

*Division of*  
**Infectious Diseases**  
*Fellowship Program*



**COLLEGE  
OF MEDICINE**

The consult requests at UAMC – University Campus have increased to the point that we now have two Fellows on the UAMC – University Campus consult team with one attending physician. This has worked well and the Fellows are learning more and have time to follow up on patients that require it. There are now 10 separate clinics a week, 5 each at UAMC – South Campus and UAMC – University Campuses. Hopefully in the near future we will launch a Transplant Consult Team at the UAMC – University Campus.

*View of office suites from Martha's reception desk.*



## **Fellow News**

### **Graduates of 2005**

**Kalpana Natrajan** is still in private practice in San Diego,  
**Lisa Valdivia** continues in private infectious disease practice at SAIDS.



*View of Fellows work area in the new office suites. A big step up from Comstock House for those of you who remember the former digs of adult ID.*

### **Graduate of 2006**

**John Mourani.** John remains in an ID group of four in San Dimas, CA.

### **Graduates of 2007**

**Brian Chasin and Andy Giblin.**

### **Graduates of 2008**

**Cliff Martin** directs the Fellow program at Tucson Medical Center where Fellows round with Amber Noon, Marcello Nasif and Cliff. **Shannon Thorn** is in private infectious disease practice in Tucson at St. Mary's and Northwest Hospitals.

### **Graduate of 2009**

**Fares Masannat** is doing a lot of telemedicine in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. He made a surprise visit to Tucson in April 2012 and it was good to see him. He writes: "I am still working in Sioux Falls, both in private practice and also teaching residents and medical students. I'm looking forward to seeing Argentina win the 2014 World Cup in Brazil."

### **Graduates of 2010**

**Larissa Szeyko.** "We moved back to El Paso about a year and a half ago to be closer to my parents. I've been doing full time wound care in private practice at the Providence Wound Institute, so at this point I've been doing wound care for 2 and a half years and I think it is only becoming more interesting! I was asked to become Medical Director of the clinic in October and so I have been acting in that position as well. The children are doing so well - Caitlin is now 5 and is almost done with Kindergarten, and Ethan is 3. My husband David has a busy private practice in Child Psychiatry and is doing very well. I don't know that there's much more to say than that!" **Viki Ianas** is in private practice in Phoenix. She now has two daughters. Her work in frailty and HIV has led to two further publications and a pending grant application.



## Division of Infectious Diseases

### Graduate of 2011

**Geoffrey Smith** is in a private practice group in Tucson. Amber Noon is a partner now with SAIDS. She is supervising fellows when they rotate at TMC.

### Graduates of 2012

**James Yanes** is doing awesome says Joel Terriquez. He has moved to Washington state. **Joel Terriquez (6/12)** is in practice in Flagstaff, AZ and is doing great. He writes: I need to go back to the diet... I guess that, I will be taking over the whole Infectious disease service here in Northern Arizona, since Dr. Lacy will be moving. I am having a blast, lots of work, but I love it. I will no longer cover the Cottonwood Hospital, will be full time in Flagstaff. I am also involved in a couple of research projects here in the hospital, which allows me to travel for meetings. I am very much into antibiotic stewardship these days. We just bought a house.. (first house ever). The girls are growing, Sophia and Nina. **Miriam Grigor (12/12)** is now in practice in Sacramento, CA with Kaiser Permanente. She has already had one complicated case of neurocystercercosis. Her husband is happy to have her at home after two years to help in the care of their feral cats.

### Current Fellows

**Ram Seddabattula (6/13)** is joining a group in Phoenix, AZ—they have been waiting for him to finish his fellowship. He has worn out one I-phone doing ID quizzes each day during rounds. **Tatyana Shekhel (12/13)** is working on several pathology/ID research projects concerning coccidioidomycosis. She will be spending one month at the University of Miami studying the immunocompromised host. **Jack Ajmeri (6/14)** is working on a paper on the use of telemedicine in caring for HIV patients along with School of Public Health student Cameron Price. **Wasl Al-Adsani** began in January 2013 just in time to inaugurate the new two fellow consult team at University Campus. He has already reestablished the fecal transplant service begun by Geoffrey Smith years before.

