

NEWSPAGER

In the tradition of Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania and Hahnemann Medical College

October 2006

Newsletter Volume 7, No. 8

Newer Instruments Make Surgery Easy on the Eye

For patients who've tried it the other way, eye surgery without sutures seems like a miracle. The surgery is faster, the recovery is faster, and there's no foreign body sensation in the eye. While sutureless cataract surgery has been performed for years, surgery involving the vitreous humor and retina has only recently adopted

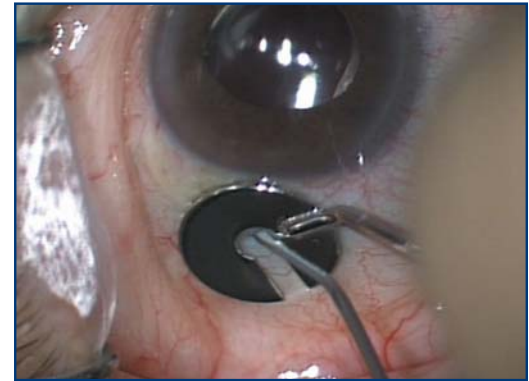


DUCOM Clinical Assistant Professor Dr. Leo Santamarina is the only ophthalmologist in the Philadelphia region to use the 23-gauge sutureless system.

sutureless technology. Dr. Leo Santamarina, Clinical Assistant Professor at Drexel University College of Medicine, is the only ophthalmologist in the region who routinely offers sutureless 23-gauge vitrectomy. The procedure is called vitrectomy because the first step in repairing vitreoretinal disorders is the removal of the vitreous gel, which is replaced with saline, gas or oil.

The driving force behind the recent development is the ability to manufacture instruments smaller than the traditional 20-gauge, which requires sutures to close the incisions. In the newest minimally invasive vitreoretinal surgery, a 23-gauge instrument is used. (The gauge measures the number of instruments of a given size that can fit side by side in one inch). Dr. Santamarina inserts the

instrument via three small trochars (tubes) placed through the sclera (the white part of the eye). The initial incision at each site is slanted in order to allow for better wound closure when the trochars are removed at the end of the procedure. The incisions are essentially self-sealing. Smaller, 25-gauge instruments are available, but they are so small that it becomes difficult to remove material from the vitreous gel in the eye. The 23-gauge instruments are more like the 20-gauge instruments in strength and function.



The initial incision at each site is slanted to allow for better wound closure.

Diabetic retinopathy, macular pucker, macular holes, vitreous hemorrhage, and the removal of scar tissue all call for this surgery. Some patients who require more complex intraocular surgery are not candidates for the new technique, but the procedure is indicated in the vast majority of patients scheduled for primary vitrectomy surgery. Including Hahnemann University Hospital, which is the only site in the Philadelphia region, the 23-gauge system is in use at just 40 facilities across the country.

Dr. Santamarina joined the Department of Ophthalmology as Director of Vitreoretinal Surgery in January. He is also in private practice. After earning his medical degree at University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, with honors in pediatric ophthalmology and ophthalmology research, Dr. Santamarina completed a residency in internal medicine at Bryn Mawr Hospital, serving as Chief Resident, and a residency in ophthalmology at State University of New York Health Science Center at Kings County Hospital Center, Brooklyn. He then completed a fellowship in vitreoretinal surgery at Tulane University.

Contact: 215-762-3937

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Richard V. Homan, M.D.
Senior Vice President for Medical Affairs
Annenberg Dean

Board Acts Favorably on Tenure Candidates

I am pleased to announce that the Board of Trustees of Drexel University College of Medicine has approved these faculty members for tenure and tenure of title. As you know, the award of tenure recognizes and acknowledges a record of sustained academic excellence at national and international levels. Please join me in congratulating our colleagues on this significant achievement.

The Board has approved the following faculty candidates for the granting of Tenure effective September 22, 2006:

Peter Baas, Ph.D.
Professor, Department of Neurobiology and Anatomy

Manuel Castro-Alamancos, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Department of Neurobiology and Anatomy

Jane Clifford, M.D.
Professor, Department of Biochemistry

Graham Ellis-Davies, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Department of Pharmacology and Physiology

John Houle, Ph.D.
Professor, Department of Neurobiology and Anatomy

Peter Katsikis, M.D., Ph.D.
Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology

Robert S. Moreland, Ph.D.
Professor, Department of Pharmacology and Physiology

The Board has approved the following faculty candidates for the granting of Tenure of Title effective September 22, 2006:

Norman Johanson, M.D.
Professor, Department of Orthopedic Surgery

Carol Lippa, M.D., Professor, Department of Neurology

Susan McLeer, M.D., Professor, Department of Psychiatry

William C. Meyers, M.D., Professor, Department of Surgery

Andrew S. Wechsler, M.D.
Professor, Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery

■ *continued page 5*

Sadly Missed: Dr. Bill Stephenson, Former Research Chief

L.M. (Bill) Stephenson, who until six months ago led the research enterprise not only of the College of Medicine but also of Drexel University, passed away August 26, following a long illness.

Dr. Stephenson stepped down in March as Vice Provost for Research and Graduate Policy for Drexel University and Drexel University College of Medicine. He was beloved by many of his colleagues.

An expert in technology transfer, as well as research administration and development, Dr. Stephenson had a great intellect and a passion for science and technology, which he combined with an incredible business sense. Under his direction, research at Drexel flourished by every measure. He also played a key role in the development of the University City Keystone Innovation Zone in partnership with the University City Science Center and the University of Pennsylvania, and the establishment of the Nanotechnology Institute, a state-funded university collaboration with Ben Franklin Partners of Southeastern Pennsylvania.

