

2013 - 2014 Faculty Promotions

June 27 - July 25, 2013

July 27 - November 25, 2013

December 3 - 23, 2013

January 7 - January 29, 2014

February 4 - 28, 2014

March 4 - 21, 2014

April 2 - 22, 2014

May 8 - June 10, 2014

Appointments

Rush has appointed **Gia Crisanti, RN, MSN**, the interim unit director of the medical intensive care unit (MICU). Rachel Rush has left her position as MICU director to pursue other endeavors, including completion of her DNP at Rush University College of Nursing. Crisanti has 30 years of experience at Rush with 29 of those years in a leadership role. Recently named manager of the year, she will work closely with Robert Mielczarek, RN, BSN, MICU's assistant unit director. With Crisanti's transition to MICU, **Charlotte Ramazinski, RN**, will be the interim unit director of CICU. Charlotte has 42 years of leadership experience at Rush. **Sharon Ceaser, RN, BS**, will be CICU's interim assistant unit director. Sharon has 31 years of experience at Rush and thirteen in a leadership role.

Rush has promoted **Michael LaMont** to vice president of facilities management. In addition to his current responsibilities, which include capital projects and tenant relations, his new role will include responsibility for Medical Center Engineering, occupational safety, and clinical engineering services, reporting directly to Mike Dandorph. LaMont joined Rush in 2006 and has served as associate vice president of capital projects. In this role, he was a member of the Office of Transformation, overseeing such construction projects as the Orthopedic Building, the staff and student parking garage and the central energy plant. LaMont also has served as a valuable member of the Health Systems Management program's faculty.

Rush has appointed **Tim Moyer** as the new director of patient transport. Moyer started his career path in health care operations with Sodexo, as a front line operations manager. During this time, he gained extensive operational experience; achieved, earned and obtained great successes; and in less than nine months, was promoted into the director of patient transportation role. Tim now has nearly nine years of leadership experience in high performing patient transportation operations.

Rush has appointed **Runay Valentine, BSN, MHA, RN, CEN, NEA-BC**, director of Emergency Department operations, as the acting associate vice president for surgical, neuro, musculoskeletal and rehab nursing. She takes over for Marsha Mulbarger, RN, MS, CMNL, who has left Rush.

New Physicians

Torrey Boland, MD, neurologist, assistant professor, Department of Neurology

Kirsten Charnond, MD, pediatrician, assistant professor, Department of Pediatrics

Jonathan Cheponis, MD, neurologist, instructor, Department of Neurology

Stephanie Fitzpatrick, PhD, psychologist, assistant professor, Department of Preventive Medicine

James Gerhart, PhD, psychologist, assistant professor, Department of Behavioral Sciences

Natalie Stevens, PhD, psychologist, assistant professor, Department of Behavioral

Sciences

Kudos

[Fawn Cothran, PhD, RN](#), assistant professor, Rush University College of Nursing, was one of four nurses named a 2013–2015 Claire M. Fagin Fellow by the National Hartford Centers of Gerontological Nursing Excellence. Cothran will receive \$120,000 to support post-doctoral research, training, mentorship, leadership and career development in the field of gerontological nursing.

Bruce M. Elegant, president and CEO, Rush Oak Park Hospital, was quoted several times in the most recent “CEO Report”, which is put distributed by HealthLeadersMedia. The report explores health care CEOs’ evolving perspectives on industry issues.

Michelle Hirschman, director, physician development, and **Shannon Sims, MD, PhD**, associate chief medical information officer, recently secured a \$186,200 sub-award from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to support adoption of electronic medical records (EMRs). The funds are part of a regional extension center program that CMS funded in the Chicago area to assist with providing technical and clinical expertise necessary to implement EMRs. The award will be used to defray some of the cost associated with implementing and supporting EMRs at Rush primary care practices.

Debra Honig, LCSW, and **Lucy Ramirez, MSW, LCSW**, both clinical social workers at the Rush Hemophilia and Thrombophilia Center, received a research fellowship from the National Hemophilia Foundation (NHF). The NHF awarded them the Social Work Excellence in Research Award to fund a new research study on understanding spirituality and religiosity in adolescent hemophilia patients.

Rush Children’s Hospital has been chosen as an enrollment for the **Sepsis PRevalence, OUtcomes, and Therapies (SPROUT)** study, which is an international prospective point prevalence study to investigate the epidemiology, therapies, and outcomes of critically ill infants and children with severe sepsis and septic shock. [Jason Kane, MD](#), assistant professor of pediatrics, is the Rush site principal investigator.

The short term objective of SPROUT is to characterize the point prevalence, therapeutic variability, and outcomes of critically ill children with sepsis and to determine the external validity of published consensus criteria for enrollment of pediatric patients with sepsis into clinical trials. The long term objective is to estimate the accessible pediatric population receiving care in an intensive care unit for sepsis that could be targeted for multi-centered studies through a large, collaborative research network.

Maria Kastanis, Child and Family Connections, received a scholarship to participate in the

Routines-Based Interview Certification Institute. Child and Family Connections is an early intervention service that Rush provides through the Illinois Department of Human Services. Rush recently was awarded a renewal of this service for \$12.19 million over five years.

Valerie Klans, BS, RRT, manager, adult section, respiratory care, was sworn in as president of the Illinois Society for Respiratory Care. Klans spent the previous year in the president-elect post.

Anne-Marie Malfait, MD, PhD, associate professor in the Section of Rheumatology, recently received a five-year grant from the National Institutes of Health. Malfait will collaborate with Northwestern's Richard J. Miller, MD, in studying sensory nerves in an experimental model of knee osteoarthritis.

The Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) awarded Rush silver in the 2013 Circle of Excellence Awards for its "The Future of Medicine Is Now" campaign wrap-up piece in the President's Reports and Annual Reports (print) category. "The Future of Medicine Is Now" was Rush's 2011 annual report and was conceived by **Lisa Aaronson**, executive director, philanthropy, **Sarah Mickle**, associate director, philanthropy, and **Kimberly Sareny**, director, graphic design and brand management, marketing and communications. To see "The Future of Medicine Is Now," [visit this page](#). To learn more about the CASE award, [click here](#).

Rush's Tower was selected as one of 10 health care projects for the WorldArchitectureNews.com (WAN) Healthcare Sector Awards shortlist. The Tower was described as an "iconic building" with a "high quality interior." For more information on this honor, [visit this page](#).

Rush University Medical Center ranked No. 8 on DiversityInc's 2013 Top 10 hospital systems for diversity. DiversityInc published the results this past spring. Rush uses a diversity scorecard implemented by an executive diversity council to measure its diversity and inclusion efforts. The group leads initiatives and creates enrichment opportunities throughout the year for learning about diversity and inclusion. DiversityInc is the leading source of information on diversity management. The company is a consultancy and publishes two websites, www.DiversityInc.com and www.DiversityIncBestPractices.com, as well as a magazine that is published five times a year.

Rush and its advertising agency, SPM Marketing and Communications, were named a gold winner from the 30th Annual Healthcare Advertising Awards. Rush received this award for its newspaper advertising campaign for the opening of the Tower in 2012.

Hospitals & Health Networks named **Rush University Medical Center** and **Rush Oak Park Hospital** among 200 other hospitals as the most wired in its annual survey for 2013. The survey is designed to measure the level of IT adoption in U.S. hospitals and health systems.

Rush's **Find-a-Doctor** video project has won several awards. The videos have also been played on the Find-a-Doctor site more than 100,000 times. The awards include the following:

- **2012 Internet Advertising Competition Awards** Best health care provider online video

The Internet Advertising Competition (IAC) Awards are produced by the Web Marketing Association to honor excellence in online advertising, recognize the individuals and organizations responsible, and showcase the best in award winning Internet advertising. [Visit this page](#) for more information.

- **2012 Service Industry Advertising Awards**

Merit honor, health care services group, special video production category
The Service Industry Advertising Awards (SIAA) are the only advertising awards to specifically recognize the achievements of the service industry. Many other advertising awards are dominated by consumer goods, packaged goods and other tangible products. The service industry is adding a significant contribution to marketing and advertising. SIAA recognizes the creativity and communication accomplishments of the service industry. [Visit this page](#) for more information.

