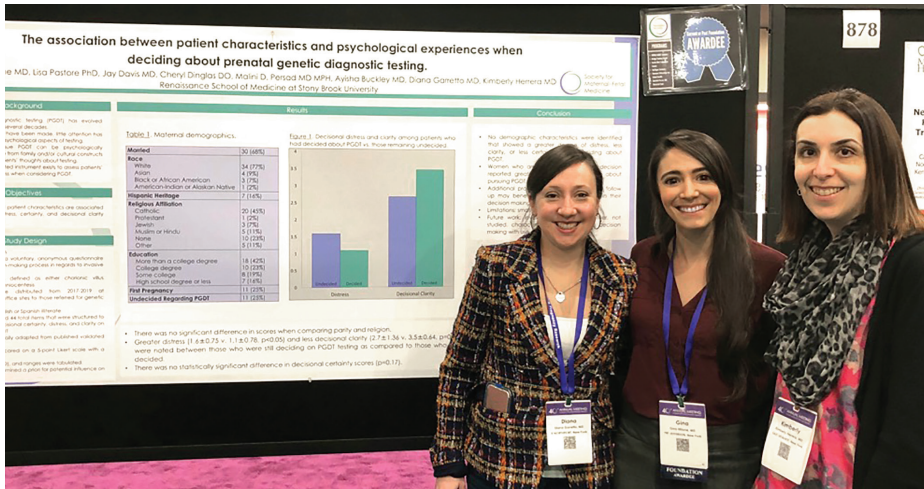


# Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Medicine



Division of Research Annual Report | 2019-2020

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## Message from the Vice Chairman



**Michael L. Pearl, MD, FACOG, FACS, FAAHPM**

*Professor, Division of Gynecological Oncology  
Vice Chairman, Research and Faculty Development  
Director of Women's Cancer Services, Cancer Center  
Medical Director, Cancer Center Clinical Trials Office*

### Vice Chairman's REPORT 2019-2020

"The 1918 influenza pandemic was the most severe pandemic in recent history. It was caused by an H1N1 virus with genes of avian origin. Although there is not universal consensus regarding where the virus originated, it spread worldwide during 1918-1919. In the United States, it was first identified in military personnel in spring 1918.

It is estimated that about 500 million people or one-third of the world's population became infected with this virus. The number of deaths was estimated to be at least 50 million worldwide with about 675,000 occurring in the United States (More people died during the 1918 pandemic than the total number of military and civilian deaths that resulted from World War I). Mortality was high in people younger than 5 years old, 20-40 years old, and 65 years and older. The high mortality in healthy people, including those in the 20-40 year age group, was a unique feature of this pandemic

While the 1918 H1N1 virus has been synthesized and evaluated, the properties that made it so devastating are not well understood. With no vaccine to protect against influenza infection and no antibiotics to treat secondary bacterial infections that can be associated with influenza infections, control efforts worldwide were limited to non-pharmaceutical interventions such as isolation, quarantine, good personal hygiene, use of disinfectants, and limitations of public gatherings, which were applied unevenly." [1]

Seem familiar?

"The COVID 19 pandemic, also known as the coronavirus pandemic, is an ongoing pandemic of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID 19) caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS CoV 2). The disease was first identified in December 2019 in Wuhan, China. The World Health Organization declared the outbreak a Public Health Emergency of International Concern on 30 January 2020 and a pandemic on 11 March. As of 14 September 2020, more than 29 million cases have been reported in 188 countries and territories, resulting in over 924,000 deaths; more than 19.6 million people have recovered.



Boston Red Cross volunteers assembled gauze influenza masks



Barber wears a mask while giving a customer a shave

The virus is spread primarily via small droplets from coughing, sneezing, and talking. The droplets are usually not airborne; however, those standing in close proximity may inhale them and become infected. People may also become infected by touching a contaminated surface and then touching their face. The transmission may also occur through aerosols that can stay suspended in the air for longer periods of time in enclosed spaces. It is most contagious during the first three days after the onset of symptoms, although spread is possible before symptoms appear, and from people who are asymptomatic.

Common symptoms include fever, cough, fatigue, shortness of breath or breathing difficulties, and loss of smell. Complications may include pneumonia and acute respiratory distress syndrome. The incubation period is typically around five days but may range from two to 14 days. There are several vaccine candidates in development, although none have completed clinical trials to prove their safety and efficacy. There is no known specific antiviral medication, so primary treatment is currently symptomatic.

Recommended preventive measures include hand washing, covering mouth when coughing, social distancing, wearing a face mask in public, disinfecting surfaces, ventilating and air-filtering, and monitoring and self-isolation for people who suspect they may be infected. Authorities worldwide have responded by implementing travel restrictions, lockdowns, workplace hazard controls, and facility closures to slow the spread of the disease. Many places have also worked to increase testing capacity and trace contacts of the infected.

The pandemic has caused global social and economic disruption, including the largest global recession since the Great Depression." [2]

As is true for everyone, we started the 2019-2020 academic year with no idea of what was to come. With new faculty, fellows, residents and students, as well as new direction in our laboratories, we were highly optimistic about our research program. A wonderful year ahead, or so we thought.

On March 12, 2020, we were advised "to plan and prepare for possible impacts related to the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Principal/Senior Investigators and Laboratory Managers should develop plans for the possibility of disruptions to operations caused by absences, or unavailability of equipment, materials or supplies that are essential to assure safe operation." [3]

On March 20, 2020: "In view of the announcement by Governor Cuomo today, and in an effort to protect the health and safety of Stony Brook students, staff, and faculty, all laboratory-based research activities must be ramped down by 5 p.m. on Saturday, March 21. The only exceptions will be critical activities, including care of animals, maintenance of unique reagents, and monitoring of essential equipment and materials. Research that is directly related to COVID-19 may continue providing that health and safety guidelines are observed. If a lab or core facility has a need for such critical maintenance, one person must be designated as essential with authorized access; there may be an additional person designated as a back-up. We encourage PIs to share critical maintenance responsibilities where possible to reduce the number of personnel on campus. The names of these individuals with essential authorized access must be provided to the Chair and Dean. No other access to Stony Brook research laboratories will be permitted. We will continue to assess the situation at regular intervals.

Faculty should direct their students and postdocs to continue research and scholarship (e.g., analyzing data, writing and reviewing manuscripts, preparing presentations, developing new grant proposals, convening online discussions with students and lab staff, etc.) at their home as best possible." [4]



Volunteer makes masks



Hair stylist cuts a woman's hair after the salon re-opened

The staff of the Division of Research voluntarily deployed to assist with screening and scheduling plasma donor volunteers for a randomized placebo-controlled trial led by Elliot Bennett-Guerrero, MD (Anesthesiology), to assess the efficacy and safety of convalescent plasma in hospitalized COVID-19 patients.

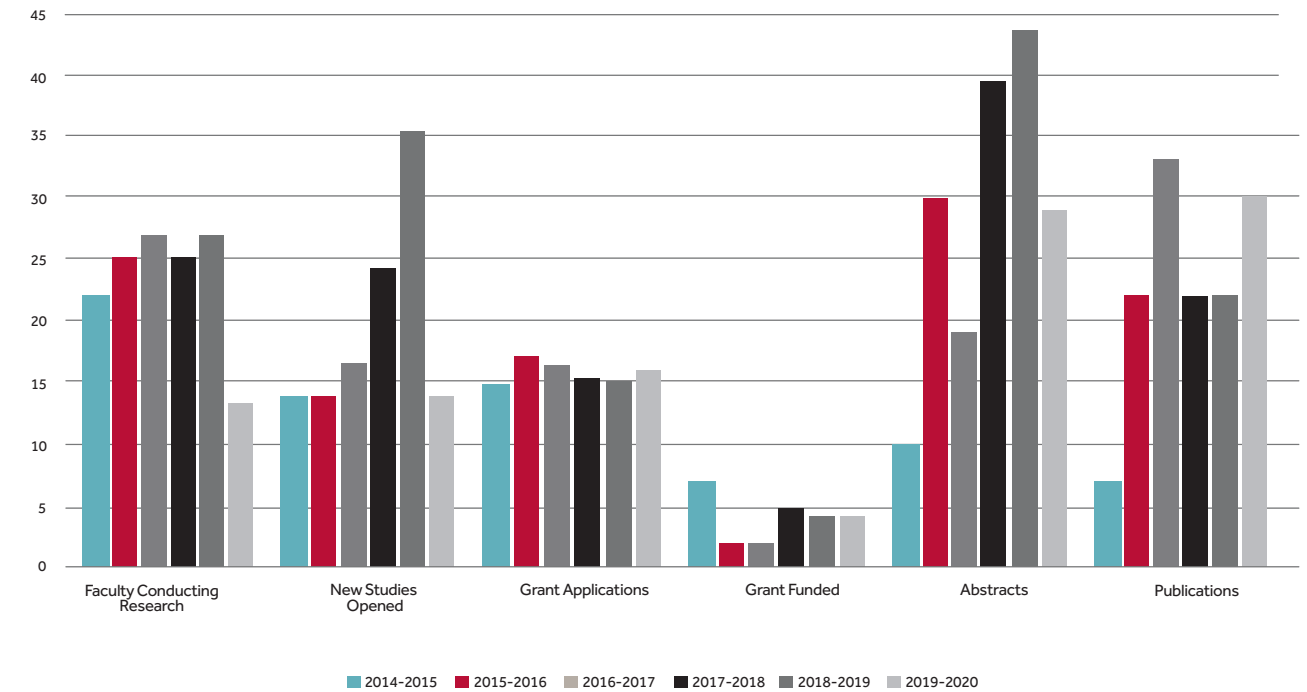
Despite the unavoidable restrictions and although laboratory-based research activities were ramped down, we were able to continue some research activities. We treated patients on crucial clinical studies and collected electronic data for our retrospective reviews. We continued to "analyze existing data, write and review manuscripts and develop presentations" for virtual meetings. Our research teams learned to conduct their research meetings virtually on Zoom or Teams.

Speaking personally, I found these activities helped maintain my sense of purpose during the lockdown. I was able to complete and submit four manuscripts (three accepted and one pending) that had been languishing due to lack of time. In addition, I was able to develop a collaborative research project with investigators at Rutgers. I was not alone; many of our faculty had comparable experiences.

As of June 30, 2020, we were in Research Phase 3 of the SOM's program for resuming research activities. [5]

Phase III-Moderate Operations			
Safeguards: health screening, social distancing, use of masks or face coverings, cleaning measures as described by SBU's policy for returning to work.			
Phase Description	Anticipated Activities	Preparation for Next Phase	External Conditions and Expected Period
<p><b>Moderate Operation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Onsite operations resume at reduced effort based on time-sensitive activities.</li> <li>Essential employees mainly, but significantly increased number of approved individuals.</li> <li>Strict social distancing, staggered shifts, cleaning protocols etc.</li> </ul> <p>Estimated 30-60% of total research workforce on campus.</p>	<p>Moderate operations of research labs, studios, and field stations, with prioritization on critical and time-sensitive work (research that is deadline driven, e.g., grant submission, manuscript revisions, graduate student dissertations, researchers approaching termination of their appointments, junior faculty starting their laboratories, etc.).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health screening, social distancing, face mask, cleaning measures remain in place.</li> <li>Research that can be done remotely continues remotely.</li> <li>Core campus functions and core facilities continue to increase capacity.</li> <li>Studios ramp up activities.</li> <li>Field research: expand approvals depending on what current restrictions are in the locations where field research is to be conducted.</li> <li>Some monitored access to offices for limited time (e.g., 3 times/week) with strict social distancing.</li> </ul>	<p>Update Laboratory Operations Plan for transitioning into phase 3, with a schedule for further increasing research workforce.</p> <p>Maintain plans for sudden return to phase 1 or 2 if required.</p>	<p>All seven Regional COVID-19 Metrics achieved.</p> <p>"NY State on Pause" relaxed for LI. More businesses reopen with strict social distancing.</p> <p>Work from home recommended for most residents.</p>

I am proud of our response to the pandemic. Although some aspects of our research productivity unavoidably declined, other aspects benefited from the enforced downtime (e.g., publications). We chose to focus on solutions, rather than wail over problems. Challenges remain, but we are Stony Brook Strong and together, we will get through this.



