Message from the chair
A journey toward excellence

As a department leader in a dynamic academic health center, I feel like we are always on a “journey” toward excellent patient care, research and education. Throughout the past several years we have been on a lean journey – referred to as OHSU Performance Excellence, or OPEx – in order to remove unnecessary work (waste) from our system.

Under the leadership of Drs. Steve Robinson and Mike Aziz, APOM has made substantial progress. And while it is human nature to focus on those goals that have yet to be met, it’s important to recognize what we have accomplished.

I am particularly impressed by the overall improvement in collegiality and staff culture in the south operating room. Our OR nurses and technicians have been fantastic partners. With the encouragement of surgical department chairs like Drs. John Hunter, Jung Yoo and Paul Flint, we are starting to see advancement on topics that are uniquely surgically-oriented. I am particularly impressed with the leadership of Drs. Darin Friess, Matt Slater and Dan Herzig who have worked hard to encourage their surgical colleagues to join us and the OR nurses in this important effort. I would also like to thank the many members of our department, including attendings, CRNAs, residents and staff, who have brought focus to our journey and helped assure that OPEx has become a part of our culture. We now have many individuals in our department who have received lean training and who have been involved in many Kaizen events. Although the work continues, I’m confident that the train is moving in the right direction.

I am also proud that our department has been chosen to be one of only 43 anesthesiology groups in the United States – from both private practice and academics – who have embarked on the American Society of Anesthesiologists Perioperative Surgical Home (PSH) journey (see page 2). Under the national leadership of our own Dr. Norm Cohen and others, we are now a member of the ASA PSH learning

(continued on page 10)
The Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine has taken the first steps toward embracing the Perioperative Surgical Home (PSH), a new patient-centered, team-based model designed to provide seamless coordinated care that guides a patient from the time a decision is made to undergo surgery through recovery, discharge and beyond.

It is seen as a revolutionary and potentially transformative concept that will "synergistically reinvigorate the value provided by physicians to health care delivery systems," predicted David C. Mackey, M.D., of the MD Anderson Cancer Center and Michael P. Schweitzer, M.D., MBA, in the December 2014 American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) Newsletter.

PSH has been gaining momentum, they said, because it can result in "remarkable decreases in the incidence and severity of perioperative complications, hospital lengths of stay, hospital readmission rates and (as a result) significant decreases in perioperative costs."

It provides for continuity of care in place of what too often are variable and fragmented care plans. Its benefits include improving quality and safety and decreasing cancellations and delays – thus, lowering costs and contributing to the Triple Aim.

OHSU, along with some 40 other leading health care organizations from across the country, has joined the ASA Learning Collaborative, which was established last year to define, develop, pilot and evaluate the PSH model. Clinical and administrative staffs from each institution will work to redesign their delivery systems to realize the benefits of the model and, in time, to create an evidence-based “road map” for participating institutions to spread knowledge and best practices.

The vision is that each institution’s PSH will have physician leaders drawn from its anesthesiologists, surgeons and hospitalists who will work with teams of nurse practitioners, physician assistants and others, tracking a patient’s progress throughout the perioperative process.

Peter Schulman, M.D., associate professor, is APOM’s clinical lead in the PSH initiative; Suzanne Simmons, APOM’s vice chair, is the administrative lead; and Jeffrey Kirsch, M.D., department chair and professor, is the sponsor. All three were present for the November meeting of the PSH Collaborative at ASAs Schaumberg, Ill., headquarters. The next gathering will be in spring 2015.

"We need to be leaders in setting the stage for this very innovative approach here in Oregon."

– Suzanne Simmons

Rollout of the PSH initiative at OHSU will begin with a comprehensive program geared for spine surgery patients sometime later this year, said Dr. Schulman. These patients will make up the first cohort, and were chosen with the help of Robert Hart, M.D., professor, and Jung Yoo, M.D., professor and chair, both of the Department of Orthopaedics and Rehabilitation. These cases require a lot of multidisciplinary collaboration, said Dr. Schulman. Many different teams are required such as those focused on nutrition, acute and chronic pain management and perioperative blood management, to name a few. “We agreed that these patients offered real opportunities for PSH to make a difference,” he said.

In the next few months, Dr. Schulman and Simmons will be working with Dr. Hart and the other PSH Steering Committee members to develop a protocol for perioperative pain management as well as engaging key players in blood bank management to develop more specific approaches for optimizing spine patients with anemia prior to surgery.

As success is demonstrated with the spine surgery cohort, Dr. Schulman said, we’ll move on to a second category of surgery patients and then a third and roll out PSH in that fashion.

