

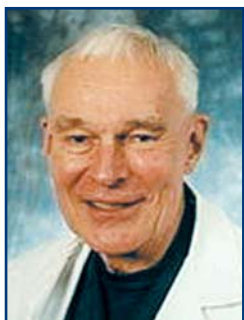
# NEWSPAGER

Linking Technology to a Tradition of Caring™

## Emergency Medicine Department Pioneers ER Ultrasound, Honors Dr. David K. Wagner with New Fellowship

January/February 2007

Newsletter Volume 8, No. 1



Dr. Wagner

When the field of emergency medicine exploded in the 1960s and early 70s, a pediatric surgeon at the Medical College of Pennsylvania realized the need to train physicians in acute care. So in 1971, David K. Wagner, M.D., developed what was only the second emergency medicine residency program in the United States and the country's first three-year residency. Over the next three decades, MCP, and eventually Drexel University College of Medicine,

established itself as a highly regarded leader in emergency medicine, thanks in large part to Dr. Wagner's years of dedicated service. Now the department that in 1989 established one of the first emergency medicine toxicology fellowships in the country (still the only such program in Philadelphia), is pioneering the field's latest sub-specialty, Emergency Medicine Ultrasound, and in doing so, honoring Dr. Wagner's legacy.

Described as the "stethoscope of the future," ER Ultrasound gives physicians a non-invasive way of diagnosing certain medical problems directly at the patient's ER bedside, without having to transfer the patient to radiology or another department in the hospital, potentially wasting precious time.

"It's very useful, for instance, if a woman comes into the ER with intense abdominal pain," said Richard Hamilton, M.D., Chairman of Emergency Medicine. "We can use the ultrasound right there to determine if she's suffering from an ectopic pregnancy, and we are able to treat her more quickly without waiting for further tests." Dr. Hamilton says the ultrasound is also useful in trauma situations to determine the extent of internal injuries, and can often alleviate the need to put in a central IV line, thus preventing the possibility of further complications down the road.

The department already has a fellowship in Emergency Medicine Ultrasound at Hahnemann University Hospital, directed by Dr. John Fojtik, Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine, who also conducts training sessions for physicians around the country on how to use the life-saving technology. Now a second fellowship is planned in collaboration with Mercy Hospital in honor of Dr. Wagner, the longtime chairman of Emergency Medicine who now serves as a tenured Professor of Emergency Medicine. Dr. Wagner continues to see patients and teach at Hahnemann and at the campus at Queen Lane.

"Dave has devoted his entire professional life to medicine, with special and unique distinction in emergency medicine," said Dr. Hamilton. "He has been such a wonderful teacher over many years to all of us – students, residents, and faculty. Because of that, we're very excited to

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## Animal Facilities Receive Accolades

At University Laboratory Animal Resources, Director Richard Huneke, DVM, MPH, and his staff are dedicated to a single-minded goal: excellence in animal care. But you don't have to take their word for it. Their achievements were recognized last fall with full continued accreditation by the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care, International (AAALAC). The 2006 accreditation for the first time includes animal facilities for all of Drexel University.

AAALAC is a nonprofit organization made up of veterinarians and laboratory animal scientists that promotes excellence in the humane care of animals. The accreditation program is strictly voluntary, but with more than 700 member organizations worldwide, it sets the gold standard. For animals to be appropriate research models, they must be healthy and stress-free. An accredited institution is more likely to receive NIH funding, to find collaborative work with other institutions, and to attract research dollars from pharmaceutical companies.



Dr. Huneke and the staff of ULAR

*The Guide for the Care and Use of Animals* is the AAALAC bible, governing

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

### Research Efforts Impressive Inside and Outside the Walls

As researchers at the College of Medicine are submitting more external grants than ever before, I am reminded of the keen research competition that goes on within our walls. The photos below this column document Discovery Day, an exciting event in the College calendar, when we learn about and celebrate the research accomplishments

of students, postdocs, residents, fellows, technicians and faculty

from both clinical and basic science. In 2006, twenty-eight prizes were awarded. A full list of the winners can be found on the College website at [www.drexelmed.edu/Discovery Day](http://www.drexelmed.edu/DiscoveryDay).

In November, Vice Dean for Research Kenny Simansky, Ph.D., announced the recipients of internal grants made from Pennsylvania Tobacco Settlement monies allotted to the College of Medicine. An interdisciplinary panel of 16 faculty members – 12 from Drexel Medicine, three from the Drexel University College of Engineering and one from the University's College of Arts and Sciences – followed NIH study section procedures in conducting a rigorous evaluation of the competing proposals. The grants are described on page 10 of this issue. Congratulations to our fine researchers at all levels.

