CONGRATULATIONS!! TO Dr. Andy Atz, new Chairman of Department of Pediatrics

Dean Ray Dubois has already announced the appointment of Dr. Andrew M. Atz as the Chairman of Pediatrics, noting his “great experience, collegiality, and leadership skills he brings to this position.” Many of you already know Dr. Atz, from his years of service to pediatric cardiology patients and physicians around the state. However, some of you may not know about all of Dr. Atz’s accolades and we would like to share this information with you.

Andrew M Atz, MD joined MUSC in 1998 and is now Professor of Pediatrics. He has amassed an important and productive career in pediatric cardiology-based patient oriented research. Dr. Atz was instrumental in reporting the initial early human use of inhaled nitric oxide in patients with reversible pulmonary hypertension; this drug is now used commonly in both neonates and cardiology patients with pulmonary hypertension. He was also the first to report the beneficial use of sildenafil (Viagra) for neonatal pulmonary hypertension. Andy subsequently expanded his research experience into multicenter clinical drug and management studies.

Dr. Atz helped build a strong pediatric cardiology program at MUSC. Under his clinical leadership, the Pediatric Cardiac and Heart Surgery Program has been consistently recognized as a top 20 program by US News and World Report. Andy was also Vice Chair for Clinical Research and Director of the Pediatric Clinical Trials Group. Dr. Atz has been extraordinarily involved in NIH sponsored Pediatric Heart Network (PHN) as network chair for three of the ongoing network studies. MUSC is a founding member of the PHN and is now in its 4th cycle (15th – 22nd year) of NIH funding. Andy has received funding for more than 30 multi-institutional prospective clinical trials assessing pharmacologic therapies and monitoring devices.

Dr. Atz’s three most recent publications (out of >150) include:


Dr. Atz was intimately involved in supporting the Department of Pediatrics (DOP) over the past five years as a member of the Pediatric Advisory Council (finances) and as a member of the DOP Research Advisory Council. He was appointed as Interim Chairman starting July 2016 and will now assume the role as permanent Chairman. There will be a reception celebrating this appointment at the Wickliffe House on June 29th from 5:00 – 8:00pm.