

# FHS NEWSLETTER



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## FHS Governance

### President

Mary Donofrio

### Vice President

Anita Moon-Grady

### Treasurer

Nelangi Pinto

### Secretary

David Schidlow

### Research Officer

Shaine Morris

### Publications Officer

Lisa Hornberger

### Board Members at Large

Alfred Abuhamad  
Bhawna Arya  
Jack Rychik

## President's Update

What a year it has been. Let us hope that 2021 will bring us all together again, in person. Despite the challenges, this year has been good for us. Thank you all for your continued support. We are now 404 members strong, including our international members from 12 institutions. We now have 17 sponsoring institutions. Welcome to Nemours and Rainbow Babies, our newest sponsors. Also, a special thank you to Texas Children's, Lurie Children's, Nemours, and Stanford who are our very special *Platinum Sponsors*, allowing unlimited membership for both full and affiliate members.



Our research mission continues to have success with this past year bringing us our first publication "[Prenatal Cardiac Care: Goals, Priorities & Gaps in Knowledge in Fetal Cardiovascular Disease: Perspectives of the FHS](#)" in *Progress in Pediatric Cardiology*, 2020 Dec; 59: 101312, with Nelangi Pinto as first author. In addition, our first research paper analyzing SES barriers to prenatal diagnosis of HLHS and TGA has been submitted. Congratulations to the entire working group and Publications Committee for all their efforts. Finally, the FHS played a big role in creation of the ASE document "[Specific Considerations for Pediatric, Fetal, and CHD Patients and Echocardiography Service Providers during the 2019 Novel Coronavirus Outbreak](#)" in *JASE*, 2020 Jun;33(6):658-665, published at the height of the initial surge of the COVID-19 pandemic. This was a collaborative effort, including ASE, SOPE and the FHS.

The Education Committee continues to do great work. Under the leadership of Nelangi Pinto and collaborating with Chris Lindblade, the co-Chair of the conference committee, we started a successful monthly webinar series. This month Terri Tacy and Mishella Perez as new co-Chairs will take over with many new ideas to keep us learning through this time of isolation. In addition, on the horizon is an initiative led by Shubhika Srivastava to develop a mentorship program. The vision is to offer support through formal panel discussions and webinars with talks on mentoring, choosing a mentor, research and career development, balancing life and work, and defining personal goals. We also hope to create a core group of physicians who can serve as mentors in various roles.

Finally, our big news is that we recently hired a management company to take over some of our administrative work. We hope this will allow for better communication with our membership and a more streamlined process for registering on the website, submitting sponsorship forms, and keeping updated on research and education initiatives. Please join me in welcoming Nicky Koerner, Therese Cooper, Todd Breach and Glynis Harvey to our team! Stay safe everyone! Hope to see all of you (virtually) soon.

-Mary

Follow the Fetal Heart  
Society on Twitter:  
[@FetalHeartSoc](#)



## Elections for Board of Directors Positions

It is time for the 2021 FHS elections. The open officer positions for term beginning July 1, 2021 are **Secretary, Research Officer,** and **two Board Members at Large**. One member at large represents the board on the RCC, and the other member at large represents the OB/MFM community.

Election Timeline:

1. Candidates submit a 200 word statement and their CV to [secretary@fetalheartsociety.org](mailto:secretary@fetalheartsociety.org) by February 28th, 2021. Only active members in good standing are eligible.
2. Review of candidates and creation of a final ballot will be completed by the end of February.
3. Elections will occur by email in March. Only active members in good standing can vote.
4. The final decision after board approval will be announced by May 1st, 2021.
5. Term starts on July 1st, 2021. Terms are for 3 years.

