Ira M. Bernstein, M.D.  *John Van Sicklen Maeck Professor and Chair*

Dr. Bernstein’s interest is in whole body physiology, specifically, understanding the predisposing conditions that contribute to the development of fetal growth abnormalities and preeclampsia. This has included examination of maternal blood volume, vascular tone and compliance, regional blood flow, intermediary metabolism and their determinants. He is also interested in normal and abnormal growth characteristics as defined by ultrasound including fetal body composition and fetal growth modeling as well as the influence of maternal cigarette smoking on these growth variables.

Brigitte Barrette, M.D.  *Assistant Professor*

Dr. Barrette’s main clinical and research interests are pre-invasive cancers of the lower gynecologic tract. Her interest also includes benign vulvar conditions. She is a NAMS (North American Menopause Society) certified member and is passionate about peri and post menopausal health issues. Her extensive experience in gynecologic cancer survivorship and oncology at the Mayo Clinic (over 20 years) has provided her a global knowledge and perspective of gynecologic cancers that affect both pre and post menopausal women including Gestational Trophoblastic Diseases. She is also interested in new health care delivery models. She enjoys teaching both medical students and residents.

Elizabeth Bonney, M.D., M.P.H.  *Professor and Division Director for Reproductive Science Research*

The overall goal of the Bonney laboratory is to determine if pregnancy changes the rules by which the immune system is regulated. The recent focus of her laboratory has been the regulation of T cell homeostasis during pregnancy and the particular role of cytokines such as interleukin 15, 7 and 10 and molecules such as Fas and Programmed Death 1. Further, she is interested in the role T cell homeostasis plays in resistance to preterm birth, persistent viral (lymphocytic choriomeningitis virus) infection in the placenta, the vascular biology of pregnancy, and the post-partum susceptibility to autoimmune disease. In addition, she seeks to determine the role of T cell homeostasis in adverse pregnancy in humans. With members of the Vermont Center for Immunology, she is also studying neonatal immunity to influenza. Her laboratory is adept with the use of animal models and basic techniques in immunology. Dr. Bonney has served as an ad hoc member on both the Human Embryology and the Cellular and Molecular Integrative Reproduction Study Sections and was a standing member of the Infectious Diseases, Reproductive Health, Asthma and Pulmonary Conditions Study Section. Dr. Bonney has participated in the training of several graduate students, residents, fellows and junior faculty. Her clinical interests include vulvar pain syndromes, vaginitis and sexually transmitted infections. She currently serves on the Infectious Disease Practice Committee and the University of Vermont College of Medicine Dean’s Advisory Committee on Diversity and Inclusion.

Lucia Brown, M.D.  *Assistant Professor*

Dr. Brown’s research is focused on epigenetic modifications that occur in the maternal vasculature in response to pregnancy in a mouse model. Other work relates to placenta methylation in a murine pregnancy loss model.
Stephen Brown, M.D.  Associate Professor  
Dr. Brown’s current research is focused on understanding epigenetic changes that occur during maternal vascular adaptation to pregnancy and how those changes persist during the postpartum period. Other projects in his lab have looked at epigenetic changes in blastocyst stage embryos that are subjected to in-vitro culture and at methylation abnormalities in a mouse model of pregnancy failure. Past projects have focused on the role of the ZIC2 gene in human brain malformation.

Adam Buckley, M.D.  Clinical Assistant Professor, Chief Information Officer for the University of Vermont Health Network  
Dr. Buckley’s primary research interests have been in medical education, the use of large patient databases, electronic medical records to enhance patient outcomes, and innovative ways to care for the obese parturient. His clinical interest is in gynecological ultrasound. Most recently, Dr. Buckley has become active in finding the ways in which information technology can be utilized to create and support an integrated healthcare delivery system.

Diane Charland, M.D.  Assistant Professor  
Dr. Charland has a particular interest in both pelvic and continence surgery. She is fellowship trained in advanced pelvic surgery as well as urogynecology. Her clinical practice is focused on urodynamic testing in association with vaginal and pelvic surgery.

Marilyn Cipolla, Ph.D.  Professor  
Dr. Cipolla’s research focuses on how both acute hypertension and ischemic injury affect the structure and function of the cerebral circulation, including control of blood flow, blood-brain barrier disruption and edema formation. Research interests include how pregnancy and hypertension in pregnancy affect the cerebral circulation as it relates to eclampsia and how reperfusion injury affects brain blood flow and vascular permeability.

Wendy Conway, M.D.  Assistant Professor  
Dr. Conway is one of the Hospitalists whose focus is general Obstetrics and Gynecology with an emphasis on inpatient obstetrics and emergent gynecological patients. She is very interested in teaching residents and students in the inpatient setting and has spent several years overseas as an active duty military physician. She has extensive experience working in both large and small medical facilities and is interested in the application of quality measures and processes to improve both medical teaching and patient outcomes.