**Dean's Office: 215-762-3500**



**Dr. Donald Girard, President of the College Alumni Association, presents the platform presentation award to Elaine Smolock, a fourth-year Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Pharmacology and Physiology.**



**Melissa Drost, a second-year Ph.D. candidate in neuroscience, discusses her research with Dr. John Houle, Professor of Neurobiology and Anatomy.**

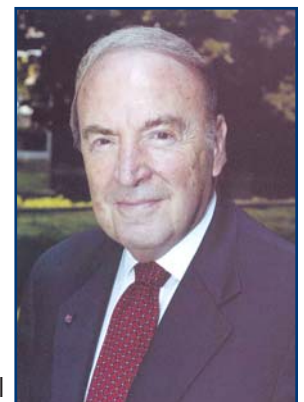
### Cohen Center Brings Palestinian and Israeli Dental Academics Together

D. Walter Cohen, DDS, Chancellor Emeritus of Drexel University College of Medicine, kept an important appointment in Jerusalem on November 27 – the first Middle East Symposium in Dental Medicine, held under the auspices of his namesake D. Walter Cohen Middle East Center for Dental Education. More than 300 Palestinians and Israelis attended the first all-day scientific program, which focused on modern implant dental therapy. Academic figures from the United States, France, Turkey, Israel, and Palestine presented papers at the symposium, which was jointly organized by the dental schools of the Hebrew University and Al-Quds University (an Arab institution), in collaboration with Drexel University, Case Western Reserve, Harvard, the University of Pennsylvania and Hacettepe University of Turkey.

The Cohen Center, which opened at the Hebrew University-Hadassah Dental Faculty in May 1997 has been active since its inception in building a “bridge to peace” through joint scientific

research projects; ongoing dialogue and lectures; the development of local programs in oral health; and, most important, training programs for dentists from the Palestinian Authority, Cyprus, Turkey, Jordan, Egypt and Morocco – all despite the ups and downs of the region's political climate.

A reporter from the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* quoted Dr. Musa J. Bajali, dean of the Al-Quds University School of Dental Medicine: “Our plan is for full collaboration between Al-Quds and Hebrew University. . . . We need to work together to achieve benefits for both peoples.”



**Dr. Cohen**

# Easton Hospital: Evidence-Based Education

Each year, nearly 100 third- and fourth-year Drexel University College of Medicine students get a good dose of evidence-based medicine when they complete rotations at Easton Hospital. In a nationally recognized program developed at Easton, students and residents learn how to work through a structured process of analyzing problems and answering questions based on evidence in the literature. It's an invaluable skill that will serve them well over the length of their careers, according to David T. Lyon, M.D., MPH, FACP, Executive Vice President for Medical & Academic Affairs, Easton Hospital, and Clinical Professor of Medicine, DUCOM.

"We try to instill good habits and good values and help the students understand how to interpret the scientific literature to appreciate the limitations of medicine and the need for lifelong learning," says Dr. Lyon. "These skills will enable them to effectively continue their education throughout their careers. We consider it one of the most important contributions we make to their education."

At Easton, students also benefit from personalized one-to-one interaction with attending physicians and surgeons and frontline exposure to clinical skills in a community setting. "We teach students an appreciation of the social, ethical and economic dimensions of healthcare delivery, such as end-of-life decisions and responsible utilization practices," notes Dr. Lyon.

Founded in 1890, Easton Hospital is a 369-bed acute-care teaching hospital serving more than 300,000 residents of Northampton County and the five surrounding counties in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The hospital's Easton Regional Cancer Center is a Fox Chase Cancer Center Partner and one of only three facilities in Pennsylvania offering state-of-the-art TomoTherapy® radiation treatment for cancer. An affiliate of Community Health Systems, the hospital handles about 12,500 admissions and 142,000 outpatient visits annually.



Easton Hospital

Forty paid faculty and 70 volunteer faculty from among the hospital's 243 physicians help to continue the teaching tradition that began in 1970 when Drexel's predecessor institutions first formed an academic affiliation with Easton.

"Easton Hospital is a very strong academic partner that provides our students with exceptional one-on-one teaching and exposure to a broad population of patients with a wide variety of clinical problems," says Barbara A. Schindler, M.D., Vice Dean, Educational & Academic Affairs, DUCOM. "We value their very strong commitment to medical education."

"The privilege of contributing to the education of young physicians enhances the quality of care that our patients receive," observes Dr. Lyon. "Both doctors and students learn in the process."

## Who Sports the Biggest Smiles, Gifters or Giftees?



Children at the Mifflin School in East Falls and in the after-school program of the West Kensington Boys and Girls Club were the happy focus of holiday spirits when Drexel University College of Medicine students arrived in December with nearly 600 books they had collected. Each child received a new book of his or her own. The holiday book drive is coordinated by the Office of Community Experience.

