



Straight Talk

Department of Internal Medicine

ISSUE 3

This Issue:

- ◆ 2018 Leadership and Faculty Additions
- ◆ Increase in IM Residency
- ◆ 2019 Heart Walk
- ◆ Cardozo Fund Telethon
- ◆ Award and PT reception
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In Memoriam of Dr. Venkata Trinath R. Penumetcha

Our dear colleague, Dr. Venkata Trinath R. Penumetcha (Dr. Raju) passed away unexpectedly on December, 13 2018. Dr. Raju, as he was popularly known as, was a long time member of department of medicine. He was a great mentor, educator and an astute clinician. During his tenure he held various leadership positions in the department and was actively involved with improving the quality of patient care and safety at the department as well as at hospital level. He was a respected clinician and his colleagues held him in high esteem. He remained steadfast in his dedication to patient care and education and continued to work, while he was fighting a constant battle with a chronic illness. Department of medicine has received numerous messages of condolences from his colleagues, students, residents and various hospital leaders and we quote a few here:

"So sorry to learn of Dr. Raju's untimely passing. He was a respected member of the DMC Medical Staff". Dr. Jeff Clark, Chief of Medical Staff, Harper-Hutzel Hospital.

"..he will be very dearly missed by all.

Our love and prayers to his family-as well as an in kind response from our medical staff". Dr. Elrod, Chief of Medical Staff, Detroit Receiving Hospital.

"It is so sad to learn that Dr. Raju has passed away suddenly. Please accept my condolences. He will be remembered by so many colleagues". Dr. Gulcin Altinok, Department of Radiology.

And Dr. Sweeny, Chief of Emergency Department, summed it up for all of us:

"It is so very sad to hear this.

Raju was a 'gift' to patient care, education of medical student, residents, fellows--- and more.

He was filled with knowledge, a sense of humor, friendship and just goodness.

I was privileged to share many side bar conversations with him-- dating back many years to his hospitalist days at HUH--- about 'fixing things' and we never finished.

Saw him just few days ago in the hallway, we shook hands and exchanged wishes for a good holiday. He seemed even more frail and he indicated that. He will be so very missed and will not be forgotten. Best to his family and to your whole department.

Street of heaven had room for another angel and another very bright star to be noticed in the evening sky".

Dr. Raju above all was a great human being and will be missed by all of us. We share the grief of his departure with Mrs. (Dr.) Raju and Anirudh Penumetcha.

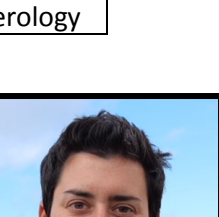
2018 Medical Staff and Leadership Updates



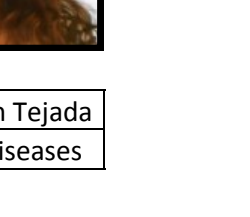
Ghulam Saydain
Associate Chair



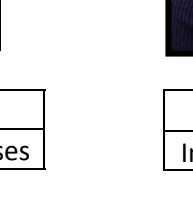
Jason Mateika
Associate Chair for Research



Aris Urbanes
Nephrology; Quality/



Luis Afonso
Interim Chair of Cardiology



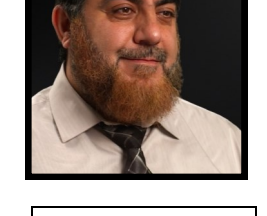
Murray Ehrinpreis
Chief of Gastroenterology



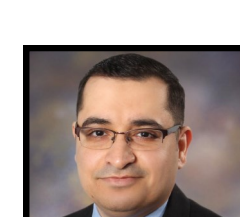
Claudia Jarrin Tejada
Infectious Diseases



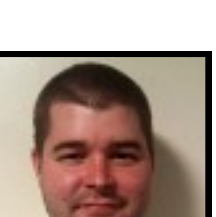
Syed Ahmad
Infectious Diseases



Shira Heisler
Infectious Diseases



Zubin Mukadam
Nephrology



Mareena Zachariah
Nephrology & Director Kidney DMC Transplant Program



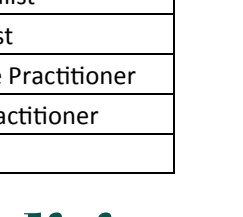
Housam Sarakbi
Rheumatology



Gaith Alhatemi
Hospitalist



Michael Hill
Hospitalist



Nimrod Blank
Cardiology

Not Pictured:

