Emergency Medicine: A New Chair, A New Vision:  
A New Era Begins

August 1, 2017, the third chair in our 22 year history of Emergency Medicine at Mount Sinai arrived. Erik D. Barton M.D., M.S., M.B.A. received his Bachelor’s degree in Kinesiology from UCLA and his Master’s degree in Exercise Physiology from the U Texas. He graduated from UCSD SOM in 1992 and completed his residency in EM at UCSD in 1996. In 2007, Dr. Barton also received his MBA degree from the University of Utah.

After residency, Dr. Barton became a faculty member at Brigham & Women's during the first years of the Harvard Affiliated EM Residency program. He then went to Denver Health where he served as the Associate Residency Director for 2 years. In 2001, Dr. Barton was recruited to the U of Utah where he became the Chief of Emergency Medicine for 13 years. There he led the development of a new EM Residency and fellowship programs in Research, Wilderness Medicine/EMS, Global Health, Education, and Ultrasound. He expanded ED affiliations to 4 other clinical sites and built Utah’s first “freestanding ED”, served as the Medical Staff President and Board Chairman, and Assistant Vice President of Health System Quality. He established a national CME winter conference in Park City, Utah. In 2014, Dr. Barton became the first “Tenured Professor” in Emergency Medicine.

In the summer of 2014, Dr. Barton was recruited to UC Irvine as the Department Chair of EM where he has been for the past 3 years. His focus has been on restructuring the department, faculty leadership development, improving operational and system efficiencies and financial performance, expanding clinical access sites and training programs, and creating “patient-centered” organizational changes.

He has served on numerous committees and leadership positions and is known for his professional motto of “patient-centered, data-driven, physician-led”.

Dr. Barton has been actively involved in educational program development both nationally and internationally throughout his career. He was a national faculty instructor for The Difficult Airway Course for over 12 years, an Oral Board course instructor and Oral Board Examiner, and served on the executive planning committee for the EMEC. He helped develop global health education programs in India, Thailand, Ghana and China. His research interests include emergency airway management, global health education, prehospital care, and ED administration and operations. Dr. Barton will focus his efforts on leading “system-based” operational innovations and improved patient experiences for Mount Sinai Health Emergency Departments.
RESIDENCY CORNER by Kaushal Shah, MD

Just when you thought the residency program couldn’t get bigger and better, it has done both! We ushered in our biggest class ever (21 interns!) at our annual White Coat Ceremony on July 26. Key note speaker was Jen Wiler from U Colorado who inspired us with her analysis of health care reform and the impact on our specialty. We also launched our new series dedicated to innovative thinking.

White Coat Ceremony with new Chair Erik Barton, top far right; cant miss him!

We’re expanding in other ways as well. The “Sinai Family” has added a baby Cassella (Courtney ’18), baby Wilder (Marcee ’18), baby Kuschner (Zachary ’17) and we’re awaiting baby Nusbaum (Jeff ’18), the twin Sethi’s (Monica ’20) and baby Vanyo (Lara ’17). In anticipation of all the babies, the Elmhurst ED has added a refrigerator to store breastmilk which will hopefully add to their wellness.

Our present senior residents are already gearing up to find jobs for July 2018. Eleven of our 15 seniors are bound for fellowships in ultrasonography, informatics, global health, EMS, critical care, sports medicine, admin/MBA, toxicology and research. Based on who they are, past program performance, and mentorship of our faculty, there is no doubt they will all get one of their top choices . . . if not, they can always stay at Sinai as a “super-senior”!

Landmark Accomplishments

There are a number of recent landmark accomplishments that keep Mount Sinai EM on the map: Jean Sun (’18) was elected to the SAEM Board of Directors as the sole resident member, Randy Sorge (’18) received the EMRA Leadership Excellence Award at ACEP in Washington, DC, Jeffrey Nusbaum (’18) was named Physician of the Year by the Mount Sinai Nurses, Ryan O’Halloran (’20) received CORD’s inaugural 2017 Salvatore Silvestri, MD Travel Scholarship Award, Trevor Pour (APD and Class of 2014) was awarded the “2017 Pre-Clinical Faculty Award” by the Mount Sinai medical students (how does an EM physician even do that?), Arlene Chung (Elmhurst APD) was awarded a prestigious EMF grant to develop a residency dashboard with various performance metrics, Suzanne Bentley (’11) was chosen as the system-wide NYC Health + Hospital Corporation Awardee, Stephen Alerhand was chosen for the inaugural SAEM Academy of Emergency Ultrasound Resident Education Award, and Eric Lee (’18) has risen to Chair of the EMRA International Division. AMAZING!

New Initiatives Keeping us on the Cutting Edge

Three new initiatives reflect our commitment to innovative education and mentoring — each more exciting than the other: the O’Kane Leadership Curriculum, The Process Groups, and the Elmhurst Faculty Feedback Series.

With the help of O’Kane Family funding, Kaushal Shah, Adam Nevel and Arlene Chung have designed a leadership curriculum that entails residents working in teams with faculty mentors to solve real administrative problems, faculty mentors participating in a book club to learn advanced leadership skills, and everyone enjoying lectures on leadership that are sprinkled throughout the curriculum to raise the level of understanding of this complex development process. Future speakers include NYU Chairman Robert Femia and Mount Sinai Dean Dennis Charney.

Arianne, Hugh and Baby O’Kane at inaugural lectureship

Arianne, Hugh and Baby O’Kane at inaugural lectureship

There is no doubt that stress is a part of emergency medicine; it is also, unfortunately, clear that emergency medicine training is particularly stressful. Arlene Chung and Moira Carroll (’19) have partnered with the psychotherapy department at Mount Sinai to engage in monthly “Process Groups”. The residents will simply have small group sessions to talk about how they are processing the challenges of life and work while going through training.

The third new initiative is the Elmhurst Faculty Feedback Series which is designed to improve feedback through a needs assessment, small group discussion, role playing and longitudinal education.
Graduation 2017: Another “Home Run” Event

How does Clara do it—each year graduation gets better; she must have a great team . . . And a great husband. We sent off the 2017 graduates after an amazing senior night (see page 4) and a memorable graduation party complete with the mandatory ride on the gondola. Most of them have dispersed throughout the country but we are fortunate to keep Alerhand and Hu as Ultrasound Fellows, Kuschner as a Critical Care Fellow and Zaurova as a Palliative Care Fellow. We said farewell to Daniel Lakoff (Elmhurst Associate PD) who will begin an Admin/MBA program but don’t fret -- he continues to make an appearance in the Elmhurst ED as a per diem attending. Arlene Chung was promoted to Elmhurst Residency Site Director and we recruited a new Elmhurst residency leader, Colleen Smith after her Maimonides EM Residency and NYU Simulation Fellowship. She has hit the ground running with intern orientation lectures, multiple in situ trauma simulations and, in keeping with the Sinai expansion mission, she is expecting baby Smith in early 2018.

NURSING HONORS JEFF NUSSBAUM

Jeff Nusbaum (PGY4) received the “Best Housestaff Award:” from the Mount Sinai Nurses—not just the ED Nurses . . . But all of the nurses. There are 1822 house staff at Mount Sinai—that should give you some indication of who Jeff Nusbaum is . . . ie #1!

2017—2018 Visiting Professor Series

Our program has always taken great pride in the quality of our visiting professor series. Our goal is to bring the best educators and innovators in the country to inspire and to mentor. An example is our new “Innovations in Healthcare” program where every 3 months we bring in a speaker who has approached a problem from “out of the box” and implemented a solution to improve medical care. This years visiting lectureships are in keeping of our tradition of excellence in education.

