

NEWSPAGER

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Research Finding Offers Hope to Cancer Patients, Wins Patent and Idea Grant

March 2007

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Three decades of extensive research finally proved that aggressive growth and metastasis of cancer requires the formation of new blood vessels, a process known as angiogenesis, from the Greek words meaning "vessel birth."

Researchers have determined that drugs that stop or reverse the growth of tumor-induced blood vessels can be powerful tools against cancer; in other words, a boost for tumor starvation. Angiostatin, a natural chemical molecule that was discovered in tumor-bearing animals in 1994, appeared to regulate tumor growth by inhibiting angiogenesis, although the mechanism was unknown. The therapeutic potential of angiostatin was tested in human tumors implanted in mice. In a preclinical setting this molecule effected a complete regression of human breast, prostate and colon cancers without any side effect. However, subsequent clinical trials showed disappointing results. Published data suggest that the failure of angiostatin in the clinical system was due to its short half-life in circulation and to the generation of antibodies.

To overcome these obstacles, Mahesh C. Sharma, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Surgery at the College of Medicine, has uncovered a specific receptor, or target, for angiostatin and defined its mechanism of action. Protein sequence analysis identified the receptor as annexin II. Antibodies to annexin II were recently developed by Dr. Sharma's

laboratory. Dr. Sharma tested these antibodies in mice bearing lung carcinoma and demonstrated that they inhibited tumor growth significantly. These antibodies may be potential tools for the treatment of cancer. To further expand this investigation, Dr. Sharma showed that this antibody can be used as a potential diagnostic or prognostic tool for early detection of breast cancer. His research was published in two papers in the October 2006 issue of the journal *Experimental and Molecular Pathology* (81: 136-145 and 146-156).



Dr. Sharma

In effect, the antibody to annexin II kills the blood vessels supplying the blood necessary for the tumor to grow. This investigation provides a great deal of hope for patients suffering from cancer, Dr. Sharma says.

The results have caught the interest of the Department of Defense (DoD). Dr. Sharma has received an Idea Award of \$450,000 over the next three years from the DoD. Dr. Sharma and Drexel University College of Medicine hold a worldwide patent for methods for identifying and using compositions that inhibit angiogenesis via their interaction with annexin II or angiostatin, published January 9, 2007 (U.S. patent No. US 7,160858B2).

Contact: MSharma@DrexelMed.edu

Neurology Clinical Trials Program to Expand



Front (l-r): Barb Erwins, Administrator, and Drs. Lee Peterlin, Daniel Gzesh and David Tabby. Drs. Peterlin, Gzesh and Tabby conduct trials in headache (Peterlin, Tabby), stroke (Gzesh) and multiple sclerosis (Tabby). Back (l-r): Marjorie Hepler, R.N., Terry Paylor, R.N., Dr. Sigmund Jenssen, Andrea Rosso, Drs. Carol Lippa, Gonzalo Revuelta, Marie Wolanin, Jyoti Pillai, and Gediminas Gliubus. Hepler, Paylor, Rosso and Wolanin are clinical coordinators, and Jenssen, Lippa and Pillai conduct clinical trials in epilepsy (Jenssen and Pillai) and Alzheimer's/dementia (Lippa).

A decade ago there were few medications to treat people with neurological problems, including Alzheimer's disease and multiple sclerosis. Today a variety of medications are used for these conditions, thanks in part to the clinical trials that demonstrated their safety and efficacy. Yet we still lack medications that completely halt the progression, or lead to a cure, for most neurological diseases. The Neurology Clinical Trials Program at the College of Medicine is going to expand and will seek individuals to participate in its studies.

People opt to take part in clinical trials for several reasons. The most important is that it provides them the opportunity to receive medical treatments that are not otherwise available, but many people also participate in the hope that information gained from the study will help defeat these diseases so that others will not suffer.

These trials will target individuals from all socioeconomic backgrounds.

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

New Appointments to Facilitate Enhancements and Opportunities

I am pleased to announce the appointment of **Howard A. Miller, M.D.**, as the **Senior Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs**. Dr. Miller is Professor of Medicine and Executive Vice-Chair of the Department of Medicine. He is a graduate of Hahnemann Medical College and stayed on for his residency, serving as

Chief Medical Resident. He has been a devoted faculty member since 1977. As a longtime and well-regarded clinician at Hahnemann University Hospital, Dr. Miller served as President of the Medical Staff from 2002 to 2004.

