Fall is already here, and we are taking this opportunity to reflect on the tremendous year for Duke GI. This has been another year of growth, and I am especially grateful for the contributions of our faculty and team members. We added six new faculty and four advanced practice providers. We welcomed the Durham Gastroenterology Consultants practice of Drs. Scott Brazer, Van Singletary and David Tendler. We acquired the Triangle Endoscopy Center in southern Durham and moved to a new, larger location for our endoscopy unit and clinic in Brier Creek. Our liver transplant team celebrated their most successful year ever in both volume and outcomes and added two more faculty members. Highlights from our research mission include the continued growth of the NAFLD program of Drs. Anna Mae Diehl and Manal Abdelmalek as well as a new program in GI outcomes led by Dr. Deborah Fisher at the Duke Clinical Research Institute. The Gastronauts, a group initiated by Drs. Rodger Liddle and Diego Bohorquez, has become a fantastic multi-disciplinary community of scientists interested in gut-brain biology. Their September symposium was an exciting day for the Duke community as we welcomed some of the leading scientists in the field. Our fellowship programs have continued to thrive with superb fellows, and we were fortunate to be able to expand our GI fellowship up to fifteen. We successfully renewed our T32 grant to support fellow research. I also want to sincerely thank the many alumni and friends of Duke GI for their incredible support of the Kilenberg-McLeod endowment. We have already seen benefits in the experience of our fellows. I want to especially thank Steve Schutz for his support and also his advice and willingness to reach out to other alumni. His gratitude for his training and desire to help the next generation has been especially encouraging and inspiring to me. I hope that all of our alumni will either visit us in Durham or come to the DDW reception and connect. Sincerely, Andrew

Thirty years at Duke for Dr. Joanne Wilson

Dr. Joanne Wilson, Professor of Medicine, recently celebrated her 30th anniversary at Duke. She has trained multiple generations of fellows, including the current Chief and Clinical Chief. Dr. Wilson maintains her practice in general gastroenterology disorders and inflammatory bowel disease and especially enjoys her time with the fellows on Duke consults and in clinic. Andrew Muir commented, “Her contributions to DukeGI are impossible to quantify. She was a trailblazer, and I feel that sense of history when I talk to Dr. Wilson. She continues to nurture, encourage and inspire trainees, staff and junior faculty.”
**Faculty spotlight: Manal Abdelmalek, MD MPH**

Dr. Manal Abdelmalek graduated from the University of Missouri-Kansas City and then completed her internal medicine residency and gastroenterology fellowship at the Mayo Clinic. She was on faculty at the University of Florida and was then recruited to Duke in 2006 by Dr. Anna Mae Diehl to build a clinical research program in nonalcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD). This program has grown tremendously and is an international leader with numerous clinical trials and translational research projects, including an R01 to evaluate fructose in NAFLD.

**What is a typical clinical week like for you?** I have liver clinic dedicated to the care of patient with NAFLD. Majority of my time is spent overseeing the NAFLD Clinical Research Program. I counsel patient on emerging therapies and ensure all safety oversight for study participants who enroll in clinical studies designed to evaluate new and novel therapies for NAFLD.

**What attracted you to NAFLD?** NAFLD is rising with the increases in obesity and diabetes. The mechanisms for NAFLD acquisition and progression were not well understood and there are no FDA approved treatments for NAFLD. NAFLD is a public health problem with great need for advancements.

**You trained at the Mayo Clinic with some of the leaders in hepatology. Who were your mentors and role models?** Dr. Keith Lindor took me under his wing as a resident and ignited my interest in liver disease and specifically in NAFLD. We reported the first case of NAFLD progressing to cirrhosis in 1995. This case report was paradigm shifting and led me down the path of performing the first investigator-initiated treatment study for NAFLD. Dr. Eileen Hay is a successful woman in hepatology who balanced career and family. She lent guidance and outstanding perspective for life-long success and happiness. Dr. Anna Mae Diehl opened my world to bigger and better opportunities to perform cutting-edge innovative research with world-class physicians and scientists.

**You have a tremendous work ethic. What motivates and drives you?**

What motivates me: the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of patients and potentially the lives patients cared for by providers everywhere. What drives me: a grateful patient who is able to attend a daughter’s wedding, see their children graduate, or be able to witness the birth of a grandchild when such joys would not have otherwise been foreseeable.

**What do you like to do outside the hospital?** Time with my family and children, reading bedtime stories, traveling, and piano.