7/12/17: “Innovations in ED Interventions for Opioid Use Disorder” Gail D’Onofrio, Chair, Yale
8/9/17: “EQ: The Real Sixth Sense” Keri Gardner
8/23/17: “Cardiac Tamponade and Personal Finance for Residents”, Eric Shappell, U Chicago
9/13/17: “Risk Stratification in Pulmonary Embolism” Gregory Ferman, U Cincinnati
10/11/17: “Clinical and research lessons learned over 30 years of airway management, Ron Walls, Past Chair and COO Brigham
10/25/17 “Brain Resuscitation”, David Wright, Emory
11/8/17 NY ACEP Research Day
11/29/17 Joint Conference @ Mount Sinai Beth Israel
12/13/17 ACEP Clinical Policies and PE”, Scott Silvers, Chair, Mayo Jacksonville
1/24/18 Critical Care Conference, Scott Weingart 1/24/18 “Leadership in Education”, Resa Lewiss, U Co
2/14/18 “EM and the Roadmap for Success in Global Health”, Michael VanRooyan, Chair Brigham
3/7/18 Ultrasound Symposium
4/11/18 Leadership Series— “Resilence” Dean Dennis Charney, Icahn School of Medicine
5/9/18 “Advances in EM Critical Care”, Andy Godwin, Chair, Unit Florida Jacks
6/13/18 “Advances in Trauma Care”, Ali Raja, Vice Chair, MGH
Resuscitate NYC 2017 : 11th Annual Conference
“EDUCATE, ENTERTAIN, INSPIRE”

Created by Scott Weingart and partnered with Felipe Teran, this year’s events were filled with outstanding TED-style lectures and panels on the cutting edge of resuscitation and critical care. Faculty included 8 of the world’s top women EM critical care leaders... And they were FABULOUS!

The Conference in numbers:
- 22 EM residency programs
- 540 EM residents
- 50 Faculty from EM and Critical Care
- 50 multidisciplinary crowd of professionals including EMS, RNs, PAs, RTs and fellows from Emergency Medicine and Critical Care
- Social Media management numbers:
  - 1554 M impressions
  - 1250 tweets
  - 289 participants

SAVE THE DATE: JANUARY 10, 2018

Senior Night Rocks
It was inspirational, totally engaging, professional, well attended—Never have we had a better looking group of graduating seniors... More important, never have we had such a consistently high level of presentations—15 outstanding projects that reflected a commitment from our seniors to their careers and to our specialty.

Benjamin McVane, Correlation of D Trump’s Election, Inauguration and Immigration Policy Changes with ED Census Volumes
Brendan Milliner, Improvisational CPAP (ICPAP) via face-mask for use in low resource settings
Douglas Scott, Approach to G-Tube Malfunction and Replacement in the ED
Matthew Egan, US v X-ray in Pediatric G Tube Confirmation.
Rachel Shively, Acute Salicylate Poisoning: Risk Factors for Severe Outcome
Zachary Kuschnier, A survey of pre-shift airway preparation in emergency medicine residencies in the greater NYC area.
Peter England, Identification of Patients with Occult Shock using the Shock Index and Serum Lactate.
Lara Vanyo, EM Wellness Programs: A Survey of Program Directors’ Perspectives. Presented at CORD.
Eric Bassan, Alcohol Use Among Pedestrians Struck by Cars is Associated with Increased Injury Severity and Hospital Length of Stay. Presented at ACEP 2016.
Jeremy Kim, Effect of Emergency Department crowding on mechanical ventilation practice patterns: An observational study.
James Morrison, Use and Outcomes of Noninvasive Ventilation in Patients Admitted for Asthma Exacerbation via the ED
Sumintra Wood, Characteristics associated with hospital admission from an ED observation unit. Submitted to ACEP
Stephen Alerhand, Initial Use of Ultrasound and Risk of Perforation in Appendicitis. Accepted to ACEP, AIUM (and PAS
Kevin Hu, Variability in Clinician Interpretation of Cardiac Standstill on Ultrasound. Presented at AIUM (2016) and SAEM
Milana Zaurova, Effect of an ED-Based Palliative Care Physician on DNR Orders: The Ruttenberg Effect
SAEM 2017
SAEM is always a wonderful meeting: a chance for our Department to engage the EM community and a chance for us to renew friendships and establish new ties. With 18 years of graduates, our alumni are strong and it is rewarding to see how successful so many of them are. This year our Department shined in leading roles throughout the conference. Our geriatric leadership was highlighted by Ula Huang and Kaushal Shah in the pre-con dedicated to geriatric care; our simulation leadership was highlighted with Chris Strother becoming president of the Sim Academy; our research was presented in 4 posters and 6 platforms; faculty presented on panels ranging from benchmarking, to critical incident debriefing, to finding a job in academics. Innovation and leadership defines our department . . . And that is just how we presented ourselves!

Ponte Vedra—16 years of Collaboration
For 16 years we have collaborated with Mayo, Harvard, U Florida and EMP on an annual CME conference in Ponte Vedra Florida. The conference has a strong following with 75% of the registrants returning (that’s amazing!). This year’s conference was our best ever with more alumni and more residents attending than ever before. Bret Nelson’s ultrasound workshop and Chris Strother’s Pediatric resuscitation workshop continue to sell out. This year we had speakers from throughout our system including Eric Legome, Dan Egan, Melissa Leber, Tom Nguyen, Lynne Richardson, Alex Manini, Trevor Pour, and Andy Jagoda. Next year we will pilot two new workshops, one on sports medicine and musculoskeletal assessments, and the other on precipitous deliveries and neonatal resuscitation . . . Should be fun and hope to see everyone there!

Deb Dean, Honored in Brooklyn
Deb Dean, Class of 1998 and her amazing husband Aaron were honored by the Brooklyn Community Association for their dedicated service to the underserved. Deb began her career at Elmhurst, went to MSQ, and in 2015 took on the daunting challenge of directing the MS Brooklyn Emergency Department—she has accomplished the impossible because that’s just the sort of thing she does!
2017 was (another) historic year for emergency medicine at Mount Sinai. Our Department was established in 1994 with a single office, no academic agenda, no trained faculty, no publications, no research. In recognition of our impressive trajectory, we were awarded a $1M grant to establish a Center for Education and Research (CER) under the co-direction of Lynne Richardson, System Vice Chair for Research, and Andy Jagoda, Chief Academic Officer. The grant reflects confidence in our growth and value to our community. It gets better . . . we were given a second floor at 3 East 101 bringing us to 7000 square feet which unifies our staff and promotes efficiency (we have come a long way from the single office!).

Every successful operation needs a Mission and Vision so here they are for the CER:

**Mission:** To provide a center that promotes creativity and innovation in emergency medicine education and research

**Vision:** To establish a center of excellence that is a state-of-the-art resource for learners from all disciplines including medicine, nursing, and administration; a center that develops today's and tomorrow's teachers; develops training materials and new training techniques; a center that formally conducts research based on the science of education and studies impact on patient care, safety, and outcomes.

The CER will serve as a coordinating center for the research and education activities in the EM System. It will coordinate medical student and postgraduate training and serve as a resource that facilitates maximizing our faculty, residents’, and nurses’ abilities and capabilities. The CER will work with our core faculty developing their academic agenda and help faculty, residents, and nurses identify funding and networking opportunities which are critical for a successful career in academics.