In his new role, Dr. Miller will provide senior physician leadership to enhance the performance of the Drexel University Physicians® practice plan, lead the implementation of the clinical Faculty Compensation Incentive Plan, develop strategies to improve clinical referrals, and represent the practice plan in negotiating payer contracts.

William Meyers, M.D., Professor and Chairman of the Department of Surgery, has been named **Senior Associate Dean**

for Biotechnology Development. Prior to his arrival at Drexel in 2001, Dr. Meyers was the Harry M. Haidak Distinguished Professor and Chairman of the Department of Surgery at the University of Massachusetts Medical School. He was also surgeon-in-chief of the university's Memorial Health Care System. Dr. Meyers received his medical degree from Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York. He also earned his MBA from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania.

Simon W. Abrahms has joined the College as **Associate Dean for Planning and Operations**. Mr. Abrahms comes to us from Saint Louis University Hospital, where he was the Chief Strategy Officer. In that role he was responsible for business planning and capital budgeting, technology acquisition and certificate of need applications. He co-chaired the Medical Joint Strategic Planning Committee and was also a member of the Hospital's Governing Board, Utilization Management Committee and Cancer Committee. He holds an extensive professional history in healthcare consulting.

Mr. Abrahms will report directly to me and will be responsible for coordination of programs at Tenet Hospitals and operations of the College of Medicine. He will assist and facilitate business development opportunities with the Office of Clinical Trials, act as principal administrative officer to coordinate and evaluate COM contracts, and serve as liaison with clinical chairs at Tenet Hospitals.

Dean's Office: 215-762-3500

Sadly Missed: Dr. Elias Abrutyn

Dr. Elias Abrutyn – loyal friend, valued colleague, respected teacher, and revered physician – passed away February 22, 2007. Dr. Abrutyn was Professor of Medicine in the Division of Infectious Diseases and Associate Provost and Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs. Over the years, he served in numerous leadership positions at the College of Medicine, including Vice Chairman, and Interim Chairman of the Department of Medicine. A leading expert in infectious diseases, Dr. Abrutyn directed the College's Center for the Study of Hospital Acquired Infections. His textbook, *Saunders Infection Control Reference Service*, is a recognized resource in the infection control community.

A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Abrutyn received his medical degree from the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. He continued his training at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, where he was the Chief Medical Resident and also completed a postdoctoral fellowship in infectious diseases. He was active on numerous faculty committees at the College of Medicine, and in several national organizations.

Dr. Abrutyn directed the research efforts of the International Society for Cardiovascular Infectious Diseases and was recently elected Master in the American College of Physicians–American



Dr. Abrutyn

Society of Internal Medicine. He served as Associate Editor of *Annals of Internal Medicine* for many years.

Dr. Abrutyn is survived by his wife, Leslye, and his sons, Adam and Alex. Family and friends have decided to endow a scholarship in Dr. Abrutyn's memory. If you would like to participate, please make your contributions to Drexel University College of Medicine for the Dr. Elias Abrutyn Memorial Scholarship, P.O. Box 8235, Philadelphia, PA 19101-9685, or make your gift online at www.drexelmed.edu/giftsonline.

Lehigh Valley Hospital: Quality Lessons

The staff at Lehigh Valley Hospital and Health Network (LVHNN) knows a thing or two about quality in medicine. Ranked as one of the nation's top hospitals for 11 consecutive years by *U.S. News & World Report*, LVHNN was recognized in 2006 as a leader in eight specialty care areas, including cancer care, digestive disorders, endocrinology, heart care and heart surgery, kidney disease, orthopedics, respiratory disorders, and urology.

In 2005, Lehigh Valley was one of 16 teaching hospitals nationwide selected to participate in the initiative of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (a global nonprofit founded in 1991) to integrate quality improvement education into medical education. Currently focused on the pediatric rotation, LVHNN expects to expand the initiative to other departments.

"During morning rounds, the resident, attending physician and students are joined by other members of the patient's care team such as the nurse, respiratory therapist or pharmacist," explains J.P. Orlando, Director of Medical Education Development for LVHNN. "This ensures patient care that is inclusive rather than fragmented. It benefits the patient, the family and the care delivery team. Collaborative rounding is the wave of the future in all disciplines."

Each year at LVHNN, more than 100 DUCOM third- and fourth-year students learn what it takes to deliver quality patient care from more than 450 faculty physicians. Medical education is a key organizational priority. "Our faculty is absolutely committed to providing a valuable experience for our students," says

Orlando. "Recently, over 70 of our attending physicians attended a voluntary faculty development workshop to enhance their feedback skills.