- **2013 Communicator Awards**

Award of distinction, online video, nonprofit category
The Communicator Awards is the leading international awards program recognizing big ideas in marketing and communications. Founded nearly two decades ago, The Communicator Awards receives more than 6,000 entries from companies and agencies of all sizes, making it one of the largest awards of its kind in the world. [Visit this page](#) for more information.

- **2013 Healthcare Advertising Awards - Healthcare Marketing Report**

Merit honor, hospital beds over 500, special video production category
The Healthcare Advertising Awards is the oldest, largest and most widely respected health care advertising awards competition. The awards are sponsored by [Healthcare Marketing Report](#), the leading publication covering all aspects of health care marketing, advertising and strategic business development. [Visit this page](#) for more information.

- **2013 Aster Awards**

Bronze, hospital beds over 500, special video production category
The Aster Awards is a medical marketing awards program allowing health care organizations and advertising agencies to compete against similarly sized competitors from across the nation and world. [Visit this page](#) for more information.

Appointments

Richard Abrams, MD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Internal Medicine.

Neelum Aggarwal, MD, a neurologist specializing in dementia, has joined the Rush Heart Center for Women and the Section of Cardiology. She will offer evaluation, treatment and prevention of memory problems associated with cardiovascular disease. Aggarwal will help create a new collaboration between the Rush Heart Center for Women and the Rush Alzheimer's Disease Center, giving our patients the kind of expert care that they already receive through our collaboration with Department of Clinical Nutrition. To help improve our patients' brain health, Aggarwal and the team will work closely with women who are at risk for memory problems that may lead to Alzheimer's disease and other causes of dementia.

Roumen Balabanov, MD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Neuroscience.

The Department of Environmental Services (EVS) has appointed **Nancy Banks** as interim director. This includes linen services. Banks has worked for Crothall, the group Rush partners with on EVS, for more than 17 years. David Steinbach will continue as the associate director and Tony Goulet as a project manager at Rush.

Lisa L. Barnes, PhD, has been promoted to professor in the Department of Neuroscience.

Ellen Becker, PhD, has been promoted to professor in the Department of Respiratory Care.

Carl T. Bergetz was promoted from associate general counsel to associate vice president, legal affairs, and associate general counsel.

Cynthia M. Bik was promoted from director, total rewards, benefits wellness, to associate vice president, Rush Health and HR benefit operations. Bik began with Rush in October 2009, initially with Rush Health. Since that time, her role has broadened to assume leadership responsibility for Rush benefits. She is largely responsible for creating, implementing and expanding Rush's wellness program, Choose Health. Through her leadership, we have connected more closely with Rush Oak Park and made significant inroads into providing employees from both organizations electronic access to their benefit information. She also has made our own processes more efficient, has helped us contain benefits costs and has helped employees better understand their Rush benefits and how those connect with the ever-changing national scene.

Beth Bolick, DNP, CPNP-AC, RN, has been promoted to professor in the Department of Women, Children and Family Nursing.

Maria Brown, DO, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Family Medicine.

Susan Buchholz, PhD, RN, has been promoted to professor in the Department of Adult Health and Gerontological Nursing.

The Rush College of Nursing has appointed **Elizabeth A. Carlson, BSN, MSN, PhD**, chairperson of Adult Health and Gerontological Nursing. She began her career at Rush as a clinical nurse specialist in critical care. Since that time Carlson has held a series of progressive leadership positions, including interim chairperson of the Department of Medical Nursing, completion of a PhD at Rush and earning the rank of full professor in the College of Nursing.

Rush has appointed **Tim Carrigan, RN, PhD**, as the new associate vice president for surgical nursing. Carrigan is currently the director of clinical operations at Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center here in Chicago.

Leon Fogelfeld, MD, has been promoted to professor in the Department of Internal Medicine.

Marquis D. Foreman, RN, PhD, will become acting dean of the College of Nursing on January 15, 2014, when Melanie Dreher, RN, PhD steps down as dean. Dr. Dreher has been dean of the College since 2006. Dr. Foreman currently serves as professor and executive associate dean for Academic Affairs in the College of Nursing. He previously was chair of the Department of Adult Health and Gerontological Nursing from 2008 to 2012, and previously had been professor and associate dean for nursing science studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Nursing.

Having a long record of research accomplishments, Dr. Foreman has been a principle or co-principle investigator of numerous NIH-funded projects, most recently in the field of robotic assistants to the elderly. He has published over 75 articles, and dozens of book chapters, abstracts and reviews. He has served in a leadership capacity in several professional organizations.

Christopher Forsyth, PhD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Internal Medicine.

Tanya Friese, MSN, RN, CNL, was promoted to continuing nursing education manager in the Interprofessional Continuing Education (IPCE) office. She will continue to work with nursing staff and faculty in their development of continuing education programs as well as assure that the IPCE office is meeting and exceeding all American Nurses Credentialing Center's requirements.

William M. Goodyear was elected chairman of Rush University Medical Center's board of trustees in November. He succeeds Richard M. Jaffee, who served as chairman since 2008. Goodyear was first elected to the board in 1995 and has chaired the board's finance committee since 2004 and has been vice chair since 2008. He is the executive chairman of the board of Navigant Consulting, Inc.

Stacey Harvey, RN, was named the unit director of the medical intensive care unit. She holds critical care nurse certification and has more than 13 years of nursing experience in various critical care settings.

Mary Hayden, MD, has been promoted to professor in the Department of Internal Medicine.

Frank Hicks, PhD, RN, PNP, has been promoted to professor in the Department of Adult Health and Gerontological Nursing.

George Holmes, Jr., MD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Orthopedics Surgery.

Hee-Jeong Im- Sampen, PhD, has been promoted to professor in the Department of Biochemistry.

Paul Jones, MD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Otolaryngology.

Wrenetha Julion, PhD, MPH, has been promoted to professor in the Department of Women, Children and Family Nursing.

Rush has appointed **Valerie Kalinowski, MD, MHA**, as the clinical director of the pediatric intensive care unit (PICU). Kalinowski trained in pediatrics and pediatric critical care at the University of California, San Diego, and earned a Master's in health administration from the University of North Carolina. Prior to coming to Rush, she served as the director of the pediatric ICU at the Cleveland Clinic. She will also join our Rush faculty in Health Services Management.

Rush has appointed **Johan Lane, MD**, as internist and assistant professor in the Department of Internal Medicine. Lane earned his medical degree from Rush Medical College, completed his residency at the University of Colorado and then worked with Colorado Permanente Medical Group. He's accepting new patients and offers same-day appointments in suite 155 of the Professional Building. The phone number is (312) 942-6688.

Omar Lateef, DO, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Internal Medicine.

Sheila Levins, RN, MSN, CPN, was appointed unit director of the pediatric intensive care unit.

Nisha K. Lulla was promoted from director, Hospital Operations, to associate vice president, Hospital Operations.

Eileen Martin, PhD, has been promoted to professor in the Department of Psychiatry.

Rush has appointed **Laura Meltzer, MD**, as the clinical director of 5 Pavilion pediatric inpatient unit. Meltzer trained in pediatrics at Rush and was honored as an outstanding senior resident in 2012.

[Marcia Murphy, DNP](#), has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Adult Health and Gerontological Nursing.

James E. Myers was promoted from director, budget and analysis, to associate vice president, financial planning and analysis.

Ryan Nagdeman joined Rush in September as director of university relations for Rush University. Nagdeman's responsibilities include managing the university's image and building the Rush University brand. He will lead marketing and communications to achieve university goals, which include recruitment and enrollment, internal communications and engagement, image and brand awareness. Nagdeman came to Rush Loyola University Health System, where he was director of enterprise Web, director of interactive marketing, and most recently, director of marketing communications, serving both the medical center and the academic sides of the organization.

Rush has appointed **Denise Nedza** vice president, revenue cycle. She will move into this position effective Jan. 13, 2014. Nedza joined the Medical Center in 2005 and currently serves as vice president, financial planning and decision support. In her new role, she will be responsible for the leadership of the organization's revenue cycle function, at Rush University Medical Center and Rush Oak Park Hospital. Nedza will play a key leadership role in the readiness and implementation of ICD-10.

[Jochen Reiser, MD, PhD](#), has been promoted to professor In the Department of Internal Medicine.

Christopher Ross, MD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine.

[Richard Sandler, MD](#), has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Pediatrics.