The CER will work with our various fellowship programs throughout our system, all of which continue to expand. Currently the following fellowships are offered:

- Administration
- Education
- Global Health
- Informatics
- Simulation
- Pediatric EM
- Sports Medicine
- Ultrasound

Master’s programs are included in the Education, Administration, and Global Health fellowships, and are an option in the other fellowships. Discussions are underway to create fellowships in Geriatric EM, EMS, and EM Critical Care.

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**Research Division Reaches for #1**

Our Research Division under the leadership of Lynne Richardson continues to be ranked #2 in the country in NIH funding however, our talented cadre of seasoned investigators and rising stars continue to submit strong applications to conduct innovative and impactful research, putting us in contention for the #1 spot. Our K12 program has fueled this success: three of our K12 scholars have advanced to individual K23 awards and a fourth to an R03 (best performance of any K12 program in the country).

Mount Sinai EM is the first EM Department in the country to receive funding for a T32 program in emergency care research and we successfully launched this July with our first two fellows, Patrick Maher and Neha Goel, (See bios on page 7.)

Our faculty currently hold 4 R01s, a VA Merit Award (R01 equivalent), 1 R03, and 2 U01s. In addition to emergency physicians, our K12 Scholars include a nurse scientist, a pediatrician, a paramedic, and a pulmonologist/intensivist. We have funded research collaborations with faculty in the Departments of Genetics and Genomic Sciences, Medical Education, Neuroscience, Pharmacology and Systems Therapeutics, Population Health Science and Policy, Family Medicine and Community Health, Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine, and the Divisions of Cardiology, General Internal Medicine, Hematology, and Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine. Our robust investigator-initiated research portfolio is well-structured and continues to benefit our patients and those who care for them.

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**A Real EM Critical Care Division is Born**

A “real” division needs an established research, education, and clinical agenda. Though we have a history of critical care in our Department it was never able to fully develop. Scott Weingart started it all when he was one of our residents (he was our first resident to publish a book during residency) and then faculty.

Two things happened that has brought us into a new era: Lynne Richardson secured a U01, PETALS, that is a multi-center research initiative; and Roopa Seth-Kohli became the Institute Chair with a vision of critical care that includes a comprehensive approach upstairs downstairs and around the corner (on the floors!). As a result, we now have six EM intensivists in our department: Chad Meyer, EM Sinai, Critical Care Brigham; Cappi Lay, Neurocritical Care Columbia; Carina Sorenson, EM Critical Care U Maryland; Danish Ahmad, EM Critical Care LIJ, and Patrick Maher, EM Critical Care U Washington. All of our EM Critical Care faculty are exceptional and bring a skill and momentum that will benefit our patients and our residents.
MOUNT SINAI EM T32: First in the Country

Neha Neelam Goel, MD, is a clinical research fellow within the Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care, and Sleep Medicine, who is funded by our Department’s T32 program. Her interest is in ICU quality improvement, which included implementing a delirium assessment in the ICU as well as laboratory testing under the Choosing Wisely campaign. She is also interested in the ED-ICU interface and improving critical care delivery and outcomes of patients with sepsis and ARDS. Dr. Goel was accepted into our T32 Program for 2017 and will be studying critical care delivery in the ED setting.

Patrick Maher, MD, completed his MD at Georgetown and finished his residency as part of the inaugural class in Emergency Medicine at the U Washington, where he also completed fellowship training in Critical Care. Patrick’s areas of interest are hemorrhage and coagulopathy states in emergency and intensive care populations.

SUMMER RESEARCH TRAINING PROGRAM

The SRTP continues to give students an opportunity to learn about all aspects of emergency research and present research significance, methods and findings to others. This year we received a record number of applications and sixteen students were accepted to work with faculty preceptors to work on research and quality projects in the ED.

ECRIP funds Dinali Fernando, MD, MPH

Dr. Fernando was awarded funding from the Empire Clinical Research Investigator’s Program (ECRIP); a two year research grant under the mentorship of Dr. Alex Manini. The ECRIP will support Dr. Fernando’s research project at Elmhurst Hospital which will be assessing improvement in quality of life for survivors of torture after receiving services from a comprehensive treatment program located at Libertas Center.

SYSTEM RESEARCH NETWORK EXPANDS

MSBI and MSSLW have recruited exceptional new faculty to lead their research initiatives: Ethan Cowen at MSBI completed a fellowship at Jacobi Medical. Experienced in clinical trials and an interest in the ethics of emergency care and research, His funded projects range from empirical studies in the ethics of informed consent to public health program implementation. He is currently funded to implement the RELAY program which is an initiative that collaborates with EDs across the city to care for nonfatal opioid overdose.

Jennifer Martindale, MD MSc, joined the faculty at MSSLW. Her research interests are focused on acute heart failure; she is currently investigating “Resolution of Sonographic Pulmonary Edema in Patients Treated for Acute Heart Failure”.

EMF and Makini Chisolm-Straker, MD MPH

Makini Chisolm-Straker continues her phenomenal trajectory charting an impressive career path and showing how one can have a successful funded academic career in global health. She continues to focus her research efforts on “invisible populations” and is currently collaborating with Elizabeth Singer to develop and validate a tool to screen for human trafficking in the Emergency Department. This study is currently enrolling patients at Mount Sinai Hospital, Mount Sinai St. Luke’s, and Mount Sinai West. Dr. Chisolm-Straker is the recipient of a 2017 Emergency Medicine Foundation Career Development Award.

SINAI RESEARCH ASSOCIATES PROGRAM

The SRA is a clinical research assistant program that uses trained volunteers to support ED research studies. The program provides aspiring medical students with the opportunity to be involved in research. Each year several hands-on sessions are held that include a suture, simulation, ultrasound and splinting workshops. The SRAs attended Dr. Lynne Richardson’s talk on “How to Get Into Medical School.” Cindy Clesca and Nordia Morrison provide support and oversight for the combined program of over 100 student volunteers. The program operates across the system, led by Drs. Denise Nassisi (MSSM), Theodore Bania and Anjali Singh (SLW), and Ethan Cowan (MSBI).
NEW INFORMATICS FUNDING

Nicholas Genes, MD, PhD, with co-investigator Jason Shapiro, MD, MPH won a grant for the ACEP Informatics Section to study the validity of data from CEDR. CEDR is Emergency Medicine’s quality registry - the data this Section workgroup will analyze the care provided in EDs across the US, and is reported to CMS where it will influence reimbursement. The workgroup that Dr. Genes and Dr. Shapiro lead will review the scientific rationale for the quality measures, as well as the reliability CEDR’s data collection and reporting, with a goal of informing EDs of the measures that will accurately reflect practice.

CURRENTLY FUNDED FACULTY

Lynne D. Richardson, MD: An R01, 2 U01s, a K12, a T32 and two diversity supplements from NHLBI; and funding from NIDA’s Clinical Trial Network.

Ula Hwang, MD, MPH: VA Merit Award (R01 equivalent), R21 from NIA, Hartford Foundation, West Health Institute.

Jason Shapiro, MD, MA: R01 from AHRQ and an R01 from NLM

Alex Manini, MD, MA: R01, subcontract Site PI and a Diversity Supplement from NIDA

Kevin Munjal MD, MPH: Formerly on K12; now with a GEMSTAR R03 from NIA, DOT award, foundation funding

Jeffrey Glassberg, MD, MS: Formerly on K12; now with a K23 and an R34 subcontract from NHLBI.

Kusum Mathews, MD, MPH: Formerly on K12; American Thoracic Society Award, now on a K23 from NHLBI.

Marc Probst, MD MA: Formerly on K12, now on an individual K23 from NHLBI.