"Our designation as a Nurse Magnet hospital by the American Nurses Association enables our attending physicians to devote more time to teaching students because we have a highly competent nursing staff," adds Orlando.

Barbara A. Schindler, M.D., Vice Dean, Educational & Academic Affairs, DUCOM, notes, "Our students consistently rate Lehigh

Valley highly on the quality of the feedback provided by faculty physicians. They appreciate the amount of teaching time they receive as well as the hospital's excellent educational facilities."

DUCOM students also benefit from weekly evidence-based medicine skill development workshops, offered at LVHNN since September 2006, as well as monthly reviews for the U.S. Medical Licensing Examination.



Lehigh Valley Hospital

Founded more than 100 years ago, Lehigh Valley Hospital and Health Network first established an academic affiliation with the College of Medicine's predecessor institutions in 1989. This 800-bed acute-care teaching hospital serves Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton and surrounding communities, handling more than 43,000 admissions, more than 220,000 outpatient visits and more than 115,000 emergency room cases annually. In 2007, LVHNN was named to *Fortune* Magazine's 100 Best Companies to Work For; it is the first hospital in Pennsylvania ever to make the list.

Students Raise \$64,000 to Fight Pediatric AIDS

They sang, they danced, they played bluegrass guitar and dueling mandolins. They could be professional entertainers, if they weren't so busy with medicine. The 2007 Pediatric AIDS Benefit Concert showcased the very real talents of medical and graduate students, and several faculty members, in a variety show that raised \$64,000, the highest amount in the 14-year history of the event. In addition to ticket sales, the proceeds included a very generous matching donation of \$30,000 from the 2006 HIV/AIDS Black Tie White Coat Fund directed by Dr. Brian Wigdahl, Professor and Chair, Microbiology and Immunology, and Director of the Drexel University College of Medicine Institute for Molecular Medicine and Infectious Disease. The PABC funds support patients and families in the HIV/AIDS Program at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children.



The hardworking committee: (first row, l-r) Vanessa Papalazaros, Missy Moidel, Megan Blair, Brandi Whetstone, and Jessica Logan, all second-year medical students (MS-II); (back row, l-r) Guy Savir, Master of Medical Science program (MMS), Kim Tustison, MS-I; Rayya Saadiq, MMS; Stephanie Rubino, Betsy Clabby, co-chairs Blair Dickinson and Shireen Ghorbani, all MS-II; and Kevin Bernstein, MMS.

Biju Basil, M.D., and **Maju Mathews, M.D.**, Assistant Professors in the Department of Psychiatry, published an article in the August 2006 edition of *Psychosomatics* called “A Couvade Syndrome Variant?” concerning a “false delivery” by a woman who was not pregnant. Subsequently, the *New York Times* quoted Dr. Basil in an article entitled “All the Signs of Pregnancy But One: A Baby” on the subject of pseudopregnancy.

Gregory Botta and **Prakash Manley**, both first-year medical students, and **Peter I. Lelkes**, Adjunct Professor in Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, School of Biomedical Engineering, Science & Health Systems, co-authored an article entitled “Real-Time Assessment of Three-Dimensional Cell Aggregation in Rotating Wall Vessel Bioreactors *in Vitro*” in the December 2006 issue of *Nature Protocols*. They also have an intellectual patent pending with Drexel University’s Office of Technology Commercialization for the technology referenced in the article.



Dr. Faerber



Dr. Katsetos

Drs. Jean-Pierre De Chadarévian, Gregory E. Halligan, Judy M. Pascasio, Eric N. Faerber, all Department of Pediatrics, and **Christos D. Katsetos**, Pediatrics, and Pathology and Laboratory Medicine,

co-authored an article entitled “Glioneuronal Phenotype in a Diencephalic Piloxyoid Astrocytoma” that appeared in the December 2006 edition of *Pediatric and Developmental Pathology*.



Dr. Jacobs

Drs. Nandini Madan, Department of Pediatrics, **Douglas J. Schneider**, cardiologist and former faculty member, and **Marshall Jacobs**, Pediatrics, published an article entitled “Right Aortic Arch, Isolated Left Subclavian Artery and Ductus Arteriosus With Normal Intracardiac Anatomy: Rare Manifestation of Chromosome 22q11 Deletion” in the December 2006 issue of *Pediatric Cardiology*.



Dr. Moreland

Robert S. Moreland, Ph.D., Professor in the Department of Pharmacology and Physiology, presented a talk on “Regulation of Vascular Smooth Muscle Contraction: It Is Not All About Myosin Light Chain Phosphorylation Anymore” at the 5th International U.S.-Japan Workshop on Cellular and Molecular Aspects of Vascular Smooth Muscle Function, in Kona, Hawaii.

