

THE INNOVATOR

Optimizing Combat Casualty Care



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Vol. 9 No. 2

2nd Quarter 2021



Sgt. Maj. Larry D. White II (left) takes responsibility of the USAISR by accepting the unit colors from Col. (Dr.) Mark E. Stackle, USAISR Commander during a Change of Responsibility ceremony May 26.

USAISR welcomes new Senior Enlisted Leader

Story and photos by Dr. Steven Galvan
USAISR Public Affairs Officer

The U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research (USAISR) welcomed a new Senior Enlisted Leader during a change of responsibility ceremony May 25 as Sgt. Maj. Jennifer A. Francis relinquished responsibility of the unit to Sgt. Maj. Larry D. White II.

"I am excited to be a member of the team and look forward to utilizing my experience, knowledge and life-

long learning attributes to add to the efficiency of an already stellar organization," said White. "As the world's premier research organization, the ISR has a history of innovation and cutting-edge discoveries. I am humbled to now be a part of that amazing history."

Col. (Dr.) Mark E. Stackle, USAISR Commander hosted the ceremony to bid farewell to Francis and welcome White.

"Sgt. Maj. Francis joined the ISR

SGM Continues on Page 7

CDR's Corner



Col. Mark E. Stackle, MD
Commander

"Optimizing Combat Casualty Care"

Team ISR,

I hope everyone is having a safe and pleasant summer thus far. The last few months have been marked by a series of transitions. For one, the COVID infection rate has gone down across our country and local area, while vaccination rates have steadily increased providing broader protection from the virus than we have enjoyed in over a year. People have begun to resume many of their typical activities and resumed dormant social connections with family and friends. Mask wearing among fully vaccinated individuals has become optional in most circumstances. We must continue to remain vigilant, however, as additional COVID variants emerge and threaten to be more infectious and more deadly than prior strains. Because of the malleable nature of this coronavirus, I encourage everyone who has not yet received the vaccine to do so and to continue wearing masks as a method of protection until 14 days after your vaccination series is complete.

As a result of the significant improvements we have made on the COVID front, we are finally able to accelerate our return to working with in the USAISR facilities and improve our ability to accomplish our combat casualty care research mission. We have remained cautious over the past several months to ensure that our transition back into the building has been done deliberately and safely. As a result, we have not any incidents of COVID transmission in the work place during that time. As always, however, we will continue to monitor the situation carefully and remain prepared to make any adjustments as conditions around us evolve.

Another major transition for the USAISR occurred on May 25 when we bade farewell to SGM Jennifer Francis and had the opportunity to thank her for her tremendous service to the organization during the Change of Responsibility Ceremony. We also welcomed our newest senior leader, SGM Larry White, as he took the reins as the new Senior Enlisted Advisor for the unit. SGM White has hit the ground running and his infectious enthusiasm and engaged leadership have already made a positive impact on all of us.

A final important leadership transition took place at the end of June when the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command Commanding General, MG Michael Talley, relinquished command to BG Anthony "Tony" McQueen during a Change of Command ceremony June 22. SGM White and I had the privilege of attending the ceremony and look forward to working with BG McQueen. His command philosophy is one that should resonate with all of us: Live the Army Values and incorporate them into how you conduct yourself at all times. He also highlighted the importance of Team, Trust, and Transparency (T3) as goals we must all aspire to. BG McQueen has already begun planning for his first trip to visit the

USAISR to see first-hand what tremendous people we have working here.

This summer has been marked by a series of important transitions, including the arrival and departure of many of our teammates. As people depart this summer, please take the time to thank them for all they have contributed here. And, as you meet the newest members of the team, please make sure to welcome them warmly to the ISR family.

I'll conclude by expressing my deepest admiration for all of you as you have weathered one of the most challenging periods in our history and have continued to accomplish our important mission while taking great care of each other. It is an honor to work alongside you and I look forward to another great year going forward.

Col. Mark Stackle, MD
USAISR Commander

"Forge the Future"

THE INNOVATOR

Vol. 9 No. 2

Col. Mark E. Stackle, MD
Commander

Sgt. Maj. Larry D. White II
Senior Enlisted Leader

Steven Galvan, D.B.A.
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Maj. Gen. Talley's Last Visit as USAMRDC CG

Maj. Gen. Michael J. Talley, Commander, U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command made his last visit to the USAISR June 2. While at the Institute, Maj. Gen. Talley met with the leadership and hosted a Town Hall where he updated the staff on the latest news concerning USAMRDC and its subordinate labs. On June 22, Brig.