PSH is one of APOM’s highest priorities, said Simmons. The department planted its stake in this ground, she said, because “the evidence shows that it will help patients recover faster and it’s the right thing to do. As the only academic medical center in the state, we need to be leaders in setting the stage for this very innovative approach here in Oregon.”
Recognizing achievements, rewarding success
School of Medicine Promotion and Tenure process recognized 87 faculty members in 2014

By Norman A. Cohen, M.D.
Clinical Professor and Chair, APOM Promotion and Tenure Committee

The Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine is fortunate to have many gifted clinicians, educators and scientists who work hard and help fulfill OHSU’s missions. One of the ways we recognize these efforts is through the Promotion and Tenure (P&T) process.

In 2014, 87 faculty members in the School of Medicine were promoted for distinguishing achievements across multiple domains in accordance with school P&T guidelines.

Under Dr. Angela Kendrick’s effective mentoring, APOM colleagues had a very successful year with eight members receiving promotion. Dr. Kendrick, who retired from OHSU in the summer of 2014, was integral during her leadership of our P&T Committee.

James Carson, Ph.D., is an active clinical psychologist in the OHSU Comprehensive Pain Center. His scholarly work has focused more recently on the role of lifestyle modifications, such as meditation and yoga, on mitigating symptoms of fibromyalgia and other pain conditions. For his contributions, Dr. Carson has been promoted to associate professor.

Norm Cohen, M.D., received promotion to clinical professor, in recognition of his numerous service contributions. In APOM, Dr. Cohen is the physician lead on billing, compliance and revenue cycle matters. He also serves as director of educational technology. For OHSU, Dr. Cohen chairs the Managed Care Strategies Committee and is a past-president of the Faculty Senate. Nationally, Dr. Cohen served in a number of roles for the ASA, most recently as vice president for professional affairs.

Ines Koerner, M.D., is an active researcher, clinician and educator, who was promoted to associate professor. With sustained funding and numerous publications, Dr. Koerner is recognized nationally as an expert in ischemic brain injury. She currently serves as director of the OHSU neuro-ICU and has been a leader in addressing hospital acquired infections at OHSU. She is the rotation chief for the neuro-critical care residency rotation and was substantially involved in developing the curriculum for this rotation.

Kirk Lalwani, M.D., was promoted to professor. His contributions in service have included being program director of the Pediatric Anesthesiology Fellowship, chair of the APOM Resident Evaluation and Clinical Competence Committee, chair of a joint Society of Pediatric Anesthesia/SPA/American Academy of Pediatrics scientific conference, co-chair of the ASA Annual Meeting Problem-based Learning Discussion Committee, and numerous other roles in SPA.

Berklee Robins, M.D., has been a key individual in developing our global humanitarian outreach efforts. His efforts have provided unique opportunities for many of our residents and faculty to help provide needed surgical care in developing countries. Dr. Robins is now a clinical associate professor.

Peter Schulman, M.D., was promoted to associate professor. He has become a national expert in improving perioperative management of cardiac implanted electronic devices (CIED). His implementation of an anesthesiologist-led CIED service at OHSU has improved quality, reduced delays and saved money for the institution. Dr. Schulman directs our anesthesia service outside the operating room, which has grown dramatically in recent years. Recently, Dr. Schulman has been tasked with leading our Perioperative Surgical Home activities (see page 2).

Christopher Swide, M.D., was promoted to clinical professor for his outstanding contributions to our educational efforts. As vice chair for education and APOM residency program director, Dr. Swide has become a nationally recognized innovator in anesthesia education. Other institutions have emulated our successful Oregon Scholars program, which fosters integrated education in critical care medicine and anesthesia or, alternatively, extended opportunities to perform research. Dr. Swide also serves as assistant dean for graduate medical education in the OHSU School of Medicine.

Glenn Woodworth, M.D., was promoted to clinical associate professor. He is director of APOM’s regional anesthesia

(continued on page 10)
Michele Noles, M.D., clinical associate professor, is now APOM’s chief of quality and safety (CQS), combining two functions that had been separate until Matthias Merkel, M.D., Ph.D., assumed the role of director of adult critical care for OHSU. Previously, Dr. Noles had been chief quality officer.

Coincident with Dr. Merkel’s transition in November 2014, the quality and safety functions were put under one umbrella and the position of associate chief of quality and safety (ACQS) was created, which Ed A. Kahl, M.D., assistant professor, has filled.

As CQS, Dr. Noles serves as chair of the Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Committee and leads the CQI peer review process, identifying root causes of quality and safety issues as well as opportunities and strategies for making improvements when working with other related departments and specialty areas. She oversees the APOM quality group, assisting in driving the quality and safety research and ad hoc project agenda.

“Our mission is to reduce errors and improve patient experience and outcomes.”

– Dr. Michele Noles

Dr. Kahl supports the group's mission by overseeing APOM’s educational agenda for the weekly case conference and grand rounds conference and also serves as chair of the Visiting Professor Committee. He is in charge of reviewing quality- and safety-related outcome metrics such as hospital-acquired infection data and iatrogenic injuries.

