



## ACHRI RADIO STARS



**They're shy only when the microphone is on. The ACHRI commercial kids are Gary Stormont and Molly Harrison (front); Jacob Yount, Emma Goad, Izzy Gegan, Jeffrey Stormont, and Joshua Johnson (middle); and Sadie Yount and Taylor Harrison (back).**

In early August, the children of some ACHRI administrative staff members gathered at a production studio at the Arkansas Radio Network offices to record a commercial spot promoting clinical trials at ACHRI. "The commercial is an effort to increase awareness of the ACHRI story in the community and to invite the people to be a part of our miracles," says Clinical Trials Administrator Janet Stormont, RN. With Melissa Wilcoxson, the Advertising and Marketing Manager at ACH Public Relations, Janet developed the script, and together they thought of including the children in the radio spot.

The children recorded their speaking parts one by one and in small groups. "Emma thought it was cool to hear her voice," says Research Auditor Amanda Holloway of her 9-year-old daughter listening to the electronic file of the commercial. "She played it over and over and even e-mailed it to her grandparents so they could hear it, too." Though you may not recognize the children's voices, you will probably recognize those of a few ACHRI staff members that added their voices to the radio spot.

The commercial will play on various Arkansas Radio Network stations, such as KARN and B98, between 7 am and 7 pm, seven days a week. The commercial recorded in August is the generic form of the ad that introduces ACHRI and its clinical trial efforts. To promote a specific trial, ACHRI will have the network record a customized ending that will be appended to the generic advertisement. "We'll have the flexibility to let people know we're looking for children with a specific allergy one day and then for children with another condition the next," says Janet. Clinical investigators interested in using the radio to obtain subjects should contact Janet at 364-2760. Investigators must have IRB approval, however, before production and use of a tailored commercial.

The commercial made its debut during the first week of September. "I wasn't expecting to hear it," Janet relates, "but as soon as it started, it was exciting to think 'That's our ad!'" She even received emails from people that had heard it as well. [The ad is available at the ACHRI Web site to preview for those that haven't heard it yet.](#)

Reflecting on the radio commercial, José Romero, MD, Medical Director for Clinical Trials Research, says, "The clinical studies offered at the Arkansas Children's Hospital and the Arkansas Children's Hospital Research Institute often bring the latest in areas of treatment, diagnosis, and prevention to

the children of Little Rock and the state of Arkansas. We want parents to know about the types of research carried out here and the opportunities that are available for their children to participate in them.”

The radio commercials are part of ACHRI's strategy to reach potential participants for clinical trials. In addition to these radio ads, ACHRI has placed print ads in Little Rock Family, Kid's Directory, and small community newspapers.

### **PRESIDENT'S CHOICE**

Stop by the bulletin board located in the first-floor lobby of the ACHRI building to see this month's President's Choice publications. The following articles were selected as this month's feature publications.

- Anand KJ, Anderson BJ, Holford NH, Hall RW, Young T, Shephard B, Desai NS, Barton BA; for the NEOPAIN Trial Investigators Group. Morphine pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics in preterm and term neonates: secondary results from the NEOPAIN trial. *Br J Anaesth.* 2008 Aug 29. [Epub ahead of print]
- Heulitt MJ, Jones SM, Holt SJ, Thurman TL, Jo CH, Simpson PM. Repeated measurements of respiratory mechanics in developing rats utilizing a forced oscillation technique. *Exp Lung Res.* 2008 Sep;34(7):409-23.

ACHRI would like to know about your published findings, as your articles are published, please email or mail a copy to [Phaedra Yount](#) (mail slot 842). The number of publications by our researchers is reported to the hospital and ACHRI boards, so it is important that we receive an accurate count of the publications your research produces. To see all recent publications by ACHRI researchers and their collaborators, please visit the [publications web page](#).