Fiscal Year 2019-2020: Grant applications: 16; Publications: 30; Abstracts: 29; New studies opened: 14; Faculty conducting research: 13; Grants funded: 4

I'll leave you with a few inspirational quotes that helped me during the lockdown:

"This too shall pass," *Rumi*. A local pastor added, "It may pass like a kidney stone, but it will pass."

"Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less." *Marie Curie*

"This here bearing went out. We didn't know it was goin', so we didn' worry none. Now she's out an' we'll fix her. An' by Christ that goes for the rest of it." *Ma Joad in John Steinbeck's "The Grapes of Wrath"*

"Keep calm and carry on" and "If you're going through hell, keep going." *Winston Churchill*

## REFERENCES

- <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/pandemic-resources/1918-commemoration/1918-pandemic-history.htm>
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/COVID-19\\_pandemic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/COVID-19_pandemic)
- [https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/restart-research/March\\_12.php](https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/restart-research/March_12.php)
- [https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/restart-research/March\\_20.php](https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/restart-research/March_20.php)
- [https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/restart-research/May\\_18.php](https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/restart-research/May_18.php)

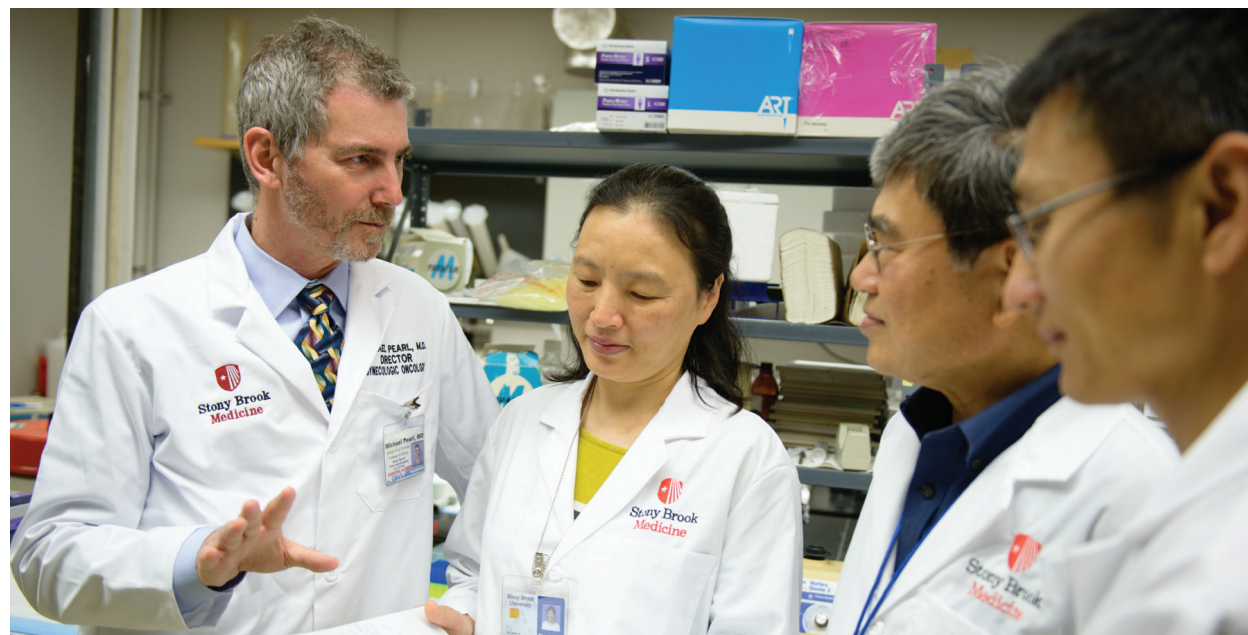
## Research Division Overview

### Mission

The Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Medicine recognizes the importance of research by our faculty members, residents and students. One of our core values, as part of the academic mission of the department, is to establish an atmosphere of respect and excitement for research. Our commitment to multidisciplinary team-based women's healthcare is a key component of our efforts to create and expand knowledge and improve the quality of our patients' lives through excellent basic, translational, and clinical research. The Department's mission to foster clinical investigation and translational research amongst the faculty is supported by an established and rapidly growing Division of Research.

Critical to the success of our endeavor is the integration of the pillars of academic medicine: clinical care, education, and research. Excellence in one of these domains is always dependent upon success in the other two. To this end, the Division of Research is dedicated to supporting our faculty members, residents and students in a variety of ways. A few of these, all part of an ever-expanding list, include:

- Aiding our investigators in developing their research interests
- Assisting researchers in the design and development of their projects
- Providing assistance with regulatory compliance
- Helping to identify and secure funding for research projects
- Providing mechanisms to find collaborators in other departments
- Creating opportunities to meet with other investigators to discuss common interests
- Fostering inter-departmental and inter-institutional collaborative research efforts
- Hosting regular research meetings for faculty and staff where projects can be discussed



Dr. Michael Pearl discussing data with Dr. Wen-Tien Chen and his team

### Highlights

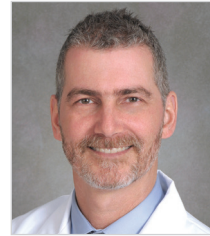
A number of important events impacted the Research Division this year. Key among them were:

- Faculty, fellows and residents authored or were coauthors on 19 peer-reviewed publications with an additional 11 in press, 9 in review, and 7 manuscripts in process, as well as 1 book chapter, and 29 meeting abstracts.
- Department faculty submitted 17 funding applications, 10 as PI and 7 in collaboration with others.
- The department currently has PIs with 5 actively funded studies (including 3 Cancer Center clinical trials). In addition, faculty are acting as mentors or co-Investigators on 4 studies (3 as Cancer Center clinical trials).



Fetal Heart Rate study team in Labor & Delivery: Dr. Cassandra Heiselman shows fetal heart rates on the screen to (L to R) Drs. Petar Djuric, Christian Luhmann and I.V. Ramakrishnan

## Staff



### **Michael Pearl, MD | Vice Chairman, Research and Faculty Development**

Dr. Michael Pearl is a Professor, Division of Gynecological Oncology; the Vice Chairman, ObGyn Research and Faculty Development; the Director of Women's Cancer Services, Cancer Center and the Medical Director, Cancer Center Clinical Trials Office. He is the Principal Investigator at Stony Brook Medicine for NRG Oncology, a National Cancer Institute-funded cooperative research group dedicated to promoting excellence in the quality and integrity of scientific research. As Vice-Chair, Dr. Pearl oversees departmental research projects and advises faculty and staff on related matters.



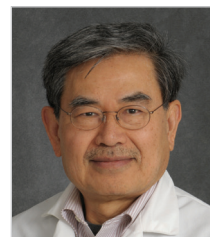
### **Elizabeth Roemer, MA | Associate Director of Research**

Elizabeth Roemer is the primary point-of-contact between the Division of Research and the SUNY Research Foundation offices and the Stony Brook Office of Vice President for Research. She facilitates interaction with academic departments on and off campus and aids faculty and residents in developing their research interests. In addition, Ms. Roemer identifies and tracks funding opportunities and works with faculty to develop strategies and proposals for grant and clinical research funding. She is the Division's key resource to obtain auxiliary services and assistance for research enterprises.



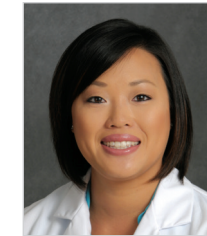
### **Lisa Pastore, PhD | Associate Professor**

Dr. Lisa Pastore has a PhD in Epidemiology with a minor in Biostatistics with specialization in the genetics of infertility, genetic counseling and infertility, psychology of infertility, and infertility related to Polycystic Ovary Syndrome. Dr. Pastore has experience with NIH funding and an extensive history of successful external research funding. She has over fifty peer reviewed publications and more than a decade of teaching and mentoring experience.



### **Wen-Tien Chen, PhD | Research Professor**

Dr. Wen-Tien Chen is an international expert in cancer metastasis. Throughout his career, he has developed novel methods to isolate and analyze metastatic cancer cells and holds a number of patents for these technologies. His most recent work focuses on circulating tumor cells (CTCs) and their use in detecting endothelial ovarian cancer.



### **Deidre Lee, MHS | Senior Research Support Specialist**

Deidre Lee provides support for faculty and residents in their research studies and coordinates industry-sponsored clinical trials. In this role, she assists with preparation and submission of regulatory documents, consent and enrollment of eligible patients as study participants, and data collection and management. Ms. Lee also manages IRB submissions and ensures appropriate regulations are being followed throughout the course of studies. Additionally, she assists with building databases in REDCap, grant writing, chart reviews, and is responsible for managing undergraduate and medical student research assistants.



Dr. Quirk in a discussion during a research meeting

## Grants and Contracts

### Grants Submitted

This year saw 17 applications: 7 with our Ob/Gyn faculty as PIs, 3 through the Cancer Center, and an additional 7 applications with Ob/Gyn faculty as co-investigators.

#### With Ob/Gyn faculty as PIs:

- **August 2019: Dr. MICHAEL PEARL** (Gynecologic Oncology) submitted a subcontract application: "Vita-Cap tube to preserve circulating tumor cells in blood" as part of LineaRx Incorporated NIH grant application with co-Investigators *Dr. Ellen Li, and Dr. Yue Zhang* (both Department of Medicine).
- **November 2019: Dr. DAVID BAKER** (Maternal Fetal Medicine) submitted a grant application: "An Innovative Approach to Elucidate the Mechanism for Vestibulodynia" to the National Vulvodynia Association.
- **November 2019: Dr. DAVID GARRY** (Maternal Fetal Medicine) applied for a contract with MAT-LINK: "Collection of clinical data from pregnant women treated for opioid use disorder" with co-PI *Lisa McCarthy Clark* (Newborn Nursery) and co-Investigators *AnnMarie Kotarba and Marianna Lawrence* (Regional Perinatal Center); **ELIZABETH ROEMER** and **SAMANTHA DAYTON** (both Research Division) were key persons.
- **December 2019: Dr. MICHAEL PEARL** (Gynecologic Oncology) submitted a proposal: "Development of automatic, functional capture of invasive CTCs (using Vita-Cap™ blood collection tube) for pan cancer diagnosis" to LineaRx Incorporated with co-Investigators *Dr. Ellen Li, and Dr. Yue Zhang* (both Department of Medicine).
- **February 2020: Dr. LISA PASTORE** (Research Division) submitted an NIH R21 "What is the patient-entered experience of considering/using preimplantation genetic testing for serious childhood genetic disorders?" with co-Investigator *Lisa Rubin* (New School for Social Research).
- **February 2020: Dr. DAVID GARRY** (Maternal Fetal Medicine) applied for a Phase 3 clinical trial: "Randomized, Double- Or Observer-Blinded, Placebo-Controlled Trial to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of a Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Prefusion F Subunit Vaccine in Infants Born To Women Vaccinated During Pregnancy" for Pfizer Pharmaceuticals with co-PI *Dr. Sharon Nachman* and co-Investigators *Drs. Christy Beneri, Matthew Fisher, Andrew Handel and Saul Hymes* (all Department of Pediatrics).
- **April 2020: Dr. SIERRA WASHINGTON** (General Obstetrics and Gynecology, Global Health) applied for a Gates Foundation Grand Challenges Seed Grant for "Safe Access to Caesarean Section."