Justin DeAngelis, M.D.  Assistant Professor  
Justin DeAngelis is a general OB/GYN with particular focus in obstetrics, family planning and medical education. He is interested in teaching all levels of trainees in clinical and classroom settings, and acting as an advocate and advisor to those hoping to pursue a career in education or OB/GYN.

Anne K. Dougherty, M.D., M.A.  Assistant Professor  
Dr. Dougherty has a strong interest in international women's health. She works with medical students and residents helping them to understand the global context of their work as clinicians and educators. She currently has projects in Uganda and Tanzania. While at home, Dr. Dougherty focuses on minimally invasive gynecological surgery including robotic assisted approaches.
Jennifer Dundee, M.D.  *Assistant Professor*

Dr. Dundee has a particular interest in the application of assisted reproduction technologies to unique populations. She also enjoys working with pediatric and adolescent reproductive endocrinology patients, particularly primary and secondary amenorrhea. Additionally, she performs minimally invasive surgeries to optimize fertility.

Elise Everett, M.D.  *Vice Chair of Education, Associate Professor, Clerkship Director*

Dr. Everett’s clinical interests are in neoadjuvant chemotherapy for gynecologic cancers. Surgically, Dr. Everett has extensive experience in robotic surgery for gynecologic malignancies and is interested in outcome and quality measures related to this new technology. Dr. Everett’s passion lies in medical education. She is interested in laparoscopic and robotic surgical curriculum development and simulation for resident surgeons. She is the Vice Chair of Education and is currently focusing on developing the vision, mission and values for education in the department and focusing on the learning environment. She is the ObGyn Medical Student Clerkship Director and is working on transitioning the clerkship from an outcomes based assessment to a competency based assessment using Entrustable Professional Activities. She is the Director for Career Mentoring in the department and loves helping students through the residency application process and pursue a career in ObGyn. Dr. Everett, is an active member of the Teaching Academy and engages in numerous educational research and scholarly projects. Nationally, Dr. Everett is a member of the Undergraduate Medical Education Committee (UMEC) of the Association of Professors in Gynecology and Obstetrics (APGO). She is the UMEC liaison to the Alliance for Clinical Education (ACE). Lastly, she is an abstract reviewer and presenter for APGO and CREOG.

Nathalie Feldman, M.D., C.M.  *Educational Assistant Professor and Associate Residency Director*

Dr. Feldman’s interests include resident and medical student education, educational research related to the teaching and learning of medical professionalism and the fostering of collaborative learning environments.

Joseph Findley, M.D.  *Assistant Professor*

Dr. Findley has a strong interest in the management of fibroids, endometriosis, and surgical techniques to maximize patient’s future fertility potential. He also enjoys working with fellows, residents, and medical students. His research interests include tissue specific estrogen action, estrogen receptor function/physiology, obesity, and PCOS.

Natalia Gokina, Ph.D.  *Associate Professor Emeritus*

Dr. Gokina’s primary research interest is in cardiovascular physiology, specifically, control of vascular smooth muscle and endothelial cell calcium and membrane potential during pregnancy, and in the signal transduction mechanisms underlying arterial reactivity. Current research in Dr. Gokina’s lab is focused on understanding cellular and molecular mechanisms of uteroplacental vascular dysfunction in diabetic pregnancy.

David Jones, M.D.  *Professor and Director, Fetal Diagnostic Center*

Dr. Jones is interested in the application of ultrasound technologies to detect abnormalities in the developing fetus. The interest has a focus in the first and second trimesters, but also includes the use of Doppler ultrasound to monitor the well-being of the fetus throughout gestation.

Bronwyn Kenny, M.D.  *Assistant Professor*

Bronwyn Kenny is a general obstetrician-gynecologist with a broad range of interests from minimally invasive gynecologic surgery to the management of substance abuse during pregnancy. She
also has a strong interest in both resident and medical student education and enjoys teaching in the clinical setting.

Lauren K. Macafee, M.D.  Assistant Professor

Dr. MacAfee’s primary area of focus is family planning and she is interested in improving access to both contraception and abortion using health services research. More specifically, her ongoing research seeks to better understand barriers to reproductive health care for women with substance use disorders. Dr. MacAfee is also active and interested in undergraduate and graduate medical education particularly around family planning.

Stephanie Mann, M.D.  Associate Professor, Residency Program Director

Dr. Mann's past research has focused on fetal physiology with a specific emphasis on molecular mechanisms of amniotic fluid regulation. Dr. Mann’s research at UVM is targeted toward understanding how perivascular adipose tissue impacts vascular contractility during pregnancy, with a specific emphasis on understanding how obesity impacts vascular function in pregnancy. Dr. Mann’s clinical interests include medical complications of pregnancy, clinical obstetrics, and in utero treatment of fetal anomalies. Dr. Mann is also interested in teaching innovations: embryology, clinical reasoning assessment, and the science of health care quality improvement.

