I am so excited about the upcoming AAP and NMPRA National conferences on October 11 and October 12 in San Diego. In the newsletter will be the agendas for the meetings and receptions. In addition, members of the executive committees and boards of all three major national med-peds organizations (AAP, NMPRA and MPPDA) representing the continuum of our specialty will have face to face meeting time to discuss med-peds. Please feel free to send topics that you would like our combined participants to discuss. Some of what will be discussed relates to the pediatric hospitalist fellowship movement, pressures surrounding the changing graduate medical education environment and its impact on med-peds program initiation and sustainment, MOC and changes in practice for med-peds providers. Soon a paper led by Michael Donnelly, MD, FACP, FAAP and others will be submitted for publication: “Trends in the Combined Internal Medicine-Pediatrics Workforce Over Time: Results of the AAP Workforce Survey”.

On another note, I feel more strongly than ever that our medical communities in Internal Medicine and Pediatrics need to have the strongest voices possible. As such, I recommend more med-peds people consider application to Fellowship of the American College of Physicians. Med-Peds attendings generally qualify under pathway 2 (http://www.acponline.org/membership/fellowship/advance/). Please send me your CV and your ACP governor name and email address (if possible) so I can assist in fast tracking you to fellowship.

The AAP med-peds section is happy to announce that medical students can now be “official affiliate members” of the section, so sign up online today.

Please consider writing a newsletter article about an interesting case, some pearls of wisdom about practice or any special experiences you would like to share. The combined newsletter is open to all.
A New Year for NMPRA

TRISTAN MCPHERSON, MD, NMPRA PRESIDENT

It is incredibly exciting to begin another academic year and have the chance to welcome our colleagues in the PGY-1 class. We at NMPRA are hopeful that your transition has gone well, and, as usual, are amazed by the skill, talent, and knowledge possessed by the newest members of the Med-Peds community. I am quite confident that there are fantastic opportunities and careers awaiting each of you and hope that NMPRA is an integral part of helping you find them.

As an organization, we work to provide support, education, and advancement for each of our members, and have been able to do this in a number of ways through national and regional meetings, study/travel grants, as well as job postings and fellowship opportunities. For 2014-2015, to further meet these goals we have had the privilege of opening a new research grant and revitalizing our program representative positions. Also, we are busily preparing for our National Conference on Saturday, October 11, 2014 in San Diego, CA.

We are in the process of expanding our medical student involvement through an organized section of NMPRA, and are working to provide more information and support to those medical schools without Med-Peds residency programs. Finally, we are also searching for additional areas of resident involvement in policy, community outreach, and academic development and will be providing more information over the upcoming weeks. In short, lots of things are happening in NMPRA!

“We work to provide support, education, and advancement.”

NMPRA!

With this in mind, we are continually looking to improve and expand our efforts to meet resident needs, and solicit your thoughts and ideas. Please feel free to contact the board members at any time, and we will always do our best to assist you and help you get involved. It is a privilege for both I and the other board members to serve you in these roles, and look forward to working with you over the next few months.
VERONICA GODSEY, MD, SECRETARY

Veronica grew up in Greenville, South Carolina where she met her husband, who was her high school sweetheart. She attended undergraduate school and medical school at the University of South Carolina, home of the Gamecocks. She loves being a Med-Peds resident at West Virginia University, although will admit that the winter was definitely an adjustment this past year! She enjoys dancing, baking and sewing. In her free time, she loves going to sporting events and traveling, preferably to a place with a beach!

TRISTAN MCPHERSON, MD PRESIDENT

Tristan was born and raised in Hohenwald, TN (Population: ~4000) just a couple of hours south of Nashville. From there, he ventured into west TN to attend Freed-Hardeman University and majored in Biblical Studies and Biochemistry. He is passionate about global health and was also able to spend a few months working in both Honduras and Haiti assisting in clinics and teaching public health classes. During his free time, he enjoy tennis, watching Auburn football (War Eagle), indie rock/folk concerts, reading, hiking, and the occasional spelunking trip.

DANIELLE WEBER, MD, PRESIDENT ELECT

Danielle is originally from Everett, Washington, which is the suburb of Seattle known for Boeing. She grew up a huge Husky fan and attended the University of Washington for undergrad. She then left the beautiful mountains and water for an east coast adventure to go to medical school at Jefferson Medical College. At Jefferson she was active in many organizations including becoming a clinic director for JeffHOPE a student run clinic system for the homeless. She was thrilled to begin med-peds residency at the University of Cincinnati. In her free time enjoys BBQs in her backyard, experiencing the wonderful arts in Cincinnati with the ballet and orchestra, and relaxing with her husband.

JULIE TSAY, MD, SECRETARY

Julie hails from the second city, sweet home Chicago. She attended the University of Chicago for undergrad, and worked for a year the National Institutes of Health in DC before starting medical school at the University of Illinois in Chicago. She is currently a PGY-2 at the Ohio State University. She enjoys sports, especially basketball and football, baking, and yoga. She’s excited to be a part of this year’s board.