#### At the Cancer Center

- **September 2019: Dr. MICHAEL PEARL** (Gynecologic Oncology) submitted for the NRG-GY018 Clinical Trial fund with co-Investigators **Dr. WILLIAM BURKE** and **Dr. GABRIELLE GOSSNER** (both Gynecologic Oncology) and *Dr. Andrzej Kudelka* (Department of Medicine, Oncology Division).
- **June 2020: Dr. MICHAEL PEARL** (Gynecologic Oncology) applied for an NCICOVID Clinical Trial with co-Investigators **Dr. WILLIAM BURKE** and **Dr. GABRIELLE GOSSNER** (both Gynecologic Oncology), *Dr. Lea Baer, Dr. Minsing Choi, Dr. Jules Cohen, Dr. Theodore Gabig, Dr. Bonnie Kiner-Strachan, Dr. Andrzej Kudelka, Dr. Fengshou Lan, Dr. Huda Salman, Dr. Michael Schuster, Dr. Amna Sher, Dr. Alison Stopeck, Dr. Shenhong Wu, and Dr. Yue Zhang* (all Department of Medicine Division of Hematology and Oncology), *Dr. Ellen Li*, (Department of Medicine, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology), *Dr. Alexander Stessin* (Radiation Oncology), and *Dr. Kartik Mani*, (Department of Biomedical Informatics).

- **June 2020: Dr. MICHAEL PEARL** (Gynecologic Oncology) submitted a proposal: "CP: Can diet and physical activity modulate ovarian fallopian tube and primary peritoneal cancer progression-free survival" to the NRG Oncology Foundation with co-Investigators **MARLO DOMBROFF, PA-C** (Gynecologic Oncology) and *Dr. Andrzej Kudelka* (Department of Medicine, Oncology Division).

#### With Ob/Gyn Faculty as co-Investigators with another Department:

- **July 2019: Dr. Tim Duong** (Department of Radiology) submitted an application to the DOD: "MRI study of chemo brain in ovarian cancer patients" with co-Investigators **Dr. MICHAEL PEARL, Dr. WILLIAM BURKE** and **MARLO DOMBROFF, PA-C** (all Gynecologic Oncology).
- **October 2019: Dr. Heidi Preis** (Department of Psychology, School of Arts and Sciences) submitted an OPR Seed Grant proposal "Evaluation of a novel instrument to assess the psychosocial and drug history backgrounds of pregnant women with Opioid Use Disorder" with co-Investigators *Dr. Marci Lobel* (Department of Psychology, School of Arts and Sciences) and **Dr. KIMBERLY HERRERA** (Maternal Fetal Medicine).
- **November 2019: Dr. Heidi Preis** (Department of Psychology, School of Arts and Sciences) resubmitted an NIH R21: "Evaluation and validation of a novel instrument to assess the psychosocial and drug history backgrounds of pregnant women with or without Opioid Use Disorder" with co-Investigators *Dr. Marci Lobel* (Department of Psychology, School of Arts and Sciences), **Dr. DAVID GARRY, Dr. DIANA GARRETTO** and **Dr. KIMBERLY HERRERA** (all Maternal Fetal Medicine).
- **February 2020: Dr. Petar Djurić** (Department of Electrical Engineering, School of Engineering) submitted an NSF grant application: "GCR: In search for the interactions that create consciousness" with Co-PIs: *Dr. Sima Mofakham and Dr. Charles Mikel III* (both Department of Neurosurgery) and **ELIZABETH ROEMER** (Research Division), as a Key Person.
- **February 2020: Dr. Marci Lobel** (Department of Psychology, School of Arts and Sciences) submitted a proposal "Harnessing Machine Learning to Assess Risk for Adverse Health Outcomes Among Pregnant Women" for a Multidisciplinary Small Team Awards to the SUNY Research Seed Grant Program. Her co-Investigators include *Dr. Petar Djurić* (Department of Electrical Engineering, School of Engineering), *Dr. Brittain Mahaffey* (Department of Psychiatry) and **Dr. JOSEPH CHAPPELLE** (General Obstetrics and Gynecology).
- **February 2020: Dr. James Swain** (Department of Psychiatry) submitted an NIH R01 "Adaptations of Brain and Behavior to Opioids and Stress" with co-Investigators **Dr. DAVID GARRY** (Maternal Fetal Medicine), *Dr. Helen Fox, Dr. Stephanie Brown, Dr. Richard Rosenthal, Dr. Joseph Schwartz* (all Department of Psychiatry) and *Dr. Xiang He* (Department of Radiology).
- **February 2020: Dr. Patricia Bruckenthal** (School of Nursing) submitted "Expanding Access to Services for Integrated/Interprofessional Behavioral Health Care (EASI - Care)" to the Health Resources and Services Administration with co-Investigators *Dr. George Leibowitz* (School of Social Welfare) and *Dr. Elinor Schoenfeld* (Department of Family, Population & Preventive Medicine), as well as **Dr. HEATHER FINDLETAR HINES** (Midwifery), *Dr. Erin Danier* and *Dr. Dodie Gillet* (both Department of Psychiatry), and *Dr. Anna-Marie Wellins* (School of Nursing) as Faculty.



### Funded Projects

Members of the Ob/Gyn Department participate in 9 funded projects. These include new projects (4) that were initially funding in the current fiscal year (2019- 2020) as well as those (5) that were begun in previous fiscal years and are ongoing.

#### Newly (2019-20) funded accounts

During fiscal year 2019-20, we had 4 newly funded studies: 1 as the home department, 2 at the Cancer Center and 1 with ObGyn co-Investigators funded through another department.

#### With Ob/Gyn as home department:

- **March 2020:** PI: **Dr. DAVID GARRY** (Maternal Fetal Medicine) a Pfizer Pharmaceuticals Phase 3 clinical trial: "Randomized, Double- Or Observer-Blinded, Placebo-Controlled Trial to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of a Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Prefusion F Subunit Vaccine in Infants Born To Women Vaccinated During Pregnancy" with co-PI Dr. Sharon Nachman and co-Investigators *Drs. Christy Beneri, Matthew Fisher, Andrew Handel and Saul Hymes* (all Department of Pediatrics).

#### At the Cancer Center

- **September 2019:** PI: **Dr. MICHAEL PEARL** (Gynecologic Oncology) renewed the NRG-GY018 Clinical Trial fund with co-Investigators **Dr. WILLIAM BURKE** and **Dr. GABRIELLE GOSSNER** (both Gynecologic Oncology) and *Dr. Andrzej Kudelka* (Department of Medicine, Oncology Division).
- **June 2020:** PI: **Dr. MICHAEL PEARL** (Gynecologic Oncology) NCICOVID Clinical Trial with co-Investigators **Dr. WILLIAM BURKE** and **Dr. GABRIELLE GOSSNER** (both Gynecologic Oncology), *Dr. Lea Baer, Dr. Minsig Choi, Dr. Jules Cohen, Dr. Theodore Gabig, Dr. Bonnie Kiner-Strachan, Dr. Andrzej Kudelka, Dr. Fengshou Lan, Dr. Huda Salman, Dr. Michael Schuster, Dr. Amna Sher, Dr. Alison Stopeck, Dr. Shenhong Wu, and Dr. Yue Zhang* (all Department of Medicine Division of Hematology and Oncology), *Dr. Ellen Li*, (Department of Medicine, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology), *Dr. Alexander Stessin* (Radiation Oncology), and *Dr. Kartik Mani*, (Department of Biomedical Informatics).

#### With Ob/Gyn Faculty as co-Investigators with another Department:

- **July 2019:** PI: *Dr. James Swain* (Department of Psychiatry) received an NIH R01 "Opioids and Maternal Brain-Behavior Adaptation during the Early Postpartum" with co-investigators **Dr. DAVID GARRY** (Maternal Fetal Medicine) and **Dr. CHRISTINA KOCIS** (Midwifery).

### Ongoing funded accounts

We have 5 ongoing studies that were initially funded in previous fiscal years: 2 with ObGyn as the home department (1 of them in the Cancer Center), and 3 where our faculty are collaborating with another department (2 of them in the Cancer Center).

#### With Ob/Gyn as home department:

- **May 2019:** PIs: **Dr. GERALD QUIRK** (Maternal Fetal Medicine) and *Dr. Petar Djurić* (Department of Electrical Engineering, School of Engineering) have a 5 year NIH R01: "Rethinking Electronic Fetal Monitoring to Improve Perinatal Outcomes and Reduce Frequency of Operative Vaginal and Cesarean Deliveries" with co-investigators **Dr. DAVID GARRY**, (Maternal Fetal Medicine), **ELIZABETH ROEMER** (Research Division), *Dr. Christian Luhmann* (Department of Psychology, School of Arts and Sciences) and *Dr. IV Ramakrishnan* (Department of Computer Science, School of Engineering).

#### At the Cancer Center

- **June 2018:** PI: **Dr. WILLIAM BURKE** (Gynecologic Oncology) a 5 year industry sponsored clinical trial from Tesaro, Inc.: "A Randomized, double-blind, phase-3 comparison of Platinum based therapy with TSR 042 and Niraparib versus standard of care Platinum-based therapy as first line treatment of stage III or IV Nonmucinous epithelial ovarian cancer" with co-Investigator **Dr. MICHAEL PEARL** (Gynecologic Oncology).

#### With Ob/Gyn Faculty as co-Investigators with another Department:

- **September 2018:** PI: *Dr. Brittain Mahaffey* (Department of Psychiatry) a 5 year NIH K23: "An Internet-Delivered Mind-Body Program for Reducing Prenatal Maternal Stress" with **Dr. DAVID GARRY** (Maternal Fetal Medicine) and *Dr. Marci Lobel* (Department of Psychology, School of Arts and Sciences, SBU) as members of her mentorship team.

#### At the Cancer Center

- **February 2019:** PI: *Dr. Andrzej Kudelka* (Department of Medicine, Oncology Division) a 5 year industry sponsored clinical trial from Five Prime Therapeutics Inc.: "A Phase 1a/1b Study of FPA150, an Anti-B7-H4 Antibody, in Patients with Advanced Solid Tumors" with co-investigators **Dr. WILLIAM BURKE** and **Dr. MICHAEL PEARL** (both Gynecologic Oncology), *Dr. Lea Baer, Dr. Jules Cohen, and Dr. Alison Stopeck* (all Department of Medicine, Oncology Division).
- **October 2018:** PI: *Dr. Minsig Choi* (Department of Medicine, Oncology Division) a 5 year industry sponsored project for sample collection from Exact Sciences Corp.: "Blood Sample Collection to Evaluate Biomarkers in Subjects with Untreated Solid Tumors" with co-Investigators **Dr. MICHAEL PEARL** (Gynecologic Oncology), *Dr. Lea Baer, Dr. Jules Cohen, Dr. Andrzej Kudelka, Dr. Roger Keresztes, Dr. Amna Sher, Dr. Alison Stopeck, Dr. Yue Zhang, and Dr. Shenhong Wu* (all Department of Medicine, Oncology Division).



Some members of the Fetal Heart Rate (FHR) study team learning about real-time FHR displays in Labor and Delivery

## Spotlight

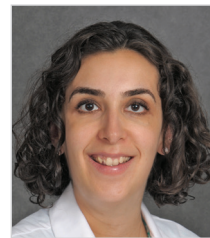


### **Maria Fisher, CNM, MSN, MPH, IBCLC**

#### **Midwifery Division**

Maria Fisher has been on the board of the National Perinatal Association (NPA) since January 2019. NPA's mission is to optimize perinatal care in the US through education, advocacy, and integration of evidence-based best practices, respect and dignity of the individual family. It engages in collaboration among perinatal providers across disciplines, families and advocates. During the fiscal year, Ms. Fisher took over as project manager of the BEST MILK Project, funded in part by the WK Kellogg

Foundation. The overarching goal of BEST MILK project is to develop a coordinated system that improves breastfeeding initiation and duration, and that identifies challenges, needs, barriers and goals extending from the preconception period through weaning. The final product of this work will be a publication in the Journal of Perinatology on optimal infant feeding guidelines and recommendations for parents, professionals, institutions, organizations, and governments. Ms. Fisher also works as an Adjunct Faculty Member in the NYU Rory Meyers College of Nursing. This past year, she was an assistant professor to the Women's Health course for the Family Nurse Practitioners Program, and was a guest lecturer in the Midwifery program. In addition, she lectures on Opioid-use disorder in the pregnant population. See page 26 for Maria Fisher's full research activities.



