2017 EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AWARDS
Employee of the Year, Melissa Angulo, left; Physician of the Year, Dr. James Bui; CAPE Award Winner, Rita Berendt.
A group of outstanding Hospital & Clinics staff were recently honored with service awards for their commitment and dedication to the UI Health mission and values.

Melissa Angulo, an advance practice nurse in the Stroke Institute, was named 2017 Employee of the Year. Since joining UI Health in 2008, Melissa has shown a tireless devotion to her patients and a genuine interest in improving patient care. As an example, she identified team leaders from different departments that actively participate in our stroke codes and developed a battery of strategies that decreased our average door-to-needle time in patients eligible for intravenous thrombolysis from 60 minutes to nearly 35 minutes — the lowest in the city of Chicago. With her efforts, UI Health has again been recognized by the American Heart Association and the American Stroke Program and was recently re-certified as a Comprehensive Stroke Center.

Rita Berendt, a nurse practitioner in the Department of Neurosurgery, was named a 2017 Chancellor’s Academic Professional Excellence (CAPE) Award winner. The CAPE Award acknowledges the demonstrated excellence and contributions of academic professional staff and encourages the professional growth and achievement of academic professionals in the university system. It’s not often that the CAPE Award is bestowed on patient-care staff, and we commend Rita for this honor.

Dr. James Bui, chief of the Division of Interventional Radiology, and Dr. Hiram Isaac, of the Department of Surgery, were named 2017 Physician and Resident of the Year at a ceremony earlier this fall. Drs. Bui and Isaac, Rita, and Melissa were celebrated at the Employee Recognition Award Ceremony on Oct. 20. Ten staff members also received the Award of Merit, a university-wide honor given to staff who exhibit service, commitment, and dedication to UI Health. The 2017 Award of Merit winners are:

- Natalie Chadwell — Accreditation & Clinical Compliance
- Ana Gordon — Care Coordination
- Susan Lee — Infection Control
- Brenda Owens — Radiology
- Marty Semrau — Human Resources
- Evelyn De Jesus — Psychiatry
- Rosa Herrera — Women’s Health
- Maria Nehmer — Medsurg ICU
- Jean Powlesland — Neonatal ICU
- Kim Zimmerman — Speech Pathology & Neurosciences

Throughout its history, UI Health has been the home for talented, caring staff known for providing excellent service and patient care with great compassion. These employees continuously put patients first, collaborate with other departments, respect their peers, and personify the core values of our mission at UI Health. We thank them for their service and congratulate them all on their well-deserved recognition.

The TAP Academy will help UI Health identify up and coming multidisciplinary talent, provide a systematic framework for leader behavior training and development, and align the selected leaders opportunities to grow.

The TAP Academy team is grateful for the support of Dr. Avijit Ghosh, Dr. Bud Pygon, and the leadership of Dr. Neeta Venepalli in making this nine-month learning program possible for UI Health leaders.

Stay tuned for more information about the journey these leaders will take to become the very first TAP Academy fellows! For questions regarding this program, email Jessica Himstedt at himstedt@uic.edu.

Check out our new Spanish website
UIHealth.es

Vea nuestro nuevo sitio web en español
UIHealth.es

TAP Academy Launch
The Talent Acceleration Process, or TAP, Academy kicked off in September. Hospital and physician leaders from across UI Health were nominated or applied to participate in the inaugural cohort.

The first segment focused on leadership and self-awareness. Speakers from the School of Public Health, College of Business, and Hogan Assessment Systems provided their insight to help guide the group through activities that support each member in understanding and defining who they are as a leader.

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UI Health Recertified as Comprehensive Stroke Center

UI Health has again received a top stroke care designation from The Joint Commission. The Stroke Program was recently recertified as a Comprehensive Stroke Center (CSC), which is the highest level of certification for Joint Commission-accredited hospitals.

CSC status signifies that institutions meet the most advanced requirements for stroke care, including diagnostic testing capability, neurosurgical services, and clinical performance measures. As a CSC, UI Health has an Acute Stroke Team and dedicated neuro intensive care beds available 24/7 to care for stroke patients.

UI Health first achieved Comprehensive Stroke Center certification in 2015.

UI Health Joins National Network for Emergency Medicine Clinical Trials

UI Health is part of a newly formed national network that will collaborate to conduct clinical trials designed to improve the outcomes for patients with neurological, cardiac, respiratory, hematologic, and trauma-related emergency events.

The network, called SIREN (Strategies to Innovate Emergency Care Clinical Trials), will pool resources and boost patient numbers for emergency medicine clinical trials.

Trials that tap into the SIREN network will have access to expanded patient populations, including minority and underserved populations, which have traditionally been left out of clinical trials.

Code Week

When you hear Code Pink or Code Gold announced overhead, do you know what to do? Your vigilance is crucial to prevent/avert patient elopement or infant abduction from occurring. To learn more – visit the intranet for elopement/abduction facts, links to information and a “Code Week” quiz to test your understanding of your role. You make the difference between possible tragedy and keeping our most vulnerable patients safe!
MIRACLE ON TAYLOR STREET
Since 1995, UI Health has organized Miracle on Taylor Street to sponsor children and families in the communities we serve during the holiday season, providing toys, clothing, reading materials, and monetary donations.

This year we will be collecting the gifts on
Wednesday, Dec. 6, from 7 am to 4 pm in Hospital Conference Room 1130.

Stay tuned for intranet announcements that will provide information on how to sponsor a child or family.

Congratulations to our 7th Annual Quality and Safety Fair Winners!

1ST
Improving Outcomes for Stroke Patients at-risk for Cognitive and Mood Impairments
Sanny Djoeva, Melissa Angulo, Pamela Martyn-Nemeth
NSICU College of Nursing

2ND
Going for Zero CLABSI: The BMT Experience
David Jung
8W BMT

3RD TIE
Secondhand Exposure of Chemotherapy in Ancillary Healthcare Workers on the Bone and Marrow Transplant Unit
Tatiana Bonete, Ashley Lacour
8W BMT

Implementation of Venous Thromboembolism (VTE) Bundle in Neursosciences Intensive Care Unit
Keri Kim, Lolita Fagaragan, Snyder John Tabbilos
NSICU

7th Annual Quality and Safety Fair participants — Keri Kim, left; Lolita Fagaragan; Melissa Angulo.