Gen. Anthony L. McQueen took command of USAMRDC during a Change of Command ceremony at Fort Detrick, Maryland, which was officiated by Gen. John M. Murray, Commanding General of the U.S. Army Futures Command.



Top left: Sgt. Maj. Larry White welcomes Maj. Gen. Michael Talley to the USAISR on June 2 after USAISR Commander, Col. (Dr.) Mark Stackle introduced them.

Top right: Maj. Gen. Michael Talley meets with the Institute's leaders to start off his visit.

Center left: Maj. Gen. Michael Talley presents Maj. (Dr.) Thomas Mitchell with a command coin of excellence for his recent deployment.

Center right: Maj. Gen. Michael Talley describes his views on future combat casualty care research.

Bottom left: Maj. Gen. Michael Talley hosted a Town Hall to update USAISR staff on the latest news from Headquarters and answer questions from the staff.

USAISR welcomes SFC Furst as first career counselor

Story and photo by Dr. Steven Galvan
USAISR Public Affairs Officer

Army career counselors play a vital role in ensuring the Army has the number of Soldiers needed to meet the mission. Since its inception, the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research has supported the Army's end strength without a dedicated staff career counselor. But all that changed in February when Sgt. 1st Class Jerry P. Furst reported for duty at the USAISR as the Institute's first career counselor.

As part of his duties, Furst will conduct retention interviews, determine Soldiers' eligibility to reenlist or extend their enlistment – to include options and bonuses – and assist the USAISR commander and company commander with sustaining the Army's readiness posture and achieving their retention mission.

"I will also advise the commanders on all matters relating to the Army Retention Program," said Furst. "As well as briefing leaders, Soldiers and their families on matters relating to retention and reclassification actions."

Sgt. Maj. Larry D. White II, USAISR Senior Enlisted Leader said that the USAISR will benefit from having a career counselor because Soldiers will get the opportunity to have a subject matter expert to assist them when looking to further their military careers.

"Sgt. First Class Furst is someone who can fight for Soldiers on assignments, schools and provide them with the information they need in order to get what's best for their professional careers and their families," White said.

Furst brings a personal perspective to his job while assisting Soldiers and their families with their career decisions. His initial military occupational specialty, or MOS, when he enlisted in the Army 13 years ago was petroleum



Sgt. 1st Class Jerry P. Furst reported for duty at the USAISR on February 2021 as the Institute's first career counselor.

specialist. He said after a few years he lost interest in what he was doing and needed a change of pace.

"While sitting with my career counselor she asked if I ever thought about doing what she does," added Furst. "At that time I thought it was an additional duty not an MOS. She went on to explain what she does and after about an hour I was sold--hook, line and sinker."

Furst added that he is very passion-

ate about what he does and that he is in the business of customer service and Soldiers are his priority. He also feels that building a relationship with everyone in the organization is crucial.

"I cannot be an effective career counselor if I do not know my Soldiers," he said. "Soldiers who interact with me quickly see that I take my job very serious as I have a huge influence on their career decisions. Soldiers can expect that I will always have their best interest on the forefront, whether they plan to stay in the Army, reclassify or ETS [expiration term of service] I will be there to assist them along the way."

According to White, he will work closely with Furst to ensure that he is informed on all the updates and that the information is getting out to the Soldiers in the unit. White will also



FURST Continues on Page 17

James in charge of Army Burn Flight Team

Story and photo by Dr. Steven Galvan
USAISR Public Affairs Officer

The U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research Burn Center Burn Flight Team is a unique, one-of-a-kind specialized team that has provided worldwide assessment, evaluation, and treatment of burn casualties – both in combat and non-combat-related events – since 1951. The BFT consists of a burn surgeon, a critical care registered nurse, a respiratory therapist and an operations non-commissioned officer that has conducted almost 100 overseas missions since 2003 and can deploy globally within 12 hours to provide in-flight care for both military and civilian patients.

Two teams are on constant standby and ready to deploy when called upon. Historically, the BFT is led by a team member, usually the surgeon (chief medical officer/CMO) or nurse (chief nursing officer/CNO), to lead the team.