[Christine Tangney, PhD](#), has been promoted to professor in the Department of Clinical Nutrition.

Lynne M. Wallace was promoted from director, human resources, to associate vice president, human resources. Wallace has been with Rush since June 2011 and became Rush's first HR partner to Hospital Operations. The expansion of this role in the last year into broader clinical and corporate operations has been due in no small measure to her outstanding ability to connect with and understand her clients and their needs. Her focused cascading of the talent review process throughout Clinical Affairs, has been a significant accomplishment. Equally important has been the internal mentoring as her staff has grown and transitioned from other roles in HR into partner roles.

Gayle B. Ward, JD, was promoted from associate provost, student affairs, to associate vice president and associate provost, student affairs.

William Luke Whittier, MD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Internal Medicine.

Marilyn Wideman, DNP, RN-BC, FAAN, has been promoted to professor in the Department of Community Systems and Mental Health Nursing.

Alex D. Wiggins was promoted from director of investments to associate vice president, treasury.

New Physicians

Maria Coganow, MD, emergency medicine physician, clinical instructor/adjunct attending, Department of Emergency Medicine

Eric Cohen, MD, hepatologist, assistant professor, Department of Internal Medicine

Leslie Deane, MBBS, FRCSC, urologist, associate professor, Department of Urology

Priya Dileep, MD, hospitalist, assistant professor, Department of Internal Medicine

Nadim Hafez, MD, emergency medicine physician, assistant professor, Department of Emergency Medicine

Basharath Khan, MD, hospitalist, assistant professor, Department of Internal Medicine

Lin Li, MD, hospitalist, assistant professor, Department of Internal Medicine

Roselyn Mateo, MD, hospitalist, assistant professor, Department of Internal Medicine

Sara Hanif Mirza, MD, MS, pulmonologist, assistant professor, Department of Internal Medicine

Aliyah Sadeh, MD, hospitalist, assistant professor, Department of Internal Medicine

Christopher Seder, MD, cardiovascular thoracic surgeon, assistant professor, Department of Cardiovascular-Thoracic Surgery

Christine Tsai, MD, hospitalist, assistant professor, Department of Internal Medicine

Naser Yamani, MD, hospitalist, assistant professor, Department of Internal Medicine

Kudos

Please note: This list is organized by alphabetical order for individuals. Award-winning teams (with all names included) are listed at the end of the list.

Xinqi Dong, MD, MPH, director, Chinese Health, Aging and Policy Program, associate professor of medicine, nursing and behavioral sciences and associate director, Rush Institute for Healthy Aging, received the National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse's Rosalie Wolf Award. This award is given to an individual who has demonstrated dedication and commitment to the ideals of Dr. Wolf to prevent and reduce the incidence of elder abuse, neglect and exploitation and to promote awareness through one or more of the following: research, education, policy or practice.

Pat Farrell, associate vice president, perioperative and interventional services, and **Kim Humbarger, BSN, RN, CNML**, unit director, ambulatory surgery, spoke at the Press Ganey National Client Conference on Nov. 18 in Orlando, Fla. They spoke about how the perioperative team achieved high patient satisfaction in ambulatory surgery. Their presentation was chosen out of hundreds of papers submitted to showcase the team's success and present a case study for other ambulatory surgery programs to learn from. The team improved its patient satisfaction scores by more than 70 percentile points and continues on a six-year journey to reach the 90th percentile or beyond. The key to the improvement was a new management style centered on systematically listening to patients and rapidly addressing their concerns.

Health and Aging's **Melissa Frey, MSW, LCSW**, clinical social worker, and **Kate Krajci, MSW, LCSW**, manager of social work services, spoke at the American College of Rheumatology/Association of Rheumatology Health Professionals annual meeting in San Diego in October. They presented "Navigating the System: The Key to Obtaining Medications for Your Patients."

Ann Jankiewicz, PharmD, was recently named the Illinois Pharmacist of the Year. Jankiewicz has served as a pharmacy student, clinical pharmacist and manager at Rush since 1984. She currently manages medication safety and performance improvement for the department. Jankiewicz will be honored at the 50th annual Illinois Council of Health Systems Pharmacist Awards Banquet on Sept. 21.

Stephen C. Jensik, MD, PhD, attending physician, University Transplant Program, received the Harold & Molly Schwartz Founder's Award during the National Kidney Foundation of Illinois' (NKFI) 28th annual Gift of Life Gala on Nov. 16. This award is given to a volunteer or board member who has demonstrated outstanding commitment and achievement on behalf of the NKFI. Harold Schwartz was a founding member of the NKFI. Jensik has served on the NKFI board of directors, the NKFI scientific advisory board, and is a regular speaker at and contributor to the group's educational programs.

Brenda Koverman, interim clinical director, occupational therapy, is currently serving as region III representative on the American Occupational Therapy Political Action Committee (AOTPAC) board of directors. This is a voluntary committee made up of members of the American Occupational Therapy Association. With the inception of the Affordable Care Act, the AOTPAC board of directors have been busy advocating for occupational therapy with federal legislators. In August, Koverman had the opportunity to discuss the merits of occupational therapy with Illinois Senator Mark Kirk.

Stephanie McCammon, senior occupational therapist in psychiatry, received the University of Illinois Chicago's (UIC) Beatrice D Wade Clinical Educator award. Beatrice D. Wade was the founder of UIC's occupational therapy department.

Rush University College of Nursing associate professor, [Joanne Miller, PhD, APN/GNP-BC](#), and assistant professor, [Jan Odiaga, DNP, CPNP](#), received a Health Resources and Services Administration grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for their interprofessional education-pediatrics through aging (IPEPA) program. This three-year, \$1.2 million grant will be used to develop interprofessional educational modules and interprofessional clinical experiences for students throughout all Rush University colleges. The goal of IPEPA is to prepare advanced practice nursing students and other health profession trainees to function as a deliberative, interprofessional team optimizing the health and quality of life for individuals with multiple chronic conditions.

[Elliot Mufson, PhD](#), the Alla and Solomon Jesmer Chair in Aging, professor, neurological sciences, received a National Institutes of Aging grant for his project “Cellular and molecular medial temporal lobe pathology in elderly preMCI subjects.” The three-year grant began in September and totals over \$3 million. The project will define the earliest genomic and cellular brain changes that occur prior to the onset of dementia in the elderly. It will help provide clues to the development of novel drugs for the treatment of people who are destined to develop Alzheimer’s disease.

In October, [Beverly Myers, MHPE, CHT, OTR/L](#), was named the Illinois Occupational Therapy Association’s occupational therapist of the year. Myers is an assistant professor in the occupational therapy program and provides clinical service in our outpatient program.

[Dan Nicholson, PhD](#), assistant professor, Department of Neurological Sciences, received a National Institute of Health EUREKA Award (Exceptionally Unconventional Research to Enhance Knowledge Acceleration). Work supported by the award will elucidate the diversity of ion channels and their role in electrical signaling in neurons, which ultimately will help neuroscientists understand the links among ion channels, synapses, dendrites (short branched extensions of a nerve cell), and brain disease.

[Janice Phillips, PhD, RN, FAAN](#), associate professor, Adult Health and Gerontological Nursing, co-authored the book *Accelerate Your Career in Nursing: A Guide to Professional Advancement and Recognition*. The book is a practical guide that shows nurses how to recognize and document their accomplishments and then use them to advance within health care.

[Alicia Smith, MHA, FACHE](#), associate vice president, Hospital Operations, and [Diane Howard, PhD, FACHE](#), director of student development, assistant professor, Department of Health Systems Management, attended the National Association of Health Services Executives’ (NAHSE) 28th annual educational conference in October in Miami. Smith served as the national conference co-chair, overseeing the strategic and operational plans of the national agenda. During the conference, Howard received the president’s award for her many years of support and work with NAHSE.

Also in attendance were three students from Rush’s Health System Management’s program, who participated in the 18th Everett V. Fox Case Competition. The Rush team won first place and included second-year HSM students Siddharth Chittajallu (team captain), Kelsey Lynch and Tumaria McDaniel. The case competition is named after Everett V. Fox, a founder of NAHSE and first national president who was Vice-President of New York University Medical Center.

