Dear Colleagues,

It's a new academic year – and much new coming for ASPN! As I take on this role as ASPN President, I must first take a moment to say a sincere “thank you” and “congratulations” to our outgoing President, Dr. Joseph Flynn. During his tenure, ASPN has seen unprecedented growth in membership, particularly with the vital addition of an active affiliate membership comprised of our nursing, nutrition, social work, clinical trials coordinators, and other team colleagues. We also have significantly grown our advocacy initiatives with the integration of the John E. Lewy Foundation Advocacy Scholars into our programs, the development of the Kidney Health Initiative, and ongoing efforts with Kidney Care Partners and our organizational legislative affairs. Most importantly, Dr. Flynn has guided a planned transition to empower our membership by shifting responsibility for committee affairs from Council to the committees themselves. And the responses of new ideas, fresh energy, and visions for the future are invigorating. Thank you, Joseph!

The 2014 ASPN/PAS meetings in Vancouver in May were a real success. Our early reviews of the data suggest better than expected attendance, reviews of the scientific program (led by Dr. Pat Brophy) are excellent, and many sessions were SRO. Finding more seats for us at future meetings is a challenge we are happy to address!

There are several new projects that we will be launching over the next year. Very importantly, ASPN is in the process of forming a tax-exempt 501(c)3 organization by integrating with the John E. Lewy Foundation for Children's Health. The development of this new foundation is designed to insure the long-term financial stability of ASPN and provide enhanced programming capability by providing options for tax-exempt donations from individuals and organizations that share our missions. We are dedicated to revamping our membership education offerings and have just started a new Membership Education Committee with the charge to utilize modern technologies to provide ASPN members a menu of educational opportunities that are useful for training across the nephrology team, patient/parent education, and continuing medical education and maintenance of certification for our physicians.

I am committed to continuing the legacy of member-driven leadership and look forward to facilitating your ideas for change and progress. Stay in touch and stay involved! We have much to do, and many good things to accomplish!

Victoria F. Norwood, MD
President
vfn6t@virginia.edu
**News and Announcements**

PREP Nephrology is seeking to add 2-3 writers to join its editorial board. This is an educational activity that also provides MOC and CME for all writers. If interested in applying for a position, please send all inquiries to Scott Miller, Manager, PREP CME at smiller@aap.org. Please also check for email announcements or visit the AAP PREP web site.

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**PUBLIC WORKSHOP – PEDIATRIC CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR TRAINING**

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing a public Workshop entitled “Pediatric Clinical Investigator Training.”

The purpose of this workshop is to provide investigators with training and expertise in designing and conducting clinical trials in pediatric patients that will lead to appropriate labeling. The training course is intended to provide investigators with: 1) a clear understanding of some of the challenges of studying products in the pediatric population when the data are intended to be used to support product labeling, 2) an overview of extrapolation as it relates to the pediatric population, 3) a familiarity with FDA processes and timelines that are specific to pediatric product development, and 4) an overview of ethically appropriate methods related to the design of clinical trials in the pediatric population.

**Date:** September 22, 2014  
**Time:** 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

[http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/MeetingsConferencesWorkshops/ucm392506.htm](http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/MeetingsConferencesWorkshops/ucm392506.htm)

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**DID YOU KNOW THAT ASPN TWEETS?**

“Joseph Flynn is on Twitter. So are Sharon Perlman, Alyssa Riley, and over 50 other nephrologists. It’s the way young nephrologists, residents, and fellows are communicating and keeping up to date. With about 7 bite-sized tweets a week covering pediatric nephrology topics in the major journals and other news of interest to pediatric kidney specialists, it’s the perfect way to stay in the loop on your mobile device. Join twitter today at [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com) and follow @ASPNeph.”

**Stay up-to-date and enjoy the tweets!**

You can also follow our twitter feed on the ASPN website: [http://aspneph.com/](http://aspneph.com/)

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**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS – 2015 AAP SECTION ON NEPHROLOGY HENRY L. BARNETT AWARD**

The AAP Section on Nephrology will recognize one individual for lifetime achievement in the field of pediatric nephrology. Any pediatric nephrologist meeting the following qualifications can be nominated for this award:

- Distinguished clinical service and dedication to patient care
- Dedication to teaching of nephrology

Complete the nominations form and submit the necessary information to Suzanne Kirkwood at skirkwood@aap.org by September 30, 2014.

