

MEDICINEMATTERS

FEBRUARY 2025

NEWSLETTER

Medicine Matters is a monthly newsletter published by the University of Virginia, Department of Medicine. Inquiries may be sent to the editor, Kim Kelley-Wagner, at kak2cj@uvahealth.org



MISSION

We are dedicated to preventing disease and treating illness, educating and inspiring future leaders in the field of Internal medicine, and supporting innovative biomedical research.

VALUES

We strive for a sense of community, connection, and synergy among all faculty, staff, and trainees.

PLEDGE

We will conform to the highest ethical standards, uphold the values of our partner organizations, and give back to our community through public service.

WELCOME TO THE FEBRUARY EDITION



This month, we highlight the research and educational accomplishments of the Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism, led by Dr. Suzanne Jan De Beur.

We'd welcome you to read, watch, or listen to the many articles, papers, podcasts, and media appearances in which our department members appear.

If you have news to share, you are encouraged to do so at kak2cj@uvahealth.org

Thank you for all you do!



"The ability to use scientific inquiry and research to better understand

health and disease and improve the lives of not only my patients, but many others, made me want to dedicate my life to medicine."

~Suzanne Jan De Beur, MD

~ SUBMIT NEWS ~

GIVE WHERE YOU LIVE

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UVA Health

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OFFNOTE

DEPARTMENT

DOM Financial Update

Department of Medicine Summary of Consolidated Financials December 2024

FY25 as of

	Budget YTD	Actual YTD	\$ Variance YTD
Work RVUs	668,352	662,644	(5,707)
Clinical Receipts (NPSR)	44,676,283	43,596,486	(1,079,797)
Total Revenues	125,974,110	125,442,415	(531,695)
Total Expenditures	125,443,165	126,497,102	(1,053,937)
Net Income	530,945	(1,054,687)	(1,585,632)

Summary Explanation of Variance:

1. For the fiscal year through December 31, 2024, DOM reported a consolidated net loss of \$1.1M and an unfavorable variance to YTD net income budget of \$1.6M.
2. Clinical receipts underperformed budget by \$1.1M primarily due to impact of lower conversion factor, changes in third party agreements, unrealized budgeted revenue cycle efficiency, budgeted risk withhold for transplant posted to miscellaneous revenue, lower MIPS payments, accrual model adjustments and CrowdStrike software outage.
3. Total revenue includes \$3.2M MC clinical deficit and APP gap coverage revenue accrual, \$1.6M unbudgeted gifts and \$2.6M endowment revenue for the remainder of the fiscal year.
4. Total expenditures are impacted by unbudgeted hires, extra clinic shifts, unbudgeted merit increases unbudgeted sign on bonuses and unrealized budgeted personnel reduction contingencies.

**FOLLOW WOMEN IN INTERNAL
MEDICINE NETWORK**

FOLLOW UVA ENDO

**FOLLOW SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION**

FOLLOW UVA ID

CONGRATULATIONS TO US!

UVA Health University Medical Center
Named The Top Hospital In Virginia In
Recent Newsweek Ranking

**FOLLOW UVA
PULMONARY**

**FOLLOW UVA
NEPHROLOGY**

**Is Your Division's Website Content Up-to-Date?
Need a Team or Research Lab Photo Shoot?**

Researchers and lab managers, if you don't already
have a research page dedicated to your team, please
get in touch with Kim Kelley-Wagner to get started at
kak2cj@uvahealth.org or 434.328.0680

FOLLOW GASTRO

FOLLOW CARDIO



Zhenqi Liu MD



Uta Erdbrügger MD



Monica Lawrence MD



Eric Davis MD



Adam Carlson MD



Antonio Abbate MD PhD



Leslie Blackhall MD



Joshua Barclay MD



Laurie Archbald-Pannone MD



David Callender MD MPH



Greg Townsend MD

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to **Dr. Zhenqi Liu** (Division of Endocrinology and Immunology) and co-authors, whose paper *“Interplay of Fatty Acids, Insulin and Exercise in Vascular Health”* was published in Springer Nature Journal.

Congratulations to **Dr. Uta Erdbrügger** (Division of Nephrology) and co-authors, whose paper *“Unlocking the potential of extracellular vesicles in nephrology: what does MISEV2023 add?”* has been published in Kidney International.

Congratulations to the following whom *Virginia Business* recognized as some of *Virginia’s Top Doctors in 2025!*

Dr. Monica Lawrence (Division of Asthma, Allergy and Immunology)

Dr. Eric Davis (Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care)

Dr. Adam Carlson (Division of Rheumatology)

Dr. Antonio Abbate (Division of Cardiovascular Medicine)

Dr. Leslie Blackhall (Division of General, Geriatric, and Palliative Care)

Dr. Joshua Barclay (Division of General, Geriatric, and Palliative Care)

Dr. Laurie Archbald-Pannone (Division of General, Geriatric, and Palliative Care)

Congratulations to all who were celebrated for their contributions to health, equity, inclusion, and cultural humility on January 23rd at the *2025 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. University of Virginia Health System Awards*. A special shout-out to members of the Department of Medicine who were recognized for their contributions: **Dr. David Callender**, (Division of General Medicine) UMA Medical Director, Behavioral Health Team, University Medical Associates Clinic. The team, consisting of Dr. Callender, Brenda Doremus-Daniel, LCSW, psychotherapist, Brian Ludwin, PhD, psychologist, Brenda Hardley, LCSW, and Mudhasir Bashir, MD, psychiatrist, have worked tirelessly to create and implement a quality, multidisciplinary behavioral health program and advocate for patients to receive equitable access to much-needed mental healthcare, all within the patient’s primary care clinic.

And **Dr. Greg Townsend** (Division of Infectious Diseases). Dr. Townsend serves as Associate Professor of Medicine, Associate Dean, Diversity and Medical Education at UVA School of Medicine, and Chair of the Institutional Review Board for Health Sciences Research. He specializes in treating patients with HIV and sees patients at the UVA Health Ryan White HIV Clinic. He is an ex-officio member of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. University of Virginia Health System Awards Selection Committee. [Read more...](#)



UVA Health Heart and Vascular Center 2nd Annual Lewis Lipson, MD, Memorial Food Drive

Feb. 1-28 | Most needed items include staples (canned fruits and vegetables-low sugar/sodium), proteins (nut butters, can tuna/chicken, canned or dry beans), grains (cereal, pasta, rice, oatmeal, mac and cheese), meal makers (soups, stews, chilis, pasta sauce-low sodium), seasonings (cooking oils, dried herbs, spices), and non-food items (toilet paper, toothpaste, soap, toothbrushes, feminine hygiene products, baby formula, diapers, baby food). There are four ways to donate:

- Drop off any non-perishable donations at any of the food bins located throughout the Heart and Vascular Center.
- [Make a monetary donation.](#)

• Go online to [Blue Ridge Area Food Bank](#).

• Visit the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank (1207 Harris Street, Charlottesville, VA, 22903).



UVA Resources for Team Members

support for dealing with crisis and how to stay informed.

Women In Internal Medicine Network would love to hear from you!



Please share your ideas with us here.

Celebrating

Black History Month



JOIN US

to learn, acknowledge, and celebrate Black History Month.

Check UVA Health Update or use the QR code to participate in upcoming events across UVA Health.



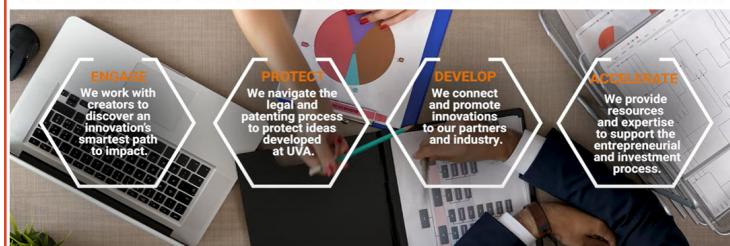
DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE MEDICINE GRAND ROUNDS UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

Cancer Center Menu of Data Resources

Have you ever wondered what kinds of UVA cancer patient clinical, genomics, and specimen data are available and how to get them?

If so, please check out the new Menu of Data Resources from the Cancer Center. It answers this question.

Are You a UVA Researcher? An Innovator?



Licensing & Ventures Group

Where research gets *real*

We partner with faculty, researchers, and investors to bring innovations discovered at UVA to the marketplace.

IN **DEPARTMENT** MEDIA

Dr. Michael Ayers is featured locally, across Virginia, and on TV stations nationally discussing the importance of staying active during winter.

With less daylight and cold temperatures, winter can drain motivation from some people.

Cardiologists recommend about 150 minutes of exercise a week. Breaking tasks into five- or 10-minute segments throughout the day can make it easier to reach that benchmark.

"If you think through your day 'How can I continue to accumulate these little three to five-minute bouts of moderate activity?' UVA cardiologist Michael Ayers said. "Thirty to 60 minutes a week actually becomes a very reachable number. Forming the habit can be tough, Ayers says. Finding a routine that fits you best will make it easier.

READ MORE



Q&A: This Stomach Bug Sickens Millions in the US Each Year. How Do You Protect Yourself?

You wouldn't wish it on anyone. That's what University of Virginia infectious diseases expert Dr. William Petri has to say about norovirus, the nasty stomach bug that has been tearing across the country and through cruise ships.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate up to 21 million people are infected with the virus each year. It began a major surge in the United States ahead of the holidays. The CDC reports there are about 2,500 outbreaks in the country annually.

"There's a new norovirus strain now. That's important because immunity against one genotype or strain of norovirus does not provide perfect protection against another one."

READ MORE

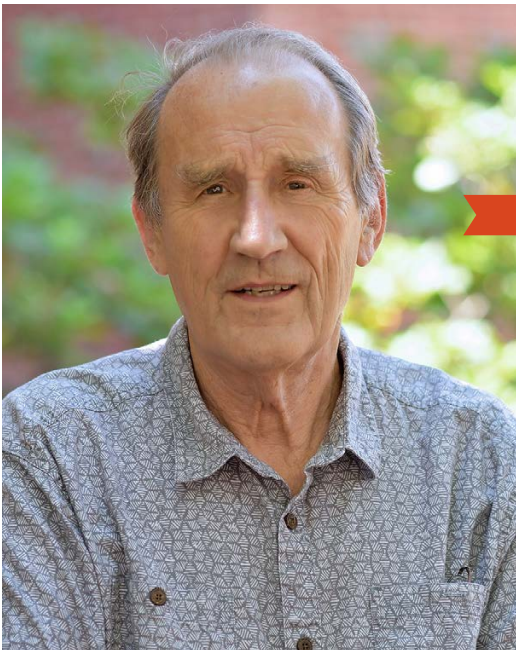
Dr. Jeffrey Wilson talks with The Washington Post about how a meat allergy can trigger serious reactions to some medications.

