We are pleased to announce that the University of Vermont (UVM) Larner College of Medicine’s (Larner COM) Neonatal Perinatal Medicine Fellowship is strengthening its commitment and expanding its ability to mentor fellows in academic global newborn health projects and research.

Fellows will be primarily mentored by Danielle Ehret, MD, MPH, Associate Professor of Pediatrics at UVM Larner COM and Director of Global Health at Vermont Oxford Network (VON), in addition to multi-disciplinary colleagues throughout the institution and field as appropriate to the fellow’s dedicated area of research interest. Dr. Ehret is the principal investigator for VON’s Global Neonatal Database and working in partnership with colleagues in Ethiopia to lead the Ethiopian Neonatal Network, the first low-income country neonatal database for quality improvement and advocacy. Dr. Ehret has collaborated with Dr. Asrat Demtse, neonatologist and Director of the NICU at Tikur Anbessa Specialized Hospital in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia to develop the first Masters in Neonatal Nursing program in Ethiopia. Dr. Ehret leads and serves on numerous national and international committees focused on global newborn health and is currently serving as the North American representative in the first cohort of 14 international leaders in the International Pediatric Association’s Child Health Emerging Leaders Program.

Fellows may pursue one of three existing pathways for career development: research scholar pathway, quality improvement pathway, or clinician educator pathway, with global newborn health as the dedicated area of focus. In addition to a focus on global newborn health for the main academic product of fellowship, all fellows at UVM conduct a mentored systematic review published through the Cochrane Neonatal Review Group and work closely with the fellowship’s Director of Research and Editor of Cochrane Neonatal Review Group, Dr. Roger Soll. Fellows distinguishing themselves as concentrating in global newborn health will select a topic that contributes to this dynamic field.

Our first fellow to pursue a concentration in global newborn health, Dr. Delia Horn, is a rising star in the field and has been successful in her first two years of fellowship under the mentorship of Dr. Ehret, and in collaboration with Dr. Kristen DeStigter, Chair of Radiology at UVM Larner COM and President and Co-Founder of Imaging the World, an NGO registered in Uganda dedicated to integrating low-cost ultrasound programs into remote health care facilities in low-income countries. Dr. Horn has been recognized for her work by receiving the AAP Section on Neonatal Perinatal Medicine’s (SoNPM) 2019 Marshall Klaus Health Services Research Award for her project entitled, “Association between antenatal ultrasound findings and neonatal outcomes in rural Uganda”, the 2018 VON and AAP SoNPM Helping Babies Breathe Co-facilitator Scholarship, has a protocol published for her Cochrane systematic review, “Sunlight for the prevention and treatment of hyper-bilirubinemia in term and late preterm neonates” and is serving on national committees focused on global newborn health.

We hope that you will share this announcement with colleagues and mentees that may have an interest in contributing to the field of global newborn health and neonatal perinatal medicine and joining us in Vermont. Our Division of Neonatal Perinatal Medicine is in full support of this exciting new offering, and committed to providing selected fellows with the training and resources necessary to complete meaningful academic contributions. Please contact us with any further questions.

Thank you,

Danielle Ehret  Deirdre O’Reilly  Roger Soll  Charles Mercier