Fall is almost here! Spring and summer FLY by and then we are back to another Chicago winter. But let’s take our minds off that right now and read up on what has been happening with the committee.

**MEMBER NEWS**

**Faculty Appointment**

Dr. Jennifer Pisano joined the committee this past June. She is an Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Section of Infectious Diseases and Global Heath. She will be overseeing the direct reading topics in infectious disease during the Clinical Therapeutics Seminar sessions this fall and attending on the consult service. Welcome Dr. Pisano!

**Faculty Accolades**

Dr. Eileen Dolan was appointed to the University’s Council of the University Senate. Dr. Wendy Stock was awarded the Anjuli Seth Nayak Professorship in Leukemia. Dr. Mary Strek was appointed on Faculty Advisory Committee for Patient Care/Training Category. Dr. Minoli Perera has been named the 2016 Leon Goldberg Early Investigator Award from the American Society of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics. Congratulations to all!

Please continue to let Michelle Domecki know your accomplishments so that we can share with the committee.

**TRAINEE NEWS**

**Graduates**

Two of our trainees graduated from the program this past spring/summer. Dr. Houda Alachkar presented “Immunopharmacogenomics and Experimental Therapeutics in High Risk Acute Myeloid Leukemia” on April 3. She is currently an Assistant Professor in the School of Pharmacy at the University of Southern California. On May 1, Dr. Erica Stringer presented “Glucocorticoid Receptor Activation Inhibits Chemotherapy-induced Cell Death in High-grade Serous Ovarian Carcinoma”. She accepted an Assistant Professor appointment at the University of Alabama at Birmingham in the Department of Medicine, Division of Hematology Oncology. Both graduates did a wonderful job and we wish them much success in their future careers!

**Trainee Accolades**

We had two trainees named the 2015 Department of Medicine Janet D. Rowley Research Day Abstract Winners. Dr. Houda Alachkar’s translational science abstract was entitled, “Targeting suppressor of variegation 3-9 homologue 2 [SU39H2] in acute lymphoblastic leukemia [ALL]” and Dr. Emily Curran’s basic science abstract was entitled, “Activation of the STING pathway enhances immunity and improves survival in a murine myeloid leukemia model”. Dr. Applebaum received both the 2015 Brigid Leventhal Merit Award from the Conquer Cancer Foundation of the American Society of Clinical Oncology and research funding from the University of Chicago Cancer Research Foundation. Congratulations to our trainees on their great work and much deserved awards!

**New Fellow Appointment**

Dr. Liz Sokol will begin the program in January, 2016. She is also completing a fellowship in the Section of Hematology/Oncology, Department of Pediatrics. We are happy to welcome her to the program!

**GENERAl NEWS**

Clinical Pharmacology collaboration at work! Three of our past trainees Drs. Peter Kang (’10), Tara Gangadhar (’11) and Mani Sharma (’12) have been collaborating. Drs. Sharma and Kang will be working on a clinical trial of pembrolizumab in MMR-deficient/MSI-high colorectal cancer. Dr. Kang also worked with Dr. Gangadhar on the development of the same drug for melanoma. All three were in the program together! This is a great example of making connections as fellows and former trainees having an impact on drug development from both industry and academic.

**Training Grant Progress Report Due November 15, 2015**

Michelle will begin working on the progress report shortly. We so much appreciate a timely response if she requests information.

**Interviews starting this fall**

Michelle may contact you to interview incoming candidates. Again, candidates are most impressed when they interview with as many faculty as possible. If you know of any potential candidates, please have them contact either Michelle or me for further information.

**2015 Leon I. Goldberg Memorial Lecture**

Dr. David Flockhart from Indiana University School of Medicine will be presenting the 2015 Goldberg Memorial Lecture scheduled on November 3, 2015. There will be a luncheon in his honor following the lecture located in KCBD. We appreciate your attendance at the luncheon. Additional information will be sent soon.

**2016 ASCPT Meeting**

The 2016 annual meeting will take place March 8 – 12 at the Hilton Bayfront in San Diego, California. NOTE: - early bird registration ends December 14. It is recommended to register early. The committee will be hosting a dinner - more information to come.

**New CCPP website on its way!**

Michelle is almost complete updating our new website. If there are any suggestions for what we should add/delete from the site, please let Michelle know.

As always, thanks for all your support and contributions to our program. The success of the program is dependent on the active participation of faculty and fellows.

M. Eileen Dolan, Ph.D., Chair