No matter where Dr. Stephenson focused his talents, he was always a researcher at heart. When the Hepatitis B Foundation

honored him with its Distinguished Founders Award in 2005 for his contributions to hepatitis B research, Dr. Stephenson spoke of his commitment to creating an atmosphere "where researchers can do what researchers do, unfettered by bureaucratic concerns." The unfettering was his work.

Dr. Stephenson is survived by his wife of 25 years, Mary Jo Grdina, an Assistant Professor in the School of Education, and a daughter, Lara Marie. Contributions may be made to the Bill Stephenson Music Enrichment Fund of the Philadelphia Cathedral, 3723 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-3189.



Dr. Stephenson

A Great Time for a Great Cause

Get ready to dine and dance the night away while listening to such classic hits as “Sherry” and “Big Girls Don’t Cry!” Drexel University College of Medicine is proud to present the Black Tie White Coat Ball, starring Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons and benefiting research, prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS in women and children. The event takes place on Saturday, November 18 at the Pennsylvania Convention Center, with cocktails beginning at 6:00 p.m.



If you are looking for a worthwhile cause, there are four things you need to know about HIV/AIDS:

- There is no cure
- There is no vaccine to prevent it
- There is no female-controlled way to prevent transmission
- The greatest at-risk groups currently are women and children

The greatest hope for eliminating this pandemic lies in biomedical research. Major efforts under way at DUCOM seek to develop new vaccines and microbicides, find new ways to diagnose HIV/AIDS, extend the life of infected patients and ultimately cure the disease.

In 2006, more than 1 million people are living with HIV/AIDS in the United States, an estimated 300,000 HIV-infected persons in the United States are unaware of their infection, and an estimated 40,000 new HIV infections are expected to occur this year. In September, the Centers for Disease Control issued new HIV testing guidelines recommending that all Americans 13 to 64 be routinely tested for HIV as part of their general healthcare.

Make Your Reservation

To download reservation or ad book forms, visit www.drexelmed.edu and click on the Oh What a Night! icon. For further information, contact Ellen Plower at **215-255-7327** or eplower@DrexelMed.edu.

The College Is Deeply Involved in HIV/AIDS Research and Treatment

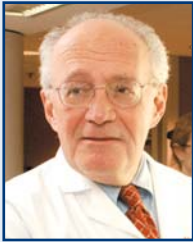
Why do we make the Black Tie White Coat Ball such a fabulous event? We want people to come! Because the real focus is on raising money to fight the HIV/AIDS epidemic, which is taking an increasing toll on women and children. “Fortunately,” says College of Medicine Chairman Manuel Stamatakis, “we have some outstanding scientists at Drexel University College of Medicine doing very exciting work in this field right now.”

He points to research led by Brian Wigdahl, Ph.D., Professor and Chair of the Department of Microbiology and Immunology and Director of the College’s Institute for Molecular Medicine and Infectious Disease. A leader in the field of HIV/AIDS research, Dr. Wigdahl’s work involves the development of therapeutic strategies to prevent sexual transmission of HIV, including broad-spectrum, nontoxic microbicides.

Dr. Wigdahl in turn points to the **broad scope of HIV research** in the basic and clinical science departments at the College of Medicine, including the Departments of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Medicine, Microbiology and Immunology, Pediatrics, and Pharmacology and Physiology. Among current study topics are strategies to prevent perinatal HIV-1 transmission; the development of new predictive measures to assess disease progression and guide therapeutic intervention; new and safe treatments to eradicate pediatric HIV infection; preventive and therapeutic HIV vaccines; and the prevention and treatment of HIV-induced neurologic disease.

The College of Medicine’s HIV/AIDS clinic, the **Partnership Comprehensive Care Practice**, is the largest on the East Coast and in the top 5 in the nation, caring for over 1,500 patients, many of whom are uninsured. Staffed by a bilingual team of healthcare professionals, including physicians, nurse practitioners, dietitians, pharmacists and social workers, the practice offers state-of-the-art HIV primary medical care with coverage around the clock. Nutritional counseling, case management and mental health services are also provided. The comprehensive women’s services program was nationally recognized as one of the first institutions to establish and evaluate a rapid HIV testing program in a hospital delivery room to further prevent mother-to-child transmission.

The College of Medicine’s **Pediatric and Adolescent HIV/AIDS Program** at St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children is the site of care for HIV-positive children and youth. The program provides access to investigational vaccines and therapeutics to HIV-positive children, primarily through membership in the Pediatric AIDS Clinical Trials Group of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease. There is also a strong public health focus in developing innovative models for youth-focused HIV testing and prevention. The program is a pilot site for youth rapid testing for HIV for Philadelphia and is investigating a model for secondary HIV prevention in youth that has been recognized on a national level. The Partnership Practice has a team at St. Christopher’s to provide care to parents with HIV while their children are being seen by the pediatricians.



Dr. Abrutyn

Elias Abrutyn, M.D., Professor, Department of Medicine, Associate Provost and Associate Dean, Faculty Affairs, co-authored an article entitled "Daptomycin Versus Standard Therapy for Bacteremia and Endocarditis Caused by *Staphylococcus aureus*", that appeared in the *New England Journal of Medicine* on August 17.



Winnie Jones

Winnie Jones, Minority Outreach Coordinator, represented the Women's Health Education Program, Department of Medicine, at the community health fair sponsored by the Transfiguration Baptist Church on August 12. Over 700 health education materials were distributed on general health maintenance, nutrition, cancer, asthma, diabetes, stroke, heart disease, adolescent health and menopause.



Dr. Pelleg

Amir Pelleg, Ph.D., Adjunct Professor, Department of Medicine, recently co-chaired the session "Cardiovascular Physiology and Pharmacology" during the 8th International Symposium on Adenosine and Adenine Nucleotides, which was held in Ferrara, Italy, May 24-28.