### **CONGRATULATIONS!**

The Department of Defense has awarded Dr. Rosalia Simmen a Breast Cancer Research Program Concept Award for her project “Diet, Stem Cells, and Breast Cancer Prevention” (09/01/08 – 08/31/09; \$110,250). The Concept Awards recognize new ideas that could create an entirely new avenue for investigation relevant to breast cancer. The hypothesis of Dr. Simmen's study is that the dietary factors present in soy foods may function to maintain healthy “stem cells” by restricting the growth of undifferentiated (stem) cells and/or eliminating mutated stem cells that can initiate mammary hyperplasia and tumor development thus decreasing their development. The research will provide an understanding of how dietary intake of “healthy foods” (a highly modifiable factor) can decrease the incidence of breast cancer in the general population. The study will provide Dr. Simmen and her team, John Mark Pabona, Omar Rahal, Christian Simmons, and Ying Su, with preliminary data for a planned NIH submission. They are part of the Arkansas Children's Nutrition Center team of scientists working on the prevention of adult chronic diseases through improved nutrition in babies and children. Dr. Simmen's project is one of the 87 Concept Awards funded this year from 1,369 applications.

### **ACHRI BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S NEWS**

At the August board of directors meeting, Dr. Charlotte Hobbs was named ACHRI's newest board member. She will serve a two-year term as the clinical scientist representative. In addition, Ross Whipple was named chairman of the board's finance committee.

A hearty congratulations goes out to Board Member Ed Drilling! Mr. Drilling, an ACHRI board member since 1999 and President of AT&T Arkansas, was named Top Manager of the Year by the Sales and Marketing Executives International Arkansas. He was honored with a roast and toast celebration at the organization's 41st Top Management Night on September 9, 2008.

## **2008 CLINICAL RESEARCH COMPLIANCE SYMPOSIUM**

The Arkansas Children's Hospital Research Institute Human Subject Protections Area invites you to join your fellow clinical research professionals at the 2008 Fall Clinical Research Compliance Symposium. This unique education and networking event focuses on solving your most complicated and pressing compliance challenges in a highly interactive platform. Expert presentations will expose you to best practices, peer experiences, and authoritative advice that will give you insight and information on how to Current Brochure/Schedule create strong research compliance programs.

We are very pleased to announce that the keynote speaker of the symposium will be Lyndi L Lahl, RN, MS, from the Division of Education and Development Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP). Ms. Lahl will be speaking on Physician Investigator Responsibility and Informed Consent in Pediatric Populations.

Visit our web site for more information: <http://achri.archchildrens.org/guidebook/FallSymposium.html>.

## **MATHEMATICAL MODELING SERVICES FOR RESEARCHERS**

Have you measured (or plan to measure) a variable consistently over a period of time, say growth, cell counts, cell movement, disease severity, or protein levels? Would you like to predict the outcome when you change some variables in your experiment without a complete repetition? Do you need to add extra scientific value to your grant to increase your chances of funding? If so, you may need help to develop a mathematical model for your research project. Contact Horacio Gómez-Acevedo, PhD, of the Department of Pediatrics to learn more about the advantages of mathematical modeling. He can work with you to take factors that are consistently measurable at different time points to build a model that can reinforce your conclusions and help you with some predictions on how any one of those factors can affect the outcome of your experiment. Model development is very open to various factors and applicable in many research scenarios. Contact Dr. Gómez-Acevedo at 364-4532 when you're planning your project. His early involvement can help you determine what you should measure and how to construct a model that provides support to your experimental work.

## **INTRODUCTIONS ARE IN ORDER**

When the research institute opened in 1992 there were only a handful of researchers on campus. In fiscal year 2008 approximately 120 researchers prepared and submitted proposals for future research projects or actively participated in research. With this growth in the number of investigators on campus comes the challenge of ensuring that everyone is properly introduced to new researchers as they arrive on campus. Collaboration is the key to successful research, and a proper introduction is the key to collaboration.



