



Division of Infectious Diseases

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS



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November 2022

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## Awards

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### **Maheen Abidi, MD**

Dr. Maheen Abidi is the recipient of one of four 2022 Department of Medicine [Rising Star Awards](#). Previous ID Division recipients of this very selective Departmental award have been Dr. Jose Castillo-Mancilla and Dr. Mario Santiago. The program is now in its tenth year; four early career faculty are named each year across the Department. Congratulations to Maheen!



### **Tom Campbell, MD**

Dr. Tom Campbell is one of eight recipients of a 2022 Department of Medicine [Faculty Innovator Award](#). A previous ID Division recipient of this very selective recognition was Dr. Michelle Haas (2021). Four to eight such innovators are recognized each year across the entire DOM. Congratulations to Tom!



Pictured are award recipients at the Department of Medicine [2022 Annual Faculty and Staff Recognition Event](#). Attendees enjoyed an evening of celebration and togetherness while gathering to recognize some of the Department's best and brightest contributors.

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## Events

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### 2022 Tim Gill Lecture

The Division was pleased to host Dr. Jonathan Li from Harvard Medical School and The Ragon Institute on October 27. Dr. Li presented the 2022 Tim Gill Lecture (“When Viruses Go Wild: How HIV and SARS-CoV-2 Can Become Unsuppressible”) and was also keynote speaker for our T32 Fellows’ Research Symposium. He met with faculty and devoted his afternoon to advising T32 Program Grant Recipients on their projects. His superb talk is available to all at the following [link](#) (Passcode: 7#8vm2S1). Many thanks to Jon for his great talk and interactions with our faculty, fellows.



### RetroPath2022

Mario Santiago and Eric Poeschla co-organized and co-chaired the biennial [Retropath 2022](#)

[Meeting](#), which focuses on retrovirus pathogenesis. The conference took place in Vail from October 12-16. Eric stresses that Mario did most of the preparing work! Brandi Dolan also assisted greatly at the meeting. Mamuka Kvaratskhelia was a keynote speaker and presented data that can fairly be called amazing on unexpected mechanisms of action of the new ultra-potent and very long-acting HIV capsid inhibitor lenacapavir. This drug has good potential to move us even closer to functional cure of HIV. His talk was “Unexpected Mechanisms of Action of HIV-1 Integrase and Capsid-Targeting Antiretrovirals.” Kejun Guo gave a talk on developing resistance of emerging SARS-CoV-2 variants to the interferon system. Multiple other division members attended and participated with oral presentations or posters: Arun Annamalai, Brad Barrett, Lorenzo Briganti, Tung Dinh, Reed Haney, Szu-Wei Huang, Kaylee Mickens, James Morrison, Bridget Murphy, Nikoloz Shkriabai, Lauren Schope, and Guchao Wei. The fall weather cooperated by being perfect and the aspens were aflame in yellow. [Read more](#).



## IDWeek 2022

A number of our faculty and fellows attended IDWeek from October 19-23 in Washington D.C.

- **Dr. Jose Castillo-Mancilla** was vice-chair of the HIV track for the entire conference and organized the session "Challenging HIV Clinical Cases"
- **Dr. Shanta Zimmer, Dr. Hillary Dunlevy, and Dr. Joshua Barocas** were session speakers/panelists
- **Dr. Tim Jenkins, Dr. Joshua Barocas, and Dr. Jose Castillo-Mancilla** were session moderators
- **Dr. Misha Huang** participated in advocacy work on Capitol Hill with IDSA

Posters were presented by some of our ID fellows, medical students, and collaborators. Many thanks to everyone who presented a poster! Notably:

- **Dr. Lilian Vargas Barahona** won the IDWeek [Abstract Award](#) for her poster: *Risk Assessment of Pneumocystis jirovecii Pneumonia among Hospitalized Patients with Hypoxic Respiratory Failure - A Proposed Multivariable Calculator Based on Previous Prednisone Equivalent Dose*
- **Dr. Vanessa Kung** won the IDWeek [Abstract Award](#) for her poster: *Diabetes Mellitus as a Risk Factor for Cryptococcosis — a Multicenter Research Network Study*

Thanks to all who attended IDWeek and represented our Division. Apologies if you attended and your contributions were missed above.

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## Other Division News

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### **Dr. Alexandra Barger**

Congratulations to Dr. Alexandra Barger, a 2nd year fellow, who was accepted to the CDC's Epidemic Intelligence Service class of 2023. Many former CU ID fellows have gone on to the EIS program, and then some on to careers at CDC, and Dr. Barger is excited to be the latest to join that group! She doesn't yet know where she will go to complete her EIS fellowship, but there are many great options. Best wishes to you in the next stage of your career, Alex!

### **Dr. David Beckham Lab**

Dr. Beckham's lab was featured in an article in the Colorado Times Recorder, "Colorado Researchers Have Dengue, Zika, West Nile Vaccines in Their Sights." [Read more.](#)

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## Call for Submissions

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*If you or someone you know should be featured in our next ID Division Newsletter, please email Eleanor Shields, Communications and Logistics Coordinator, at [eleanor.shields@cuanschutz.edu](mailto:eleanor.shields@cuanschutz.edu).*

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