“Our mission is to reduce errors and improve patient experience and outcomes,” said Dr. Noles. “We take a look at any unusual event in the operating room, regardless of whether it results in permanent harm. We ask, ‘how did this happen?’ and ‘how can we prevent it from happening again?’”

One of the accomplishments Dr. Noles points to in her short tenure is making the trip down the long back hallway from the south operating rooms to the recovery rooms safer for patients. “They were vulnerable when they were being transported down that hallway after surgery,” she said.

“We woke them up and in 30 seconds were rolling them down that hallway pushing the bed from behind and didn’t necessarily have the best view of their heads. So there was a chance you might not have recognized soon enough that the patient had stopped breathing. At night when no one is around and there's no phone or any other resource in that long hallway, that could have put you in trouble territory.”

At Dr. Noles’ urging, emergency respiratory equipment was installed last spring at six different locations along the hallway, the nurses agreed to a protocol requiring one of them to assist with transportation, and a system was put in place for continuous monitoring of the oxygen saturation of every high risk patient (ASA-3 or above) between the OR and the recovery room.

“That was a big win,” said Dr. Noles, who added that the respiratory equipment hasn’t yet been needed, which is good because it’s for the worst-case scenario. The patient monitoring that’s in place adds a second layer of safety.

The CQI Committee under Dr. Noles leadership implemented a protocol on perioperative potassium management that was spearheaded by Ann Bingham, M.D., assistant professor, to ensure that the potassium level of end-stage renal disease patients is automatically checked prior to reaching the OR. Before that there were sometimes expensive delays and safety risks when it was discovered just as the patient arrived in the OR that a potassium check was necessary.

Drs. Noles and Kahl are also working with the rest of the hospital system on a project to standardize perioperative glycemic management for all diabetic and at-risk patients. They have developed the anesthesia component of intraprofessional guidelines aimed at minimizing surgical site infections in colectomies and hysterectomies. They include guidance on fluid administration, antibiotic administration, oxygen concentration and the temperature in the ORs.

In addition, they are overhauling all APOM policies to make them easily accessible to all personnel in the OR. Finally, they are working on a project called “Restock the tray? NO WAY!,” which aims to prevent errors by discouraging anesthesia providers and technicians from putting a drug vial or syringe back in the tray lest it is put in the wrong place and is missed by pharmacy.

“We’re working to be proactive in preventing unsafe conditions and encouraging the highest quality care to our patients,” said Dr. Kahl.
Welcome to the family: New APOM clinicians

Faculty members

Ryan Fink, M.D.
Christine Martin, M.D.
Amy J. Opilla, M.D.
Katie Schenning, M.D., MPH
Andrei Sdrulla, M.D., Ph.D.
Evan Serfass, M.D., Ph.D.
Craig Hutto, ACNP

Certified registered nurse anesthetists

Esther Iverson
Andrei Sdrulla, M.D., Ph.D.
Evan Serfass, M.D., Ph.D.

Advanced practice providers

Not pictured: Emily Guimaraes, M.D., and Sarah Aragon, ACNP

Comprehensive Pain Center welcomes new massage therapist

The Comprehensive Pain Center is pleased to announce the addition of Jennifer Hessick, licensed massage therapist. Hessick is seeing patients every Tuesday in the Comprehensive Pain Center on the fourth floor of the Center for Health & Healing.

If you are an employee and have Moda insurance, once your deductible has been satisfied, your out of pocket expense will be approximately $40 for an hour-long massage.

To schedule an appointment, call directly at 503 494-0466 or the CPC front desk at 503 494-7246.
To new beginnings! APOM graduated 11 residents and nine fellows in 2014. We celebrated their achievements with a ceremony in June at the Columbia Edgewater Country Club.

As is the nature of academic medicine, this fond farewell also signaled a welcome for APOM’s newest trainees, listed on the following pages.

Fond farewell and a warm welcome

Interns

Immaculeta Achilike, M.D., MPH
John Meyer, M.D.
Joanna Olsen, M.D., Ph.D.
Jay Robinson II, M.D.
Remigio Roque, M.D.
Nicholas Saenz, M.D.
Andrew Slupe, M.D.
Julia Stokes, M.D.
Evan Thilo, M.D.
Amber Tucker, M.D.

Residents

Mike Carrigan, M.D.
Diana Cheng, M.D.
Alex Fu, M.D.
Amy Kerfoot, M.D.
Admire Kuchena, M.D.
Tomas Lazo, M.D.
Travis Melin, D.O.
Tyler Paradis, M.D.
Austin Peters, M.D.
Justin Ramos, M.D.
The mission of the OHSU Comprehensive Pain Center – staffed by APOM faculty and clinicians – is to reduce the pain and suffering of the patients it serves. Being responsive to the types of services patients wish to receive empowers patients with a sense of personal control over their health and functioning.

