

MICHIGAN STATE

UNIVERSITY

College of Human Medicine

Annual Faculty Awards

May 14, 2014

Distinguished Faculty Award

Jane Turner, M.D., FAAP

Professor, Department of Pediatrics and Human Development

Presented by Sath Sudhanthar, M.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics and Human Development

Teacher-Scholar Award

Erin Sarzynski, M.D., M.S.

Assistant Professor, Department of Family Medicine

Presented by William Wadland, M.D., MS, Chair, Department of Family Medicine

Outstanding Community Faculty Award

Paula Klose, M.D.

Assistant Professor, Community Assistant Dean-Midland, Department of Family Medicine

Presented by William Wadland, M.D., MS, Chair, Department of Family Medicine

Outstanding Clinician Award

Heather Laird-Fick, M.D., M.P.H., FACP

Associate Professor, Department of Medicine

Presented by Francesca Dwamena, M.D., Acting Chair, Department of Medicine

Outstanding Community Volunteer Faculty Award

Richard Roach, M.D.

Associate Professor, Department of Medicine

Presented by Gonzalo Rodriquez, M.D., Department of Medicine

Lester J. Evans, M.D. CHM Distinguished Service Award

Harvey V. Sparks, Jr., Ph.D.

University Distinguished Professor and Professor, Department of Physiology

Presented by William Spielman, M.D., Department of Physiology

William B. Weil Jr., M.D., FAAP

Endowed Distinguished Pediatric Faculty Award

Renuka Gera, M.D.

Assistant Dean - Lansing, Department of Pediatrics and Human Development

Presented by Ajovi Scott-Emuakpor, M.D., Department of Pediatrics and Human Development

We would like to acknowledge the

2014 Lifetime Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award Recipient



James Harkema, M.D.
Professor Emeritus, Surgery



Distinguished Faculty Award

Jane Turner, M.D., FAAP received her Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Oregon Health Sciences Center and completed her residency in pediatrics at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. Over the past twenty plus years, Dr. Turner has served the College of Human Medicine in many roles including director of the Clinical Skills Program, Assistant Dean for the Preclinical Curriculum, Chief of the Division of General Pediatrics, and Medical Director of the Primary Care Clinics of her department.

Major accomplishments include founding of the Longitudinal Patient Centered Experience for preclinical students and leadership in the development of the Contract for Social Commitment, a four-year curriculum to prepare CHM graduates to care for patients and populations covered by public insurance. In recent years Dr. Turner has shifted her emphasis to work for children and youth across the state as consultant for the Michigan Department of Community Health. She brings her experience as a clinician and her skills as an educator and administrator to the roles of Assistant Director of the Office of Medical Affairs (Michigan Medicaid) and Chief Medical Consultant for Children's Special Health Care Services. She contributes to the development of policies that are evidence based and in the best interest of children, youth, and families. She serves on the Governor's Autism Council and is a member of the steering committee and pediatric lead of the Michigan Primary Care Transformation Project.

Dr. Turner has an active practice in primary care pediatrics with a special interest in caring for children with chronic health conditions and special needs. She enjoys a collaborative multidisciplinary approach and is a strong advocate for the family-centered medical home. She continues to teach preclinical and clerkship students and particularly enjoys small group settings and opportunities to guide students as they enter the profession of medicine.



Teacher-Scholar Award

Erin Sarzynski, M.D., M.S., earned an undergraduate degree in biochemistry from Michigan State University and a Master of Science degree in entomology from the University of Florida. She received her medical degree from MSU College of Human Medicine and completed a residency in internal medicine at MSU, graduating in 2010. She completed the Sparrow/MSU Geriatric Fellowship in October 2011 and has a Certificate of Added Qualification in Geriatric Medicine.

Dr. Sarzynski joined the MSU CHM Family Medicine, Geriatrics Program in November 2011. She is primarily responsible for developing an inpatient Geriatrics Consult Service at Sparrow Hospital. In addition, her research interests include medication reconciliation and transitional care.

