Graduate Medical Education
Mission
The mission of the Department of Graduate Medical Education (GME) is to improve the health and welfare of children by shaping and inspiring learners through leadership, innovation, and advancement of the finest pediatric medical education programs.

Vision
Committed to creating a culture of excellence in medical education.

Values
Accountability
Caring Service
Diversity and Inclusion
Highest Quality Care
Learner–centered
Respect
Trusting Collaborations
Children’s Mercy Kansas City is one of the United States’ leading free–standing independent pediatric medical centers, offering 354 licensed beds, more than 40 subspecialty clinics, a Level I pediatric trauma center, and a Level IV neonatal intensive care unit. We are consistently ranked among the best children’s hospitals in the nation by U.S. News & World Report, and we were the first hospital in Missouri or Kansas to receive Magnet® designation for excellence in patient care from the American Nurses Credentialing Center – an honor we have received four consecutive times. In academic affiliation with the University of Missouri–Kansas City, our nearly 700 pediatric subspecialists provide clinical expertise, leadership in medical education to the physicians and nurses of the future, and innovative cutting-edge pediatric medical research to discover treatments and cures for tomorrow. Children’s Mercy is nationally recognized for innovation in creating a family–centered environment that is focused on the unique needs of hospitalized children and their families. Our Continuing Medical Education program has received Accreditation with Commendation from the state of Missouri.

The theme of leadership runs throughout this report — individual leadership, collaborative leadership and institutional leadership to advance pediatric health. We celebrate the longevity of leadership that leaves a legacy, as is the case with Jane Knapp, MD. There is the promise of rising leadership in our new Chair and Designated Institutional Officer (DIO), Denise Bratcher, DO, and our many new program directors and associate program directors. We recognize and leverage the leadership of our staff and are educating our trainees as leaders. Finally, we have deepened our level of engagement with the Office of Faculty Development to collectively elevate our hospital’s academic profile and investment in medical education.
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Dr. Knapp Celebrates a Distinguished Career Dedicated to Children’s Mercy and Education

Though Jane Knapp, MD, Associate Chair for Education for the Department of Pediatrics, Chair of the Department of Graduate Medical Education, and the Designated Institutional Official for Children’s Mercy Kansas City, has had a highly distinguished career as a physician and educator, she’s the first to admit that her career plan has been...well, to have no plan.

“When I come to a fork in a road, I am the type of person who takes it,” Dr. Knapp admitted. “I have been fortunate to have had some great opportunities presented to me.”

One of those great opportunities came when Dr. Knapp was a student pursuing a pharmacy degree. “I had three jobs when I was in school,” Dr. Knapp said. “My first was working at a local pharmacy filling prescriptions. My second was at Rothchild’s on the Plaza, a clothing store. But it was my third job as a nurses’ aide at the old General Hospital that inspired me to pursue medicine.”

During her last year in pharmacy school, Dr. Knapp decided to apply to medical school. “My advisors warned me there was a strong possibility I might not even get in because I already had a career as a pharmacist,” she explained.

Fortunately, Dr. Knapp proved them wrong when she was accepted at the University of Missouri–Columbia School of Medicine in 1974. “I got in to medical school, and I never looked back!” Dr. Knapp said.

Dr. Knapp worked as a registered pharmacist in Columbia, supporting herself while attending medical school. “My pharmacy degree provided me with a way to make a living, and a tremendous foundation in science,” she said.

When it came time to complete her pediatric residency, she returned to Kansas City. “Kansas City is my home. I have been on Hospital Hill since I was 19 years old and worked at the old General Hospital,” she added. “Children’s Mercy has been a pillar of the community for as long as I can remember. I loved this place from the moment I walked through the doors as a resident.”

When Dr. Knapp completed her pediatric residency, another unplanned career opportunity presented itself, one she couldn’t pass up. “I hadn’t really considered specializing in pediatric emergency medicine,” Dr. Knapp said. “But Bill Anderson, the emergency medical services director at the time, offered me the chance to become one of the first two physicians to complete a two-year fellowship in pediatric emergency medicine in the United States. It was an amazing opportunity.”

When Dr. Anderson left Children’s Mercy, Dr. Knapp stepped in to fill his shoes as director of Emergency Services, a position she held for the next 17 years.

In 2005, Dr. Knapp found herself at another fork in the road, one that led to graduate medical education. “My career in emergency medicine was a wonderful experience, but I knew I didn’t want to stay in the emergency room until I retired,” she said.

About that time, several of the hospital’s medical leaders came together to draft a plan to implement graduate medical education at Children’s Mercy. Fred Burry, MD, former Executive Medical Director, recruited Dr. Knapp as the program’s director.

“Hospital leadership provided me with the road map, and empowered me to surround myself with a talented, strong team of physicians and educators dedicated to medical education,” Dr. Knapp said. “I tried to encourage people to do what they do best. No one can do something like this alone.”

Led by Dr. Knapp, the team created one of the most respected graduate medical education programs in
Children’s Mercy has been a pillar of the community for as long as I can remember. I loved this place from the moment I walked through the doors as a resident.
pediatrics in the nation today. “I think building the programs in emergency medicine and graduate medical education are what I’m proudest of in my career,” Dr. Knapp said. “Our programs have made tremendous strides by focusing on educating physicians in how to improve the health and well–being of children.”

Though she’s spent nearly four decades at Children’s Mercy, as Dr. Knapp leaves the organization, she is ready to begin a new chapter in her life. “Everyone wants to know what I’m going to do,” Dr. Knapp said. “My plan is to have no plan; that’s worked out well for me so far. I just want to see what life brings me. I love to travel and hope to do a lot of that. And I’d like to explore my creative side.”

For the medical students, residents and fellows who are now part of the graduate medical education program, Dr. Knapp wants them to know that the opportunities Children’s Mercy offers are unparalleled.

“I have had a tremendous career and I am very proud of it,” she said. “I tell residents I hope they will be as happy in their training here as I was, and that they will experience a career as fulfilling as mine has been.”

Charlie Roberts, MD, Executive Medical Director/Executive Vice President; Professor of Pediatrics, University of Missouri–Kansas City School of Medicine, agreed and added, “Because of Jane’s personality, leadership and commitment, the Children’s Mercy’s Emergency Department has grown into a nationally recognized and highly respected program. Jane has been equally important and successful in her role as Chair of GME. Like so many, I am very pleased to count Jane as a friend and colleague. I will miss her, but her impact on Children’s Mercy isn’t leaving with her. What a career! What a person!”

Graduate Medical Education Highlights under Dr. Knapp’s Leadership

Medical Student Education Program:
• Went from below the national average in the clerkship exam to above average for the 2014–2015 academic year.
• Expanded the Children’s Mercy Regional Conference for medical students.
• Started two simulations for medical students during each clerkship.
• Instituted iPads for education and training for each student during their clerkship.

Residency Program:
• Expanded the program by three residents per year; established the five–year integrated child neurology residency program.
• Went from below the national average for in–training exam scores to above national average.
• Went from a board passage rate below the national average to a 100 percent passage rate for the last two years; the program has been above the national average since 2007.
• Instituted a Global Health Program for residents and fellows with a didactic series and vetted established sites for their global health experiences led by Jennifer Watts, MD, MPH.
• Started CHICOS, a Spanish–speaking continuing care clinic led by J.C. Cowden, MD, MPH.
• Began an advocacy program led by Laura Plencner, MD, and Molly Krager, MD; an advocacy track begins in July 2016.

Fellowship Program:
• Started fellowships in cardiology, pulmonology, critical care, otolaryngology, neurophysiology, hospital medicine, sports medicine, ethics, adolescent gynecology and pharmacology research.
• Collaborated with the University of Kansas Medical Center (KUMC) to start a fellowship in pediatric hospice and palliative care, summer 2016. Work also is proceeding on a fellowship in pediatric anesthesiology; and collaboration is occurring with both KU and UMKC to increase the number of child psychiatry fellowship positions.
• Began a Continuous Quality and Practice Improvement Course for fellows; also started a Common Curriculum Course for all Children’s Mercy fellows.
• Began the Annual Graduate Medical Education Report.
• Attained ACGME institutional sponsorship and transferred sponsorship of the Pediatric Core Residency program and all related subspecialty fellowships to Children’s Mercy.