Hanna Ferenchick-Pulmonary	Anna Dewan-Hospitalist
Marwah Hussein- Hospitalist	Lisa Nelson-Hospitalist
Meghann Schenk- Hospitalist	Ryan Gennette-Nurse Practitioner
Zahra Ahmad- Hospitalist	Yau Gofan- Nurse Practitioner
Lawshan Therrell-Hospitalist	

Increase in Internal Medicine Residency Program

Exciting news, The Internal Medicine Residency Program is growing! We will increase from 108 to 132 categorical residents (8 additional per PGY year). There will be 8 one-year preliminary medicine positions in addition to that. There will also be 12 new primary care track positions to fill in the upcoming years (4 per PGY level). We look forward to the Residency Match in March and welcoming our new team members this summer!

Straight Talk Resident Editorial Team



We would like to thank Irfan Shafi and Emilia Khalil who have volunteered to be a part of the *Straight Talk* Resident Editorial Team. Irfan and Emilia are joining Anthony Gaynier, Dr. Saydain, and Dr. Badr in the creation of *Straight Talk*. If you are interested in joining, please send an email to Anthony.

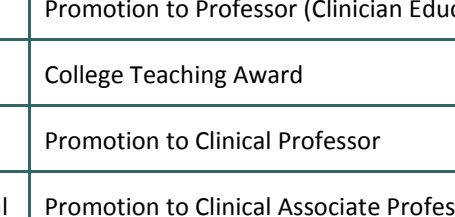


2019 American Heart Association Heart Walk

The 2019 Metro Detroit Hear and Stroke Walk/Run will take place on May 18, 2019. As a Department we have a goal of raising **\$10,000** for this great cause.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!

Last year we just barley missed our goal of \$5,000. This year we are ramping up our efforts and starting earlier. We strongly encourage your involvement and your donations for this great cause. Please partake in this friendly competition by starting teams or donating to the Internal Medicine page [here](https://www.heartwalk.org).



Lavoisier J. Cardozo Endowed Fund Telethon

Please mark your calendars and join the Department of Internal Medicine on **January 31st** for our first Lavoisier J. Cardozo Endowed Fund Telethon! We will be contacting graduates from the Internal Medicine Residency Program in order to seek donations to the Lavoisier J. Cardozo Endowed Fund. We will provide contact information and a prompt for you to use. "The Lavoisier Cardozo, M.D., F.A.C.P. Endowed Education Fund will be used at the discretion of the chair of the Department of Internal Medicine to stimulate and support scholarship and innovation in medical education within the Department of Internal Medicine at Wayne State University." Exact details will be coming in the coming weeks. If you are interested please complete the link [here](https://www.heartwalk.org).

Award and P&T Reception

The following from the Internal Medicine Department were honored on November 15.

First Name	Last Name	Honor
Ahmad	Abu-Rashed	Promotion to Clinical Associate Professor
Joel	Appel	Promotion to Associate Professor (Clinician Educator) FTA
Susmita	Chowdhuri	Promotion to Professor (Clinician Educator)
Graciela	Conley	College Teaching Award
Scott	Kaatz	Promotion to Clinical Professor
Akshay	Khandelwal	Promotion to Clinical Associate Professor
Anupama	Kottam	Promotion to Associate Professor (Clinician Educator)
Hicham	Krayem	Promotion to Clinical Associate Professor
Philip	Kuriakose	Promotion to Associate Professor (Clinician Educator) FTA
David	Lanfeer	Promotion to Professor (Research Educator) FTA
Diane	Levine	College Teaching Award
Li	Li	College Teaching Award
James	McCord	Promotion to Associate Professor (Clinician Educator) FTA
Jennifer	Mendez	Promotion to Associate Professor (Research Educator)
Yahya	Osman	Promotion to Associate Professor (Clinician Educator)
Noreen	Rossi	Research Excellence Award
Lobelia	Samavati	College Teaching Award
Dee Dee	Wang	Promotion to Clinical Associate Professor
Ren	Zhang	Promotion to Associate Professor (Research Educator) with tenure
James	Granneman	College Teaching Award

Grand Rounds

Grand Rounds is scheduled each **Friday at 12pm in the Green Auditorium** located on the 2nd floor of Scott Hall. Please attend and fill out an evaluation!