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**INTERNATIONAL PEDIATRIC NEPHROLOGY ASSOCIATION (IPNA)**

Over the next few issues of KIDney Notes, there will be a series of articles describing the structure and activities of IPNA with a goal of making the ASPN membership better acquainted with the organization. This article will focus on the IPNA Fellowship program, one of the signature initiatives of IPNA.

The IPNA Fellowship program was initiated in January, 2003 as a means by which pediatricians in regions of the world where there was little or no pediatric nephrology care could receive basic clinical training in nephrology in a regional training center, and then return home to provide pediatric nephrology care locally. Candidates must apply to the program and all applications are reviewed by the IPNA Fellowship Committee whose membership includes ASPN members Prasad Devarajan, Vicky Norwood and Brad Warady. The training that is received is 6-12 months in duration, is completely “hands on” and is funded by IPNA. To date, 186 fellows have participated in the program and have received training in one of 40 IPNA sites around the globe. The largest number of fellows have been trained in India, South Africa and Singapore and the fellows represent 46 different countries of origin. Follow up data on the fellows reveals that in nearly 60% of cases, the graduates of the program practice > 80% nephrology and > 80% have strong institutional support that permits a broad range of nephrology care, including acute peritoneal dialysis and hemodialysis. Whereas in other cases the fellows ultimately practice a combination of general pediatrics and nephrology, most important has been the universal result of markedly improved nephrology care to children worldwide. Most recently, collaboration between IPNA and the International Society of Nephrology (ISN) has resulted in the availability of additional fellowships funded jointly by the two organizations. Finally, thanks to the combined efforts of ASPN and IPNA, the ASPN Board Review Course was made available to all current and former IPNA fellows last year to help meet their most critical need, continuing education. ASPN members who are interested in becoming involved with the IPNA Fellowship Program should contact me at bwarady@cmh.edu

Brad Warady  
Treasurer and Chair, Fellowship Committee  
IPNA
Fifteen years later, it's the minutes I remember.

John Cook was a first grade student in Des Moines, Iowa, a Chicago Cubs follower, and a dialysis patient with Autosomal Recessive Polycystic kidney disease when he and his family agreed to be a part of a local TV news report about what it's like to wait for an organ donation. That meant watching John sit through dialysis, and photojournalist Brian Fiser and I spent hours watching a little boy trying to make the most of his time attached to the machine which cleaned his blood. John colored, told jokes, transformed medical instruments into flying objects, and he watched the clock, repeatedly asking his parents, “How many more minutes now?” It was a question that resonated with viewers, as they tracked John’s story over the coming years. And it was a question John decided to answer in a way that continues to make a difference today.

After receiving three renal transplants—in 1994, 2000, and 2012, John decided to give something back. He started Guts Gear, a non-profit 501c3 foundation dedicated to making people aware of children with renal failure, and providing educational and entertainment items to kids during their dialysis treatments. At the Guts Gear launch in March, 2013, John celebrated the $30,000 raised to get the giving started. In July, Guts Gear delivered its first gift to the University of Iowa Children’s Hospital, and since then the gifts have continued—going to dialysis centers in at least ten states. The patients love the huge boxes of ipads, toys and games—one dialysis unit worker said, “I'm not sure who was more thrilled, the kids or the dialysis unit.” Another wrote, “I know you told us that Guts Gear strives to makes kids quality of life better while they are on dialysis but we couldn’t believe all of the wonderful things in the tubs!!” And at Children’s National Medical Center in Washington, DC, dialysis patient 18-year-old Elmer Reyes said, “If John made his dream come true, I know I can make my dreams come true.” Elmer is writing a comic book about teens in dialysis who get superpowers to help fight off challenges, and he hopes to go to medical school one day. In the meantime, he looks forward to the Guts Gear gifts easing the boredom of his hours in dialysis.

John Cook never got to see the smiling faces of the people Guts Gear is helping; he passed away July 21, 2013, two days after the first Guts Gear boxes were delivered. He was just twenty years old, but he had made the most of every minute. Today, his foundation continues to grow and it wants to send more boxes to dialysis centers to help more patients. You can learn more about how to request getting Guts Gear activity tubs to your centers by going to the website at http://thegutsgearfoundation.org, where John’s mission lives on in his own words: “Giving back takes guts.”