APOM has expanded its roster of complementary medicine providers at the Pain Center as a way to respond to patients and increase care options. Jennifer Hessick, massage therapist, joined the Pain Center Jan. 12 and is accepting new patients (see page 5). Jordan Graeme, chiropractor, Yunlong Long, nurse practitioner, and Scott Mist, Ph.D., assistant professor of medicine and acupuncturist, also began offering services recently. These providers are valuable additions to the Pain Center team and its unique mix of interventional and non-interventional treatment options.

Along with expanding providers, the Pain Center implemented a new comfort menu, which offers amenities such as lip balm, soft socks and snacks to help make patients comfortable. Patient satisfaction survey data indicate these changes are effective: Recent Press Ganey rankings put the Pain Center at the 86th percentile compared to similar centers nationwide.

“People in Portland are health-driven and we've learned that patients are interested in pain management options other than medication,” said Kim Mauer, M.D., assistant professor of APOM and medical director of the Pain Center. “This complements the fact that the standard of care is moving away from steroids and other medication-based therapies. We are pleased to be able to adapt services to continually improve patient care.”

In addition to patient care, the Pain Center is committed to taking a leadership role in pain research. The Pain Center is part of a Boston Scientific trial called ACCELERATE (A Randomized Controlled Study to Evaluate the Safety and Effectiveness of the Precision Spinal Cord Stimulator System Adapted for High-Rate Spinal Cord Stimulation).

The study – led by David Sibell, M.D., associate professor of APOM, and Andrei Sdrulla, M.D., assistant professor of APOM – began enrolling participants in October 2014. The goal of the study is to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of high-rate spinal cord stimulation therapy as compared to commercial rate spinal cord stimulation as an aid in the management of chronic intractable trunk pain. Qualified participants are adults who have a primary complaint of persistent or recurrent low back pain that has not been effectively managed with other treatment options; they may visit www.ohsu.edu/clinicaltrials for more information.
Awarded, granted, recognized

Michael Aziz, M.D., associate professor, and Cobin Soelberg, M.D., assistant professor, received a grant from Covidien to investigate a quality initiative aimed at evaluating the efficacy of a new tracheal tube cuff design in reducing pneumonia. Other contributors to the project are Ross Martini, M.D., APOM resident, and Jamie Eastman, Ph.D., assistant professor. The study will use before-and-after data from our local perioperative database to identify such events.

Mindy French, ACNP-BC has accepted the position as lead APP for the NSICU. In this new leadership position, French will oversee advanced practice provider clinical services for the NSICU. She is an excellent clinician who has already exhibited strong leadership skills since joining APOM and the NSICU team in 2013.

Corey Fry, ACNP-BC has accepted the position of lead APP for the CVICU. He completed his ACNP degree at UCSF in 2010 and previously worked as a critical care and PACU RN in Stanford, Kaiser Permanente, and University of Utah Health System. Fry has been with APOM since 2011.

Mike Hutchens, M.D., associate professor, received the New Inventor of the Year Award from the OHSU Technology Transfer and Business Development office in October 2014. OHSU has filed patents on two of Dr. Hutchens’ nine disclosed inventions, one of which is exclusively optioned to a company for evaluation. Dr. Hutchens’ inventions thus far focus on bringing smart, reliable technology to the patient as wearable or bedside devices to improve safety.

Mizuko Ikeda, M.D., Ph.D., postdoctoral fellow, received the Resident Research Travel Award from the Society for Neuroanesthesia and Critical Care (SNACC). Dr. Ikeda’s abstract titled “Peroxiredoxin-1 and Toll-like receptor 2 pathway contributes to neurotoxic microglial activation after cardiac arrest” was selected for the award by the SNACC Scientific Committee.

Ines Koerner, M.D., associate professor, received an American Heart Foundation Grant in Aid. The funding will support her project, “Mechanisms of microglia-mediated secondary brain injury after cardiac arrest.”

Kirk Lalwani, M.D., professor, and his collaborators at NeuroWave Systems Inc. and BC Children’s Hospital in Vancouver received a Phase I Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grant from the National Institutes of Health. The grant supports their work to investigate the potential utility of NeuroSENSE (a bilateral EEG monitor) in total intravenous anesthesia in the pediatric population (TIVApeds). The study will determine if continuous monitoring can be used to guide clinical decisions and improve safety and patient care, while reducing cost in TIVA.

Nicole Libal was promoted to assistant lab manager. Libal, who joined APOM in 2006, is responsible for maintaining the overall daily operations and supervising all research staff in MRB, including maintaining all laboratory supplies, equipment and maintenance and enforcement of all laboratory safety and compliance policies (as well as continuing her work in animal models). She was the 2010 Technician of the Year for the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS) and is a Registered Laboratory Animal Technician.

Sarah Mader was promoted to assistant lab manager. Mader, who joined APOM in 2006, is responsible for maintaining the overall daily operations and supervising all research staff in HRC5, including maintaining all laboratory supplies, equipment and maintenance and enforcement of all laboratory safety and compliance policies (as well as continuing in her cell culture work). Mader is past president of the Oregon Branch of the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (OAALAS) and was the 2013 Technician of the Year for the District 8 American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS).