Kimberly Souffront, PhD, FNP: Formerly on K12, Emergency Medicine foundation/ Emergency Nurse Association Team Grant.

Michelle Lin, MD, MSc: EMF Health Policy Scholar Award

Makini Chisolm-Straker, MD, MPH: funded on Diversity Supplement to Dr. Richardson’s R01; EMF Career Development Award.

Stephanie Hernandez, MD, MS: funded on Diversity Supplement to Dr. Manini’s R01

Kevin Chason, DO: 3 Emergency Management Grants from HHS

Dinali Fernando, MD: Program grant from DHHS / ACF and U.N. Voluntary Fund; NYS ECRIP

Arlene Chung, MD: EMF Educational Research Grant

October 14, 2017, Lynne D. Richardson was inducted into the National Academy of Medicine (NAM). Lynne was one of 80 new members who were inducted into one of the most prestigious organization in the United States—one that represents the absolute best of the physician / scientist community. Entry into NAM requires a nomination by peers followed by a rigorous process of review to ensure that the nominee has truly impacted the delivery of health care... Which is exactly what Lynne has done. There are approximately 2200 members of NAM; there are 22 at Mount Sinai; there are only 14 members from emergency medicine—we always knew Lynne was amazing... Its great to see the rest of the world knows it too!

L to R: Lauren, Lynne, and Kristin Richardson

MEET THE MASTER

The ISMMS Institute for Medical Education presented Chris Strother with its highest level of distinction, “Master Educator” in recognition of his tremendous contributions to medical education and simulation training. Chris is the fourth member of our department to achieve this coveted status.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS RESEARCH

Ultrasound at Mount Sinai continues to be a leader in bedside clinical care promoting innovative approaches to ED management, research and to education. http://sinaiem.us/education/cme-course/

Last year’s fellows were amazing and have moved on to leadership roles. Felipe Teran-Merino mastered TEE and helped design a new curriculum for our residents and fellows, and is now at the University of Pennsylvania where he is faculty and engaged in a clinical research fellowship. Carlo Canepa has moved to Boston and is doing a second fellowship in Wilderness Medicine—why you ask . . . Because his ultimate goal in life is to be an astronaut and if anyone can, it will be Carlo.

For 2017-18, we have three ultrasound fellows each with their own style (see picture far right). Stephen Alerhand and Kevin Hu were both accomplished residents in our program (just check out their publication productivity and awards); plus, we have Dr. Huidong Kang from Korea.

Of particular note, Kevin Hu authored a study demonstrating variability in the interpretation of cardiac standstill among physician sonographers. The study was published in the Annals of Emergency Medicine and was recently highlighted on Rebel-EM:ebelem.com/can-we-agree-on-cardiac-standstill. Stephen Alerhand was awarded the First SAEM Ultrasound Academy research award—that is history in the making and yet another first for our ultrasound division.

Bret Nelson describes Mount Sinai's...
Tri-State Simulation Symposium
Mount Sinai West:
The Center for Advanced Medical Simulation (CAMS) at Mount Sinai West hosted an all-day symposium September 15th, featuring leaders in medical simulation and simulation educators from the tri-state region. This inaugural event was dedicated to celebrating simulation professionals’ invaluable contributions to safer and more knowledgeable patient care. The symposium was a special opportunity for the simulation community, including educators and vendors, to showcase their programs and products, demonstrate simulation-based education and training, and present creative innovations in this rapidly growing specialty field. The ED Simulation Division presented several talks, and ran a SimWars competition for attending residents.

Simulation Division Awards:
Dr. Michael Doctor was awarded a blue ribbon for his abstract presented at the 2017 IME Medical Education Research Day. The simulation division, including both graduating SLW Simulation Fellows, Drs. Doctor and Katz, presented several abstracts.

Dr. Felicia Hercules was voted Medical Student Educator of the Year for SLWEM 2016-2017

Dr. Christopher Strother was awarded the Institute for Medical Education’s “Master Educator” status this Fall, the IME’s highest recognition for achievement and dedication to medical education.

Dr. Strother is President of the SAEM Simulation Academy, one of the nation’s leading groups of emergency medicine simulation educators this May.

Improving Patient Safety through Debriefing:
Our Clinical Event Debriefing program is in its second year. In coordination with 5 departments around the city, including St. Luke’s, West, and Beth Israel, we’re using debriefing skills learned from simulation to teach faculty, residents, and nurses to de-brief after resuscitations and other events in the emergency department. We’ve discovered dozens of system improvements and been able to change many of them, and we’re building team spirit and morale by talking and working together as an inter-professional team. Drs. Lauren Zinns and Caroline Black received an innovation grant from Hospital Insurance Company to bring this program to the Pediatric ICU.

Resident Simulation:
The academic year at the STAR Center brought with it a new group of eager interns participating in our survival simulation—a series dedicated to transitioning them into their roles as Emergency Medicine residents. The juniors and seniors are diligently continuing with their block themed curriculum with Dr. Nicole Lazarcic, our MSH resident simulation leader. Up ahead, a resuscitation boot camp for our current interns in an attempt to prep them for their resuscitation shifts. At St. Luke’s / West, we’re continuing our graduated responsibility courses on Central Line (PGY1), Airway Management (PGY2), and Resuscitation Leadership (PGY3) to encourage rigorous deliberate practice for our residents procedural skills and patient safety during transition of responsibility, as well as in situ and inter-professional simulations on trauma and resuscitation.

Student Simulation:
The STAR Center continues to host simulations for our medical students in all four years. Almost every student in the school goes through the STAR Center for hands-on experiential learning each year, the fourth years can come through on as many as 5 different clerkships!

Medical Education and Simulation Fellowship Launches in 2018
Dr. Strother and Dr. Kaushal Shah will be co-directing a new medical education fellowship, combining experience with these two education leaders with a Masters in Medical Education will be a unique and outstanding experience for our newest fellow next year.
Books


Book Chapters


Bentley S, Paulis J. “Treatment of Venous Thromboembolism.” In: The 2017 Lifelong Learning and Self-Assessment Study Guide.


Jagoda A, Shearer P. Emergency airway management in acute severe asthma. UpToDate 2017, online.


Jagoda A. Airway Management in Patients with Increased ICP. UpToDate 2017, online


Intern Highlight

Omar Maniya MS MBA awarded 2017 MEDTECH Boston 40 under 40 Healthcare innovators. As a trustee of the AMA he representED over 200,000 physicians residents and medical students in perhaps the most rapidly changing health care landscape.
PUBLICATIONS


Shah K, Owyang C. Intravascular Complications of Central Venous Catheterization by Insertion Site. 2018 LLSA Study Guide. EB Medicine, June 2017

Shah K, Lee E. The HEART Pathway Randomized Trial: Identifying Emergency Department Patients with Acute Chest Pain for Early Discharge. 2018 LLSA Study Guide. EB Medicine, June 2017


Publications


Chung AS, et al. JGME-ALiEM Hot Topics in Medical Education Online Journal Club: An Analysis of a Virtual Discussion About Resident Well-Being. JGME. [Accepted for publication]

Battaglioli N, et al. Chung AS. An Executive Summary from the 2017 Emergency Medicine Resident Wellness Consensus Summit. West J EM. 2017 [Accepted for publication]


PUBLICATIONS and PODCASTS


Hill A. Myopic changes in a climber after taking acetazolamide and the use of corrective lenses to temporize symptoms: A case report from Mount Kilimanjaro. Wildern Envir Med 2017; 27:397-400.


Katari, R. 21st Century Cures Act: A Deregulatory Trojan Horse. EC Pharmacology and Toxicology 2016;2:220-223.