She enjoys the challenge of managing complex, vulnerable patients. Growing up, she had a close relationship with her grandparents; their love and support and their own medical issues influenced her medical career. Focusing on the basics of communication, nutrition, mobility, pain control, and symptom management for her patients and their families is extremely rewarding for this Gerontologist and provides her with high job satisfaction.



Outstanding Community Faculty Award

Paula Klose, M.D., is a family physician who became the Community Assistant Dean for the Midland Regional Campus in July of 2011. Dr. Klose also functions as Clerkship Director for Family Medicine in the Midland community.

Dr. Klose is a native of Michigan, graduate of Michigan State University for both her undergraduate and medical degree, and received a M.S. in Human Nutrition from the University of Georgia.

Dr. Klose received her M.D. degree from MSU College of Human Medicine in 1986 as a graduate of the Upper Peninsula Medical Education Program. She completed her residency in Family Medicine at the MSU CHM affiliated residency in Midland, Michigan where she was chief resident.

Dr. Klose's philosophy on care is family centered, emphasizing prevention and risk factor management. She continues to work at her clinical practice on a part-time basis, where she has worked for the past 28 years.



Outstanding Clinician Award

Heather Laird-Fick, M.D., M.P.H., FACP, completed medical school at Michigan State University College of Human Medicine and internal medicine residency training at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

After completing a fourth-year chief residency at St. Joseph Mercy, Dr. Laird-Fick returned to Michigan State University as a residency key faculty member and student clerkship director. She became program director for the internal medicine residency in 2007. Clinically, she focuses on aging and behavioral

health in primary care.

Dr. Laird-Fick is very active in medical staff committees and quality improvement projects at Michigan State University and E.W. Sparrow Hospital in Lansing. She has received numerous teaching awards, including Michigan State University College of Human Medicine's Teacher-Scholar Award in 2006. She also serves on national committees related to graduate medical education.



Outstanding Community Volunteer Faculty Award

Richard Roach, M.D., joined the Department of Medicine as an Assistant Professor in 2000, the same year he became a faculty member of Internal Medicine at the MSU/Kalamazoo Center for Medical Studies where he established a Back and Neck Pain Clinic shortly after arriving. He also coordinates the Medicine Grand Rounds and Block Conference lecture series where he frequently serves as a lecturer himself. Dr. Roach is an avid collector of medical case studies and oddities and frequently shares these with faculty, house staff, and students in a way which renders them totally fascinating, intriguingly puzzling and always fresh and relevant.

Dr. Roach created and directs an innovative teaching rotation in Madagascar. Each year he and a small number of residents travel to Africa for a month-long rotation in Tropical Medicine. The group provides lectures to doctors, offers bedside teaching rounds, and sponsor clinics. He organizes a Malagasy alcohol treatment clinic, and this year arranged the first exchange of having a Malagasy medical student rotate on our Kalamazoo campus.

With boundless energy, Dr. Roach is a research mentor, active tropical medicine faculty member; he is published on a variety of topics and recently authored a publication of Native American stories. He is the editor of *Scan*, a tropical medicine journal, and is a tireless and inspiring teacher, clinician, and diagnostician. His rounding activities universally receive high ratings from residents and students. He works closely as a mentor to both students and staff, functioning enthusiastically as both career guide and role model, doing so with characteristic wisdom and humor.



Lester J. Evans, M.D., CHM Distinguished Service Award

Harvey V. Sparks, Jr., Ph.D., entered the University of Michigan Medical School in 1959. During the fall of that year, the Chair of Physiology, Horace Davenport, invited students to spend a summer conducting research in the Department of Physiology. Dr. Sparks spent the summer of 1960, and the entire second year of medical school, working in David Bohr's lab. By then he wanted to be a physiologist and spent all his elective hours during his senior year in the lab. Dr. Sparks was sent to Harvard to work with Cliff

Barger on heart failure and from Boston to Gothenburg to work with Bjorn Folkow. By then, he was comfortable on his two-legged stool and never considered adding a third leg, unless he counted his children, skiing and riding horses.