-Emily Schmidt is a journalist and media consultant who first met John in 1999

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**CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS TO SERVE AS MENTORS FOR IN-PERSON MENTORSHIP WORKSHOP AT ASN**

The Research Committee is looking for 3-5 senior ASPN members that would be willing to participate in the newly developed Mentorship Program. The program will consist of 1.5 - 2 hours of in-person review of junior ASPN members Specific Aims pages (K and first R applications) for upcoming grant submissions. We are seeking individuals that have experience as senior mentors and/or as NIH Study Section members to help with the review process. The program will occur in the early evening during this year’s ASN in Philadelphia. Interested members please e-mail (dhains@uthsc.edu) to participate or for any questions.

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**News from JELF**

**GIVE A GIFT, HONOR YOUR COLLEAGUES, AND SUSTAIN OUR FUTURE!**

Please remember the John E. Lewy Foundation for Children’s Health as a tax-deductible-eligible way to remember a mentor, honor your local co-workers and colleagues, and advance the missions of the American Society of Pediatric Nephrology. The Foundation is hard at work developing support for our organization, our trainees, and our members as we seek to enhance our missions of teaching, learning, discovery, and responsibility. Your gifts will support educational and advanced training opportunities for our members, and advance Dr. Lewy’s goals of worldwide advocacy for children.

To contribute, please go to http://www.aspneph.com/JohnELewyFoundation/howtodonate.asp
SOME FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS OF INTEREST:


UPCOMING WORKSHOPS OF INTEREST:


A workshop to explore strategies to enhance enrollment, recruitment and retention of participants in clinical trials. Friday, July 25, 2014 at the John Edward Porter Neuroscience Research Center on the NIH campus in Bethesda, MD.

Pediatric Clinical Investigator Training - [http://www.fda.gov/newsevents/meetingsconferencesworkshops/ucm392506.htm](http://www.fda.gov/newsevents/meetingsconferencesworkshops/ucm392506.htm)

A workshop put on by FDA and NIH to provide investigators with training and expertise in designing and conducting clinical trials in pediatric patients that will lead to appropriate labeling. September 22, 2014 at Pooks Hill Marriott, 5151 Pooks Hill Road, Bethesda, MD 20814

Marva Moxey-Mims, MD
KUH Deputy Director for Clinical Research
Director, Pediatric Nephrology and Renal Centers Programs
Email: mm726k@nih.gov

NIH...Turning Discovery Into Health®

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Welcome New Members!!

**Melissa Cadnapaphornchai, MD**
University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus

**Abanti Chaudhuri, MD**
Stanford University Hospital, Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital

**Crystal Garmanc, LCSW**
East Carolina University - Brody School of Medicine

**Yolanda Garza-Schjoneman, RN**
UC Davis Medical Center

**Melisha Hanna, MD**
Children’s Hospital Colorado

**Hetal Kocinsky, MD**
Achillon Pharmaceuticals

**Mary Lee Neuberger**
University of Iowa Children’s Hospital

**Danielle Soranno, MD**
Children’s Hospital of Colorado

**Joann Spinale, MD**
Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia

**Brian Stotter, MD**
Floating Hospital for Children at Tufts Medical Center

**Susan Thomas, MD**
University of Michigan
Washington Update

ASPN PARTICIPATES IN KCP HILL DAY
As a member of Kidney Care Partners, a coalition of patient advocates, dialysis professionals, care providers and manufacturers “dedicated to working together to improve quality of care for individuals with Chronic Kidney Disease," ASPN participated in an Advocacy Day on June 10. ASPN President Vicky Norwood and Washington Representative Katie Schubert attended meetings with Congressional members and their staff to discuss chronic kidney disease and potential legislative avenues to improve research and care.

On the agenda was HR 4814, the Chronic Kidney Disease Improvement in Research and Treatment Act. This bill, newly introduced by Rep. Tom Marino (R-PA) and John Lewis (D-GA), supports improvements in research, treatment and care of those with chronic kidney disease. Specifically, the bill would require a study by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to identify the gaps in research and to better coordinate federal research efforts. It also would allow for physicians and other health professionals to be reimbursed for chronic kidney disease education efforts, improve reimbursement to encourage home dialysis and allow patients with acute kidney injury to be treated in dialysis facilities rather than in the hospital setting. Finally, it would allow patients to be enrolled in the Medicare Advantage program who become eligible for Medicaid solely based on their end-stage renal disease.