Maj. Jacob P. James, a critical care registered nurse at the USAISR Burn Center's Intensive Care Unit, is the latest BFT member selected Team's CNO. James' selection as CNO was determined by current BFT members and Dr. Leopold Cancio, Burn Center director and former BFT member.

"This is a position that I actively pursued," said James. "I am fortunate to have been assigned to several positions where I have flown patients CONUS [contiguous United States] and in deployed settings."

As the CNO, James will establish training for BFT members and coordinate training events for the BFT to participate in, as well as maintaining all administrative areas associated with the Team.

"There are several items to accomplish, but the main piece would be to seek training opportunities the BFT can participate in with the forces, both



Maj. Jacob P. James, a critical care registered nurse at the Burn Center's Intensive Care Unit, is the latest Burn Flight Team member selected Team's Chief Nursing Officer.

Army and sister-services," he said.

James' tenure at the USAISR began in July 2019, and he has since deployed to Somalia in support of Special Operations Task Force - East Africa with an Expeditionary Resuscitative Surgical Team 5 from September 2019 to February 2020. His Army nursing career started eleven years ago at Darnall Army Medical Center at Fort Hood, Texas, as a medical-surgical nurse. He said he feels like nursing chose him to pursue the profession.

"This is a position that I actively pursued. I am fortunate to have been assigned to several positions where I have flown patients CONUS [contiguous United States] and in deployed settings."

Maj. Jacob P. James
Burn Flight Team
Chief Nursing Officer

"As an infantryman with the 1st Cavalry Division in Baghdad from 2004-2005, I was not very keen on being shot at, as well as experiencing countless indirect fire and improvised explosive devices," he said. "However, I was certain if I were injured and the medic got to me, I would survive. That certainty fueled my strength and morale, allowing me to continue my mission with confidence. This is the feeling I strive to exude, not only on the individual service members, but the combatant commanders as they are the ones who assume mission risk."

James has also deployed as an En-route Critical Care Nurse with the 1st Armored Division in Baghdad from 2015-2016. The three deployments while in the Army have not slowed him down or hindered his personal goals. James just learned that he was accepted to the Virginia Common

JAMES Continues on Page 17

USAISR Holds Military Spouses' Day to Highlight Combat Casualty Care Research, Burn Care

A Military Spouses' Day was held May 7 to give the spouses of military staff members a firsthand opportunity to see how their significant others help support combat casualty care research and provide the best medical care at the only U.S. Department of Defense burn center.

Top right: Col. (Dr.) Mark Stackle welcomes the spouses to the Institute and provides a command overview.

Center right: Sgt. 1st Class Dakota Wingerter describes the equipment used during Burn Flight Team missions.

Top left: Mrs. Melinda Stackle, the Institute Commander's wife welcomes the military spouses. Melinda teamed with Maj. (Dr.) Laura Riddle, the Chief of the Veterinarian Support Group, to coordinate the event.

Bottom left: Anya Kuylen, welcomes the spouses to the Burn Center and gives an overview of the Progressive Care Unit (4 East).

Bottom right: Sgt. Ronald Floyd gives details of the Blood Bank and blood products used in combat casualty care research.



SGM Continued from Page 1

Team in the middle of the COVID pandemic, but she didn't let that stop her from transforming the quality of Soldier training in the unit," said Stackle during his remarks. "As a result of her leadership, the Soldiers of the ISR got back to doing our Warrior Task Training, returned to the range, and Soldiers started attending key developmental schools again."

Francis departs the USAISR to serve on the staff of the Army's Surgeon General in Falls Church, Virginia.

"This year has been a remarkable one," said Francis. "The memories, the people and mission successes alone make the command team look fantastic!"

"It has been an honor to serve as the ISR's Sergeant Major. I am proud of all our people who execute their duties here and around the globe, and are always ready to launch and deploy the Army's only Burn Flight Team," she added.