Contact: 215-991-8579





**Dr. Faerber**

**Eric N. Faerber, M.D.**, Professor of Radiology and Pediatrics, DUCOM, and Director of Radiology at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, presented "Challenges of Chairmanship" at the annual meeting of the Society of Chairpersons of Radiology Departments in Children's Hospitals, in Chicago, October 13-14, 2006.

**Sirma Koutzaki, M.Sc.**, pediatric surgery staff; **Jean-Pierre De Chadarevian, M.D.**, Professor of Pathology and Pediatrics, and **Christine M. Finck, M.D.**, Assistant Professor, Surgery and Pediatrics, are co-authors with Mark J. Mondrinos, B.Sc., Eugene Jiwanmall, B.Sc., Mengyan Li, Ph.D., and Peter I. Lelkes, Ph.D., Drexel University School of Biomedical Engineering and Health Systems, of an article entitled "Engineering Three-Dimensional Pulmonary Tissue Constructs," which appeared in *Tissue Engineering*, Volume 12, Number 4, 2006.



**Dr. Sternbach**

**Dr. Michele R. Lamoreux**, a former Assistant Professor of Family Medicine; **Dr. Marna Sternbach**, Assistant Professor of Family Medicine, and **Dr. W. Theresa Hsu**, Assistant Professor of Dermatology, published an article entitled "Erythema Multiforme" in *American Family Physician*, November 30, 2006.



**Dr. Lippa**

**Carol F. Lippa, M.D.**, Professor of Neurology and Director of the Memory Disorders Program at the College of Medicine, recently traveled to Yokohama, Japan to give the Plenary Lecture for the 4th International Workshop on DLB and PDD designed to develop more precise diagnostic criteria for

Parkinson's dementia and related conditions. The presentation was entitled "DLB and PDD at a Crossroad." Also see next.

**Cynelle Murray**, a third-year medical student at the College of Medicine recently published a manuscript entitled "The Corpus Callosum in Pick's Disease, Alzheimer's Disease, and Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis: Gliosis Implies Possible Clinical Consequence," which was published in the January 2006 edition of the *American Journal of Alzheimer's Disease and Other Disorders (AJADD)*. The manuscript is based on Murray's work with **Dr. Lippa**, and was one of AJADD's top 10 downloaded articles over the past three years.

**Elaine Smolock, Ph.D.**, student in the Department of Pharmacology and Physiology presented the results of her research on "siRNA knock-down of proteins in intact vascular smooth muscle" at the FASEB Summer Conference on Smooth Muscle in Snowmass, CO. Co-authors of her presentation were Tanchun Wang, Jocelyn Nolt (Dept of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology), and Robert S. Moreland.

**Eric W. Vogel, M.D.**, Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, and Assistant Dean and Vice Chair of Medicine for Affiliations, presented a workshop entitled "From paperless through wireless: Innovative uses of residency management software" at the Association of Program Directors in Internal Medicine fall meeting in New Orleans on October 27th."

**Tanchun Wang, Ph.D.**, student in the Department of Pharmacology and Physiology presented the results of her research on "CPI-17 phosphorylation in bladder smooth muscle: Role of protein kinase C, rho kinase or both?" at the FASEB Summer Conference on Smooth Muscle in Snowmass, CO. Co-authors of her presentation were Derek Kendig, Elaine Smolock, and Robert S. Moreland.

At St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, Dr. Daniel Schidlow's clinical rounds with pediatric clerkship students include canine participants Beethoven and Butterscotch. Front and center is Beethoven; (l-r) seated, R. Colin Brabender with Butterscotch, Dr. Schidlow, and William Nelson; standing, Thomas Mackenzie, Hyaewan Kim, and Amit Gossain. The students are in their third year, which includes a 6-week rotation in pediatrics.



The Black Tie/White Coat Ball, featuring Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons, drew nearly 1,200 people to the Pennsylvania Convention Center, November 18, and raised \$750,000 for HIV/AIDS research at the College.

# Black Tie White Coat Ball November 18





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**Dr. Schamberg**

**Jay F. Schamberg, M.D., FCAP, HMC '72**, has been elected to the Board of Directors of the College of American Pathologists Foundation. He is the General Manager of Joint Laboratory Operations for Advocate Health Care and Aurora Health Care, Milwaukee, Wis. Dr. Schamberg practiced anatomical and clinical pathology with Great Lakes Pathology, formerly Greater Milwaukee Pathologists, from

1978 to 1995 (1986 to 1995 as president), when he became vice president of Laboratory Services for Aurora Health Care. He assumed his present position in 2000. Dr. Schamberg is also a member of the College of American Pathologists Board of Governors.