### Education Committee

The Education Committee is working on several projects:

- **Provider Information Sheets** for specific cardiac diagnoses. The goal of these sheets is to reduce variability in information quality given to patients in fetal counseling. They include information about incidence, related syndromes, outcomes, and measurements on the echo that are pertinent to predictions of outcomes.
- The **Basic Heart Screening Education Series** currently consists of eight recorded lectures introducing fetal cardiac imaging. These are in final revision prior to review by the Board of Directors. The length of these lectures is 20-30 minutes, and they will be available to anyone through the Fetal Heart Society website.
- The **Fetal Cardiology Education Series** are brief and image-focused reviews of over 20 cardiac diagnoses. There will be a pre- and a post-test to assess improvement, and each 15-20 minute recorded lecture will be interspersed with questions to answer to review content that has been covered. The first draft of test questions and the modules are complete and are undergoing second review within the committee.

### Conference Committee

The Conference and Education Committees joined forces in 2020 during the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic to create a monthly webinar educational series that takes place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month.

To date, the FHS has hosted seven webinars covering a range of topics including tachyarrhythmias, genetic testing, fetal echo guidelines, prenatal palliative care, and Ebstein anomaly.

Case presentation, journal club, didactic presentation, and panel discussion formats have been used to engage attendees on many levels. Attendees come from pediatric cardiology, obstetrics, maternal-fetal medicine, genetics, sonography, and nursing disciplines with over 200 professionals joining the December webinar!

If you have suggestions for future webinar topics or an interesting case to present, please email your ideas to Theresa Tacy ([tatacy@stanford.edu](mailto:tatacy@stanford.edu)), Mishella Perez ([mllanes@ad.ucsd.edu](mailto:mllanes@ad.ucsd.edu)) or Chris Lindblade ([clindblade@phoenixchildrens.com](mailto:clindblade@phoenixchildrens.com)). We look forward to you joining us virtually for the next FHS webinar.

### Research Collaborative Committee

Have a great idea for research? Complete a [concept proposal form](#) and submit it to the RCC two weeks prior to an upcoming meeting. Find the full process here:

<https://fetalheartsociety.org/research-submission-workflow/>

#### Upcoming RCC Meeting Dates

January 6, 2021  
April 14, 2021  
July 14, 2021

### Training in Fetal Echocardiography Counseling: A Survey of Practicing Fetal Cardiologists

This Fetal Heart Society has approved a needs assessment study, surveying practicing fetal cardiologists regarding their prior fellowship training in fetal counseling and their current counseling practices, with an aim to identify valuable experiences and effective methods of teaching to inform future fellowship curriculum development.

Please visit <https://is.gd/fetalcounselingsurvey> to participate.

FHS members will also be receiving an email to participate.

### Data Coordinating Center

The Data Coordinating Center (DCC), located at the University of Utah, continues to coordinate and manage numerous Fetal Heart Society studies. Many of these studies are in analysis phase, where the lead investigator is analyzing the data or the Core Lab is reviewing the echocardiogram studies. However, two FHS studies (dTGA and ccTGA) are actively enrolling participants or entering study data into the electronic data capture (EDC) system, with the study data being managed by the DCC. Three additional studies are in planning and start-up phases with the EDC being built and study sites being identified. The DCC continues to be involved in most Fetal Heart Society projects and subcommittees, including the Research Collaborative Committee. The DCC is also actively tracking all IRB approvals and continuing reviews; please respond if you get an email about your site's IRB status from Brie Marron or Liz Brown. For question about FHS studies, IRBs, BAAs or DUAs, please contact Brie Marron [brie.marron@hsc.utah.edu](mailto:brie.marron@hsc.utah.edu).

## Publications

The most exciting update from the Publications Committee is that the first official FHS research paper, "The impact of socioeconomic status, race/ethnicity, and geography on prenatal detection of hypoplastic left heart syndrome and transposition of the great arteries", first author Dr. Anita Krishnan, has been submitted.

Also, an important review article was accepted to *Progress in Pediatric Cardiology*: Nelangi M. Pinto, Shaine A. Morris, Anita J. Moon-Grady, Mary T. Donofrio. Prenatal cardiac care: Goals, priorities & gaps in knowledge in fetal cardiovascular disease: Perspectives of the Fetal Heart Society. (2020 Dec; 59: 101312.)