Drs. Jennifer D. Morrisette, Gregory E. Halligan, Hope H. Punnett and **Jean-Pierre De Chadarévian**, all Department of Pediatrics, and colleagues published an article entitled “Down Syndrome With Low Hypodiploidy in Precursor B-cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia” in the August 2006 edition of *Cancer Genetics and Cytogenetics*.



Dr. Núñez



Dr. Culhane

Drs. Ana Elizabeth Núñez, Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, and Director, Women’s Health Education Program, and **Jennifer F. Culhane**, Associate Professor, Obstetrics & Gynecology, co-presented “The Role

of Women as Clinical Research Participants” at the “Aware for All Clinical Research Education Day” on November 4, 2006, at the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia. This workshop detailed the critical need for women to participate in clinical research trials.



Dr. Reginato

Dr. Mauricio J. Reginato, Assistant Professor, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, co-authored a review entitled “Illuminating the Center: Mechanisms Regulating Lumen Formation and Maintenance in Mammary Morphogenesis” in the November 2006 edition of *Mammary Gland Biology and Neoplasia*.



Dr. Sataloff

Dr. Robert Sataloff, Professor of Otolaryngology and Chair of the Department of Otolaryngology–Head and Neck Surgery, co-authored an article called “Recalcitrant Arytenoid Granuloma” that was published in the January 2007 edition of *ENT-Ear, Nose & Throat*.



Dr. Kothare



Dr. Legido

Drs. Ignacio Valencia, Sanjeev V. Kothare, Joseph J. Melvin, Divya S. Khurana, H. Huntley Hardison, Sabrina S. Yum, and **Agustin Legido**, all Department of Pediatrics, published an article entitled

“Epileptic Seizures in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit Setting” in the December 2006 issue of *Epileptic Disorders*.



Dr. Zubrow



Dr. Delivoria-Papadopoulos

Drs. Ignacio Valencia, Om P. Mirsha, Karen Fritz, Alan Zubrow, Christos D. Katsetos, Maria Delivoria-Papadopoulos, and Agustin Legido

published an article entitled "Increased Neuronal Nuclear

Calcium Influx in Neonatal Seizures" in the October 2006 issue of *Neurochemical Research*.

Drs. Valencia, Legido, Divya S. Khurana, Sanjeev V. Kothare, and Katsetos co-authored an article entitled "Anomalous Inhibitory Circuits in Cortical Tubers of Human Tuberous Sclerosis Complex Associated With Refractory Epilepsy: Aberrant Expression of Parvalbumin and Calbindin-D28k in Dysplastic Cortex" in the December issue of the *Journal of Child Neurology*.



Elaine Smolock

Elaine M. Smolock, a doctoral student in the Department of Pharmacology & Physiology, presented a talk on "siRNA Mediated Knockdown of Proteins in Vascular Smooth Muscle" at the 5th International U.S.-Japan Workshop on Cellular and Molecular Aspects of Vascular Smooth Muscle Function in Kona, Hawaii. In addition to being one

of only five graduate students from the United States invited to present at the meeting, Smolock was awarded the Bohr Award, in honor of Dr. David F. Bohr, for excellence in vascular research.

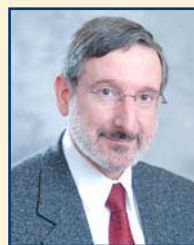


Dr. Eiser

Arnold R. Eiser, M.D., FACP, Professor of Medicine and Associate Dean for Mercy Programs, Drexel University College of Medicine, and Vice President of Medical Education at Mercy Catholic Medical Center, is the first author of an article entitled "Cultural Competence and the African American Experience with Healthcare: The Case for Specific Content in Cross-Cultural

Education" in the February edition of *Academic Medicine*. The authors examine the historical and cultural issues for African Americans with regard to healthcare and how they influence the doctor-patient relationship. The article explores how religion, lack of trust, racial discordance and health literacy influence the relationship. The authors believe specific knowledge and understanding of key influences can improve cross-cultural communication in clinical settings and therefore lead the way to improved patient care.