## '40s

**Gloria Schragar, MD, WMC '48**, had her book *Medicine, Matzoh Balls and Motherhood* published by Xlibris Corporation. The book is a memoir and a retrospective of the difficulties faced by women who wished to become a doctor in mid-20th century America. Dr. Schragar retired as Director of Pediatrics at Overlook Hospital in Summit, N.J., in 1989.

## '60s

**John E. Schiller, M.D., HU '68**, a radiation oncologist, retired in October as Director of the Penrose Cancer Center, in Colorado Springs, Colo. Dr. Schiller had practiced for over 30 years.

**David O. Williams, M.D., HU '69**, is the Director of the Cardiovascular Laboratory and Interventional Cardiology at Rhode Island Hospital and the national principle investigator of the DEScover Study (DES stands for drug-eluting stents), a registry of 7,752 patients in 140 hospitals across the country who received a coronary intervention treatment (*Circulation*, November 14).

## '70s

**Herbert L. Kunkle, M.D., HU '79**, an orthopedic surgeon, joined Jennersville Orthopedics and Sports Medicine, a specialty practice, located in Kennett Square, Pa., committed to providing surgical and nonsurgical treatment of orthopedic disorders and injuries. Dr. Kunkle spent five years as a family physician, then pursued further training as an orthopedic surgeon.

## '80s

**Robert Maddalon, M.D., M.S., MCP '80, and Former Resident**, was elected Chairman of the Department of Surgery for 2006-07 at Brandon Regional Hospital, Brandon, Fla. He has also been named in the Consumer Research Council Guide to America's Top Physicians. He is a founding member of Brandon Orthopedic Associates.

**Beth Baughman DuPree, M.D., FACS, HU '87**, a surgeon who specializes in breast cancer care, is working with the medical company Diversified Specialty Institutes to develop and build a breast cancer hospital to be located in Bensalem, Pa. Dr. Dupree will serve as Medical Director for the facility. She has also established a nonprofit organization called The Healing Consciousness Foundation and has written a book entitled *The Healing Consciousness: A Doctor's Journey to Healing*. Dr. Dupree uses holistic medicine as well as traditional medicine in treating breast cancer.

## '90s

**Daniel I. Kim, M.D., HU '94**, has been named Program Director of the Internal Medicine Residency Program at Loma Linda University Medical Center in Loma Linda, Calif. Dr. Kim is an internist and practices as a hospitalist in addition to serving as Chief for the Division of Ambulatory Care.

**Jeffrey L. Brown, M.D., HU '92, Former Resident and Fellow**, a general surgeon, joined the medical staff of Southern New Hampshire Medical Center in Nashua, N.H. In addition, he is affiliated with Gate City Surgeons also in Nashua.

**Robert E. Rapp, M.D., MCP '92**, an internist, has joined Bassett Healthcare, located in Cooperstown, N.Y., as a hospitalist.

**Sally Speck, M.D., MCP '98**, an emergency physician at Paoli Hospital in Paoli, Pa., participated in the Ironman World Championship in Kona, Hawaii, on October 21. The triathlon competition consisted of a 2.4-mile swim, a 112-mile bike ride, and a 26.2-mile run.

## '00s

**Vivian Argento, M.D., MCPHU '00**, a geriatrician, has joined the Bridgeport Hospital Center for Geriatrics. Dr. Argento provides specialized medical care to older adult patients at the hospital and community care settings.

**Christopher Notte, M.D., College of Medicine '03** joined the Department of Family Medicine in association with the Family Care Medical Center located in Chalfont, Pa.



## Former Residents and Fellows

**Ignatius Cyriac, M.D., Resident HU '98**, an ophthalmologist, has joined Shore Eye Associates, located in Toms River, N.J. In addition to glaucoma management, Dr. Cyriac practices comprehensive ophthalmology, including the treatment of cataracts, diabetes, macular degeneration, and other ocular diseases.

**Jawal Suleman, M.D., Resident, HU '98**, a cardiologist, joined the medical staff of Roanoke Chowan Hospital to provide cardiology services at the Ahoskie Heart Center in Ahoskie, N.C.

**Farzan Rajput, M.D., Fellow, College of Medicine '06**, a cardiologist, has joined Pacific Coast Cardiology in Newport Beach, California as a non-invasive cardiologist specializing in advanced cardiac imaging. Dr. Rajput's focus is on the evaluation, early diagnosis and treatment of coronary artery disease and other complex cardiac conditions.

**Herbert A. Fischer, M.D., Former Fellow**, who is a cardiologist at Phoenixville Hospital in Phoenixville, Pa., wrote on cardiac intervention for the "Physician's Corner" in *The Phoenix* newspaper.

