I hope everyone is enjoying a relatively mild winter so far. Hoping this brings us into a mild spring. The following are some important committee items I would like to share.

**MEMBER NEWS**

**New Committee Appointments**
Welcome Drs. Richard Jones from the Ben May Department of Cancer Research, Stephen Kron, from the Department of Molecular Genetics and Cell Biology and Emily Mawdsley from the Department of Medicine, Section of Infectious Disease to our committee. Dr. Jones and Kron have already begun working as co-mentors with one of our new trainees, Dr. Ashraf Madian. Dr. Mawdsley is currently participating in Dr. Maitland’s course, Advanced Clinical Pharmacology II – Problems and Clinical Applications. All three are already an asset to our committee and we are grateful for their involvement.

Drs. Navin Pinto and Mani Sharma secondary appointments are currently pending. Ballots are due February 17, 2012 for Dr. Gini Fleming. Please cast your vote if you have not done so already. Faculty will be asked to vote on pending. Ballots are due February 17, 2012 for Dr. Gini Fleming. Please cast your vote if you have not done so already. Faculty will be asked to vote on

**TRAINEE NEWS**

Two of our trainees that graduated the program in 2011 have gone on to academic faculty appointments. Dr. Tara Gangadhur completed the program in June and was appointed as Assistant Professor of Medicine, Hematology-Oncology Division at the Abramson Cancer Center, University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Navin Pinto also completed the program in June and was appointed as Clinical Instructor at the University of Chicago in the Department of Pediatrics, Section of Hematology/Oncology and Stem Cell Transplantation. We are proud of our trainees and feel confident that they will be successful.

**New Fellow Appointments**
We have appointed four new trainees in the past year. Dr. Michael Eadon began our program in June. He is completing a dual fellowship with our program and the Section of Nephrology. He is being co-mentored by Dr. Patrick Cunningham from the Department of Medicine, Section of Nephrology and me. Dr. Arun Panigrahi also began his training in June and is completing a fellowship in Pediatric Hematology/Oncology along with ours. He is working primarily under the direction of Dr. John Cunningham in the Department of Pediatrics, Section of Hematology/Oncology. Dr. Yujia Wen started the program in October and she is working in the Dolan laboratory. Lastly, Dr. Ashraf Madian began our program in December and is working with Drs. Richard Jones, Stephen Kron and the Dolan laboratory. I can personally say all are performing extremely well and we look forward to their many achievements.

**UPCOMING LECTURES**

**March 1, 2012; 3:30 PM; Room KCBD 6100**
Stephen Eck, M.D., Ph.D., Vice President, Global Head of Medical Oncology, Astellas Pharma Global Development will be presenting, “Pre-IND Preparations: What information do you need to get an IND?”

**May 1, 2012; 10:30 AM; Room BSLC 240**
Li Zhang, Ph.D., Regulatory Review Officer, the Office of Clinical Pharmacology, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, U.S. Food and Drug Administration will present, “Progress in Pharmacogenomics and its promise for Medicine.”

*Note: While visiting, Dr. Zhang will be available to meet with fellows or faculty. Please contact Michelle Domecki to schedule a meeting.*

**May 14, 2012; 10:30 AM; Room BSLC 240**
Kelan Tantisira, M.D., Assistant Professor of Medicine, Brigham & Women’s Hospital will present on the topic of, “Implementing Pharmacogenomics into Clinical Practice – Asthma.”

**MEMBER AND TRAINEE ACCOLADES**

I would like to note past and current accomplishments from our committee members: Dr. Susan Cohn was elected treasurer of ASCO; Dr. Nancy Cox was appointed to AAAS Biological Sciences Section; Dr. Michael Maitland has been named recipient of the 2012 Leon I. Goldberg Young Investigator Award by the ASCPT; Dr. Ravi Salgia was appointed Vice Chair for Translational Research for the Department of Medicine and Dr. Mark Siegler was named director of the Bucksbaum Institute. Congratulations to all for these outstanding achievements!

Dr. Mani Sharma has been awarded the Paul Calabresi K12 Award and Dr. Michael Eadon was awarded the Renal Network Young Investigator Award. Congratulations Mani and Mike!

**GENERAL NEWS**

**New Trainee Position**
We are happy to announce a joint venture with Abbott Laboratories which is the first of its kind at the University of Chicago. Abbott has funded 3 full two-year positions with the trainee completing curriculum and research here at the University of Chicago the first year and training the second year at Abbott. This is a unique opportunity for our committee and allows our trainees to experience a year in industry. We are very excited and grateful to Abbott for this unique and exciting opportunity.

**Recruitment Efforts**
We currently have 5 NIH funded positions available in which we are currently accepting applications. We might be contacting you to interview some of the candidates. Your participation is greatly appreciated. In addition, if anyone knows of any dynamic trainees that might have an interest in our program, please feel free to contact Michelle Domecki or me. We would be happy to forward information to distribute.

**ASCPT Meeting**

The 2012 annual meeting will be held on March 12 – 17 at the Gaylord National Hotel and Convention Center in National Harbor, Maryland. This year ASCPT is co-sponsoring two scientific pre-conferences: the International Transporter Consortium Workshop Two (ITCW2) and the American Society of Pharmacometrics (ASoP).

**Highlights**
Friday, March 16; 7:30 PM
The Committee will be hosting a dinner at the Old Hickory Steakhouse Restaurant located in the Gaylord National. If you are attending the meeting and Michelle Domecki has not contacted you, please let her know so she can include you in the reservation.

Saturday, March 17; 9:45 – 10:45 AM
Dr. Michael Maitland will be receiving the Leon I. Goldberg Young Investigator Award. The working title of his presentation is, “Next phase, new wave, drug craze, anyways...” Again, congratulations, Dr. Maitland, on this wonderful accomplishment—very well deserved!

Saturday, March 17; 10:50 – 11:50 AM
Dr. Yujia Wen will be presenting, “A genome wide approach for discovering potential biomarkers of chemotherapeutic agents susceptibility”

More information about the meeting can be found on the ASCPT website: [www.ascpt.org](http://www.ascpt.org)

As always, thanks again for all your support and contributions to our program.

*M. Eileen Dolan, Ph.D., Chair*