### **Kimberly Herrera, MD**

#### **Division of Maternal Fetal Medicine; Associate Director: Maternal Fetal Medicine Fellowship Program**

Dr. Kimberly Herrera received the Town of Brookhaven 34th Annual Women's Recognition Award in the Medicine category. Community groups, businesses and individuals nominate women they believe are deserving of special recognition for their outstanding service to the community as a professional or volunteer. Dr. Herrera's colleagues and patients describe her as "a professional, intelligent, involved, warm and approachable physician.

She is an exemplary team player, always willing to help her colleagues and the department. Her positive outlook and strong leadership allows her to be a great mentor for countless students, residents, and fellows." Many also noted her continual commitment to teaching and providing excellent patient care. Dr. Herrera was to be honored on March 24th at the 2020 Women's Recognition Night. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Town of Brookhaven made the difficult decision to postpone the Women's Recognition event and hope to reschedule it sometime in the future. Congratulations, Dr. Herrera! You are a wonderful role model for all women in medicine! See page 23 for Dr. Herrera's full research activities.



### **Gina Milone, MD**

#### **Resident, PGY 3**

Dr. Gina Milone, as a third-year resident, applied to and was selected as one of eight nationally recognized Quilligan Scholars through the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine (SMFM). The program identifies residents who show promise to be leaders in the field of MFM and establishes mentorship and educational opportunities for them. Dr. Milone attended the SMFM 40th Annual Pregnancy Meeting, where she had the opportunity to spend time with and learn from several of the current leaders in SMFM. The experience

also connected her with other residents at the same place in their careers and was a wonderful and inspiring learning experience. See page 34 for Dr. Milone's full research activities.



### **J. Gerald Quirk, MD, PhD**

#### **Toll Professor**

Dr. J. Gerald Quirk retired at the end of the year and took on the Emeritus position as a Toll Professor. The John S. Toll Professorship provides an opportunity for tenured faculty and librarians to hold a special post retirement assignment. Toll Professorships allow the University to retain the important experience and contributions of valued colleagues while also enabling Toll Professors to adjust the level of their responsibilities through a phased post retirement program. Through this program, Dr. Quirk

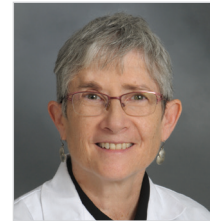
remains active as a joint PI with Dr. Petar Djurić (Department of Electrical Engineering, School of Engineering) on their 5 year NIH R01: "Rethinking Electronic Fetal Monitoring to Improve Perinatal Outcomes and Reduce Frequency of Operative Vaginal and Cesarean Deliveries." See page 25 for Dr. Quirk's full research activities.



Dr. Gina Milone (center back) with the other 7 Quilligan Scholars at the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine meeting

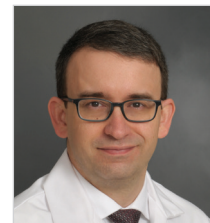
## Research by Departmental Division

### General Obstetrics and Gynecology



#### Ellen Biggers, MD

Dr. Biggers was the discussant for **Dr. Jennifer Pollard's** Resident Research Day (RRD) project: "Effects of diet counseling on gestational weight gain: a retrospective chart review."



#### Joseph Chappelle, MD

##### Division Chief

Dr. Chappelle had four IRB approved studies active during the fiscal year: "Antenatal Anxiety as a Predictor for Postpartum Depression," "BD Affirm for Diagnosis of BV and Effect on Clinical Management of Vaginitis," "Effects of diet counseling on gestational weight gain," and "The effect of oxytocin washout periods after labor augmentation on cesarean delivery blood loss."

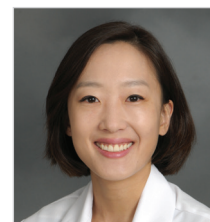
The oxytocin study, with first author **Dr. Elizabeth Cochrane** (Resident), was submitted for publication to the *Journal of Perinatal Medicine* and presented at the *American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) Annual Clinical & Scientific meeting*. Dr. Chappelle was also coauthor on a second ACOG presentation: "Awareness of Surgical Cost in Gynecology." He was also the PI for two QA/QI projects: "An assessment of the accuracy of prediction of hemorrhage by a Hemorrhage Risk Assessment Score Card" and "An evaluation of anemia in the postpartum period and its association with anemia in subsequent pregnancies" with **Dr. Gina Milone** (Resident). A submission for a Multidisciplinary Small Team Award to the SUNY Research Seed Grant Program, "Harnessing Machine Learning to Assess Risk for Adverse Health Outcomes Among Pregnant Women," included Dr. Chappelle as a co-Investigator.



#### Todd Griffin, MD, MBA

##### Department Chair; Associate Program Director: Minimally Invasive and Robotic Surgery Fellowship

Dr. Griffin, in collaboration with **Dr. Kim** (MIS Fellow) had one IRB approved project: "Sleep quality, anxiety and postoperative recovery." In addition, he was a coauthor on "Re-Engineering Academic Departments of Obstetrics and Gynecology to Operate in a Pandemic World and Beyond—A Joint AGOS/CUCOG Statement," published in the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*.



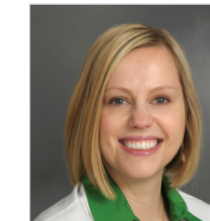
#### Sara Kim, MD

##### Minimally Invasive Surgery Fellow

Dr. Kim collaborated with **Dr. Todd Griffin** on "Sleep quality, anxiety and postoperative recovery." She was a coauthor on two papers: "Immature teratoma diagnosed and treated during pregnancy and later complicated by growing teratoma syndrome: a case review with clinical considerations" in *Gynecologic Oncology Reports* and "First-trimester maternal serum alpha fetoprotein is associated with ischemic placental disease" in the

*American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*. Dr. Kim is coauthor on two papers in press: "Comparing Surgical Experience and Skill Using a High-Fidelity, Total Laparoscopic Hysterectomy

Model" in *Obstetrics & Gynecology* and "Invasive ductal breast carcinoma metastasis to the cervix: A case review and clinical correlation" in *Gynecologic Oncology Reports*. She is also coauthor on two submitted papers that are in review: "Clinical Outcome of Multidisciplinary Treatment of Vulvar Necrotizing Fasciitis" in the *Journal of Wound Care*, and: "Cardiac implant and the risk of infective endocarditis in pregnancy" in *Case Reports in Perinatal Medicine*.



#### Dorota B. Kowalska, MD

##### Associate Residency Program Director

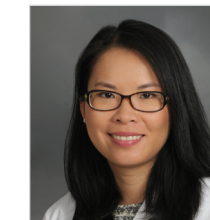
Dr. Kowalska had two IRB approved projects: "Does implementation of an educational video regarding Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) and cervical cancer screening improve patient knowledge and anxiety regarding colposcopy?" and "The distribution of HPV 16, HPV 18, and other high risk HPV associated with HSIL and cervical cancer compared by racial group." Dr. Kowalska is an active member in ASCCP (American Society

for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology) and is an Assessment Committee member.



#### Amy Lasky, MD

Dr. Lasky was the discussant for **Dr. Gina Milone's** RRD project: "Does use of a gestational weight gain video module improve patient adherence to weight gain guidelines during pregnancy?"



#### Xun (Julie) Lian, MD

Dr. Lian had one IRB approved project: "Clinical responsibilities of minimally invasive gynecology fellowship graduates." In addition, she was a coauthor on "A Case of Streptococcal Toxic Shock Syndrome in the Setting of Recent Gynecologic Surgery," which was submitted to the *Journal of Minimally Invasive Gynecology*.



#### Hafsa Memon, MD

Dr. Memon had one IRB approved project: "Using NYS SPARCS Database of Obstetrics, Gynecologic, and Gynecologic Oncology Outcomes for Research." She also had a QA/QI project: "Ureteral injuries and Cystoscopy."



#### Anya V Menzies, MD

##### Minimally Invasive Surgery Fellow

Dr. Menzies had one IRB approved project: "What is the awareness of obstetricians and gynecologists of the cost of surgery?" She was a coauthor on two meeting presentations: "Comparing Surgical Experience and Skill Using a High Fidelity, Total Laparoscopic Hysterectomy Model" presented at the AAGL 48th Global Congress on MIGS, and "The effect of early postoperative urinary catheter removal on patient satisfaction in gynecologic

oncology" presented to the International Gynecologic Cancer Society. Dr. Menzies was the first author on "Awareness of Surgical Cost in Gynecology" presented at the ACOG Annual Clinical & Scientific meeting.

## Maternal Fetal Medicine



### Cecilia Avila, MD

Dr. Avila is a collaborator on an IRB approved project: "Biomarker Identification for COVID-19 Risk Stratification in Maternal Fetal Health." She was also a coauthor on a paper: "Shear-Induced Platelet Activation is Sensitive to Age and Calcium Availability: A Comparison of Adult and Cord Blood" in *Cellular and Molecular Bioengineering*.



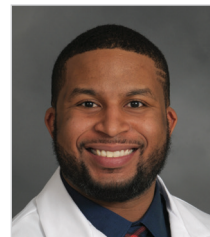
### David Baker, MD

Dr. Baker submitted a grant application: "An Innovative Approach to Elucidate the Mechanism for Vestibulodynia" to the National Vulvodynia Association. He was also a coauthor on a poster: "Matrix Metalloproteinases (MMPs) are Potential Markers for Preterm Birth (PTB)" presented at the *Society of Maternal Fetal Medicine 40th Annual Pregnancy Meeting* in Grapevine, TX.



### James Bernasko, MD, CHB, CDE

Dr. James Bernasko was a coauthor on a poster: "Hemoglobin A1c to Determine the Prevalence of Undiagnosed Carbohydrate Intolerance in Pregnancy" presented at the *ACOG Annual Clinical & Scientific meeting* in Seattle, WA. He was also the discussant for **Dr. Elizabeth Cochran's** (Resident) RRD project: "The Effect of an Oxytocin Rest Period on Cesarean Delivery Blood Loss."



### Jay Davis, MD

#### Fellow, Maternal Fetal Medicine

Dr. Davis had four papers this past year. He was first author on "Is combination therapy for cervical shortening effective to prevent preterm birth?" which is in review at the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*. He was coauthor on the additional three. These were: "First-trimester maternal serum alpha fetoprotein is associated with ischemic placental disease" published in the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*; "Comparison of buprenorphine and methadone in the management of maternal opioid use disorder in full term pregnancies" in press at the *Journal of Perinatal Medicine*, and "Psychological measures of patients' decision-making for prenatal genetic testing" submitted to the *Journal of Maternal-Fetal & Neonatal Medicine*. Dr. Davis had ten meeting abstracts, five as first author and five as coauthor. Two of his first author abstracts: "Matrix Metalloproteinases (MMPs) are Potential Markers for Preterm Birth (PTB)" and "Comparison of Opioid Maintenance Therapy (OMT) on prenatal and postnatal growth effects" were for the *Society of Maternal Fetal Medicine 40th Annual Pregnancy Meeting*. Two more: "Opioid Maintenance Therapy (OMT) Outcomes on Maternal Weight" and "How Well Do Patients Clearly Understand Invasive Prenatal Genetic Diagnostic Testing?" went to the *ACOG Annual Clinical & Scientific*

*Meeting*. Dr. Davis' final first author abstract was: "Comparison of Patient Decision-Making Processes Between Pre-implantation Genetic Testing (PGT) and Invasive Antepartum Testing (IAT)" presented at *State of the Art Ultrasound in Pregnancy Symposium at the International Society of Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology*. The first of Dr. Davis' coauthor abstracts: "Influence of Psychiatric Medications on Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome in Women Treated for Opioid Use Disorder" was for the *ACOG Annual Clinical & Scientific Meeting*. The remaining four were all for the *Society of Maternal Fetal Medicine (SMFM) 40th Annual Pregnancy Meeting*. These included: "Do fibroids change in size during pregnancy?" "How do distress levels affect women's decision-making for invasive prenatal genetic testing?" and "The association between patient characteristics and psychological experiences when deciding about prenatal genetic diagnostic testing." The latter two were also accepted for the *Stony Brook Annual Women in Medicine Research Day*. Dr. Davis' last coauthor abstract: "Opioid Use in Pregnancy: Breaking Through the Stigma" was for a Film Festival presentation at *SMFM*.