## In Memoriam:

**Edithe J. (Miller) Levit, M.D., WMC '51**, who was the first female president of the National Board of Medical Examiners, passed away October 18, 2006. Dr. Levit was 79 and a native of Philadelphia, though she lived the last two years of her life in Amherst, Mass. Dr. Levit joined the NBME board in 1961, and served as assistant director, associate director, secretary and vice president before assuming the presidency. Prior to joining the board, she was Director of Medical Education at Philadelphia General Hospital. Dr. Levit grew up in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Her parents had fled the pogroms in Eastern Europe, emigrating from an area they called "Russia-Poland." She is survived by a sister, two sons, David and Harry, and two grandchildren. Her husband, Samuel, an internist who was on staff at Graduate Hospital, died in 1994.

## Former Faculty Dr. Zurbach Passes Away

**Lois Hammond Zurbach, M.D.**, a pediatrician who spent 45 years as a Professor of Pediatric Medicine at Woman's Medical College, died November 4, 2006, at a retirement community in Gwynedd Valley, Pa. She was 91 years old. Dr. Zurbach received the Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching in the late 1970s. For 20 years, she also cared for children one day a week at Philadelphia city health centers. A native of Burlington, Vt., Dr. Zurbach earned her medical degree from the University of Vermont. She completed a residency in pediatrics at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Dr. Zurbach, who had eight children, is survived by her daughters Mary Last, Patricia Fitzmyer, Barbara Schneider, Theresa Sinz, Janet and Nancy; a son, James; 13 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

## Dr. McLeer Receives AACAP Leadership Award

Susan V. McLeer, M.D., reflected honor on the College of Medicine in two ways when the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry gave her its 2006 Robert Cancro Academic Leadership Award – as an alumna of Woman's Medical College, Class of 1970, and as Professor and Chair of the Department of Psychiatry at Drexel University College of Medicine. Dr. McLeer received the award at the Academy's President's Lunch. Later in the week a dinner was held in her honor and attended by AACAP President Dr. Thomas F. Anders (in the photo at right, with Dr. McLeer), and a number of dignitaries from the American Psychiatric Association, and the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, as well as all of the residency training directors.

Dr. McLeer was cited as "a pioneer who persevered in her commitment to academic and clinical programs for child

and adolescent psychiatry in the face of enormous adversity." She was also cited for her recognition by Who's Who in Medicine and Healthcare and for having been designated as a Fellow of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry in 2003.

During the Annual Meeting of the Academy, Dr. McLeer gave an honors presentation on "Money, Mergers and Hospital Closures: Building Programs in the 21st Century."





# ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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**Save the Date!** *Drexel University  
May 4 – 6 College of Medicine*

## *Alumni Weekend 2007*

The College is proud of its heritage; join your fellow WMC, HMC, HU, MCP, MCPHU and DUCOM classmates as they make a connection with old friends and new family to create lasting memories. Invitations will be arriving soon. Please call the Office of Alumni Relations toll-free at: **866-DREX-MED (866-373-9633)** with any questions.

### **Hotel Information**

Blocks of rooms are reserved at several Philadelphia hotels. Please contact the hotel directly and mention that you are attending the Drexel Reunion to receive the special rates below.

#### **Philadelphia Marriott Downtown (\$189)**

1201 Market Street, 800-228-9290

Cutoff date: 4/6/07

#### **Omni at Independence (\$209)**

401 Chestnut Street, 888-444-OMNI

Cutoff date: 4/6/07

#### **Hilton Inn at Penn (\$209)**

3600 Sansom Street, 215-222-0200

Cutoff date: 4/3/07

#### **Sheraton University City (\$159)**

3549 Chestnut Street, 800-325-3535

Cutoff date: 4/3/07

#### **Club Quarters (\$89-\$124)**

1628 Chestnut Street, 212-575-0006

Cutoff date: 3/29/07

**Save the Date!** *Woman's Medical  
May 16 – 18 College & Hahnemann  
Medical College*

## *Class of 1957 50th Reunion*

In honor of your 50th reunion, a special celebration is planned for your class, coinciding with the College of Medicine Commencement. Information on the three days of scheduled events will be arriving in your mail shortly. Please call the Office of Alumni Relations toll-free at: **866-DREX-MED (866-373-9633)** with any questions.

### **Hotel Information**

Blocks of rooms are reserved at several Philadelphia hotels. Please contact the hotel directly and mention that you are attending the Drexel University College of Medicine 50th Reunion to receive the special rates below.

#### **Philadelphia Courtyard (\$209)**

21 Juniper Street, 800-228-9290

Cutoff date: 4/6/07

#### **Omni at Independence (\$209)**

401 Chestnut Street, 800-321-2211

Cutoff date: 4/16/07

#### **Union League (\$159)**

140 South Broad Street, 215-587-5570

Cutoff date: 4/18/07

#### **Sheraton University City (\$159)**

3549 Chestnut Street, 800-325-3535

Cutoff date: 4/3/07

## ***Primary Care Alumni Needed – Anywhere in the United States!***

You have the opportunity to demonstrate the importance of primary care medicine to our current first-year medical students.