WHO ARE THESE GUYS AND WHAT IS THEIR IMPACT FACTOR?

Emplify Podcast: Each Month, Nachi Gupta (PGY3) and Jeff Nussbaum (PGY4) dissect EB Medicine's monthly issue of Emergency Medicine Practice and transform it into a podcast. Each episode runs approximately 20 to 30 minutes and covers the highest yield diagnostic and management pearls as well as all of the material necessary for listeners to earn CME credit for listening to the episode. Each month, roughly 3,000 listeners tune in from across the country (that’s a great impact factor!). On occasion, they interview the issue's authors, one of whom was a former resident, Cynthia Alerhand. Link

Roshcast: In early 2016, Nachi and Jeff sought to change the way residents learn emergency medicine and prepare for the in-training exam. They approached Adam Rosh from Rosh Review and were given access to his complete question bank to create the first ever question and answer style emergency medicine podcast, reviewing core concepts as well as general test taking strategies. Over the last year, their product has grown tremendously, with thousands of regular listeners for their two episodes each month. They run occasional contests with prizes and have some collaborative episodes with another leading emergency medicine podcast. Link

Ya-El Mandel-Portnoy successfully defended her PhD dissertation, “low heart rate volatility as a predictor of escalation of care and in-hospital mortality within 48 hours, becoming our departments first K12 scholar to receive a PhD.
Cicero MX, Whitfill T, Munjal K, et al. 60 Seconds to Survival: A Randomized Controlled Trial of a Disaster Triage Video Game For Prehospital Care Providers. Amer J Disaster Med. Accepted, 2017.


Owyang CG, Lay C. Does prestroke antiplatelet agents increase the risk of symptomatic ICH in patients receiving tissue plasminogen activator for acute ischemic stroke? Ann Emerg Med. 2017


EM ranked #1 Clerkship at Medical School

Our Department welcomes over 150 ISMMS medical students this year, in addition to our department’s greatest number of visiting students yet! We have had the pleasure to work with students visiting us from over 20 of the top medical schools across the country! The distinction and popularity of the clerkship is easily demonstrated by the increasing number of visiting students and by the great number of Mount Sinai students pursuing emergency medicine (10%).

Each year, our students impress us with their skills and knowledge base and continue to thrive within the Department. Students truly enjoy and take advantage of our great diversity of sites and experiences since expanding the clerkship to our system wide academic sites. The EM clerkship was previously ranked first among all required clerkships within the school. The current leadership, Shefali Trivedi, MD (Clerkship Director), Timothy Walther, MD (Elmhurst Site Director and Director of Visiting Students), Matthew Bai, MD (Mount Sinai Queens Site Director), Jamie Edelstein, MD and Christopher Hahn, MD (Mount Sinai St. Luke’s and Roosevelt Site Directors), May Li, MD (Mount Sinai Beth Israel Site Director), and Vitaly Acosta (Clerkship Coordinator) strive to maintain this prestigious ranking.

The EM clerkship is a capstone experience, integrating hands-on technical skills, higher level resuscitation skills in didactic and simulation sessions, and direct patient care in the ED, affording the students fundamental skills to prepare for their fast approaching intern year!

Our faculty continue their teaching efforts throughout the school on various levels. Shefali Trivedi, MD and Trevor Pour, MD take the lead on organizing the Art and Science of Medicine course for our first and second year medical students at the Emergency Department site. This is a comprehensive course throughout the first two years of school, teaching students core skills, including history and physical exam, communication, and team dynamics. Through the efforts of all of our faculty who participate as preceptors, the ED was ranked amongst the top sites for the course!

Trevor Pour, MD continues to lead the annual procedure series taught to the first year students in their gross anatomy course and leads the NEXUS course: An Introduction to Emergency Medicine which is now in its 5th semester! Data from this course was presented at CORD and one of the lectures was published as an essay in EP monthly by Benjamin McVane, MD. Dr. Pour also serves as the mentor for the AOA-sponsored “Leaders in Health Policy” program at Mount Sinai.

Under Dr. Pour’s leadership, Mount Sinai served as the host for second annual AAEM/RSA Northeast Medical Student Symposium, with students traveling all over the east coast to attend! With his dedication to and excellence in medical student education, Trevor Pour, MD received the “Outstanding Pre-Clinical Faculty” award where he was selected amongst faculty teaching the first and second year students.

Our department’s faculty also continue to offer some of the most highly sought after electives, including Intro to Emergency Ultrasound (Jennifer Huang, DO, Bret Nelson, MD), Intro to Emergency Toxicology (Ruben Olmedo, MD, Stephanie Hernandez, MD), Emergency Medicine for the Third Year (Nicole Lazarcicu, MD), Intro to Pre-Hospital Medicine (Kevin Munjal, MD), Emergency Critical Care (Trevor Pour, MD), Sports Medicine and Emergency Medicine (Melissa Leber, MD), Pediatric Emergency Medicine (Julie Tokarski, MD), and Wilderness Survival Course (Tatiana Havryliuk, MD, Jamie Edelstein, MD), see below. It has been an exciting educational year!

It’s a Jungle Out There

Dr. Adam Hill worked with Dr. Tatiana Havryliuk (EM Class 2014) from Mount Sinai West to expand the one-week Introduction to Wilderness Medicine course for medical students. It is now a two-week course, with the first week consisting of an entirely web-based, self-paced, adult-directed learning format and the 2nd week being a hands-on scenario based training curriculum while backpacking the Appalachian Trail.

Dr. Adam Hill also completed his requirements to become a Fellow of the Academy of Wilderness Medicine (FAWM) and completed his Diploma in Mountain Medicine (DiMM).
TEAMWORK = GREAT OUTCOMES!

Our multidisciplinary operations team led by Peter Shearer, Jen Siller, and Suzanne Young-Mercer continues to innovate and maximize our efficiency and quality. Our volume continues to average over 300 patients a day with over 20,000 admissions a year. We continue to work in a confined space but our throughput efficiencies maximize our productivity and our patient satisfaction. Our time to doctor in under 30 minutes; our time to disposition under 180 minutes—WOW. Unfortunately, our time from disposition to leaving the ED for admitted patients is a little long but new programs are helping address this: Patients now routinely go upstairs to hallways, some admitted patients are entered into a “hospital at home” program and are discharged with coordinated nursing and physician care at their home, and up to 10 patients a week are admitted from the MSH ED to St Luke’s. All of these programs help our Department succeed in seeing more patients per square foot per year than just about any other ED in the Country!

We have launched a Scribe program that has increased efficiency in Intake. We will shortly be expanding their role to working with experienced mid-level providers and adding at least one scribe shift/day. With decreased time charting mid-levels can get to new patients faster and focus more on updating patients on their progress as they head to an ultimate disposition.

Best news of all . . . Our new Chair, Dr. Erik Barton, is in discussions with the hospital to do a major renovation of our Department including expanding out into the waiting room, reclaiming MC North, and expanding into the current administrative offices—don’t get too excited yet . . . But it could be great!

WELCOME LOREN WALTERS

A native San Diegan, Loren received her Bachelor’s from San Diego State University (Go Aztecs!). She spent 7 years in various marketing roles for a sports brand in San Diego. In 2012 she moved to Salt Lake City, Utah and transitioned into health care at the U Utah’s Em Division. She was initially Dr. Erik Barton’s Executive Assistant, Student Clerkship Coordinator role, and ultimately Administrative Manager. Loren’s significant other is a research physician and received an opportunity at Rockefeller University, so they made the cross-country move to NYC with their two French Bulldogs. She worked a year in the Microbiology at Mount Sinai, and was thrilled to return to Emergency Medicine this August. She is happy to be reunited with Dr. Barton and more excited to work with the entire team in the Emergency Department.

