UNMC Impact in Education Award Recipients

A campus ceremony was held February 10th to recognize the recipients of the inaugural Impact in Education Awards. The Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs created seven Impact in Education Awards to recognize the dedication and ingenuity of our educators. Award categories include innovation, leadership, mentorship, service, interprofessional, and research. Two faculty members from the Department of Pediatrics received awards.

Gary L. Beck Dallaghan, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and Assistant Dean for Medical Education, received the Research in Education Scholar Award. This award recognizes an individual who has advanced the educational literature through peer-reviewed publications, educational grants, and original research.

Shelby Kutty, M.D., Ph.D., Division of Pediatric Cardiology, received the Inspirational Mentor of Educators Award. This award recognizes an individual who has mentored and sponsored junior faculty or trainees at the local, regional, or national level including a consistent track record of fostering future educators.

Division Spotlight: Pediatric Neurology

The Neurology Division was spotlighted in Pediatric News in December of 2013. Since that time we have had two members of our division leave, Ivan Pavkovic who took a
position with Cohen Children's Medical Center in New York City and Vamshi Rao who is now at the Lurie Children's Hospital in Chicago.

Drs. Geeta Rathore and Mary Rickard have joined our division. Geeta did her pediatric residency here at UNMC and then went to Houston to do a Child Neurology Fellowship at Baylor. We were pleased to recruit her back to Omaha in 2015. Geeta has developed a multi-specialty clinic at Children's for patients with neuromuscular disease. She is now gearing up to provide the first ever approved medical therapy for spinal muscular atrophy patients. She and Mary Rickard are trained in using Botox injections for treating spasticity and will be providing that service. Mary Rickard was a faculty member at St. Louis University Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital and she joined our division in July of 2016. Mary is the attending neurologist for the CDC Clinic at Children's on a weekly basis and sees patients in the Lincoln Clinic one day out of the week with the rest of her clinics being at the CSP building. So we are a division of six and we are actively recruiting to build the division which will include an epilepsy program, more general neurologists as well as a new division head.

Our division is a busy clinical and teaching service. Third year medical students attend our clinic as well as fourth year students, pediatric residents, child psychiatry, neurology and neurosurgery residents rotating on the service.

Dr. Larsen is a vice chair for the Department of Pediatrics. He also directs the fourth year medical students Pediatric Honors Program which is now in its third year with an outstanding group of 16 students this year. He is the core director for the second year medical students Neurology, Ophthalmology and Psychiatry core and one of the principal instructors for the first year medical students Neuroscience core. He is actively involved in the medical school's new curriculum as one of the co-directors for the committee that's charged with developing the Neuroscience block which will be a part of that new curriculum. The new curriculum will start August of 2017.

Pediatric Neurology Faculty & Clinical Staff

**Physicians**

- **Paul Larsen, M.D.**, Professor and Division Chief, Vice Chair, Division of Pediatrics. Medical School: University of Utah; Pediatric residency: University of Arizona; Neurology: University of Utah.
- **Janice McAllister, M.D.**, Assistant Professor. Medical School: University of Iowa; Pediatrics residency: UT San Antonio, Neurology: University of Chicago.
- **Rhonda Wright, M.D.**, Assistant Professor, general neurology. Medical School: University of Nebraska; Pediatrics residency: Indiana University; Neurology: University of Iowa.
- **Young Oliver, M.D.**, Assistant Professor, general neurology and epilepsy. Medical School: Baylor University; Pediatrics residency:
Indiana University; Neurology: UT Southwestern.

- **Geetanjali Rathore, M.D.,** Assistant Professor. Medical School: Dr. Sampurnanand Medical College, Rajasthan University, Jodhpur, India; Pediatrics residency: UNMC; Neurology: Texas Children's Hospital, Baylor College of Medicine.

- **Mary Rickard, M.D.,** Assistant Professor. Medical School: University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine; Pediatrics residency: Saint Louis University Hospital; Neurology: Saint Louis University Hospital.

**Nursing Staff**

- Melissa Fanning
- Pam Birge
- Paula Strickler
- Libby Leute
- Mary Conrad
- Dee McGill
- Gina Holt
- Sunny Welchert
- Natalie Wyman

**Office Associates**

- Jenny Mobley - Office Assistant
- Audrey Bayer - Support Staff

**Pediatric Neurology Clinics**

- **Children's Specialty Pediatric Center**
  Monday-Friday 8:00 to 5:00

- **MDA Clinic** at Munroe Meyer Institute Diagnostic Center
  1st and 3rd Thursdays, 8:30 - 1:00, Dr. Janice McAllister

- **CDC Clinic**
  Wednesdays 8:00 - 12:00

- **Outreach Clinics**
  Lincoln - weekly
  Sioux City - monthly