Alpha-gal syndrome is usually thought of as a red meat allergy, but it can also spur allergies to ingredients in drugs. Doctors often tell people to just avoid red meat. Yet for those who react to drugs as a result of alpha-gal, that advice is not enough.

The drugs most likely to cause severe allergic reactions are those that are administered intravenously, like cetuximab, says Dr. Jeffrey Wilson, an immunologist at UVA. One such example is "plasma expanders," gelatin-based solutions that increase blood volume. Not only do they have "a lot of alpha-gal" because of the gelatin, Wilson says, but because patients receive these drugs intravenously, "it's all at once."

READ MORE



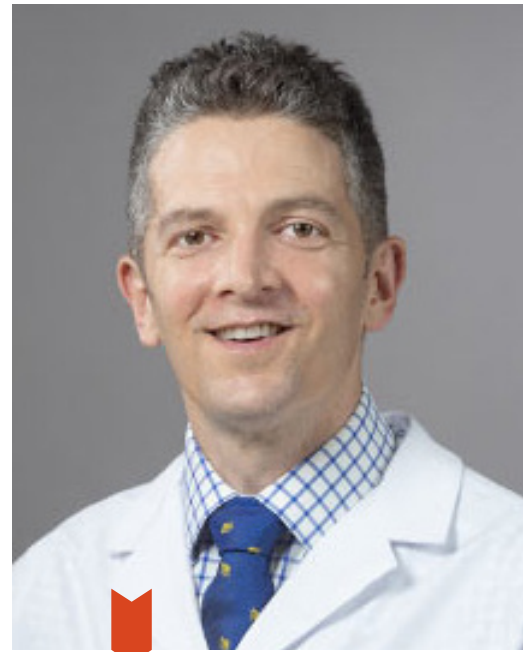


Are You Really Allergic to Penicillin?

Like tens of millions of people think they have a penicillin allergy. This misdiagnosis costs billions of dollars and causes serious health problems, so why hasn't it been fixed? And how about all the other things we think we're allergic to?

University of Virginia's Dr. Thomas Platts-Mills, a professor of medicine, discusses the challenges and opportunities of allergen research.

LISTEN TO THE PODCAST



Drew Harris, MD, Named New Assistant Dean of Continuing Medical Education

January 1, 2025, marks a major transition in the leadership of continuing medical education at the University of Virginia. Karen Rheuban, MD, stepped down from her role leading the Office of Continuing Medical Education as part of a planned two-year phased retirement. Senior Associate Dean for Education Meg Keeley, MD, is pleased to announce that Drew Harris, MD, has accepted the position of Assistant Dean of Continuing Medical Education. Dr. Harris, a pulmonologist with a keen interest in rural health and building community-academic partnerships, has served on the CE Advisory Committee and as an educational program course director.

Dr. Harris brings a wealth of experience that will be invaluable in his new role. He has built a longstanding relationship with a federally qualified health center in far southwest Virginia, leading the largest black lung clinic in the country. This partnership focuses on multidisciplinary clinical care, education, research, and advocacy. Additionally, Dr. Harris has served as the medical director of the student and faculty clinic at UVA Wise for several years.

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Research led by Drs. Amit Patel and Frederick Epstein showing that a simple MRI scan could better identify patients at risk for heart conditions.

Unseen fat develops around the heart, which can lead to clogged arteries, an irregular heartbeat, and heart failure. University of Virginia cardiologists say an MRI can highlight fat surrounding the heart. Called adipose tissue, the heart fat can release damaging substances into the heart muscle, wreaking havoc on heart health.

[WATCH VIDEO ON YAHOO](#)

[READ ON UVA TODAY](#)



Jie Sun, PhD, Earns \$3.1 Million to Study How Overactive T Cells May Contribute to Ongoing Lung Damage

Harrison Distinguished Teaching Professor Jie Sun, PhD, in the Department of Medicine's Division of Infectious Diseases and International Health and the Beirne B. Carter Center for Immunology Research, has earned a \$3.1 million grant from the National Institutes of Health for a project titled "CD38, T cells and post viral lung sequelae during aging."

READ MORE



Dr. Neeral Shah is featured on With Good Reason (airing on 135 NPR affiliates nationally) discussing Dry January

For the last decade or so, more and more Americans have taken part in a new New Year's tradition: dry January. You probably know somebody doing it right now—maybe it's you!

Neeral Shah walks us through the benefits of taking a month off of alcohol.

LISTEN TO THE PODCAST



Community Conversation: Dr. Ludimila Cavalcante with UVA Cancer Center

Dr. Ludimila Cavalcante speaks with NBC 29 News about sarcomas, their risk factors, and the treatments available.

WATCH VIDEO



UVA Eyes Global Housing to Prevent Spread of Dangerous Diseases

“There’s increasing attention on improving housing quality as a global strategy for controlling infectious diseases,” says Josh Colston, PhD, an epidemiologist at UVA School of Medicine Division of Infectious Diseases and International Health who led the study. “So it’s crucial to know where the hotspots are that are most in need of these interventions.”

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UVA Health infectious disease expert Dr. Patrick Jackson shares updates on H5N1 influenza, or bird flu, and who is at the highest risk.

Public health officials encourage anyone who works with cattle or birds to take precautions against avian influenza, but for most of us, UVA’s Dr. Patrick says the risk remains low.

In an online briefing, he told reporters that so far we have not seen sustained human-to-human transmission.

WATCH VIDEO AT WBDJ7



MINDFULNESS MATTERS NEWSLETTER



FOLLOW

CLINICAL TRIALS

New Hematology/Oncology Clinical Trials (opened since 12/01/2024)

BREAST

A Phase II Study of Ribociclib And Endocrine Treatment of Physician's Choice for Locoregional Recurrent, Resected Hormone Receptor

IRB # HSR220277

CT. Gov. ID: NCT05467891

Sponsor Protocol: HCRN BRE20-468 / RaPhLRR

Sponsor: University of Illinois

Principal Investigator: Millard, Trish

Study Contact: Olena Glushakova oyg2n@uvahealth.

DEVELOPMENTAL THERAPEUTICS

Targeted Therapy Directed by Genetic Testing Combination Therapy Choice in Treating Patients With Locally Advanced or Advanced Solid Tumors, Molecular Analysis for (ComboMATCH)

IRB # HSR230432

CT. Gov. ID: NCT05564377

Sponsor Protocol: EAY191

Sponsor: ECOG-ACRIN

Principal Investigator: Reilley, Matthew

Study Contact: Francis Bagley fb9up@uvahealth.

GASTRO-INTESTINAL (GI)

A Phase III Multi-center, Open-label, Sponsor-blinded, Randomized Study of AZD0901 Monotherapy Compared with Investigator's Choice of Therapy in Second- or Later-Line Adult Participants with Advanced/Metastatic Gastric or Gastroesophageal Junction Adenocarcinoma Expressing Claudin18.2 (CLARITY Gastric 01)

IRB # 301467

CT. Gov. ID: NCT06346392

Sponsor Protocol: D9802C00001 / Clarity GC01

Sponsor: AstraZeneca

Principal Investigator: Le, Tri

Study Contact: Amanda Neider aln4k@uvahealth.

LYMPHOMA

A Phase II trial Evaluating Safety and Efficacy of Epcoritamab with Gemcitabine, Dexamethasone, and Cisplatin (GDP) Salvage Chemotherapy in Relapsed Refractory Large B-cell Lymphoma.

IRB # 300042

CT. Gov. ID: NCT05852717

Sponsor Protocol: HCRN LYM22-565

Sponsor: Hoosier Cancer Research Network

Principal Investigator: Ayers, Emily

Study Contact: Jennifer L Garth jl8tg@uvahealth.

Sandy J Soler kpt7xp@uvahealth. 434-297-8941

SARCOMA

A Randomized Phase 2 Study of Cabozantinib, Ipilimumab, and Nivolumab in Patients with Soft Tissue Sarcoma

IRB # 301653

CT. Gov. ID: NCT05836571

Sponsor Protocol: 10556

Sponsor: ETCTN

Principal Investigator: Cavalcante, Ludimila

Study Contact: Zoe Hemmer zh7jf@virginia.edu

FOLLOW UVA IM RESIDENCY

Welcome To The World



Congratulations to resident Michael Bates and wife Julia who welcomed baby Michael Cesar Bates Jr. on January 8, 2025.



Congratulations to resident Daniel Cook and wife Caroline who welcomed baby Georgia Ruth Cook on January 26, 2025.

UPDATE

DIVISION

Message from Dr. Suzanne Jan De Beur, Division Chief of Endocrinology and Metabolism



It is an exciting time for the Division of Endocrinology at the University of Virginia as we continue to grow and advance our mission in patient care, education, and research. We are thrilled to welcome three outstanding new faculty members to our team: Dr. Loyal Esper, Dr. Erica Giraldi, and Dr. Lisette Rodriguez. Their expertise and dedication will enhance our clinical services, expand research opportunities, and strengthen our commitment to excellence in training the next generation of endocrinologists.

Our inpatient and outpatient clinical programs are expanding. Under the leadership of Dr. Jennifer Kirby and Ms. Julie Costin, our inpatient diabetes team is ramping up to offer its critical services hospital-wide eventually. Drs. Christine Eagleson and Dr. Meg Crook are leading our outpatient clinical programs through the ONE TEAM implementation to expand access to your patients and provide cutting-edge, patient-centered care across a broader spectrum of endocrine disorders.

Additionally, our fellowship program continues to thrive under the leadership of Drs. Greg Hong and Ben Horton are attracting excellent candidates and have a particularly excellent match this year. Our fellows benefit from robust clinical training, impactful mentorship, and outstanding research opportunities, positioning them for success in both academic and clinical careers.

Research remains a foundational pillar of our division, with ongoing groundbreaking studies in diabetes and cardiovascular disease, diabetes technology, and metabolic disorders. Our faculty and trainees continue to contribute to the field with innovative discoveries and collaborative efforts pushing endocrinology's boundaries.