Pulmonary Division Presentations at Chest Conference



Dr. Patrick

A team of physicians in the Pulmonary Division of the Department of Medicine gave presentations at the American College of Chest Physicians conference in Salt Lake City, on October 21-25, 2006. Representing Drexel University College of Medicine: **Puneet Garcha, M.D.**, Resident, Department of Medicine; **Ghulam Khaleeq, M.D.**, former Resident,

Department of Medicine; **Herbert Patrick, M.D., MSSE**, Associate Professor of Medicine; **Peggy Rahal, M.D.**, Pulmonary and Critical Care Fellow; **Derrick Raptis, M.D.**, Resident in the Department of Medicine. These presentations were published in the November 2006 supplement of *Chest*.

Dr. Patrick and co-authors: "An Interdisciplinary Guideline for Reducing Catheter-Related Bloodstream Infections." "Post Graduate Course: Providing Excellence in Chest Medicine – How Does the Physician Incorporate Quality Improvement and Performance Measures?"

Drs. Khaleeq, Garcha and Patrick and co-authors: "The Use of Infliximab Therapy in Refractory Sarcoidosis."

Drs. Garcha, Patrick and co-authors: "Evaluation of Total Intrathoracic Fluid Measurements by Thoracic Impedance Versus Chest Radiograph."

Drs. Raptis, Garcha, Patrick and co-authors: "Variations in Outcome of Patients With Severe Sepsis: Onset in the Community Versus in the Hospital."

Drs. Khaleeq, Garcha, Patrick and co-authors: "Clinical Pulmonary Infection Score: Is there a Relationship to Mortality in Patients With Ventilator Associated Pneumonia?"

Drs. Garcha, Raptis, Patrick and co-authors: "Factors Influencing Survival in Patients With Severe Sepsis Treated With a Therapeutic Pathway."

Drs. Rahal, Patrick and co-authors: "Does an Orientation Session Affect Resident Versus Nurse Understanding of Antibiotic Priority in Severe Sepsis?"

Dr. Rahal won 1st place for Clinical Case Presentation.

10 Years of Training Caring Physicians

The 10th Anniversary of the Women's Health Education Program (WHEP) Seminar Series was commemorated on December 5, 2006, at the Queen Lane Campus with a memorable keynote presentation and a thought-provoking panel discussion about the health effects of traumatic experiences. The event drew more than 200 attendees, including alumni and medical students; Drexel University School of Public Health, College of Nursing and Health Professions, and main campus faculty, staff and students; and members of the community who work in the social service and health professions.



Sandra L. Bloom, M.D. (far right) was the keynote speaker at the 10th anniversary of the WHEP Seminar Series. Also pictured are (l-r) Ana Núñez, M.D.; Julie Mostov, Ph.D.; Liz Thul, LSW; Candace Robertson, MPH; Anand Jain, third-year medical student; and Joseph Foderaro, LCSW, BCD.

The evening began with a reception and community dinner with opening remarks via video by Dean Richard V. Homan, M.D., and testimonials on the topic "What the Women's Health Seminar Series Means to Me" by current first- to fourth-year DUCOM medical students. James Reynolds, M.D., Klinghoffer Professor and Chair of Medicine, also spoke and made introductions.

This special event featured Sandra L. Bloom, M.D., a nationally recognized authority on trauma and violence. An expert panel, moderated by WHEP's Director, Ana Núñez, M.D., responded to key issues addressed in Dr. Bloom's presentation, including the implications of the Adverse Childhood Experiences Study, one of the largest investigations ever conducted on the links between

childhood maltreatment and later-life health and well-being.

The panelists were Joseph Foderaro, LCSW, BCD, from Community

Works, a co-founder of the Sanctuary (originally an inpatient program for traumatized adults, which has been developed as a model for other settings); Julie Mostov, Ph.D., Drexel University Associate Professor, History and Politics, an expert on international violence and women; and Candace Robertson, MPH, WHEP Research Manager and expert on gender health disparities and trauma. This multidisciplinary perspective provided insightful, provocative dialogue on the impact of trauma and resulted in delineation of pragmatic tips for healthcare providers.

During each academic year, the WHEP Seminar Series offers a forum for discussion of at least 10 cutting-edge, multidisciplinary women's health topics designed to broaden the perspectives and skills of our medical students. At the heart of our purpose is to train excellent caring physicians who are effective in tailoring their care to their patients – a Drexel University College of Medicine, MCP/Hahnemann tradition that WHEP is proud to continue.



Panelists (l-r) Bloom, Mostov, Foderaro, Robertson

Who is WHEP?

