Global Perspective

Students, faculty and staff came together during the Sixth Annual Global Health Symposium at Rush University to examine the topic of “Refugee Medicine, Home and Abroad.” Congratulations to the following Poster Session Abstract Award recipients on their presentation titled “Continued Development of a Student-Led Health Education Intervention for Women Detained in a Large County Jail.”

- Jessica Vlaming, PA-C, assistant professor, Department of Physician Assistant Studies, College of Health Sciences
- Erin Paolini, PA-S1, physician assistant student, College of Health Sciences
- Chloe J. E. Solomon, MS, M1 student, Rush Medical College
- Tamara Dukich, PA-S1, physician assistant student, College of Health Sciences
- Sara Gottlieb, BA, M1 student, Rush Medical College

Scoring was based on quality of poster visual, ability of the presenter to communicate, contribution to the project and next steps, and quality of abstract. Judges included physicians, nurses and administrators involved in global health and community outreach programs.
Kudos

MRI Safety Day

Led by Laura Vasquez, PhD, RVT (ARDMS), RT (R), (MR), (ARRT), the imaging sciences program successfully held its inaugural MRI Safety Day with more than 150 attendees. The program was developed because the most widely recognized and implemented practices to improve safety in magnetic resonance imaging are procedural in nature. While these are critical to safe MRI operations, they have not, in and of themselves, proven sufficient to reduce MRI adverse events. Comprehensive MRI safety education relies on narrowing the gaps of knowledge, skills and practice.

Ear Day

The Sixth Annual Ear Day Symposium at Rush University included presentations by auditory scientists from across the U.S. and discussion of current topics among students, clinicians and researchers.

Physician Assistant Silent Auction

The physician assistant, or PA, program recently hosted its annual silent auction to benefit Gilda’s Club of Chicago. Students and faculty gathered to bid on various items donated by Chicago businesses, raising more than $4,500 to support patients and family members impacted by cancer. The PA program would like to thank its donors, student organizers and everyone else who contributed to making this a fun and productive event!
Student Accomplishments

Audiology students Kelly Brown and Julia Cote recently received the 2018 American Cochlear Implant Alliance Scholarship Award. Open to full-time students, fellows and postdoctoral scholars who have a clinical or research interest in cochlear implants, the scholarship is intended to encourage continued involvement in the field of cochlear implantation.

Occupational therapy, or OT, students Lauren Henderson and Stephanie Voss were among the 20 OT students selected nationwide to participate in the Summer Institute for Future Scientists in Occupational Therapy. Also, Henderson was elected OT Vice Chairperson of the Assembly of Student Delegates, effective July 1.

Research Recognitions

Lauren Little, PhD, OTR/L, was one of the recipients of the 2018 American Occupational Therapy Foundation Intervention Research Grants. The purpose of this grant is to lay the necessary groundwork that will allow Little to apply for funding to support larger intervention studies. This grant is just one avenue to support the occupational therapy profession’s vision of being more science-driven and evidence-based in its interventions.

This year marked the 35th anniversary of the Rush University Forum for Research and Clinical Investigation. As in the past, Nadine Lerret, PhD, MLS(ASCP)CM, judged the Sigma Xi poster competition. This year she also represented the College of Health Sciences faculty and gave a talk titled “The Role of Hyperglycemia in CD4 T Cell Survival and Differentiation.” The talk highlighted the research that she and her student lab members have been engaged in during the last year and a half. They found that hyperglycemia, the cornerstone of diabetes, drives naïve human CD4 T cells towards that of an activated and effector phenotype. Additionally these same CD4 T cells are altered in their proliferative capacity and survival. This research provides insight into potential immunotherapeutic and diagnostic strategies towards the prevention and management of diabetes.
Health Systems Management Recognized

The Department of Health Systems Management, or HSM, received the Commission of Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education (CAHME)/Baylor Scott & White Health Award for Excellence in Quality Improvement Education at an award ceremony during American College of Healthcare Executives Congress. One graduate health care management program is distinguished each year for demonstrating excellence in quality improvement education.

The award recognizes HSM’s innovative techniques in teaching and program delivery to improve the overall graduate health care management curricula, with a particular emphasis on quality and process improvement through experiential learning in the classroom. The practitioner faculty members leading the program’s formal quality and process improvement curricula, and overseeing the experiential learning opportunities make HSM unique in preparing the next generation of health care leaders who will have significant influence on an organization through the use of quality improvement initiatives.

Welcome

Please join the Department of Communication Disorders and Sciences in welcoming its newest assistant professor – Anne Hoffmann, PhD, CCC-SLP.

Hoffmann received her BA in French from Washington University, her MA in French linguistics from the University of Texas at Austin, her second MA in speech-language pathology from the Ohio State University and her PhD in speech and hearing science from the Ohio State University. She was a clinical fellow at Delaware County Board of Developmental Disabilities and was a postdoctoral researcher in the Department of Pediatrics at Rush Medical College. Hoffmann has been very active in research, clinical and teaching activities at Rush since 2012. Her research focuses on various language issues associated with fragile X syndrome, working alongside world-renowned expert Elizabeth M. Berry-Kravis, MD, PhD.

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