With the New Year comes big changes for the pharmacy department at UF Health Shands. This period of growth and change in the hospital involves new job openings, new faces entering the pharmacy family and new pediatric and OR pharmacy renovations! It truly is an exciting time! One of our new pharmacists, Dr. **Maureen Converse**, and one of our long-standing pharmacists, Dr. **Kenneth Leonard**, were asked about their new roles and the populations that they will now serve.

**Dr. Maureen Converse** is our critical care specialist in the Thoracic-Vascular intensive care unit. She started about 6 months ago in Unit 87 in the HVN hospital. She comes to us after completing her Doctorate of Pharmacy from the University Of Toledo College Of Pharmacy, PGY1 residency at Indiana University Health, and PGY2 in Critical Care at the Medical University of South Carolina. Unit 87 is one of the newer units opened in the HVN building with pharmacist coverage. It is a unique population comprised of critically ill, medical and surgical patients. Maureen helps to take care of patients who are immunocompromised with lung transplants, complicated vascular patients, as well as those patients who are on veno-venous extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (VV-EMCO). She mentions that she enjoys the “family-feel” of the unit and working with the pulmonary, thoracic, and vascular surgeons. She rounds on an interdisciplinary team with nurses, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants daily to provide pharmacy support and education.

...Continued on Page 2

“*It's been a long journey to get to this point and I couldn't have done it without the leadership and teamwork from the entire department. The pharmacists and technicians on the HVN team have done so much to deliver pharmacy services to the HVN OR over the last year. I really can't thank them enough for helping to fill that gap.*”

- **Kenneth Leonard, PharmD**
One project she is currently involved with is the medication use evaluation of intravenous levothyroxine. Intravenous levothyroxine cost significantly more than the tablet formulation, so the goal for this project is determining how to best optimize the use of this medication. Additionally, Dr. Converse is working on a project with her colleagues on the pharmacokinetics of ketamine and hydromorphone in VV-ECMO patients. Maureen plans to precept students in the future as well. We value Maureen and her continued efforts to optimize and create new policies and order-sets, while providing optimal patient care!

In other news, a new pharmacy and operating room space is coming to the HVN hospital in mid-February of 2019! **Dr. Kenneth Leonard** is one of the Operating Room (OR) clinical staff pharmacists that will be moving into the OR pharmacist role in this new space.

Ken has worked in the North Tower OR pharmacy since 2015. Additionally, he has provided cross-coverage in many areas, including adult medical and surgical units and neurosurgical and cardiac intensive care units. Dr. Leonard is excited to continue his role as an OR pharmacist. He states, “It’s been a long journey to get to this point and I couldn’t have done it without the leadership and teamwork from the entire department. The pharmacists and technicians on the HVN team have done so much to deliver pharmacy services to the HVN OR over the last year. I really can’t thank them enough for helping to fill that gap.” The current OR pharmacy cares for over 100 patients daily! Ken acts as a resource for many disciplines regarding drug information questions, process changes, and medication shortages, just to name a few, to improve patient outcomes. He is enthusiastic to work with the multidisciplinary team, teach, learn, and help patients during some of their most vulnerable moments. Be on the lookout for the upcoming opening of the OR in the HVN hospital!

The pharmacy team continues to grow each day. Stephen Lemon, former coordinator for acute care surgery, is the new medical intensive care unit clinical specialist taking care of the critically ill in the North Tower. Another new addition to our phamily is Dr. Wilson Wong, one of the new operating room pharmacists for the North Tower. We wish them the best of luck on their new positions, and look forward to seeing how they optimize patient care. The expansion of pharmacy services in these critical units pushes the department’s mission of continued growth and opportunity for pharmacists and education of other healthcare professionals. Furthermore, many more patients will now have dedicated pharmacists caring for them!

-  **Terique McKenzie, PGY-1 Resident**
REVAMPING THE 10th FLOOR PEDIATRIC SATELLITE

The 10th floor pediatric satellite renovation is well underway, with tentative plans to move into the new space at the end of February. Construction began in early October with the satellite staff temporarily moving to the previous pediatric pharmacy area on the 4th floor throughout the remodel. This overhaul will address both workflow and space limitations with the goal of improving overall functionality. In addition to a much needed facelift for the area, the renovations will add two new computer areas, bringing the total number of workstations to five, and an additional phone line to help pharmacy staff more effectively triage incoming calls.