The students in the Program for Integrated Learning (PIL), Drexel University College of Medicine's problem-based curriculum, participate in a Primary Care Practicum at the end of their first year. The practicum's purpose is to expose the students to the practice of medicine and community health. The students have already learned basic history-taking and physical exam skills throughout their first year, as well as their basic sciences. In the practicum the students begin to use patients and their problems

as a basis for further learning, concentrating on basic sciences, clinical sciences, psychosocial, and preventive issues.

We are looking for physicians anywhere in the United States who will serve as preceptors for our students this spring. This is a great way to meet our current students and have a real impact on their learning and possibly their career choice!

If you are interested and want more information please contact Mary Gaughan in the PIL office, **215-991-8554**, or email us at **[Pamela.Duke@drexelmed.edu](mailto:Pamela.Duke@drexelmed.edu)** or **[Mary.Gaughan@drexelmed.edu](mailto:Mary.Gaughan@drexelmed.edu)**.

# ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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## Working Out Together



The College of Medicine Alumni Association Board and the Drexel Board of Governors held their joint meeting in the new Student Activity Center at Queen Lane. Tours of the new facility, including the new Workout Room, were given by Student Ambassadors prior to the meeting. Nominations for the College of Medicine Alumni Association Awards and the 2007/08 Board are now being accepted. Please submit all nominations to: [medical.alumni@drexel.edu](mailto:medical.alumni@drexel.edu).

## Upcoming Events

Friday, February 16

**American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons  
Alumni Reception**  
San Diego

Thursday, February 22

**Tutankhamun & the Golden Age of the Pharaohs**  
The Franklin Institute, Philadelphia

Sunday, March 25

**American College of Cardiology Alumni Reception**  
New Orleans

Thursday, March 29

**Monty Python's Spamalot**  
The Academy of Music, Philadelphia

Friday, April 20

**American College of Physicians Alumni Reception**  
San Diego

Monday, May 7

**American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists  
Alumni Reception**  
San Diego

June 23-27

**American Medical Association Alumni Reception**  
Chicago

For more information, contact the Office of Alumni Relations  
at **215-255-7341** or email [medical.alumni@drexel.edu](mailto:medical.alumni@drexel.edu)

Send alumni notes to Patty Comey at [pcomey@drexelmed.edu](mailto: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/alumni>

**Maureen Basha, Ph.D.**, a volunteer postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Pharmacology and Physiology at the College of Medicine and a postdoctoral fellow in urology at the University of Pennsylvania, was recently awarded an American Urology Association Foundation Research Scholar Fellowship for her project "Molecular Mechanisms Regulating Vaginal Smooth Muscle Function." The mentors on this project are Robert S. Moreland, Ph.D., Professor of Pharmacology and Physiology, College of Medicine, and Samuel Chacko, DVM, Ph.D., Director of Urology Research at Penn.

**David Berkson, M.D.**, Assistant Professor, Department of Family, Community and Preventive Medicine, and Director, Family Medicine Residency Program, has received the degree of Fellow from the American Academy of Family Physicians. The degree recognizes members who have distinguished themselves among their colleagues, as well as in their communities, by their service to family medicine, by their advancement of healthcare to the American people, and by their professional development through medical education and research.

**Marshall S. Schwartz, M.D.**, Professor of Surgery and Pediatrics, has been appointed Surgeon-in-Chief and Chief, Section of General Pediatric Surgery, at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children. In addition, Dr. Schwartz serves as Surgical Director, Renal Transplantation, and Director, Pediatric Surgery Laboratory, at St. Christopher's. Dr. Schwartz, who is Chairman of the Pediatric Surgery Board for the American Board of Surgery, also holds a faculty appointment at Thomas Jefferson University.



On Discovery Day 2006, Resident José Nativi, M.D. (far right), received first prize in the category of Outstanding Clinical Resident/Fellow Poster for "Electrocardiographic Patterns of Biventricular Pacing: An Analysis of QRS Morphology in Relation to Pacing Site." He is pictured with collaborators (l-r) Karthik Linganathan, M.D., Cardiology Fellow, and John Fontaine, M.D., Associate Professor, Cardiology.