### Diana Garretto, MD

Dr. Garretto was the PI on seven IRB approved projects: "A Randomized Control Trial of Vitamin D Prophylaxis in the Prevention of Hypertensive Disorders of Pregnancy," "Ductus Arteriosus changes with increasing Gestational Age," "Promoting Labor Progress to Prevent the Primary Cesarean- Before and After Educational Intervention," "Demographics and Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome in Pregnant Women with Active Opioid Abuse Compared to Pregnant Women on Opioid Maintenance Medications Over the Last 10 Years in a Tertiary Care Hospital," "Different Outcomes

Amongst Pregnant African-American Patients on Antihypertensive Therapy," "What are the differences in Maternal and Neonatal Morbidity/Mortality across at Stony Brook University Hospital over the past 5 years based on Zip code," and "Correlation between patient understanding of intrapartum course and satisfaction with labour and delivery experience." Dr. Garretto was a co-Investigator on an NIH R21 submission: "Evaluation and validation of a novel instrument to assess the psychosocial and drug history backgrounds of pregnant women with or without Opioid Use Disorder." Dr. Garretto was a coauthor on five manuscripts. Two are in press: "Improving assessment, treatment, and understanding of pregnant women with opioid use disorder: The importance of life context" at *Women's Reproductive Health*, and "Comparison of buprenorphine and methadone in the management of maternal opioid use disorder in full term pregnancies" at the *Journal of Perinatal Medicine*. The other three are all pending review: "Cardiac implant and the risk of infective endocarditis in pregnancy" was submitted to *Case Reports in Perinatal Medicine*, "Psychological measures of patients' decision-making for prenatal genetic testing" was submitted to the *Journal of Maternal-Fetal & Neonatal Medicine*, and "Is combination therapy for cervical shortening effective to prevent preterm birth?" went to the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*. Dr. Garretto was a coauthor on nine meeting abstracts. "Opioid Maintenance Therapy (OMT) Outcomes on Maternal Weight Gain," "The Patient's Perspective and Patient Satisfaction in Labor and Delivery," "Influence of Psychiatric Medications on Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome in Women Treated for Opioid Use Disorder," "The Influence of Intrapartum Events on Patient Understanding in Labor" and "How Well Do Patients Clearly Understand Invasive Prenatal Genetic Diagnostic Testing?" were all sent to the *ACOG Annual Clinical & Scientific Meeting*. The last was also presented at the *AAP Chatham Meeting*. Three abstracts: "Comparison of Opioid Maintenance

## Maternal Fetal Medicine

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Therapy (OMT) on prenatal and postnatal growth effects," "How do distress levels affect women's decision-making for invasive prenatal genetic testing?" and "The association between patient characteristics and psychological experiences when deciding about prenatal genetic diagnostic testing" were sent to the *Society of Maternal Fetal Medicine 40th Annual Pregnancy Meeting*. The latter two were also presented at the *Stony Brook Annual Women in Medicine Research Day*. Dr. Garretto's final abstract "Comparison of Patient Decision-Making Processes Between Pre-implantation Genetic Testing (PGT) and Invasive Antepartum Testing (IAT)" was presented in the *State of the Art Ultrasound in Pregnancy Symposium at the International Society of Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology*. Dr. Garretto was the discussant for **Dr. Vaibhavi Umesh's** (Resident) RRD presentation: "Evaluating Practice Patterns of Late Preterm Antenatal Steroid Administration and Adherence to Recommendations."



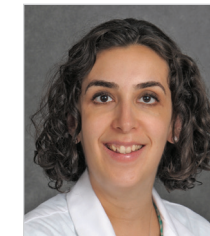
### David Garry, DO, FACOG

#### Division Chief; Fellowship Director: Maternal Fetal Medicine Fellowship

Dr. Garry had six IRB approved projects: "A Randomized Control Trial of Buprenorphine vs Buprenorphine/naloxone on the Effects of Maternal Symptomatology," "Inflammatory markers and microbiota in preterm birth," "Non-Anemic Iron Deficiency as a Predictor of Anemia in Pregnancy," "Circulating miRNAs from placental exosomes in pregnant women with substance use exposure," "FGR and delivery mode" and "Opioid Dependence and Pregnancy." He was a PI on two funding applications.

These were for a contract with MAT-LINK: "Collection of clinical data from pregnant women treated for opioid use disorder" and a Phase 3 clinical trial: "Randomized, Double- Or Observer-Blinded, Placebo-Controlled Trial to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of a Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Prefusion F Subunit Vaccine in Infants Born To Women Vaccinated During Pregnancy" for Pfizer Pharmaceuticals. The Pfizer clinical trial was funded and is now running. Dr. Garry was a co-Investigator on two additional applications. "Evaluation and validation of a novel instrument to assess the psychosocial and drug history backgrounds of pregnant women with or without Opioid Use Disorder" was a resubmitted NIH R21 and "Adaptations of Brain and Behavior to Opioids and Stress" was a new NIH R01 application. Dr. Garry was also a team member on three additional funded studies. The first was as a co-Investigator on *Dr. James Swain's* (Department of Psychiatry) newly funded NIH R01: "Opioids and Maternal Brain-Behavior Adaptation during the Early Postpartum." The other two, funded in previous years, are ongoing. Dr. Garry is a co-Investigator on the 5 year R01: "Rethinking Electronic Fetal Monitoring to Improve Perinatal Outcomes and Reduce Frequency of Operative Vaginal and Cesarean Deliveries." He is also part of the mentorship team on *Dr. Brittain Mahaffey's* (Department of Psychiatry) 5 year NIH K23: "An Internet-Delivered Mind-Body Program for Reducing Prenatal Maternal Stress." Dr. Garry was a coauthor on seven papers. "Reducing mother-to-child transmission of HCV: Is it attainable with a multidisciplinary approach?" published in the *Journal of hepatology* and "Effects of opioids on the parental brain in health and disease" was published in *Frontiers in neuroendocrinology*. He has four in press. "Improving assessment, treatment, and understanding of pregnant women with opioid use disorder: The importance of life context" to be published by *Women's Reproductive Health*, "Assisted reproductive technologies (ART) and placental abnormalities" at the *Journal of Perinatal Medicine*, "Comparison of buprenorphine and methadone in the management of maternal opioid use disorder in full term pregnancies" at the *Journal of Perinatal Medicine*, and "Pregnant patients requiring appendectomy: comparison between open and laparoscopic approaches in NY State" at *Surgical Endoscopy*. His seventh coauthored manuscript:

"Considering delay of cholecystectomy in the third trimester of pregnancy" is in review at *Surgical Endoscopy*. Dr. Garry was a coauthor on six meeting abstracts. "Knowledge May Not be the Barrier to Care for Pregnant Women with Opioid Use Disorder: The ACOG District II Education Bundle" was submitted for the *Society for Reproductive Investigation's 67th Annual Scientific Meeting* and published in *Reproductive Sciences*. "Matrix Metalloproteinases (MMPs) are Potential Markers for Preterm Birth (PTB)" and "Comparison of Opioid Maintenance Therapy (OMT) on prenatal and postnatal growth effects" were both for the *Society of Maternal Fetal Medicine 40th Annual Pregnancy Meeting* and published in the *American Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology*. The last three: "The Patient's Perspective and Patient Satisfaction in Labor and Delivery," "Influence of Psychiatric Medications on Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome in Women Treated for Opioid Use Disorder" and "The Influence of Intrapartum Events on Patient Understanding in Labor" were all for the *ACOG Annual Clinical & Scientific meeting* and published in *Obstetrics & Gynecology*.



### Kimberly Herrera, MD

#### Associate Director: Maternal Fetal Medicine Fellowship Program

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Dr. Herrera had four IRB approved projects: "Utilization of Formalized Protocol for Multidisciplinary Care of Placenta Accreta Spectrum Pregnancies," "Does Supplemental Vaginal Progesterone Improve Pregnancy Outcomes in Patients receiving 17OH-P or Cervical Cerclage with Developing Cervical Shortening?" "Does implementation of a Gestational Weight Gain (GWG) video improve adherence to the National

Academy of Medicine's recommended pregnancy weight gain guidelines?" and "Evaluating practice patterns since the introduction of late preterm antenatal corticosteroids." Dr. Herrera was a co-Investigator on two funding applications. "Evaluation of a novel instrument to assess the psychosocial and drug history backgrounds of pregnant women with Opioid Use Disorder" was submitted as an OVPR Seed Grant proposal. "Evaluation and validation of a novel instrument to assess the psychosocial and drug history backgrounds of pregnant women with or without Opioid Use Disorder" was an NIH R21 submission. Dr. Herrera was first author on one and coauthor on six manuscripts. "First-trimester maternal serum alpha fetoprotein is associated with ischemic placental disease" was published in the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*. "One If by Vaginal, Two If by C (Section): An Argument for Vaginal Delivery for Hemophilia A Carriers with Male Fetuses" was a case study published in the *Archives of Clinical Case Studies*. Two papers are in press. "Improving assessment, treatment, and understanding of pregnant women with opioid use disorder: The importance of life context" is to be published in *Women's Reproductive Health* and "Comparison of buprenorphine and methadone in the management of maternal opioid use disorder in full term pregnancies" will be in the *Journal of Perinatal Medicine*. Dr. Herrera has three papers in review. Her first author paper: "Psychological measures of patients' decision-making for prenatal genetic testing" is at the *Journal of Maternal-Fetal & Neonatal Medicine*. She is a coauthor on "Is combination therapy for cervical shortening effective to prevent preterm birth?" at the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology* and "Cardiac implant and the risk of infective endocarditis in pregnancy" at *Case Reports in Perinatal Medicine*. Dr. Herrera was a coauthor on six meeting abstracts. "How Well Do Patients Clearly Understand Invasive Prenatal Genetic Diagnostic Testing?" and "Influence of Psychiatric Medications on Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome in Women Treated for Opioid Use Disorder" were both for the *ACOG Annual Clinical & Scientific Meeting*. A third abstract: "Gestational Weight Gain Video Module Improves Patient Knowledge of Weight Gain in Pregnancy" went to both the

## Maternal Fetal Medicine

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ACOG meeting and *The Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine (SMFM) 40th Annual Meeting*. Three additional presentations for SMFM were: "Comparison of Opioid Maintenance Therapy (OMT) on prenatal and postnatal growth effects," "How do distress levels affect women's decision-making for invasive prenatal genetic testing?" and "The association between patient characteristics and psychological experiences when deciding about prenatal genetic diagnostic testing." Dr. Herrera's final coauthored abstract: "Comparison of Patient Decision-Making Processes Between Pre-implantation Genetic Testing (PGT) and Invasive Antepartum Testing (IAT)" was presented at *State of the Art Ultrasound in Pregnancy Symposium (International Society of Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology)*.



### Cassandra Heiselman, DO, MPH

#### Fellow, Maternal Fetal Medicine

Dr. Heiselman is coauthor on four manuscripts and one book chapter. The chapter was "Endometritis and Other Postpartum Infections" in *The 5-Minute Clinical Consult 2021*. Two of the manuscripts are in press. "Identification of factors associated with delayed treatment of obstetric hypertensive emergencies" will be published in the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*. "Pandemic-related pregnancy stress and anxiety among women pregnant during the COVID-19 pandemic" will be in the *American Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology Maternal-Fetal Medicine*. Two additional manuscripts have been submitted. "Is combination therapy for cervical shortening effective to prevent preterm birth?" is in review at the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology* and "Psychological measures of patients' decision-making for prenatal genetic testing" is being considered at the *Journal of Maternal-Fetal & Neonatal Medicine*. Dr. Heiselman was first or coauthor on eight meeting abstracts. She was first author on "Opioid Use in Pregnancy: Breaking Through the Stigma," a film festival presentation at the *American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ACOG) 2020 Annual Clinical and Scientific Meeting*. She was a coauthor on two additional ACOG abstracts: "Opioid Maintenance Therapy (OMT) Outcomes on Maternal Weight Gain" and "Intention Versus Uptake: LARC Among Postpartum Women in a Federally Qualified Health Clinic." The LARC abstract was also presented at the *Cleveland Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists: Research Day*. Dr. Heiselman was coauthor on four abstracts for the *Society of Maternal Fetal Medicine (SMFM) 40th Annual Pregnancy Meeting*. These were: "Postpartum diabetes screening in an urban resident clinic," "Matrix Metalloproteinases (MMPs) are Potential Markers for Preterm Birth (PTB)," "Comparison of Opioid Maintenance Therapy (OMT) on prenatal and postnatal growth effects" and "Do fibroids change in size during pregnancy?" Dr. Heiselman was first author on a final SMFM abstract: "How do distress levels affect women's decision-making for invasive prenatal genetic testing?" which was also presented at *Stony Brook's Annual Women in Medicine Research Day*.