NAHSE is a non-profit association of African-American health care executives founded in 1968 for the purpose of promoting the advancement and development of African-American

health care leaders, and elevating the quality of health care services rendered to minority and underserved communities. There are 26 chapters throughout the United States with one located here in Chicago.

Annabelle Volgman, MD, FACC, medical director, Rush Heart Center for Women, was named one of Today's Chicago Woman magazine's 100 women of influence. To read more about this honor, please visit <http://www.tcwmag.com/100-women-of-influence/>. In other news, Volgman will travel to Halifax, Nova Scotia, in October to speak at the BioPort Atlantic Conference, which is the premier regional life sciences conference in Atlantic Canada. For more information on this event, please visit <http://bionova.ca/news-events/bioport/>.

Vincent M. Wang, PhD, director, Sports Medicine Research Lab, assistant professor, Department of Orthopedic Surgery, received a National Institutes of Health five-year grant for his project, "Promoting Healing of Tendinopathies Using Therapeutic Mechanobiologic Stimulation."

Changli Wei, MD, PhD, associate professor in the Department of Internal Medicine, received the 2013 Plasma Exchange Innovation Award and a \$100,000 grant from Terumo BCT, a global leader in blood component, therapeutic apheresis and cellular technologies. Wei's study at Rush will investigate life-threatening progressive renal disease and the use of plasma exchange in clinical care.

A group of clinicians and researchers from Midwest Orthopaedics at Rush (MOR) and other area hospitals submitted a paper titled "Comparison Between Revision Surgeries for Cervical TDR and 1-2 Level ACDF from 2002-2009" that was presented at the North American Spine Society's 28th annual meeting in October. The group includes **Sreeharsha V. Nandyala, BA**, research assistant; **Steven J. Fineberg, MD**, past research assistant; **Alejandro Marquez-Lara, MD**, research assistant; **Matt Oglesby, BA**, past research assistant; **Miguel Pelton, BS**; **Alpesh A. Patel, MD**; and **Kern Singh, MD**, spine, back and neck orthopedic surgeon, associate professor, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery.

The "On the Clock – Tim Dvorak" video, produced by the **Rush Photo Group**, won a bronze Telly Award for Online Video. To learn more about the Telly Awards, [click here](#).

Rush University Medical Center's **Continuing Nursing Education (CNE) provider unit** has received accreditation with distinction from the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC). To earn accreditation by ANCC, a CNE provider unit must demonstrate that they consistently meet a stringent set of standards, contribute to health care improvement and facilitate professional development. Accreditation with distinction is achieved by consistently exceeding standards and delivering the highest level of continuing professional education. The ANCC appraiser team were particularly impressed with the shared governance model at Rush and its contributions to our robust CNE program.

MHADegree.org ranked **Rush** among the top 50 most social media friendly hospitals. To learn more about this honor, visit <http://mhadegree.org/top-50-most-social-media-friendly-hospitals-2013/>.

Out of a global community of nurse leaders throughout 486 chapters in more than 85 countries, Rush University Medical Center nurses and College of Nursing faculty were

selected to receive four of the 2013 International Awards for Nursing Excellence from Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI). The International Awards for Nursing Excellence recognize achievements in the fields of technology, media, chapter excellence, research and leadership.

- [Lynne T. Braun, PhD, CNP, FAHA, FAAN](#), professor at Rush University College of Nursing, was selected for the Marie Hippensteel Lingeman Award for Excellence in Nursing Practice.
- [Paula Meier, PhD, RN, FAAN](#), professor at Rush University College of Nursing was selected for the Audrey Hepburn Award for Contributions to the Health and Welfare of Children.
- The **Rush Professional Nursing Staff**, under the leadership of past-presidents **Benson Wright, MSN, RN**, and **Erik McIntosh, MSN, APRN**, received the Clinical Partnership Award - Academic Medical Center.
- A Rush team consisting of **Patty Nedved, MSN, CENP**, associate vice president, Professional Nursing Practice at Rush; **Lisa Swiontek, MBA, RN**, assistant vice president, Information Services; **Robert Narowski, BSN, RN**, director, Information Services; [Julio Silva, MD, CMIO](#); and **Deborah Gardiner, MS, RN**, service line administrator, received the Clinical Technology Award.

Award recipients were honored at The Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International's 42nd Biennial Convention on Nov. 18 in Indianapolis. For more information on these awards, please visit www.nursingsociety.org.

James Chu, PhD, FACR, FAAPM, has been appointed as the new chairperson. **Laura Vasquez, MS, RVT, RT(R), (MR)**, is the associate chairperson and program director for imaging sciences. **Eileen French-Sherry, MA, RVT**, is the associate chairperson and program director for vascular ultrasound. **Bernard Peculis** is the associate chairperson for clinical operations.

For more information about the merger please contact the College of Health Sciences chs_admissions@rush.edu.

The Tower continues to receive accolades, including the following:

- The Tower received international recognition recently when it appeared on the Online Masters in Public Health list of the 30 Most Architecturally Impressive Hospitals in the World, Online Masters in Public Health's ranking of hospitals from around the world is based on several factors ranging from aesthetics and originality, to patient comfort and engineering sophistication. Of the 30 hospitals listed, 18 are located within the United States. [Click here](#) to read more.
- Closer to home, the Tower recently earned the **Distinguished Building Honor Award** at the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Chicago 2013 Design Excellence Honor Awards. To read more about this prestigious local award, [click here](#).
- The Tower was one of six finalists for the World Architecture News Award in the health care category. The Tower was described as an "iconic building" with a "high

quality interior." World Architecture News is a global website with 2.2 million readers. For more information about this honor, visit

<http://backstage.worldarchitecturenews.com>.

- The Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat's (CTBUH) specifically asked that the Tower be entered in its annual Best Tall Buildings Award program. Headquartered in Chicago, CTBUH is an international not-for-profit organization focused on the planning, design, construction and operation of tall buildings.

Appointments

Adam Nakis, CPA, has joined the internal audit department as a staff auditor. In his new position, he will be performing audits covering all Rush operations. Previously, Nakis was a member of the external reporting department within Corporate Finance since 2007. Prior to joining Rush, Adam worked in public accounting.

James “Ryan” Taylor, MSN, RN, CPN, is the new unit director for general pediatrics on 5 Pavilion. Taylor received his Master in Nursing Leadership from University of Southern Indiana. Prior to Rush, he was manager for the general pediatric unit and pediatric intensive care unit at Deaconess Hospital in Indiana and adjunct faculty at University of Evansville. Taylor is a certified pediatric nurse, PALS instructor and a Six Sigma Yellow Belt. He is a member of the Society for Pediatric Nurses, National League for Nursing, and a Sigma Theta Tau inductee.

Kudos

Please note: This list is organized by alphabetical order for individuals. Award-winning teams (with all names included) are listed at the end of the list.

The International Honor Society of Nursing elected [Cathy Catrambone, PhD, RN](#), president-elect of Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI). Catrambone, associate professor, adult health and gerontological nursing, received this honor at the society's 42nd biennial convention in Indianapolis on Nov. 19. After serving this two-year term, which has already begun, she will serve as the 31st president of this global organization with more than 134,000 members in 489 chapters in 91 countries. The mission of STTI is to improve the health of people around the world.

The American Academy of Neurology (AAN) selected [Jennifer G. Goldman, MD, MS](#), associate professor, Section of Parkinson Disease and Movement Disorders, Department of Neurological Sciences, for its Emerging Leadership Forum program 2013-2014. The AAN selected 12 members from an initial pool of 145 candidates for its highly competitive and innovative program designed to identify, orient and cultivate talented, motivated individuals into future AAN leaders. To learn more about this, please [click here](#).

[Karen V. Lamb, DNP, RN, GCNS-BC](#), associate professor, College of Nursing, recently presented at the International Association of Homes and Services for Aging's (IHASA) 10th annual international conference in Shanghai, China. Lamb presented on developing successful multicultural teams and also served on a panel at the IHASA Global Applied Research Forum, which focused on cultural and international issues and the long-term services and supports network.

Giselle Sandi, director, mentoring programs, academic affairs, was honored as the most important individual born in the city of Escazu, Costa Rica, for her contributions in science and education. She was also recognized for her role in the Hispanic community and in the United States through her leadership in the Hispanic Club at Argonne.