The reception of this bill on Capitol Hill was very good, and ASPN will continue to help increase the number of bill co-sponsors as this session of Congress continues.

NEW HHS SECRETARY
Sylvia Mathews Burwell was recently confirmed by the U.S. Senate as the 22nd Secretary of Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). On a bipartisan and overwhelming vote of 78-17, the Senate moved relatively quickly to ensure that Burwell would succeed Kathleen Sebelius’ post as head of the department that oversee Medicare, Medicaid, NIH, CDC and FDA, among other agencies. Burwell, 48, previously served in the Clinton administration and was Director of the Office of Management and Budget under President Obama. She brings years of experience in federal government to her new role. She will oversee implementation of the Affordable Care Act, and while enjoying bipartisan support in the Senate, gave little direction on what approach she may take in her work at HHS.

ANOTHER YEAR, MORE UNKNOWNS IN FY2015 APPROPRIATIONS PROCESS
The Senate Labor-Health and Human Services-Education appropriations subcommittee marked up and approved by voice vote its version of the FY2015 spending bill on June 10. Most of the public health advocacy community expected that the full Appropriations Committee would take up the bill two days later as is tradition, but that was not the case. We may never know the exact reason that the full committee failed to take up this bill, but we can speculate that Senate leadership was wary of its caucus taking difficult votes in an election year. The bill approved by the subcommittee included a two percent increase to the NIH for FY2015. Meanwhile the House was not the case. We may never know the exact reason that the full committee failed to take up this bill, but we can speculate that Senate leadership was wary of its caucus taking difficult votes in an election year. The bill approved by the subcommittee included a two percent increase to the NIH for FY2015. Meanwhile the House has yet to schedule action on their version of the bill.

Kathryn Schubert
ASPN Washington Representative

Updates From the Committees

MEMBERSHIP
Affiliate Meeting: Encourage and Support Attendance
The 2nd ASPN symposium for affiliate members (nurses, dieticians, social workers and child life) will occur on September 6, 2014 in Seattle. The first meeting in 2013 was extremely successful and we need your help to encourage and support the attendance of these important members of your division. This meeting is specifically designed to meet their educational and networking needs.

Please distribute the flyer announcing the meeting to your nurses, dieticians, social workers and child life specialists.

We appreciate your support!

Ewa Elenberg, MD, MEd and Lynn Puma LCSW Co-Chairs of the Organizing Committee

WORKFORCE
Dear Colleagues,
The ASPN Workforce committee wants to again highlight and share with you a number of ways to encourage future pediatricians to consider a career pediatric nephrology as an option. Emphasizing our role in both medical student and resident education will be at the forefront of this effort to prevent doors from closing too soon.

In this light, the ASPN workforce committee has created Tool Kits to maximize contact between students and pediatric nephrologists. These can be accessed in the members only section of the ASPN website.

I, for example, regularly volunteer to facilitate small group conferences and case based discussions with 1st and 2nd year medical students. It is an opportunity for them to hear the perspective and approach of a pediatric specialist. Additionally, afterwards, I invite them to join me in one of my future clinic sessions. Students typically do not have much chance to experience the clinical side of pediatric subspecialties in these early years of medical school, so quite a few turn up to participate!

Adam Weinstein, MD (on behalf of the ASPN Workforce Committee)

RESEARCH
Funding news:
Numerous research funding opportunities are currently listed and continually updated on the ASPN website for your interest. In addition, we would like to highlight the following recent solicitations:

NIDDK: Chronic Kidney Disease Biomarkers Consortium (U01).
RFA-DK-14-011
This funding opportunity supports the development of a second phase of the Chronic Kidney Disease Biomarkers Consortium (CKD BioCon). The CKD BioCon is a multicenter research consortium that targets the investigation of new biomarkers and validating existing biomarkers of CKD. The initial phase of the CKD BioCon was established in 2009, included 6 participating centers, and will expire in 2015. The initial phase studied the utility of novel biomarkers, such as
Updates from the Committees

NGAL, NAG, KIM-1, etc. in screening for and monitoring the rate of progression of CKD. The goal of the second phase is to facilitate the discovery of additional novel biomarkers or further validate previously identified biomarkers of CKD. The grant covers costs of up to 450,000 per year (maximum 5 years). For interested applicants, a letter of intent is due November 4th, 2014 and the deadline for submitting your full application is December 2nd, 2014. For further details, refer to the NIH website at http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DK-14-011.html.