Top doctors and nurses

The 2015 Portland Monthly magazine list of “Top Doctors and Nurses” includes seven APOM physicians and nurse practitioners. Providers with an OHSU affiliation are among the most listed compared to other hospitals and health systems, reflecting the depth of specialty services OHSU provides and the institution’s strong reputation (italics represent the provider’s specialty in the magazine):

Susan L. Bardon, CRNA, instructor
Certified Nurse Anesthetists

Grace Chen, M.D. assistant professor
Pain Medicine

Corey W. Fry, ACNP, instructor
Acute

Edward A. Kahl, M.D., assistant professor
Anesthesiology-Pain Management

Jeffrey Robert Kirsch, M.D., chair and professor
Anesthesiology

Jeffrey L. Koh, M.D., professor
Pediatric Anesthesiology

Kimberly M. Mauer, M.D., assistant professor
Anesthesiology

(continued on page 10)
Notable publications from APOM research

“Peroxosomal Biogenesis in Ischemic Brain” by Jennifer Young, Jonathan Nelson, Jian Chen, Wenri Zhang, Sarah Mader, Catherine Davis, Richard Morrison and Nabil Alkayed, was published in Antioxidants & Redox Signaling. The study found that peroxisomes, small intracellular organelles, proliferate in neurons under ischemic conditions and that peroxisomal proliferation plays a protective role against ischemic neuronal injury.

“Role of Soluble Epoxide Hydrolase in Age-related Vascular Cognitive Decline” by Jonathan Nelson, Jennifer Young, Rohan Borkar, Randy Woltjer, Joseph Quinn, Lisa C. Silbert, Marjorie Grafe and Nabil Alkayed, was published in Prostaglandins & Other Lipid Mediators. The study found an enzyme called soluble epoxide hydrolase (sEH) to be increased in microvascular endothelium from brains identified to have dementia of vascular origin.

“Protective Role of P450 Epoxyeicosanoids in Subarachnoid Hemorrhage” by Dominic Siler, Ross Martini, Jonathan P. Ward, Jonathan W. Nelson, Rohan N. Borkar, Kristen L. Zuloaga, Jesse J. Liu, Stacy L. Fairbanks, Jeffrey S. Raskin, Valerie C. Anderson, Aclan Dogan, Ruikang K. Wang, Nabil J. Alkayed and Justin S. Cetas, was published in Neurocritical Care. The study found elevated levels of specific lipids (epoxyeicosanoids) in CSF samples from subarachnoid hemorrhage (SAH) patients, then demonstrated that these eicosanoids are protective against the development of delayed cerebral ischemia (DCI) after SAH.

“Estrogen-mediated renoprotection following cardiac arrest and cardiopulmonary resuscitation is robust to GPR30 gene deletion” by Michael P. Hutchens, Yasuharu Kosaka, Wenri Zhang, Tetsuhiro Fujiyoshi, Stephanie Murphy, Nabil Alkayed and Sharon Anderson, was published in PLOS One. The female sex hormone estrogen remains an enigma in terms of its beneficial vs. adverse effects and its mechanism of action. The study confirmed protection by estrogen, despite the deletion of GPCR30.

“Extracranial hypothermia during cardiac arrest and cardiopulmonary resuscitation is neuroprotective in vivo” by Michael P. Hutchens, Tetsuhiro Fujiyoshi, Ines Koerner and Paco Herson, was published in Therapeutic Hypothermia and Temperature Management. Drs. Hutchens and Koerner validated in this paper the protective effect of hypothermia on neuronal injury after CA/CPR.

“Impairment of Glymphatic Pathway Function Promotes Tau Pathology after Traumatic Brain Injury” by Jeff Iliff, Doug Zeppenfeld, Michael J. Chen, Benjamin A. Plog, Melissa Soltero, Lijun Yang, Itender Singh, Rashid Deane and Maiken Nedergaard, was published in the Journal of Neuroscience. They found that traumatic brain injury disrupts CSF flow in a mouse brain, which leads to the development of Alzheimer’s-like pathology (neurofibrillary pathology and neurodegeneration), presumably due to reduced clearance of neurotoxic compounds.

“Soluble epoxide hydrolase gene deletion improves blood flow and reduces infarct size after cerebral ischemia in reproductively senescent female mice” by Kristen Zuloaga, Wenri Zhang, Natalie Roese and Nabil Alkayed, was published in Frontiers in Pharmacology. Deletion of the soluble epoxide hydrolase (sEH) is known to provide protection against stroke in male mice, but not young female mice. APOM investigators found that deletion of the sEH gene lead to an increase in cortical perfusion and reduced damage after ischemic stroke in aged female mice.