Ana E. Núñez, M.D., Director
Associate Professor of Medicine
Director, National Center of Excellence in Women's Health

Elizabeth ("Liz") Thul, LSW, Associate Director

Candace Robertson, MPH, Research Manager

Winnie Jones, Minority Outreach Coordinator

Sharine Wittkopp, Research Assistant

WHEP on the Road – A Busy Fall and Winter

Ana Elizabeth Núñez, M.D., and **Liz Thul, LSW**, hosted the North East Consortium (NEC) on Cross-Cultural Medical Education and Medical Practice meeting, September 27. Participating schools represented along the Northeast corridor include Yale, Columbia, Jefferson, Penn, Harvard, NYU, UMDNJ, Cornell, Mount Sinai, Penn State and the University of Pittsburgh. Dr. Núñez is the Vice President of the NEC.

Dr. Núñez presented "Tips to Staying Healthy" to approximately 200 girls at the Philadelphia Police Athletic League's Girl's Health Program Kick-Off Event, October 2, 2006. She presented "The 360° of Cross-Cultural Effectiveness: Inclusivity of Gender and Ethnic Health Curriculum to Reduce Disparities in Heart, Lung and Blood Disorders: The Drexel University College of Medicine Model," as part of the National Heart Blood and Lung Institute Consortium, 5th National Conference on Quality Health Care for Culturally Diverse Populations, in Seattle, October 18, 2006. At that meeting, Dr. Núñez also presented "Building the Essential Link between Quality, Cultural Competence and Disparities Reduction." At the AAMC annual meeting, also in Seattle, Dr. Núñez presented "Diversity: A Compelling Interest in Medical Education for GSA, MAS, and GEA Members," October 31, 2006.

Candace Robertson, MPH, presented "Disappearing Black Men: The Epidemic of Incarcerated Black Men in America Through the Lens of Human Rights and Capabilities," at the annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, Boston, November 6, 2006. Together with **Winnie Jones**, she presented a Sex Education Workshop at the Germantown [Philadelphia] Boys and Girls Club, December 12, 2006. Ms. Robertson and **Sharine Wittkopp** implemented a six-session Women's Health Education Series with over 50 women at the Riverside Correctional Facility for Women.

WHEP was notified in late November that it had received a \$10,000 award from the Valentine Foundation for "Advocacy in Action: Developing a Medical Education Curriculum Teaching Critical Skills in Dealing with Issues of Incarceration."

Dr. Núñez received a \$3,500 award from the Dolfiger-McMahon Foundation for "Advocacy in Action: A Health Education Workshop Series for Underserved Women."

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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



Celebrating 50 Years
May 16 – 18

Class of 1957 50th Reunion

News from the Class of 1957



William Bernhard, M.D., an Army surgeon and a retired anesthesiologist, was named one of the "Baltimoreans of the Year" by *Baltimore Magazine*. Dr. Bernhard is currently a Department of Defense medical contractor. Last year he was on a tour of duty in Iraq. He returned in November from Afghanistan, where he served with the Oregon National Guard.

Following medical school, Dr. Bernhard joined the Navy as an anesthesiologist, serving 10 years on active and reserve duty. Then he joined the Army Reserve for an additional 22 years, retiring as colonel. Stateside, he directed anesthesia at the University of Maryland's shock trauma unit for 10 years, but he has been deployed to hospitals around the world. Dr. Bernhard goes overseas now as a field surgeon or a flight surgeon through a program the National Guard runs to place doctors on 90-day rotations where they are most needed. He believes he is the oldest U.S. soldier serving overseas.

Herman Friedman, Ph.D., Distinguished University Professor, and retired Professor and Chairman of Medical Microbiology and Immunology at the University of South Florida College of Medicine, received the 2006 Professional Recognition Award of the American Board of Medical Microbiology and the American Board of Medical Laboratory Immunology. The award recognizes Dr. Friedman's 44-year career helping to advance the fields of microbiology and immunology, including substantial contributions to the development of laboratory immunology.

Dr. Friedman's research has explored the effects of microorganisms, including bacteria, viruses and fungi, on the immune system. He has also examined the effects of environmental substances and psychoactive drugs on the immune system. Dr. Friedman received the University of South Florida's Outstanding Research Achievement Award in 2006, as well.

*Don't forget to make your hotel reservations! For details, visit www.drexelmed.edu/alumni/reunions. Questions? Please call **866-DREXMED (866-373-9633)** or email medical.alumni@drexel.edu for information.*

Alumni Weekend
May 4 – 6

Make Your Reservations

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



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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

'40s

Augusta Kressler, M.D., WMC '41 was highlighted in an article in the *Worcester [Mass.] Telegram & Gazette*. The story, entitled "Pioneering Physician Did It All: Dr. Kressler Diagnoses Her Life as Excellent," described how she started a pediatric practice in Worcester in the 1940s and made house calls, and then changed her practice to internal medicine. At 89 years old, Dr. Kessler continues to volunteer at the Worcester Art Museum, the Worcester Historical Museum, and the American Antiquarian Society.