### **Welcome Dennis Kuo**

Dennis Kuo, MD, MHS, FAAP, is an assistant professor of pediatrics. Prior to joining UAMS/ACH/ACHRI/CARE in July, he was a general academic pediatrics Fellow at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore, Maryland. Prior to that, he was in general pediatrics practice in Fair Lawn, New Jersey. His research interests include family-centered care, community health, outcomes of primary care, and primary care of the child with special health care needs.

***What are your plans for research projects in the near future?*** Implementing and evaluating the outcomes of family-centered care in the hospital, outpatient, and community settings; building and evaluating medical homes for children in the community setting, particularly children with special health care needs.

**Why do you think research is important?** Research allows us to question, evaluate, and understand what we do. It enables us to make our lives better and know how we are doing so, and allows us to share what we have learned so that others may benefit.

### WHO DO YOU CALL WHEN YOU NEED STATISTICAL SERVICES?

For questions and requests regarding statistical services and reviews, please e-mail [achbiostat@uams.edu](mailto:achbiostat@uams.edu). If you are currently working on a project with an individual in the statistics group, please copy [achbiostat@uams.edu](mailto:achbiostat@uams.edu) on your email correspondence with that individual.

### CHILDREN IN CLINICAL STUDIES WEB SITE

A link to a web site designed to offer information about participation of children in clinical studies has been added to the ACH web site's [clinical trials page](#) and will soon be available on the CareHub system. The site, which was developed by NIH's National Heart Lung and Blood Institute, features videos of children, parents, and health care providers discussing their experiences with clinical research. This is a truly remarkable web site and we hope that you share this with families considering participation in clinical research.

<http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/childrenandclinicalstudies/index.php>

### UAMS COM RESEARCH WEB SITE AND CALENDAR

Please take a minute or two to explore the UAMS COM Research and Web site: <http://www.uams.edu/com/research/>. The site offers a host of announcements and resources to assist UAMS faculty researchers. Research conferences hosted by ACHRI are included on the research calendar. A link to the calendar can be found on the left-hand side of the [UAMS homepage](#). Linda Williams and Larry Cornett have done a fabulous job in putting this together.

### RECENT AWARDS AND SUBMISSIONS

Extramural Awards				
PI	Agency	Project Title	Project Period	Total Funding for All Years
Steve Bowman	Epilepsy Foundation	Injury Patterns and Outcomes-Epilepsy	7/08-6/09	\$50,000
Jill James	DOD	Redox Abnormalities for Autism	9/08-9/11	\$536,250
Rosalia Simmen	DOD	Diet, Stem Cells and Breast Cancer Prevention	9/08-9/09	\$110,250
Intramural Awards				
PI	Agency	Project Title	Project Period	Total Funding
Sheila Asghar	CUMG	Characterization and Treatment of Subclinical Seizures in Children with Autism	6/1/08-5/31/10	\$20,315
Ariel Berlinski	CUMG	Optimization of Aerosol Delivery in Children	7/1/08-11/30/09	\$34,571
Clay Bunn	CUMG	Mechanisms of Inflammatory Cytokine-Mediated Impaired Bone Formation	7/1/08-6/30/10	\$40,000
Juliana Frem	CUMG	Soluble Fiber Used in Pediatric Short Bowel Syndrome	6/1/08-5/31/10	\$32,878