Four Most Influential People in Dr. Knapp’s Children’s Mercy Career
• Bill Anderson, former director of Emergency Services at Children’s Mercy, recruited Dr. Knapp to become one of the first two physicians to complete a two–year fellowship in pediatric emergency medicine in the United States.
• Vidya Sharma, MD, one of Dr. Knapp’s first instructors at Children’s Mercy, and later her colleague in pediatric emergency medicine.
• Charlie Roberts, MD, Executive Medical Director/Executive Vice President; Professor of Pediatrics, University of Missouri–Kansas City School of Medicine, taught Dr. Knapp what residency at Children’s Mercy was all about, and has been a great role model and mentor throughout her career.
• Fred Burry, MD, former Executive Medical Director at Children’s Mercy, hired Dr. Knapp as a resident and later to build the Department of Graduate Medical Education.
New Leadership – Denise Bratcher is Named
New Chair of Graduate Medical Education
Dedicated Leadership with a Passion for Education
Jill Edwards, MBA

For the past 10 years, Denise Bratcher, DO, led the Pediatric Residency Program serving as Program Director. In 2016, she steps into a new form of leadership as the Chair of Graduate Medical Education. As a past Pediatric Infectious Diseases Fellowship Program Director, she brings experience in leadership from both a residency and fellowship standpoint.

“I’m looking forward to the opportunity to re-engage with pediatric education across the spectrum,” Dr. Bratcher said. “It’s exciting to be involved in the process from the beginning with medical student education.”

In her time as Pediatric Residency Program Director, much has evolved in Graduate Medical Education. The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education modified duty hour guidelines, which required the program to re-evaluate the service to education balance. Additionally, with the guidance and wisdom of Jane Knapp, MD, Dr. Bratcher established a mission of training pediatricians who pass boards, with a renewed focus on education in the form of didactic lectures. Residents also care for a broad range of patients including children with highly complex medical conditions. As a result of this, the residents achieved a 100 percent board pass rate for the past two years.

With many accomplishments during her time as Program Director, Dr. Bratcher is most proud of the graduates who come out of the program.

“It’s so rewarding to see people taking the tools they’ve been given here, and using them in the real world,” she said.

Dr. Bratcher is most proud of the graduates like Cara Hoffart, DO, who graduated from the residency program in 2009, and pioneered a pain clinic at Children’s Mercy, now known as the Rehabilitation for Amplified Pain Syndrome Program. In addition, Jessilyn Humble, MD, a 2015 graduate, now advocates for pediatric health in her community of Pittsburg, Kan., by writing educational articles for the local newspaper.

“Residency can be a phenomenal opportunity if you dive in and get your hands dirty,” Dr. Bratcher said. “Don’t be timid.”

With a wisdom that comes from years of experience and a genuine heart, Dr. Bratcher encourages graduates to, “Keep your options open. When I graduated from residency I never thought I would be in a leadership role, and now I couldn’t imagine anything different.”

Words used to describe Dr. Bratcher are genuine, compassionate, loyal, dedicated and caring. As a leader, her style is simply “inspirational.”

Katie Doran, DO, third-year resident stated, “She is so respectful of everyone and always makes you feel like you are important to her and important to the hospital and care of children. She inspires me to achieve those qualities that she exhibits flawlessly on a daily basis.”
The Office of Faculty Development (OFD) and Graduate Medical Education (GME) are two sides of the same coin. It takes both faculty and learners (as well as patients, nurses, allied health, staff, positive culture, etc.) for learning to occur.

Having collaborated from the outset, the relationship between the Office of Faculty Development and Graduate Medical Education became stronger with the reorganization of the Department of Pediatrics. The leadership of both groups is more formally linked to build on synergies and strengthen education and development in both areas.

“I’m excited about the potential of collaborating with medical education professionals, including three doctoral–trained education professionals who bring a wealth of expertise and knowledge,” said Phil Byrne, Director of the Office of Faculty Development. “The ability to align pediatric milestones and faculty development programming will only enhance faculty competencies in medical education teaching. The Office of Faculty Development is excited about the future, and expanded roles through Graduate Medical Education and Continuing Medical Education.”

Providing leadership for all faculty across the hospital, the Office of Faculty Development coordinates initial academic appointments and academic promotion; leadership development programming; workshops toward scholarly pathways of education, service, and research; multiple mentorship programs including dyad, project, peer and speed mentoring; maintenance of certification; support for the Faculty 180 solution for ePortfolio and academic products, including the Medical Writing Center, a resource for editing scholarly work.

The Office of Faculty Development’s mission is to improve the health and well–being of children through guidance, advocacy and development of Children’s Mercy faculty members to realize their full potential. The Office of Faculty Development participates in all phases of professional academic medical careers including: recruitment, retention (keeping our highly trained successful faculty), reinvigoration (in the teaching of scholarly work, expanding skill sets, teaching or administrative opportunities), renewal (programs designed to support our faculty facing challenges), and retirement (planning and preparation).

“Children’s Mercy has become known in educational circles for its integration across the medical education continuum,” Susan Hathaway, PhD, Vice Chair/Administrative Director Graduate Medical Education, said. “This collaboration is a natural next step in the development of medical professionals.”

**Faculty Development By the Numbers:**
- 52 faculty promoted (up from 18 the previous year) in 2016
- 836 faculty profiles with 115 emulote users in the Faculty 180 data management system launched in October
- 63 participants for the year long cohort in the Kansas Leadership Center: Your Leadership Edge
- 50+ one–on–one meetings with faculty and Division Directors
- Developed the Research Peer Mentorship Group
- Second pilot of the Speed Mentoring Event with the Division of Neonatology
- 125 participants and 25 poster presentations at the Midwest Society for Pediatric Research Conference (supported by OFD)
- 38 manuscripts and seven grants edited by the Medical Writing Center
- 9 workshops by the Medical Writing Center

**Meet the Office of Faculty Development**
- William Truog, MD, Medical Director
- Phil Byrne, EdD, Director
- Denise Dowd, MD, MPH, Associate Medical Director
- Ashley Holmes, BS, Administrative Coordinator
- Heather McNeill, MA, ELS, Scientific Editor, Medical Writing Center
- Martha Montello, PhD, Director, Medical Writing Center
Unlike most Graduate Medical Education (GME) departments, which consist of a loose network of coordinators, Children's Mercy Kansas City has a centralized approach to education management. The unique arrangement allows coordinators to combine efforts, resulting in greater efficiency, and encourages the exchange of ideas and best practices.

These specialized coordinator staff members, who come from a variety of educational and professional backgrounds, navigate trainees through Children's Mercy's numerous training programs. Together they are responsible for recruiting, onboarding and training compliance. They manage and organize training activities such as common core curriculum, quarterly workshops, seminars and various committees.

Impact at APPD
Children's Mercy was well represented at this year's Association of Pediatric Program Directors Annual Spring Meeting. Better known as APPD, the organization's mission is to aid in the enhancement of pediatric education programs. Various Children's Mercy GME coordinators presented at the meeting.

Coordinator Rachel Laws, MBA, was recently appointed to the APPD’s Coordinators’ Executive Committee. She will organize events for coordinators at upcoming annual meetings during her tenure. The committee presents at yearly meetings and gathers throughout the year to discuss issues involving coordinators.

“I look forward to meeting new people, organizing events with APPD and making new connections,” Laws said.

Kelly Laurent, MS, and Tiffany Chow, MS, presented “Conflict Resolution in an Educational Environment” to an audience looking to refine their conflict management skills at the yearly meeting.