“Recombinant T-cell receptor ligand treatment improves neurological outcome in the presence of tissue plasminogen activator in experimental ischemic stroke” by Nicole L. Libal, Sheetal Bodhankar, Halina Offner, Wenbin Zhu and Nabil Alkayed, was published in Translational Stroke Research. Since thrombolysis with recombinant tissue plasminogen activator (t-PA) is a standard therapy for stroke, it remained to be clarified if RTL1000 efficacy is altered when combined with t-PA in experimental stroke. They found that RTL1000 treatment alone improves outcome and provides additional protection in t-PA treated mice in experimental ischemic stroke.

“A novel HLA-DRα1-MOG-35-55 construct treats experimental stroke” by Nicole Libal, Amanda Casper, Xiaolin Yu, Roberto Meza-Romero, Authorh A. Vandenvark, Nabil J. Alkayed, Halina Offner, Gil Benedek and Wenbin Zhu, was published in Metabolic Brain Disease. APOM investigators found that a novel recombinant protein comprised of HLA-DRα1 domain linked to MOG-35-55 peptide but lacking the β1 domain reduced infarct size in experimental stroke. So, the novel DRα1-MOG-35-55 construct is highly therapeutic in experimental stroke and could be given to all patients at least 4 hours after stroke onset without the need for tissue typing due to universal expression of DRα1 in humans.

“Different immunological mechanisms govern protection from experimental stroke in young and older mice with recombinant TCR ligand therapy” by Nicole Libal, Nabil J. Alkayed, Halina Offner, Ally Dotson and Wenbin Zhu, was published in Frontiers in Cellular Neuroscience. The lack of clinical success in stroke therapies can be attributed, in part, to inadequate basic research on aging rodents. In this paper, APOM investigators found that in young mice, RTL1000 therapy inhibited splenocyte efflux while reducing frequency of T cells and macrophages in the spleen.
Awarded (continued from page 8)

Ross Martini, M.D., neurocritical care fellow, received a Medical Research Foundation (MRF) grant to support his research project, “Genetic polymorphisms in soluble epoxyeicosatrienoic hydrolase and outcome after aneurysmal subarachnoid hemorrhage: The role of the epoxyeicosatrienoic acids.” This is a follow up-study on Dr. Martini’s collaborations with OHSU colleagues recently published in *Journal of Neurosurgery and Neurocritical Care* (see page 9).

Kim Mauer, M.D., assistant professor, has accepted the role of medical director of the OHSU Comprehensive Pain Center, effective January 1, 2015. As a talented, hard-working and knowledgeable anesthesiology pain expert, the CPC will continue to excel under Dr. Mauer’s leadership. A committee chaired by Mary Heinricher, Ph.D., assistant dean for basic research, OHSU School of Medicine, will conduct a national search to help find a director of an interprofessional OHSU Pain Center.

Annie Riley, M.S., recently earned her master’s degree in education from Portland State University. Her M.S. is in education leadership and policy with a specialization in postsecondary, adult and continuing education. She also completed a certificate in training and development.

Katie Schenning, M.D., assistant professor, was awarded the Oregon BIRCWH K12 Career Development Award (BIRCWH is Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women’s Health). The award provides 75 percent protected time for Dr. Schenning to develop her research skills and transition into an independent clinician-scientist. The BIRCWH committee chose her for the award based on her proposal to study the genetic basis and gender differences in post-operative cognitive impairment.

Julie Saugstad, M.D., associate professor, received pilot project funding for development of novel research methodologies from the Oregon Clinical and Translational Research Institute. Dr. Saugstad’s proposal, “Development and Dissemination of Criteria for CSF MicroRNA RT-qPCR Studies,” is aimed at standardizing methods for measuring small RNA molecules called microRNA in cerebrospinal fluid and as clinical biomarkers for Alzheimer’s disease.

David Sibell, M.D., associate professor, is leading a clinical device trial with funding to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of high rate spinal cord stimulation therapy as compared to commercial rate spinal cord stimulation therapy as an aid in the management of chronic intractable pain of the trunk (see page 7).

A huge thank-you to Jennifer Young and Sarah Mader for their service and contributions to APOM’s research division over the past 10 years. Young started with us as a research assistant and is currently lab supervisor. Read about Mader’s contributions above. OHSU held an Employee Recognition Award ceremony in May 2014 to honor these and other long-serving employees.

Message from the chair (continued from page 1)

Ross Martini, M.D., neurocritical care fellow, received a Medical Research Foundation (MRF) grant to support his research project, “Genetic polymorphisms in soluble epoxyeicosatrienoic hydrolase and outcome after aneurysmal subarachnoid hemorrhage: The role of the epoxyeicosatrienoic acids.” This is a follow up-study on Dr. Martini’s collaborations with OHSU colleagues recently published in *Journal of Neurosurgery and Neurocritical Care* (see page 9).