### J. Gerald Quirk, MD, PhD

#### Toll Professor

See Spotlight, page 17

Dr. Quirk is the co-PI on a 5-year NIH R01 grant: "Rethinking Electronic Fetal Monitoring to Improve Perinatal Outcomes and Reduce Frequency of Operative Vaginal and Cesarean Deliveries" currently in the second year of funding. The team has constructed a publicly available web site: <http://preana-fo.ece.stonybrook.edu/> to provide access to information about

the research. This project resulted in two presentations this year for Dr. Quirk at the *3rd Signal Processing and Monitoring Conference (SPaM) in Labour Workshop* in Porto, Portugal. The first was a sole-authored talk: "A personal reflection concerning fetal monitoring." The second presentation, authored jointly with Dr. Djuric, was "Analysis of FHR Signals by Deep Gaussian Processes."

## Midwifery

Our Midwifery Division continues to grow and participate in collaborative research with an unparalleled record of accomplishment in patient recruitment. The Midwifery Division's expertise in communication and education makes them well suited as the critical link between patients and our research efforts. The midwives also participated in community outreach through participation in birth fairs and high school career nights. On the many projects that they support, the midwives participate in a wide range of research activities: subject identification, patient recruitment, and biosample collection. During the past year, the midwives were the primary collaborators on "The Effect of Peripartum Antibiotics on Vertical Transmission of the Maternal Microbiome" with *Gretchen Mockler, MD* (Department of Family, Population & Preventive Medicine). They also provide significant support to other projects including: "Characterization of circulating miRNAs from placenta exosomes in women with normal weight vs. obese women of different ethnic groups" with *Maricedes Acosta-Martinez, PhD* (Department of Physiology and Biophysics); "Adapting a Comprehensive Mind-Body Group Intervention for Pregnant Women" with *Brittain Mahaffey, PhD* (Department of Psychiatry); and *Dr. James Swain's* (Department of Psychiatry) NIH R01: "Opioids and Maternal Brain-Behavior Adaptation during the Early Postpartum."

In addition to their group participation, individual members of the Division had their own achievements.



### Heather Findletar-Hines, CNM, DNP

Dr. Findletar-Hines was included as a faculty participant on a grant "Expanding Access to Services for Integrated/Interprofessional Behavioral Health Care (EASI - Care)," submitted to the Health Resources and Services Administration.



### Maria Fisher, CNM, MSN, MPH, IBCLC

See Spotlight, page 16

This past academic year, Ms. Fisher helped to create an elective rotation on Breastfeeding Medicine for pediatric residents and worked with 4th year medical students as an elective. The first resident completed a two-week rotation with her in August. She lectured the Pediatrics and Obstetrics residents on lactation issues. Ms. Fisher sits on our newly formed hospital Committee on NICU Enteral Nutrition and Breastfeeding, a multi-disciplinary committee whose initial focus has been to introduce the use of human donor milk to our most vulnerable babies in the NICU.



### Christina Kocis, CNM, DNP

Director, Division of Midwifery

Dr. Kocis was a co-Investigator along with **Dr. David Garry** (Maternal Fetal Medicine) on *Dr. James Swain's* (Department of Psychiatry) NIH R01 grant: "Opioids and Maternal Brain-Behavior Adaptation during the Early Postpartum." She was a coauthor on "Pregnancy-specific coping and changes in emotional distress from mid-to late pregnancy," published in the *Journal of Reproductive and Infant Psychology*.

## Gynecologic Oncology



### William Burke, MD

Division Chief; Program Director: Minimally Invasive and Robotic Surgery Fellowship

Dr. Burke was a co-Investigator on three grant applications: the NRG-GY018 Clinical Trial fund, an NCICOVID Clinical Trial and "MMRI study of chemo brain in ovarian cancer patients" submitted to the DOD. Dr. Burke is a PI on a 5 year industry sponsored clinical trial from Tesaro, Inc.: "A Randomized, double-blind, phase-3 comparison of Platinum based therapy with TSR 042 and Niraparib versus standard of care Platinum-based therapy as first line treatment of stage III or IV Nonmucinous epithelial ovarian cancer." He is a co-Investigator on three additional studies: the NRG-GY018 Clinical Trial fund, the NCICOVID Clinical Trial, and "A Phase 1a/1b Study of FPA150, an Anti-B7-H4 Antibody, in Patients with Advanced Solid Tumors," another 5 year industry sponsored clinical trial from Five Prime Therapeutics Inc. Dr. Burke is coauthor on several papers. The first two papers are "Immature teratoma diagnosed and treated during pregnancy and later complicated by growing teratoma syndrome: a case review with clinical considerations" in *Gynecologic Oncology Reports* and "Use of Cannabinoids in Cancer Patients: A Society of Gynecologic Oncology (SGO) Clinical Practice Statement" in *Gynecologic Oncology*. His third paper: "Invasive ductal breast carcinoma metastasis to the cervix: A case review and clinical correlation" is in press in *Gynecologic Oncology Reports* and a fourth: "Clinical Outcome of Multidisciplinary Treatment of Vulvar Necrotizing Fasciitis" has been submitted to the *Journal of Wound Care*. He is also coauthor on a manuscript in preparation: "Correlation of endometrial tumor DNA mismatch repair status and MELF-pattern invasion." Dr. Burke was coauthor on two meeting abstracts. "Awareness of Surgical Cost in Gynecology" presented at the *ACOG Annual Clinical & Scientific* meeting and "The effect of early postoperative urinary catheter removal on patient satisfaction in gynecologic oncology" presented to the *International Gynecologic Cancer Society*. Dr. Burke was the discussant for **Dr. Charissa Dinobile's** (Resident) RRD presentation: "Correlation of Endometrial Tumor DNA Mismatch Repair Status and Melf-Pattern Invasion."



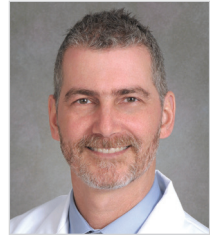
### Marlo Dombroff, MS, PA-C

Ms. Dombroff had two IRB-approved projects: "Treatment Related Cognitive Dysfunction in Endometrial Cancer" and "MRI for Chemobrain." She was a co-Investigator on two grant applications. "CP: Can diet and physical activity modulate ovarian fallopian tube and primary peritoneal cancer progression-free survival" was submitted to the NRG Oncology Foundation and "MMRI study of chemo brain in ovarian cancer patients" was submitted to the DOD.



### Gabrielle Gossner, MD

Dr. Gossner was a co-Investigator on two grant applications: the NRG-GY018 Clinical Trial fund, and an NCICOVID Clinical Trial. Both of these were funded. She was a coauthor on "Clinical Outcome of Multidisciplinary Treatment of Vulvar Necrotizing Fasciitis" submitted to the *Journal of Wound Care* and has a manuscript in preparation: "Correlation of endometrial tumor DNA mismatch repair status and MELF-pattern invasion." Dr. Gossner was a coauthor on "The effect of early postoperative urinary catheter removal on patient satisfaction in gynecologic oncology," presented at the *International Gynecologic Cancer Society*.



**Michael Pearl, MD**

**Professor, Division of Gynecological Oncology  
Vice Chairman, Research and Faculty Development  
Director of Women's Cancer Services, Cancer Center  
Medical Director, Cancer Center Clinical Trials Office**

Dr. Pearl was the PI on six IRB approved projects. Four of these were retrospective reviews: "Retrospective study of multidisciplinary approach to necrotizing fasciitis management," "Correlation of endometrial tumor DNA mismatch Repair status and MELF-pattern invasion," "Prognostic

significance of the pre-operative red blood cell count (RBC) for women with gynecologic malignancies," and "Is routine pre-operative type and screen necessary in the gynecologic surgery setting?" The additional two: "Preservation and Isolation of Circulating Tumor Cells in Blood for Clinical and Genomic Analyses" and "Cancer progenitor cell markers/ Detecting Circulating Ovarian Cancer Cells during Treatment / CRC / Circulating biomarker development" were ongoing clinical research projects. Dr. Pearl was the PI on five funding applications. Two of these: "Vita-Cap tube to preserve circulating tumor cells in blood" and "Development of automatic, functional capture of invasive CTCs (using Vita-Cap™ blood collection tube) for pan cancer diagnosis" were for subcontracts with LineaRx Incorporated. The other three, submitted through the Cancer Center, were the NRG-GY018 Clinical Trial fund, an NCICOVID Clinical Trial and an NRG Oncology Foundation proposal: "CP: Can diet and physical activity modulate ovarian fallopian tube and primary peritoneal cancer progression-free survival." He was also a co-Investigator on the DOD application: "MMRI study of chemo brain in ovarian cancer patients." Dr. Pearl was the PI for two projects funded this fiscal year: the renewed NRG-GY018 Clinical Trial fund and the NCICOVID Clinical Trial. He was also a co-Investigator on three ongoing industry sponsored clinical trials: "A Randomized, double-blind, phase-3 comparison of Platinum based therapy with TSR 042 and Niraparib versus standard of care Platinum-based therapy as first line treatment of stage III or IV Nonmucinous epithelial ovarian cancer" from Tesaro, Inc.; "A Phase 1a/1b Study of FPA150, an Anti-B7-H4 Antibody, in Patients with Advanced Solid Tumors" from Five Prime Therapeutics Inc.; and "Blood Sample Collection to Evaluate Biomarkers in Subjects with Untreated Solid Tumors" from Exact Sciences Corp.

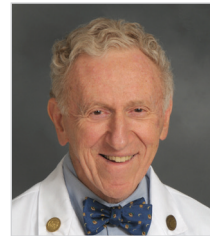
Dr. Pearl is the co-editor and writing two modules for a palliative care educational curriculum for the International Gynecologic Cancer Society. He was the co-moderator for the Palliative Care session at the 18th Global Meeting, International Gynecologic Oncology Society in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. At that time, he also presented the curriculum. Dr. Pearl had two additional invited presentations: "Gestational Trophoblastic Disease" presented at SUNY Stony Brook's ObGyn Grand Rounds, and Project ECHO, presented at multiple international sites on multiple dates for the International Gynecologic Oncology Society.

Dr. Pearl was first author on: "Correlation of lymphovascular space invasion and invasive circulating tumor cells in patients with epithelial ovarian cancer" published in *JSM Surgical Oncology and Research* and coauthor on 10 additional papers. Three of these are in print: "The propensity of invasive circulating tumor cells (iCTCs) in metastatic progression and therapeutic responsiveness" in *Cancer Medicine*, "A case of metastatic mixed trophoblastic tumor" in the *European Journal of Gynaecological Oncology*, and "Use of Cannabinoids in Cancer Patients: A Society of Gynecologic Oncology (SGO) Clinical Practice Statement" in *Gynecologic Oncology*. Two papers are in press: "Do patients undergoing surgery on a gynecologic oncology service need a preoperative type and screen: A single-center retrospective cohort study" in *Clinical and Experimental Obstetrics & Gynecology*, and "Circulating Tumor Cells In Advanced Cervical Cancer: NRG Oncology-

Gynecologic Oncology Group Study 240 (NCT 00803062)" in *Molecular Cancer Therapeutics*. Two more are under review: "Carboplatin and paclitaxel for advanced endometrial cancer: Final overall survival and adverse event analysis of a randomized, controlled open label phase 3 trial (NRG Oncology/GOG 0209)" at the *Journal of Clinical Oncology* and "Clinical Outcome of Multidisciplinary Treatment of Vulvar Necrotizing Fasciitis" at the *Journal of Wound Care*. Three manuscripts are in preparation: "Correlation of endometrial tumor DNA mismatch repair status and MELF-pattern invasion," "Clinical Outcome of Multidisciplinary Treatment of Vulvar Necrotizing Fasciitis" and "Do patients undergoing surgery on a gynecologic oncology service need a preoperative type and screen: A single-center retrospective cohort study." Dr. Pearl was first author on two meeting presentations: "The effect of early postoperative urinary catheter removal on patient satisfaction in gynecologic oncology" and "Correlation of lymphovascular space invasion and invasive circulating tumor cells in patients with epithelial ovarian cancer," both presented at the *Global Meeting of the International Gynecologic Cancer Society*. He was a coauthor on "Minimally invasive hysterectomy rates and surgical outcomes in uterine cancer: A Society of Gynecologic Oncology clinical outcomes registry analysis" presented at the *SGO 2020 Annual Meeting on Women's Cancer*.