Although we face the headwinds of uncertainty, we look forward to another year of growth, discovery, and excellence buoyed by our University of Virginia colleagues in the Department of Medicine and School of Medicine.

~ Suzanne Jan De Beur MD



UVA Health

DIVISION FACULTY ACTIVITIES



Samina Afreen, MD is a general endocrinologist interested in metabolic bone disease, obesity, and diabetes technology. She is triple board-certified in Internal Medicine, Endocrinology, and Obesity Medicine. Dr. Afreen is a Fellow of the Obesity Medicine Association. She is an associate editor of the journal Obesity Pillars and is a member of the editorial board of the Journal of Bone and Mineral Research.

Sue Brown, MD is a clinician who directs clinical trials primarily related to automated insulin delivery (artificial pancreas) systems. Dr. Brown's research was supported by 4 R01 as a Co-PI and industry grants in managing Type 2 Diabetes and Cystic Fibrosis-Related Disease. Her current R01s include R01 DK085623, "Bio-behavioral Human



Machine Co-Adaptation of the Artificial Pancreas," R01 DK129553, "Advanced Artificial Pancreas Systems to Enable Fully Automated Glycemic Control in Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus", R01 DK133148 "Adaptive Motif-Based Control: A Fundamentally New Approach to Automated Treatment Optimization for Type 1 Diabetes and R01DK138366 "Automated Insulin Delivery for Inpatients with Dysglycemia (AIDING): Randomized Controlled Trial." Dr. Brown has continued her track record of publishing papers related to this work. Clinically, Dr. Brown is a general endocrinologist interested in metabolic bone disease and diabetes. In 2024, Dr. Brown was honored with a Patient Experience Award for the fifth year. Dr. Brown is also a core faculty member of our fellowship program and is the division's Kenneth R. Crispell Professor of Internal Medicine.



Sara Chhabra, MD is a full-time general endocrinologist who sees patients at the Specialty Care Clinic, Fishersville. She completed her medicine residency training at Mount Sinai Medical Center and her Endocrinology fellowship training at the University of Massachusetts Memorial Medical Center. We are thrilled to be able to provide full-time endocrine care for patients in the Shenandoah Valley.

Margaret Crook, MD is a general endocrinologist interested in metabolic bone disease and calcium disorders. She co-founded Blue Ridge Endocrinology in 2010 but has practiced at the University of Virginia Endocrinology in the Charlottesville Pantops area since 2015. Her patient survey results are outstanding, and Dr. Crook was



honored with the 2022, 2023, and 2024 Patient Experience Awards. Dr. Crook was featured in Virginia Business magazine's 2024 Top Doctors list for the state. She was on the Endocrine Society task force for physician burnout in 2024, continues to serve as co-medical director at the leading Endocrinology clinic at Fontaine, and is serving on the Department of Medicine compensation committee. She enjoys trail running and biking in her free time. She has a new dog, Rosie, who always wants to go for walks.



Silas Culver, MD is a previous iTHRIV scholar graduate pursuing basic science research related to obesity-associated kidney dysfunction and renal lipotoxicity and the role of the (pro)renin receptor in obesity-associated hypertension, aging, and cellular senescence. Dr. Culver is an NIH K08 career-development grant awardee (project entitled "Role of Atp6ap2 in renal proximal tubule lipotoxicity") and recently received a divisional award to study the effects of intermittent fasting on obesity-related kidney injury. Clinically, Dr. Culver is a general endocrinologist interested in adrenal disease, endocrine hypertension, and obesity, staffing inpatient consults, and seeing outpatients at our leading endocrinology clinic. Dr. Culver is also a Co-System Leader for the NexGen Endocrine-Reproduction System (Pre-Clerkship) block for second-year medical students.

Christine Eagleson, MD is a general endocrinologist with exceedingly valuable contributions to the division's clinical mission. Dr. Eagleson is the primary adult endocrinologist for UVA Health's Gender Health program, thus contributing to a critically crucial institutional mission. Dr. Eagleson is known for her unending devotion to the underserved. Dr. Eagleson is a highly valued preceptor for the fellows' continuity clinic and serves on our Clinical Competency and Program Effectiveness Committees. She has also served on UVA's Gender Health Committee since its inception and is Co-Chair of UVA Health's Transparency and Appeals Committee. She has been promoted to Associate Professor and is co-leader for the Endocrinology Clinic. She has been elected to Virginia Business Magazine's Top Endocrinologist of Virginia.



Loyal Esper, MD joined us from George Washington University School of Medicine, where she recently completed an Endocrinology and Metabolism Fellowship. During her fellowship, Dr. Esper developed an interest in thyroid disease and did additional rotations at Washington Hospital Center with Dr. Ken Burman and Dr. Len Wartofsky. Dr. Esper was a hospitalist for 5 years before embarking on her fellowship and will teach the internal medicine residents on the inpatient service. Dr. Esper will work with ENT and Endocrine Surgery to develop multidisciplinary clinics for thyroid cancer and complex thyroid disease. Dr. Esper will spearhead the thyroid biopsy clinic and instruct our fellows in thyroid biopsy. Her clinical Practice and research focus on pituitary disorders, but she will also see general endocrinology patients.



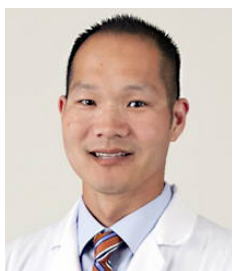
Leon Farhy, PhD is an associate professor in the Division of Endocrinology. He is a biomathematician with background and expertise in systems endocrinology and studies synergizing bio-mathematical modeling with basic or clinical work. He is currently the PI of a \$600K JDRF grant entitled “Improving prediction of T1D risk by establishing a self-administered CGM-based technology and whole genome-based polygenic risk scores in diverse populations.” This effort continues his prior NIH-funded work (e.g., R21EB018052 and R01DK082805) on modeling the glucagon network regulation in health and diabetes and on understanding the pathophysiology of pre-type 1 diabetes (DP3DK106907). In 2024, Dr. Farhy was selected to receive pilot funding from the Division of Endocrinology Pilot Project Research Funding for his proposal “Novel self-administered CGM test technology for assessing the impairment of metabolic parameters associated with T1D risk: a machine learning approach”. He also published three peer-reviewed manuscripts [1, 2, 3] on predicting the T1D immunological risk from Continuous Glucose Monitoring (CGM) data and filed one patent application [4]. Dr. Farhy is also a member of the UVA Center for Diabetes Technology (CDT), where he works on mathematical models of the glucose metabolism machine learning methods for data analysis associated with diabetes.

Heather Ferris, MD PhD was promoted to Associate Professor, is a basic scientist whose interest concerns brain insulin and IGF-1 action and the interactions among diabetes, cholesterol, and Alzheimer’s disease. Her 2024 research was supported by an NIH R01 grant (Ferris PI – “Mevalonate Pathway Regulation of Astrocyte ApoE”), an Alzheimer’s and Related Diseases Research Award Fund award from the state of Virginia, and a Transformative Neuroscience Grant from the Brain Institute. She was also a co-investigator for two NIH R01 grants. Clinically, Dr. Ferris is a general endocrinologist interested in diabetes in older patients. She serves the division as our Endocrinology Grand Rounds Course Director.



Erica Giraldi, MD joined us from Emory University School of Medicine, where she was assistant professor of medicine and the co-director of the Emory Pituitary Center. She completed her medical school at Case Western Reserve University, internal medicine residency at University Hospitals Case Medical Center, and endocrinology fellowship at Emory University. Her clinical and research interests include pituitary diseases, focusing on acromegaly and Cushing’s disease. Dr. Giraldi will be the Medical Director of the University of Virginia Pituitary Center. Her clinical practice and research focus on pituitary disorders and general endocrinology patients.

Daniel Haisenleder, PhD is a reproductive neuroendocrinologist with a long history of crucial basic science research on regulating gonadotropin synthesis. Dr. Haisenleder is the director of the Ligand Assay and Analysis Core Laboratory in the Center for Research in Reproduction, a busy research laboratory supported by NIH R24 HD102061. This role includes the development and refinement of hormone assays. Recently, Dr. Haisenleder co-authored manuscripts validating a multiple-marker test panel for early pregnancy outcome prediction, as well as the NIH-supported FIT-PLESE Project, a large multicenter randomized trial to compare the effects of two preconception lifestyle interventions in infertile women with obesity. Dr. Haisenleder continues to serve as a UVA Animal Care and Use Committee member and an External Advisory Board Member for the Wisconsin National Primate Center.



Gregory Hong, MD PhD is a general endocrinologist interested in neuroendocrinology and pituitary disease: he is an integral part of our multidisciplinary pituitary program. In addition to being a highly skilled clinician, Dr. Hong is an outstanding educator and continues to do an exceptional job as our fellowship program director. Dr. Hong is one of five preceptors in our endocrinology fellows’ continuity clinic and chairs our Clinical Competency and Program Effectiveness Committees. Nationally, Dr. Hong serves as the Secretary for the Association of Program Directors in Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Metabolism (APDEM). He is also chair of the Fellowship Recruitment Committee, which oversees national recruitment policies for endocrinology fellowships. He is also a member of the Endocrine Society’s Clinical Endocrine Education Committee, where he chairs the Endocrine Educators Forum working group.

William (Ben) Horton, MD is an Assistant Professor investigating the effects of glucometabolic therapies on oxidative stress, inflammation, and myocardial microvascular function in people with type 1 diabetes. Dr. Horton also pursues clinical research related to heart failure in patients with type 1 diabetes. His work is currently supported by an American Heart Association career-development grant (project entitled “A Comprehensive Approach to Reducing Glycemic Variability and Improving Cardiovascular Health in Type 1 Diabetes”) and a large strategic research agreement with Breakthrough T1D (formerly Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation) entitled “Reducing Glycemic Variability to Improve Cardiovascular Health in Type 1 Diabetes.” Clinically, Dr. Horton is a general endocrinologist interested in cardiovascular diabetology. In addition to staffing inpatient consults, Dr. Horton serves the division (and Virginians) by staffing our clinic at Zions Crossroads. He also became the Associate Program Director for our Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Metabolism Fellowship Training Program in December 2023.