## Recipients of internal grants made from Pennsylvania Tobacco Settlement monies:

- An improved pre-clinical mouse model for scleroderma and its use to test a new therapeutic approach. Principal Investigator: **Elizabeth Blankenhorn, Ph.D.**, Department of Microbiology and Immunology
- Brain machine interface control of locomotor assistive robotic and neuroprosthetic systems. Principal Investigator: **Simon Giszter, Ph.D.**, Department of Neurobiology and Anatomy
- Drug discovery for treating spinal muscular atrophy. Principal Investigator: **Gordon Lutz, Ph.D.**, Department of Pharmacology and Physiology
- Roles of a circadian rhythm protein, timeless, in genomic integrity and cancer development. Principal Investigator: **Eishi Noguchi, Ph.D.**, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
- Targeting protein O-GlcNAc modifications in breast cancer. Principal Investigator: **Mauricio Reginato, Ph.D.**, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
- Development and testing of a nanoscale ultrasound contrast agent for detection of ovarian cancer. Principal Investigator: **Ari D. Brooks, M.D.**, Department of Surgery
- Novel therapeutic approaches to the treatment of progesterone receptor negative breast cancer. Principal Investigator: **Jane Clifford, Ph.D.**, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

## Emergency Medicine Honors Dr. David K. Wagner...continued

establish The David K. Wagner, M.D. Fellowship in Emergency Medicine Ultrasound in his honor."

The goal of the fellowship will be to recruit a committed, knowledgeable physician each year to serve as a Fellow in Emergency Medicine Ultrasound for a one-year period. The position will promote emergency medicine ultrasonography, and DUCOM's expertise in this area, through formal education, hands-on scanning, resident and faculty education, original research projects, and by making regional and national presentations.

For more information about how to contribute to The David K. Wagner, M.D. Fellowship in Emergency Medicine Ultrasound, contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at **215-255-7344**.

### The False Claims Act Enforcement Authority



**Edward G. Longazel**  
Chief Compliance Officer

We often see headlines concerning large settlements involving fines and penalties levied against healthcare providers accused of fraud and abuse. The large penalties arise from a formula set forth under the federal civil False Claims Act (FCA): 31 USC Section 3729-3733. A person or entity is liable for up to treble (triple) damages and a penalty between \$5,500 and \$11,000 for each false claim it knowingly submits or causes to be submitted to a federal program.

It is worthy to note that “a claim” is considered a demand for payment, and each line of a claim form may be considered a separate “claim.” So, a false claim form with three lines of services totaling \$300 in charges (\$100 per CPT\* code x 3 codes) could render fines and penalties of \$33,900. A person or entity is liable under the FCA if he/she/it knowingly makes or uses, or causes to be made or used, a false record or statement to have a false claim paid. \**Current Procedural Terminology*

The FCA defines “knowing” to include not only the traditional definition we would expect but also instances in which the person acted in deliberate ignorance of the truth or falsity of the information, or in reckless disregard of the truth or falsity of the information. Under the FCA, no specific intent to defraud is required. The FCA also contains a qui tam, or whistleblower, provision that permits a private individual to file suit on behalf of the United States and entitles that whistleblower to a percentage of any fraud recoveries.

The False Claims Act and the serious nature of associated fines and penalties are a major consideration in the development and maintenance of a vigilant Corporate Compliance Program. The annual monitoring program commences each January with audits of clinically active faculty and staff to ensure consistent accuracy in documentation and billing, coupled with education as required. Accuracy and proper payment are the goals!

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

### Animal Facilities Receive Accolades...continued



every aspect of animal care from housing to analgesia, as well as proper training, health and safety for personnel. Every three years, AAALAC council members make a site visit, during which they examine the facilities, interview staff, and review investigators' records at random from anytime in the three-year period.

Significant and thorough as it may be, the AAALAC stamp of approval is just the tip of the iceberg for Dr. Huneke and the staff of University Laboratory Animal Resources (ULAR). The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal Care program inspects the University's three animal facilities – each on a separate visit – annually. The National Institutes of Health does not inspect, but requires an annual report of any instances of noncompliance and, every five years, a written “assurance” document, detailing how animals are cared for.

Most important – what makes all the rest go smoothly – is an internal power: the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). The IACUC oversees any protocol involving animals. Its application form combines the most rigorous detail on materials and methods with fundamental questions such as: Why is it necessary to use an animal model in this study? The protocol requires a list of personnel, the specific tasks each will handle and their level of training. The principal investigator assumes responsibility for all the answers and signs off on a final safeguard: I certify that this protocol does not unnecessarily duplicate previous experiments.

In addition to the scientists you would expect, the IACUC Committee includes a statistician, who can rule on the scientific justification for the number of animals in a study; an ethicist; and a non-scientist representative of the community. The community member reviews the goals of the study to make sure they are in

layman's language and asks, “How will this research affect the community? How will it help someone?”

Some granting agencies require approval from the investigator's IACUC before they even consider a grant application. “Certainly, if we're doing collaborative work with another institution, our Office of Research will want to see their IACUC's approval and they'll want to see ours,” Dr. Huneke says.