“I hope they take away the necessary skills to examine themselves daily and their interactions with others,” Laurent said, who is certified through the Training Administrator of Graduate Medical Education (TAGME) Program. The certification acknowledges expertise in the management of residency and fellowship training programs.

Additional annual educational conferences hosted by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education broaden the coordinators’ understanding of accreditation guidelines and best practices in carrying out these mandates. All coordinators attend yearly software training on the widely used residency management system, New Innovations.

At Home
The GME department's staff also took the lead in aiding trainees in not only their training, but in personal and professional development. An example is the Fellows Engagement Activity Committee, formerly the Fellowship Enhancement Committee, a forum in which fellows can share their ideas for improvement with GME staff. Led by fellowship coordinator Nancy Draffen Brown, MBA, the group hosts programs which aid trainees with their transition from fellowship to practice. These topics range from financial management to institutional board review.

The activities, which include lunch and giveaways, are held in a relaxed atmosphere and meant to be fun, yet engaging.

“We welcome suggestions and input,” said Draffen Brown. “It is mainly to engage in activities that are pertinent outside of their fellowship responsibilities.”

In order to better serve Children’s Mercy, the GME department has created the new position of Visiting Learner Coordinator. This position is unique in that it is based in Wichita, Kan. Working remotely, Sarah Braet, MBA, facilitates the activities of those briefly visiting the hospital for training.
**Staff Accomplishments**

Sarah Braet, MBA, C–TAGME – In final stages of earning Training Administrators of Graduate Medical Education Certification (C–TAGME) and was elected co–chair for the Midwest Region of Association of Pediatric Program Directors.

Denise Bratcher, DO – Named one of 2016 Best Doctors by 435 Kansas City Magazine; served as Pediatrics in Review editorial board member.

Courtney Butler, MLS – Accepted into the National Library of Medicine’s 2016 Biomedical Informatics course and named chair–elect of the Children’s Mercy Health Literacy Committee.

Hsiang–Fong “Melody” Carroll, PhD – Received her PhD from the University of Kansas in research, evaluation, measurement and statistics; and served on the Children’s Mercy Health Literacy Committee.

Tiffany Chow, MS, C–TAGME – In final stages of earning Training Administrators of Graduate Medical Education Certification (C–TAGME).

Nancy Draffen Brown, MBA – Serves on the Pipeline Subcommittee of the Under–Represented Minorities in Pediatric Graduate Medical Education for the Association of Pediatric Program Directors.

Jill Edwards, MBA, C–TAGME – In final stages of earning Training Administrators of Graduate Medical Education Certification (C–TAGME), received her MBA from Friends University in Wichita, Kan., was elected co–chair for the Midwest Region of Association of Pediatric Program Directors.

Angie Etzenhouser, MD – Accepted into the Association of Pediatric Program Directors LEAD program and co–site lead for the I–PASS implementation project.

Susan Hathaway, PhD – Accepted into the Certificate in Healthcare Leadership sponsored by Cerner and delivered by the Bloch School of Management’s Executive Education department; earned certification in the Myers–Briggs Type Indicator; taught Error Prevention courses; served as poster judge for the Academic Pediatric Association, Region 6 Annual Meeting, Kansas City, Kan.

Rachel Laws, MBA – Elected to the Coordinators Executive Board of the Association of Pediatric Program Directors.

Kadriye Lewis, EdD – Selected to serve as a mentor for Speed Mentoring Event at the 2016 PAS meeting; serves on the APA Communications Committee.

Megan Molinaro, BA – Accepted into the San Jose State University library school program.

Brenda Pfannenstiel, MALS, MA, AHIP – Named chair of the Medical Library Association Midcontinent Chapter Bylaws Committee.

Teresa M. Shepherd, RN, MN, MSEd – Served on the Awards Selection committee, Alliance Conference, Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME); Member of UMKC and InMed CME Committees.

Keri Swaggart, MLIS, AHIP – Served on the Health Sciences Library Network of Kansas City Professional Activities Committee.

**Presentations, Posters and Publications**

Arnold L, Cuddy PG, Hathaway SB, Quaintance JL and Kanter, SL.  Keynote: The Role of the UMKC School of Medicine in Developing Medical Leaders. 45th Anniversary Celebration, UMKC School of Medicine, April 2016, Kansas City, Mo.

Beins NT, Blowey DL, Lewis KO. Poster: Development of Interactive Online Educational Modules in Pediatric Nephrology for Pediatric Residents and Medical Students. APA Region VI, September 2015, Kansas City, Kan.


Hubbard JR, Lewis KO, Ervike T, Paulk H, Addington T. Poster: Development of a Physician Assistant Pediatric

Laurent KL. Keynote: Look How Far We Have Come. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration. Children’s Mercy, Kansas City, Mo.


Lewis KO, Albold C. Workshop: High Five It: Teaching Perspectives and Adult Learning Approaches to Medical Education. ACGME Annual Educational Conference, February 2016, National Harbor, Md.

Lewis KO. How Can Learning Analytics be Used to Assess Innovations in Instructional Design? LC Collaborate 2015, November 2015, Chicago, Ill.


Lewis KO. Learning Logs: An Interaction Tool between Students and Instructors in Online Courses. Learning Consortium International Conference, October 2015, Orlando, Fla.


Lewis KO, Albold C. Rethinking Adult Learning Principles in Medical Education: Five Teaching Perspectives. APPD Annual Spring Meeting, March 2016, New Orleans, La.


"I left Children’s Mercy feeling comfortable with my ability to manage acutely ill children because of my diverse experiences throughout residency," Brad Barham, DO said.

Dr. Barham, a 2015 graduate from the program, is a pediatrician at Professional Association for Pediatrics in Abilene, Texas. He has hospital privileges at Hendrick Medical Center, where he serves on the Board of Directors for the hospital’s foundation.
Residency Program Maximizes Education, Changes Leadership

Jill Edwards, MBA

At the heart of the Children’s Mercy Residency Program is a desire to train great pediatricians. With hundreds of residents trained through the program to date, Children’s Mercy has representatives in community pediatrics and subspecialties across the nation.

The residency leadership has made many improvements over the past year to create even better opportunities for learning. The biggest focus was related to multidisciplinary teams; resident work spaces were expanded to include ancillary staff members whose decisions impact patient care. In addition, the teams were restructured to maximize education and increase senior resident responsibility for a more independent learning opportunity.

In addition to the restructuring of teams, a new combined rotation of Anesthesia and Child Abuse and Neglect joined the core curriculum. The Anesthesia portion gives residents the opportunity to perform procedures during a focused two–week timeframe, and the Child Abuse and Neglect portion gives residents experience in difficult cases of abuse and neglect involving children, teens, and families.

Lastly, the Residency Program added a new Advocacy Track to include residents from Children’s Mercy during the 2016–17 academic year. The goal of the Advocacy Track is to provide the skills and knowledge necessary to improve child health by engaging communities and using evidence–based strategies. Selected residents attend a state–wide conference to learn key skills and strategies, such as leading a group effectively, identifying meaningful issues within a community, collaborating with community partners, building coalitions, and influencing public policy.

With these changes, comes a change in leadership as Ross Newman, DO, steps into the Program Director role. Dr. Newman graduated from the Children’s Mercy Pediatric Residency Program in 2009 and served a subsequent year as a chief resident for the program. In 2012, he joined the residency leadership as an Associate Program Director. With a passion for resident education shown by his dedication in acquiring a Master of Health Professions Education degree, Dr. Newman stated, “Our goal as educators is always to help residents throughout their training process. I love what I do because of the residents we train.”

The program is also pleased to welcome two new Associate Program Directors: Emily Killough, MD, and Danielle Reed, MD.

To learn more about the Pediatric Residency Program at Children’s Mercy visit www.childrensmercy.org/GME or the Graduate Medical Education Facebook page at facebook.com/ChildrensMercyGME.
The mission of The Center for Excellence in Pediatric Resuscitation is “to improve pediatric health care delivery and outcomes by engaging learners in comprehensive state–of–the–art simulation education, training, research and systems’ evaluation.”