### Incoming Fellows

**Ahmad Salameh (6/15)** is joining us from the UA Medicine residency program and **Luis Medina (6/15)** from Maricopa County Hospital Medicine residency program in July 2013.

### Conferences

**6th Annual Desert Museum Walk and Dinner.** In late July 2012 we had our sixth annual Museum Walk followed by an excellent dinner at the Ironwood Restaurant. Approximately 30 people attended. It was blisteringly hot but everyone struggled through the sun and heat to attend an excellent meal. Topics included *Clostridium botulinum* and bees, a new *Pasturella* species, babesiosis by guest John Bloom, largest, fastest insect predator in the desert, European badger and TB, *Bartonella henselae* and transplantation, white-nose syndrome in bats, Brill-Zinnser and the flying squirrel, javelina and salmonellosis, and hepatitis E in pigs by guest hepatologist, Tom Boyer. See attached blog for more details about the Desert Museum walk.

### Arizona Infectious Diseases Society annual meeting in Sedona, March 2013.

Tatyana Shekhel presented a case of blastomycosis at the conference.

### 4th Research Retreat to Portal, Arizona, February 8-10, 2013.

About 15 attendees participated in the retreat and stayed at Cave Creek Ranch. The weather was spectacular. The first evening Sean Elliott and Joe Alpert regaled attendees with a guitar/recorder serenade and sing-a-long. We heard presentations ranging from how to stop kissing bugs from biting, bubonic plague, birding in East Africa, false-positive coccidioidomycosis serologies, Adelaide Crapsey, nocardiosis, use of oral antibiotics, decision making by honeybees, and quality and outcomes in ID. Saturday evening everyone had dinner at Eskild's and Susan's home and had a great time.



Cathedral Rock, Portal. Photo: Cal Kunin





*Music for the coterie that assembled Friday evening at Portal.*



*Tim is not checking for ciguatoxin.  
Photo: Sean Elliott*



*A skeptical audience at Portal. Photo: Sean Elliott*

## Faculty and Staff

Newcomers to the faculty include **Mayar Al-Mohajer, MD** who will begin attending in July of 2013. He joins us from a fellowship in ID at Baylor University, Houston. His interests are staphylococcal infections and he will head up the Antibiotic Stewardship Program. **Yasuhiro Nakatani, MD** joins us in June 2013. He has been attending the Refugee Clinic at UAMC – South Campus and his main interest is HIV.

**Rod Adam, emeritus**, was in town in December 2012, home from Kenya. He has successfully established a medical microbiology program in Nairobi.

**Neil Ampel** is focusing on coccidioidomycosis as usual and also sharing the attending duties at Southern Arizona VA Health Care System.

**Sean Elliott** is Program Director of the Pediatrics Residency program but makes time to come to the pediatrics/adult Friday morning conference. He emceed the Desert Museum walk around as well as the Portal conference as usual. His band is doing even better this last year, performing at bigger venues.

**Anca Georgescu** is about to complete her first year as faculty at UA. She is the Medical Director of the Petersen Clinics (Ryan White clinics) and is also directing a busy antibiotic outpatient clinic (home intravenous antibiotics).

**Susan Hoover** is sadly leaving the University of Arizona in July of 2013 for Souix Falls, South Dakota where she and her husband will be with the Sanford Research and Sanford Health.

**Bob Kalinske** attends Friday morning ID conferences and the Desert Museum walk and continues to give assorted lectures to Fellows.

**Steve Klotz** continues to work on Candida and amyloid and has several projects dealing with kissing bugs and Chagas disease. The kissing bug field studies always commence in May and June when the bugs become active.

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## Division of Infectious Diseases

**Tim Kuberski** is faculty at the UA College of Medicine – Phoenix and attends the Museum and Portal conferences. He recently steered Luis Medina our way and he will join us as a Fellow in July, 2013.