[Joy S. Sclamberg, MD](#), director, diagnostic radiology residency, opened the Radiologic Society of North America's annual meeting at McCormick Place in Chicago. She is the current president of the Chicago Radiologic Society.

Connie Weissman, CPA.CITP, MS, IS senior analyst, IS Integration Services, and **Eric Zukowski**, business manager, nursing, recently presented at McKesson's InterAct conference in Las Vegas, which is an annual meeting for users of McKesson's ANSOS One-Staff workforce management product.

The College of Health Sciences (CHS) at Rush University is pleased to announce the merger of the departments of medical physics and imaging sciences. The new **Department of Medical Physics and Advanced Imaging** includes the following programs: radiation oncology medical physics residency, vascular ultrasound technology and imaging sciences.

James Chu, PhD, FACR, FAAPM, has been appointed as the chairperson of the new department. **Laura Vasquez, MS, RVT, RT(R), (MR)**, is the associate chairperson and program director for imaging sciences. **Eileen French-Sherry, MA, RVT**, is the associate chairperson and program director for vascular ultrasound. **Bernard Peculis** is the associate chairperson for clinical operations.

For more information about the merger please contact the College of Health Sciences at chs_admissions@rush.edu.

Congratulations to the student recipients of the **Rush Community Service Initiative Program's (RCSIP)** first annual RU Engaged Service grants. The two grant categories are health projects that address problems identified in Rush's Community Health Needs Assessment findings and projects that align with RCSIP's health care career pipeline training for Chicago Public School students at the Medical Career Preparatory High School.

All of the University's colleges are represented among the recipient teams. The grants were reviewed and scored by a team of interprofessional faculty and students. All recipient teams will present at the Community Engagement Symposium at Rush in May, 2014.

The recipients for health care pipeline training projects are:

- Professional Skills for High School Students. Team members include: Amanda Kleeman, College of Health Sciences, Health Systems Management; Vidya Chakravarthy, College of Health Sciences, Health Systems Management; and Robert Trevino, Medical College and Graduate College.
- Understanding the Diverse Roles and Responsibilities of the Health Care Team. Team members include: Robert Medairos, Medical College; Jeff Ording, Medical College; Kelly Kester, College of Health Sciences, Nutrition; and Shane Cochran, College of Nursing, graduate entry masters program.

The recipients for health projects are:

- Development of a Breast Feeding Peer Counselor Model in a School Health Center. Team members include: Christie Lawrence, College of Nursing, Doctor of Nursing Practice; and Christine Allegretti, College of Health Sciences, Nutrition.

The Weinberg Foundation recently awarded **Rush Health and Aging** and its partner in the community, Aging Care Connections, a two-year, \$300,000 grant in support of Rush's ambulatory integration of the medical and social (AIMS) model. The AIMS model places social workers within primary care offices to assess patients' social needs and link them to resources in the community.

Appointments

As of Jan. 1, **Shawna Cutting, MD**, took over the directorship of the neurovascular ultrasound laboratory in the Department of Neurological Sciences. Cutting is an assistant professor in the Department of Neurological Sciences, Section of Cerebrovascular Disease at Rush.

Rush has appointed **Rick Davis** vice president, human resources operations. As the leader of the Total Rewards function, his reports will include compensation, benefits/wellness and HRIS. Over the next several months, Davis also will assume responsibility for employee recognition, HR compliance, human resources communication and employee health services. In addition, he will join the Operational Steering Committee as a key participant in the Link project (also known as ERP, Enterprise Resource Planning project). A primary focus will be on developing a HR Employee Service Center that fully leverages the technology made available through Link.

Davis comes to Rush most recently from Cadence Health where he was the vice president of human resources. Prior to that, he has had significant experience with a variety of employers and consulting firms where he has functioned in capacities that include chief human resources officer, and vice president of compensation, benefits and HR Systems. His health care experience includes a vice president role at Caremark, International, and a chief human resources officer role at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical System.

Vijaya Reddy, MD, MBA, will take on the new position of program director for the BMO Harris Bank Health Disparities Fellowships. She will work closely with the health disparities fellows and mentors over the next five years and will chair the Health Disparities Fellowship Oversight Subcommittee. Reddy is the associate chairperson of the Department of Pathology at and has been at Rush since 1997. She was the director of education and residency training for the Department of Pathology for seven years and has worked closely with Malcolm X College faculty in the recent years.

Wendy Stark-Riemer has been appointed as director of the Rush SurgiCenter. The Rush SurgiCenter, located on the fifth floor of Professional Building III, now provides close to 6,000 procedures annually. Stark-Riemer's responsibilities will include comprehensive oversight ranging from long term strategy to daily operations. In addition to this role, she will retain her position as the orthopedics service line administrator. For both roles, she will report through Scott Sonnenschein, vice president of hospital operations.

In an effort to grow engagement and teamwork in nursing, an improvement team is being led by **Jennifer Vince, MSN, RN**, to look at ways to improve the work environment, particularly for the valuable patient care technician (PCT) role. Improvement team members include the following: Debra Drake, PCT, Nina McIntyre, PCT, Brett Stephan, NA2, Ashley Martucci, RN, Casey Bates, Jason Chu, Samantha Sarris, Danielle Steger and Jill Beamon. Currently, the team is interviewing PCTs, RNs and other Rush staff to learn about the PCT role and discover ways to enhance engagement. On Feb. 5, the team will review the feedback collected during the interview process and brainstorm ideas for how to improve the work experience for PCT team members. If you have ideas or questions, please feel free to contact Jennifer Vince (Jennifer_e_vince@rush.edu) or reach out to anyone on the improvement team.

Rush University Faculty Promotions and Appointments

Cynthia Barginere, DNP, RN, FACHE, has been appointed to associate professor in the Department of Advanced Practice Nursing and Adult Health.

Pete Batra, MD, has been appointed to professor in the Department of Otolaryngology.

Rajneesh Behal, MD, MPH, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Internal Medicine.

Steven Bowman, MD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine.

Marie T Brown, MD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Internal Medicine.

Helen Burgess, PhD, has been promoted to professor in the Department of Behavioral Science.

Deepa Chand, MD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Pediatrics.

Gary Chmielewski, MD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Thoracic Surgery.

Stephen Cina, MD, has been appointed to professor in the Department of Pathology.

Karim Diab, MD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Pediatrics.

Cathy Dimou, MD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Internal Medicine.

Andem Ekpenyong, MD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Internal Medicine.

Sameh Adel Fayek, MD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of General Surgery.

Richard Fessler, MD, PhD, has been appointed to professor in the Department of Neurosurgery.

Marshall Goldin, MD, has been promoted to professor in the Department of Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery.

Nadim Hallab, PhD, has been promoted to professor in the Department of Orthopedic Surgery.

Duke Han, PhD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Behavioral Science.

Stevan Hobfoll, PhD, has been appointed to professor in the Department of Behavioral Science.

Amir Jaffer, MD, MBA, has been appointed to professor in the Department of Internal

Medicine.

Sivadasan Kanangat, PhD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Pathology.

Niranjana Karnik, MD, PhD, has been appointed to associate professor in the Department of Psychiatry.

Aikaterini Kompoliti, MD, has been promoted to professor in the Department of Neuroscience.

Vivien Lee, MD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Neuroscience.

Leo Verhagen Metman, MD, PhD, has been promoted to professor in the Department of Neuroscience.

Lorenzo Munoz, MD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Neurosurgery.

Jason Ong, PhD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Behavioral Science.

Bruce Orkin, MD, has been appointed to professor in the Department of General Surgery.

Julie Ann Schneider, MD, has been promoted to professor in the Department of Pathology.

Beth Staffileno, PhD, has been appointed to associate professor in the Department of Adult Health and Gerontological Nursing.

Craig Della Valle, MD, has been promoted to professor in the Department of Orthopedic Surgery.

Allison Weathers, MD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Neuroscience.

Markus Wimmer, PhD, has been promoted to professor in the Department of Orthopedic Surgery.

Kudos

Please note: This list is organized by alphabetical order for individuals. Awardwinning teams (with all names included) are listed at the end of the list.

Tamara R. Fountain, MD, professor of ophthalmology, has been elected chair of the board of directors of the Ophthalmic Mutual Insurance Company (OMIC). Fountain joined OMIC's board of directors in 2007 after serving six years as a committee member and has chaired the strategic planning, marketing and risk management committees. OMIC, headquartered in San Francisco, is the nation's largest malpractice insurer of ophthalmologists in the country.