Dr. Pelleg also gave an invited talk entitled "Does ATP Play a Mechanistic Role in Neurally Mediated Syncope?" for the International Symposium CardioStim '06, which was held in Nice, France, June 14-17.



Dr. Ahmed



Dr. Ranganna



Dr. Schwartz

Drexel University College of Medicine participated in the National Kidney Foundation 2006 Spring Clinical Meetings, April 19-23 in



Dr. Mishra

Dr. Om Prakash Mishra, and his colleagues in the Department of Pediatrics have made significant contributions elucidating nitric oxide-mediated mechanisms of hypoxic neuronal injury in the newborn as listed below.

Om Prakash Mishra, Ph.D., Research Professor, **Qazi Massarat Ashraf, M.D.**, Research Assistant Professor, and **Maria Delivoria-Papadopoulos**, Professor, all of Pediatrics, co-authored an article entitled "Hypoxia-Induced Bax and Bcl-2 Protein Expression, Caspase-9 Activation, DNA Fragmentation, and Lip Peroxidation in Mitochondria of the Cerebral Cortex of Newborn Piglets: The Role of Nitric Oxide" that appeared in volume 141 (3) of the journal *Neuroscience*.



Dr. Delivoria-Papadopoulos

Dr. Mishra also co-authored with Dr. Delivoria-Papadopoulos, Dr. Ashraf, and **Alan B. Zubrow, M.D.**, Professor of Pediatrics, an article entitled "Effect of Nitric Oxide Synthase Inhibition During Post-Hypoxic Reoxygenation on Bax and Bcl-2 Protein Expression and DNA Fragmentation in Neuronal Nuclei of Newborn Piglets" that appeared in volume 1101(1) of the journal *Behavioral Brain Research*.



Dr. Zubrow

Drs. Mishra and Delivoria-Papadopoulos co-authored an article entitled "Effect of Neuronal Nitric Oxide Synthase Inhibition on Caspase-9 Activity During the Hypoxia in the Cerebral Cortex of Newborn Piglets" that appeared in the 401 (1-2) volume of the journal *Neuroscience Letters*.

Drs. Mishra, Delivoria-Papadopoulos, and Ashraf, and **Richa Mishra**, a college student working with the doctors, co-authored an article entitled "Nitric Oxide-Mediated Mechanism of Neuronal Nitric Oxide Synthase and Inducible Nitric Oxide Synthase Expression During Hypoxia in the Cerebral Cortex of Newborn Piglets," that appeared in volume 140(3) of the journal *Neuroscience*.

Chicago, with the highest number of poster presentations by an institution and by an individual. **Dr. Ziauddin Ahmed**, Associate Professor of Nephrology, had eight posters; **Dr. Karthik Ranganna**, Assistant Professor of Nephrology, had six posters; and **Dr. Allan B. Schwartz**, Professor of Medicine, had one poster.

Among the Nephrology Fellows, **Drs. Michael Dunn, Monica Grafals, Naveen Gupta, Ahmad Mian and Meenal Shah**, participated in the presentations.

Board of Trustees Acts Favorably on Tenure Candidates...continued

The Board has reconfirmed the **Tenure** status of the following faculty members:

Elias Abrutyn, M.D., Professor, Medicine
Lawrence W. Bergman, Ph.D.
Professor, Microbiology and Immunology
Kenneth Blank, Ph.D.
Professor, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Elizabeth P. Blankenhorn, Ph.D.
Professor, Microbiology and Immunology
Isadore Brodsky, M.D., Professor, Department of Medicine
Harbhajan Chawla, M.B.B.S.
Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics
John R. Clarke, M.D., Professor, Surgery
Harris R. Clearfield, M.D., Professor, Medicine
Pamela Crilley, D.O.
Associate Professor, Department of Medicine
Timothy Cunningham, Ph.D.
Professor, Neurobiology and Anatomy
Dennis DePace, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Department of Neurobiology and Anatomy
Gary Diamond, M.D., Professor, Department of Pediatrics
G. John DiGregorio, M.D.
Professor, Pharmacology and Physiology
Thomas D. Edlind, Ph.D.
Professor, Microbiology and Immunology
James M. England, M.D.
Professor, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Itzhak Fischer, Ph.D., Professor, Neurobiology and Anatomy
Janet Fleetwood, Ph.D.
Professor, Family, Community & Preventive Medicine
John A. Harvey, Ph.D.
Professor, Pharmacology and Physiology
Marilyn S. Jorns, Ph.D.
Professor, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Kwan E. Kim, M.D., Professor, Medicine
Sandra Koffler, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry
J. Yasha Kresh, Ph.D., Professor, Cardiothoracic Surgery
Steven P. Kutalek, M.D., Associate Professor, Medicine
Burton J. Landau, Ph.D.
Professor, Microbiology and Immunology
Sandra P. Levison, M.D., Professor, Medicine
Weiye Li, M.D., Professor, Ophthalmology
Page Morahan, Ph.D.
Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology
E. Hazel Murphy, Ph.D., Professor, Neurobiology and Anatomy
Marion Murphy, Ph.D., Professor, Neurobiology and Anatomy
Sreekant N. Murthy, Ph.D., Professor, Medicine
Dennis H. Novack, M.D., Professor, Medicine
Maria Delivoria-Papadopolous, M.D.
Professor, Department of Pediatrics
Charles D. Puglia, Ph.D.
Professor, Pharmacology and Physiology
Paul E. Rapp, Ph.D., Professor, Pharmacology and Physiology
Richard Rest, Ph.D.
Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology
James Reynolds, M.D., Professor, Medicine
Daniel Schidlow, M.D., Professor, Department of Pediatrics
Barbara A. Schindler, M.D., Professor, Psychiatry
Edward S. Schulman, M.D., Professor, Medicine
Allan B. Schwartz, M.D., Professor, Medicine
Robert J. Schwartzman, M.D., Professor, Neurology
Henry H. Sherk, M.D., Professor, Orthopedic Surgery
Kenny J. Simansky, Ph.D.
Professor, Pharmacology and Physiology
Gerald Soslau, Ph.D.
Professor, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Mark E. Stearns, Ph.D.
Professor, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Michael D. Strong, III, M.D.
Associate Professor, Cardiothoracic Surgery
John B. Swaney, Ph.D.
Professor, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Bryce Templeton, M.D., Professor, Psychiatry
Akhil B. Vaidya, Ph.D., Professor, Microbiology and Immunology
David K. Wagner, M.D., Professor, Emergency Medicine
Barry D. Waterhouse, Ph.D.
Professor Neurobiology and Anatomy
Michael M. White Ph.D.
Professor, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
A. Charles Winkelman, M.D., Professor, Neurology
Vincent J. Zarro, M.D., Associate Professor, Medicine
Alan Zubrow, M.D., Professor, Department of Pediatrics