In November 2014, then chief resident Kayla Heller, MD, partnered with The Center for Excellence in Pediatric Resuscitation to develop a more standardized curriculum for resident simulation. Prior to her leadership, residents participated in 30–minute sessions every month while on inpatient rotations, which equaled about eight hours of simulation exposure over the duration of their residency. After conducting a needs assessment and optimizing the curriculum, the simulation center is now open to residents for one hour each week, which increases each individual resident’s simulation exposure to over 20 hours.

In addition to this change, Dr. Heller worked to incorporate supplemental electronic educational information to be distributed after each session ends. The modules provide review articles, quiz questions, PowerPoint presentations, and/or videos that provide additional information about the simulated case. With an increase in technology in the medical field, this approach aligns more with what other organizations and institutions are trying to achieve to educate their residents.

Dr. Heller interacts with residents during the weekly simulation session.

When asked why she decided to get involved in simulation education, Dr. Heller said, “I had the opportunity during my chief resident year to help with the transition from monthly, shorter mock codes to weekly, longer mock codes/simulation experiences. At the time, I was also taking classes for my Masters of Health Professions Education degree and saw the chance to use some of the skills surrounding curriculum design, educational research, and leadership in the new simulation program.”

“We can use simulation for technical skills, team skills, resuscitation, breaking bad news, difficult inter–professional situations, and so on,” Dr. Heller said. “The team is very creative and welcomes new, original ideas for simulation sessions.”

Simulation sessions are applied across a wide variety of departments at Children’s Mercy including nursing, respiratory therapy, residents, fellows, faculty and many subspecialties.

To learn more about The Center for Excellence in Pediatric Resuscitation visit their website at www.childrensmercy.org/Health_Care_Professionals/Education/Simulation/Simulation/.
Great Catch Program

The “Great Catch” Program is a Children’s Mercy safety initiative that encourages individuals to say something, do something, and report something to keep our patients safe. The following residents had Great Catches in 2015-16 and were recognized by leadership with a “Great Catch” award:

- Julie Dhossche, MD
- Joshua Herigon, MD
- Robin Lund, MD
- Emily Paprocki, DO
- Adam Van Mason, MD
- Mark Woolley, MD

Resident Posters and Presentations


Commers T – Poster: Assessing the Impact of Electronic Order Sets and Algorithm Implementation on Clinician Practice Patterns in the Management of Febrile Infants. Infectious Diseases Society of America, October 2015, San Diego, Calif.


Keshary M – Poster: Incidence of Arrhythmia in Children Receiving Dexmedetomidine after Congenital Heart Disease Repair, Society of Critical Care Medicine, February 2016, Orlando, Fla.

Odhav A and Raje N – Poster: Acquired Angioedema as Initial Manifestation of Systemic Lupus Erythematosus, American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology, November 2015, San Antonio, Texas.

Odhav A, Ciaccio C, Dowling – Poster: Barriers To Treatment With Epinephrine For Anaphylaxis by School Nurses, American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology, September 2015, Kansas City, Kan.

Sims T – Poster: ICU Outcomes of Children Requiring Tracheostomy after Cardiac Surgery: Analysis of VPS LLC Database, Society of Critical Care Medicine, February 2016, Orlando, Fla.

Spectorsky K and Watts J – Presentation: Resident EBM Experience, Pediatric Academic Societies, May 2016, Baltimore, Md.

Ulrich T, Hansen TP, Reid KJ, Bingler MA, Olsen SL – Poster: Post-Ligation Cardiac Syndrome is Associated with Increased Morbidity in Preterm Infants, Pediatric Academic Societies, April 2016, Washington, D.C.


Winningham G, Estrellado, W – Poster: Microscopic Polyangiitis, a Rare Pediatric Case, CHEST, October 2015, Montreal, Canada.


Resident Publications


The University of Missouri-Kansas City Combined Internal Medicine/Pediatrics (Med/Peds) Residency is a nationally recognized academic program. Located in the heart of the Midwest, our residency offers a quality training experience in an affordable and livable city. The residency program goal is to train physicians who are able to provide superb care to both adults and children. Our residency program clinical activities take place at three individual medical centers: Children’s Mercy Hospital, Truman Medical Center and Saint Luke’s Hospital. Experiences at these institutions come together to provide a diverse and excellent education.

In order to effectively unify three individual hospitals, there is a somewhat unique shared Section of Medicine/Pediatrics within the Division of General Academic Pediatrics at Children’s Mercy and the Section of General Internal Medicine at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Our section of combined medicine/pediatrics includes 10 experienced med/peds faculty who provide specialized care of children with ADHD, children with obesity and children with special health care needs transitioning to adult-centered care. In addition, we have faculty specializing in the care of hospitalized patients working as hospitalists dividing their time equally between our adult and pediatric hospitals. With these diverse experiences, our faculty is prepared to guide our residents along whatever career path they may choose. Faculty work closely with residents and meet with them weekly to ensure their needs are being met.

Most of all, the program prides itself on its graduates, as well as their accomplishments.

“While our program’s environment and teaching services make for a successful experience, our personnel make the program excellent. Residents of our program are hard working, intelligent and dependable, but they are also feisty, opinionated and unrelenting,” said Sara Gardner, MD, Program Director, Internal Medicine/Pediatrics Residency.
Fellowship Programs

Children’s Mercy continues to attract the best and the brightest candidates for our fellowships. Our fellows excel in their chosen subspecialty through their experience in pediatric education, research, administration and critical thinking. In 2015-2016, we had 95 fellows enrolled in fellowship programs.

“The Children’s Mercy fellowship programs provide our trainees with the opportunity to develop into top-notch subspecialists in clinical care, academic teaching and conducting research,” explained Denise Bratcher, DO, Chair and DIO, Graduate Medical Education, and Professor of Pediatrics, University of Missouri-Kansas City.

Children’s Mercy offers the following fellowships in 2016–2017:
- Allergy/Immunology
- Child Abuse Pediatrics
- Child Neurology
- Clinical Neurophysiology
- Clinical Child Psychology Internship
- Clinical Child Psychology Fellowship
- Clinical Cytogenetic and Molecular Genetics
- Clinical Pharmacology
- Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics
- Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine
- Pediatric Adolescent Gynecology
- Pediatric Cardiology
- Pediatric Cardiology Advanced Imaging
- Pediatric Critical Care Medicine
- Pediatric Dentistry
- Pediatric Dermatology
- Pediatric Emergency Medicine
- Pediatric Endocrinology
- Pediatric Ethics and Genomics
- Pediatric Gastroenterology
- Pediatric Hematology/Oncology
- Pediatric Hospice and Palliative Care
- Pediatric Hospital Medicine
- Pediatric Infectious Diseases
- Pediatric Nephrology
- Pediatric Ophthalmology
- Pediatric Optometry
- Pediatric Otolaryngology
- Pediatric Pathology
- Pediatric Plastic Surgery
- Pediatric Pulmonology
- Pediatric Radiology
- Pediatric Rehabilitation
- Pediatric Surgery
- Pediatric Sports Medicine
- Surgical Critical Care
- Surgical Scholars
The Common Curriculum at Children’s Mercy Kansas City is more than a vehicle to meet ACGME requirements. It is a platform for bringing together fellows from a wide range of disciplines to cover key essentials for the successful health care leader.

This highly interactive, interdisciplinary (and sometimes flipped) course is led by Susan Hathaway, PhD, Course Director, and nine other faculty members who also serve as mentors for five cohorts of fellows. The faculty comes from a variety of areas from the hospital, adding richness to the discussion.

The course went through an overhaul before the 2015-16 academic year as part of a broad curriculum review that looked at four sets of 21st century skills: leadership, research, quality improvement and teaching. Focusing on leadership, the course took previously related but separate lectures and turned it into a cohesive curriculum.