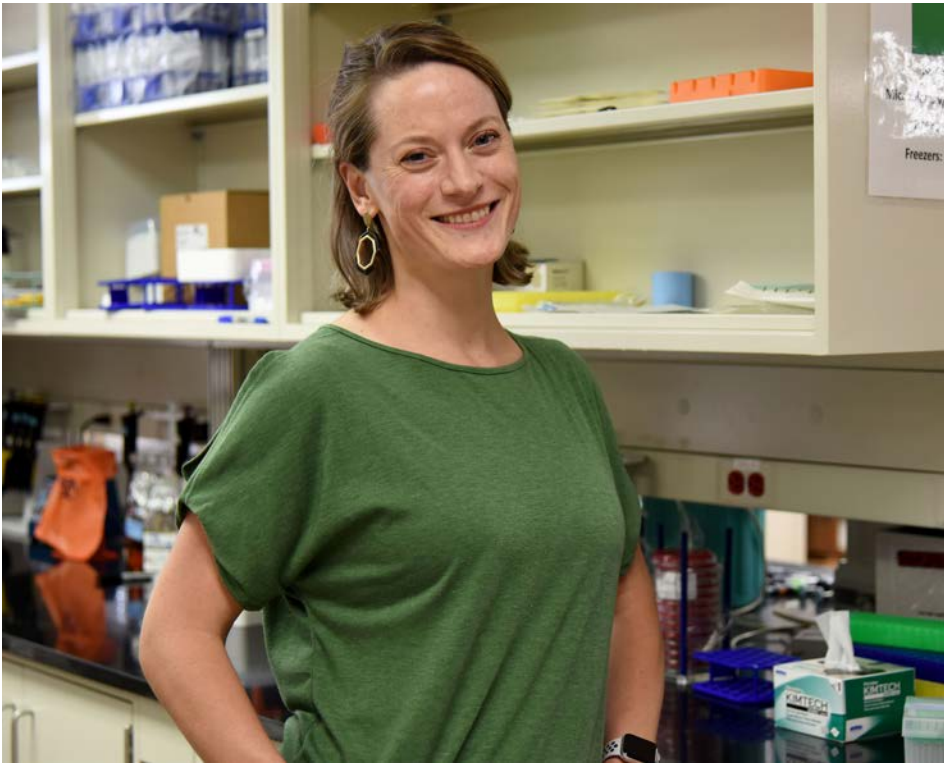
Stackle ended his remarks by welcoming White to the ISR, whose previous assignment was the Operations Sergeant Major at the Medical Center of Excellence at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston.

"Sergeant Major White, I know that all of us will benefit from your vast experience as a seasoned non-commissioned offer," he said. "We have an impressive team of Soldiers, Civilians and Contractors here. I know all of us are looking forward to availing ourselves of your wisdom and leadership as the two of us work together to ensure the ISR remains the military's premier Burn Center and combat casualty care research institute."

Top right: Sgt. Maj. Larry White provides remarks during the Change of Responsibility ceremony.
Center right: Sgt. Maj. Larry White reports to the Institute Commander and announces the end of the Change of Responsibility ceremony.
Bottom right: Sgt. Maj. Larry White and his wife Janice.



USAISR scientist invited to be 'Featured Author' in prestigious science journal



Stefanie Shiels, Ph.D., a research scientist accepted an invitation to be a featured author in the Bone & Joint Research Journal

Story and photo by Dr. Steven Galvan
USAISR Public Affairs Officer

Scientists at the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research submit their combat casualty care research manuscripts for publication in scientific journals pertaining to their research focus areas. The goal for scientists at the USAISR, as well as scientists throughout the world, is to have their research published in the most prestigious scientific journals to get visibility among other researchers in their field working on similar topics. The editors of a prominent journal invited a scientist at the USAISR in April to be a “featured author” to highlight her current research.

Stefanie Shiels, Ph.D., a research scientist whose research focuses on combat wounds accepted an invitation to be a featured author in the Bone & Joint Research Journal, which is devoted completely to publishing research

related to disorders of the musculoskeletal system and their treatment.

“I was surprised! I had to read the email a few times to fully grasp the opportunity,” said Shiels. “I keep thinking that I’m new to the field of musculoskeletal infection, so this invitation to be a featured author gives me some affirmation that I’m making a name for myself.”

According to Shiels, the article to

I was surprised! I had to read the email a few times to fully grasp the opportunity,” said Shiels. “I keep thinking that I’m new to the field of musculoskeletal infection, so this invitation to be a featured author gives me some affirmation that I’m making a name for myself.”