The Board has reconfirmed the **Tenure of Title** status of the following faculty member:

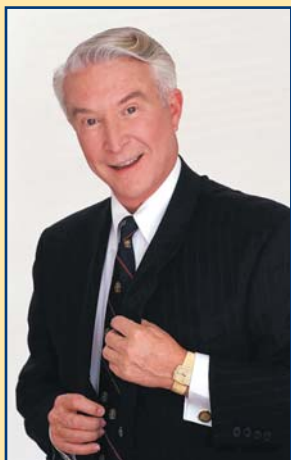
Myron Yanoff, M.D., Professor, Department of Ophthalmology



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Dr. Ersek to Head International Society

Robert Ersek, M.D., HU '66, a Clinical Assistant Professor of Plastic Surgery at Southwest Texas State University and Instructor at the University of Texas has been elected President of the International Society of Clinical Plastic Surgeons at their recent annual conference. The society is one of the most influential organizations in the field of plastic surgery. Dr. Ersek himself has developed and invented unique procedures for many surgical techniques.



Dr. Ersek

Dr. Yarrington Named to Uniformed Services University Board



C. Thomas Yarrington, Jr., M.D., HU '60, has been appointed by President Bush to the Board of Regents of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU). The nine members of the Board of Regents serve as advisers to the USU President and the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs. A retired Brigadier General in the U.S. Air Force, Dr. Yarrington is a Clinical Professor at the University of Washington in Seattle. He recently retired from the Virginia Mason Medical Center in Seattle, where he was a surgeon for over 20 years, head of Otolaryngology and, later, Chief of Surgery. His father graduated from Hahnemann in 1931. Established by Congress in 1972 to educate physicians for the armed services, the USU comprises a medical school, which also offers graduate degrees in biomedical sciences and public health, and a Graduate School of Nursing. It is located on the campus of the National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Md.

'70s

Stuart Orsher, M.D., HU '75, J.D., a board-certified internist in private practice in Manhattan, was recently honored by the Greater New York City Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. Dr. Orsher was presented with the 2006 Gay Clark Stoddard Memorial Award, which recognizes breast health care professionals who provide compassionate care to their patients.

James B. Kirchhoffer, M.D., HU '77 recently joined the medical staff of Cooley Dickinson Hospital in Northampton, Mass., and Northampton Cardiology Associates. He previously worked for 18 years at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, Mass.

'80s

Charles G. Herbst, M.D., HU '81, Chief of Rheumatology at Saint Vincent Health Center in Erie, Pa., presented "An Overview of Osteoporosis" as part of the "Ask a Doctor" Lunch & Learn Lecture Series sponsored by Westfield Memorial Hospital, an affiliate of Saint Vincent Health System.

'00s

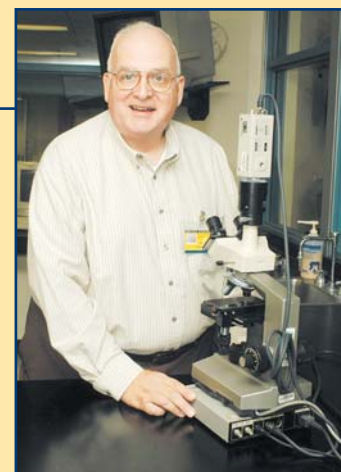
Mandira Ray, M.D., COM '03, a hospitalist, has joined the staff of Mount Auburn Hospital in Cambridge, Mass. Dr. Ray completed her residency at Boston University Medical Center.

Almost an Alumnus: Bill Shriver Celebrates 46 Years with the College of Medicine

In July, Bill Shriver began his 47th year with the College of Medicine. With a face that is recognizable to thousands of students and alumni through his role as Laboratory Manager, Mr. Shriver manages the basic science labs for Gross Anatomy, Microanatomy and Neuroscience. Over the years, he has been involved in a number of different areas, including assisting in surgical research and research on aging.

Mr. Shriver was still in high school in 1960 when he began working in the Physiology Department as a summer job. He helped with the move into new animal facilities at Woman's Medical College, then started feeding and watering the animals

on holidays and weekends. In 1962 he started full-time in surgical research, and in 1963 he moved to the Physiology Department, where he spent 33 years. He then joined the Medical Education Department at Queen Lane in 1992. Bill, we'll look forward to celebrating your 47th with you!



Bill Shriver



In Memoriam: WMC Alumna Dr. Hagalyn Seay Wilson



Dr. Wilson

“If somebody else can do it, you can too.” Such wise words were spoken by Hagalyn Hazel Seay Wilson Ferguson, M.D., WMC '57, who passed away August 27. Her six children remember the phrase that the devoted and selfless woman believed and taught them, as their own successful lives mirror the courage, humility and strength she exuded on a daily basis.