Horatio Gomez-Acevedo	CUMG	Modeling the Activation-Induced-Cell-Death Dynamics of CD4+T Cells Exposed to Environmental Aldehydes and Its Consequences in Induced Autoimmunity	8/1/08-7/31/10	\$32,280
Satyanarayan Hegde	CUMG	Role of Angiopoietin-2 in the Pathogenesis of Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia in a Preterm Baboon Model	3/1/08-2/28/09	\$26,714
Charlotte Hobbs	CUMG	The Role of Epigenetics in Congenital Heart Defects	6/1/08-5/31/09	\$8,245
Jerry Jones	CUMG	Effectiveness of Somatosensory Evoked Potential Testing for Identification of Cervical Spinal Cord Injuries in Victims on Non-accidental Head Injury	6/1/08-5/31/10	\$5,246
Jessica Nichols	CUMG	Development and Characterization of a Novel Murine Model of Central Nervous System Catheter Infection	9/1/08-8/31/10	\$6,000
Laura Ortmann	CUMG	Predicting Outcome in Pediatric Cardiac Arrest: The Role of Non-Invasive Cerebral Oxygenation Monitoring	9/1/08-8/31/10	\$21,250
Michael Stroud	CUMG	Utility of Noninvasive Measurement of Tissue Oxygenation during Pediatric Interfacility Transport	6/1/08-6/30/09	\$20,600

#### Extramural Submissions

PI	Agency	Project Title	Project Period	Total Funding
Mary Aitken	CDC	Arkansas Injury Prevention and Research Center	7/09-7/14	\$4,527,422
Judy Weber	USDA	Delta Physical Activity 2010	9/08-9/10	\$450,000
Charlotte Hobbs	CDC	CBDRP-Comp Renewal	12/08-11/13	\$5,593,361
Karen McNiece	RWJ Found	Hypertension in Ark Youth	7/09-6/12	\$300,000
Gary Wheeler	AAP	AAP/FAMRI Visiting Lectureship		\$2,500

#### Intramural Submissions

PI	Agency	Project Title	Project Period	Total Funding
Mary Aitken	ACHRI/ABI	Child Health Data Center	10/08-9/09	\$124,173
John Carroll	ACHRI/ABI	Postnatal Resetting of Chemoreceptor Sensitivity	10/08-3/10	\$84,042

John Fowlkes	ACHRI/ABI	Focus Group Initiatives in Diabetes and Endocrinology	4/09-3/10	\$125,000
Kathleen Gilbert	ACHRI/ABI	Developing an Immunotoxicology Center in Arkansas	7/09-6/10	\$124,849
Charlotte Hobbs	ACHRI/ABI	Congenital Heart Defects and Gene-Specific Methylation	11/08-10/10	\$125,000
Laura James	ACHRI/ABI	Examination of Predisposition to Acetaminophen Toxicity in Hospitalized Infants and Young Children	7/09-6/10	\$50,000
Debra Jeffs	ACHRI/ABI	Comparison of Virtual Reality and Passive Distraction on Burn Wound Care Pain in Adolescents	10/08-9/10	\$44,277
Stepan Melnyk	ACHRI/ABI	Oxidative Stress Core Facility at ACHRI	11/08-10/09	\$98,530
Tamara Perry	ACHRI/ABI	Telemedicine Education for Children with Asthma	7/09-6/10	\$50,000
Frank Simmen	ACHRI/ABI	Malic Enzyme-1 and Dietary Programming in Colon Cancer Initiation	10/08-9/09	\$50,000

#### **NEW INDUSTRY-SPONSORED PROJECTS**

<b>Clinical Trials</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Project Period</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>
Richard Jacobs/ Jose Romero	UAB	8/08 - 8/14	\$31,390
Luis Zabala	Internal	8/08 - 7/09	\$1,592

#### **CONSIDER BECOMING A CUMG REVIEWER**

With the help of the investigators who agree to serve as reviewers, the CUMG intramural grant program is quite a success. Reviewers play a pivotal role in providing feedback to applicants who are "learning the ropes" and also help to ensure the award process remains fair and balanced in supporting the research community's efforts for self-improvement and pursuit of extramural funding.

Each grant application requires two reviewers. Amy Stalls is assembling a list of faculty interested in serving as reviewers. If you would be interested in serving on the CUMG Review Committee please contact Amy (Phone: 364-3627).

Department of Pediatrics faculty members serving as reviewers should record this service on their Faculty Development Reports for annual evaluations. Researcher activities are reviewed by the Chair of Pediatrics and are taken into consideration for evaluations and raise consideration.