“It’s nice to see the flow of each session streamlined into the next month,” Rachel Laws, MBA, Program Coordinator and course faculty member said. “It helps the learner discuss different topics while also not forgetting what was discussed during the previous month.”

So far, the fellow response has been good. “This workshop is a great opportunity to collaborate with other professionals across disciplines and to develop leadership skills,” said one participant in a monthly reflection activity.

The faculty has enjoyed the course too, learning with the fellows along the way. “The new leadership curriculum has been beneficial to trainees and faculty alike. The groups have developed insight into the skill sets that are essential to developing your leadership skills. I wish that we had this curriculum when I was a fellow,” said faculty member and Fellowship Program Director, Angie Myers, MD, MPH.

In March 2016, Susan Hathaway, PhD, Angie Myers, MD, MPH, and Rachel Laws, MBA, presented the curriculum to a receptive group of fellowship program directors at the Association of Pediatric Program Directors national meeting. Refinement of the course is underway, as is a study to see how much the course changed the attitudes and beliefs of the fellows who went through it.

Course discussion and activities revolve around the conceptual framework of “inner,” “other,” and “outer,” and cover the following objectives:

- Develop recognition of critical skills outside medical knowledge and clinical skills that are necessary to be successful as a physician. These skills are required across all subspecialties and all different types of systems.
- Illustrate a baseline knowledge of concepts and terms related to leadership and professionalism.
- Critically appraise their role and skills as a leader, as well as recognize specific leadership talents in those around them.
- Understand the role of self-awareness and self-regulation in leadership and professionalism and develop a plan to monitor and regulate their biases and default modes.
- Examine the dynamics of working with individuals with different roles, personalities, values and agendas.
- Differentiate between different approaches to conflict and identify when to use each approach.
- Analyze and design an effective plan for change.
- Recognize the role culture plays in leading a health care system.
- Discuss ethics and cost analysis in health care.
- Explain and appreciate the complexity of health care systems.
Children’s Mercy Kansas City launches new Plastic Surgery Fellowship
Veronica Byers, BA

Children’s Mercy began its new Plastic and Reconstructive Fellowship program in 2016. Led by Shao Jiang, MD, Program Director, trainees will refine their knowledge of cleft and craniofacial plastic surgery.

The Children’s Mercy program is unique because its surgeons were trained at different institutions in cranial facial plastic surgery and completed fellowship training. Composed of four full–time and one part–time surgeon, and high staff presence, Children’s Mercy is the ideal setting for training. Its wide catchment area provides access to a range of exposures. The high–volume clinic offers fellows access to a variety of pathology, including a breadth of cleft and craniofacial plastic surgery. The program’s flexible structure allows for a customized educational experience.

With the presence of the Elizabeth J. Ferrell Fetal Health Center, physicians will engage in patient care before infants are born. Prenatal congenital abnormalities can be identified prior to birth and treated accordingly.

It is these offerings which attracted the first incoming fellow Anne Argenta, MD, from the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center.

“Dr. Jiang was a fantastic teacher when I rotated on his service as a medical student and intern in Pittsburgh. Knowing his specialization in cleft surgery, I sought him out in hopes of getting more cleft training after my plastics residency,” Dr. Argenta said.

Dr. Jiang enjoys witnessing his students’ “ah–ha moments,” the arc where teaching and doing meet. This connection between didactics and performance can occur at any time – in clinic, teaching or in the operating room.

With less than 20 programs of this kind in the U.S. and Canada, plastic surgery fellowship opportunities are limited.

For those interested in a plastic surgery and craniofacial fellowship, Dr. Jiang suggests identifying a good mentor and engaging early in residency. Showing interest and participating in research can also optimize one’s chances at securing a fellowship opportunity.

Dr. Jiang hopes those who participate in the program will be empowered to significantly contribute to the field’s clinical outcomes and academic research.

Dr. Argenta hopes to apply her skill helping those who do not have access to cleft lip and palate repair.

“I am passionate about third–world medicine and international service. On every medical service trip that I have been on, we encounter kids and even adults in need of cleft surgery. For many patients, our visit may be their first and only opportunity for treatment. Some travel hundreds of miles from remote villages for this opportunity. They deserve access to quality health care,” Dr. Argenta said.

Although the goal of training is knowledge, Dr. Jiang points out that it is not the most important element of the program. He hopes that trainees will take with them what they saw not only in the operating room, but through daily encounters with patients and families, and use it in their own practices.

“It’s about care, not just procedure,” Dr. Jiang said.
“It’s a total package, from the staff to the nurses to the anesthesiologists.”
More than 3.5 million children and teens are injured each year on the playground, bicycle, during gymnastics, and general participation in sports or recreational activities. Emergency rooms treat more than 775,000 children ages 14 and younger for sports–related injuries, most of which occur due to falls, being struck by an object, impact and physical overexertion. As children grow, injuries and medical conditions may have a direct affect on their ability to participate in sporting activities. Pediatric Sports Medicine physicians have specialized education and training that provides the opportunity to deliver expert clinical care to children, teens and young athletes who may experience an injury.

The Pediatric Sports Medicine Fellowship at Children’s Mercy Kansas City is a one–year program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). The program began with its inaugural fellow, Laura Nilan, DO, MS, July 1, 2016.

Led by Greg Canty, MD, Program Director, the fellow will work with a multidisciplinary team of faculty physicians, coaches, certified trainers, behavioral scientists, pharmacologists, exercise physiologists, nutritionists and physical therapists to learn sports medicine from a pediatric perspective. The 12–month program partners with the Kansas City Marathon, Hospital Hill 5k and Truman Lakewood Sports Medicine. The fellow will have access to all team sports in the Kansas City, Mo., School District (five public high schools), Turner Kansas High School (public), St. Teresa’s Academy (private, all–female), University Academy (charter school), and Brookside Soccer League (recreational and competitive).

The fellow will be the lead school/team physician for Lincoln College Preparatory Academy and expected to be available for team coverage of football, soccer (men’s and women’s), basketball (men’s and women’s), wrestling, track/field (men’s and women’s) and swimming. They will also be expected to provide medical expertise and coverage of sporting events for Brookside Soccer League events with more than 2,000 participants. This broad–based exposure to both school–based and community–based teams should provide a wonderful breadth of experiences.

Fellows are also afforded the opportunity to stay current in their primary specialty. In Dr. Nilan’s case, as a board–eligible pediatric emergency medicine physician, she also works in the Emergency Department as part of her fellowship.

“We are very excited to be one of 14 institutions in the U.S. offering a Pediatric Sports Medicine fellowship. Our goal is to train tomorrow’s physician leaders in ways to help keep adolescents and youth healthy through safer sports participation,” Dr. Canty added.
Fellow Accomplishments

**Gangaram Akangire**, MD, was accepted into the NICHD Young Investigator’s Conference. September 2015, Chicago, Ill. Selection was based on a research project and past research experience.

**Fellow Posters and Presentations**


**Alba Aponte P and McDonough R** – Poster: Decreasing the Frequency of Cortisol Levels in the High–Dose Abbreviated ACTH Stimulation Test, Academic Pediatric Association, Region 6, September, 2015, Kansas City, Kan. (1st place Abstract Winner).

**Allen C** – Presentation: Retrospective Review of New Disease Genes in the Pediatric Genome Center Repository, Children’s Mercy Pediatric Genomic Medicine Conference, April 2016, Kansas City, Mo.

**Bacon P** – Poster: Radiologic Examination of Pediatric Devices and Pre–aortic Iliac Confluence – Rare or Often Overlooked Anatomical Variant, Society for Pediatric Radiology, May 2016, Chicago, Ill.

**Bacon P** – Poster: Radiologic Examination of Pediatric Devices, American Roentgen Ray Society (ARRS) Annual Meeting, May 2016, Los Angeles, Calif.


