



## PG-SIG Leadership

Michele Herzer Maddux, PhD  
Co-Chair  
Children's Mercy Kansas City

Amanda Drews Deacy, PhD  
Co-Chair  
Children's Mercy Kansas City

Jennifer Schurman, PhD, ABPP  
Past Co-Chair  
Children's Mercy Kansas City

Anthony Alioto, PhD  
Past Co-Chair and Webmaster  
Nationwide Children's Hospital

Rob Dempster, PhD  
Membership Coordinator and Co-Chair Elect  
Nationwide Children's Hospital

Brandi Whitaker, PhD  
Co-Chair Elect  
Arkansas Children's Hospital

Katie Lamparyk, PsyD  
Secretary  
Cleveland Clinic Children's Hospital

Alan Silverman, PhD  
At-Large Member, Education  
Children's Hospital of Milwaukee

Cindy Kim, PhD, ABPP  
At-Large Member, Clinical  
Children's Hospital of Orange County

Laura Mackner, PhD  
At-Large Member, Research  
Nationwide Children's Hospital

Andrea Wojtowicz, BA  
Student Representative for Clinical  
Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science

Bonney Reed-Knight, PhD  
Student Representative for Research  
Emory/Children's Healthcare of Atlanta

# DIGEST

Internal Newsletter of the *Pediatric Gastroenterology Special Interest Group*, APA DIV54, July 2014

## RECENT CHANGES IN BOARD LEADERSHIP

At the recent SPPAC in Philadelphia, Amanda D. Deacy and Michele Herzer Maddux officially assumed responsibility for the SIG as co-chairs, effective through April 2016. Jennifer Verrill Schurman and Anthony Alioto will remain on the SIG board during this time as past co-chairs.

Following SPPAC, all members of the PG-SIG were solicited for their interest in the available chair-elect position. Brandi Whitaker, of Arkansas Children's Hospital, and Robert Dempster, of Nationwide Children's Hospital, expressed their interest and have assumed this position jointly as co-chairs elect, effective immediately.

PG-SIG board member, Carin Cunningham, has resigned from her position as the At-Large Member, Clinical. Cindy Kim of Children's Hospital of Orange County, was appointed to fill this position, also effective immediately.

We're excited about the enthusiasm and expertise that Brandi, Rob, and Cindy will bring to the PG-SIG board! Welcome!

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Multiple PG-SIG members recently contributed to a compilation providing information on current research and clinical practice regarding the psychosocial aspects of pediatric gastrointestinal conditions. Contributors among the SIG membership include: Anthony Alioto, Amanda D. Deacy, Wendy Gray, Kevin A. Hommel, Colleen Lukens, Michele H. Maddux, Clarissa Martin, Alan Silverman, Jennifer V. Schurman, and Sara Williams.

Martin, C., Dovey T. (eds) (2014). *Paediatric Gastrointestinal Disorders: A Psychosocial Perspective*. Paediatric Psychology Series. Radcliffe Medical Press. Oxford: <http://www.radcliffehealth.com/shop/paediatric-gastrointestinal-disorders-psychosocial-perspective>

*Description from the inside cover:* This inspirational compilation provides information on current research and clinical practice regarding the psychosocial aspects of paediatric gastrointestinal conditions, with contributions from international specialists and experts in the field. The chapters in Part I act as an introduction to understanding gastrointestinal disorder and consider key theoretical aspects and central issues. Part II investigates management and intervention concerns and includes patient narrative, offering unique insights for professional reflection. Part III looks at the unique characteristics of the anatomy and physiology of normal development and the maturation of the digestive system in infants. It also includes a compendium of assessment measures and a highly practical toolkit containing flow charts, clinical interview schedules, handouts and leaflets designed specifically for parents. It offers health professionals, students and trainees a much-needed multidisciplinary perspective on the psychosocial considerations of children and young people with gastrointestinal disorders and their families.

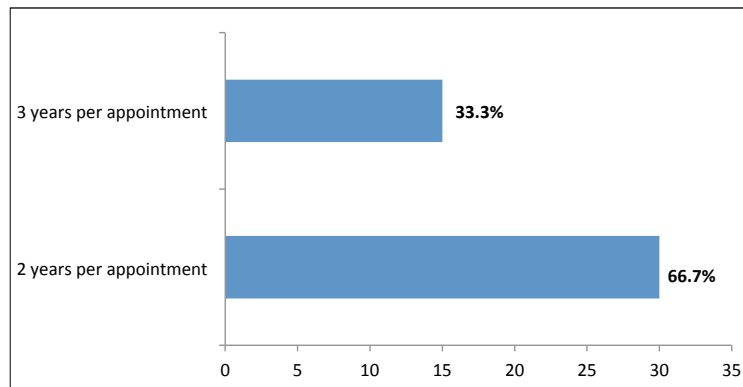
## RESULTS FROM OUR RECENTLY CIRCULATED SURVEY

The SIG membership was polled about their preferences for the term length, and option for extensions, for the appointed SIG board positions. The two following questions were posed to SIG members. We obtained a response rate of 50% (n = 45).