Through coordinated efforts by both pediatric pharmacy staff and the pharmacy automation team, the pediatric satellite will also be one of the first areas to implement the Satellite Pharmacy Manager platform. The system will automatically trigger the order of medications from the carousel when a minimum stock level is reached, as well as electronically monitor expiration dates of the stock maintained in the satellite. This new program has the central operating system of an Omnicell and will augment and improve workflow for both technicians and pharmacists alike.

The entire pharmacy team is excited to re-enter the 10th floor pediatric satellite and discover the new opportunities this area will provide to be able to serve patients in the best possible way!

- Victoria Frame, PGY-1 Resident
Please welcome…

OUR NEW PGY-1 RESIDENCY PROGRAM DIRECTOR!

UF Health Shands Hospital is excited to have Martina Holder, PharmD, BCPS take on the role of Residency Program Director for the PGY1 residency program. Dr. Holder’s clinical expertise, dedication to quality improvement and sharp sense of humor have made her an asset to the pharmacy department. There is no question that she will bring the same level of excellence to her new role this year. Dr. Holder received her Doctor of Pharmacy from Purdue University College of Pharmacy before completing her PGY1 and PGY2 in Emergency Medicine at the University of Kentucky. Throughout her pharmacy training, Dr. Holder valued the investment her mentors made in her and has developed a passion for mentoring and training the next generation of pharmacists. Throughout her five years at UF Health Shands Hospital, Dr. Holder has established herself as a leader within the institution’s training program through a variety of roles, including acting as a Clinical Assistant Professor at the UF College of Pharmacy, leading the Pharmacy Department’s Code Committee, and serving within the Residency Executive Committee. In addition to preceptorship within her Emergency Medicine rotation, Dr. Holder has sought out opportunities to advise student pharmacists and residents on Grand Rounds presentations, as well as on various research projects. When the chance to take on an additional leadership role within the residency program arose, Dr. Holder saw it as a natural fit to combine her passion for education with her desire to gain additional mentoring experience. Dr. Holder hopes this position will enable her to take on a more active role in the professional development of pharmacists and further evolve the PGY1 residency program to its maximum potential. In the coming years, she hopes to expand the layered-learning model and provide opportunities for PGY2 residents to take a more active role in precepting PGY1 residents and students in clinical rotations, presentations, and research projects. Dr. Holder believes the most rewarding part of mentoring is when she can be a part of the “light bulb” moments in her learners. With her new role as Residency Program Director, she is honored for the chance to celebrate the accomplishments of the residents she has mentored at their PGY1 graduation ceremony and share in their excitement as they go onto great things within their career.

- Samantha Brokenshire, PGY-1 Resident
I know that everyone has already heard through the grapevine by now that one of the PGY-1 residents early committed to the PGY-2 oncology position for next year. Now I know the first thing that went through everyone’s mind was, “but what about Ralphie?” Well do a little dance and give a little praise, because they have decided to take TWO oncology residents next year. Special thanks to Ashley and Sarah for being the best RPDs and giving me the opportunity to continue my training as a PGY-11!

So far, PGY-10 year is off to a great start. I am getting well acquainted with all of the new residents. I have a new favorite roommate this year; Christine recently moved into the office, and I appreciate the home-y touches she brought to our hurricane space. We’ve now upgraded with things such as a rug, back massager, air purifier, and even a coffee maker! I can always count on her to be here when I need a quick pick me up or a break. I have had a lot of extra energy lately since Victoria got me hooked on the Dew, or liquid neon gold as I like to refer to it. I’ve channeled this energy and started working on my fitness at Orange Theory with Rob, Sam, and Kaitlyn. Don’t worry, I won’t let my curves go. We all know that “thicc” is in. One class a month is good enough for me.