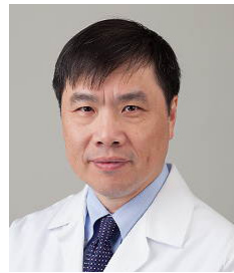
Suzanne Jan de Beur, MD, is a professor whose clinical and research work focuses on understanding rare and metabolic bone diseases at the basic level and translating these observations to the bedside. Her work has led to significant new treatments for X-linked hypophosphatemia (XLH), tumor-induced osteomalacia, and osteogenesis imperfecta. She is an internationally recognized expert in osteoporosis and rare bone diseases. She has contributed to recently published guidelines and position statements that guide clinicians in caring for patients with osteoporosis and XLH. Dr. Jan de Beur was awarded the prestigious Gerald D. Aurbach, MD, Professor in Endocrinology and selected as the Hedwig van Ameringen Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine (ELAM) Fellow. Clinically, Dr. Jan de Beur is a metabolic bone disease specialist who sees osteoporosis patients in the UVA Midlife Center.



Susanna Keller, MD is a basic research scientist whose areas of research interest include insulin signaling and action, the regulation of nutrient metabolism and energy homeostasis, and metabolic disease-associated cardiovascular complications. She is the Principal Investigator on NIH R01 HL128189 and a Co-Investigator on several grants (NIH R01 HL155165; NIH R01 HL166161; NIH R01 DK136126). Dr. Keller recently published a peer-reviewed manuscript on the importance of genetic background in the metabolic response to diet. Dr. Keller also serves as the vice chair for the UVA Animal Care and Use Committee and is a valuable contributor to several SOM educational efforts.



Jennifer Kirby, MD PhD is a general endocrinologist interested in diabetes and obesity. In addition to staffing inpatient consults and seeing outpatients at our main endocrinology clinic, Dr. Kirby served the division (and Virginians) by staffing clinics in Fishersville. Dr. Kirby is our division's Associate Chief for Clinical Affairs, the Medical Lead for our Endocrinology and Metabolism clinic, the Director of our Cardiovascular Diabetes Consult Service, and the Co-Medical Lead for Inpatient Glycemic Management. These activities and awards highlight Dr. Kirby's clinical and leadership skills and sempiternal devotion to her patients and colleagues. Dr. Kirby is also an outstanding educator and mentor.



Zhenqi Liu, MD is a clinician-investigator whose primary interests relate to regulating insulin action in the vasculature and the cardiovascular complications of diabetes. Dr. Liu's 2024 research was supported by R01 DK125330 (PI Liu – "Effects of Exercise and GLP-1R Agonism on Muscle Microvascular Perfusion and Insulin Action"), R01 DK124344 (Co-PI Liu – "Role of Microvascular Insulin Resistance and Cardiorespiratory Fitness in Diabetes") and a LaunchPad grant (Targeting endothelial AMPK and Nrf2 to attenuate microvascular insulin resistance and improve muscle function in diabetes). Dr. Liu was an essential Co-Investigator for an additional R01 (HL129510) and served as program director of the NIH training grant in neuroendocrinology and metabolism (2T32DK007646) and the primary mentor for a K23 award (DK131327). In 2024, Dr. Liu published eight peer-reviewed manuscripts; he served on the Endocrine Society and American Diabetes Association committees (described elsewhere in this newsletter), as an Associate Editor for the Journal of the Endocrine Society, and as a Chair of the Nutrition Science and Metabolism interest group of the American Diabetes Association. Clinically, Dr. Liu is a general endocrinologist interested in diabetes and thyroid diseases.



Kaitlin Love, MD is a clinical researcher and endocrinologist investigating microvascular dysfunction and cardiovascular disease in type 1 diabetes and response to GLP-1-receptor agonism and exercise treatment. Her clinical focus is diabetes and obesity management. She is PI for an ongoing NIH K23 career-development grant (project entitled "Therapeutic Strategies for Microvascular Dysfunction in Type 1 Diabetes"). In 2024, she was also awarded internal pilot funding for the project "Glucagon-like Peptide-1 Agonism and Obesity-Associated Chronic Kidney Disease." She published two peer-reviewed manuscripts as first/senior author, including one in the Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism (JCEM), which received editorial commentary, and Clinical Diabetes. She was the senior investigator for a poster presented at the American Diabetes Association Scientific Sessions in June 2024. She was recently first author of a commentary on the QWINT-5 study, reporting the outcomes of once-weekly insulin efsitora, in The Lancet. She was invited to serve on the Editorial Board of the Journal of the Endocrine Society. Outside of research accomplishments, she was recognized with the Department of Medicine's Excellence in Clinical Medicine Award in 2024.



UVA Health



Ralf Nass, MD is an associate professor in the Division of Endocrinology. He is a biomathematician with background and expertise in systems endocrinology and studies synergizing bio-mathematical modeling with basic or clinical work. He is currently the PI of a \$600K JDRF grant entitled “Improving prediction of T1D risk by establishing a self-administered CGM-based technology and whole genome-based polygenic risk scores in diverse populations.” This effort continues his prior NIH-funded work (e.g., R21EB018052 and R01DK082805) on modeling the glucagon network regulation in health and diabetes and on understanding the pathophysiology of pre-type 1 diabetes (DP3DK106907). In 2024, Dr. Farhy was selected to receive pilot funding from the Division of Endocrinology Pilot Project Research Funding for his proposal “Novel self-administered CGM test technology for assessing the

impairment of metabolic parameters associated with T1D risk: a machine learning approach”. He also published three peer-reviewed manuscripts [1, 2, 3] on predicting the T1D immunological risk from Continuous Glucose Monitoring (CGM) data and filed one patent application [4]. Dr. Farhy is also a member of the UVA Center for Diabetes Technology (CDT), where he works on mathematical models of the glucose metabolism machine learning methods for data analysis associated with diabetes.

Lisette Rodriguez, MD Dr. Rodriguez attended medical school at Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic) and her IM residency at Florida State University. She joins us from our own UVA Endocrinology and Metabolism Fellowship program. She is well known for her excellence in many domains, including clinical care, medical knowledge, and compassion for her patients. Her clinical interests include endocrine complications of cancer and cancer treatment. Dr. Rodriguez will anchor UVA Endocrinology at Zions Cross Roads, seeing general endocrinology patients.



Helmy Siragy, MD is a clinician-scientist whose primary interests relate to the endocrine/paracrine control of blood pressure and renal function. In 2023, he spoke at the European Society of Hypertension in Athens, Greece; the University of Budapest, Budapest, Hungary; and the Egyptian Association of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Atherosclerosis, Alexandria, Egypt. In January 2024, the University of Virginia School of Medicine awarded the renewal of his endowed Harrison Chair of Excellence in Medical Education for the next five years. Dr. Siragy is a reviewer for the National Institutes of Health, an Endocrine Society’s International Mentor for Young Physicians, and an Editorial Board of the Nature Research Group member. Additionally, he is a guest editor for Scientific Reports (Nature publication) on the Cardio-renal axis and guest editor for the International Journal of Molecular

Sciences on the Renin-Angiotensin System in Health and Disease. In collaboration with Michigan University and Harvard Medical School, his research team studies novel biomarkers for diagnosing primary aldosterone.

Richard Santen, MD Emeritus Professor of Medicine, is organizing a program to enlist retired endocrinologists to care for patients with diabetes mellitus in rural, underserved areas via telemedicine. The program involves the US’s 1400 Federally Qualified Health Centers, which receive \$5.7 billion in federal support. Over the past six years, he has been caring for patients at the Tri-Area Clinics in Laurel Fork and Floyd, Virginia, and has established a template that facilitates the process. The level of glucose control in the patients seen has improved substantially. Patients are returned to the care of their primary care physicians when they are well-versed in self-management, usually after less than six months. The plan is to enlist 20 retired endocrinologists nationally to participate in the program. A navigator has been identified to assist in the startup process. The theme of the project is “practicing medicine without the hassles.” Details of the program are available on the website and can be accessed via this URL: <https://rural-diabetes-telemedicine.com/>



Meaghan Stumpf, MD was promoted to associate professor and is a general endocrinologist specializing in diabetes and transplant endocrinology. Dr. Stumpf is the director of our Transplant Endocrinology Program, which treats endocrine pathologies in recipients of solid organ transplants. She also uses diabetes technologies such as insulin pumps and continuous glucose monitors. She enjoys a strong partnership with UVA’s Charles O. Strickler Transplant Center and aims to continue growing endocrine services for this patient population. In 2024, Dr. Stumpf was honored with a Patient Experience Award for the fifth year. Dr. Stumpf is the Communications Director for the American Diabetes Association (ADA) interest group on Immunology and Transplantation, and she is a member of several American Society of Transplantation (AST) ‘s community of practice work groups focused on kidney, pancreas, and islet transplantation. Dr. Stumpf also serves as a preceptor for the Endocrinology fellows’ clinic and attends the general endocrinology inpatient service.

DIVISION CLINICAL

Several faculty members were honored with Patient Experience Awards in 2024

William “Ben” Horton MD and **Helmy Siragy MD** – Zion Crossroads Endocrine Clinic.

Meg Crook MD and **Katie Love MD** – Pantops Endocrine Clinic.

Meaghan Stumpf MD – Endocrine Transplant Clinic.

Several faculty members were honored with Department of Medicine Awards for their excellence

Silas Culver MD was recognized for his outstanding contribution to the research mission with the *Department of Medicine Excellence in Research Award*.

William “Ben” Horton MD was recognized for his outstanding contribution to the educational mission with the *Department of Medicine Excellence in Teaching Award*.

Zhenqi Liu MD was recognized for his outstanding contribution to mentoring with *Department of Medicine Excellence in Mentorship Award*.

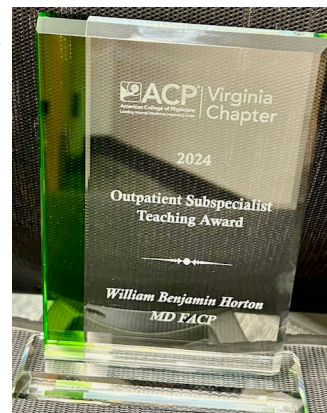
Katie Love MD was recognized for her outstanding contribution to the clinical mission with the *Department of Medicine Excellence in Clinical Care Award*.

William (Ben) Horton MD received the *2024 Virginia ACP Chapter Outpatient Subspecialty Teaching Award*.

