $275,000 grant from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Strokes and was named a winner of GlaxoSmithKline’s 2014 Discovery Fast Track Challenge, which is designed to encourage the translation of research into novel therapies. Dr. Strack and co-investigator Dr. Yuriy Usachev, associate professor of pharmacology, aim to examine the effects of mitochondria in the brain. Results may lead to better treatments for neuropsychiatric disorders and brain injury.

**Milhem involved in study**

A genetically modified form of the herpes simplex virus type-1 has been used to successfully treat advanced melanoma. The virus mounts a two-pronged attack on the tumor cells. UI oncologist and researcher Dr. Mohammed Milhem, is a co-author on the study published in the Journal of Clinical Oncology, and Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center at the UI was lead accruer for this Phase III clinical trial.

**Bacteria may cause Type 2 diabetes**

Bacteria and viruses have an obvious role in causing infectious diseases, but microbes have also been identified as the surprising cause of other illnesses, including cervical cancer (Human papilloma virus) and stomach ulcers (H. pylori bacteria). A new study by University of Iowa microbiologists now suggests that bacteria may even be a cause of one of the most prevalent diseases of our time: Type 2 diabetes. The research team led by Dr. Patrick Schlievert, found that prolonged exposure to a toxin produced by Staphylococcus aureus (staph) bacteria causes rabbits to develop the hallmark symptoms of Type 2 diabetes, including insulin resistance, glucose intolerance, and systemic inflammation. The UI findings suggest that therapies aimed at eliminating staph bacteria or neutralizing the superantigens might have potential for preventing or treating Type 2 diabetes. In addition to Dr. Schlievert, the UI research team included Dr. Bao Vu, Christopher Stach, Dr. Katarina Kulhankova, Dr. Wilmara Salgado-Pabón, and Dr. Aloysius Klingelhutz.

**Buatti renews U01**

John M. Buatti, MD, Chair and Department Executive Officer, Radiation Oncology, has renewed his U01 titled “Quantitative Imaging to Assess Response in Cancer Therapy Trials.” This $3.14M, 5-year grant was awarded by the National Cancer Institute.
UI researchers receive $10.67 million SPORE grant to study neuroendocrine tumors

Researchers at Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of Iowa have received a five-year, $10.67 million Specialized Programs of Research Excellence (SPORE) grant to study neuroendocrine tumors, the first and only grant of its kind. SPORE grants are funded through the National Cancer Institute (NCI), part of the National Institutes of Health.

Sue O’Dorisio, MD, PhD, professor of pediatrics in the division of pediatric hematology/oncology of the Stead Family Department of Pediatrics and the University of Iowa Children’s Hospital is the Principal Investigator on the SPORE.

UI receives $2.2 million and is named Prevention Epicenter by CDC

The University of Iowa is one of six U.S. health care centers to be designated Prevention Epicenters by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The UI team, led by Eli Perencevich, MD, professor of internal medicine, will receive $2.2 million over three years from the CDC to develop and test interventions to prevent dangerous pathogens like Ebola, MRSA, and C. diff, from spreading in hospitals.

The CDC will award a total of $11 million to the six new Prevention Epicenters, which are based at Emory University, Johns Hopkins University, University of Illinois at Chicago, University of Maryland, Baltimore, and University of Utah, in addition to the UI. The new funding more than doubles the number of CDC Prevention Epicenters, with the new centers joining five existing American Epicenters working to discover new ways to protect patients from dangerous germs.

Taylor receives NIH grant to study glucose production in the liver

Eric Taylor, PhD, assistant professor of biochemistry at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine, was awarded a five-year, $1.87 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to study biological mechanisms used by the liver to make glucose.

Taylor will use the new funding to investigate the molecular mechanisms regulating MPC function and to determine whether inhibiting MPC activity will therapeutically decrease elevated blood sugar levels in type 2 diabetes.

Michaelson, Nopoulous awarded 5-year NIH grants

Two researchers in the Department of Psychiatry in the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine received new 5-year National Institutes of Health grants. Dr. Jake Michaelson, Assistant Professor, was awarded $3.2 million to study the genetics of specific language impairment using whole genome sequencing. Dr. Peg Nopoulous, Professor and Vice Chair, was awarded $3 million to study brain structure and function in people with myotonic dystrophy.
Hoffman awarded
The University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine received a 4-year $2 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to define the role of early pulmonary vascular disease in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). Funds will be used to implement a dual-energy CT perfusion method in studying the hypothesis that emphysema is associated with reduced blood flow to inflamed smokers susceptible to emphysema. The principle investigator is Dr. Eric Hoffman, Professor of Radiology and of Biomedical Engineering, Assistant Professor of Radiology and of Physiology, and Professor of Internal Medicine, Biomedical Engineering. Hoffman is also Director of the Iowa Comprehensive Lung Imaging Center.

Shy awarded NIH grant for Neuropathy Consortium project
Dr. Michael Shy, Professor of Neurology and of Pediatrics, Molecular Physiology and Biophysics, and Director of the Division of Neuromuscular Medicine, Neurology, in the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine was awarded a 4-year $5 million grant from the National Institutes of Health for the project titled “The Inherited Neuropathy Consortium.”

Kreder awarded 5-year $4.5 million NIH grant renewal
Dr. Karl J. Kreder, Professor and Head and Rubin H. Flocks Chair of Urology, received renewal of a $4.5 million NIH grant over the next 5 years for his Urology Chronic Pelvic Pain Longitudinal Symptom Patterns Study.

Howard awarded renewal of 5-year NIH grant
The Department of Neurosurgery in the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine received renewal of a 5-year NIH grant. Dr. Matthew Howard, Professor and John C. VanGilder Chair of Neurosurgery, is the principal investigator.