WELCOME NEW BAs AND MORE

Please welcome the following new BA’s to our team! The BEST keeps getting even better!

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Shift</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Akhi Akhtar</td>
<td>midnight to 8am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Latoya Hinds</td>
<td>midnight to 8am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Taquesha Ferguson</td>
<td>weekends 4p - 12a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trina Pulliam</td>
<td>midnight to 8am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Britney Ramsnay</td>
<td>4p - 12a</td>
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Also, congratulating Raquel Beene, BA day shift 8:30a - 4:30p on the birth of her son, Axel who was born July 9, 2017.
ED NURSING: RECOGNIZING EXCELLENCE

EMERGENCY NURSING: CELEBRATING THE BEST

Its not easy to be an emergency nurse—the volume and the intensity isn't for everyone. Our Department is lucky to have a truly exceptional group of nurses who are the backbone to the incredible care we provide despite our challenged space—it is inspiring to watch our nurses, sometimes each caring for up to 16 sick patients at one time—it takes a special professional to do this . . . And we are lucky to have 108 of these professionals in our department . . . Not to forget our incredible ERTs!

WELCOME BRANDY REX

Our nursing leadership team added on additional member this summer.

Brandy Rex, MBA, BSN, CEN, SANE joined our team in July as our new Assistant Nurse Manager on the night shift. Brandy came to us from Lehigh Valley Health Network in Pennsylvania where she worked in Emergency Medicine for the past 10 years. She has experience in emergency preparedness, trauma, nursing education, and as a sexual assault nurse examiner. In the last three months that Brandy has been with us she proven to be a valuable addition to our ED team.

DAISY AWARD WINNER

On July 10th Madeleine Gondek-Brown, BSN, CEN was Daisy Award recipient. The Daisy Award is given to a nurse whose nursing practice embodies expert nursing clinical skills as well as compassion and empathy for their patients. Recipients of the Daisy Award are nominated by colleagues or patients. This award is well deserved and we are very proud of Madeleine!

EMERGENCY NURSING: SETTING THE STANDAND

We would like to congratulate the following nurses who received degrees this year and those who became Certified Emergency Nurses:

- **Erin Bongon:** CEN
- **Darlyn Bretous:** Master of Science in Nursing
- **Donya Carter:** Master of Science in Nursing
- **Jenny Del Mondo:** Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- **Angie Francis:** Master of Science in Nursing, Education
- **Barry Kagan:** CEN
- **Daisha Miller:** Master of Science, Nurse Practitioner
- **Dawn Paige:** Master of Science in Nursing
- **Tasmania Ram Persaud:** CEN
- **Simone Williams:** CEN

GIVING AND GIVING BACK

In January 2017, Gloria Nimo, NP brought 30 volunteers to Ghana to provide medical care to underserved children. Many volunteers were from Mount Sinai ED, including Samantha Malone, Karen Evelyn and Ashley Pessalano. Children in Ghana die every day because of the lack of simple medical treatments. In conjunction with Amazing Grace Hospital, a medical clinic was built and hundreds of kids were treated for multiple illnesses. Well check ups, testing for malaria, respiratory treatments, and other viral and bacterial illness were some of the most common (procedures) completed by the volunteers. Gloria and her incredible team of volunteers will be going back again January 2018 to truly make a difference in hundreds of kids lives. If you are interested in joining, please see amazinggracechildrenshospital.com.

May 2017 we celebrated 30 years of service to Mount Sinai for three of our best nurses; and 20 years for our best ERT, Lystra Wiltshire!

L to R: Salud Esmenda, RN, Lystra Wiltshire, Effifania Parayno RN.

Where is Mrs. Diaz?
The department is also actively recruiting for both our next PEM fellowship as well as a new Pediatric Emergency Medicine Ultrasound Fellow. The PEM ultrasound fellow would work clinically as a PEM physician in our system while studying under our faculty of the division of Ultrasound who have trained many EM US fellows. We look forward to another successful recruitment season!

Meet Our ED Child Life and Creative Arts Therapy Team:

Certified Child Life Specialists Marianne Porzelt and Julia Kellogg along with Music Therapist Kristy Waldron provide clinical interventions designed to support pediatric patients and their families during potentially stressful visits to the emergency department. Our Child Life Program is generously supported by the Lurje Foundation—without their support this program could not exist.

Child life interventions such as preparation prior to medical procedures and the provision of therapeutic play, as well as evidence-based music therapy interventions, can reduce anxiety, enhance coping, and improve patient and caregiver satisfaction.

In addition, Professor Bunsen Honeydew, Mount Sinai’s first ever facility dog, now takes consults in the Pediatric ED where he has quickly become a popular employee! Professor, as he’s affectionately known, is paired with a child life specialist to deliver Animal Assisted Therapy, reducing feelings of pain and anxiety, increasing patient coping, and supporting patients and staff alike.

Dear Ms. Rode,

I am writing to you from Mt. Sinai’s Children’s Ward where my daughter was admitted last night. We spent nine hours in ER waiting for a room and for a successful IV to be placed in my daughter’s arm (the 6th try worked). As you can imagine, a four year old, would have been miserable. Callie was.

I have never heard the term Child Life before and had no expectations when the nurse told me she would be sending in a Child Life team member. Marianne arrived. The entire ER changed for my daughter. She had a new friend. Marianne was incredible! Callie smiled (for the first time all day with a fever of 104.5) and was instantly distracted by the happiness and cheer that Marianne brought into the room. She played games, sang songs, told jokes, found socks to wear, toys and instruments to play with, blew bubbles, found glitter band aids, and brought a positive energy we all needed. Callie became so attached that she asked Marianne to bring her to her room. Marianne was kind enough to do that. She truly made a huge difference in both my daughter and my life in the few hours we spent with her. A special thank you to your team and especially Marianne who made a huge difference during a difficult time.

With my deepest gratitude and respect,
Geriatric Emergency Medicine: Making a Difference at Mount Sinai and Beyond

Mount Sinai is a recognized leader in Geriatric Emergency Medicine clinical care, research, education and innovation. The Geriatric Emergency care team works closely with patients, families and community healthcare providers to address emergency care needs, as well as post-discharge care coordination needs, to ensure optimal outcomes after an ED visit.


The University of Kentucky recognized our expertise and reached out to Mount Sinai for assistance in planning and developing a Geriatric ED. The multidisciplinary Geri ED team came together on January 25th, 2017 to provide a day-long consultancy program, “Geriatric Emergency Department Advanced Care Delivery Model Implementation.”

Mount Sinai held a Geriatric Delirium Conference with visiting experts Don Melady (University of Toronto) and Christopher Carpenter (Washington University) and Mount Sinai’s multidisciplinary team leading interactive workgroups and presentations. The conference was supported by Ula Hwang and the Geriatric Emergency Department Consortium (GEDC) and funded by the John A. Hartford Foundation and West Health Institute.

This summer we launched Project EQUIPPED (Enhancing Quality of Provider Practices for Older Adults in the Emergency Department) was launched at Mount Sinai. EQUIPPED is a multi-site process improvement project that utilizes the evidence-based Beers guidelines to reduce prescribing of potentially inappropriate medications to older patients. Mount Sinai’s team (Nick Genes, Ula Hwang, Denise Nassisi, Sandra Rodriguez and Martine Sanon) is working with Emory and Duke, with funding provided by AHRQ.