Jennifer Kirby MD PhD was recognized for her scholarship, mentorship, empathy, and trailblazing spirit with the *Diane Snustad, MD Award*. This prestigious award, named after Dr. Diane Snustad, recognizes exceptional female faculty or staff within the UVA Department of Medicine who exemplify the qualities of scholarship, mentorship, empathy, and a trailblazing spirit.



Michael Thorner, MBBS Emeritus Professor and a foundational figure in the history of UVA Endocrinology and Metabolism, received the *Human Growth Foundation Lifetime Achievement Award*. We offer our congratulations and gratitude.



Special thanks to this group and to all for the wonderful and compassionate care you provide to our patients and the honor you bring to our division.

Endocrinology Grand Rounds Tuesdays 12:00-1:00 PM

DIVISION EDUCATION

Congratulations to Our 2024 Fellowship Graduates!



From left: Dr. Angela Vuong, who is now practicing at Atrium Health Endocrinology; Dr. Hong; Dr. Katherine Mustafa, who is now practicing at Carilion Clinic Endocrinology; and Dr. Lisette Rodriguez, who practices here at UVA.



From left: Dr. Angela Vuong, Dr. Katherine Mustafa, and Dr. Lisette Rodriguez.



2024 Fellowship Graduation celebration at ProReNata

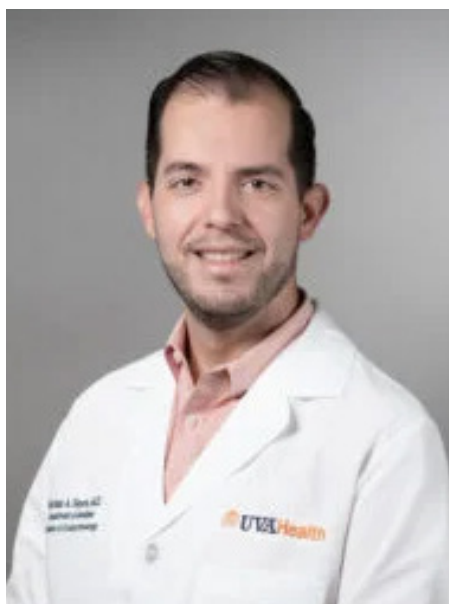
Current Fellows

SECOND-YEAR FELLOWS



Rosalind Basil MD

Medical School: St. John's Medical College
Residency: Morehouse School of Medicine



Nicolas Reyes MD

Medical School: Florida Internal University
Residency: HCA Healthcare/USF Morsani College of Medicine



Maria Sanchez Valenzuela MD

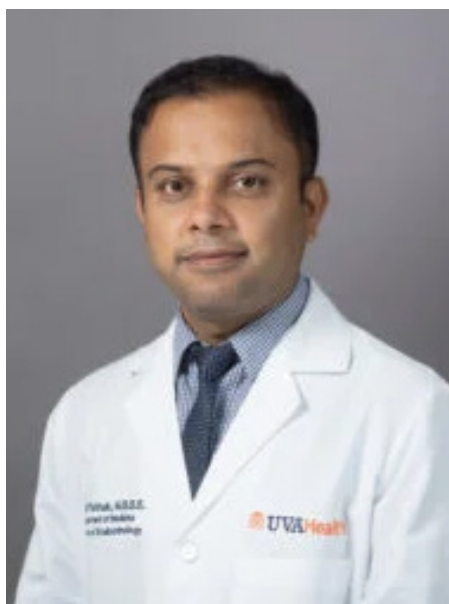
Medical School: St. John's Medical College
Residency: Morehouse School of Medicine

FIRST-YEAR FELLOWS



Melisa Esposito MD

Medical School: Universidad Adventista del Plata Facultad de Ciencias de la Salud
Residency: Kettering Medical Center



Amrit Pathak MD

Medical School: Institute of Medicine Tribhuvan University
Residency: University of Maryland Medical Ctr



Swetha Priyadarshan MD

Medical School: P.S.G. Institute of Medical Sciences and Research
Residency: Baptist Memorial Hospital

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2025 FELLOWSHIP UPDATE

- We received the highest-ever number of applications.
- We had an outstanding match, with all 2025 Fellows ranked in the top 1/3 of our list.
- 2025 Fellowship class 66% female and 33% underrepresented in medicine.
- Photos # 7;8 & 9
- Dr. Jonathan Ambut – University of Miami-FL (second-year clinical fellow)
- Dr. Jennifer Poncelet – Case Western University – OH (second-year clinical fellow)
- Dr. Zhaoyang (Vill) Wen – UCSF-CA (3y research fellow)



Jonathan Ambut MD



Jennifer Poncelet MD



Zhaoyang (Vill) Wen MD



Joshua Milstein successfully defended his PhD in Neuroscience under the mentorship of Dr. Heather Ferris, January 2025.



Medical School Engagement Program

The Endocrine Society has chosen the University of Virginia as one of only ten medical schools to receive funding to enhance engagement with medical students, aiming to attract more individuals to the specialty. Two students from the group will be chosen to attend the Endocrine Society’s 2025 Meeting in San Francisco next July. We have been delighted by the robust and enthusiastic turnout for our fall programs. These included dinner and faculty engagement discussing ‘Why Endocrinology?’ and ‘Academic v. Private Practice Opportunities’. We have also created a Near-Peer group so students can meet informally with our fellows to explore career options. Spring programs will cover hot topics such as ‘The Use of Technology in Endocrinology’ and ‘Hormone Administration, Public Policy and the Law.’ Since any interest by students must be maintained throughout residency, we plan to connect graduating students with Endocrinology Fellowship program directors at their matched institutions. The group is being co-led by Drs. Layal Esper and Susan Kirk.

ADDITIONAL NEWS

FOND FAREWELLS



Dr. Mary Lee Vance

Mary Lee Vance MD, retired from the Division of Endocrinology in September 2024. Throughout her 41-year tenure at the University of Virginia, Dr. Vance has exhibited unwavering dedication to the University of Virginia School of Medicine and consistently displayed exceptional proficiency in research, clinical practice, education, and mentorship. She has substantially contributed to the School of Medicine and the University's research endeavors.

Dr. Vance joined the University of Virginia in 1980 as a Fellow in the Endocrinology & Metabolism Fellowship program. After completing her fellowship, Dr. Vance assumed the role of research assistant professor at UVA. She spent her entire career at UVA, achieving the rank of professor without term in 1994. In her distinguished career at UVA, she has been elected to AOA and is a

member of the oldest and most prestigious honorary society at UVA, the Raven Society.

Early in her career, in groundbreaking work, she studied the effects of a newly discovered hypothalamic hormone, growth hormone-releasing hormone, on regulating growth hormone secretion in normal and adolescent subjects. She continued and expanded her studies to experimental treatments for patients with various pituitary disorders, acromegaly, prolactinomas, Cushing's, and hypogonadism in men, which have gained FDA approval and are now standard-of-care treatments. Her paradigm-shifting work has resulted in 179 publications in peer-reviewed medical journals, numerous invited articles, and book chapters.

Dr. Vance has excelled in research and served the University and its faculty in several capacities. She was the associate director of the General Clinical Research Center, which provided valuable clinical research resources to the entire academic community. Dr. Vance served on the Faculty Senate to advocate for the faculty and move important initiatives forward. As a member of the School of Medicine Admissions Committee, she attracted and selected the best and brightest students for UVA.

Dr. Vance has been a female role model for generations of trainees in medicine and endocrinology. She mentored and garnered financial support for three Pituitary fellows who extended their endocrinology fellowship for another year to concentrate on pituitary disorders. She has hosted and inspired dozens of medical students, medical residents, neurology residents, and endocrinology fellows in her clinic for over four decades.

Dr. Vance has been the face of the nationally-recognized Multidisciplinary Pituitary Tumor Clinic since 1992, creating a care model that facilitated remarkable patient innovation and advancement. Because of Dr. Vance, patients travel from across the country and the world to receive treatment for pituitary disorders at UVA. Not surprisingly, Dr. Vance has achieved the distinction of America's Top Doctors for numerous years.

Dr. Vance has garnered international acclaim for her work; she received the highest honor bestowed by the Pituitary Society, the Lifetime Achievement Award. She has served in national organizations at the highest level, including as the president of the Pituitary Society and executive director of the Pituitary Society.

Dr. Vance's tenure as a faculty member at the University of Virginia over the past 41 years has been marked by remarkable achievements. Dr. Vance's lifetime of work and notoriety has elevated the University of Virginia's Endocrinology and Metabolism name.

We thank Dr. Vance for her contributions to the Division of Endocrinology, the Department of Medicine, and the School of Medicine as an exceptional clinician, educator, and mentor. We wish her a fulfilling, gratifying, and engaging next chapter.



UVA Health

FOND FAREWELLS



Nancy Howell

Nancy started working in Endocrinology with Dr. Carey when he obtained his first NIH grant in 1983. She stayed in the Carey laboratory until his retirement at the end of 2023. In the last year, before Nancy retired at the end of 2024, she continued her work under Dr. Keller. During the 41 years at the University of Virginia, Nancy witnessed the expansion of the School of Medicine. She started working in the Old Schuyler building when the only buildings were the Old Hospital and Medical School. Eventually, the laboratory moved into the then-new Jordan Hall, built when Dr. Carey was dean of the Medical School. The last move was 2002 to the then-new Aurbach Building at Fontaine Research Park.

The work in the Carey laboratory focused on the role of the kidney in developing hypertension through regulating sodium excretion. The Carey laboratory pioneered new methodologies to isolate in vivo responses of agents in the kidney (without affecting the rest of the body) that remain unique in the field. This work would not have been possible without Nancy’s outstanding surgical skills in animals, her adept microsurgeries (cannulating small vessels and the kidney cortex in mice and rats), and performing renal interstitial infusions into kidneys. She first worked with dogs as an animal model, which was hard for her as Nancy is an animal lover. It became more manageable when the group switched to rats and mice as research models. Nancy attributes her loyalty to the Carey laboratory to Dr. Carey’s compassionate leadership style. He was a leader who understood the human element behind all research, did not get upset because of failure, but looked for better answers and moved forward with an open mind. Also, the laboratory was constantly changing and evolving, with new team members coming and going. Nancy could use her skills in interesting collaborations with others, including Drs. Siragy, Keller, and Culver. Nancy’s outstanding work earned her co-authorship on numerous publications from Dr. Carey’s laboratory and collaborating groups.