Illinois Governor Pat Quinn recently appointed **James A. Young, MD**, chairperson of the

Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, to the state's Advisory Council on Spinal Cord and Head Injuries. Boarded in neurology and physical medicine and rehabilitation, Young is nationally renowned for specializing in traumatic brain injury.

Two of Rush's clinical dietitians were nominated for the Harry M. Vars Award, given by the American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (ASPEN). **Anne Coltman, MS, RD, LDN, CNSC**, and **Sarah Peterson, MS, RD, CNSC**, were nominated for their research paper "Use of Three Nutrition Screening Tools to Assess Nutrition Risk in the Intensive Care Unit." This award is in honor of Dr. Vars and his seminal contributions to the development of total parenteral nutrition. The award was handed out during the ASPEN Clinical Nutrition Week conference in Savannah, Ga., Jan. 18 - 21. While they didn't win the Vars award, they did receive the 2014 Promising Investigator Award.

Appointments

Antonio Bianco, MD, a physician scientist working in the thyroid field, recently joined Rush as professor of medicine, senior vice chair in the Department of Internal Medicine and division chief of endocrinology. He comes to Rush from the University of Miami Health System where he served as professor of medicine and chief, Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism.

Bianco's research interests have been in the cellular and molecular physiology of the enzymes that control thyroid hormone action, i.e. the iodothyronine deiodinases, an area in which he contributed more than 200 papers, book chapters and review articles, and lectured extensively both nationally and internationally. Recently, he has focused on the aspects of the deiodination pathway that interfere with treatment of hypothyroid patients, a disease that affects more than 10 million Americans. He directs a National Institutes of Health funded research laboratory where he has mentored almost 40 graduate students and post-doctoral fellows.

Peggy Bigoness, MT(ASCP) was promoted to project manager for the SCC Soft Laboratory Information System implementation. Bigoness is a long-time employee of Rush Medical Laboratories where she has served as a medical technologist and most recently as a LIS program analyst. She has worked on many interdepartmental projects with Information Services. The new SCC Soft LIS will replace the aging Cerner Classic LIS.

Yolanda Sanchez Garcia is the new manager of the Blood Center. She is dedicated to education and is an advocate for laboratory professionals. She earned her Bachelor's degree in biology and chemistry from DePaul University. She joined Rush in March of 2005 as supervisor in the Blood Center, during which time she was accepted to and completed her Master's Degree in Health Systems Management at Rush University. She is certified as a medical laboratory scientist and specialist in blood banking by the American Society for Clinical Pathology Board of Certification. Most recently, she was an instructor in the Department of Medical Laboratory Science and director of the Specialist in Blood Banking Program at Rush University before returning to the Blood Center as the new manager.

Jason Kozlowski, MS, MLS(ASCP), was promoted to the position of second shift supervisor in the Blood Center. Kozlowski graduated from Southern Illinois University with a Bachelor's degree in biology and earned a Master's in clinical laboratory sciences in July of 2009 from Rush University. After graduation, he took a position as a medical technologist in the Blood Center at Rush. Last December, Kozlowski completed a specialist in blood banking certificate through the online program offered through Rush University.

Rush has appointed **Carrie Renschen, MSN, RNC-NIC**, to the position of pediatric intensive care unit (PICU) assistant unit director. Renschen has made significant

contributions to patient care and leadership over the years in the neonatal intensive care unit and is excited to be able to continue to do this in the PICU.

Nursing senior leadership is committed to continuing the culture of professional engagement of the registered nurse and where the principles of clinical excellence are demonstrated throughout nursing practice. Accomplishing this goal is dependent upon providing strong nursing leadership across Clinical Affairs at Rush. **Runay Valentine, BSN, MHA**, current director of Emergency Services, has agreed to commit a portion of her time to provide interim nursing leadership support in RUMG. She will report to Mary Ryan in her duties supporting professional nursing practice for ambulatory nursing. Valentine is an experienced nursing leader with a passion for nursing and more than 30 years experience in nursing. She joined Rush in September 2012 and has been a great addition to the nursing leadership team. Valentine will also maintain her responsibilities for Emergency Services.

Ellen Wallace is the new manager in Rush Medical Laboratories. She is responsible for the core and microbiology laboratories, phlebotomy and point of care testing. Wallace comes to Rush from Northwestern Memorial Hospital where she was the manager of the diagnostic testing center, specimen receiving, outreach, client service, point of care testing and phlebotomy. She has extensive experience in workflow analysis and project management. As a DMAIC project leader, she implemented many hospital-wide changes to improve specimen quality, patient wait time, employee satisfaction and customer service. (DMAIC refers to Define, Measure, Analyze, Improve and Control, which is a data-driven improvement cycle used for improving, optimizing and stabilizing business processes and designs.)

Wallace designed the new Arkes Diagnostic Testing Center, incorporating many patient friendly ergonomic and safety features. Other quality improvement projects included redesign of central specimen receiving and phlebotomy, blood culture contamination reduction, hypo-glycemic protocols, urine collections, specimen labeling, patient identification and pre-analytical errors. She is already working to improve many of the same functions in our labs. In addition she has many years of technical experience, including previous management positions in blood bank, hematology/bone marrow, special coagulation, microbiology and phlebotomy.

New Physicians

Martin Hertl, MD, section chief of abdominal transplant surgery, associate professor, Department of General Surgery

Carla Minutti, MD, section chief of pediatric endocrinology, associate professor, Department of Pediatrics

Ailda Nika, MD, rheumatologist, assistant professor, Department of Internal Medicine

Tochukwu Okwuosa, DO, cardiologist, assistant professor, Department of Internal Medicine

Kudos

Marilyn Wideman DNP, RN-BC, FAAN, associate provost for professional education and community engagement, associate vice president of community healthcare practice, and professor of community systems and mental health nursing, has been appointed to the board of the Association for Community Health Improvement. This association is an affiliate of the American Hospital Association.

Rush Radiosurgery received Novalis certification from the Novalis Circle Expert Group for excellence in stereotactic radiosurgery and stereotactic body radiation therapy. This certification recognizes top radiosurgery programs throughout the country and is valid for three years. The program identifies technical, clinical and patient care excellence. Rush Radiosurgery is one of the first sites in the country to be recognized through this process.

Rush was recently named a 2014 Disability Matters Honoree. This distinction is the result of years of passion and commitment from the Rush ADA Task Force, in broadening the scope of accommodations and accessibility for people with disabilities.

Rush has a 20-year history of managing and providing care at school-based health centers (SBHC) located at Orr Academy and at the Richard T. Crane High School Campus. Rush was approached by Chicago Public School (CPS) administration to open a SBHC at Simpson Academy during the summer of 2010. The health center at Simpson opened in the fall of 2010. The care at all three health centers is provided by advanced practice nurses (APN), registered nurses and certified medical assistants. Nursing, nutrition and respiratory therapy students come to the health centers with their faculty for clinical rotations and provide educational health groups and other health services. APN students have clinical placements with the SBHC APNs, and an interprofessional student volunteer group, maternal advocates, provides services for the pregnant and parenting students at Simpson and Crane High Schools. The students at the three schools are members of minority groups.

Rush is three for three for two years in a row in exceeding the state's annual audit and accreditation standards. It is the norm that school health centers have at least a few corrective actions during the yearly audit or accreditation review. The score sheets for the last two years have reflected that Rush has exceeded standards. The state's audit standards are high and the review process is very thorough. These clinics have come a long way over the past five years. Rush's SBHC practice models have been recognized by the U.S. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality Innovations Exchange for excellence and have received the International Care Challenge Award. For more information on Rush's work with SBHCs, [view this page](#).

Appointments

Rush has appointed **Pete Batra, MD, FACS**, as chairperson of the Department of Otorhinolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery. He joined Rush in January from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, where he was an associate professor and co-director of the Comprehensive Skull Base Program. Batra is an internationally recognized specialist in treatment of sinonasal and skull base disorders (rhinologist) who has given more than 150 invited lectures and presentations nationally and abroad on sinonasal and skull base disease. His research endeavors have resulted in more than 110 peer-review articles and book chapters.