**Stefanie Shiels, Ph.D.
Research Scientist**

be featured, titled: “Negative Pressure Wound Therapy Does Not Diminish Efficacy of Topical Antibiotic Powder in a Preclinical Contaminated Wound Model: A Proof of Concept,” provides information in regards to combining two wound management techniques, local antibiotics and negative pressure. She said that these techniques, on their own, are useful therapies for acute wound care but their use together has never been evaluated.

Shiels currently works with the USAISR Combat Casualty Care Research Team 4—Combat Wound Care. She has been at the Institute for almost nine years—first, as a postdoctoral researcher (or postdoc), then as a staff scientist, then followed by contract research scientist. In June, she completed her first year as a Department of the Army civilian research scientist.

“I have a few reasons why I chose this line of research,” she said. “First, I truly enjoy research; the methodical process of discovery with underlying tones of creativity. Second, both my grandfather and father are combat wounded veterans. My father was brought right here to the old BAMC [Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio]. Their stories often gave me appreciation not only for the medical care they received, but the people in the background who investigated the techniques.”

Shiels added that she has made some difficult choices in her career path. She initially wanted to become a surgeon, but after a summer research opportunity, she decided that her true calling was research.

“With that, I was still drawn to the medical and surgical fields which is when I was introduced to biomedical engineering,” said Shiels. Biomedical Engineering, in my eyes, is the perfect culmination of research, discovery and medicine.”

USAISR Video to be Featured at Experimental Biology 2022

Several ISR staff participated in a video shoot May 26 for a video to be featured at the Experimental Biology 2022 conference scheduled for April in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The video was shot by a local video production company and will be edited by WebsEdge, a global video company specializing in conference videos. The video will feature 10 interviews in the research labs and Burn Center along with supporting video at both locations.



Colby McIntosh and Joseph Ardion, Biomedical Research Technicians



Eliza Sebastian, Research Technician



Kristin Cardenas, Staff Scientist



Col. (Dr.) Andre Cap, Research Director

Safety Notes

By Stephanie L. Truss
Health, Safety and Environmental Manager



June was National Safety Month this years' weekly themes were:

- Week 1 - Prevent Incidents Before They Start
- Week 2 - Address Ongoing COVID-19 Safety Concerns
- Week 3 - It's Vital to Feel Safe on the Job
- Week 4 - Advance Your Safety Journey

Each week was focused on safety tips, policy reviews through quizzes, cross-roads and collective group chats.

- The Safety Office would like to thank everyone for your valued support and participation that you provide all year.
- Safety is everyone's responsibility.
- Employers must provide a safe work environment, as well as the financial support, management oversight, PPE, tools and training workers.
- Employees need comply with the safety measures (administrative, engineering, PPE) to do their jobs safely. Both management and workers need to do their part to make safety a personal priority.

Together, these elements are part of a greater safety management system – one which aims to continuously identify hazards and reduce risks to an acceptable level, thus lessening the likelihood of an incident occurring on the job. This system is particularly important as employees return to traditional (but will they ever really be traditional) work environments and schedules in a post-quarantine world.

Health News

By Maria G. Dominguez, R.N.
COHN-S/CM
Occupational Health Nurse



After a challenging pandemic year, how about a WELLNESS Challenge! Let's think wellness. Are you READY? Right here, right now! The JBSA Wellness Center has great opportunities.
<https://www.jbsa.mil/Resources/Resiliency/JBSAArmyWellnessCenterServices/>

- The Army Wellness Center (AWC) classes are scheduled throughout the month, Monday through Thursday during work hours.
 - All AWC services are free of charge for active duty military and their dependents, Tricare retired veterans, and GS Civilians.
 - Scheduling for AWC services is done through CHCS similar to how you would book with your PCM so they are medical appointments, with that said a No-Show appointment do get reported to command for active duty.
- Scheduling of these services are done through the appointment line at 210-539-1254.
 - Programs include Pregnancy and Post-Partum programs to serve pregnant and post-partum Service Members of all branches in themMilitary.

So as the COVID numbers wind down and the vaccine numbers increase, the wellbeing of our workforce continues to be identified as a priority for leadership and occupational health professionals.

We continue to read headlines: "Unvaccinated Americans are at risk of a possibly more dangerous Covid-19 variant". "A coronavirus outbreak hit a Florida government building. Two people are dead but a vaccinated employee wasn't infected" The need to better ensure the safety and health of workers has become the topic of a national conversation. Vaccines are now readily available for all of us.