TracED (Transitions in Care for ED Patients)

TracED (Transitions in Care for Emergency Department Patients) is an initiative that builds on the work and success of GEDI WISE and expands the scope to include patients of all ages. ED patients that need enhanced care coordination and discharge planning due to complex medical and psychosocial needs are served. Patients with high risk criteria including recent hospitalizations, frequent ED visits, chronic medical problems, polypharmacy, mental health issues, nonadherence and poor social supports are identified and prioritized for assistance.

TracED uses a novel ED interdisciplinary team approach, assisted by informatics, to identify and address patients’ transitional care needs. The team includes nurses, providers, social workers, case managers, pharmacists and physical therapists. The ED team partners with community resources including home care services, health homes and outpatient providers to improve health care while reducing costs.

CARE (Care and Respect for Elders in Emergencies) Volunteer Program

We’re happy to report that the CARE volunteers continue to give over 10,000 hours of volunteer service to ED patients every year. The CARE volunteers now wear Voceras so they can be called upon by nursing to support patients’ needs in real time. Whether it’s a warm blanket, hearing amplifier, stress ball, or conversation about favorite recipes, grandchildren, or military service, the CARE volunteers are there to listen, comfort, and provide a warm smile. These specially trained volunteers help keep patients oriented and less anxious, and they find great fulfillment from their hours of service. CARE volunteers now can visit all adult patients (anyone 21 and above), although they have a special interest in the geriatric population. More than 25,000 patients are annually touched by a CARE volunteer.
EMS: LINKING THE COMMUNITY TO THE HOSPITAL AND MORE

Following the collapse of our EMS subcontractor, TransCare, in Feb 2016, a rapid transition was made to integrate the Mount Sinai Hospital EMS units into the former Continuum EMS Agency now known as Mount Sinai EMS. The EMS division has since gradually worked to integrate medical direction and oversight across the various campuses thus bringing opportunity for research, resident education, and improved patient care. Mount Sinai purchased a 5 borough Certificate of Need which gives us the option of expanding our EMS services in the future.

Mount Sinai re-launched its innovative Community Paramedicine program in February of 2017 which gives primary care physicians, specialist physicians, and home care nurses who are faced with acute unscheduled care needs, a new option of requesting a paramedic to respond to the home within 60 minutes and use telemedicine to coordinate care with a certified online medical control physician. We have performed 69 responses as of today with approximately 75% of patients staying home rather than presenting to the ED. Funding for this innovative program is provided by a combination of Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation, the Klein Foundation, the Samuels Foundation, and DSRIP. Mount Sinai ED physicians including Trevor Pour, Anar Shah, Nicholas Genes, and Jeff Nusbaum have become certified OLMC docs and take call to help keep the program available 24/7 to our many clinical partners including MSVD, MACT, VNSNY, Geriatrics, CHF groups.

All MSH and MSSL/MSW ED Residents (total of 43 interns) are doing their EMS observational experiences.

We have expanded our offerings of the Prehospital Medical Student Elective, which has attracted 17 applications (and counting) for the 2017-2018 year.

SINAI EM AND THE JETS

Our Department continues to support the NFL and the JETS by providing three medical services for each of the JETS home games: Kevin Chason, Michael Hilton, and Melissa Leber make up our Airway Management Team and stand ready during each game to provide advanced airway support in the event of a cardiac or traumatic resuscitation. Mark Heller, Vaishali Patel, Shefali Trivedi, Gallane Abraham, and Silvana Riggio are the Neurotrauma Consultant Team clearing all patients after a potential concussion to return to play. A Jagoda, F Thum, and M Leber serve as visiting team liaison physicians supporting the visiting teams in case of an emergency.

An additional service we are providing for the NFL is led by Kaushal Shah who is responsible for credentialing all physicians throughout the NFL to serve as Airway Management Physicians.

LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION!

A professional film crew was hired by West Health Foundation to spend a day capturing the essence of an innovative EMS based transitions of care program known as Transport PLUS. The program, currently being evaluated in a formal randomized controlled trial, trains Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT’s) to perform a discharge instructions comprehension assessment and a home fall safety assessment to hopefully reduce falls and ED revisits following a hospitalization. The film crew even travelled to a patient’s home to interview her and recreate the encounter. Dr. Munjal and Dr. Richardson were interviewed for their role in developing the program.

HURRICANA HURVEY RESPONSE

George Loo, DrPH is a member of the HHS-ASPR-OEM National Disaster Medical System and responded to Hurricane Harvey where he was assigned as the Division/Group Supervisor coordinating and overseeing HHS medical, public health and force protection assets at a general population shelter in Port Arthur, TX. We are very proud of him!

KEVIN MUNJAL ON THE FAST TRACK

Kevin Munjal chairs the National Assoc of EMS Physicians “Mobile Integrated Healthcare / Community Paramedicine” committee. As if that is not enough, he was named the 2016 NYC REMSCO Physician of Excellence. He was also appointed to chair the NYC REMSCO Technical Advisory Group on Community Paramedicine: 10 member “Technical Expert Panel” for the EMS Agenda for the Future – 2050 Project.
Libertas Continues Its Impressive Trajectory

As the first ED based human rights program in the country and the only comprehensive torture treatment program in Queens, the Libertas Center for Human Rights is dedicated to the evaluation, treatment and support of torture survivors. Under the direction of Dr. Dinali Fernando, Libertas has continued its growth providing holistic services to over 400 patients who have survived torture in their home countries. Libertas provides survivors with integrated medical, mental health, social and legal services using a model of care coordination.

In March Libertas Medical and Program Directors met with members of the New York Congressional Delegation in Washington, DC to discuss survivor of torture policy and funding issues. In addition to continued funding from the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture and the Office of Refugee Resettlement, in July, Libertas was awarded a $60,000 grant by the New York City Council's Immigrant Health Initiative.

Also in March NPR station WHYY in Philadelphia ran a story on the health radio show 'The Pulse' featuring Medical Director Dinali Fernando and the work of the Libertas Center. The show tells the story of a Libertas Center client who fled severe violence and persecution in Jamaica as a result of his sexual orientation. Audio link: http://www.newsworks.org/index.php/thepulse/item/102052-after-fleeing-violence-in-jamaica-gay-man-seeks-refuge-in-america

Libertas Therapist Walter Fendrich, LCSW, conducted a training on psychological evaluations for a group of mental health providers. Additionally, Libertas staff held a case conference for 20 psychiatry residents and fellows at Elmhurst Hospital discussing the impact of the current political context on patients’ wellbeing and treatment. Libertas developed a new partnership with the New York University (NYU) Art Therapy Program and began to provide Libertas patients with alternative art therapy classes.

Irma, Maria, . . . And Kevin

Irma and Maria ravaged Florida and the Islands. Kevin Chason (always ready) deployed with HHS NDMS on the Pennsylvania-I DMAT to Irma. He arrived in Orlando one day prior to Irma landfall. He then deployed as part of the 2nd push from Orlando down to the Florida Keys to the Lower Keys Medical Center in Key West and relieved a team from Hawaii. The mission was an ED/hospital decompression mission, they were only able to provide basic ED services, some radiology studies, but no labs and no inpatient services. Patients requiring admission or critical care were air transported to hospitals on mainland Florida. According to Chason, most patients were exacerbation of chronic illness and minor trauma, burns, fractures, lacerations, and infections. We did have some critically ill patients I flew out. He stayed on the Merchant Training Ship Empire State which sailed from the SUNY Merchant Marine Academy to the Key West. The patients were grateful and a unique population. A very positive experience for patients and care teams.