Batra's clinical interests include medical and surgical management of difficult-to-treat rhinosinusitis, nasal polyposis, fungal sinusitis, image-guided surgery, endoscopic lacrimal and orbital surgery, CSF leak repair and minimally invasive skull base surgery for sinus and skull base tumors. He holds leadership positions in a number of specialty societies, including the board of directors of the American Rhinologic Society, having previously served as the chair of the Patient Advocacy Committee. He has been active on multiple national committees in his subspecialty area in the American Academy of Otolaryngology, and was recently recognized with its Distinguished Service Award. He also recently completed a term as president of the Dallas Association of Otolaryngology.

Rush has promoted **Christi Chavez, MBA**, to accreditation manager. Chavez has been with Rush for the last two years as accreditation analyst in the quality improvement and has done a tremendous job of managing Rush's survey operations and continual survey readiness. She has continued to elevate the Medical Center's survey readiness through conducting tracers, working with areas on improvement plans and creating mechanisms to share relevant information throughout the organization. Her efforts have contributed significantly toward successful completion of our triennial Joint Commission survey, completion of our annual Focused Standards Assessment and other surveys and assessments completed in the last two years.

Deval Daily, director of business operations, Perioperative and Interventional Services, is the new neurosciences service line administrator. She will continue to be the director of business operations for Perioperative and Interventional Services in addition to her new role.

Kudos

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Becker's Hospital Review named **David Ansell, MD, MPH**, chief medical officer (CMO), senior vice president of clinical affairs, to its "100 Hospital and Health System CMOs to Know" list.

Mary J. Bacon, MA, associate professor emerita, College of Health Sciences, Communication Disorders and Sciences, was honored as a fellow of the Illinois Speech-Language Hearing Association.

Regina Chen MS, PA-C, LAc, Dipl. CH, program director, assistant professor, Rush University Physician Assistant Studies Program, is the new secretary to board of directors of the Illinois Academy of Physician Assistants.

In related news, the Physician Assistant Studies Program recently received notification that after its accreditation review in August, 2013, it has been awarded full accreditation by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA). The accreditation is for the maximum time allowed, which is seven years.

Michael J. Kremer, CRNA, PhD, FAAN, professor, director of the Nurse Anesthesia Program, and co-director, Rush University Simulation Lab, has been elected to distinguished fellowship in the National Academies of Practice (NAP) and the Nursing Academy as a distinguished practitioner and fellow. Kremer will be inducted on April 5, 2014, during the NAP annual meeting and forum in Alexandria, Va.

NAP is a non-profit organization founded in 1981 to advise governmental bodies on our health care system. Distinguished practitioners and scholars are elected by their peers from 10 different health professions to join the only interprofessional group of health care practitioners and scholars dedicated to supporting affordable, accessible, coordinated quality health care for all.

Jennifer M. Orozco MMS, PA-C, director of clinical education, assistant professor, Rush University Physician Assistant Studies Program, director of Physician Assistant Clinical Practice, Medical Affairs, is the new president-elect to the board of directors of the Illinois Academy of Physician Assistants.

Joanne E. Schupbach, MS, MA, assistant professor, College of Health Sciences, Communication Disorders and Sciences, received the President's Award from the Illinois Academy of Audiology.

Margaret K. Wilson, MMS, PA-C, Section of Gynecologic Oncology, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, is the new AAPA delegate for 2014, 2015 and 2016 for the board of directors of the Illinois Academy of Physician Assistants.

General surgery resident, **Shannon Zielsdorf, MD**, and gastroenterology fellow, **Edwin McDonald, MD**, are the 2014 American Liver Foundation Great Lakes Division Academic Debate winners. Their mentor was **Sheila Eswaran, MD**, assistant professor, Hepatology.

The **Student Academy of Audiology (SAA)** at Rush University showed their Special Olympics and Chicago spirit on March 2 at the 14th annual Chicago Polar Plunge. The Rush

University "Swimmer's Ear" team of seven raised \$1,698. The event received national attention for the participation of Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel, and *The Tonight Show* host Jimmy Fallon. More than 2,000 participants braved the Lake Michigan water temperature of 32 degrees and raised more than \$1 million for Special Olympics Chicago. SAA participants included: Dena Fahlquist, Danielle Frank, Natalie Hodge, Stephanie Poulos, Carly Shen, Hannah Tautz and Michelle Wallace.

Rush University is an institutional member of Women Executives in Science and Healthcare (WESH), which is a professional organization dedicated to the advancement and promotion of women executives in academic medicine, health care and the sciences.

Appointments

Rush has appointed **Herb J. Miller, PhD, MLS(ASCP)CM**, as acting dean of the Rush University College of Health Sciences. He will assume this position on July 1, 2014, when David Shelledy, PhD, steps down to become dean of the School of Health Professions at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio. Shelledy has been dean of the College since 2007. Miller recently retired from his roles as associate dean of academic affairs and graduate studies in the College of Health Sciences and chairperson of the Department of Medical Laboratory Science. He has since continued to serve as the division director for the PhD in health sciences program, and returns to Rush as acting dean, a position he previously held from 2006-2007 prior to Shelledy's arrival. Miller has held academic positions at Rush for almost 40 years, and his wealth of knowledge and experience will be an important asset in ensuring the continued success of the college.

Faculty Appointments

Sawsan Awad, MD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Pediatrics.

John Bailitz, MD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine.

Sayona John, MD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Neuroscience.

Benjamin Mba, MD, MBBS, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Internal Medicine.

Stuart Rosenbush, MD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Internal Medicine.

Kamaljit Singh, MD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Internal Medicine.

Vincent Wang, PhD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Orthopedic Surgery.

New Physicians

Jillian Boroniec, MD, family medicine physician, assistant professor, Department of Family Medicine

Michael Hanak, MD, family medicine physician, assistant professor, Department of Family Medicine

Bala Hota, MD, MPH, infectious diseases specialist, chief research information officer and associate professor, Department of Internal Medicine

Julie Kovach, MD, co-director, Rush Adult Congenital Heart Disease Program, associate professor, Department of Internal Medicine

Elizabeth McAninch, MD, endocrinologist, assistant professor, Department of Internal Medicine

Dian Wang, MD, PhD, Radiation oncologist, co-director, Prostate Cancer and Genitourinary Malignancy Program, professor and director of clinical research, Department of Radiation Oncology

Kudos

Please note: This list is organized by alphabetical order for individuals. Award-winning teams (with all names included) are listed at the end of the list.

Illinois Governor Pat Quinn appointed **James Cavanaugh, MD**, professor, Department of Psychiatry, to the Concealed Carry License Review Board, which became effective in January.

Stephanie Krienitz, RN, BSN, an RNII on the mother baby unit, received the American Red Cross of Chicago 2014 Nurse Hero Award on April 30 in Chicago during the 12th annual Heroes Breakfast. Each year, the American Red Cross of the Greater Chicago Region honors individuals and groups for acts of bravery, dedication and community service. For more than two decades, Krienitz has focused her nursing practice on caring for women and children at Rush and in other parts of the world. She's completed three missions in the Philippines. For more information on the award, visit this page. For more details about Stephanie, read this story.

The Rush Medical College Class of 2014 has selected **Thomas Lint, PhD**, professor, Department of Immunology/Microbiology, the recipient of the Brainard Award. This award is presented to a faculty member who has demonstrated outstanding ability and dedicated service in the basic and behavioral sciences. Lint will be honored during the commencement banquet on May 21.

The Physicians Professional Advisory Committee of the United States Public Health Service honored **John Nixon**, a third-year Rush Medical College student, with its 2014 Excellence in

Public Health Award. The award recognizes medical students who are involved in public health issues in their community and who increase awareness of the Public Health Service and its mission to protect, promote and advance the health and safety of the U.S.

Nixon was recognized for his various efforts within the community, which range from taking leftover food from Rush's community events to feed the homeless to developing new community health programs and inspiring, recruiting and training other Rush students for community service. Nixon will receive the award at Rush's inaugural Community Engagement Symposium on May 20.

Researchers at Rush were part of a multidisciplinary team from the University of California, Irvine, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute, Hospital Corporation of America and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that received a 2014 Distinguished Clinical Research Award for its study, "Targeted vs. universal decolonization to prevent ICU infection." According to the study, which was published last year in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, using germ-killing soap and ointment on all intensive care unit (ICU) patients can reduce bloodstream infections by up to 44 percent and significantly reduce the presence of methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) in ICUs. To learn more, visit this [page](#).