4-Jan	Rheumatology	Ilyes Benchaala
11-Jan	MED ED	TBD
18-Jan	Heme/ONC	Ulka Vaishampayan
25-Jan	Cardiology	Randy Lieberman

Announcements

- ◆ [Dr. Badr named to Board of Directors](#)
- ◆ [AAMC Journal Publishes WSU recommendations](#)
- ◆ [More than 400 WSU faculty named in Hour Detroit's Best Docs](#)
- ◆ [Dr. Bhat wins Harper-Hutzel's October Most Engaged Physician Award](#)
- ◆ [Global health Alliance begins Global and Urban Health and Equity Course](#)

This is a place to share any news that you may have! Weddings, engagements, birth of children, vacations, etc. If you have something to share please email Anthony [here](mailto:Anthony). Please see some pictures from Dr. Saydain's last trip!

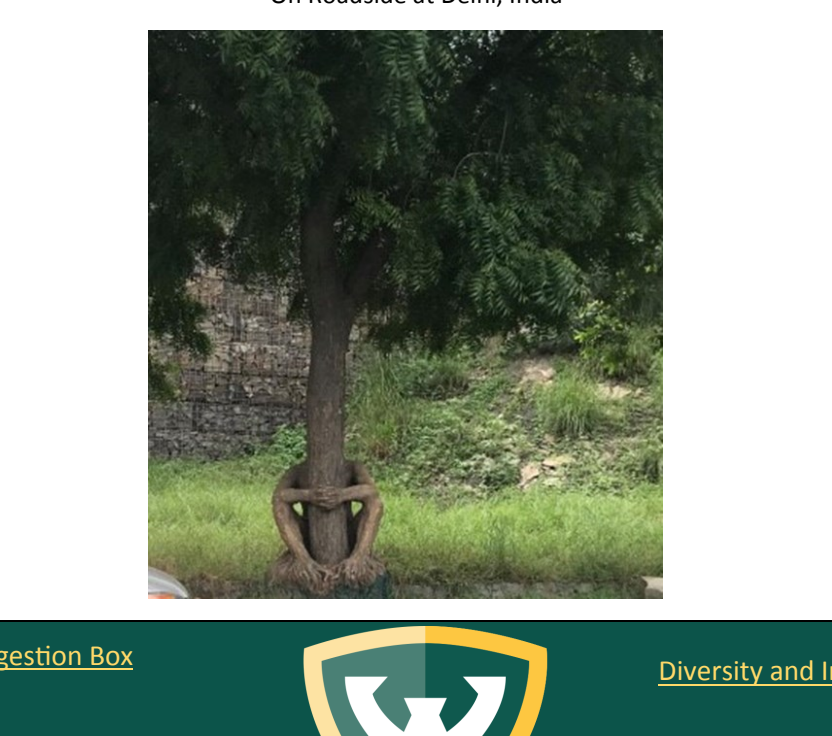


Sunset on Dal Lake (Kashmir, India)



Dal Lake (Kashmir, India)

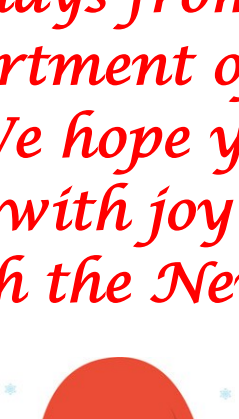
Rest room at Amsterdam Airport



On Roadside at Delhi, India



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Happy Holidays from everyone in the Department of Internal Medicine. We hope your holidays will be filled with joy and laughter through the New Year.