ASPN TPD Graduated Fellows Survey

Ten application categories are currently open to medical students, residents and fellows who are interested in attending ASN Kidney Week. Applicants must be current ASN trainee members (as of 7/1/2014) and must attend only the program for which the travel support is issued and no other ASN Early Programs. Eligible trainees may apply to multiple travel support categories, but only one travel award is granted per person. The common deadline for submitting applications is 7/11/2014. Please refer to http://www.asn-online.org/grants/travel/ for further details on the eligibility and the application process.

As a reminder, we are looking to celebrate the research accomplishments of our ASPN members by publicly acknowledging new extramural funding awards. Please send any newly awarded extramural grant information (title, PI, type of grant) or award notice to Jackie Ho (jacqueline.ho2@chp.edu) on the Research Committee.

Submitted by: Raed Bou-Mater MD, On behalf of the Research Committee

TRAINING PROGRAM DIRECTORS

The ASPN TPD committee met in lovely Vancouver and it was ACGME all over time again.

ACGME Milestones implementation was discussed and some suggestions for best practices were shared. The process for logging Milestone determinations of the Fellows into ACGME web site has now been defined and the first set is due for each fellow in Dec 2014. It is clear that all programs need to develop plans to generate these assessments and also to develop the faculty’s understanding of these important concepts.

Most programs are either 1) converting some or all of evaluations of fellows (rotations, 3600 multisource assessment, family feedback, etc) to Milestone language (aided by using the brief Milestone language as developed at Nationwide Children’s) or 2) keeping present evaluations and defining how they ‘map’ to the Milestones so that Milestone determinations can be generated from the existing evaluations. These Milestone assessments can provide rich feedback to the trainees as well as offer a guide to areas to stress for improvement.

A Council of Pediatric Subspecialty (COPS) EPA research project will soon start with our ASPN TPD group collaborating with other subspecialty PDs in that offers opportunity to explore how EPAs (which will soon be required for all Fellows by the American Board of Pediatrics) can assist Fellows in developing their ability to practice with and ultimately without supervision. Barry Warshaw and John Mahan will lead the ASPN portion of this effort.

December Pediatric Nephrology Fellow Match dates have now been released.

- New match date is several weeks later to allow all Fall subspecialty programs in Peds to align; ERAS will open in first week of July as it has in the past.
- Information: http://www.nrmp.org/fellowships/pediatrics-specialties-fall-match/
- NRMP Dates:
  - Pediatric Subspecialty Fall 2014 Match Dates
    - Aug 27, 2014 Match Opens
    - Oct 22, 2014 Ranking Opens
    - Nov 19, 2014 Quota Change Deadline
    - Dec 3, 2014 Rand Order List Deadline
    - Dec 17, 2014 Match Results Available

The ASPN TPD Graduated Fellows Survey will be conducted this summer. This was crafted by an ASPN TPD Working Group (Goliav, Ali, Neu, Quigley, Mahan) with the objective to better understand the Fellow experience during and in the first few years after graduation. Graduates from 2009-2013 will be surveyed.

The upcoming 7th Annual TPD Workshop will be held on Oct 3, 2014 in Elk Grove IL (next to the AAP building). The agenda will undoubtedly include the challenges of Milestones implementation as well as updates on our other program requirements and initiatives.

Submitted by: John D Mahan and Alicia Neu
Joint Meeting
2nd Annual ASPN Multi-Disciplinary Symposium
&
Annual Meeting of the Western Society of Pediatric Nephrology

SAVE THE DATE
SEPTEMBER 6, 2014
SEATTLE, WA

Featuring:
September 5th – Opening reception, aHUS presentation, and dinner
September 6th – Multidisciplinary sessions (lunch session on Cystinosis), adjourn at 5pm

This meeting is tailored for Nurses, Mid-Level Providers, Social Workers, Dietitians, & Child Life Specialists or anyone who works on a Pediatric Nephrology team. Please share with your team.

Continuing Education hours will be offered
15th Congress of the International Society for Peritoneal Dialysis  
September 7-10, 2014 ~ Madrid, Spain  
More Information

AAKP National Patient Meeting  
September 26-28, 2014  
More Information

17th Congress of the International Pediatric Nephrology Association  
September 20-24, 2016 ~ Brazil  
More Information