**Katie Matthias** along with Dave Nix has been instrumental in forming an Antibiotic Stewardship program for the UAMC – University Campus.

**David Nix** has given an excellent overview of all antibiotics and their pharmacodynamics and kinetics. His talks now include a great deal about resistance and the enzymes and mechanisms that control the same. Excellent powerpoints could be requested from him.

**Chinh Nguyen** is sharing the attending duties at the Southern Arizona VA Health Care System.

**Eskild Petersen, emeritus** continues working for 3M in hospital Quality. He gave an excellent talk on the subject at the Portal Retreat.

**Kareem Shehab** is a busy faculty member in Pediatric ID.

**Ziad Shehab** continues with his tireless schedule of teaching and attending.

**Vinod Trivedi** resigned from the University of Arizona and moved to Sacramento, CA in November 2012. He has joined a large group in the city.

**Richard Sobonya** continues with the monthly ID/Pathology conferences and gave a moving history of Adelaide Crapsey at the Portal Retreat.

**Calvin Kunin, emeritus**, continues to publish his photographs of birds in the New England Journal of Medicine and attended the Portal retreat where he talked about birding East Africa.

**Tirdad Zangeneh**. Tirdad has established a large transplant patient population and deals with the infectious disease issues in these patients. He is also a Assistant Program Director for the Medicine Residency Program at UAMC – University Campus.

**Martha Aragon** is the Administration Assistant for the section of Infectious Diseases and sends her love to all former Fellows.

**Cesar Egurrola** is the case manager for the Petersen Clinic patients at UAMC – South Campus.

**Ruth Hillman** has joined the Petersen HIV Clinics and is identifying and enrolling newly diagnosed patients through the Emergency Room and from the clinics.

**Robert Gadsden** is a case manager for the Ryan White Program at UAMC – University Campus.

**Natasha Korosteleva** is the Administrator for the Refugee Clinics and has her hands full getting the refugees to clinic for blood samples and vaccinations. She is busy now showing Yasuhiro Nakatani all the “ins and outs” of the Refugee Clinic.

**Patricia McCracken** continues as Nurse Coordinator for the Petersen Clinics (HIV patients) whose numbers continue to increase (>700).

**Carol Schneiderman, Pharm.D.** provides pharmacy related support for the Petersen Clinic patients and is attending the clinics on UAMC – South Campus.

**Shannon Smith** is the chief Administrator for the Ryan White Clinics. She has expanded the services for the HIV patients to include a number of new positions.



## Fellow Publications, Abstracts & Presentations

**Terriquez, JA**, SA Klotz, EA Meister, JH Klotz and JO Schmidt. Repellency of DEET, Picaridin and three essential oils to *Triatoma rubida* (Hemiptera: Reduviidae: Triatominae). *Journal of Medical Entomology*, In Press.

**Shekhel, T**. A case of blastomycosis. Arizona Infectious Diseases Society Annual Meeting, 2013.

**Grigor, L** and Hoover, S. Prevalence of *Nocardia* Species at the University of Arizona Medical Center. Poster presentation, ID Week 2012, San Diego, California, October 2012. Hoover, S.E., Knowles, S.L., Taroumian, S., Ampel, N.M., Galgiani, J.N.

**Seddabattula, R.**, and Lisse, J.R. 2012. Management and Outcomes of Coccidioidomycosis in 66 Rheumatologic Patients. Poster presentation, IDWeek 2012, San Diego, California, October 2012.

**Seddabattula RS**. Syphilis. In: Katz MD, Matthias KR, Chisholm-Burns MA, eds. *Pharmacotherapy Principles and Practice Study Guide: A Case Based Care Plan Approach*, 3rd ed. New York: McGraw Hill Medical, in press.

Taroumian, S., Knowles, S.L., Lisse, J.R., **Yanes, J.**, Ampel, N.M., Vaz, A., Galgiani, J.N., and Hoover, S.E. Management of coccidioidomycosis in patients receiving biologic response modifiers or disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs. *Arthritis Care & Research*, in press, PMID 22745051.