Returning to Michigan in 1966 as an instructor, he pursued interests in cardiovascular physiology. His first graduate student taught him about mathematical modeling and the study of dynamics of control mechanisms. This new knowledge helped identify several mechanisms that differentially came into play, depending on the intensity and duration of the requirements for blood flow in myocardium, skeletal muscle and kidney. In his words, "I learned to teach at MSU. Among many things, I discovered the importance of acting in teaching. I remember the day Horace and I were riding the elevator to the student laboratory, and I asked how he generated the enthusiasm to teach the same material over and over. He said 'Oh, Harvey, how many times did Olivier play Hamlet?'"

During those years, Dr. Sparks was introduced to medical school administration as Chair of the Admissions Committee, and as Program Director of the new Inteflex program. In 1979, he continued to study the local control of blood flow which led to a MERIT Award from the National Institutes of Health. In the rich international atmosphere at MSU, he became involved in a new area of research. Together with his wife, Barbara, they began a long collaboration with Jacob Mufunda and other colleagues at the University of Zimbabwe.

Dr. Sparks held the duties of President of the American Physiological Society, became a member of the National Board of Medical Examiners, and was elected Treasurer of the International Union of the Physiological Sciences. He spent ten years as Chair of Physiology and almost five years as Vice Provost for Human Health Programs.

These administrative responsibilities were a satisfying contribution to an institution and a discipline which treated him well. However, they were never the lynch pin of his professional life. Teaching in the laboratory and classroom held a central place and he has been pleased to spend the last decade of his career fully involved in this pursuit.



William B. Weil Jr., M.D., FAAP
Endowed Distinguished Pediatric Faculty Award

Renuka Gera, M.D., has been a member of MSU and the Greater Lansing physician community since her 1979 residency in Pediatrics. She completed her fellowship in Pediatric Hematology/Oncology and joined her mentors in expanding this vital service to children of the Mid-Michigan region. Since 1995, her efforts have helped extend the reach of MSU CHM to the Upper Peninsula where she has been a clinical oncology consultant.

At this same time, she started her climb up the academic ladder fulfilling many administrative roles including the Director of Pediatric In-patient Services at Sparrow Hospital, as well as the Principal Investigator for the Children's Oncology Group Clinical Trials Program. Dr. Gera's abilities and personality led to being Associate Chair of the Department of Pediatrics in 2003, Lansing Community Assistant Dean in 2005, and Acting Chair of the Department of Pediatrics from 2011 to 2013. During this period, she mentored students, residents, fellows, and served as Clerkship Director.

In addition, Dr. Gera's committee involvement has been representative of an impressive cross section of academic endeavor including such disparate interests as the Women's Advisory Committee to the Dean, the College Advisory Council, the CHM Grievance Committee, the Sparrow Credentialing Committee, the annual Review Advisory Committee of the Department of Pediatrics, the CHM Curriculum Committee, and the Committee on Medical Education. With diligence, foresight, grace, and aplomb, she chaired the Ad Hoc Committee on the Grand Rapids expansion of the college during the critical period from 2004 to 2013.

Dr. Gera exemplified the community-minded academic which, since MSU CHM's beginnings, characterizes the ideal faculty member. She has held a myriad of advisory positions with many foundations such as the Hemophilia Foundation and the Red Cross. She has valued, improved, and promoted CHM's relationship with its community partner teaching hospital, having acted on numerous Sparrow Hospital patient care and quality improvement committees. In 1998, Dr. Gera was elected Vice Chair and then assumed the Chair in 2001 of the Sparrow Hospital Department of Pediatrics during which she served on the hospital-wide Medical Executive Committee.

Her list of awards spans the years of her career and acknowledges her prowess as both a clinician and a teacher. She is an effective leader; her efforts have been thorough and held to the highest standards, and she has carried out her duties with civility, compassion, and competence.

To student and colleague alike, Dr. Gera has been an engaged mentor and a kind friend. She has studied with an eye for the alternative. She has taught openness and humility, as well as medicine. She has cared for her patients with deep empathy, yet with firm resolve in a field where suffering can be extreme and is commonplace; and yet, she has not become hardened. She understands the value of being involved in the workings of her college and involved to benefit her larger community.

Dr. Gera has distinguished herself as an outstanding physician and teacher, emulating the ideals Dr. Weil established during his remarkable tenure as founding Chair of the Department of Pediatrics and Human Development. She embodies the attributes of excellence in patient care, in teaching, in scholarship, in advocacy and in leadership. She is the embodiment of the MSU CHM clinician scholar.