TIFFANY YEH, MD, TREASURER

Tiffany Yeh is a born and raised New Yorker, who left to explore her southern side at Rice University, where she discovered a love for travel and medicine, and designed practical solutions for global health issues. She received her MD from Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx. She is currently a medicine-pediatrics resident at Brown University, and hopes to continue pursuing her passion of “caring for all, big and small”. She enjoys traveling, learning languages, live music, and being outdoors (ie exploring the beautiful beaches of RI). She is honored to be serving as NMPRA treasurer this year, and is excited to be working with the wonderful new board!

NICHOLAS DARBY, MEDICAL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Nicholas was born and raised in Florence, in the corner of northwest Alabama. He attended Freed-Hardeman University to major in Biochemistry and receive minors in Music and Spanish. He is currently a third-year medical student at the University of Alabama School of Medicine. He has a passion for both rural primary care and global health care, which he is pursuing at the school as both a Rural Medical Scholar and Dean’s Primary Care Scholar. His Christian faith is the cornerstone of his life and his actions. He enjoys music, fishing, and water sports, and is thankful to have the opportunity to work with NMPRA to create an organized national committee of Med-Peds Interest Groups.
A warm hello from the MPPDA executive committee! The MPPDA is an organization of program directors focused on supporting individual programs and med-peds training in many ways. The MPPDA executive committee has several new initiatives this year. We are contacting each med-peds program director by telephone to offer personalized support from the MPPDA leadership. We want all 78 med-peds program nationwide to be successful, and we are taking an active role in finding out how best to do that. To that same aim, the executive committee has undertaken the ambitious task of creating a med-peds program director handbook to help PDs with the unique challenges of balancing two academic departments and leading a combined med-peds program in the most optimal ways possible.

Our new web site (mppda.org) continues to grow – please check out our monthly member spotlight and learn about several of the med-peds program directors around the country! Please feel free to contact the executive committee from the web site at any time if we can help you - you can reach us at info@mppda.org.

The MPPDA continues to be involved in conversations with the Joint Commission on Pediatric Hospital Medicine (JCPHM) as the discussion on potential fellowship accreditation for pediatric hospitalist training evolves. Our role is to advocate for the med-peds trainee; we want to ensure that the impact of any proposal on the med-peds trainee is well understood and well considered as these discussions go forward.

The MPPDA executive committee will meet in conjunction with the National AAP meeting. We will all attend the med-peds section meeting as well as the NMPRA annual dinner. I hope you can come too!
NMPRA Conference in San Diego Oct 11
Topics in Integrative Medicine

Key Speaker:
Dr. Christopher Suhar, MD
Integrative Cardiologist, Scripps Health

Saturday, October 11, 2014

1:00 - 1:15 PM    Welcome
1:15 - 2:00 PM    Clinical Case Competition Presentations
2:00 - 2:20 PM    International Travel Grant Presentation
2:20 - 2:50 PM    Complimentary and Alternative Therapies for Chronic Pain
2:50 - 5:00 PM    Demonstration Break Out Sessions (Mindfulness, Yoga, Tai Chi, Acupuncture)
5:00 - 5:15 PM    Refreshments
5:20 - 6:00 PM    Med-Peds Program Director Panel Discussion
6:00 - 7:00 PM    Cocktail Hour and Poster Sessions
7:00 - 7:45 PM    Keynote: Applying Integrative Approaches to Care Patient-

Dr. Christopher Suhar

7:45 - 8:15 PM    2014 Award Recipients Recognition
8:15 - 8:45 PM    MPPDA Updates with Dr Sandi Moutsios
                    NMPRA Updates with Dr Tristan McPherson
8:45 - 9:00 PM    Closing Remarks and Special Thanks

Register today at:
http://www.medpeds.org/about-nmpra/national-meeting/2014-annual-meeting/
NMPRA Grant and Award Winners

The Gary Onady Award
Dr. Himani Divatia, PGY4, Christiana Care

The Howard Schubiner Award
Dr. Pritesh Gandhi, PGY4, Tulane University

The Advocacy and Community Service Grant
Dr. Carolyn Bramante, PGY3, Johns Hopkins University

The International Travel Grant
Dr. Alexandra Wright, PGY3, Louisiana State University

The Clinical or Basic Research Grant:
Dr. Dina Hafez, PGY-4 University of Michigan

AAP Section of Med Peds Abstract Winners

Unilateral Upper Extremity Edema: Minimal Change Disease or a Vascular Malformation?
Dr. Matthew Siuba, Western Michigan University

Not Just Sinusitis- Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis in an Adolescent
Dr. Caitlin Bowman, University of Louisville

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
SUPPORT PEDIATRICIAN HEALTH AND WELLNESS AT THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS IN SAN DIEGO

You can volunteer 1 hour or more between your other AAP NCE scheduled activities. If interested in volunteering any time on Saturday October 11th (12:15 - 4:00PM), Sunday October 12th (10:00AM - 4:00PM, or 5:30-7:00PM), or Monday October 13th (10:00 AM - 2:00 PM),

Please contact Himani Divatia (hdivatia@christianacare.org).