**Beissel D** – Poster: Efficacy and Safety of Cryoablation for AV Nodal Reentrant Tachycardia in Pediatric Patients, Midwest Pediatric Cardiology Society Meeting, September 2015, Madison, Wis.


**Broxterman E** – Poster: Bilateral Versus Unilateral Lateral Rectus Recession for Small Angle Exotropia in Pediatric Patients, American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus, April 2016, Vancouver, Calif.

**Chan S** – Presentation: Cyberbullying: Predictors, Outcomes, and Implications for Prevention and Intervention, Mother and Child Health Coalition, September 2015, Kansas City, Mo.

**Chan S** – Poster: Peer Difficulties among Youth with Chronic Pain: Associations with Pain Characteristics and Emotional Functioning, Society of Pediatric Psychology Annual Conference, April 2016, Atlanta, Ga.

**Cheema U, Miller, MK, Jackson JT, Moffatt ME, Anderst JD** – Poster: Patient and Compliance Factors Associated with Child Physical Abuse, Pediatric Academic Societies, May 2016, Baltimore, Md.

**Davis–Kankanamge C** – Poster and Abstract: Vulvar Manifestations of Sjogren’s Syndrome in Adolescent, North American Society for Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology, Stump the Professor Presentation, April 2016, Ontario, Can.

**Davis–Kankanamge C** – Poster: Vulvar Manifestations of Sjogren’s Syndrome in Adolescent, Vijay Babu Rayudu Quality and Patient Safety Day, May 2016, Kansas City, Mo.

**Davis–Kankanamge C** – Poster: The Association Between Body Mass Index And Androgen Levels in Adolescent Girls with Irregular Menses or Amenorrhea, Vijay Babu Rayudu Quality and Patient Safety Day, May 2016, Kansas City, Mo.


**Deem M** – Poster: Socioeconomic Disparities in Marketing of Electronic Cigarettes on Twitter, Society for Research on Nicotine & Tobacco, March 2–16, Chicago, Ill.


Goldstein A – Poster: *Parent–child Agreement on Quality of Life Ratings among Youth with Inflammatory Bowel Disease*, Society for Pediatric Psychology, April 2016, Atlanta, Ga.

Goldstein A – Poster: *Assessing Knowledge of the Prescribed Treatment Plan and Adherence Barriers among Youth with Inflammatory Bowel Disease Presenting for Adherence Intervention*, Society for Pediatric Psychology, April 2016, Atlanta, Ga.

Gonzalez KW – Presentation: *Pelvic Angiography for Trauma in Children: A Rare but Useful Adjunct*, Pediatric Trauma Society, November 2015, Phoenix, Ariz.

Gonzalez KW – Poster: *Improving Outcomes for Unborn Babies with Gastrochisis*, Midwest Society for Pediatric Research, October 2015, Kansas City, Mo.


Gonzalez KW, Dalton BG, Keirsev MC, Oyetunji TA, St. Peter SD – Presentation: *AORN Wound Classification May Not Apply to Contemporary Operations in Children*. Pacific Association of Pediatric Surgeons Meeting, April 2016, Kauai, Hawaii

Hadi H – Poster: *slgE Temporal Association*, American College of Allergy Asthma and Immunology Annual Meeting, March 2016, Los Angeles, Calif.

Hall N and Risal – Poster: *A Rare Case of Polycythemia: Chuvash Polycythemia*, American Society of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology, May 2016, Minneapolis, Minn.


Hanson J – Presentation: *Developing a Risk Stratification Model for Predicting Future Health Care Use in Asthmatic Children*, American College of Allergy Asthma and Immunology Annual Meeting, November 2015, San Antonio, Texas.


Hanson J – Poster: *Homes Assessed as a Result of Physician Referral*, American College of Allergy Asthma and Immunology Annual Meeting, March 2016, Los Angeles, Calif.


Khadke G – Presentation: Mental Health Screening for At-risk Individuals, Missouri Athletic Trainers’ Association’s Fourth Annual Educators’ and Students’ Leadership Conference, February 2016, Fayette, Mo.

Laarman R – Poster: Concurrent Pemphigus Foliaceus and Graves Disease, American Association of Dermatology, March 2016, Washington, D.C.

Lopez–Lizarraga J – Poster: ASD Solving the Medication Puzzle, Academic Pediatric Association, Region 6, September 2015, Kansas City, Mo.


McDonough R – Poster: The Impact of Sleep on Adherence Behaviors in Adolescents with Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus, International Society for Pediatric and Adolescent Diabetes, October 2015, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

McDonough R – Poster: A Good Night’s Sleep and Its Impact on T1D, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation: TypeOneNation Regional Conference, February 2016, Kansas City, Mo.


Norton L – Presentation: Case Presentation, Infectious Diseases Society of America, October 2015, San Diego, Calif.


Polk B – Poster: Does Serum–specific IgE Sensitization to Tree Nut Increase the Risk of Coconut Sensitization? American College of Allergy Asthma and Immunology Annual Meeting, November 2015, San Antonio, Texas. (3rd Place Clemens Von Piquet Certificate of Merit).


Patel JB – Poster: Hypoxia Upregulated Type II TGFß Receptor Interacting Protein–I(TRIP–I) Expression in Mouse Pups, Midwest Society for Pediatric Research, October 2015, Kansas City, Mo.

Patel N – Presentation: Variation in Ragweed Pollen Counts throughout the Day, American College of Allergy Asthma and Immunology Annual Meeting, November 2015, San Antonio, Texas.

Patel N – Association Between Rainfall and Pollen Counts in the Midwest, American College of Allergy Asthma and Immunology Annual Meeting, March 2015, Los Angeles, Calif.

Pham L – Poster: Implementation Fidelity of the PEDS. Academic Pediatric Association Region 6 Conference, September 2015, Kansas City, Kan.

Pham L – Presentation: When Good Tools Go Bad: Real-world Autism/Developmental Screening and Quality Improvement in Primary Care, Society for Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics, October 2015, Las Vegas, Nev.

Polk B – Presentation: 16–year–old Girl with Chronic Cough, Greater Kansas City Allergy Society, August 2015, Kansas City, Mo.

Reddivalla N – Poster: T-Cell Lymphoblastic Lymphoma in a Patient with Familial Platelet Disorder with Propensity to Acute Myelogenous Leukemia (FPD/AML) Due to a Novel Germline RUNX1 Mutation, American Society of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology, May 2016, Minneapolis, Minn.


Rompca A, Leeder JS, Dinh, JC – Poster: Resolving the Role of CY2D^ in Pimozide Metabolism, Pediatric Academic Societies, May 2016, Baltimore, Md.


Torres–Torres S – Presentation: Clinical Impact of Multiplex PCR for Rapid Identification of Staphylococcus Aureus Bacteremia in Hospitalized Pediatric Patient, Midwest Society for Pediatric Research, October 2015, Kansas City, Mo.

Torres–Torres S – Poster: Interventions to Reduce Peripheral Intravenous Infiltration (PIV-I), Midwest Society for Pediatric Research, October 2015, Kansas City, Mo.


Torres–Torres S – Presentation: 5-Year-Old Male with Cough and Neck Pain, Kansas City Infectious Diseases Society, September 2015, Kansas City, Mo.


Ulrich T, Hansen TP, Reid KJ, Bingler MA, Olsen SL – Poster: Post-Ligation Cardiac Syndrome is Associated with Increased Morbidity in Preterm Infants, Pediatric Academic Societies. April 2016, Baltimore, Md.


Fellow Publications


Davis–Kankanamge C, Bercaw-Pratt JL, Santos XM, Dietrich JE – Crohn’s Disease and Gynecologic Manifestations in Young Females, Journal of Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology. Accepted for publication April 15, 2016


Zuccarelli BD – A 5-year-old Boy with Posturing, CNS Case Reports, 2015 Aug.