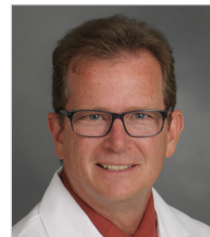
## Reproductive Endocrinology



### Richard Bronson, MD

#### Division Director

Dr. Bronson supervises the annual Resident and Fellows Research Day. He was a Section Editor for the journal: Reproductive Biology & Medicine Online (RBMO). Dr. Bronson published two poems: "She Won't Be Back" in *Family Medicine* and "Penumbra" in *The Pharos of AOA*.



### James Stelling, MD

Dr. Stelling was coauthor on a paper: "Initial psychometric analysis of novel instruments to assess decisional distress and decisional uncertainty in women who have considered using preimplantation genetic testing" published in *Prenatal Diagnosis*. He was also coauthor on two meeting presentations. The first of these was: "Preimplantation Genetic Testing for Aneuploidy: A Qualitative Study of Patient Decision-Making Experiences" which was presented at the *American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM) 2019 Conference*, and accepted for the *2020 Society of Behavioral*

*Medicine conference* (conference cancelled due to COVID19). The second was "Preimplantation genetic testing: psychometric properties of questionnaires designed to assess patient decisional distress and decisional uncertainty" also presented at the *2019 ASRM conference*.



### Bradley Trivax, MD

Dr. Trivax had one IRB-approved project: "Evaluating the utility of a webinar platform and the use of social media as a platform for mentoring medical students and OBGYN residents in the field of REI."

## Research



### Wen-Tien Chen, PhD

Dr. Chen was coauthor on two papers and one abstract with **Dr. Michael Pearl** (Gynecologic Oncology). The papers were "The propensity of invasive circulating tumor cells (iCTCs) in metastatic progression and therapeutic responsiveness" in *Cancer Medicine* and "Correlation of lymphovascular space invasion and invasive circulating tumor cells in patients with epithelial ovarian cancer" in *International Journal of Gynecologic Cancer*. **Dr. Pearl** presented an abstract of the latter at the *International Gynecologic Cancer Society* meeting.



### Lisa Pastore, PhD

Dr. Pastore had three IRB-approved projects this year. These were "Interviews and questionnaires of individuals considering pre-implantation genetic testing," "The FRAXELLE Study - ANATINF Control Population," and "Genetic Risk Factors for Female Fertility." In February, Dr. Pastore submitted an NIH R21: "What is the patient-entered experience of considering/using preimplantation genetic testing for serious childhood genetic disorders?" with co-Investigator *Lisa Rubin* (New School for Social Research). Dr. Pastore was first author on five publications. These included:

"Initial psychometric analysis of novel instruments to assess decisional distress and decisional uncertainty in women who have considered using preimplantation genetic testing" and "Patients' preimplantation genetic testing decision-making experience: an opinion on related psychological frameworks" published in *Prenatal Diagnosis* and *Human Reproduction Open*, respectively. "New perspectives on the genetic causes of diminished ovarian reserve and opportunities for genetic screening: A systematic review and meta-analysis" is in press at *F&S Reviews*. "Ethical and Moral Perspectives of Individuals Considering Preimplantation Genetic Testing" has been submitted to the *Journal of Genetic Counseling* and the manuscript for "X Chromosome Next Generation Sequencing in Six Women With Pathologic Diminished Ovarian Reserve: Comparison of Prioritization Strategies" is in preparation. Dr. Pastore was coauthor on an additional six papers. "Antimullerian Hormone and Impending Menopause in Late Reproductive Age: The Study of Women's Health across the Nation" was published in the *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism* and "Navigating the body of literature assessing BRCA1/2 mutations and markers of ovarian function: a systematic review and meta-analysis" was published in the *Journal of Assisted Reproduction and Genetics*. A third: "Psychological measures of patients' decision-making for prenatal genetic testing" is in review at the *Journal of Maternal-Fetal & Neonatal Medicine*. Three manuscripts are in preparation: "Comparison of Ethical Perspectives in Individuals Considering Preimplantation Embryo Genetic Testing for Aneuploidy (PGT-A) vs. Monogenic Disorders (PGT-M)," "Navigating Preimplantation Genetic Testing Decisions in the Age of Social Media: A Qualitative Study," and "Preimplantation Genetic Testing for Aneuploidy: A Qualitative Study of Patient Decision-Making Experiences." Dr. Pastore was first author on one meeting abstract: "Preimplantation genetic testing: psychometric properties of questionnaires designed to assess patient decisional distress and decisional uncertainty" presented at the *American Society for Reproductive Medicine*. She was a coauthor on two additional presentations at that meeting: "Comparison of Ethical Perspectives of Individuals Considering Preimplantation Embryo Genetic Testing for Aneuploidy (PGT-A) vs. Monogenic Disorders (PGT-M)" and "Preimplantation Genetic Testing for Aneuploidy: A Qualitative Study of Patient Decision-Making Experiences."

Dr. Pastore was coauthor on five additional abstracts. "How Well Do Patients Clearly Understand Invasive Prenatal Genetic Diagnostic Testing?" was presented at the *AAP Chatham Meeting*. "Comparison of Patient Decision-Making Processes Between Pre-implantation Genetic Testing (PGT) and Invasive Antepartum Testing (IAT)" was presented at *State of the Art Ultrasound in Pregnancy Symposium (International Society of Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology)*. "How do distress levels affect women's decision-making for invasive prenatal genetic testing?" and "The association between patient characteristics and psychological experiences when deciding about prenatal genetic diagnostic testing" were both presented at the *Society of Maternal Fetal Medicine 40th Annual Pregnancy Meeting* and at the *Stony Brook Annual Women in Medicine Research Day*. The fifth: "Preimplantation genetic testing for aneuploidy: and in depth, qualitative study of the decision-making experience" was presented at the *Society of Behavioral Medicine* meeting. Dr. Pastore is also an Editorial Board Member of the *Journal of Assisted Reproduction and Genetics*.



**Tatyana Peresleni, PhD**

Dr. Peresleni was a coauthor on poster: "Matrix Metalloproteinases (MMPs) are Potential Markers for Preterm Birth (PTB)" presented at the *Society of Maternal Fetal Medicine 40th Annual Pregnancy Meeting* in Grapevine, TX.



**Elizabeth J. Roemer, MA**

Ms. Roemer is currently a co-investigator on an NIH R01: "Rethinking Electronic Fetal Monitoring to Improve Perinatal Outcomes and Reduce Frequency of Operative Vaginal and Cesarean Deliveries." Additionally, she was a key person on two grant applications. The first was for a contract with MAT-LINK: "Collection of clinical data from pregnant women treated for opioid use disorder" with PI **Dr. David Garry** (Maternal Fetal Medicine). The second, "GCR: In search for the interactions that create consciousness," was an NSF application with PI *Dr. Petar Djurić* (Department of Electrical

Engineering, School of Engineering) and Co-PIs: *Dr. Sima Mofakham* and *Dr. Charles Mikel III* (both Department of Neurosurgery).

**Residents**

**PGY 4**



**Cara Staszewski, MD**

Dr. Staszewski was first author on one manuscript: "Comparison of buprenorphine and methadone in the management of maternal opioid use disorder in full term pregnancies," which will be published in the *Journal of Perinatal Medicine*. She was coauthor on two meeting abstracts. "Comparison of Opioid Maintenance Therapy (OMT) on prenatal and postnatal growth effects" was for the *Society of Maternal Fetal Medicine 40th Annual Pregnancy Meeting*. "Opioid Maintenance Therapy (OMT) Outcomes on Maternal Weight Gain" was for the *ACOG Annual Clinical & Scientific* meeting.

Dr. Staszewski was first author on an additional *ACOG* abstract: "Influence of Psychiatric Medications on Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome in Women Treated for Opioid Use Disorder."

**PGY 3**



**Elizabeth Cochrane, MD**

Dr. Cochrane was first author on one paper and coauthor on a second. Her first author paper, "Immature teratoma diagnosed and treated during pregnancy and later complicated by growing teratoma syndrome: a case review with clinical considerations," was published in *Gynecologic Oncology Reports*. Her second paper, "First-trimester maternal serum alpha fetoprotein is associated with ischemic placental disease," was in the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*. Dr. Cochrane has two additional first author papers in press. "Assisted reproductive technologies (ART) and placental abnormalities" will be published by the *Journal of Perinatal Medicine*. "Invasive ductal breast carcinoma metastasis to the cervix: A case review and clinical correlation" will also be in *Gynecologic Oncology Reports*. Her final first author effort "The Effect of an Oxytocin Rest Period on Cesarean Delivery Blood Loss" has been submitted to and is in review at the *Journal of Perinatal Medicine*. This work was also accepted as a poster at the *American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) Annual Clinical and Scientific Meeting*. It was also Dr. Cochrane's RRD project with **Dr. Joseph Chappelle** as her PI. Dr. Cochrane was a coauthor on four additional meeting abstracts. "Hemoglobin A1c to Determine the Prevalence of Undiagnosed Carbohydrate Intolerance in Pregnancy," "Awareness of Surgical Cost in Gynecology," and "Opioid Maintenance Therapy (OMT) Outcomes on Maternal Weight Gain" were all presented at *ACOG*. The fourth abstract, "Comparison of Opioid Maintenance Therapy (OMT) on prenatal and postnatal growth effects," went to the *Society of Maternal Fetal Medicine 40th Annual Pregnancy Meeting*.

Dr. Cochrane was a coauthor on four additional meeting abstracts. "Hemoglobin A1c to Determine the Prevalence of Undiagnosed Carbohydrate Intolerance in Pregnancy," "Awareness of Surgical Cost in Gynecology," and "Opioid Maintenance Therapy (OMT) Outcomes on Maternal Weight Gain" were all presented at *ACOG*. The fourth abstract, "Comparison of Opioid Maintenance Therapy (OMT) on prenatal and postnatal growth effects," went to the *Society of Maternal Fetal Medicine 40th Annual Pregnancy Meeting*.



**Charissa Dinobile, MD**

Dr. Dinobile was a coauthor on "Immature teratoma diagnosed and treated during pregnancy and later complicated by growing teratoma syndrome: a case review with clinical considerations," published in *Gynecologic Oncology Reports*. Her RRD project, "Correlation of endometrial tumor DNA mismatch repair status and MELF-pattern invasion" with **Dr. Michael Pearl** as PI, was accepted as a poster presentation to *International Gynecologic Cancer Society Conference*. A manuscript for publication of that work is in preparation.