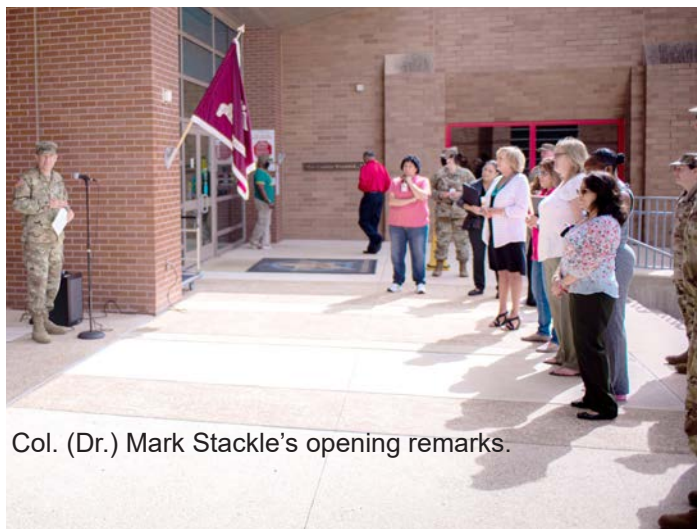
Stay safe and enjoy your summer!

National Safety Month Close Out Ceremony

June was National Safety Month and the USAISR Safety Office promoted the month with various quizzes, games, prizes and safety reminders. On June 29, a closing ceremony was held to recognize the weekly winners and to have a drawing for additional prizes. Congratulations to Col. (Dr.) Mark Stackle, Col. (Dr.) Kenneth Wells, Lt. Col. (Dr.) Krystal Bean, Staff Sgt. Sean McGinnis, Monica Jalomo and Jose Rodriguez on winning the prize drawings. Stephanie Truss, the USAISR Health, Safety and Environmental Manager also recognized Sabrina Snyder, Spc. Julie Hale, Sgt. Jeffrey Augustin, Carol Nail and Karen Houseton who were not present at the ceremony. The ceremony was kicked off with opening remarks from Col. Stackle who gave his prize to Spc. Nikolas Henderson.

Remember, June is National Safety Month, but safety is a yearlong observance.

Photos by Staff Sgt. Bart Taylor



Col. (Dr.) Mark Stackle's opening remarks.



Staff Sgt. Sean McGinnis



Lt. Col. (Dr.) Krystal Bean



Col. (Dr.) Mark Stackle gives his prize to Spc. Nikolas Henderson



Jose Rodriguez

Promotions/Reenlistments



Lt. Col. Kristian Mrocenko gets his new rank pinned on by his parents at his promotion ceremony June 16.



Staff Sgt. Rebecca Hummer, right, is administered the Oath of Reenlistment by USAISR Commander, Col. (Dr.) Mark Stackle during her reenlistment ceremony May 4 in front of the Alamo.

Promotions

Lt. Col. Kristian Mrocenko
Staff Sgt. Melissa Valencia
Sgt. Myquail Watts
Spc. Zahra Nurudeen
Pfc. Jacqueline Brown

Reenlistments

Staff Sgt. Laith Edinger
Staff Sgt. Stephen Freed
Staff Sgt. Rebecca Hummer
Sgt. Ronald Floyd

NCO/Soldier of the Month

NCO of the Month
May
Sgt. Jason Blum

NCO of the Month
June
Sgt. Alfredo Ramirez

Around the ISR



Top: Maj. Gen. Dennis P. LeMaster, US Army Medical Center of Excellence and Chief, Medical Service Corps operates the Microsoft HoloLens system which provides an augmented reality display that can potentially help medical providers to manage critical care patients without the need to interact with any handheld devices. Maj. Gen. LeMaster visited the Institute for a tour of the research labs June 10.

Center left: Jose Salinas, Ph.D., right, explains the research on intelligent tourniquets to Brig. Gen. Katherine Simonson, Deputy Assistant Director, Research and Development (J-9), Defense Health Agency and Cdr. Tatana Olson, Acting J-9 Chief of Staff, DHA during their visit May 27.

Bottom left: Col. (Dr.) Andre Cap, provides an overview of current combat casualty care research efforts April 27 to leaders from the Army Capabilities Development and Integration Directorate.