Fellows Grants
Pablo Angulo, MD – Prolactin Receptor in Osteosarcoma, CMH Clinical Fellowship Grant, $15,000; and Jak/Stat in Osteosarcoma, Midwest Cancer Alliance, $250,000.

Christina Davis–Kankanamge, MD – Knowledge and Attitudes of Contraception among Adolescent Transplant Recipients, University of Missouri-Kansas City, School of Graduate Studies Research Award Program, $6,488; Vulvar Manifestations of Sjogren’s Syndrome in Adolescent, University of Missouri-Kansas City Graduate Medical Education Fellow Research Presentation Fund, $400.

Ryan McDonough, DO – Evaluating the Effects of Sleep Duration and Sleep Disturbances on Self-Adherence Behaviors and Glycemic Control in Teens with TIDM, CMH Clinical Fellowship Grant, $7,892.
Suturing workshop at the 13th-Annual Midwest Regional Pediatric Medical Student Conference.

We hope that students leave with an understanding of what pediatrics is and what it has to offer them.

Grant Hamill, MD
In March 2016, medical students from five regional medical schools participated in the 13th-Annual Midwest Regional Pediatric Medical Student Conference. Organized by UMKC medical students from the Pediatric Interest Group, the day-long program is designed to introduce students to pediatric medicine and its various subspecialties. Participants were acquainted with the hospital and its many educational offerings such as elective rotations, residency and fellowship opportunities.

Children’s Mercy faculty Mary Anne Jackson, MD, Ibrahim Ahmed, MD, and Mary Moffatt, MD, delivered keynote presentations on the visual diagnosis of pediatric infections, hematology/oncology, emergency medicine and child abuse and neglect, respectively. Pediatric Residency program director Ross Newman, DO, welcomed students while also giving them an introduction to the Residency Program. Midway through the program, a panel of residents answered questions from medical students.

The medical students participated in skills and simulation labs, giving them a hands-on, interactive experience. They witnessed typical activities of an orthopaedic clinic, such as splinting, suturing and lumbar puncture. They covered topics such as basic life support, infusion, respiratory therapy, hip dysplasia, child life and developmental milestones.

“Many people think pediatrics is simply dealing with runny noses and sore throats, but it is so much more! Many students don’t get the opportunity to do their pediatrics rotations at a large hospital, like Children’s Mercy, so they often miss out on all the great things that they have to offer,” said Grant Hamill, MD, conference co-chair and current pediatric resident.

**Speed Dating with Specialists**

Students participated in “Speed Dating with Specialists,” an exercise in which the students met briefly with doctors in various specialties. Eleven subspecialists gave overviews of their practice while taking questions from students.

“Activities like this are essential for the field of pediatrics because they allow students to confidently enter a field that may not be considered ‘flashy.’ They show students how wonderful a career in pediatrics really can be,” said McKenzie Lutz, MD, 2015-16 UMKC Pediatric Interest Group Vice President and current pediatric resident.

The students enjoyed a banquet dinner at Brio Tuscan Grille. During the meal, Michael Lypka, MD, DMD, presented, “Cleft Palate and Global Medical Missions.” He informed students about the availability of global mission rotations at Children’s Mercy. The slide show documented his cleft palate surgery global missions in Ecuador, Columbia, Guatemala and Mexico.

“We hope that students leave with an understanding of what pediatrics is and what it has to offer them. It would be impossible to fit everything into one day, but we do our best to offer multiple views of what pediatrics can be,” said Hamill. “Stimulating interest in our future pediatricians is crucial, because they will be the ones leading tomorrow.”
Docent Team Gives Young Medical Students First Glimpse of Patient/Physician Relationship

Veronica Byers, BA

The Children’s Mercy Year 1 & II Docent Experience provides a one-of-a-kind educational opportunity for UMKC’s newest students. This joint venture between UMKC School of Medicine and Children’s Mercy grants first-year medical students hands-on experience at the earliest point in their medical education. The training gives students access to a wide variety of specialty clinics and inpatient rotations.

“The program allows students the opportunity to learn in a non-intimidating setting. Children’s Mercy fosters an environment where they can learn,” pediatric hospitalist and docent Jesica Neuhart, MD, FAAP, said.

This apprenticeship-style program is exclusive to UMKC, a six-year combined BA/MD program where students start right after high school.

One bonus of this program is that it provides clinical exposure earlier than traditional medical school settings, permitting students to work with families sooner. Participants become comfortable interacting with patients and conducting interviews. The learners’ confidence builds as they progress, working more independently — first shadowing, then working in pairs as they refine their skills. Students learn to obtain a complete medical history and ask open-ended questions.

The experience has been eye-opening for medical student Antonio Petralia, who now sees patients, “not as someone with a disease, not just a disease to cure.”

“They are eager. It’s fun to see their zeal for learning,” said Dr. Neuhart, who also mentors students in professional development. This includes helping students develop time management skills as many seek guidance adjusting to college life.

Learners participate in didactic lectures and ethics presentations, while learning the fundamentals of medicine during their weekly visits. Over the span of the two-year program, students visit a variety of hospital clinical settings including its clinical laboratories and the Center for Pediatric Genomic Medicine. They observe wound suturing, casting and examination procedures, while learning about everything from abdominal disorders to participating in blood draw workshops along the way.

“We’re exposed to so much,” medical student Madeline Klaesner said. “Things I had no idea I would be interested in.”

These activities provide guidance for those who are undecided about their specialty. Unlike other medical students across the nation, they have more time to explore their options and weigh practicing adult versus pediatric medicine.

“You get a better feel of what’s out there, like palliative care and what a typical workday is like,” medical student Jennifer Vu said.

When possible, Dr. Neuhart seeks to match the students’ training with the curriculum of their UMKC program. This feature allows students to make connections between their clinical experiences and basic sciences.

Dorothy Lor, medical student, enjoys the one-on-one time spent with the doctors and themed workshops.

“It’s fun to see the light bulbs go on,” said Dr. Neuhart as she witnessed students making connections between their coursework and exposures at Children’s Mercy.

For some, the program serves as motivation to continue their studies when coursework and studying become tedious.

“It inspires me to keep going,” said Paige Kramer, medical student.
The Annual Clinical Advances in Pediatrics Symposium is a two and a one-half day symposium focused on providing the latest advances in pediatric research and evidence-based practice.
Attended by child neurologists, epileptologists and neurodevelopment pediatricians throughout the region, the 10th Annual Missouri Valley Child Neurology Colloquium was held April 2016 at Hotel Sorella on the Country Club Plaza. Hosted by Children’s Mercy’s Neurology Division as well as Saint Louis University and Washington University on a revolving basis, the event offered participants the opportunity to present challenging cases and learn about the latest in medical advances.

Throughout the day audiences were addressed by keynote speakers Elliot Sherr, MD, Director of University of California’s Comprehensive Center for Brain Development and Michael Rivkin, MD, Director of Boston Children’s Hospital’s Cerebrovascular Disorders and Stroke Program. Yale professor William Graf, MD, delivered the program’s 10th anniversary keynote speech over dinner at the Nelson Atkins Museum of Art.

Neurology residents from the three collaborating programs presented their scholarly works on topics ranging from non–ketotic hyperglycinemia to hemiparesis. This forum is typically used to highlight rare conditions and unique cases.

Children’s Mercy resident Britton Zuccarelli, MD, presented “A Not–so–Simple Febrile Seizure,” a case in which a common condition resulted in a devastating outcome making her question her usual approach to febrile seizures. Her presentation addressed the long–term outcomes of children with the condition and reviewed risk factors for poor outcomes.

“The Colloquium is an excellent educational opportunity for residents to be exposed to case presentations of rare neurological diseases, to have the opportunity to deliver a formal presentation in a collegial environment and to network with other trainees and attending physicians from regional institutions,” Dr. Zuccarelli said.

This opportunity inspired Deepti Nagesh, MD, also a Children’s Mercy resident, to further investigate the case of a 2–day–old with apnea and cyanosis.

