**Pediatric News**
An electronic newsletter from the Department of Pediatrics

**August 2015**

**Summer Undergraduate Research Program**

The UNMC Summer Undergraduate Research Program (SURP) is a collaboration between UNMC departments, institutes, colleges, student services, and graduate specialty areas to provide summer opportunities for undergraduate students to become members of research teams and discover first-hand the broad spectrum of research activities occurring at UNMC.

Each summer, 80-100 positions are available for talented undergraduate students mentored by awarded faculty. These full-time research positions are primarily in research laboratories where students work with team members on an ongoing research project. SURP students attend weekly seminars provided by UNMC researchers to enhance their knowledge about research careers and the variety of research at UNMC. The laboratory experiences obtained by SURP students enhance their competitiveness for later admission to graduate programs at UNMC.

Each summer, different divisions within the Department of Pediatrics sponsor SURP students. Listed below are students and faculty who participated this summer and the projects they will present at the SURP poster presentation August 6th, 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Truhlsen Events Center.

**Pediatrics SURP Projects**

**Matt Van Ormer**  
University of Nebraska at Omaha, Omaha, NE  
Faculty Mentor: **Ann Anderson-Berry MD, PhD**, Neonatology  
Project: Clinical research study of the effect of feeding modality on Vitamin E levels in NICU neonates. We are consenting parents, collecting blood samples, and processing them in the lab.

**Garrett Teel**  
Nebraska Wesleyan University, Lincoln, NE  
Faculty Mentor: **Ann Anderson-Berry MD, PhD**, Neonatology; Dr. Hanson  
Project: Our project is about Vitamin E. Vitamin E is important for the growth and development of babies. There are different forms of Vitamin E so we are trying to see if one of the forms is more effective than the other. We spend most of our time in the lab processing blood samples to be...
later shipped to Harvard for nutrient analysis. Hopefully our research will help further the development and effectiveness of formula and fortifier!

Kali Juracek  
Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO  
Faculty Mentor: Ann Anderson-Berry MD, PhD, Neonatology  
Project: Vitamin E Study in neonates in the NICU. We are comparing Vitamin E (or tocopherol) levels in babies being fed breast milk, vs. formula, vs. I.V. nutrition. Each feeding modality has different kinds of tocopherols, which can in turn affect inflammation, lung development, and brain development differently, as well. We are examining maternal blood, cord blood, and neonate blood to compare the different Vitamin E compounds.

Nicole Schwery  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE  
Faculty Mentor: Ed Truemper MD, Critical Care; Greg Bashford PhD  
Project: Looking at the forces on a TCD (trans-cranial doppler) ultrasound headset to determine where the most pressure is so that we can build a better model.

Katelyn Watts  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE  
Faculty Mentor: Ed Truemper MD, Critical Care; Greg Bashford PhD  
Project: Creating a gel/oil ultrasound solution to remain lubricated on a TCD (Transcranial Doppler) headset during a multiple hour pediatric surgery.

Rachel Schmitt  
Nebraska Wesleyan University, Lincoln, NE  
Faculty Mentor: Robert Cusick MD, Pediatric Surgery  
Project: Looking at the impact of transfer between hospitals and birth time to OR on gastroschisis outcomes.

Christa Manning  
College of Saint Mary, Omaha, NE  
Faculty Mentor: Arwa Nasir MBBS, General Pediatrics  
Project: Family psychosocial variables and child health outcomes: Validation of family psychosocial index as an instrument to assess family psychosocial risk in primary care.

Momo Sullivan  
James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA  
Faculty Mentor: Arwa Nasir MBBS, General Pediatrics  
Project: Family Psychosocial Variables and Child Health Outcomes: Validation of Family Psychosocial Index as an Instrument to Assess Family Psychosocial Risk in Primary Care.

Lacey Andrews  
Bluefield State College, Bluefield, WV  
Faculty Mentor: Erin Schneider MSW, CityMatCH  
Project: Working with a team to determine at risk populations for early cessation of breastfeeding in the community. Once a population was
determined at risk, data was collected, coded, and analyzed to determine the barriers of breastfeeding, the duration barriers, employer policies that may promote early cessation, and cultural differences that may be relevant to the at risk population. This project also collected data necessary to prepare local organizations to write grant proposals successfully in order to receive funding for resources for women and to implement discussed interventions into practice.

Welcome New Faculty

Emergency Medicine
- Carrie Hemmer (September 1st)
- Susan Kelly (August 1st)

Endocrinology
- Marisa Fisher (October 19th)

Gastroenterology
- Mark Kusek (August 17th)

Hospitalist
- Chelsea Bloom Anderson (August 1st)

Nephrology
- Melissa Muff-Luett (September 1st)