We will soon email all volunteers regarding materials and details of volunteering.
How Pediatricians Transition Adolescents to Adult Care: Lessons Learned in Quality Improvement and How to Get Paid

Learn to implement the AAP/AAFP/ACP algorithm to improve health care transition for adolescents.

- Quality improvement strategies and resources will be discussed
- Review billing strategies to support transition payment.

Included is an interactive session to develop and implement these tools in your practice.

**Faculty:** Patience White, MD, MA and Peggy McManus, MHS

**Moderator:** Michael Donnelly MD, FACP, FAAP

1:00pm Updated “Six Core Elements” for implementing the clinical report and algorithm developed by the AAP/AAFP/ACP to improve health care transition

2:00pm Quality improvement strategies and resources used by pediatric and adult medicine practices in the DC Transition Learning Collaborative

2:45pm Interactive Discussion: Billing Strategies for Transition Payment

3:30pm Interactive Session- Developing Your Practice’s Transition Policy

5:00pm AAP and NMPRA Section Reception
Knowledge is Power

Kany Aziz, MS4
Florida State University

There’s no doubt medicine is changing. As the battle between the government, insurance companies, and physicians heats up, the rest of the nation watches with tension and hope, anxious about how the pieces will fall. As a fourth year medical student, I find myself at the crossroads of the ideology and the reality of medicine.

By the end of my third year, I had decided to pursue Family Medicine. I knew in my heart I would not be happy unless I could treat both adults and children. I wanted to know everything in terms of disease and treatment. And so despite my indifference to Obstetrics, I started looking at residency programs with international electives. Very soon after that, an Oncologist I was working with asked a life changing question. Why wasn’t I applying to Med-Peds? Truth be told, I didn’t know what it was. And so I began my research and was not just delighted with what I found, I was ecstatic. This was what I was looking for! How was it possible that I had gone so far into my career without ever knowing about Med-Peds? And what if that doctor hadn’t mentioned it? It begs the question, how many life decisions are made due to a lack of knowledge instead of a surplus of information?

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By a stroke of fate, I found myself in a conversation with Dr. Allen Friedland, the Chairman of the Med-Peds section of the American Academy of Pediatrics. I felt even more convinced that I was heading in the right direction. With his help and guidance, I contacted the president of the student council at my medical school to form a Med-Peds sub-committee in the Pediatric Interest Group with the intention of hosting at least two workshops about the specialty to the first and second year medical students. While the details are still being worked out, I feel confident that the workshops that will take place and will increase their awareness of opportunities.

It’s this awareness that helps medical students differentiate between the ideology and reality of medicine. There are times we find ourselves lacking the experience needed to make an educational decision and so we rely on ideology—i.e. what should be and not necessarily what is. We design our fourth year schedules half way into our third year and apply to residency programs after only a few fourth year clinical rotations. Unfortunately, but understandably, it is easy to be misguided. While it is unreasonable to expect adequate exposure to all specialties by our fourth year, it is not unreasonable to expect the knowledge of their existence. At that point, it becomes our responsibility to pursue further information, a task we would gladly take on if it meant finding our perfect match in medicine.

I believe the best way to spread awareness is by exposing students early in their careers through interest groups. First and second year medical students must be allowed the opportunity to experience the specialty of their choice before third and fourth year. Student organizations provide a window into the reality of medicine through workshops and interactions with physicians.

While my time as a medical student is almost over, I can honestly say that I enjoyed my third year rotations and am looking forward to the upcoming challenges of fourth year. Next year, I hope to continue my career as a Med-Peds resident and learn as much as I can about taking care of adults and children, domestically and internationally.
How I Found Out about Med Peds

Mario Cisneros, MS4
Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine- Carolinas Campus

Going into med school I had no idea that Internal Medicine and Pediatrics could be combined. It was not until the later part of my first year of medical school that I found out about this possibility. I attended the northeast NMPRA meeting in Baltimore, MD in 2011 with a bunch of classmates. I became very intrigued in Med-Peds as I got to learn more about the field and the multiple directions you can take going into it. I got to meet many Med-Peds residents and faculty from several programs, all of which had nothing but great things to say about the field and training. Since then I kept it in the back of my head, and it wasn’t until I completed both my Internal Medicine and Pediatrics rotations early during my third year that I realized that Med-Peds is the specialty for me. Soon after I scheduled my Med-Peds fourth year elective at Christiana Care in DE, and I am now completing my Med-Peds rotation. I am very excited about entering the Match.