Dr. Wilson and WMC classmates

The first African American female medical doctor in Montgomery, Ala., in 1958, unique to a Southern town at the time, Dr. Wilson was able to captivate those who had the opportunity to cross her path. With strong family roots in the area, her father, Solomon Seay, Sr., was a prominent civil rights activist. During the Civil Rights Movement, Dr. Wilson assisted him by running voter registration campaigns from her medical office. In 1964 she was the only African American physician to testify that St. Margaret's Hospital discriminated against black physicians, which proved to be successful in obtaining staff privileges.

This strong regard for humanity combined with her compassionate nature was exemplified by the care and comfort she provided to her patients, rich or poor. Seeing as many as 75 patients a day, and well into the night, Dr. Wilson rarely collected fees for medical services, and was given food and handmade quilts in exchange for her treatment and devotion to those that truly needed it. In order to assist patients that could not travel to Montgomery for health care, Dr. Wilson bought a minivan, filled it with medical supplies and made house calls, something that fewer and fewer physicians were doing at the time.

Dr. Wilson was also delivering up to 15 babies a month as the only black obstetrician in Montgomery. To this day, Dr. Wilson's

children find it difficult to walk the streets of Montgomery without someone saying “your mother delivered my children,” or “your mother delivered me.”

Dr. Wilson believed that any challenge could be met and overcome. At the age of 68 she decided to computerize her medical office, despite never having used a computer before, and was soon doing all her billing online. Even the challenge of her strong commitment and devotion to her children while maintaining a successful practice was managed, by housing her office in her home until her children were older.

As her children remember, “medicine was Mom's mission; she truly loved taking care of people and she did it so sacrificially.” Even after she was forced to retire from medicine due to illness, Dr. Wilson used much of her own resources to open the not-for-profit family daycare business, Seay-Wilson Learning Center, where she was business manager and tutor to children who needed help.

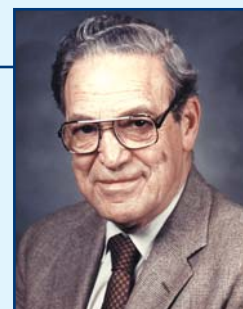
Throughout her years, she continued to confront life as she had always taught her children: “get up, and get out of bed with a purpose.” Dr. Wilson lived her life to the fullest and helped everyone she touched along the way.

Former Faculty Member Dr. Robert Kaye

Former faculty member Robert Kaye, M.D., passed away on July 14 after a long illness. He was 88. Dr. Kaye had served as Interim Chair of Pediatrics at Medical College of Pennsylvania from 1988 through 1995, and prior to that was Professor of Pediatrics and Chairman of the Department of Pediatrics at Hahnemann Medical College from 1973 to 1986. In addition, he was a Professor Emeritus at the University of Pennsylvania

School of Medicine, and had spent 27 years on the staff of Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

Dr. Kaye co-founded the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation with the mother of a patient.



Dr. Kaye

Send alumni notes to Patty Comey at pcomey@drexelmed.edu or mail to: College of Medicine Office of Alumni Relations Suite 11489, 1601 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102

Alumni Relations Office: **215-255-7341**
Toll Free: **866-373-9633**
Website: <http://www.drexelmed.edu/med/ia/alumni/>



Dr. Curcillo

Paul G. Curcillo, M.D., FACS, Associate Professor and Vice Chair, Department of Surgery, was elected president of the Metropolitan Philadelphia Chapter of the American College of Surgeons at the Chapter's 2006 annual meeting. The American College of Surgeons is an educational and scientific organization that was established to raise the standards of surgical practice and to improve the care of the surgical patient.



Dr. Edlind

Thomas Edlind, Ph.D., Professor of Microbiology and Immunology, has been appointed to a five-year term as Editor of the journal *Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy*, published by the American Society for Microbiology.



Dr. Goldsmith

Dr. Goldsmith will be honored at the Arthritis Foundation of Eastern Pennsylvania's annual Evening of Honors, on December 12.

Donald P. Goldsmith, M.D., Professor of Pediatrics, and Director of Rheumatology at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, has been named the 2006 winner of the Joseph Lee Hollander, M.D., Award, given by the Arthritis Foundation of Eastern Pennsylvania. The award recognizes excellence and achievement in the field of rheumatology.



Dr. Herman

Martin Herman, M.D., Associate Professor of Orthopedic Surgery and Pediatrics, was accepted as a member of the American Orthopaedic Association in June. Membership signifies honor and accomplishment in orthopedics, as well as the beginning of a commitment to active leadership in the specialty.



Dr. McLeer

Dr. McLeer will be presented to Dr. McLeer at the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry's Annual Meeting in San Diego, October 24-29. Dr. McLeer will also give a presentation at the meeting on her paper "Money, Mergers and Hospital Closures: Building and Rebuilding Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Programs in the 21st Century."

Susan McLeer, M.D., Professor and Chair, Department of Psychiatry, has been named the 2006 winner of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry's Robert Cancro Academic Leadership Award. The award is given annually by the academy in recognition of an individual's outstanding contributions as a leader who has supported and promoted training and recruitment in the field of child and adolescent psychiatry.



Dr. Mishra

Om Prakash Mishra, Ph.D., Research Professor of Pediatrics, was invited as a keynote speaker to the International Conference on Free Radicals and Antioxidants in Health, Disease and Radiation that was held in Calcutta, India, January 16-18, 2006. His presentation was entitled "Nitric Oxide-Mediated Mechanisms of Hypoxic Injury."

Dr. Mishra was also recently elected as an active member to the American Pediatric Society, an honor bestowed on only a few non-pediatrician scientists.