Kim Mauer, M.D., assistant professor, has accepted the role of medical director of the OHSU Comprehensive Pain Center, effective January 1, 2015. As a talented, hard-working and knowledgeable anesthesiology pain expert, the CPC will continue to excel under Dr. Mauer’s leadership. A committee chaired by Mary Heinricher, Ph.D., assistant dean for basic research, OHSU School of Medicine, will conduct a national search to help find a director of an interprofessional OHSU Pain Center.

Annie Riley, M.S., recently earned her master’s degree in education from Portland State University. Her M.S. is in education leadership and policy with a specialization in postsecondary, adult and continuing education. She also completed a certificate in training and development.

Katie Schenning, M.D., assistant professor, was awarded the Oregon BIRCWH K12 Career Development Award (BIRCWH is Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women’s Health). The award provides 75 percent protected time for Dr. Schenning to develop her research skills and transition into an independent clinician-scientist. The BIRCWH committee chose her for the award based on her proposal to study the genetic basis and gender differences in post-operative cognitive impairment.

Julie Saugstad, M.D., associate professor, received pilot project funding for development of novel research methodologies from the Oregon Clinical and Translational Research Institute. Dr. Saugstad’s proposal, “Development and Dissemination of Criteria for CSF MicroRNA RT-qPCR Studies,” is aimed at standardizing methods for measuring small RNA molecules called microRNA in cerebrospinal fluid and as clinical biomarkers for Alzheimer’s disease.

David Sibell, M.D., associate professor, is leading a clinical device trial with funding to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of high rate spinal cord stimulation therapy as compared to commercial rate spinal cord stimulation therapy as an aid in the management of chronic intractable pain of the trunk (see page 7).

A huge thank-you to Jennifer Young and Sarah Mader for their service and contributions to APOM’s research division over the past 10 years. Young started with us as a research assistant and is currently lab supervisor. Read about Mader’s contributions above. OHSU held an Employee Recognition Award ceremony in May 2014 to honor these and other long-serving employees.

Recognizing achievements (continued from page 3)

collaborative. Our efforts in this regard have been recognized by OHSU Hospital and OHSU School of Medicine leaders for leading an effort to critically evaluate and improve clinical care from the time a patient is first indicated for surgery until they have demonstrated substantial recovery (30 days recovery). Dr. Peter Schulman has agreed to serve as the APOM director of the PSH. Along with the participation of Suzanne Simmons, Rob Miller and Drs. Treggiari, Cohen and Aziz, they have decided to first approach the overall care of patients having multi-level spine surgery. Our spine surgeons have empowered Dr. Bob Hart to serve as their representative on the OHSU PSH steering committee. The first goal of the committee is to better understand the variation in practice (anesthesia, surgical and nursing), as we all believe that decreasing care variation will improve clinical outcomes and decrease costs. Fortunately, Dr. Sumagaysay has agreed to partner with us as we work with OHSU information technology personnel to extract the necessary data from the electronic health record, Epic.

The department’s progress toward reaching our destination is largely dependent on the engagement of each individual and the willingness of us all to be on the same team. I have complete confidence that not only will we reach our goals, we will have a lot of fun on the journey. Thank you!

Message from the chair (continued from page 1)

collaborative. Our efforts in this regard have been recognized by OHSU Hospital and OHSU School of Medicine leaders for leading an effort to critically evaluate and improve clinical care from the time a patient is first indicated for surgery until they have demonstrated substantial recovery (30 days recovery). Dr. Peter Schulman has agreed to serve as the APOM director of the PSH. Along with the participation of Suzanne Simmons, Rob Miller and Drs. Treggiari, Cohen and Aziz, they have decided to first approach the overall care of patients having multi-level spine surgery. Our spine surgeons have empowered Dr. Bob Hart to serve as their representative on the OHSU PSH steering committee. The first goal of the committee is to better understand the variation in practice (anesthesia, surgical and nursing), as we all believe that decreasing care variation will improve clinical outcomes and decrease costs. Fortunately, Dr. Sumagaysay has agreed to partner with us as we work with OHSU information technology personnel to extract the necessary data from the electronic health record, Epic.

The department’s progress toward reaching our destination is largely dependent on the engagement of each individual and the willingness of us all to be on the same team. I have complete confidence that not only will we reach our goals, we will have a lot of fun on the journey. Thank you!

Recognizing achievements (continued from page 3)

division and serves on our Clinical Leadership Committee. He also directs the Regional Anesthesia and Acute Pain Medicine Fellowship program, and has excelled in developing a curriculum and unique educational tools to aid in the instruction of anesthesia. Dr. Woodworth is keenly interested in helping learners understand ultrasound, and serves on the OHSU provost’s committee on ultrasound education.

Finally, Robert Shangraw, M.D., Ph.D., professor, deserves recognition for his leadership of the OHSU School of Medicine P&T Committee. Dr. Shangraw served two three-year terms, from July 2008 to June 2014. “Dr. Shangraw has provided excellent leadership to the P&T Committee, and helped successfully lead the school through the adoption of the new clinician-educator pathway,” said OHSU School of Medicine Dean Mark Richardson. “He leaves a lasting positive influence on the school.”