Nancy is liked by everyone for her unwavering dedication and persistence, hard work, and exceptional expertise, as well as for being kind, thoughtful, and generous, always willing to lend a hand and offer support. She took things into her own hands and got them done, conquering all the difficulties. Working with her has been an absolute pleasure; we will sorely miss her!

DIVISION RESEARCH

Active Grants

GRANT PI NAME	AWARD SPONSOR	AWARD DESCRIPTION	TOTAL BUDGET
Anne Marie Wolf	SPONSOR-3-5481 Health Quality Innovators	Increasing Equity in Diabetes Prevention, Education & Care for Priority Populations in Southeastern Virginia	84,680.00
Anne Marie Wolf	699556 American College of Preventive Medicine	Special Opportunity for ADA-recognized and ADCES-accredited DSMES Delivery Organizations to Accelerate Participation in the Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program	7,439.58
Anne Marie Wolf	State Agency - 601 Virginia Department of Health (VDH)	A Strategic Approach to Advancing Health Equity for Priority Populations with or at Risk for Diabetes	133,974.00
Daniel Haisenleder	1751 U.S. NIH Institute of Child Health & Human Development	CRR Ligand Assay and Analysis Core	2,645,080.44
Heather Ferris	1770 U.S. NIH Institute on Aging	Fluorescent Redox Indicators to Image Oxidative Stress in Alzheimer's Disease	235,686.00
Heather Ferris	1764 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	Cholesterol Metabolites as Regulators of Nicastrin	427,201.00
Heather Ferris	1770 U.S. NIH Institute on Aging	Mevalonate Pathway Regulation of Astrocyte ApoE	1,320,080.00
Heather Ferris	State Agency - 208 Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University	Exercise-Induced Mitophagy In Hippocampal Neurons Against AD	30,936.00
Heather Ferris	State Agency - 236 Virginia Commonwealth University	Understanding the Contribution of Cholesterol to Neuroinflammation and Alzheimer's Disease	50,000.00
Heather Ferris	Transformative Neuroscience	Inceptor, brain insulin resistance, and postpartum depression	50,000.00
Helmy Siragy	1080 Regents of the University of Michigan	Primary Aldosteronism Subtypes: Pathophysiology and Steroid Signatures	310,800.00
Kaitlin Love	1757 U.S. NIH Institute of Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Diseases	Therapeutic Strategies for Microvascular Dysfunction in Type 1 Diabetes	576,093.00

Active Grants

Grant PI Name	Award Sponsor	Award Description	Total Budget
Leon Farhi	1611 Breakthrough T1D	Improving prediction of T1D risk by establishing a self-administered CGM-based technology and whole genome-based polygenic risk scores in diverse populations	599,999.83
Ralf Nass	1757 U.S. NIH Institute of Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Diseases	Adapting Diabetes Treatment Expert Systems to Patient’s Expectations and Psychobehavioral Characteristics in Type 1 Diabetes	59,851.00
Silas Culver	Division of Endocrinology	Intermittent Fasting and Renal Lipid Accumulation in obesity-related Kidney Injury	50,000.00
Silas Culver	1757 U.S. NIH Institute of Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Diseases	Role of Atp6ap2 in renal proximal tubule lipotoxicity	331,980.00
Sue Brown	719555 Tandem Diabetes Care, Inc.	A Control-IQ 2.0 Feasibility Study in Adult and Adolescent Subjects	318,400.00
Sue Brown	1111 Emory University	AIDING Study - Automated Insulin Delivery for Inpatients with DysGlycemia	50,000.00
Sue Brown	1757 U.S. NIH Institute of Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Diseases	Advanced Artificial Pancreas System to Enable Fully Automated Glycemic Control in Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus	236,104.00
Sue Brown	1757 U.S. NIH Institute of Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Diseases	Biobehavioral Human-Machine Co-adaptation of the Artificial Pancreas	241,640.00
Sue Brown	1757 U.S. NIH Institute of Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Diseases	Adaptive Motif-Based Control (AMBC): A Fundamentally New Approach to Automated Treatment Optimization for Type 1 Diabetes Populations with or at Risk for Diabetes	70,152.00
Sue Brown	8557 Jaeb Center for Health Research	Safety Evaluation of an Advanced Hybrid Closed Loop System Using Lyumjev with the Tandem t:slim X2 with Control-IQ in Adults, Adolescents and Children with Type 1 Diabetes	150,831.20
Sue Brown	154558 Insulet Corporation	Evaluating the Safety and Effectiveness of the Omnipod® 5 System Compared to Pump Therapy in the Treatment of Type 1 Diabetes: a Randomized, Parallel-Group Clinical Trial	84,033.63
Sue Brown	1222 LabCorp Drug Development, Inc.	A Randomized Trial of the Insulin-only Bionic Pancreas in Cystic Fibrosis-Related Diabetes	228,869.00
Sue Brown	1111 Emory University	Control-IQ 2.0 Feasibility Study 2: Use of Control-IQ Tech	242,311.00
Sue Brown	8557 Jaeb Center for Health Research	Automated Insulin Delivery for Inpatients with DysGlycemia (AIDING): Randomized Controlled Trial	8,960.00
Susanna Keller	1752 U.S. NIH Heart, Lung, And Blood Institute	Renal AT2 Receptors in Hypertension	2,730,789.00
Suzanne Jan de Beur	828569 Ultragenyx Pharmaceutical Inc.	X-linked Hypophosphatemia Disease Monitoring Program – (XLH-DMP)	358,712.36
Suzanne Jan de Beur	828569 Ultragenyx Pharmaceutical Inc.	Tumor-induced Osteomalacia Disease Monitoring Program (TIO DMP)	574,197.75
William B Horton	1613 American Heart Association	A Comprehensive Approach to Reducing Glycemic Variability and Improving Cardiovascular Health in Type 1 Diabetes	231,000.00
William B Horton	1611 Breakthrough T1D	Reducing Glycemic Variability to Improve Cardiovascular Health in Type 1 Diabetes	858,072.00
Zhenqi Liu	1757 U.S. NIH Institute of Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Diseases	Effects of Exercise and GLP-1R Agonism on Muscle Microvascular Perfusion and Insulin Action	2,627,320.00
Zhenqi Liu	14841 Regents of the University of Colorado	Microvascular insulin resistance and cardiorespiratory fitness in diabetes	985,053.64
Zhenqi Liu	1757 U.S. NIH Institute of Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Diseases	Research Training in Neuroendocrinology and Metabolism YR30 - YR33	1,043,023.00
		Total	19,632,408.40

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Culver SA, Hargett SR, Balugo JLLQ, Gildea JJ, Harris TE, Siragy HM. Nephron specific ATP6AP2 knockout increases urinary excretion of fatty acids and decreases renal cortical megalin expression. *Sci Rep.* 2024 Aug 12;14(1):18724. doi: 10.1038/s41598-024-69749-x. PMID: 39134597; PMCID: PMC11319469.

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Silas Allen Culver, MD1, Jamie Lynne Lois Balugo2, Maurits Jansen, PhD2, Thurl Harris, PhD2, Helmy M. Siragy, MD3.Nephron specific ATP6AP2 knockout reduces renal fat accumulation in mice consuming high fat diet

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Love KM, Jahn LA, Hartline LM, Aylor KW, and Liu Z. [Impact of free fatty acids on vascular insulin responses across the arterial tree: a randomized crossover study. *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism* 2024; 109\(4\):1041-1050 \[with Commentary\]](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/37951842/) <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/37951842/>

Jahn LA, Hartline L, Horton W, Aylor K, Nguyen T, Liu Z, and Barrett EJ. [Empagliflozin improves vascular insulin sensitivity and muscle perfusion in persons with type 2 diabetes. *American Journal of Physiology - Endocrinology and Metabolism* 2024; 326\(3\):E258-E267](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/38170166/) <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/38170166/>

Malin SK, Remchak ME, Heiston EM, Battillo DJ, Gow AJ, Shah AM, and Liu Z. Intermediate versus morning chronotype has lower vascular insulin sensitivity in adults with obesity *Diabetes, Obesity and Metabolism* 2024; 26(5):1582-1592

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Additional Divisional Updates

Dr. Christine Eagleson MD, gave a talk on “Gender Diverse Care of the Bariatric Patient” for the Virginia Bariatric Society Annual Conference at the Boar’s Head Resort.

Dr. Heather Ferris MD PhD, received new grants.

- Guest speaker - Being Patient Podcast. [*“This is your brain on Ozempic”*](#) (September 3, 2024)

- “Discussant in the Know Diabetes” by Heart podcast sponsored by the American Heart Association and American Diabetes Association discussing prevention of stroke in people with diabetes.

Dr. Suzanne Jan de Beur MD:

- International Task forces - Appointed to ASBMR Task Force on Denosumab Discontinuation

- Appointed to an International Working Group to develop Clinical Practice Guidelines for X linked Hypophosphatemia Management in Adults and Children

National or international lectures

- University of Chicago Endocrinology Grand Rounds, “Tumor Induced Osteomalacia: Bench to Bedside Boomerang,”

- Brown University, Endocrinology and Metabolism Grand Rounds, “Tumor Induced Osteomalacia: Advances in Diagnosis and Treatment”

- Faculty, Calcium Metabolism and Osteoporosis Program (CaMOP), American University Beirut, Lebanon, “Anabolic Therapies and Romosozumab: Where Does it fit in OP Care Pathways?”

- Featured Expert. DDX Podcast, “X-linked Hypophosphatemia”

Dr. Zhenqi Liu MD attended several talks as an invited lecturer in 2024.

- The Houston Methodist Hospital / Houston Methodist Academic Institute lecture. February 27, 2024. Houston, TX. “Muscle insulin action and resistance: The microvascular connection.”

- 19th Xiangya International Diabetes Immunology Forum plenary lecture. April 21, 2024. Changsha, PR China. “2024 ADA Standards of Care and Precision Diabetes Care”

- University of Alabama at Birmingham Endocrine Grand Rounds. April 25, 2024. Virtual. “Insulin action and resistance: The microvasculature comes of age.”

- University of Texas Health San Antonio Department of Cell Systems and Anatomy lecture. November 5, 2024. San Antonio, Texas. “Unraveling the cause of muscle insulin resistance – role of the microvasculature.”