'70s

Robert Figlin, M.D., MCP '76, FACP, has been named chair of the Division of Medical Oncology & Experimental Therapeutics, the Arthur and Rosalie Kaplan Professor of Medical Oncology, and Associate Director for Clinical Research at City of Hope. A national leader in genitourinary and thoracic oncology – most recently at the David Geffen School of Medicine at the University of California, Los Angeles – Dr. Figlin will help direct the clinical research activities of the Comprehensive Cancer Center. He began his appointment September 1, 2006.

Mary Ann Keenan, M.D., MCP '76, head of the Neuro-Orthopedic Program at the University of Pennsylvania, successfully performed complicated surgeries on a woman who survived American bombings on her home near Kabul during the invasions of Afghanistan five years ago. The story was featured in the *Philadelphia Daily News*.

Michael B. Wax, M.D., MCP '77, a hematologist and oncologist, was named to the Top Doctors list prepared by *New Jersey Monthly* magazine. Dr. Wax practices at Summit Medical Group in Berkeley Heights, N.J.

Leonard S. Jacob, M.D., MCP '78, Ph.D., has been elected to the Board of Directors of Antares Pharma, a specialized pharmaceutical product development company. Dr. Jacob, who also earned a master's degree from MCP in 1972, founded InKine Pharmaceutical Company in 1997 and served as Chairman and CEO until the company was acquired by Salix Pharmaceuticals in 2005. He currently serves as Chairman of Life Science Advisors, a consulting group to the healthcare industry, and as non-executive Chairman of the Board of Bradley Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Herbert Kunkle, M.D., HU '79, an orthopedic surgeon, presented a community lecture, "Oh My Aching Knee," in West Grove, Pa. Dr. Kunkle provides comprehensive orthopedic care to patients at Jennersville Orthopedics and Sports Medicine located in West Grove.

Donald S. Prior, M.D., HU '79, has been elected as the Secretary-Treasurer of the Delta Regional Medical Center in Greenville, Miss. Dr. Prior practices radiology at Delta Regional.

'80s

Jeffrey Yablon, M.D., HU '80, a neurosurgeon in private practice in Pottstown, Pa., published a book entitled *Eight Cases*. The book delves into the training and growth of neurosurgeons, and a friendship between a neurosurgeon and a writer.

Maurice Rozwat, M.D., HU '83, a pediatrician, wrote an article, "Check your children for Scoliosis," for the Physician's Corner in the *The Phoenix/PhoenixvilleNews.com*. Dr. Rozwat practices at PennCare for Kids in Limerick, Pa.

Stanley J. Russin Jr., M.D., HU '83, has been appointed Chief Medical Officer at Marquette General Health System in Marquette, Mich. He is the first CMO in the history of Marquette General Hospital. Dr. Russin works with the medical staff in areas of strategic planning; implementing best practice procedures and protocols; recruitment; clinical systems evaluation and improvement; communication and cooperation.

Alan Cooper, M.D., HU '89, an orthopedist, wrote an article entitled "Knee Cartilage Transplantation Means Help for Arthritis Patients" that was published in *The Mercury*, a Pottstown, Pa., newspaper. Dr. Cooper is a member of the Department of Surgery at Pottstown Memorial Medical Center and is in private practice at the Orthopedic/Athletic Sports Medicine Center also in Pottstown.

Roxan F. Saidi, M.D., MCP '89, a gastroenterologist, joined the Mount Kisco Medical Group in Mount Kisco, N.Y. Dr. Saidi completed her internship and residency in internal medicine at Tufts-New England Medical Center followed by a fellowship in gastroenterology.

'90s



Dr. Lee

Annette Lee, M.D., HU '91, has joined Abington Reproductive Medicine, Abington, Pa. She was formerly with Reproductive Medicine Associates of New Jersey. Dr. Lee's research interests include third-party reproduction (e.g., donor egg, donor sperm and gestational carrier), polycystic ovarian syndrome and the effects of complementary medicine, such as nutrition and acupuncture, on in vitro fertilization outcomes.

