

## **Congratulations**

*on completing another year of training.*

### **Our Trainees**

**Veronica Mardo, MD** began the IGM clinical genetics residency program July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2005 and was named the Margaret Ellen Nielsen Fellow. She has completed her first year of training and will continue her clinical rotations for six more months before beginning a research project. Veronica's expected date of graduation is June 30, 2008.

**Teresa Martino, DO** entered the IGM combined MFM Fellowship/Medical genetics residency program in July of 2005. She has completed her first year of training and will graduate in 2010, with board eligibility in Maternal Fetal Medicine and Clinical Genetics.

**Maria Palmquist, MD** joined the 3-year IGM clinical genetic residency program in July of 2005; however, applied for and was accepted to the MFM Fellowship program earlier this year. Maria will become a Fellow in the combined MFM/Medical genetics program on July 1<sup>st</sup> 2006, and will complete her training in 2010. She too will graduate with board eligibility in both disciplines.

Both Maria and Teresa will spend the next 12 months in the department of Ob/Gyn.

**Reem Saadeh, MD** will soon be entering her 3<sup>rd</sup> year of training in the clinical genetics residency program. Her research mentor is Julie Hoover-Fong, MD. Her project title is: Recruitment of albino and developmentally delayed patients from the IGM database to identify the prevalence of Prader-Willi and Angelman syndrome in the albino population. Reem's expected date of graduation is August 30, 2007.

**Hilary Vernon, MD** joined the combined Pediatric/Medical genetics residency in July 2005. She is spending the first 18 months of her training in pediatrics. She commences her clinical genetics rotations in January 2007. Her expected date of graduation is June 30, 2010.

### **Our Future Trainees (so far):**

**Vinayak Kottoor, MD** is currently the Chief Resident in Pediatrics in the combined Internal Medicine/Pediatric Residency Program at St. Louis University Hospital. He has accepted a position in our clinical genetics residency training program starting July 2007.

**Regina Zambrano, MD** is completing her Pediatric Residency Training at LSU Health Sciences Center, New Orleans. She also accepted a position in our clinical genetic residency training program starting July 2007.

## **CONGRATULATIONS**

*To our 2006 graduate:*

### **Ronald Doron Cohn, MD**

*Board eligible Clinical Geneticist and Pediatrician*

Ron Cohn, MD was the first trainee to complete the 5- year combined Pediatric/Medical Genetics Training Program in the IGM. During his training he also participated in research under the mentorship of Dr. Hal Dietz where he studied the molecular basis of decreased muscle tone and mass in patients with Marfan syndrome. Ron's lists of accomplishments over the past 5 years have been many:

6/21/06 Harvard Medical School-Partners Health Care Center  
for Genetics and Genomics Inaugural Award in Medical Genetics

04/2006 Helen B. Taussig Award  
Johns Hopkins Young Investigators' Day

01/2006 Johns Hopkins Clinician Scientist Award

09/2005 Young Investigator Award  
7th International Symposium on Marfan syndrome, Ghent, Belgium

05/2005 Award for best postdoctoral research presentation  
2nd Annual Retreat of the McKusick-Nathans Institute of Genetic Medicine

06/2004 David M. Kamsler Award for Outstanding Compassionate and  
Expert Care of Pediatric Patients from: Johns Hopkins Children's Center  
Staff

To further his research in neuromuscular disorders, Ron will join the faculty of pediatrics, neurology and the McKusick-Nathans Institute of Genetic Medicine officially on July 1, 2006. He plans to start a Center for Hypotonia, the first clinic of its kind. This Center will provide these children and their families with resources for coordinated diagnostic and therapeutic services.

We are very happy that Ronni is not leaving us. His commitment and dedication to education, patient care and research is exemplary. He is a role model for all of us that work with him. We congratulate his accomplishments and look forward to the contributions he will make in the future as he becomes a leader in the field of genetic medicine.