Dr. Nyirjesy

Paul Nyirjesy, M.D., Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, was recognized for his expertise and knowledge in the field by his selection as a consultant for the Centers of Disease Control in their preparation of the Sexually Transmitted Diseases Treatment Guidelines of 2006 – the single most used reference on STD treatment in the world.



Dr. Pizzutillo

Peter Pizzutillo, M.D., Chief of Orthopedics at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, was honored with the "Distinguished Service Award for Orthopaedics" from the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). This award recognizes an individual in the field of pediatric orthopedics who has contributed to the AAP's mission of excellence in patient care, research or teaching.

A Conversation About Pain Slated for October 19

For those who suffer pain or treat it, a special edition of the popular "Conversations" series, "A Conversation About Pain," will be conducted on Thursday, October 19, at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts auditorium at 4:30 p.m.

Free and open to the public, the session is presented by the Drexel University College of Medicine Institute for Women's Health and Leadership. It precedes a dinner sponsored by the National Pain Foundation.

Panelists are Lisa Thomas Laury of WPVI-TV/6ABC, Katherine Sherif, M.D., and Barbara Schindler, M.D. The program will be moderated by IWHL Director Lynn Yeakel. The informal, no-lecture program will be 59 minutes long.

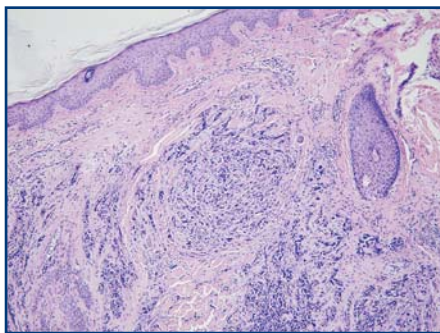
To reserve a seat for "A Conversation About Pain," call **215-255-7373** or email iwhl@drexelmed.edu.

First-Person Profile: Dr. Hailu Tackles Telepathology

Tesfu Hailu, M.D., is a resident in anatomic and clinical pathology with a passion for the science of information technology. His recent grant award from the College of American Pathologists (CAP) allows him to combine these callings in his research.

During his medical training he has already used his software skills to develop applications for the Pathology Department. Dr. Hailu is a member of the Laboratory Digital Imaging Project of the Association for Pathology Informatics, a junior member of CAP, CAP Foundation's Spring Informatics awardee for 2005, CAP Foundation's Telepathology Grant awardee for 2006, and CAP APIII awardee for 2006.

Recently, in a nationwide competition, I was fortunate to be one of only two awardees of the prestigious telepathology grant award from the College of American Pathologists. My project is entitled "Digital Versus Conventional Dermatopathology: A Concordance Study of 80 Cutaneous Conditions."



A digital snapshot taken by the computer in the telepathology system shows a skin biopsy of metastatic carcinoma.

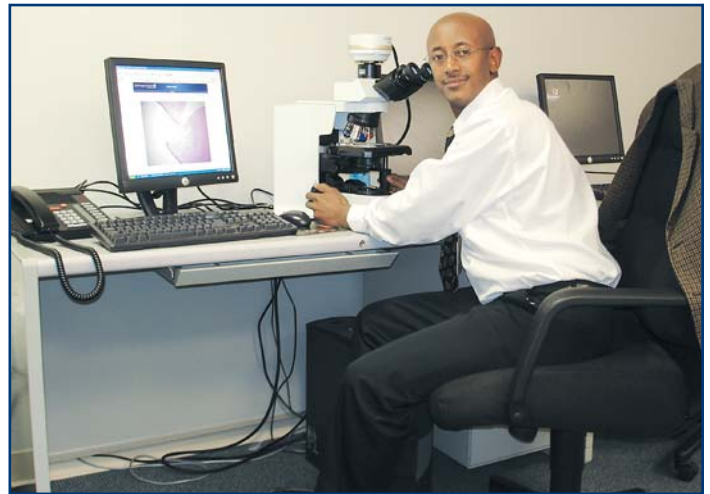
Telepathology is the practice of diagnostic histopathology performed by viewing digital images on a display monitor rather than by conventional light microscopy. The study will compare diagnosis made on digitally scanned

and live images viewed on the monitor to diagnosis made with a conventional light microscope. It involves the digital capture and real-time secure transmission of live images from the slide on the microscope stage to the client computer for simultaneous diagnosis.

Once data collection is complete, the digitalized cases will be classified into one of four categories, as follows: no diagnosis, no discrepancy, minor discrepancy, or major discrepancy. A response will be labeled "major discrepancy" if the difference between the diagnoses would require a major change in management – typically a diagnosis of malignant versus benign.

There are debates regarding the affordability, efficiency, practicality and, most importantly, comparative sensitivity and specificity with conventional light microscopy. However, even with 4- or 5-year-old technology, a concordance rate of 99 to 100 percent has been reported with dynamic telepathology (see sidebar); and 95 to 100 percent with static telepathology.

The adoption of digital pathology and telepathology is inevitable. These technologies offer convenience, standardization, and database manipulation. Telepathology also offers broader access to expert healthcare.



Pathology Resident Tesfu Hailu won one of the two initial grants in telepathology awarded by the College of American Pathologists.

The **TECHNOLOGY** of TELEPATHOLOGY

Telepathology can make use of static or live images. Static image telepathology involves the capture of still digital images at one site and their electronic broadcast (by e-mail or ftp-transfer, for example) and presentation at a distant site. Dynamic telepathology, on the other hand, works by transmission of real-time images from a light microscope to a remote site, where the operator has remote control over the microscope and slides he or she is viewing. The process is identical to using a conventional light microscope (except for the latency). However the cost of the apparatus is relatively high.

Many telepathology systems now combine static and dynamic elements into hybrid systems. In such systems, a series of static images can be captured and transmitted at the start of a dynamic telepathology session, reducing the amount of time used in remote controlling the computerized microscope and the length of the consultant pathologist's session.