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**A day in the life of DukeGI**

Under the leadership of Dr. John Geneczko, we have a regular photography contest with pictures taken on our phones. On September 21 2016, we submitted photos to document the day. It so happened it was the birthday of Rebecca Burbridge and one of our fellows, Yuval Patel.
News & Notes

**Carl Berg, MD** was awarded the Killenberg teaching Award from the Duke GI Fellows.

**Katie Garman, MD** received the 2015 Malcolm Tyor Award to support junior faculty research.

**Manal Abdelmalek, MD MPH** received the University of Florida College of Public Health and Health Professions Outstanding Alumni Award.

**Diego Bohorquez, PhD** received the Hartwell Individual Biomedical Research Award for his proposal, "Targeting a Gut Sensory Neurocircuit to Modulate Autism Spectrum Disorders."

**Rebecca Burbridge, MD** was selected for the ASGE Leadership Education and Development (LEAD) program.

**Deborah Fisher, MD MHS** was appointed Associate Director, Gastroenterology Research at the Duke Clinical Research Institute.

**Jane Onken, MD** was appointed to the Gastroenterology Specialty Board of the American Board of Internal Medicine.

**Ziad Gellad, MD MPH** was promoted to Associate Professor of Medicine

**Katie Garman, MD** was the co-chair of the 2016 AGA Women’s Leadership Conference.

**Diego Bohorquez, PhD & Amit Patel, MD** were accepted into the Department of Medicine Faculty Development Academy.

**Jill Moore, MD** was awarded the ICARE award from the Durham VA Medical Center.

**Manal F. Abdelmalek, MD, MPH** was elected to the Nominating Committee of the AGA Institute Council.

**Carla Brady, MD** was designated a fellow of the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases.

**Diego Bohorquez, PhD** received an award from the Dana Foundation for his proposal, "Illuminating a gut-brain neural path for sensory signaling and pathogens."

**Anna Mae Diehl, MD** received the 2016 Hans Popper Award in Vienna, Austria in September.

**Deborah Fisher, MD** was elected to the AGA Nominating Committee.

**Katie Garman, MD** was awarded the Greenfield Mentoring Award by the Department of Medicine.

**Jane Onken, MD** was named an associate editor of the MOC/Education section for Clinical Gastro and Hepatology.

**Ahmad Farooq, MD** was selected for the Robert J. Lefkowitz Society in the Duke Department of Medicine.

**Manal Abdelmalek, MD MPH** was designated a fellow of the American College of Gastroenterology.

In his recent GI Grand Rounds, Dr. Steve Choi presented the experience in the VA. The Durham VA GI clinic has posted impressive outcomes in HCV care. They update this sign in the clinic with each patient cured.

**Faculty Service Awards**

30 years
Joanne Wilson, MD

15 years
Steve Choi, MD
Michael Feiler, MD
Rahul Shimpi, MD

10 years
Manal Abdelmalek, MD MPH
Melissa Teitelman, MD MS
Faculty spotlight: Stan Branch, MD

What is a typical clinical day like for you? I am usually in Room 8 with several ERCPs or general GI procedures that need fluoroscopy or some therapeutic approach. It is an interesting mix of cases including urgent add-ons, a day trip from a regional hospital as well as scheduled cases. It is a bit of clinic and your routine outpatient endoscopy schedule with a dash of North consults and the occasional hike to the OR thrown in for good measure. I can honestly say it is rarely dull and believe it or not I really enjoy it this way.

GI along with the rest of medicine is going through major changes. How will the field be different 10 years from now? That is a great question which means I don’t know the answer. My best guess is we will still be in demand. Demographics and aging of America all suggest to me our present fellows will have plenty to do. It just may not be the same thing we are doing now. We won’t continue the shotgun approach to screening for CRC but will more selectively screen those who really need it. Some portion of colonoscopy will shift, similar to ERCP, to therapy. We’ll be performing more polypectomies. GI will follow to some degree the Roadmap to the Future outlined by the AGA but I’m sure there will be a detour as we have not been very good with the crystal ball. We’ll make headway with treating functional GI disorders and the needle will shift away from being so predominantly a procedurally driven field. Some form of value care will emerge and we are going to have to show what we do is valuable however that will be measured.

You are a close advisor to all the clinicians at Duke. What are the key things you tell new faculty to help them succeed? Don’t be the Lone Ranger. You will learn more your first two years on faculty than you did during your fellowship. Ask if you need help. I did (thanks by the way Dr. Wilson). Avoid an endoscopic complication your first year (you should always avoid but especially your first year).

@Duke_GI

https://medicine.duke.edu/divisions/gastroenterology