



# KU

DEPARTMENT OF  
REHABILITATION  
MEDICINE

The University of Kansas  
Medical Center

## Monthly Newsletter

Dr. Mitra is a graduate of Harvard University's residency in Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation and fellowship in Pain Management. He then went on to become the Division Chief of PM&R at Stanford University, before coming to the University of Kansas to serve as our chairman for the past 11 years with distinction. During that time, he was appointed as the Senator Robert J. Dole Professor of Rehabilitative Medicine, led the charge in starting two clinical fellowships here at KU, built and led a top 10 ranked NIH funded

research program, and served on the CDC's expert panel on the Opioid Prescribing Workgroup, as well as provide the vision to make KU's PM&R residency ranked in the top 25 programs in the country. We now send him with our best wishes as he takes on a new role as Dean of Clinical Affairs at the University of Central Florida. His leadership and example as a physiatrist will be missed.



### Upcoming Birthdays

- **Dr. Jason Frederick** Assistant Professor – 8/14
- **Logan Leavitt** PGY2 – 8/31

## Faculty Feature

Dr. Rajorshi Mitra is certified by the American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation with a subcertification in pain medicine. He completed a fellowship at Massachusetts General Hospital. He earned his medical degree from Michigan State University College of Human Medicine and completed his residency at Harvard Medical School.

### Raj Mitra, MD

Professor & Chair, Rehabilitation Medicine



### Vinny Francio – Co-Chief Resident – PGY4

Dr. Francio has Brazilian-Italian heritage and he was born and raised in Bento Gonçalves-RS, Brazil. After graduating from Feevale University in Brazil, he immigrated to the US to work and continue his education with a MS in Clinical Sciences and a Doctor of Chiropractic (DC) degree. His interests include neuromodulation, interventional pain medicine, regenerative medicine, clinical research, academics, and medical education. Outside medicine, he enjoys soccer, listening to his classic rock vinyl collection, playing guitar & drums, reading, and traveling with his wife.

## Resident Spotlight

## KUdos

Kuddos to Dr. Sarmiento for all the work she has put into Epic orientation for the incoming PGY-2 class! You go above and beyond again and again.

Kudos to Dr. Mitra for his new role in Orlando, FL. Best of luck on this new adventure!

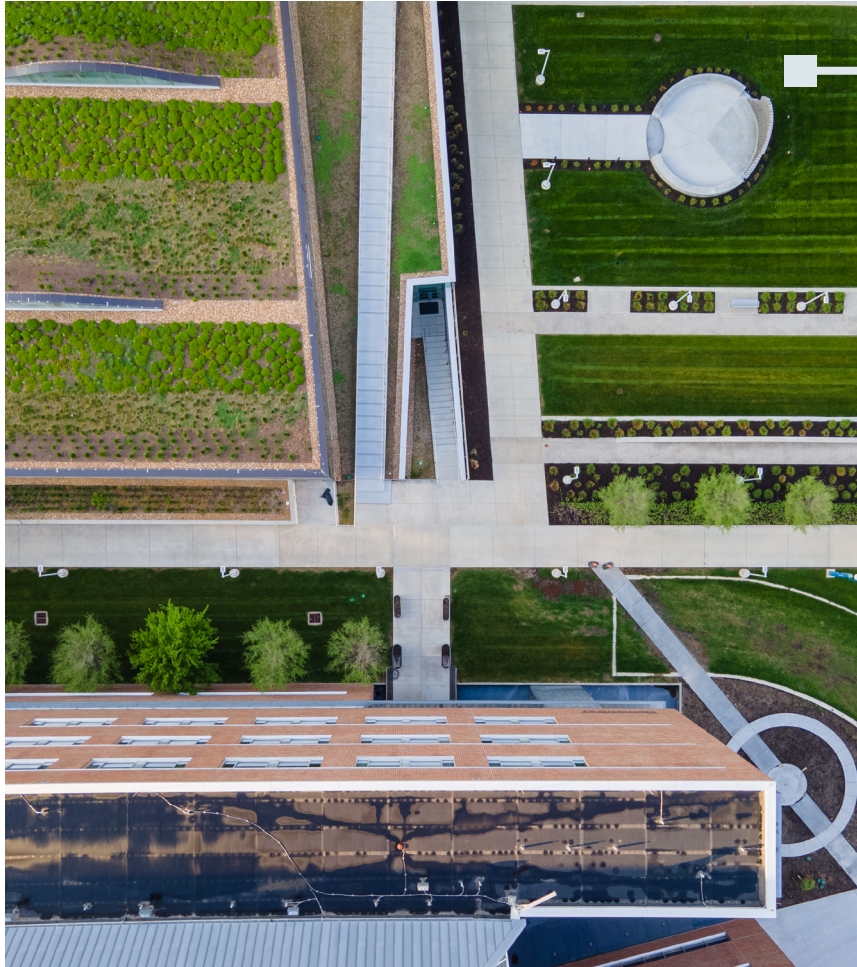
Kudos to Dr. Francio for his publication "Factors involved in applicant interview selection and ranking for chronic pain medicine fellowship" published at Regional Anesthesia and Pain Medicine.

Kuddos to Dr. Zhang for rocking her first call week! She effectively managed several challenging clinical situations that arose on the inpatient unit and with after hours clinic call.

Kudos to Dr. Francio for his recent publication "Advances in Pain Medicine: A Review Of New Technologies" published at Curr Pain Headache Rep.

I'd like to give Kudos to Dr. Polston for covering call while I was out with COVID. He's done 3 weeks of call in the month of July.

Kudos to Drs. Francio and Rupp for their presentations at the ASPN Pain 2022 Annual Meeting in Miami.



## Our Research

The Cortical Plasticity Laboratory has been very busy preparing for an upcoming collaborative research visit by our imaging scientist colleagues from University of Kansas-Lawrence and the University of Michigan. We will be evaluating a custom photo-acoustic imaging system for non-human primates that is designed to be wearable and show neural activity deep in the brain and in real time. We also welcomed medical student, Iheany Amadi, who will participate in the honors program. He plans to evaluate the use of focused ultrasound to map outputs from motor cortex in a rodent model.

### Thank You

To keep up to date with all current events and important dates please follow our social media channels or go to our [website](#).

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