Terique and I have quickly bonded over our shared love for Drake, and I just can’t get enough of the birthday card Sam made of Drake’s face for Terique’s birthday. I stare into his eyes all day, every day. Speaking of... Sam, if you are reading this, I would like a giant 3D banana card that sings to me for my birthday. Please and thank you. If you’ve stopped by to visit me recently, you know that I received my very own set of angel wings (they may look like butterfly or fairy wings, but that’s just their disguise). Shout out to Luke for making sure I was ready for the Victoria’s Secret Fashion Show extra early this year. Speaking of major television events, is anyone else already sick of this UNC basketball thing Rob, Khushboo (AKA K-Boo), and Sam have started? To think the season has only just begun... I beg all of you readers; please do not encourage them further. Speaking of Kboo, I have felt her absence this year since she moved to the DI center. K-Boo, if you’re reading this, come visit me sometime girl, I miss you.

We all know residency is not all fun and games, so I would like to everyone to know that I have been working hard to stay on top of my schedule. I have already started on my data collection for my research project and I selected my spring seminar topic to be on use of banana peels to heal burns and wounds. As always, thank you to our chief resident Nikki for always keeping all of us co-residents on the right track to graduation.

- Ralphie G. Rilla, PGY-10

Cheers to another year in paradise!
Kate DeSear, as a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist in Infectious Diseases and will be serving as one of the Antimicrobial Management Program Pharmacists. She completed her PGY-1 at Bay Pines Veterans Affairs Hospital and PGY-2 in Infectious Diseases 2013 at UF Health Shands Hospital. She worked as Division Director of Infectious Disease in HCA; North Florida Division overseeing 13 hospital antibiotic stewardship programs and then moved to Community Health Systems overseeing more than 200 hospital antibiotic stewardship programs. She attended the University of Florida College of Pharmacy. Her interests/hobby is she enjoys being outside with her two beautiful girls and husband. They love all the family activities in Gainesville. When asked about what part of her career she is most proud of, Kate talked about her three-year appointment as Vice Chair and Chair of the SIDP Recognition and Award Committee of which she has been a member for five years now. Her next undertakings include becoming the new PGY2 Infectious Diseases Residency Director with her first resident starting in July of 2019.

Zachary Drabick, as a Pharmacist in the Inpatient Pharmacy area. He completed his PGY-1 Residency at the University Health, Shreveport, LA; PGY-2 in Critical at Novant Health Forsyth Medical Center in Winston Salem, NC and worked as a Critical Care Coordinator at the University of Miami Hospital. He received his Pharm.D. from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center. His interests/hobbies are music, concerts, finding new restaurants, watching TV series/movies, going to parks, listening to podcasts, and audiobooks. His most exciting endeavor are his twin boys (Pierce and Parker) that were born in August and his 2.5 year old daughter (Brielle). His future plans are to buy a house, raise his family, and have a great career!
Once again, it’s time to welcome our batch of new (and old) pharmacy residents! Returning from last year are Khushboo, Nikki and new Luke (not to be confused with old Luke) but we have many new faces on both the PGY-1 and PGY-2 side. With that being said - let’s talk more about who our current PGY1 and PGY2 residents are!

**PGY-1 PHARMACY RESIDENTS**

**Samantha Brokenshire** is one of our PGY-1 Pharmacy residents. She completed her PharmD at the University of North Carolina Eshelman School of Pharmacy (beginning to sense a trend here), and is from Austin Texas. She is the PGY-1 resident artist with her tastefully designed and thoughtful birthday cards. Outside of work she (and the rest of the resident class) enjoy spending time with her wonderful boyfriend Ro-Ro.

**Victoria Frame** is another new PGY-1 resident. She completed her PharmD at the University of Mississippi and is from Winter Park, Florida. She will be remaining at UF Health Shands next year as the PGY-2 Pediatric Pharmacy resident, and will be following Luke’s wonderful example by also getting married in the middle of her PGY-2 residency.

**Christine Nguyen** is our 3rd PGY-1 resident and is from Abingdon, Maryland. She completed her pharmacy education at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy. Inside of work she has become the new black cloud of code blue coverage. Outside of work she is the resident food expert and always knows the best places to eat in town.

**Terique McKenzie** is our 4th PGY-1 resident and is from Miramar, Florida. She also completed her PharmD at the University of Florida at the Orlando distance campus. Outside of work she has been getting her fitness on with regular yoga sessions, likely while listening to Drake.