The Committee is developing suggested timelines for the completion of retrospective and prospective research initiatives to guide the research teams and facilitate completion of FHS studies. As a part of this, the committee is further defining the roles of specific members of the research team, including RCC and Publication Advisors.

Finally, the Publications Committee will be helping to develop a FHS mentorship program that could support our colleagues in areas of clinical and academic career development, educational outreach and program development as well as evolution of FHS research initiatives. A new committee, led by Shubhika Srivastava, met recently to further these efforts. Stay tuned!

Make a difference this holiday. Shop for gifts at [smile.amazon.com/ch/47-2144989](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/47-2144989) to generate donations for Fetal Heart Society Inc and check out our [AmazonSmile Charity Lists](#) to donate items we need most.

### Looking for a way to help?

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# Website Committee



Become A Member

Research

Meetings & Deadlines

Resources

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Donors & Sponsors

Education

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F.A.Q.

## Advancing the field of fetal cardiovascular care & science

Fetal Heart Society's mission is to advance the field of fetal cardiovascular care & science through collaborative research, education and mentorship.

SEE WHAT'S NEW

The [Website Committee](#) has the enjoyable task of showcasing all of the incredible work that our members are doing. Seven FHS Webinars have already been posted to the site, and new ones are added monthly. We will continue to interface with the Research Committee to provide updates on all ongoing studies - from recruitment to publication. The website links to the Fetal Heart Society's online forum, and we anticipate many new online resources from the Education Committee.

With these updates, we envision the website as a lively, dynamic place where members can learn from each other and exchange ideas. Furthermore, we hope the resources on the site will attract new visitors and expand our FHS community.

If you have any ideas or suggestions for the website, or would like to become more involved with the Website Committee, please contact Mike Walsh at [mwalsh@wakehealth.edu](mailto:mwalsh@wakehealth.edu).

### FHS Committee Chairs

Conference: Mary Donofrio/Chris Lindblade  
Correspondence: David Schidlow  
DCC: Michael Puchalski  
Education: Theresa Tacy, Mishella Perez  
Finance: Nelangi Pinto  
Grants: Lisa Hornberger  
Membership: Lindsay Freud  
Nursing: Darcie Logsdon  
Publications: Lisa Hornberger  
Research: Shaine Morris  
Social Media: Mishella Perez  
Website: Michael Walsh

### Call for Submissions

We welcome member contributions and suggestions for future newsletter content. Please contact the [correspondence committee](#) if interested.

### FHS Contacts

#### General Questions

[information@fetalheartsociety.org](mailto:information@fetalheartsociety.org)

#### Correspondence

[correspondence@fetalheartsociety.org](mailto:correspondence@fetalheartsociety.org)

#### Donations

[donations@fetalheartsociety.org](mailto:donations@fetalheartsociety.org)

#### Research

[research@fetalheartsociety.org](mailto:research@fetalheartsociety.org)

#### FHS Website

[www.fetalheartsociety.org](http://www.fetalheartsociety.org)

The Fetal Heart Society is a 501(c) nonprofit formed to advance the field of fetal cardiovascular care and science through collaborative research, education and mentorship.