College of Medicine faculty members should list all CUMG review activities in their promotion and tenure packets. These types of volunteer services highlight a researcher's institutional commitment and willingness to encourage newer investigators.

## **ACHRI INVESTIGATOR MEETING**

The next ACHRI Investigators' meeting will be held October 29 in the Brandon Auditorium at 11:30 a.m. Lunch will be provided to the first 50 attendees.

The [August meeting PowerPoint presentation](#) is available at the ACHRI web site.

## **FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

The National Association of Children's Hospitals (NACH) prepares and distributes upcoming funding opportunities every two weeks. Funding opportunities recently distributed by the NACH are available on the ACHRI web site ([http://achri.archildrens.org/resources/funding\\_opp.htm](http://achri.archildrens.org/resources/funding_opp.htm)). This file is updated monthly. Bookmark the page! The listing of funding opportunities is located on the intranet; you must have access to MyACH vault files to open the file.

## **GRANT WRITING TIP: THE TRANSITION FROM PUREEDGE TO ADOBE FORMS BEGINS**

Three NIH funding opportunities testing the new Adobe-based Grant Application Package will be due in October. Assuming the pilot goes smoothly, and the forms approval and development process go as planned, NIH will begin posting the bulk of our FOAs with Adobe forms in December 2008. Applicants can plan for all receipt dates through December to use PureEdge forms. NIH will post details of this transition as they are determined.

To keep yourself informed of the upcoming transition, watch for NIH notices, particularly as they apply to funding announcements in which you are interested. If Grants.gov lists the grant opportunity, check its synopsis page and look for announcement updates or review the linked NIH announcement for updates. The synopsis page also provides the ability to subscribe to a list service to receive notifications of updates the specified opportunity as well; however, the service notes that official NIH announcements should be your primary source of information.

During the pilot period, applicants must download and use only the Adobe forms; therefore, applicants who may have begun an application with PureEdge forms must switch to Adobe. Do not plan to have PureEdge as an option after your grant program converts to Adobe forms in the future. Unfortunately, there is no automated way to extract information from a PureEdge form to populate the Adobe form beyond cutting and pasting.

To preview the Adobe-based forms, download and examine one of the pilot applications. You may receive a message to upgrade your Adobe Reader software; the message provides a link to the upgrade. The three funding opportunities are [RFA-AI-08-020](#) (Immune Defense Mechanisms at the Mucosa - R21), [RFA-DE-09-001](#) (Harnessing Inflammation for Reconstruction of Oral and Craniofacial Tissues - R01), and [RFA-DE-09-002](#) (Harnessing Inflammation for Reconstruction of Oral and Craniofacial Tissues - R21). You may also want to download the [Adobe forms application guide](#) for these opportunities for additional information.

To learn more, read the [August 1, 2008, Guide notice](#) and go to [Adobe SF424 \(R&R\) Forms](#) on eRA's [Frequently Asked Questions](#). If you still have questions about using the new forms, you can contact the [Grants.gov Contact Center](#).

An ACHRI researcher is applying for one of the grant opportunities that is part of this pilot program. So know that you can also contact ACHRI staff with questions.

## **Considering a CUMG Grant Application?**

The next deadline for CUMG grant applications is March 2, 2009. On November 18 (2:00 to 3:30 p.m., Brandon North A and B), ACHRI will hold a workshop on the CUMG grant program. The panel

will include a researcher who has received CUMG funding and has served as a CUMG reviewer. For more information, contact [John Gregan](#) (364-6296) or [Amy Stalls](#) (364-3627).

Information on the [CUMG grant program](#) is available at ACHRI's Web site. You can also view an ACHRI presentation on the program at <http://imediassrv.archildrens.org/mediasite/Catalog/>. Select "Other Presentations" on the menu on the left. To find the presentation, type CUMG in the search text window and click "Find Presentations". Select the presentation to view it.