Bottom right: Alisa Leon, right, describes the use of a magnetic resonance imaging June 9 to a group of visitors from the City of San Antonio, the San Antonio Economic Development Foundation, BioMed SA and Cooley LLP.



Spring Basket Auction



The Special Events Committee held a fundraiser with an online auction of Spring Baskets donated from several divisions throughout the Institute. The event culminated with the announcement of the auction winners and the winner of the best basket donated during an ice cream social May 7. The funds raised during the auction will be used toward morale events for all of the hardworking staff at the Institute.

Top left: Lt. Col. (Dr.) Krystal Bean hands out ice cream and fruit bars before announcing the winners of the Spring Basket Auction.

Top right: Spring baskets were on display a few weeks in the lobby for staff members to view and make online bids.

Center left: Lt. Col. (Dr.) Krystal Bean reveals the winners of the Spring Basket Auction during an ice cream social May 7.

Bottom right: Col. (Dr.) Mark Stackle presents Maj. (Dr.) Laura Riddle with a "championship belt" and bragging rights to Veterinary Support Group for donating the best basket to the Spring Basket Auction.



Celebrating Science

In this section we endeavor to celebrate the dissemination of generalizable knowledge in the form of manuscripts, posters, presentations and abstracts. One of our core missions is translation of knowledge gained through pre-clinical and clinical experiments in an effort to optimize combat casualty care. It is important to acknowledge and recognize the collective work of our investigators during this process. Hence, we plan on “celebrating science” on a regular basis.

Manuscripts submitted for publication: 16
Submitted to:
Military Health System Research Symposium 2020 Supplement
Cellular Immunology Journal
American Journal of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
Journal of Special Operations Medicine
World Neurosurgery Journal
Wound Repair & Regeneration Journal
Journal of Trauma & Acute Care Surgery
Physiology Journal
Shock Journal
European Burn Journal

Abstracts: 18
To be presented at:
2021 Military Health System Research Symposium
2021 American Association of Blood Banks
Difficult Airway Society
2021 San Antonio Universities Research Forum
American Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference 2022
34th Annual American Burn Association
Southern Regional Burn Conference
Shock Conference
American Association for Laboratory Animal Science

Posters: 17
To be presented at:
2021 Special Operations Medical Scientific Assembly
2021 Experimental Biology Conference
2021 Military Health System Research Symposium
2021 International Society for Cell & Gene Therapy Annual Meeting
2021 San Antonio Military Health System Universities and Research Forum
2021 San Antonio Universities Forum

Presentations: 22
To be presented at:
2021 Military Health System Research Symposium
2021 San Antonio Universities Research Forum
2021 George E. Omer, Jr. Research Symposium & Alumni Lectureship
Rocky Mountain College Doctor of Occupational Therapy Program
2021 Experimental Biology Conference
University of Texas System Summit
Trauma Research Think Tank
Special Operations Medicine Scientific Assembly
8th Pan-Pacific Trauma Congress 2021 Korea

Videos: 1
Submitted to:
Brooke Army Medical Center Clinical Investigation Research Training Meeting

Pre-Course Assignments: 1
Submitted to:
Junior Leaders Course

USAISR Observes Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month



Col. (Dr.) Mark Stackle with opening remarks during Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month closing ceremony.

The month of April was Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month (SAAPM) which was observed throughout the month at the USAISR with several online and activities sponsored by the USAISR Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention (SHARP) Team. This year's theme was "Building Cohesive Teams through Character, Trust & Resilience. Protecting Our People Protects Our Mission." This theme builds on the concept of promoting an environment of mutual trust where leaders and Soldiers are committed to upholding the safety, respect and dignity of every team member. The trust between our leaders and Soldiers is what allows cohesive teams to grow, improve unit readiness, eliminate negative behaviors and prevent sexual harassment and sexual assault. The SHARP Team held a closing ceremony April 28 to remind the staff that sexual assault and prevention is an every day endeavour and to recognize the winners of the activities during the month.



Capt. Matthew Young



Staff Sgt. Alexander Pee



Lt. Col. (Dr.) Krystal Bean



Kristine Chafin

FURST Continued from Page 4

ensure Furst provides full transparency to ensure the Institute meets its mission and – most importantly – that Soldiers get what they need to continue to serve our country.