Retiree Recognition

Dale D'Mello, *Department of Psychiatry*, received his M.B.B.S. from Topiwala National Medical College, Bombay University. He completed a residency in internal medicine in Bombay and a psychiatry residency in the Department of Psychiatry at MSU where he was chief resident. He was a staff psychiatrist at Broadlawns Medical Center in Des Moines, Iowa, and an assistant clinical professor at the University of Iowa, after which he returned to Michigan as an assistant professor in MSU's Department of Psychiatry. Dr. D'Mello has received 13 teaching awards from residents and medical students during his 30 year career. His focus has been on clinical care; treating individuals with serious, chronic mental illnesses in an inpatient hospital setting. He has taken part in clinical trials of new medications including National Institutes of Mental Health trials. Dr. D'Mello has been a gifted teacher and a clinician. Dale plans to continue to conduct small amounts of telemedicine work in the department and periodically travel to India to devote time caring for underserved patients.

Janis D. Lloyd, *Department of Family Medicine*, received her M.S.A. in health services administration from Central Michigan University in 1999. She initially joined MSU in the Department of Family and Community Medicine, College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1995, and transferred to the Department of Family Medicine in the College of Human Medicine where she served as the deputy director of the Geriatric Education Center of Michigan (GECM) as an academic specialist for outreach. Her work with the GECM contributed significantly to the quality of geriatric care throughout the state and helped position MSU as a leader in geriatrics training for healthcare professionals in the region. Jan has served on several boards including the Tri-County Office on Aging Advisory Council, the National Association of Geriatric

Education Centers, and was newsletter editor of *GEC Pipeline*. In retirement, she looks forward to devoting time with family, visiting new and familiar travel destinations as well as spending more time in Traverse City – a lifelong favorite city.

Ronald J. Patterson, *Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics*, received a B.A. from Washington and Jefferson College and a Ph.D. from Northwestern Medical School, followed by two years of postdoctoral training at the University of Washington. He then joined MSU in 1972 and rose through the ranks to become a professor of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics. Ron has had a long-standing interest in the structure of the cell's nucleus, including the transport of RNA components between the nucleus and cytoplasm. He's an authority on RNA splicing, a critical biochemical process and Dr. Patterson's laboratory is credited with demonstrating the proteins galectin-1 and galectin-3 function in this process. Dr. Patterson has been a dedicated educator both within and outside of the classroom. He has taught a diverse set of courses while mentoring numerous undergraduate and graduate students. He was a long-time Director of Graduate Studies within the department. Ron and his wife, Maria, plan to enjoy their retirement years by moving to their home in Oregon.

James Potchen, *Department of Radiology*, received his B.S. from MSU, M.D. from Wayne State University, M.Sc. in management from the MIT, and J.D. from University of Michigan. He practiced general medicine in Grand Rapids before entering his residency in 1961 at Harvard Medical School, Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, where he became chief radiology resident. He was the first chief of Nuclear Medicine at the Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis Missouri where he subsequently became Professor of Radiology.

In 1973, he became Professor of Radiology and Dean of Management Resources at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. In 1975, he accepted the position as professor and chair of the new Department of Radiology at MSU - a position he held for 38 years. In 1990, he was awarded the title of University Distinguished Professor and during his career, served on many committees, engaged in numerous professional activities and received many distinctions. His efforts over the past 20 years have been studying the quality of human decision-making in medicine, business, and law with an emphasis on assessing human decision-making relevant to improving the applications of technology to healthcare. His primary academic work sought to enhance the production of human capital. He has participated in mentoring of numerous academicians in their formative years, many of whom have become professors and chairs in other universities. Dr. Potchen and his wife of 58 years, Geri, have four children and 12 grandchildren.