For the following PG-SIG board positions (At-Large Member, Clinical; At-Large Member, Research; At-Large Member, Education/ Training; Secretary; Membership Coordinator), please vote on your preference for term length:

2 years per appointment (66.7%; n = 30)

3 years per appointment (33.3%; n = 15)

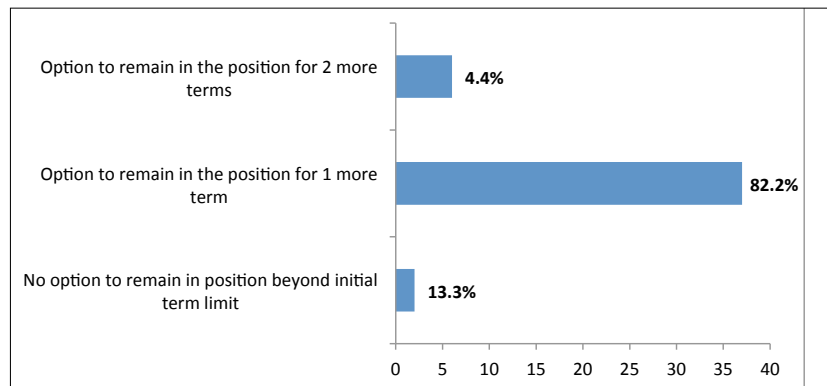


For all appointed board membership positions listed above, please indicate your vote regarding the possibility for extension of the chosen term limits (i.e., 2 or 3 years):

No option to remain in position beyond initial term limit (4.4%; n = 2)

Option to remain in the position for 1 more term (an additional 2-3 years) (82.2%; n = 37)

Option to remain in the position for 2 more terms (an additional 4-6 years) (13.3%; n = 6)



IN SUM, BASED ON MEMBERS' VOTING, THE PG-SIG APPOINTED BOARD POSITIONS WILL CARRY A TERM LIMIT OF 2 YEARS, WITH THE OPTION OF REMAINING IN THE POSITION FOR ONE ADDITIONAL TERM OF 2 YEARS, FOR A MAXIMUM TOTAL TERM OF 4 YEARS.

### LOOK FOR US!

We are pleased to announce that the PG-SIG has been featured in the Div54 Progress Notes Newsletter, July 2014 issue. This piece highlights the mission and goals of the PG-SIG, the current membership and board structure, the emphasis on training opportunities for psychology trainees interested in GI, and other SIG activities (e.g., website, listserv, Digest newsletter, and member highlights). Check it out!

<http://www.apadivisions.org/division-54/publications/newsletters/progress-notes/2014/07/index.aspx>

## Congratulations Ashley Debeljak!

The winner of the PG-SIG 2014 SPPAC Student Poster Award. Her poster was titled, "If you build it, will they come? Evaluating psychology referral patterns to improve utilization." Her faculty advisor and co-author was Katie Lamparyk, Psy.D.



## SIG MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

The PG-SIG has initiated a “Member Highlight” as part of our bi-annual Digest newsletters in order to showcase a student/trainee as well as a professional SIG member in their respective roles in the area of pediatric GI psychology. The following two individuals were randomly selected among the SIG membership and each submitted a short description of his or her current position, roles and responsibilities, and interests. Our hope is that the “Member Highlight” will give us the chance to get to know one another, professionally and personally, and set the stage for continued collaboration among SIG members. Thank you, Matt and Jill, for serving as our first highlights!

### MATT WASSOM, PHD



I received my PhD in Clinical Psychology with a specialty in Health and Rehabilitation from the University of Kansas in 2008. I then completed a fellowship in child psychology at Children’s Mercy Kansas City (CMKC) and joined their medical staff in 2009. My primary focus in my current role is clinical service. I am co-director of the Interdisciplinary Constipation and Incontinence Clinic within our Division of Gastroenterology. This clinic focuses on treatment of children with functional constipation and incontinence, many of whom have been treatment refractory with other medical or behavioral providers. I also specialize in the treatment of elimination disorders (toileting refusal, enuresis, and encopresis) within our behavioral pediatrics clinic in the Division of Developmental and Behavioral Sciences. I also see clinical cases of anxiety disorders and stress related physical conditions, and I conduct behavioral interventions and parent training for disruptive behavior issues. I have done some writing in the area of

functional constipation and incontinence and have a few research studies in the planning stages aimed at implementation of evidence-based treatment for functional constipation and incontinence. Another area of my professional activity includes training and teaching at CMKC and in the community. I am a primary supervisor for our psychology fellows, our developmental pediatrician fellowship, and I provide educational didactics to pediatric medical resident. I also have given numerous community talks on the topics of toilet training, elimination disorders, anxiety disorders and general parenting. Lastly, I am in my 3rd year of serving on the Children’s Mercy Institutional Review Board committee.

Away from work, I enjoy spending time with my wife and three children. My kids’ activities keep me busy much of the time and I especially enjoy coaching my two oldest boys’ soccer teams and helping out with Cub Scouts. I enjoy exercise – running/biking, playing soccer and golf, and training for mountaineering and hiking. My family and I also spend time going to games for our local soccer team, Sporting Kansas City, and supporting my alma mater, Kansas State University.

### JILL PLEVINSKY, MA



Jill is currently doctoral student in Dr. Rachel Greenley’s lab at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science in North Chicago, IL. Her interest in pediatric GI began with personal experience, and grew into her academic focus during her time at Tufts University while completing a Master’s degree in Child Development culminating in a thesis exploring health-related quality of life and social functioning in youth with inflammatory bowel disease after attending Camp Oasis and participating in a Facebook group. In addition to this work, Jill served as the founding co-chair of the Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation of America’s National Council of College Leaders. She also founded the Patient Advisory Council for ImproveCareNow (an international collaborative of pediatric GI providers focused on quality improvement in partnership with the Collaborative Chronic Care Network (C3N Project)) and now serves as a member of the Transition Research Committee. Currently, her research is focused on both the transition to adult care as well as risk behaviors in older adolescents and young adults with

inflammatory bowel disease, but she also has a passion for new technologies and patient engagement. You can find her on Twitter @jillplev tweeting about everything from healthcare social media to the latest concerts in Chicago!