**Heavy maintenance.** Every six months the IACUC performs a facility and lab inspection that's required by law, and if they find a deficiency, a letter goes to the researcher asking that it be addressed. On a daily basis, the ULAR staff keeps its eyes open.

“I don't like to be a policeman – I like to be a colleague,” Dr. Huneke says, “but if my staff finds something that doesn't look right, we're going to look up the protocol, find out why, and hopefully nip it in the bud.” If there are any major issues, the IACUC and the Office of Research have to report that to the granting agency, so early action is even more important. The bottom line is “when we do a great job, the animals have humane care, and our researchers have appropriate models for the scientific integrity of their studies.”

Dr. Kenny Simansky, Vice Dean for Research, sums it up: “The comments at the AAALAC site visit and the formal reports lauded the quality of the animal care program at each of our sites. The College of Medicine, which relies most heavily on this program, and the University overall, are grateful to Dr. Huneke and his staff for their hard work and professionalism, not only in achieving this critical accomplishment, but in maintaining such a high quality program every day of the year. The research portfolio of the university and the scientific accomplishments of the faculty depend upon their clinical care and advice.”

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## Bulletins:

### Muybridge's Stop-Action Anatomy Photos to Be Subject of Lecture

The Wagner Free Institute of Science will present "At the Crossroads of Art and Science: The Photography of Eadweard Muybridge," on Thursday March 1. Dr. Michael Lewis of Williams College will take you back to Victorian Philadelphia "when art and science collided in the anatomical motion studies of photographic pioneer Eadweard Muybridge." The institute will be open for visiting from 5 to 7 p.m. Lecture at 5:30 p.m. For more information: [www.wagnerfreeinstitute.org](http://www.wagnerfreeinstitute.org).

### Women's Health Research at a Crossroads

On March 8, "Crossroads Conversation" takes the popular "Conversations" series into critical issues of opportunities and challenges in women's health research. Policy barriers and lack of access to venture capital slow the pace of development of medicines specific to women. These and other topics will be on the table at this session at the Union League of Philadelphia. The "Crossroads" goal: solutions. This program starts promptly at 5:30 P.M. Co-sponsored by the College of Medicine's Institute for Women's Health and Leadership, the Women's Law Project, Drexel's School of Public Health, the Association of Women in Science and other professional and community organizations. Contact: **215-255-7373**.

### Drexel Libraries Intellectual Property Symposium in April

The Drexel University Libraries will continue their Scholarly Communication Series this year with a full-day event on "Intellectual Property." Save the date: April 20, 2007! For more information contact Anita Chiodo, Access Services Librarian, at **215-762-1069**.

## Calendar:

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>January</b>  | <i>National Blood Donor Month</i><br><i>National Glaucoma Awareness Month</i>  |
| Jan 27          | <b>14th Annual Pediatric AIDS Benefit Concert</b><br>Produced by DUCOM students<br>College of Physicians of Philadelphia<br>Contact: Marie Hartman, 215-991-8219   |
| <b>February</b> | <i>Heart Month</i><br><i>National Children's Dental Health Month</i>   |
| <b>March</b>    | <i>National Brain Injury Awareness Month</i><br><i>National Nutrition Month</i>  |
| Mar 5-11        | <i>National Patient Safety Awareness Week</i>  |
| Mar 8           | <i>International Women's Day</i><br><b>Women's Health Research at a Crossroads</b><br>Panel Discussion, 5:30 p.m.<br>The Union League, 140 S. Broad St.<br>Contact: 215-255-7373   |
| Mar 15          | <b>Kate Hurd-Mead Lecture</b><br>Speaker: Toby Appel, Yale University<br>The College of Physicians of Philadelphia, 5:30 p.m.<br>Contact: 215-255-7373<br><b>Match Day</b><br>Queen Lane Campus, 11:30<br>Contact: Marie Hartman, 215-991-8219 |
| <b>April</b>    | <i>Alcohol Awareness Month</i><br><i>National Donate Life Month</i>  |
| Apr 5           | <b>The Media &amp; Women's Health: Sorting Fact from Fiction</b><br>Public Health Grand Rounds featuring author Judy Norsigian<br>New College Building, Geary Auditorium, 4:30 p.m.  |
| Apr 23          | <b>5th Annual Woman One Award Ceremony</b><br>The Rittenhouse Hotel, Philadelphia, 5:30 p.m.<br>\$125 per ticket. Contact: 215-255-7373  |
| <b>May</b>      |  |
| May 18          | <b>College of Medicine Commencement</b>  |
| <b>June</b>     |  |
| Jun 16          | <b>Drexel University Commencement</b>  |