Last, but not least on the PGY-1 side is **Kaitlyn Kowalski**. She is from Anderson, South Carolina and complete her PharmD at the Medical University of South Carolina. She will be remaining at UF Health Shands next year as the PGY-2 Oncology resident. Outside of work she enjoys keeping it fit at OTF, cleaning her apartment Marie Kondo style, and spending time with her adorable dog Millie.
PGY-2 PHARMACY RESIDENTS

Kristen “Nikki” Dominick is one of our two PGY-2 Critical Care residents and also our fearless chief resident. She comes from Prosperity, South Carolina and completed her PharmD at Presbyterian College. Outside of work she loves spending time with her adorable dog Zoey who is giving Ralphie a run for his money as the unofficial resident mascot.

Khushboo Patel is our other PGY-2 Critical Care resident. She comes from Elizabeth City, North Carolina and completed her PharmD at the University of North Carolina Eshelman School of Pharmacy alongside our PGY-2 Infectious Disease resident. Outside of work, she is an avid fan of all things UNC, and is still the reigning resident “Catch Phrase” champion.

Luke Diaz is the PGY-2 Pediatric Pharmacy resident and is returning for round two of writing the “current residents” newsletter article. He completed his PharmD at the University of Florida at the Orlando distance campus - and is from St. Augustine Florida. After completing residency he is looking forward to moving to Austin, Texas with his soon-to-be wife and appropriately named cats (Taco and Queso) while she completes her fellowship in pediatric emergency medicine.

Robert Crawford III is the new PGY-2 Infectious Disease resident. He is from Charlotte, North Carolina and completed his undergraduate and Pharmacy school education at Eshelman School of Pharmacy. He completed his PGY1 experience in Memphis, Tennessee at Baptist Memorial Hospital-Memphis – with a focus in barbecue and music. Outside of work he has been making the most of what Florida has to offer and is the reigning Mario Party champion.

- Lucas “New Luke” Diaz, PGY-1 Resident
PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL UPDATES

PUBLICATIONS


Roper SM, Michael M, Brewer E, Lee J, Orjuela AH, Akbas N, Devaraj S. CYP3A5 genotyping may reduce the cost of care and guide dosing in paediatric renal transplant recipients treated with tacrolimus: A report of two paediatric renal transplant cases. AMJ 2017:10(5);413-417.


**POSTERS AND PRESENTATIONS**

Li T, Axelrod S, Tam D, Ebied A. Intravenous Heparin Dosing in Obese Patients using anti-Xa levels: A Retrospective Study. Poster presented at American Society of Hospital Pharmacists Midyear on December 3, 2018.


PROFESSIONAL UPDATES

Martina Holder named Education Coordinator of Pharmacy Services and PGY1 Pharmacy Residency Program Director.

Alex Ebied and Adonice Khoury named inaugural Internal Medicine Fellowship Program Co-directors at the University Of Florida College Of Pharmacy.

Kathryn Hernando named Division Infectious Diseases Pharmacist for HCA North Florida Division.

Ken Komorny named Chief Pharmacy Officer at Moffitt Cancer Center.

Trang Trinh named Assistant Professor of Clinical Pharmacy in the Medication Outcomes Center at the University of California, San Francisco.

GROWING PHARMILY

Kyle Harwood (Franco) and Janet Story (Arrazcaeta) both got married in 2018.

Tara Higgins and her husband welcomed a baby girl, Harper, 7/6/18.

Danielle Lazear and her husband welcomed baby twins, Lacy and Trey, on 10/18/18.

Ji Yeon Lee and her husband welcomed a baby girl, Emma Reagan, last May.

NEWLY BOARD CERTIFIED

All received their BCIDP...
  Kathryn DeSear
  Kathryn Hernando
  Trang Trinh
  Veena Venugopal

BCPS Certified...
  Mark Lahey

RETIREMENTS
  Sam Borgert (August 2018)
  Rob Kilroy (November 2018)
  Tim Hoggard (December 2018)
  Betsy Miller (December 2018)
  Cheryl Thomson (June 2018)
  Kim Pennington (September 2018)
RESIDENTS AND PRECEPTORS HAVING FUN!

ASHP Midyear 2018 in Anaheim, California
DINNER IN ANAHEIM, CA

Christmas Party 2018!
Also...

THE NEWEST EDITION TO THE RESIDENT OFFICE, WE WELCOME PHYLLIS!