- Symposium lecture at the 26th Chinese Diabetes Society Scientific Meeting. November 14, 2024. Nanjing, PR China. “GLP-1 and microvascular insulin sensitivity: Implication for diabetes prevention and management.”

- Plenary lecture at the 11th Chinese National Congress of Microcirculation. November 16, 2024. Shanghai, PR China. “Microvascular insulin resistance and cardiorespiratory fitness in diabetes.”



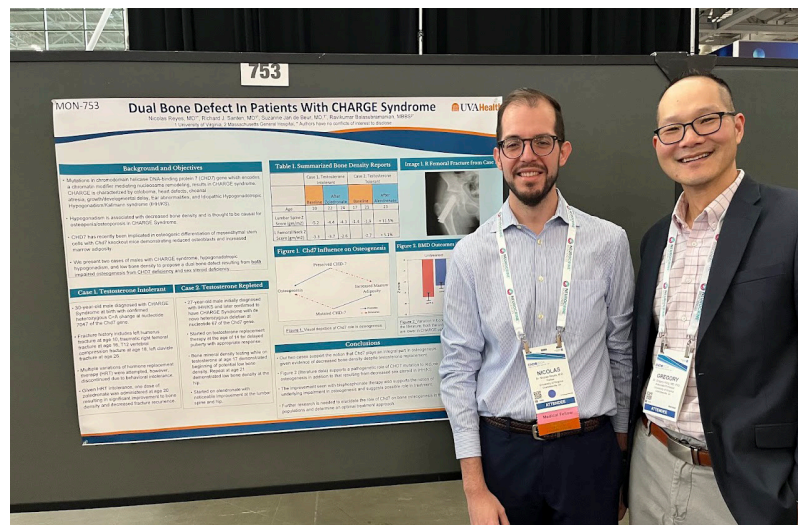
UVAHealth

DIVISION EVENTS

CONFERENCES

2024 ENDO Conference

• Dr. Silas Culver, MD presented an abstract at ENDO 2024



Drs. Greg Hong and Nicola Reyes, ENDO 2024 Conference



Drs. Nicola Reyes, Suzanne Jan De Beur, and Richard Santen, ENDO 2024 Conference



Drs. Heather Ferris, Helmy Siragy, Zhenqi Liu, Ben Horton, Meaghan Strumpf, and Katie Love, ADA 2024 Conference.

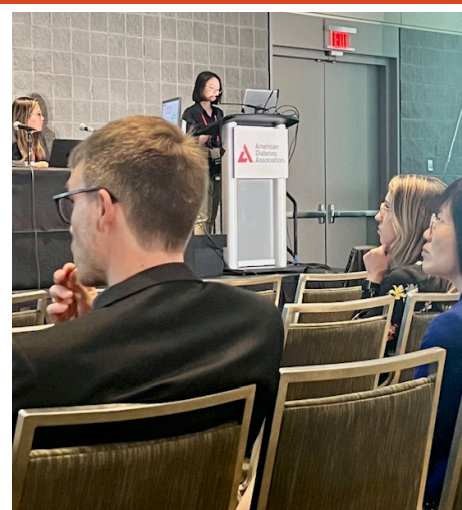
2024 American Diabetes Association Conference

• Dr. Heather Ferris, MD, PhD, Session/Oral Chair during ADA - Professional Interest Group Discussion on Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease—Obesity and Diabetes—Innovative Research to Inform Clinical

• Jia Liu ADA presentation - Session: Actions of incretins in the brain and beyond Title: GIP acutely blunts insulin- and GLP-1-induced muscle microvascular perfusion

• Dr. Helmy Siragy, MD - Session/Oral Chair during ADA 84th Scientific sessions (6/21-6/24) Session Title: Emerging Molecular Mechanisms of ASCVD Progression in Cardiometabolic Disease (With Edwin Bierman Award Lecture)

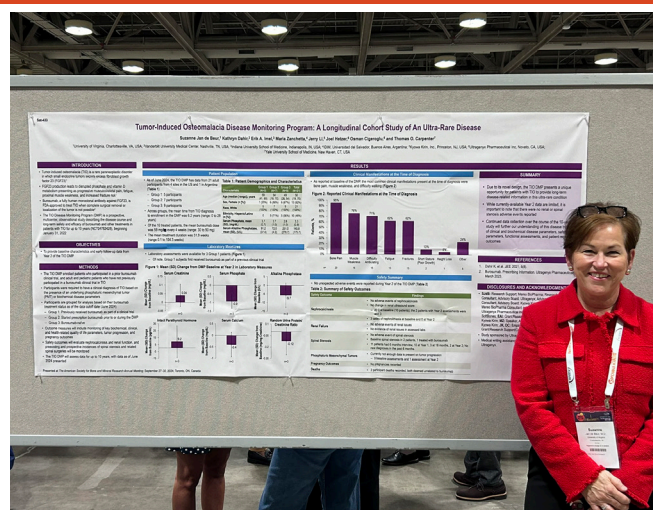
• Dr. Meaghan Stumpf, MD Moderator during ADA session Professional Interest Group Discussion on Immunology/Beta-Cell Replacement— Beta-Cell Stressors, Autoantigen Targets, and How this Provokes Immune Attack



Dr. Jia Liu speaks at the ADA 2024 Conference



Dr. Helmy Siragy speaks at the ADA 2024 Conference



Dr. Suzanne Jan De Beur at the 2024 ASBMR Conference



Dr. Heather Ferris speaks at the ADA 2024 Conference



Dr. Meaghan Strumpf speaks at the ADA 2024 Conference

2024 The American Society for Bone and Mineral Research Annual Meeting

- Symposium Chair, ASBMR/Endocrine Society Joint Symposium: Phosphate in Health and Disease, American Society of Bone and Mineral Research, Toronto, Canada

- Oral Session Chair, Pregnancy Associated Bone Loss and Other Rare Bone Diseases, American Society of Bone and Mineral Research, Toronto, Canada

- Session Chair, "Disease mechanisms and potential therapeutics" in Exploring and Expanding Treatments and Analytical Tools in Rare Bone Diseases Meeting, American Society of Bone and Mineral Research, Toronto, Canada

Celebrations

Welcome Event for Faculty and Fellows



Holiday Party

The holiday season was filled with laughter and good times. A holiday party at Boars Head was lovely; having the whole team together was wonderful.



Christina Hamill, Amanda Powell and spouse Robby, Javanov Barksdale, Heather Franklin and spouse Brandon



Dr. Sue Brown, Fellow Dr. Maria Sanchez Valenzuela, Dr. Jennifer Kirby and Dr. Suzanne Jan de Beur



Dr. Erica Giraldi, Dr. Meg Crook and Dr. Loyal Esper



Kara Anderson, Lee Hartline, Dr. Ben Horton, and spouse, Liz, Dr. Suzanna Keller



Dr. Suzanne Jan de Beur, Dr. Ralf Nass and Dr. Sue Brown



Dr. Richard Santen

LIFE EVENTS

The holiday season was filled with laughter and good times. A holiday party at Boars Head was lovely; having the whole team together was wonderful.



Dr. Lisette Rodriguez Camejo and PA Ellen Upton Lam’s baby shower



William Read, son of Lisette Rodriguez Camejo



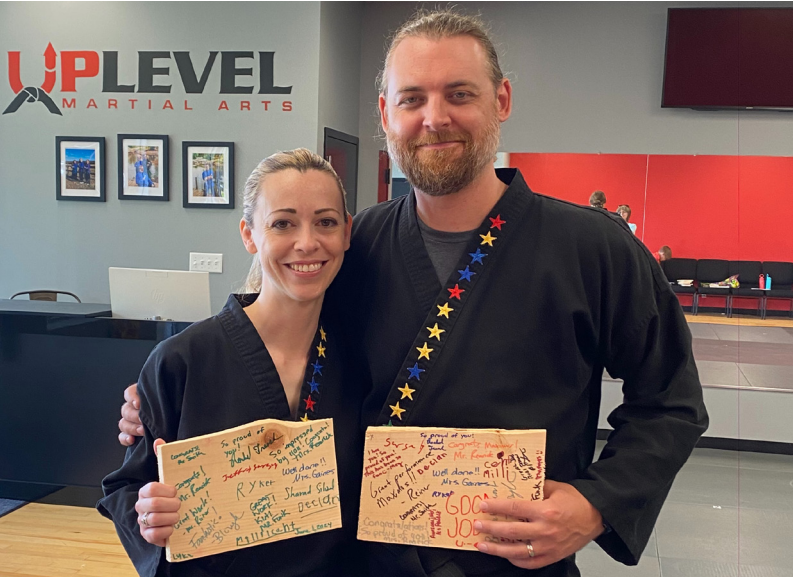
Thomas Calvin Blum entered the world on Christmas Eve, son of Jane Blum



Dr. Suzanne Jan De Beur’s daughter Caroline (on left, Suzanne in purple hat) celebrate Caroline’s graduation from Amherst College



Dr. Suzanne Jan De Beur’s daughter Caroline (second from left) and friends at graduation from Amherst College

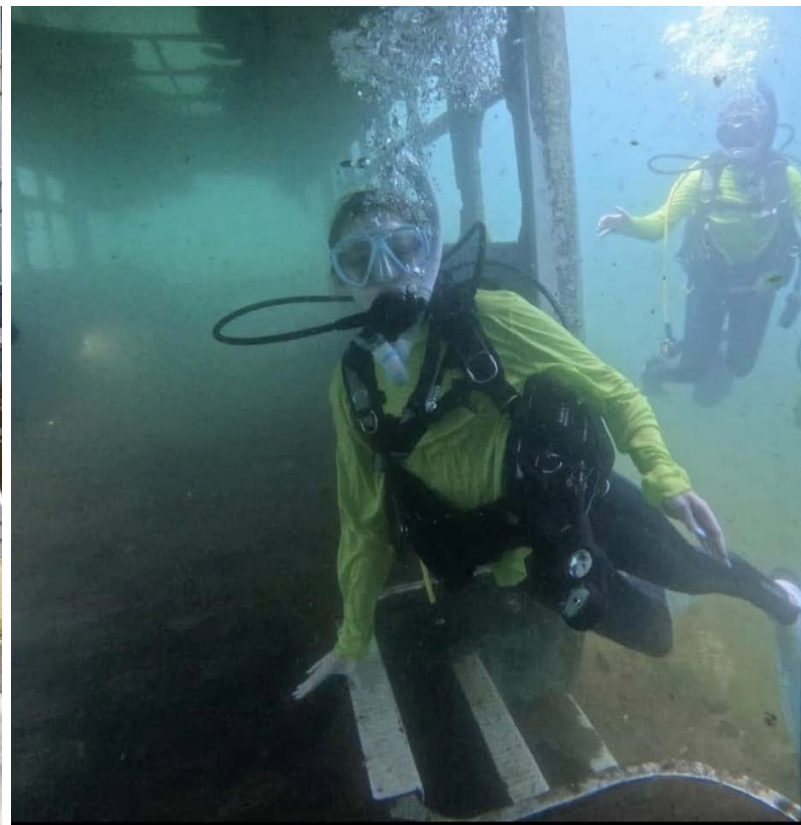


Dr. Meghan Stumpf achieves her blackbelt



Dr. Meghan Stumpf and the power kick!