**Joel Terriquez**. Good News, Bad News." Arizona Infectious Disease Society Annual Meeting, Sedona, March, 2012.

**Miriam Grigor**. "Staphylococcus capitis endocarditis." Arizona Infectious Disease Society Annual Meeting, Sedona, March, 2012.

**Joel Terriquez**. Least toxic chemicals to deter kissing bug bites. MET conference, Tucson, April 13, 2012.

**Amber Noon, Geoffrey Smith**, Susan Hoover. *Helicobacter vertebral osteomyelitis in an immunocompetent adult*. *Infectious Diseases in Clinical Practice*. In Press.

**Larissa Szeyko**, M.S. Taljanovic, R. Dzioba, J. Rapiejko, R.D. Adam. Vertebral coccidioidomycosis: presentation and surgical management. *American Journal of Medicine* 125: 304-314, 2012.

**Joel A. Terriquez**, Justin O. Schmidt, John H. Klotz, Stephen A. Klotz. Human-friendly chemical deterrents of kissing bug bites. Sonoran Medical Entomology Conference, Tucson, AZ, January 2011.

**Voichita Ianas** and Stephen A. Klotz. Cat Scratch Disease. *Pediatrics for Parents*

**Smith, Geoffrey**, Susan Hoover, Richard Sobonya and Stephen A. Klotz. Abdominal and pelvic coccidioidomycosis. *American Journal of Medical Sciences*.

**Voichita Ianas**, Kathryn Mathias, Stephen A. Klotz. Role of Posaconazole in the Treatment of Oropharyngeal Candidiasis. *Infection and Resistance*. Klotz, Stephen A., **Voichita Ianas**, and Sean P. Elliott. Cat scratch disease. *American Family Physician*. 83: 152-155, 2011.

Nagaraja, Vivek **Joel A. Terriquez**, Hemanth Gavini, Lokesh Jha and Stephen A. Klotz. Pulmonary Embolism Mimicking Pneumonia in an HIV Patient. *Case Reports in Medicine* Epub, June 14, 2010.

Klotz, SA and **Noon, A**. Hantavirus infections: Emphasis on Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome. *Essential Evidence Plus*, 2010; <https://www.essentialevidenceplus.com/>

Vinh, DC, **Masannat, F**, Dzioba, RB, Galgiani, JN, and Holland, SM. Refractory disseminated coccidioidomycosis and mycobacteriosis in interferon-gamma receptor 1 deficiency. *Clin. Inf. Dis*. 49: e62-65, 2009.

**Thorn, ST**, Brown, MA, **Yanes, JJ**, Sherrill, DL, Pugmire, J, Anderson, KA and Klotz, SA. Pulmonary nocardiosis in cystic fibrosis. *Journal of Cystic Fibrosis* 8: 316-320.

**Masannat FY**, Ampel NM. Coccidioidomycosis in patients with HIV infection in the age of potent antiretroviral therapy. A cohort analysis. Poster; Annual Meeting of 48th ICAAC/46th IDSA, Washington DC, October 2008.

Ampel NM, **Giblin A, Mourani, JP**, Galgiani JN. Factors and outcomes associated with the decision to treat primary pulmonary coccidioidomycosis. *Clin Inf Dis* 48:172-178, 2009.

Ampel NM, Dionne SO, **Giblin A**, Podany AB, Galgiani JN. Mannose binding lectin serum levels are low in persons with clinically active coccidioidomycosis. *Mycopathologica* 2008 In press.

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## **Fellow Publications, Abstracts & Presentations** (Continued)

Sarah G, **Clifford P. Martin**, Stone M, Schneiderman C and SA Klotz. Substance Abuse and HIV Infection: Scope of the Problem and Management. Chapter, In Press for Addiction in Medicine, John Wiley and Sons 2008.

**Martin, Clifford P.**, Fain M and SA Klotz. The Older HIV-Positive Adult: Critical Review of the Medical Literature. Submitted to American Journal of Medicine 2008.