“I remember learning about this child’s condition and finding it very interesting and wanted to learn more about it and this opportunity came my way at about the same time,” Dr. Nagesh said.

“This year’s Colloquium made me aware of both typical and unusual presenting features for several rare neurological conditions and allowed me to become familiar with the most frequent etiologies for neonatal stroke and managing neonatal hypoxic injury, updates in pediatric concussion evaluation and management, and how to address Tourette syndrome in a comprehensive way,” Dr. Zuccarelli said.
Technology Transforms Health Sciences Library

Technology is transforming a number of services at Children’s Mercy Kansas City, and the Health Sciences Library is no exception. In 2015, the library was renovated and reorganized in conjunction with renovations made to the Kreamer Resource Center for Families.

“Ninety-nine percent of our medical journals and books are now available online,” said Brenda Pfannenstiel, MALS, MA, AHIP, Manager of Library Services. “We have been transitioning these resources to a ‘virtual library’ for several years now.”

This transition has made it possible to renovate the health sciences library space, making room for offices for all three librarians, who were previously located in the Kreamer Resource Center.

In addition to more office space, the renovations also included the addition of several patron workstations, with brighter more inviting space, and improved access for electronic devices.

The librarians are available to assist medical students, residents and fellows with literature searches, teach them how to access online services, and provide group or individual instruction sessions regarding other available library programs as needed.

“Our goal is to serve as a resource for graduate medical education,” Pfannenstiel said. “We can assist with quickly accessing the latest research available to help our learners make the best clinical decisions possible for patients.”
Advanced Degrees and Certifications
Children’s Mercy fellows and faculty are able to take advantage of additional professional development through advanced degrees and certificates at the University of Missouri–Kansas City.

University of Missouri–Kansas City Master of Science: Bioinformatics
The Master of Science in Bioinformatics supports the education of students interested in a career in bioinformatics or clinical research. Graduates master core competencies that allow them to participate in biological research, clinical and population health research, or research to develop innovative information systems. This program equips the next generation of health researchers by emphasizing patient–oriented research in the context of state–of–the–art medical informatics.

University of Missouri–Kansas City Graduate Certificate: Clinical Research
The graduate certificate program is comprised of the core courses offered in the Master of Curriculum and appeals to fellows of any specialty. The 15–credit hour certificate is derived from the core of the Master of Science in Bioinformatics Clinical Research curriculum and includes the following five courses:

- Biostatistics
- Clinical Research Methods
- Clinical Epidemiology
- Clinical Trials
- Overview of Health Sciences Research

To learn more about the Master of Science, in Bioinformatics or the Graduate Certificate in Clinical Research program, visit www.med.umkc.edu/dbhi.

University of Missouri–Kansas City Graduate Certificate and Masters of Health Professions Education
Based on a core curriculum in applied educational research, the 36–credit hour Masters of Health Professionals Education Program focuses on the development of expertise in teaching, instructional design, program evaluation, assessment, leadership and educational research. The first year of the master’s degree is the certificate program. Children’s Mercy fellows who accept faculty positions at the hospital following their training will be able to complete the degree after their fellowship’s end. To learn more about either the Graduate Certificate or Masters of Health Professions Education, contact (816) 235–2465.

Bioethics Center Certificate Program
The Children’s Mercy Bioethics Center Certificate Program is a nine–month course with an intensive three–day weekend on site. For the rest of the course, students and faculty discuss assigned readings online and in periodic conference calls and webinars. The program is designed to help students understand common pediatric bioethical issues, including the role of ethics committees, practical techniques in ethics consultation, futility and moral distress, end–of–life decisions, pediatric palliative care, research ethics, biobanking and genetics, enhancement, issues in adolescent medicine, and immunization controversies. The focus is exclusively on pediatrics. For additional information on the Bioethics Center Certificate Program, please contact the Children’s Mercy Bioethics Center at cmbc@cmh.edu.
**Honors and Awards**

**2015–2016:**

**Medical Student Education Awards**
Barbara Allphin, MD, Residents as Teachers Award, Pediatrics: David Skoglund, MD
Barbara Allphin, MD, Residents as Teachers Award, Internal Medicine/Pediatrics: Aunya Cameron, MD
Laura L. Backus, MD, Memorial Award for Excellence in Pediatrics: McKenzie Lutz

**Resident Awards**
Clinical Advances in Pediatric Symposium Resident Clinical Award: Jennifer Halma, MD
Clark W. Seely Award: Sarah Stone, MD
Daniel C. Darrow Award: Kristin Dolan, MD
Edward R. Christophersen Excellence in Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics Award: Grace Winningham, MD
Jane F. Knapp Emergency Medicine Award: Nichole Gubbins, MD, and Trent Sims, DO
Hematology/Oncology Award: Jay Sarthy, MD, PhD
Hospitalist Medicine Award: Jay Sarthy, MD, PhD
Mercy Award: Tessa Commers, MD
Neonatal–Perinatal Medicine Award: Nichole Gubbins, MD
Pediatric Critical Care Award: Kristin Dolan, MD
Professor Rounds Awards: First Place: Leah Brandon, MD
Professor Rounds Awards: Second Place: Tessa Commers, MD
Professor Rounds Awards: Third Place: Kristin Johansen, MD
Saggie Alon Resident Research Award: First Place: William Otto, MD
Saggie Alon Resident Research Award: Second Place: Tessa Commers, MD

**Fellow Awards**
Fellow Quality Improvement Award: First Place: Shobhit Jain, MD
Fellow Quality Improvement Award: Second Place: Nadia Ibrahimi, MD, and Voytek Slowik, MD
Fellow Research Award: First Place: Sherlyn Chan, PhD
Fellow Research Award: Second Place: Jessica Markham, MD, and Craig Sitzman, MD
Fellow Teaching Award: Britton Zuccarelli, MD

**Faculty Awards**
Clinical Advances in Pediatric Symposium Faculty Clinical Award: Angela Myers, MD, MPH
Outstanding Teaching Section Award: Pulmonology
Daniel Scagliotti Educator of the Year Award: Keith Coffman, MD
Herbert A. Wenner, MD, Faculty Award for Medical Student Education: Brenda Rogers, MD

**Nursing Awards**
Nursing Unit of the Year Award: Hematology/Oncology (4 Henson)
Nurse of the Year: Cody Gunlock, RN (5 Sutherland)
### Inpatient Care
- **Admissions**: 14,538
- **Average Length of Stay (ALOS)**: 5.99
- **Average Daily Census (ADC)**: 262.4

### Inpatients ADC
- **Medical/Surgical**: 125.1
- **Intensive Care Nursery**: 66.7
- **Pediatric Intensive Care Unit**: 29.9
- **Fetal Health Center**: 1.5
- **Children's Mercy Adele Hall Campus**: 223.2
- **Children's Mercy Hospital Kansas**: 16.6
- **Total Inpatient ADC**: 239.6

### Outpatient Visits
- **Adele Hall Campus Clinics**: 147,984
- **Children's Mercy South Specialty Center**: 56,255
- **Children's Mercy North Specialty Clinics**: 17,753
- **Children's Mercy East Specialty Clinics**: 7,007
- **Primary Care Clinics**: 70,918
- **Total Outpatient Visits**: 502,748

### Emergency/Urgent Care Visits
- **Children's Mercy Hospital Emergency Dept.**: 67,910
- **Children's Mercy Hospital Kansas Emergency Dept.**: 42,490
- **Urgent Care Blue Valley**: 19,045
- **Urgent Care Children's Mercy Northland**: 30,317
- **Urgent Care Children's Mercy East**: 25,535
- **Total Emergency/Urgent Care Visits**: 185,295

### Surgical Procedures
- **Inpatient**: 4,085
- **Outpatient Surgery**: 14,897
- **Total Surgical Procedures**: 18,982

### Employees: Full–Time Equivalent
- 6,294
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