Tracey S. Maurer, M.D.  Clinical Assistant Professor

Dr. Maurer’s primary interest is in chronic and hard to diagnose vulvovaginal diseases such as vaginitis, dermatitis, and vulvodynia. She performs vulvar, vaginal and minor gyn surgeries as needed. Interstitial cystitis/painful bladder syndrome and office management of incontinence and prolapse is also an interest of hers. Dr. Maurer works with residents and medical students in hands-on teaching in the clinic and operating room.

Elizabeth McGee, M.D.  Professor, Division Director and Fellowship Director for Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility

Dr. McGee’s NIH-funded research is translational ranging from bench science to patient care models. Her basic interests include 1) ovarian physiology and folliculogenesis, 2) signal transduction and hormonal function and 3) vulvovaginal mucosal biology. Her clinical and translational research is focused on the design of optimal care for special populations such as survivors of gynecologic and non-gynecologic cancer, women with complex menopausal problems and patients with polycystic ovarian disease. She serves as a mentor for a wide range of trainees including fellows, graduate students, residents, and medical students. She has active collaborations with investigators in menopause, estrogen function and providing accessible health care.

Kelley McLean, M.D.  Assistant Professor

Dr. McLean’s primary research interest is in coagulation parameters in pregnancy, with particular emphasis on thrombotic risk. She is currently involved in collaborative studies to better understand thrombotic risk in specific subsets of pregnant women (obese women, smokers, etc.). She hopes to expand her research to include studies of the fibrinolytic pathway, as well as more detailed biochemical studies of coagulation pathways, to better understand pregnancy and postpartum-related hematologic changes.
Marjorie C. Meyer, M.D.  Associate Professor, Division Director and Fellowship for Maternal Fetal Medicine.

Dr. Meyer’s interests are medical complications of pregnancy and substance abuse during pregnancy. She has research projects in areas including pain during childbirth, medical therapy and outcomes of treatment of substance abuse during pregnancy.

Erin Morris, M.D.  Assistant Professor

Dr. Morris’ primary research interests are maternal cardiovascular adaptation to pregnancy and preeclampsia. She is currently involved in a research project examining the degree to which pregnancy-induced cardiovascular changes persist postpartum. She is also the site coordinator for the Australian Placental Transfusion Study—an international multi-center randomized controlled trial of delayed cord clamping in preterm infants.

George Osol, Ph.D.  Professor and CVRI Distinguished Investigator

Dr. Osol’s research interest is in vascular adaptation during pregnancy, with a focus on understanding the cellular and molecular pathways and mechanisms that regulate maternal uterine vascular remodeling during normal vs. preeclampsia/hypertensive pregnancy. Most recent studies are focused on understanding the nature of communication between arteries and veins, and on the role of hemodynamic forces such as pressure/stretch, and fluid shear stress in shaping the remodeling process.

Julie Phillips, M.D.  Associate Professor

Dr. Phillips’ primary research interest is obesity and pregnancy, with particular emphasis on gestational weight gain, pregnancy complications related to obesity, and postpartum weight retention. A member of the Vermont Center on Behavior and Health an antenatal intervention to minimize gestational weight gain. She is also involved with collaborative projects evaluating food reinforcement and gestational weight gain as well as smoking cessation during pregnancy.

Rebecca M. Shaffer, M.D.  Assistant Professor

Dr. Shaffer is a Urogynecologist with expertise in Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery, including the treatment of pelvic organ prolapse and incontinence. She performs vaginal, laparoscopic, and robotic-assisted surgeries. Her primary research interests include educational research such as minimally-invasive surgical simulation and teaching for medical students and residents. She has also performed basic science research on the effects of synthetic mesh on vaginal and pelvic tissues.

George Till, M.D.  Associate Professor, Division Director for General Obstetrics and Gynecology

Dr. Till’s research interests are in health care policy. His current project is regarding Vermont physician attitudes about single payer health care systems and physician assisted suicide. He is a Hospitalist with the responsibility of medical student and resident teaching and is also a member of the Vermont Legislature Care Reform Commission.
Elisabeth K. Wegner, M.D.  Associate Professor
Dr. Wegner oversees the Women’s Services GYN Ultrasound Unit and Colposcopy clinic. She is involved in resident education regarding ultrasound and coordinates the monthly GYN ultrasound conferences. Her interests include 3D GYN ultrasound and its application to uterine anomalies and other pelvic pathology and early pregnancy ultrasound, in particular diagnosis of abnormally located pregnancies.

Cheung Wong, M.D.  Associate Professor and Division Director for Gynecologic Oncology
Dr. Wong’s research activities involve the study of angiogenesis in ovarian cancer. Current studies are examining the role of HIF-1 and IL-6 in ovarian cancer, using human tumor tissues as well as cell culture techniques. Dr. Wong is currently studying molecular markers in ovarian tissue from patients who underwent prophylactic oophorectomy and from women with ovarian cancer.