Dr. Benjamin McVane who volunteered with the Libertas Center as a resident, is now an attending physician at Elmhurst Hospital and continuing his work with Libertas. According to Stu Kessler, “he is one of the best recruits we have ever had at Elmhurst and we are certain of his success in publishing and securing grant funding”.

From the Rich . . . To the “Poor”

For the second year in a row, the ED contracted telehealth support with a 270 foot yacht (that’s very big) cruising the Med for the summer. We coordinated contingency plans for the 6 week cruise from the Riviera to Sicily—24/7 Fred Thum, Nick Genes, Peter Shearer and Andy Jagoda were on stand-by—luckily for everyone, no stories to tell! Funds collected support resident education so it’s a “win / win”! 
SIMULATION AND QUALITY

Directed by Dr. Suzanne Bentley, the Simulation Center at Elmhurst Hospital continues to be a leader in simulation training in the City. They celebrated their 2 year anniversary with a hospital wide Simulation Fair. The Fair was attended by >150 Elmhurst staff and faculty and highlights included a CPR challenge, showcase of our new Sonosimulator, and the chance to deliver a baby, which even the Elmhurst CEO participated in. (our own Fabio Martich in pink!)

September 20, Dr. Bentley and Dr. Laura Iavicoli created and ran a novel simulation entitled "SimWars: A Mass Casualty Exercise-Gas Line Explosion Causing Major Fire in the Vicinity" as the concluding event of the Elmhurst Trauma Symposium. Dr. Moira Carroll and Dr. Jeffrey Nusbaum represented as participants from the ED and made the department very proud with their efficient and precise mass casualty triage skills.

The Simulation Center continues to expand with new simulation faculty. Dr. Lillian Wong and Dr. Colleen Smith. Residency simulation exercises have been reinvigorated and expanded procedural skills education with plans for a curriculum spanning the STAR Simulation Center and Elmhurst Center.

Residency Sim Education Highlights include the 1st inaugural "Resuscapalooza" Simulation Series, aka Resuscitation ABCD: High Yield Simulation held on May 31 as a primer for all rising PGY2. Spearheaded by Drs. Carroll, Khan, and Pesyna, alongside Dr. Bentley, it was an exciting day we plan to offer again each year. In addition to post-conference residency simulation, In-Situ Cardiac Arrest Simulation in the Department and now both In-situ Yellow and Red Trauma Simulation remain underway.

Simulation research continue including Dr. Bentley and team's ongoing study of cardiac arrest and trauma team performance as related to teamwork and communication education. New projects, include a novel in-situ obstetrics emergency plus neonatal resuscitation project led by Dr. Jillian Nickerson, a sepsis simulation education and IVC ultrasound project led by Dr. Jackie Paulis, and expansion of Dr. Moira Carroll's study of use of and proficiency with nasopharyngeal scoping in the ED. Dr. Bentley and the center has also partnered with Queensborough Community College's 3D printing lab in projected development of a 3D scoping trainer to be printed on Elmhurst's own 3D printer, stay tuned!

ELMHURST EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT ACHIEVEMENTS

The Emergency Department participated in a hospital-wide interdepartmental symposium, "Pearls and Pitfalls of Trauma Management in Mass Casualty Incidents." This day featured Dr. Stuart Kessler and Dr. Laura Iavicoli, who lectured on patient triage and initial management and the importance of decontamination and use of personal protective equipment. The day concluded with a Mass Casualty Incident Simulation Competition, lead by Dr. Suzanne Bentley.

FACULTY AND STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

Fabio Martich was presented with an award from the New York State Senate in recognition of his outstanding bravery and assistance in thwarting a violent incident at Elmhurst Hospital. His award was presented by Jose Peralta, New York State Senator for District 13, Queens.

Dr. Arlene Chung was inducted as an Academy Member into the CORD Academy for Scholarship in Education in Emergency Medicine, in recognition of her academic excellence and contributions in education. She was also awarded an EMF/CORD Education Research Grant under the mentorship of Dr. Lynne Richardson. This grant will support a study investigating the effectiveness of a clinical dashboard to provide objective feedback to residents.

Dr. Dinali Fernando was awarded the Empire Clinical Research Investigators’ Program (ECRIP), a two-year research grant, under the mentorship of Dr. Manini. The ECRIP will support Dr. Fernando’s research project at Elmhurst Hospital which will be assessing improvement in quality of life for survivors of torture after receiving services from a comprehensive treatment program located at the Libertas Center.

Dr. Alex Manini’s mentee, Michael Chary, MD, PhD, a former Sinai medical student, was awarded a Mentored Training Award in Substance Use Disorders Science Dissemination from the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the Emergency Medicine Foundation (EMF/NIDA).

Dr. Colleen Smith started as the Assistant Residency Director at Elmhurst Hospital. She is interested in Medical Simulation and Education as well as physician wellness. Dr. Smith completed a Simulation Fellowship at NYU and is actively involved with the CORD simulation community of practice.
Hot Topics in Emergency Medicine:

Our annual PA conference, “Hot Topics in Emergency Medicine” was another great success this year - we had 65 attendees and 4 exhibitors! And we celebrated our 11th year anniversary! We heard excellent lectures from a variety of Mount Sinai Health System colleagues - including some of our own faculty, Drs. Jagoda, Nelson, Sanders, Tsung, and Nevel, and some of our past PA’s including Lois Welsh and Ryan Scanlan. We also had Dr. Ethan Cowan and Chris Hahn from other Mount Sinai sites give a great lecture. This year we continued to have 3 one-hour small group hands-on sessions which gave the participants an even more focused learning experience. Small group instructors were Drs. Thomas Nguyen, Hu, Alerhand, and Pour and Jackie Shekind, Anisha Lalwani, Crystal Owens, Edwin Oey, and Kate Montgomery. Special thanks to the conference planning committee (Erika Gutter, Rob Sellman, Dr. Vaishali Patel, and Joan Esbri-Cullen) and to all of our PA’s who helped make the day a great success!! We can’t wait for next year!!

PA HELLOS AND GOOD-BYES

Our PAs are widely known as the best in NYC. . . Actually, the best anywhere. Why . . . Because we are able to recruit the best and the brightest, and because we invest in their professional growth and development. The upside is that the best get better; the downside is that they are actively recruited away from us . . . Though sooner or later they all come back “home”!. This year we said goodbye to Susan Than, David Dang, Ryan Scanlan, Khavita Singh, Andrew Lapsley, Chris Ortiz, and last (but definitely not least!) Lois-Ann Welsh. On a historical note, Lois was our first PA intern and the longest PA in our Department (over 10 years) — we are very proud of her outstanding clinical skills and will miss her . . . A LOT!

We have welcomed 6 new PA’s into our group: Radhika Parikh, Zin Quiones, Sonia Begum, Amy Bardolia, Matthew Russell, and Ilana Spitz—each is truly amazing and we are very excited to have them join us.

PA TRAINING & JOURNAL CLUB / CASE REVIEW

The PAs continue to have a monthly journal club/case review series coordinated by PA educator par excellence Erika Gutter. These sessions share interesting cases and discuss new or improved recommendations through the analysis of the literature. There is also a monthly PA training curriculum which involves lectures, SIM sessions, and hands-on training. Both the journal club/case review series and the new PA training provide our PAs with Category 1 AAPA CME credit.

On another note, and equally exciting, we are still getting PA students from St. Johns University in Queens. Our first student arrived in October 2016, and Anisha Lalwani serves as the site director.
Save the date
for the Emergency Medicine Holiday party

Friday December 15, 2017

More information to come