The members of the departmental P&T Committee have been busy helping the next round of candidates achieve recognition through promotion in the current academic year. The members are Drs. Brambrink, Chien, Jarnberg, Koh, Saugstad, Schulman, Shangraw, Sibell and Zornow.

If you are interested in discussing promotion and faculty development, please contact Dr. Kirsch, Dr. Brambrink or me.
Say hello! New faces in APOM administration

Gloria Coleman, administrative coordinator
Gloria has hit the ground running since joining APOM as administrative coordinator several months ago. She works on all things human resources and operations-related, and said she has been “invigorated with the generosity of staff and forward thinking of the department.”

Jordan Cusick, B.S., research assistant II
Jordan joined our team in August 2014, and serves as research assistant for the department. He has been an employee of OHSU since April 2012, working for the Knight Cancer Institute clinical trials department as a research assistant. His responsibilities encompass assisting the pediatric anesthesiologists with research study coordination. Jordan received his Bachelor of Science degree in Human Physiology from the University of Oregon. He enjoys cycling, running, cooking, reading and brewing beer.

Beth Fee, grants and contracts coordinator
Beth comes to APOM from the Department of Neurosurgery where she provided administrative and grant support to the research division. Beth has over 15 years’ experience in pre- and post-award management of both basic science and clinical research projects. In addition to her work at OHSU, she is a senior at Portland State University where she is studying accounting, she is helping her boyfriend develop a new start-up business and she is also trustee for both of her elderly parents. In her spare time, she likes to sew, cook and garden. Beth lives with her mother and son, two Pomeranian dogs and a cat.

Maria Heruela, B.S., administrative coordinator
Maria is the administrative coordinator in the research division. She joined our team in May 2014. She is the principal support for the vice chair for research and also provides support services for the research administrator and several members of the research faculty. Her other responsibilities include overseeing the orientation process for new hires and serving as timekeeper for the division. Maria received her Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration – Management at Portland State University. She enjoys hiking, reading books and hanging out with family and friends.

Natalie Roese, behavioral research technician
Hailing from California, Natalie Roese is a recent graduate from Lewis & Clark College. After volunteering with APOM for the past year, she joined us as a behavioral research technician.

Lisa Voltolina-Grgas, M.S., CCRP, senior research assistant
Lisa Voltolina-Grgas is the senior research assistant with APOM’s research division. Her responsibilities include coordination of clinical research trials, cross-training of clinical research assistants and working with industry contacts and internal review boards to negotiate contracts and submit study protocols. Lisa holds dual Bachelor of Arts degrees in English Language and Literature and Writing from Fairleigh Dickinson University and received a Master of Science degree in Special Education/Educational Research from Portland State University. Lisa is a certified Clinical Research Professional through the Society of Clinical Research Associates (SoCRA). In her free time, Lisa enjoys practicing yoga, reading and traveling.

APOM gives
Each year, Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine helps a needy family (or two) during the holidays. This year, we helped a family who was in need by collecting a total of $5,250. Because of the incredible generosity of many members of our department, these funds will cover almost four months of rent for this family, who endured a tragic accident.

“Thanks to all of you who supported this important goal,” said Dr. Kirsch. “I am very proud of our department’s accomplishment.”
Cultivating physician leadership

APOM is happy to announce a new endowment fund to support advancement in physician leadership. The Joanne Jene, M.D., Leadership Development Program will provide APOM physician faculty members educational training to accentuate leadership and health care policy skills.

The Anesthesiology and Perioperative Physician Leadership Endowment (APPLE) is a sustainable fund. As the endowment grows in perpetuity, more physician faculty members will benefit from the resource. Interest from the fund will be used to support participation in a conference or leadership training for faculty members interested in health care policy at the state or national level.

We will identify faculty members who have demonstrated competencies and interest in obtaining additional leadership skills. Faculty members will be identified based on the following criteria:

- A physician faculty member with three to five years in clinical practice
- Evidence of success as a leader
- Commitment for a career in leadership

Individuals who wish to support the APPLE endowment may send tax-deductible donations to OHSU Foundation, MS/45, PO Box 4000, Portland, OR 97208.

APOM gets social

After summer adventures concluded, and before the busy holiday season, APOM’s departmental Employee Recognition Team coordinated an autumn social in October.

Designed as a fun event to generate conversation and a sense of community, the wildly successful event included a photo booth, complete with a replica of our esteemed chair Dr. Jeffrey Kirsch. As seen by these light-hearted photos, APOM faculty, staff, trainees and their guests had a blast.

Special thanks to Jennifer Young, laboratory manager, for chairing the effort.

Pictured above: Joe Mahoney, M.D. (top left), APOM resident and his father, John Mahoney.