Dionne SO, **Giblin Andrea**, Podany A, Chavez S, Klimecki W, and Neil Ampel. Serum mannose binding lectin (MBL) levels are low in patients with active coccidioidomycosis. Presented at 107th General Meeting of the American Society for Microbiology, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, May 22, 2007.

Ampel NM, **Giblin Andrea**, and S. Chavez. Factors and outcomes associated with the decision to reat primary pulmonary coccidioidomycosis. Presented Annual Meeting of the Infectious Diseases Society of America, San Diego, CA, October 6, 2007.

Klotz SA, **Brian S. Chasin**, Powell B, Gaur NK and PN Lipke. Polymicrobial bloodstream infections involving Candida species: Analysis of patients and review of the literature. *Diagnostic Microbiology and Infectious Diseases* 59: 401-406 2007.



Male Hooded Oriole, Portal. Photo: Cal Kunin

**Chasin, Brian**, Sean P. Elliott and Stephen A. Klotz. Medical errors arising from outsourcing laboratory and radiology examinations. *American Journal of Medicine*. In Press.

**Mourani, Ousama** and Stephen A. Klotz. Coccidioidomycosis. In: Roy, F.H., Fraunfelder, F.T. and Fraunfelder, F.W. *Current Ocular Therapy*. 6th Edition. W.B. Saunders Co., 2007. In Press.

Jennifer Bowers, **John Mourani**, Neil Ampel. Fatigue and coccidioidomycosis. Quantification and correlation with clinical, immunological, and nutritional factors. *Medical Mycology* 44: 585-90, 2006.

**Mourani, John**, Neil Ampel. Coccidioidomycosis and fatigue. Presented Western Society APCR, January 2006.

**Natrajan, Kalpana**, Brian D. Jansen, Eskild A. Petersen, and Stephen A. Klotz. Skin lesions in a wildlife biologist. *Clinical Infectious Diseases* 41: 209, 260-261, 2005.

**Natrajan, Kalpana** and Stephen A. Klotz. Nocardiosis. In: *In a Page. Infectious Disease*. Lippincott, Williams and Wilkins, Baltimore, MD, 2007; Eds. J. McCue and S. Kahane; pp. 244-245.

**Natrajan, Kalpana** and Stephen A. Klotz. Actinomycosis. In *a Page. Infectious Disease*. Lippincott, Williams and Wilkins, Baltimore, MD, 2007; Eds. J. McCue and S. Kahane; pp. 246-247.

**Natrajan, Kalpana**, Donna Wolk, Eskild Petersen. Hospital Epidemiology of MRSA. Presented Western Society APCR, Carmel, CA January 2004.

**Valdivia, Lisa**, David Nix, Mark Wright, Elizabeth Lindberg, Timothy Fagan, Donald Lieberman, T'Prien Stoffer, Neil Ampel and John Galgiani. Coccidioidomycosis as a common cause of community-acquired pneumonia. *Emerging Infectious Diseases* 12: 958-62, 2006.

**Valdivia, Lisa**, Neil Ampel, John Galgiani. Coccidioidomycosis: a common cause of community-acquired pneumonia. Presented 49th Annual Coccidioidomycosis Study Group, Bass Lake, CA, April 2005.



## WestMuse Blog

### Night Class at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum: Unique Museum Learning

by Jason B. Jones and Whitney Klotz

For this particular work function, the Wranglers and hiking boots, among other Western/outdoor wear, make an appearance. Shelved are the collared shirts, pressed slacks, and white coats. It's the annual visit to the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum by the Division of Infectious Diseases, University of Arizona Medical Center.

([http://westmuse.files.wordpress.com/2012/10/2012\\_ramada.jpg](http://westmuse.files.wordpress.com/2012/10/2012_ramada.jpg))The Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum (ASDM) sits about 20 miles west of Tucson. It's an impressive institution, with exhibits dotting 21 acres of desert land, and its collections consisting of living plants and animals native to the Sonoran Desert Region, including the ugly but lovable javelina. As a good portion of the wildlife is most active during the evening hours, the museum holds the Summer Saturday Evening program during the months of June, July and August. With discounted admissions fees and extended hours (4 p.m. to 10 p.m.), the program gives visitors an affordable opportunity to convene with nature's nocturnal creatures.