“We need to retain the best soldiers in our organization if we want to remain the leading research institute in the Department of Defense,” said White. “This Institute has some outstanding Soldiers with a mission that is of the utmost importance in advancement in support of the Warfighter. The career counselor provides us with the latest updates and information on what’s available and the benefits Sol-

“Sgt. First Class Furst is someone who can fight for Soldiers on assignments, schools and provide them with the information they need in order to get what’s best for their professional careers and their families.”

Sgt. Maj. Larry D. White II
USAISR Senior Enlisted Leader

diers and their families can receive by continuing to serve their country.”

Furst said that his goal is to build a Retention Program built on trust. He plans to create an environment where Soldiers can come and talk about life,

not just retention. He feels the better he knows each Soldier and their personal desires, strengths, and weaknesses, the better he will be at providing effective counseling.

“Career counselor is my job title, but it does not start there,” added Furst. “I am a Soldier first. I must continue to maintain my Army Warrior Tasks like every other Soldier. I am a non-commissioned officer second, which means I have a responsibility to provide inspiration, purpose, motivation, direction and discipline to our Soldiers. Lastly, I am a Career Counselor. To be the best Career Counselor I can be I must remember who I am first.”

JAMES Continued from Page 5

Wealth’s Doctorate of Nursing Anesthesia Practice Program. When asked how he feels about serving as the BFT CNO.

Said James: “I feel humbled to have been allowed to serve as the Burn Flight Team CNO. The team is multi-disciplinary and we are blessed with great members who are eager to learn as well as continue to serve. This position will allow me to continue to provide care to our patients and satisfy my ardor for flight medicine.”



Maj. Jacob P. James, a critical care registered nurse at the Burn Center’s Intensive Care Unit, is the latest Burn Flight Team member selected Team’s Chief Nursing Officer. Maj. James with his wife Amanda and daughters Adelyn and Perry.

Photo provided by Maj. James.



In the Spotlight

Eric C. Force

Job title: Burn Intensive Care Unit Registered Nurse

How long have you worked at the ISR? One year as a civilian and 5 years as an active duty Army Licensed Vocational Nurse.

What or who has been an inspiration to you in your work? My fellow co-workers/multi-disciplinary team

members fuel my continued efforts to improve unit cohesion/productivity/evidence based practice. I also value many interactions with educators both in the

military and civilian sector. One particular educator (Maj. Galey) in my LVN course through the military had significant influence over my perspective on nursing and drive for continuing education.

What is your favorite part of your work? I particularly enjoy the learning environment in the BICU. It is rare to have a 12-hour shift in which I have not learned either a new skill, disease process, mechanism of action or troubleshooting technique.

What is your proudest achievement? My favorite quote below defines my proudest achievement. I was once told by a wrestling coach, that if you're going to do something, do it right. I feel that this mantra has driven me to complete tasks related to any aspect of my life to the best of my ability, the pursuit of this is how I define my proudest achievement.

Short- and long-term goals: Short term goals: Pre-requisite completions, acceptance into Army Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists program. Long term goals: Practicing CRNA with dual job role as a university educator.

Hobbies: Functional fitness, active lifestyle, bicycle rides with wife and son, painting/drawing/graphic art design.

Favorite book: *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury.

Favorite movie/TV show: Movie: *Man of Steel*; TV Show: *The Expanse*

Favorite quote: "Character is the ability to follow through with resolutions long after the spirit in which they are made has past." – Anonymous



Successful Site Visit

The Animal Care and Use Review Office, a component of the US Army Medical Research and Development Command Office of Research Protections, conducted a site assistance visit April 27-28. Col. Dawn Fitzhugh, Director of ACURO, and Lt. Col. Joe Royal, ACURO Consultant, performed a comprehensive review of the ISR research program. They reviewed protocols, SOPs, and other regulatory documents to ensure compliance with all laws and DoD requirements. Upon completion of the visit, Fitzhugh and Royal provided feedback to help us continue to perform world-class research to optimize combat casualty care and stated that this was the best facility either of them had ever visited.



Col. (Dr.) Mark Stackle, left, and Sgt. Maj. Jennifer Francis, far right, pose with Lt. Col. Joe Royal and Col. Dawn Fitzhugh after Col. Stackle presented them with a command coin of excellence.