In Memory

The Division lost one of its founders and most beloved members in June with the death of S. Lakshminarayanan. Born in Madras in 1943, he graduated first in his medical school class at age 21. After postgraduate training in India, he did his residency in London and became one of the youngest persons to be admitted to the Royal College of Physicians. While training at the Brompton Chest Hospital he was offered a fellowship position at the University of Colorado, and he and his wife Barbara arrived in Denver in 1971.

During a four-year period of astonishing productivity, Lakshmi published the landmark study with Steve Sahn that established the basic “weaning parameters” still used worldwide today. Recruited to the Seattle VA in 1975, Lakshmi remained section head for 32 years. Lakshmi and Barbara, along with their sons Ram and Ravi, and daughter Janaki, made their home on Capitol Hill for nearly four decades.

A quintessential research collaborator, Lakshmi worked with numerous faculty members on acute lung injury, the bronchial circulation, and COPD to name a few. He was an exceptional mentor, teacher, and a caring physician. His contributions and positive influence will be felt by many for years to come.

In 2006, the Lakshmi Fellows Fund was established to further the training of pulmonary and critical care fellows. This fund has assisted nearly two dozen young physicians and scientists, including 2014 recipients James Town and Bijan Ghassemieh. A special thank you goes to the Pierson family who recently made a $25,000 donation to this fund.

2014 DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

Randy Curtis received the 2014 Leaders in Health Care award from Seattle Business Magazine in the category Outstanding Health Care Practitioner.

Masa Narita was the recipient of the 2014 National Tuberculosis Controller of the Year award.

Kristina Crothers received the 2014 ATS Assembly on Microbiology, Tuberculosis & Pulmonary Infections Mid-career Peer Recognition Award.

Monica Fawthrop has been elected as Treasurer to the Administrators of Internal Medicine (AIM) Council.

Joshua Benditt was the recipient of the 2014 David J. Pierson, MD Award for Excellence in Education and Mentoring.

Trish Kritek received the 30th Annual Paul B. Beeson Award as well as the 2014 UWMC Chief of Medicine Service Award. Additionally, she was recently elected as a trustee of the University of Washington Physicians.

Paula Carvalho was the 2014 recipient of the Tina Juul-Dam Teacher of the Year award, voted on by the medicine residents. She also received the Idaho Track Preceptor Appreciation Award.
UW Medicine residents chose Terri Hough as the recipient of the Housestaff Research Mentorship Award.

Matthew Keri received the award for excellence in nursing care from the DAISY Foundation.

Seattle Metropolitan Magazine listed the following faculty in their 2014 Top Doctors issue: Moira Aitken, Josh Benditt, David Carlbom, Vishesh Kapur, Trish Kritek, Andy Luks, Dave Madtes, Ganesh Raghu, and Mark Tonelli.

The UW Medical Student Association (MSA) awarded Andy Luks the 2014 Second-Year Medical School Class (MS2) Teaching Award. Andy has also been named as the School of Medicine’s new curriculum Circulatory Block director and was recognized in Seattle Magazine’s 2014 Top Doctors issue.

Erika Lease was named the new Medical Director of the Lung Transplant Program at UWMC.

Dave Madtes is now a member of the ALA Lung Cancer Expert Medical Advisory Panel.

Molly Billings is the new Clerkship Director for the medical student clerkship in Clinical Respiratory Diseases.

Chris Goss is the new Co-Executive Director of the CF Foundation Therapeutics Development Network (TDN) Coordinating Center.

The American Society for Clinical Investigation (ASCI) Council Young Physician-Scientist Award was presented to Ajai Dandekar.

Pradeep Singh was elected to the Association of American Physicians (AAP) and was recently named Director of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation’s Research Development Program.

Eoin West was the recipient of the 2014 Parker B. Francis (PBF) Jo Rae Wright Award for Scientific Excellence.

Ann Long was designated a 2014 American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine (AAHPM) Research Scholar.

Dave Pierson was named President of the Friends of the UW School of Medicine.

Başak Çoruh was named director of the UWMC Medical Intensive Care Unit (MICU) and will be the Medical Director of the UW School of Medicine Observed Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE).

Kevin Patel is the Director of the Oncology, Blood & Marrow Transplantation ICU at UWMC.

Former fellow Laura Evans was recognized in New York Magazine’s 10th Annual Reasons to Love New York edition for her work with an Ebola patient.