# FHS Ongoing Research Projects

Name of Project	Status	PI/contact
PA-IVS	Data analysis	Shaji Menon <a href="mailto:Shaji.menon@hsc.utah.edu">Shaji.menon@hsc.utah.edu</a>
Mitral Regurgitation	Abstract submitted Manuscript preparation	Betul Yilmaz, Shaine Morris <a href="mailto:Betul.Yilmaz@bcm.edu">Betul.Yilmaz@bcm.edu</a> <a href="mailto:shainem@bcm.edu">shainem@bcm.edu</a>
Impact of socioeconomic and geographic factors on diagnosis of HLHS and dTGA	Manuscript submitted	Anita Krishnan <a href="mailto:AKrishna@childrensnational.org">AKrishna@childrensnational.org</a>
Risk stratification in twin-twin transfusion syndrome: the importance of mitral regurgitation	Data collection	Shiraz Maskatia, Anita Moon-Grady <a href="mailto:shirazm@stanford.edu">shirazm@stanford.edu</a> <a href="mailto:anita.Grady@ucsf.edu">anita.Grady@ucsf.edu</a>
Fetal Echocardiographic Z-Score Project: Feasibility Study	Data collection	Leo Lopez and LuAnn Minich <a href="mailto:leolopez@stanford.edu">leolopez@stanford.edu</a>
Fetal anatomy and physiology and associations with fetal and perinatal outcomes in DTGA with intact ventricular septum	Data collection	David Schidlow, Joyce Johnson, Jacqueline Shuplock <a href="mailto:david.schidlow@cardio.chboston.org">david.schidlow@cardio.chboston.org</a> <a href="mailto:JTJohnson@luriechildrens.org">JTJohnson@luriechildrens.org</a> <a href="mailto:jacqueline.m.shuplock@vumc.org">jacqueline.m.shuplock@vumc.org</a>
*Pre and postnatal outcome following fetal diagnosis of congenitally corrected transposition of the great arteries and impact of associated lesions on outcome.	Data collection Seeking collaborators	Jennifer Cohen Shubhika Srivastava <a href="mailto:shubhika.srivastava@mssm.edu">shubhika.srivastava@mssm.edu</a> <a href="mailto:Jennifer.cohen3@mssm.edu">Jennifer.cohen3@mssm.edu</a>
*Fetal Hemodynamics in Coarctation of Aorta by Fetal Echocardiography and Computational Fluid Dynamics Simulation	Seeking collaborators	Shuping Ge <a href="mailto:shuping.ge@americanacademic.com">shuping.ge@americanacademic.com</a>
*Computational analysis of fetal echocardiogram	Seeking collaborators	Rima Arnaout <a href="mailto:Rima.Arnaout@ucsf.edu">Rima.Arnaout@ucsf.edu</a>
Normal Fetal Strain Values – Ancillary study to z-score project	Data collection	Carol McFarland <a href="mailto:carol.mcfarland@hsc.utah.edu">carol.mcfarland@hsc.utah.edu</a>
*Perinatal Outcomes of Prenatally Diagnosed Truncus Arteriosus	Seeking collaborators	Cox, Kelly, Nazia Husain, Sheetal Patel <a href="mailto:kcox@luriechildrens.org">kcox@luriechildrens.org</a>
*NSAID Therapy for Fetuses with Severe Ebstein Anomaly or Tricuspid Valve Dysplasia	Concept proposal approved Seeking collaborators	Lindsey Freud and Wayne Tworetzky <a href="mailto:lindsay.freud@sickkids.ca">lindsay.freud@sickkids.ca</a>
*Outcomes Following Prenatal Diagnosis of Fetal Rhabdomyomas: A Fetal Heart Society Collaborative Study	Concept proposal approved Seeking collaborators	Miwa Geiger, MD Simone Jhaveri MD <a href="mailto:miwa.geiger@mssm.edu">miwa.geiger@mssm.edu</a> <a href="mailto:simonejhaveri@gmail.com">simonejhaveri@gmail.com</a>

**\*These studies are seeking collaborators. Contact the PI if you are interested in participating.**

# Fetal Heart Society Sponsors



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The FHS would like to acknowledge our institutional sponsors. Congratulations and welcome to our newest sponsors, **Nemours** and **Rainbow Babies**. Also, a special thank you to **Texas Children's**, **Lurie Children's**, **Nemours**, and **Stanford** who are our very special Platinum Sponsors, allowing unlimited membership for both full and affiliate members.

There are two levels for institutional sponsorship. Both include recognition on the FHS website, newsletter and all FHS presentations/publications:

- **Gold (\$5000/year): includes 5 active and 5 affiliate members**
- **Platinum (\$7500/year): includes unlimited active and affiliate members**

If interested in institutional sponsorship, contact [president@fetalheartsociety.org](mailto:president@fetalheartsociety.org).