Digital and telepathology will soon be the gold standard of pathology. With fiberoptic network lines that handle hundreds of megabits per second, and hard disk drives that can hold terabytes of data, technology is in the process of eliminating the major limitations of bandwidth and storage.

Contact: tesfu.hailu@drexelmed.edu



Dr. Gong

Yue-Song Gong, Ph.D., has joined the College of Medicine as a Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Neurology, where he specializes in Alzheimer's disease research. After earning his M.S. in biochemistry from the China Pharmaceutical University, Dr. Gong received his Ph.D. in neuroscience from the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences and Peking Union Medical College. He then completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Northwestern University in the Department of Neurobiology and Physiology, where he most recently held the position of Research Associate for Alzheimer's disease research. Dr. Gong has had extensive training in working with Alzheimer's and related dementia diseases and has made significant contributions in treating the disease while actively pursuing potential cures through his research. Dr. Gong also hopes to develop vaccines for these diseases.

Department of Neurology: 215-762-7090



Dr. Sullivan

Gail T. Sullivan, M.D., has joined the College of Medicine as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. After receiving her B.S. from Villanova University, Dr. Sullivan completed post-baccalaureate work at Bryn Mawr College and received her M.D. from the Medical College of Pennsylvania, where she also completed postgraduate training with a residency in ob/gyn. Previously, Dr. Sullivan was with the Frankford Hospital Physician Services and had a private practice in Philadelphia. She is board-certified in ob/gyn and is a Fellow of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

Department of Ob/Gyn: 215-762-1838



Dr. Guilfoil

Daniel Scott Guilfoil, M.D., has joined the College of Medicine as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. After receiving his B.S. from St. Joseph's University, Dr. Guilfoil earned his medical degree from the Medical College of Pennsylvania, where he also completed postgraduate training with a residency in ob/gyn. Previously, Dr. Guilfoil was with the Frankford Hospital Physician Services and had a private practice in Philadelphia. He is board-certified in ob/gyn and is a Fellow of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists as well as a member of the American Medical Association.

Department of Ob/Gyn: 215-762-1838

Dr. Jeffrey Jacobson, New Chief of Infectious Diseases, HIV Medicine

Jeffrey Jacobson, M.D., has joined the college as Chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases and HIV Medicine, and Professor of Medicine. Previously, he was Assistant Chief and Fellowship Program Director of Infectious Diseases at Beth Israel Medical Center, New York, and Professor of Medicine at Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

After earning his medical degree from Cornell University Medical College, Dr. Jacobson trained as an intern in the Department of Medicine at the University of Wisconsin Hospitals, and as a resident and fellow in the Department of Medicine at Mount Sinai Medical Center.

Dr. Jacobson has extensive experience in the design and conduct of immune-based studies for HIV infection. He serves as Chairman of the Translational Research and Drug Development Committee of the AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG) and is a member of the Scientific Agenda Steering Committee of the ACTG. Dr. Jacobson has published extensively, including the book *Immunotherapy for Infectious Diseases*. He is a member of the American Society for Microbiology, Infectious Diseases Society of America and the International AIDS Society.

Woman One 2007 Announced



Dr. Lavizzo-Mourey

The president and CEO of America's largest health philanthropy, Risa Lavizzo-Mourey, M.D., MBA, has been named Woman One 2007.

The award is presented annually by the Drexel University College of Medicine Institute for Women's Health and Leadership to recognize women of exceptional achievement. It will be presented to Dr. Lavizzo-Mourey at a special ceremony on April 23, 2007.

Dr. Lavizzo-Mourey heads the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, an organization devoted to opening up access to quality healthcare at reasonable cost and to improving care for those with chronic conditions. She has worked with distinction in academic medicine, as an independent researcher, and in helping formulate government health policy, and has been consistently cited as one of Philadelphia's top physicians.

Funds raised from the Woman One event provide scholarship support for minority women attending Drexel University College of Medicine. Eight Woman One Scholars are currently studying at Drexel.

Upcoming CME Programs

October

Oct 14-15 **Clinical Problem Solving in Gastroenterology**
Hershey Lodge and Convention Center
Hershey, Pa.
Contact: Holly Ann Myers, 301-805-9065

Oct 22 **13th Annual Office Management of Heart Disease: A Primary Care Perspective**
Hyatt Regency at Penn's Landing
201 S. Christopher Columbus Boulevard
Philadelphia
Contact: Cynthia Christos, 215-389-2300

Oct 25-28 **The NADD 23rd Annual Conference: Promoting Mental Health in Children and Adults with Intellectual Disabilities: Cross Systems Collaboration**
Wyndham Hotel at Emerald Plaza
San Diego, Calif.
Contact: Anna Auch, 215-831-6923

December

Dec 7-8 **Clinical Investigator Workshop for Investigators and Key Research Staff**
Sheraton Crystal City, Arlington, Va.
Contact: Erich Lukas, 215-822-8644

Dec 16 **The Annual Day of Trauma**
The Union League of Philadelphia
140 S. Broad Street, Philadelphia
Contact: Jennifer Sumter, 215-762-2580



The Institute for Molecular Medicine and Infectious Disease, directed by Dr. Brian Wigdahl, announced in June that it had established the Page S. Morahan Endowed Molecular Medicine Scholarship in Microbiology and Immunology. The honor recognizes Dr. Morahan's outstanding contributions in medical and graduate education, research, and service to Drexel University College of Medicine and previously Medical College of Pennsylvania. Many of Dr. Morahan's colleagues, friends, and former students and fellows gave to the endowment fund. Dr. Morahan is Co-Director of ELAM (Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine) and previously served in several leadership positions at Medical College of Pennsylvania and MCP Hahnemann University, including Chair of the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at MCP, and Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs at MCP Hahnemann.