LIFE EVENTS



Daughter of Ruth Aldridge, Natalie is a recent undergraduate (December 2024) alumnus from Old Dominion University (ODU) working under the mentorship of Dr. Daniel Barshis. Natalie conducted undergraduate research on the evolutionary eco-physiology of marine invertebrate stress tolerance, emphasizing reef-building corals. Her passion for marine biology was influenced early on by a deep admiration for the ocean and inspiration she found in biologists like that of Sir David Frederick Attenborough. Natalie will intern in May 2025 at the Atlanta Georgia Aquarium, the Keys of Florida, and the Dry Tortugas National Park. Much of which she will use her scuba certification for additional training, discovery, and gained knowledge.



New family member to the Aldridge Family, Boone! Boone, our first grand pup, is named after the Aldridge family heritage of Boone, North Carolina. He is a golden retriever; his parents are Samantha and Christian, her significant other. Samantha and Christian are recent graduates of James Madison University in the Media Arts and Design. The brother to Boone, Tripp, is with Christian's family, and they both live and love to be on the water.

DIVISION PROFILE

FACULTY - Loyal Esper



Tell us a little bit about yourself.

After a five-year career as a hospitalist, I decided to return to training and pursue my passion for endocrinology. After graduating from George Washington in Washington, DC, I joined the University of Virginia in the late summer of 2024.

Why Healthcare?

I enjoy caring for endocrine patients and building rapport over time while treating their disease. I have a particular interest in thyroid and thyroid cancer. I also enjoy teaching as I remember the lasting impression particular clinicians had on me when I was a medical student, which affected my training and career decisions.

What brought you to Charlottesville?

Joining the Division of Endocrinology at UVA.

What excites you about your work?

Patients report that they have improved on a certain treatment or felt heard and validated during our encounter. Teaching learners about new concepts.

What is the one thing you always have in your fridge?

Whenever I tell my husband we must go grocery shopping, he asks if I ran out of Greek yogurt.

Do you travel or have a favorite trip?

Yes, to multiple destinations such as Italy, France, and Lebanon. My family enjoys trips to Mexico when it's a short break.

What about you would surprise us?

I love to dance and wanted to be a professional dancer throughout my childhood and teenage years.

What is a talent or skill you don't have that you wish you did?

Skiing.

Would you rather do one thing extraordinarily well or ten things admirably well? Hmm, how about ten things extraordinarily?

What's the most unusual thing you have ever eaten?

Raw horse meat (French cuisine).



DIVISION PROFILE

FACULTY - Erica Alexandra Giraldi



Tell us a little bit about yourself.

I was born in Toronto but moved to Milan when I was three and a half years old, and therefore grew up in Italy. At seventeen, I decided to pursue medicine in the United States and enrolled at Johns Hopkins University, where I majored in Neuroscience. I completed medical school at Case Western University, an internal medicine residency at University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center, and an endocrinology fellowship at Emory University, where I then joined the faculty in 2020. During my time at Emory, I specialized in pituitary medicine in addition to general endocrinology. I just recently joined UVA in September of 2024.

Why Healthcare?

My grandfather was a pulmonologist, and my grandmother was a pediatrician, so I was exposed to medicine early. However, I first developed a passion for Neuroscience while in college, a field that, unbeknownst to me then, would eventually lead me to Neuroendocrinology. I remember my grandfather asking me about my neuroscience classes when I was home for the holidays and being eager to share what I had learned. During medical school and residency, I realized that my most exciting and interesting cases were endocrine-related, and this cemented my interest in the field. While in fellowship, I worked with some of the leaders in Pituitary medicine and found that I loved working in a

multi-disciplinary team setting. I found that I enjoyed taking care of complex patients and promoting awareness and understanding of rare diseases.

What brought you to Charlottesville?

UVA has a long-standing tradition of excellence. The Pituitary Center is nationally renowned and one of the significant historic centers in the country. It is an honor to work alongside leaders in the field. What sealed my decision was the supportive and collegial environment that I saw during my interview.

What excites you about your work?

Endocrinology is like a puzzle – it requires a lot of thought, and I enjoy the challenge and satisfaction of making an actionable difference in my patients' lives. I enjoy hearing patients' unique stories and perspectives and being part of their healthcare journey.

What do you enjoy doing on the weekend?

I enjoy running and hiking with my husband and dog, visiting museums, and taking day trips to surrounding towns.

What is the one thing you always have in your fridge?

Cheese...definitely cheese, and also prosciutto.

Do you have any pets?

My husband and I adopted a spunky dog from the humane society. She partakes in my love of food and has been known to appreciate a Swiss gruyère.

Do you travel or have a favorite trip?

I try to travel home to Italy to spend as much time with my family as possible. However, I also love exploring new countries and learning about different customs and cultures.

What about you would surprise us?

I have a secret love for singing off-key karaoke.



DIVISION PROFILE

FELLOW - Amrit Pathak



Vibrant colors, joyous smiles, and the spirit of Dashain! Celebrating this beautiful festival in the heart of Charlottesville for the first time.

I feel blessed to be a husband to a loving and caring wife and a father of two beautiful children. It is my greatest and incomparable achievement.

How did you meet your partner?

I met my girlfriend at a college program where I was performing a song. Even from the stage, I connected with her; luckily, she felt it too. Our relationship blossomed, and we got married five years later.



Sun-kissed days and sweet summer treats. Peach picking at Carter Mountain Orchard is a must-do!

Tell us a little bit about yourself.

I have been deepening my expertise in endocrinology as an Endocrine fellow at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, VA, for the past six months. My latest chapter in my medical career follows a period of practicing medicine in Providence, RI, after completing an internal medicine residency in Baltimore, MD.

Why Healthcare?

I find immense satisfaction in serving human beings, and my passion for endocrinology stems from the challenges inherent in understanding the complex roles hormones play within the human body.

What brought you to Charlottesville?

Interestingly, the landscape of Charlottesville initially drew my attention to the area. The rolling hills and valleys echo the familiar terrain of my hometown, Kathmandu, Nepal, offering comfort and belonging.

What excites you about your work?

I'm incredibly fortunate to work alongside supportive colleagues who cultivate a positive and collaborative learning environment. Also, there are constant opportunities for growth and development. The appreciation we receive after each patient visit makes it even more rewarding. This is what drives and excites me to do my best.

What do you consider to be your greatest achievement outside the professional realm?

Do you travel or have a favorite trip?

I love to travel and explore new cultures. My trip to Barcelona was a particularly memorable experience. I was captivated by the city's vibrant energy, stunning architecture, and rich history. I especially enjoyed immersing myself in the local culture wandering through bustling markets.

Who is the person you admire most, and why?

The people I admire most are my parents. Their unwavering belief in me and their countless sacrifices to ensure my growth and achievements have shaped me into who I am today.

What is the best advice anyone ever gave you?

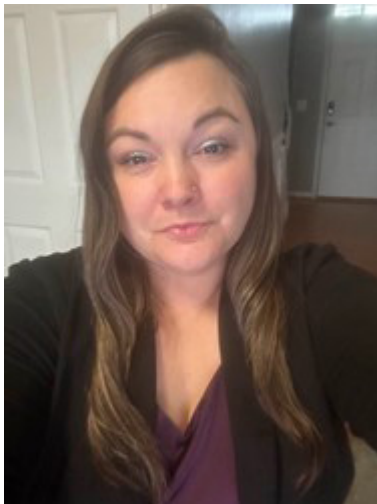
The best advice I ever received was to "Believe in yourself. Don't try to impress others; stay true to your beliefs." This philosophy has been a guiding principle throughout my life. It encourages me to act with integrity, follow my own path, and focus on what truly matters to me rather than seeking external validation.



Lost in the magic of the Luray Cavern. It is a breathtaking underground wonderland.

DIVISION PROFILE

STAFF - Julia Rosalyn Lambert



Tell us a little bit about yourself.

I have been employed with the University of Virginia Medical Center for ten years and transferred to the MD-INMD Endocrinology department on November 18, 2024. Previously, I served in Patient Access, Billing, Data Abstraction, and in the Leadership sector. I have three beautiful children, two sons and one daughter (19, 10, 5). I am attending Liberty University (online), pursuing my Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration with a concentration on Healthcare Administration and Data Analytics.

Why Healthcare?

I was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes at sixteen months of age. I was treated at Kluge Children's Rehab Center, where the University of Virginia Orthopedics building is currently. I remember especially the compassionate care from Andrea Snyder, Nurse Practitioner. The Endocrinology department holds a very special place in my heart, and I am interested in the education and research at UVA, specifically helping those living with Type 1 diabetes. I hope my job will allow me to contribute to the goals of my department in this area.

What brought you to Charlottesville?

I was born in Charlottesville and raised in Fluvanna County, where I still reside.

What excites you about your work?

I am honored to work for a world-class academic medical center that positively impacts students, staff, patients, and the local community.

Describe yourself in one word.

Optimistic.

What do you enjoy doing on the weekend?

Spending time with my children. They keep me busy!

What is the one thing you always have in your fridge?

Almond milk.

Are you a hunter or a gatherer?

I consider myself to be a gatherer. I am collaborative and detail-oriented. I consistently look for ways to improve and optimize my workflow process. I strive to establish strong professional networks.

Would you rather do one thing extraordinarily well or ten things admirably well?

I would rather do ten things admirably well, with excellence!

What is the last book you read for pleasure?

"When Breath Becomes Air" by Paul Kalanithi



Ayden, 20 (Oldest); Ashton, age 10 (middle child) & Alianna, age 5 (youngest)