### Gina Milone, MD

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Dr. Milone was involved in four research projects. Two of these were IRB approved and two were QA/QI. The IRB approved projects were: "Does implementation of an educational video regarding Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) and cervical cancer screening improve patient knowledge and anxiety regarding colposcopy?" with PI **Dr. Dorota Kowalska**, and "Does implementation of a Gestational Weight Gain (GWG) video module improve adherence to the National Academy of Medicine's recommended

pregnancy weight gain guidelines?" with PI **Dr. Kimberly Herrera**. The QA/QI projects, both with PI **Dr. Joseph Chappelle**, were "An assessment of the accuracy of prediction of hemorrhage by a Hemorrhage Risk Assessment Score Card" and "An evaluation of anemia in the postpartum period and its association with anemia in subsequent pregnancies." Dr. Milone was a coauthor on three manuscripts. "Does a Second Stage Cesarean Section Increase the Risk of Cervical Insufficiency in Future Pregnancies" was published in *Gynecology and Reproductive Health*. "Is combination therapy for cervical shortening effective to prevent preterm birth?" was submitted for review to the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*. "Psychological measures of patients' decision-making for prenatal genetic testing" was submitted to the *Journal of Maternal-Fetal & Neonatal Medicine*. Dr. Milone was first author on two meeting abstracts. "Gestational Weight Gain Video Module Improves Patient Knowledge of Weight Gain in Pregnancy" was accepted for poster presentation at the *2020 American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) Annual Clinical and Scientific Meeting* and was a poster presentation at the *Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine (SMFM) 40th Annual Meeting*. "The association between patient characteristics and psychological experiences when deciding about prenatal genetic diagnostic testing" was a poster at *The Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine (SMFM) 40th Annual Meeting* and an oral presentation at *Stony Brook's Annual Women in Medicine Research Day*. Dr. Milone was also a coauthor on three additional meeting abstracts. "How do distress levels affect women's decision-making for invasive prenatal genetic testing?" was a poster at SMFM and at *Stony Brook's Annual Women in Medicine Research Day*. "How Well Do Patients Clearly Understand Invasive Prenatal Genetic Diagnostic Testing?" was for a poster at ACOG and also was presented at *AAP Chatham Meeting*. "Comparison of Patient Decision-Making Processes Between Pre-implantation Genetic Testing (PGT) and Invasive Antepartum Testing (IAT)" was presented at *State of the Art Ultrasound in Pregnancy Symposium (International Society of Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology)*. Dr. Milone presented "Does use of a gestational weight gain video module improve patient adherence to weight gain guidelines during pregnancy?" at RRD with **Dr. Amy Lasky** as her discussant.



### Jennifer Pollard, MD

Dr. Pollard presented her RRD project: "Effects of diet counseling on gestational weight gain" with **Dr. Joseph Chappelle** as her PI. She was a coauthor on three manuscripts. "One If by Vaginal, Two If by C (Section): An Argument for Vaginal Delivery for Hemophilia A Carriers with Male Fetuses" was published in *Archived of Clinical Case Studies*. "Cardiac implant and the risk of infective endocarditis in pregnancy" was submitted to *Case Reports in Perinatal Medicine*. "A Case of Streptococcal Toxic Shock Syndrome in the Setting of Recent Gynecologic Surgery" was submitted to the *Journal of Minimally Invasive Gynecology*. Dr. Pollard was a coauthor on an abstract: "A parturient with symptomatic COVID disease, three negative PCR tests and positive antibodies: A management dilemma" submitted for the *American Society of Anesthesiologists Meeting 2020*.



### Vaibhabi Umesh, MD, MS

Dr. Umesh was a coauthor on a paper "Is combination therapy for cervical shortening effective to prevent preterm birth?" which is in review at the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*. She was also a coauthor on a poster: "Hemoglobin A1c to Determine the Prevalence of Undiagnosed Carbohydrate Intolerance in Pregnancy" at the *ACOG Annual Clinical & Scientific meeting*. Dr. Umesh's RRD project was "Evaluating practice patterns since the introduction of late preterm antenatal steroids and adherence to guidelines" with PI **Dr. Diana Garretto**.

### PGY 2



### Michelle Gruttadauria, MD

Dr. Gruttadauria was first author on a paper: "A Case of Streptococcal Toxic Shock Syndrome in the Setting of Recent Gynecologic Surgery," which has been submitted to the *Journal of Minimally Invasive Gynecology*. She was a coauthor on two meeting abstracts. "Comparison of Opioid Maintenance Therapy (OMT) on prenatal and postnatal growth effects" was for the *Society of Maternal Fetal Medicine 40th Annual Pregnancy Meeting*. "Opioid Maintenance Therapy (OMT) Outcomes on Maternal Weight Gain" went to the *ACOG Annual Clinical & Scientific Meeting*.



### Ashley Huber, MD

Dr. Huber was a coauthor on a paper: "The Effect of an Oxytocin Rest Period on Cesarean Delivery Blood Loss," which has been submitted to the *Journal of Perinatal Medicine*. She was also a coauthor on the abstract of that work as a poster for the *ACOG Annual Clinical & Scientific meeting*. Dr. Huber had an additional co-authorship on work she did prior to her residency. This was: "Impact of herpes simplex virus type 2 and human immunodeficiency virus dual infection on female genital tract mucosal immunity and the vaginal microbiome" published in *The Journal of infectious diseases*.

### PGY 1



### Devon Soucier, MD

Dr. Soucier was a coauthor on a paper: "Assisted reproductive technologies (ART) and placental abnormalities" which is being published by the *Journal of Perinatal Medicine*.

## Publications

Stony Brook Medicine Ob/Gyn members are listed in bold.

### Publications

Alvarez RD, Goff BA, Chelmow D, **Griffin TR**, Norwitz ER, Lancey JO. Re-Engineering Academic Departments of Obstetrics and Gynecology to Operate in a Pandemic World and Beyond—A Joint AGOS/CUCOG Statement. *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*. 2020 Jun 16. PMID: 32561257. doi: 10.1016/j.ajog.2020.06.024

**Bronson R**. She Won't Be Back. *Family Medicine*. 2020;52(4):301

**Bronson R**. Penumbra, The Pharos of AOA, Summer 2020, page 11

**Buckley A, Milone G**, Chittineedi N. Does a Second Stage Cesarean Section Increase the Risk of Cervical Insufficiency in Future Pregnancies. *Gynecol Reprod Health*. 2020;4(3):1-3

**Cochrane E**, Frost K, **Dinobile C, Kim S, Burke W**. Immature teratoma diagnosed and treated during pregnancy and later complicated by growing teratoma syndrome: a case review with clinical considerations. *Gynecol Oncol Rep*. 2020;32. May. doi: 10.1016/j.gore.2020.100566

**Dinglas C**, Afsar N, **Cochrane E, Davis J**, Kim S, Akerman M, Wells M, Chavez M, **Herrera K**, Heo H, Vintzileos A. First-trimester maternal serum alpha fetoprotein is associated with ischemic placental disease. *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*. 2020 May 1;222(5):499-e1. doi: 10.1016/j.ajog.2019.11.126

Dong H, Tulley S, Zhao Q, Cho L, Chen D, **Pearl ML, Chen WT**. The propensity of invasive circulating tumor cells (iCTCs) in metastatic progression and therapeutic responsiveness. *Cancer medicine*. 2019 Jul;8(8):3864-74. doi: 10.1002/cam4.2218

Finkelstein JS, Lee H, Karlamangla A, Neer RM, Sluss PM, Burnett-Bowie SA, Darakananda K, Donahoe PK, Harlow SD, Prizand SH, Joffe H, A Kumar, DE Martin, McConnell D, Merrilat S, Morrison A, **Pastore LM**, Randolph JF, Donahoe PK, Greendale GA, Santoro N. Antimüllerian Hormone and Impending Menopause in Late Reproductive Age: The Study of Women's Health Across the Nation. *The Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism*. 2020 Apr;105(4):e1862-71. <https://doi.org/10.1210/clinem/dgz283>

Hong J, Kushner T, Dieterich D, **Garry D**, Marcos LA, Beneri C, Sperling R, Patel P. Reducing mother-to-child transmission of HCV: Is it attainable with a multidisciplinary approach? *Journal of Hepatology*. 2019 Jul 1;71(1):229-30. DOI:<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhep.2019.01.032>

Ibrahim SM, Nicoloso-SantaBarbara J, Auerbach MV, Rosenthal L, **Kocis C**, Busso CE, Lobel M. Pregnancy-specific coping and changes in emotional distress from mid-to late pregnancy. *Journal of reproductive and infant psychology*. 2019 Aug 8;37(4):397-412. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02646838.2019.1578871>

Kertowidjojo E, Taha O, **Pearl M**, Batiste R, Kudelka A. A case of metastatic mixed trophoblastic tumor. *European Journal of Gynaecological Oncology*. 2019 Dec 10;40(6):1024-6. doi: 10.12892/ejgo5152.2019

Kirschen GW, **Pollard J, Herrera K**. One If by Vaginal, Two If by C (Section): An Argument for Vaginal Delivery for Hemophilia A Carriers with Male Fetuses. *Arch Clin Case Stud*. 2(1): 2019. ACCS.MS.ID.000527. DOI: 10.33552/ACCS.2019.02.000527

Mitchell CN, McGuinness B, Fine E, Kearns WG, Christianson MS, Segars J, **Pastore LM**. Navigating the body of literature assessing BRCA1/2 mutations and markers of ovarian function: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Journal of Assisted Reproduction and Genetics*. 2020 Mar 24:1-9. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10815-020-01745-2>

**Pastore LM**, Rubin LR, Nicoloso-SantaBarbara J, **Stelling J**, Lobel M. Initial psychometric analysis of novel instruments to assess decisional distress and decisional uncertainty in women who have considered using preimplantation genetic testing. *Prenatal Diagnosis*. 2020 May 5. <https://obgyn.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/pd.5730>

**Pastore LM**, Cordeiro Mitchell CN, Rubin LR, Nicoloso-SantaBarbara J, Genoff Garzon MC, Lobel M. Patients' preimplantation genetic testing decision-making experience: an opinion on related psychological frameworks. *Human reproduction Open*. 2019 Oct 4;2019(4):hoz019. doi: 10.1093/hropen/hoz019. PMID: 31598567; PMID: PMC6777985.

**Pearl ML**, Liu CB, Tornos C, **Chen W-T**. Correlation of lymphovascular space invasion and invasive circulating tumor cells in patients with epithelial ovarian cancer. *JSM Surg Oncol Res* 4(1): 1024-1032, 2020

Sheriff J, Malone LE, **Avila C**, Zigomalas A, Bluestein D, Bahou WF. Shear-Induced Platelet Activation is Sensitive to Age and Calcium Availability: A Comparison of Adult and Cord Blood. *Cellular and Molecular Bioengineering*. 2020 Jun 22:1-6. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12195-020-00628-x>

Swain JE, Ho SS, Fox H, **Garry D**, Brummelte S. Effects of opioids on the parental brain in health and disease. *Frontiers in neuroendocrinology*. 2019 Jul 1;54:100766. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.yfrne.2019.100766>

## Publications

-continued

Whitcomb B, Lutman C, **Pearl M**, Medlin E, Prendergast E, Robison K, **Burke W**. Use of Cannabinoids in Cancer Patients: A Society of Gynecologic Oncology (SGO) Clinical Practice Statement. *Gynecol Oncol* 157(2):307-311, 2020 PMID: 31932107doi: 10.1016/j.ygyno.2019.12.013

### In Press

Arora C, **Menzies A**, Han ES, Lee M, Lauer JK, Hur HC, Kim JH, Advincula AP. Comparing Surgical Experience and Skill Using a High-Fidelity, Total Laparoscopic Hysterectomy Model. *Obstetrics and Gynecology*.

**Cochrane E**, Pando C, Kirschen GW, **Soucier D**, **Fuchs A**, **Garry DJ**. Assisted reproductive technologies (ART) and placental abnormalities. *Journal of Perinatal Medicine*.

**Cochrane E**, **Kim S**, Kudelka A, **Burke W**. Invasive ductal breast carcinoma metastasis to the cervix: A case review and clinical correlation. *Gynecologic Oncology Reports*.

Kantorowska A, **Heiselman CJ**, Halpern TA, Akerman MB, Elsayad A, Muscat JC, Sicuranza GB, Vintzileos AM, Heo HJ. Identification of factors associated with delayed treatment of obstetric hypertensive emergencies. *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*.

Kirschen G, **Dayton S**, Blakey-Cheung S, **Pearl ML**. Do patients undergoing surgery on a gynecologic oncology service need a preoperative type and screen: A single-center retrospective cohort study. *Clinical and Experimental Obstetrics and Gynecology*.

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