The first recipient of the Morahan scholarship is Patricia M. Petritus, a fifth-year doctoral student in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology, who is working under the mentorship of Dr. James M. Burns Jr. Ms. Petritus's research into immune response to malaria infection will be discussed in a future issue of the NewsPaper.

Pictured (l-r) are: Dr. Thomas Edlind, Dr. Morahan, Trish Petritus and Dr. Burns

Compliance Corner:

The "Other" Compliance and Privacy Office Function...The Investigation



Edward G. Longazel
Chief Compliance Officer

The Compliance Corner focus is often on a billing compliance or patient confidentiality issue. We do not usually discuss the investigation function because it is performed in a confidential manner, for obvious reasons. The Drexel Med workforce should recognize that with increased state and federal scrutiny on identity theft and patient privacy, and an ever-tightening economy the existence of a growing investigation workload is worthy of discussion.

The Compliance Officer monitors the hotline and is often the initial point of contact for improper activity related to billing compliance or patient information disclosures. The College of Medicine utilizes an incident response team that quickly triages improper activity and delegates the investigation to either the Compliance Office or the Internal Audit Office. Risk Management, Quality Assurance and IT resources are immediately available and assigned for use in any investigation as appropriate. Often improper activity will call for both Internal Audit and

Compliance Office investigations, as theft and missing funds cases are often accompanied by missing patient information concerns. Investigations to identify the loss of Drexel Med funds must also evaluate the loss of patient information and the potential for identity theft. Such issues must be evaluated very quickly to provide effective protections for all.

Be sure to cooperate with any internal investigation and provide requested information in a timely and confidential manner. Avoid e-mail discussion of the issue and follow the direction of the investigator for need-to-know only distribution of findings. The protection of Drexel Med assets and patient information relies on confidentiality and teamwork in the time of need. Remember, we never guess – we ask!

CONFIDENTIAL HOTLINE: 866-936-1010; WEBSITE HOTLINE: www.drexelmed.edu, click *Faculty and Staff Resources*, then *Compliance Hotline*. TRAINING REQUESTS: 215-762-2023

Suite 11484, 1601 Cherry Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Bulletins:

1 In 8 Heart Attack Patients Noncompliant

A new study of 1,521 patients found that it took only one month after leaving the hospital for one out of eight heart-attack patients to discontinue use of the lifesaving drugs prescribed to them, according to the *Journal of the American Medical Association & Archives*. The heart patients who stopped taking three proven drugs, aspirin, beta blockers and statins, were three times more likely to die during the next year than patients who stayed on the drugs. The study suggests the need to improve the transition care from the hospital to outpatient settings to ensure patients continue to take medications. Patients who stopped their meds were more likely to be older, single and less educated.

Trying to Quit Smoking?

The level of nicotine that smokers typically consume per cigarette has risen 10 percent in the past six years, making it harder to quit and easier to be addicted, says a report by the Massachusetts Department of Health. The study found that the three most popular brands with young smokers, Marlboro, Newport and Camel, delivered significantly more nicotine than six years ago. Nicotine consumed in Kool, a popular menthol brand rose by 20 percent. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services reports that 75 percent of African American smokers use mentholated brands such as Newport, Kool and Salem, compared to fewer than 25 percent of white smokers.

Bird Flu Survivors May Help Save Others

An infusion of blood products from bird flu survivors may help fight the virus, say doctors who studied such treatments used during the 1918 Spanish influenza pandemic. Doctors are searching for ways to treat the H5N1 avian flu strain, which has infected at least 241 people in 10 countries, killing 141 since 2003. During the 1918 Spanish influenza, patients treated with blood, plasma or serum obtained from people who recovered from the Spanish flu cut mortality of seriously ill patients by 50 percent, the doctors report in *Annals of Internal Medicine*. **Dr. Donald Kaye** of the College of Medicine worries that the volume of plasma from recovered H5N1 patients that had been screened for diseases such as HIV would be miniscule and extremely expensive to collect, and it remains to be seen how it would react with severe disease.

Calendar:

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| October | <i>National Breast Cancer Awareness Month</i> |
| Oct 10 | New Faculty Reception
Contact: Ellen Plower, 215-255-7327 |
| Oct 11 | Discovery 2006 , Annual DUCOM Research Day
Contact: Tara Sarica, 215-762-3948 |
| Oct 19 | A Conversation About Pain Sponsored by the Institute for Women's Health & Leadership
Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, 4:00 pm
Contact: 215-255-7373 |
| Oct 24 | Robert F. Johnston, M.D. Memorial Lecture "ARDS: The Role of a Scientific Journal in a Controversy"
Martin J. Tobin, Jr., M.D., Loyola University of Chicago
NCB Geary Auditorium, 4:30 p.m.
Contact: Walter Albright, 215-762-8695 |
| Oct 25 | Robert F. Johnston, M.D. Memorial Lecture "Respiratory Distress, Ventilator Therapy—Clinical Decision Making: Applying Bayesian Logic"
Martin J. Tobin, Jr., M.D., Loyola University of Chicago
NCB Geary Auditorium, 8:30 a.m.
Contact: Walter Albright, 215-762-8695 |
| November | <i>American Diabetes Month</i> |
| Nov 4 | Department of Medicine presents: Management of Ventricular Failure Cardiac Arrhythmias in the Heart Failure Patient
Sheraton Philadelphia City Center Hotel, 8-2 p.m.
Contact: 215-762-2580; www.drexelmed.edu/cme |
| Nov 16 | <i>Great American Smoke Out</i>
www.cancer.org |
| Nov 18 | Black Tie White Coat Ball
Benefiting research, prevention, treatment of HIV/AIDS in women and children
Contact: Ellen Plower, 215-255-7327 |