The Division of Infectious Diseases-ASDM event first took place on a summer evening about six years ago and since then has become an anticipated event on the work calendars of the Division's physicians. It was an idea developed and first implemented by the former Chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases, Dr. Eskild Petersen, the current Chief of the Division, Dr. Stephen Klotz, and Professor of Clinical Pediatrics and member of Pediatric Infectious Diseases, Dr. Sean Elliott.

The event was begun by the three doctors in the hopes of fostering a strong sense of camaraderie among staff, in addition to providing an opportunity for learning. Its intended participants are the Infectious Diseases physicians and trainees, but also welcomed are physicians from other disciplines, like cardiology and pulmonology. ASDM is the place of choice for the function because, as Dr. Klotz explains, the museum is a "beautiful venue" that allows for an "unusual conference," a "moving conference."



([http://westmuse.files.wordpress.com/2012/10/2012\\_path.jpg](http://westmuse.files.wordpress.com/2012/10/2012_path.jpg)) As a group, the conference participants – along with spouses, invited guests, and the occasional child (I myself tagged along a couple of times) – make their way across the museum’s expansive grounds, a journey punctuated by short but informative stops at pre-selected wildlife exhibits. At the exhibits, the physician responsible gives a lesson on how, in terms of infectious diseases, humans and the chosen animal are connected. In other words, the physician discusses a particular illness that the animal can pass along to humans. (In the medical world, these illnesses are referred to as zoonoses.)

For example, one year, everybody gathered around the coati exhibit, eager to learn about this raccoon-like animal. The physicians were informed that coatis can cause meningitis in humans, a medical situation most common among children. Basically, roundworm eggs (*Baylisascaris procyonis*), found in coati excrement, find their way into the body of a child (think children playing outdoors) and then proceed to hatch. Once hatched, the roundworms infest themselves in the membranes that sheath the child’s brain and spinal cord, thus leading to a lethal case of meningitis. (This is certainly not a conference for the squeamish!)

After about a dozen or so of these lessons and the observance of a uniquely Southwestern sunset, the evening culminates in dinner at the museum’s Ocotillo Café. During their meal, the doctors have a chance to satisfy their evening cravings, reflect on the presented material, and connect with one another on both personal and professional levels. The dinner also serves as an informal graduation ceremony for the Infectious Diseases fellows (trainees) who have successfully completed their specialized medical training. The fellows receive a certificate of completion, a small gift, and a message of thanks, praise, and encouragement. Lest you think that the conference is just a walk in the park in terms of getting it up and running (pun intended), you must know that much time and thought goes into its production. Dr. Klotz spends a good deal of time generating topics on which the doctors will present. Because there is a repeat audience, he is careful to identify topics that have yet to be discussed or that have not been discussed in quite some time. After selecting the topics, he thoughtfully assigns them to the physicians, encouraging the physicians to include a case study in their presentations, either pulled from their own experiences or from the literature. Occasionally, Dr. Klotz has physicians who come up with their own topics.

Once the topics have been identified and assigned, Dr. Elliott works up an itinerary for the conference, ensuring that the evening isn’t spent zig-zagging across the grounds. He creates a program that logically moves the participants from one wildlife exhibit to the next. And, during the conference, Dr. Elliott takes on the difficult role of timekeeper. He helps presenters stay within their allotted ten minutes so that come 7:00 p.m. or so, everyone is enjoying a cool drink at the café, having enjoyed a light but valuable evening of education.

Hopefully, this post has provided a nice, bite-sized example of how informal learning institutions are useful and meaningful to the communities in which they operate. If you ever happen to find yourself in the Tucson community, I strongly recommend heading out to the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, especially if you can do so on a summer evening. It’s really a delightful place and, simply put, there is nothing like the desert at night. Be sure to rent a black light from the museum and check out the glow-in-the-dark scorpions traversing the grounds. You’ll be shocked, and maybe a little frightened, at just how many there are!

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