

# Message from the Director

## Summer 2022

DHLRI Faculty, Staff, and Trainees –

I am delighted to share the first in a new series of Davis Heart and Lung Research Institute Quarterly Updates. I hope these regular e-newsletters will be interesting and informational, but mostly I want to highlight YOU, our incredible DHLRI faculty, trainees, and staff. While it would be impossible to list all the amazing ways our members advance the DHLRI mission each and every day, the goal here is to share just a glimpse into the impact you have through your research, training and outreach programs. Before we dive into the accolades, however, I want to take a moment to update you on our strategic effort to enhance DHLRI marketing and outreach. A critical aspect of this campaign is our revamped website with a host of new features and regularly refreshed content, including these e-newsletters, investigator spotlights, featured publications and more. In parallel, we will be launching a private intranet through SharePoint where our investigators can find policies, request forms, equipment lists, etc. We will celebrate our 1-year anniversary on Twitter in August - Follow us @OhioStateDHLRI for real time updates – we'll follow you back! The Administrative Team does our best to keep tabs on your success, but don't ever hesitate to reach out and let us know directly that you or someone in your lab has a new paper, grant, invited talk, or award – and communicate early and often! Don't wait for your paper to appear online or in print – let us know as soon as something is accepted or you got a fundable score so we can coordinate an announcement across all channels. Beyond DHLRI, we encourage you to coordinate with OSU Marketing before a major publication or grant is going out – they are experts at navigating embargoes, etc. Just give 'em a heads up so they can help you when the time comes to share the news – contact Jenifer Hargett, Director, Marketing Communications, or reach out to the DHLRI Administrative Team and we can make an introduction. Now, it's time to celebrate some of the remarkable achievements of our members – thanks to everyone who submitted, revised, or otherwise cranked on their research projects over the past few months!



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### **Kudos** –

Congratulations to **Prabha Nagareddy, PhD** (Surgery), **Matt Stratton, PhD** (Physiology & Cell Biology), and **Nuo Sun, PhD** (Physiology & Cell Biology), who were each recently awarded new NIH R01s. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> new R01 awarded to Dr. Sun in FY 22! **Vadim Fedorov, PhD** (Physiology & Cell Biology) and **John Christman, MD** (Internal Medicine) successfully renewed their NIH R01 grants. **Jill Rafael-Fortney, PhD** and **Brandon Biesiadecki, PhD** (Physiology & Cell Biology) renewed their NIH T32 Predoctoral Grant “Training to Provide the Knowledge, Skills, and Culture to the Next Generation of Cardiovascular Scientists.” This exceptional program has already had a tremendous impact to enhance mentoring at OSU with innovative workshops and educational opportunities. **Loren Wold, PhD** (Physiology & Cell Biology, Nursing) was lead author on an [American Heart Association Scientific Statement](#) on vaping in youth that just appeared online in *Circulation Research*. Dr. Wold is featured in this quarter’s [Featured Story](#). This extends an impressive streak of DHLRI members leading AHA Scientific or Policy Statements, with earlier efforts from **Laxmi Mehta, MD** (Internal Medicine) on [maternal health](#) and **Joshua Joseph, MD** (Internal Medicine) on [management of type 2 diabetes](#).

**Doug Lewandowski, PhD** (Internal Medicine) was recognized with the 2022 Research Achievement Award from the International Society for Heart Research this past June. **Daniel Gallego-Perez, PhD** (Biomedical Engineering/Surgery), **Kym Gowdy, PhD** (Internal Medicine) and **Kristin Stanford, PhD** (Physiology & Cell Biology) were all named as standing members of Center for Scientific Review (CSR) Peer Review panels. **Srikanth Garikipati, PhD** (Emergency Medicine) was selected as Vice Chair of the Communication Committee for the American Heart Association Basic Cardiovascular Sciences Council, effective July 1. Check out our [Featured Publications page](#) where we highlight some exciting new papers from our investigators!



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## Transitions –

It was bittersweet to celebrate the retirement of **Tom Ryan, MD** in June. Dr. Ryan served as Director of the OSU Heart and Vascular Center for over 15 years. We can't thank him enough for his many years of leadership and steadfast support for the DHLRI! While we hate to see him go, we look forward to working with **Ernie Mazzaferri, MD** and **Bryan Whitson, MD PhD**, interim co-Directors, to align clinical and basic research priorities going forward. We also couldn't be happier for **Lorri Fowler, MBA**, DHLRI Executive Director, who was named Associate Vice President for Research in the OSU Office of Research.

The DHLRI Administrative Team is very pleased that **Izabelle Colvin** has moved into her new role as Office Administrative Associate. Izabelle is an OSU alum who many of you will recognize through her role as a DHLRI student worker throughout most of her time as an undergraduate. We are also happy to welcome three new student workers, **Sidney Lauffer, Bella Hohler, and Riece Rivera**. DHLRI Fiscal Officer, **DeeAnn Willis-Berry**, will celebrate her 1-year anniversary at DHLRI in August.

Finally, the DHLRI welcomes its newest investigator **Lufang Zhou, PhD**, who joined OSU on July 1 as a Professor in Department of Surgery, Cardiac Surgery. The Zhou lab is located on BRT 3 and studies mitochondrial function and cardiovascular disease.

## Happenings –

We are very much looking forward to the **2022 TriFit Challenge** to be held on Sunday, July 31! This year, we are excited to announce that proceeds from the event will support pre-doctoral fellowships. Contact [Izabelle.Colvin@osumc.edu](mailto:Izabelle.Colvin@osumc.edu) for an application, due July 31. Importantly, the mentor and applicant must register for this year's event to be eligible for the award. On the [TriFit registration page](#), you will find a list of teams, including a pre-generated team for each DHLRI lab. We hope this will make it easier for you and your lab members, family, and friends to join. There will be gift card prizes for the DHLRI lab team that: 1) registers the largest group; 2) raises the most in donations; and 3) shows greatest team spirit on day of the event!

Sincerely,



Thomas J. Hund, PhD  
Interim Director  
Davis Heart & Lung Research Institute



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