Appointments

Antonio Bianco, MD, PhD, has been appointed Charles A. Weaver Professor of Cancer Research. He was also promoted to professor in the Department of Internal Medicine. He is currently the senior vice chairperson in internal medicine and is also the division chief of endocrinology and metabolism.

Brian Stein, MD, MS, has agreed to serve as interim senior patient safety officer to help Rush continue to achieve its high levels of quality, safety and patient satisfaction. Stein has chaired the emergency resuscitation committee and has advanced Rush's practice with regard to emergency resuscitation across the Medical Center. He is also the medical director of Rush University PFT Lab and an assistant professor of medicine in the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, Department of Internal Medicine. Stein is also the co-director of the Rush University Asthma Center.

Rush has appointed **Frank Tomsic, MS**, director of the McCormick Educational Technology Center (METC). Tomsic comes to Rush most recently from the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy as the director of online teaching and learning. Prior to that position he was the director of distance education, School of Continuing Studies, at Northwestern University where he developed the first graduate and undergraduate curricula for online delivery within the university. In this position, he leads the METC in its mission to facilitate university teaching and learning through the use of educational technology and instructional design assistance. The METC is a department of the Library of Rush University Medical Center.

Faculty Appointments

Bradley Appelhans, PhD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Preventive Medicine.

Susan Breitenstein, PhD, RN, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Community Systems and Mental Health.

Helen Burgess, PhD, has received a conjoint appointment to professor in the Department of Internal Medicine

Lola A Coke, PhD, ACNS, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Adult Health and Gerontological Nursing.

Sheila Dowd, PhD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Departments of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.

Vineet Gupta, PhD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Internal Medicine.

Martin Hertl, MD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of General Surgery.

Miral Jhaveri, MD, has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Diagnostic Radiology.

Pamela F Levine, PhD, has been promoted to professor in the Department of Community Systems and Mental Health.

Dino Rumoro, DO, has received a conjoint promotion to associate professor in the Department of Health System Management.

The College of Health Sciences Faculty Council approved emeritus status to **David C. Shelledy, PhD**, as dean emeritus in the College of Health Sciences and professor emeritus in the Departments of Clinical Sciences, Health System Management and Respiratory Care. He is leaving his position at Rush as dean of the College of Health Sciences to be the next dean of the School of Health Professions at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio, effective July 1.

Jean Silvestri, MD, has been promoted to professor in the Department of Pediatrics.

New Physicians

Amy Allegretti Brownell, MD, emergency medicine physician, assistant professor, Department of Emergency Medicine

Massimo Caputo, MD, pediatric cardiovascular/thoracic surgeon, professor, Department of Cardiovascular/Thoracic Surgery

Brian Kim, MD, endocrinologist, associate professor, Department of Internal Medicine

Jessen Schiebout, MD, emergency medicine physician, assistant professor, Department of Emergency Medicine

Murali Vinta, MD, obstetrician/gynecologist, assistant professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

Andrew Wolf, MD, pediatric critical care surgeon, professor, Department of Pediatrics

Kudos

Please note: This list is organized by alphabetical order for individuals. Award-winning teams (with all names included) are listed at the end of the list.

Orthopedics This Week named **Bernard R. Bach, Jr., MD**, the Claude M. Lambert MD Professor at Midwest Orthopaedics at Rush, and **Brian Cole, MD, MBA**, orthopedic surgeon at Midwest Orthopaedics at Rush, as two of the top 28 North American sports knee surgeons for 2014. Bach is also the Helen S. Thompson Endowed Chair of Orthopaedics and head of Sports Medicine at Rush. Cole is also the section head of the Cartilage Restoration Center at Rush, as well as a professor in the departments of orthopaedics and anatomy and cell biology. Also in the group are two Rush sports medicine fellowship alumni, Matthew Provencher, MD, (2006-2007) and Andreas Gomoll, MD, (2005-2006).

Demetra Castillo, MLS(ASCP)CM, an assistant professor in the Department of Medical Laboratory Science, was honored with the prestigious President's Award at the 2014 annual American Society of Clinical Laboratory Science - Illinois state meeting on April 4 in Skokie. Castillo received this award from outgoing state president Maribeth L. Flaws, PhD, MLS(ASCP)CM, SM, SI, associate professor and acting chair of the Department of Medical Laboratory Science, for her ongoing demonstration of professionalism and leadership efforts to the society, including serving most recently as the annual meeting committee chair.

Susan Chubinskaya, PhD, associate provost for Academic Affairs, Rush University, has successfully completed the *Hedwig van Ameringen* Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine Program.

Louis Hondros, DO, Emergency Medical Systems director, recognized the Chicago Fire Department (CFD) for their assistance in Rush's Advanced Trauma Training Program by presenting CFD Commissioner Jose Santiago with a plaque on EMS Day, May 21, at the Chicago Fire Academy. The CFD enhances the soldiers' training by allowing them to ride in ambulances and participate in real life scenarios.

Chris Knowlton, a UIC bioengineering student who works in Rush's Department of Orthopedics, received first place in the Orthopaedic Research Society's (ORS) video competition for his video highlighting how the collaborations of scientists, engineers and clinicians are vital to improving orthopedic health care.

Rush received an American Inhouse Design Award from Graphic Design USA for the design of our 2014 Casino Night invitation for the Department of Philanthropy. **Tiffany Manning**, graphic designer, marketing and communications, designed the award-winning piece, which will be published in print and online annuals.

The Junior League of Chicago recently voted **Beth Riney**, senior accountant, corporate finance, to its board of directors. She began her term as recording secretary on June 1.

Beverley Robin, MD, assistant professor of pediatrics, Division of Neonatology, attended the sixth International Pediatric Simulation Symposia and Workshop (IPSSW) in Vienna, Austria, where she presented her work on in situ simulation used to identify latent safety threats in the new Rush 8 Tower NICU prior to occupancy. She won first place for best workshop, "Orchestrating in situ simulation for safety in new health care environments." IPSSW is the world's largest meeting dedicated exclusively to pediatric and perinatal simulation.

Cynthia Temenak, RN, BSN, Department of Cardiovascular-Thoracic Surgery, received the INTERMACS -Vanguard Center Award at the eighth annual Intermacs meeting in Arlington, Va., on May 5. INTERMACS stands for interagency registry for mechanically assisted circulatory support. In order to receive the award, Temenak had to have more than 95 percent data compliance in the data in the International Intermacs Database. She also had 100 percent regulatory compliance for the data over a one-year time period. Rush is currently an active center.

The following post graduate second-year anesthesiology residents are involved in several organizations:

- **Sachin "Sunny" Jha, MD**, was elected and began his term on the Board of Trustees for the Illinois State Medical Society (ISMS). Jha also just completed being chair of the Illinois State Medical Society Resident and Fellows Section and will serve as a delegate to the American Medical Association (AMA) Residents and Fellows Section Assembly in June sponsored by the ISMS. Additionally, Jha will also serve as an alternate delegate to the AMA House of Delegates sponsored by the American Society of Interventional Pain Physicians (ASIPP), and is also a board member for ASIPP. At the AMA meeting, Rush residents will be presenting two policy resolutions for consideration for adoption by both the Residents and Fellows Section and the House of Delegates.
- **Megan Gayeski, MD**, is serving as a delegate to the AMA Residents and Fellows Section Assembly in June and will also serve as a delegate to the AMA House of Delegates. Both positions are sponsored by the ISMS.
- **Wayne Lee, MD**, is serving as a delegate to the AMA Residents and Fellows Section Assembly in June.

Rush was selected as one of five presentations from over 300 submissions to present at the 13th International Community Campus Partnerships for Health Conference on May 3. The conference focused on preparing the next generation of health care students for leadership in community work. The joint faculty, staff and student presentation included **Marilyn Wideman, DNP, RN-BC, FAAN**, associate provost for Professional Education and Community Engagement and associate vice president of Community Healthcare Practice;

Sharon Gates, MA, interim director, multicultural student affairs; **Vanessa Archil**, fourth-year medical student; and **Marc Dadios**, third-year medical student.

Becker's Hospital Review named **Rush** one of 150 great places to work in health care.