Christopher B. Reznich, *Office of Medical Education Research and Development*, is a former Peace Corps volunteer. He received his M.A. in teaching from the school for International Training, Brattleboro, Vermont, and his Ph.D. in educational systems development from MSU in 1993 and has been with OMERAD since 1990. He co-led a college initiative focusing on an information management curriculum and led an effort aimed at identifying cultural competence curriculum content. He has published and presented widely on academic fellowship accreditation and outcomes, technology in education, writing for publication, program evaluation, curriculum development, and problem-based learning. As a faculty member with the Office of Preclinical Curriculum, he directed the college's second-year Problem-Based Learning basic science curriculum and was the assistant Block II director for the East Lansing campus. Dr. Reznich plans to re-join the Peace Corps to serve as an English teacher in Mongolia and while there, hopes to start a bluegrass-Tibetan throat singing fusion band.

B. Suzanne Sorkin, *Department of Family Medicine*, received her M.D. in 1980 from the University of Pittsburgh School Of Medicine, graduated from the MSU/St. Lawrence Family Practice Residency in 1983 and has been a board-certified family physician since 1983. During her residency, she completed the MSU Primary Care Faculty Development Fellowship through the Office of Medical Education Research and Development. Dr. Sorkin joined the Department of Family Medicine in 1989 when the residency program was located at St. Lawrence Hospital and served as the associate director of the Sparrow/MSU Family Medicine Residency in Lansing from 1989 - 2014. She served as director of Clinical Skills from 2003 - 2008.

Harvey V. Sparks, Jr., *Department of Physiology*, received his M.D. from the University of Michigan and joined MSU/CHM's Department of Physiology as professor and chair in 1979. In 1997, Dr. Sparks earned the title of University Distinguished Professor for his teaching, research and outreach achievements. Dr. Sparks is an internationally recognized expert on the regulation of blood flow to the heart, skeletal muscle and kidneys. His research had over 30 years of continuous support by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), including receiving the Method to Extend Research in Time (MERIT) Award. In 1987, he received a Fulbright Lectureship to lecture and conduct research at the University of Zimbabwe. He has held leadership positions in the American Physiological Society, the Council for International Exchange of Scholars, the Russian Academy of Science, and the International Society of Hypertension in Blacks. Dr. Sparks served as MSU's vice provost for Human Health Programs for four years and devoted his time to curriculum development and teaching in the College of Human Medicine and in the College of Osteopathic Medicine. Harvey looks forward to spending time with his wife, Barbara, his four children, grandchildren and riding his horse.

James E. Trosko, *Department of Pediatrics and Human Development*, earned his B.A. in chemistry and biology *summa cum laude* from Central Michigan University, M.S. in Genetics, and Ph.D. in Radiation Genetics at Michigan State University. He then completed a post-doc at Oak Ridge National Labs before returning to MSU to join the faculty in 1971. Professor Trosko published more than 430 research articles during his career, including pioneering studies of the mechanisms of repair of UV-damaged DNA, studies of the activity of the anti-cancer drug, cisplatin, and studies of the mechanisms of actions of many carcinogens and other toxins. Professor Trosko discovered how tumor-promoting chemicals act by inhibition of gap junctions and coined the term “epigenetic toxicology.” Dr. Trosko also made many important observations regarding the functions of stem cells in health and disease. During his career, Professor Trosko has given more than 700 invited lectures around the world and has been repeatedly recognized for his achievements nationally and internationally. Dr. Trosko retired from the Department of Pediatrics and Human after a distinguished career spanning five decades and the distinction of being the longest serving faculty member in the College of Human Medicine.

Congratulations to all our retirees and thank you for your many years of loyal service.

Mentor Recognition

James J. Galligan, Ph.D., Professor, Pharmacology & Toxicology

Kathy Gallo, Ph.D., Professor, Physiology

Joseph Gardiner, Ph.D., Professor, Epidemiology and Biostatistics

C. William Given, Ph.D., Professor, Family Medicine

Rebecca C. Henry, Ph.D., Professor, Office of Medical Education Research & Development

Martha Mulks, Ph.D., Professor, Microbiology & Molecular Genetics

Mathew Reeves, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Robert C. Smith, M.D., Sc.M., Professor, Medicine

William Spielman, Ph.D., Professor, Physiology

*Comments by William C. Wadland, M.D., M.S.
Senior Associate Dean, Faculty Affairs and Development*