Wellesley Bailey, M.D., HU '96, has joined the staff of the Penn Foundation, located in West Rockhill, Pa., as a psychiatrist for the Assertive Community Treatment, Partial Hospital, and Outpatient programs. Dr. Bailey has a special interest in community and emergency psychiatry.

Stephan Coffman, M.D., MCP '96, a general surgeon with Monadnock Community Hospital in Peterborough, N.H., was highlighted in an article in the *Monadnock Ledger*. The article

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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



described how Dr. Coffman and his wife, Ruth, who is a nurse practitioner, volunteered with the Aloha Medical Missions to provide medical assistance in poor communities of the Philippines, Laos, and Cambodia. Dr. Coffman plans to travel to Bolivia on another medical mission in July.

'00s

Huy Thanh Trieu, M.D., MCPHU '00, a general surgeon, has joined the staff of MaineGeneral Medical Center's Augusta Campus. He is the Medical Director for MaineGeneral Health's bariatric weight loss surgery program.

Tedra Gilmore, M.D., '02, has joined Woman's Wellness Center in Conway, S.C. Dr. Gilmore completed her residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Lankenau Hospital in Wynnewood, Pa.

Christopher Tobias, Ph.D., '02, has been appointed Senior Vice President of Scientific and Strategic Services at Dudnyk, a healthcare marketing communications agency headquartered in Horsham, Pa. Dr. Tobias oversees all medical, clinical, and scientific content communicated by the agency. Previously, Dr. Tobias was a Senior Scientific Writer at Trinity Communications.

Former Residents and Fellows

Randall A. Oyer, M.D., Resident MCP '86, was named Oncology Program Director of Lancaster General Hospital in Lancaster, Pa., effective September 1, 2006. Dr. Oyer has spent his career caring for cancer patients. In his previous position, he was Chairman of Medical Oncology at John Muir Medical Center in Walnut Creek, Calif.

Anand C. Thakur, M.D., Resident HU '97, has joined Metzger Staats Pain Management in Shrewsbury, N.J. Previously, Dr. Thakur was in private practice in Pennsylvania. He specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of patients who suffer from chronic neck and back pain.

In Memoriam:

Jack Savran, M.D., HMC '37 age 96, Chair of the Department of Surgery at Roger Williams Hospital, and on staff at Notre Dame, Rhode Island, and Miriam Hospitals, died at home, in Simsbury, Conn., on November 30, 2006. Prior to moving to Simsbury in 1999, Dr. Savran practiced medicine in Rhode Island for almost 50 years, retiring in 1987. He served in the Army Medical Corps during World War II. Dr. Savran was born in Providence, R.I. He was married to the late Loraine Savran for 52 years. He is survived by his son, daughter and two granddaughters.



At the Anthony J. Drexel Society Dinner on November 11, 2006, are (l-r) Edward M. Kavjian, M.D., HU '39, and his wife, Grace; their daughter, Carol, and her husband, Edward P. Kaiserian, a Drexel University mechanical engineering alumnus, class of '75. Dr. Kavjian is a retired urologist. He celebrated 92 years on November 14, so the dinner guests all wished him a happy birthday a few days in advance.

Alumni Association Slate of Nominees for Board Term 2007-10

The Board of Directors of the Alumni Association of Drexel University College of Medicine has proposed the following slate for the 2007 election (term: July 1, 2007, to June 30, 2010). Additional nominations may be made by sending a written petition signed by 20 active members to Dr. Mary Cote, Chair, Nominating Committee, c/o Patty Comey, Director, Alumni Relations, Drexel University College of Medicine, Suite #11489, 1601 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102; fax, **215-255-7302**; email, medical.alumni@drexel.edu. If you have questions, please call toll-free: **866-DREX MED (866-373-9633)**.

Proposed Slate

Mark C. Aita, S.J., M.D., MCP '77
Stephen D. Baer, M.D., HU '72
Susan H. Bray, M.D., WMC '70
Jeffrey K. Dunbar, M.D., MCP '83
Donald A. Girard, M.D., HU '82
Johanna M. Kalembo, M.D., WMC '69
Giancarlo Mercogliano, M.D., HU '83
Rhoda S. Pomerantz, M.D., WMC '83
James J. Reilly, M.D., HU '80
Susan Whittier, Ph.D., HU '90

Voting will be available to all members on the Alumni website, www.drexelmed.edu/Association beginning March 19 with a voting deadline of April 20. The results of the election will be announced at the annual meeting during Alumni Weekend.

Leading-Edge, Comprehensive, and Compassionate: The Kidney Center for Children at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children

The Kidney Center for Children at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children is a comprehensive program, offering medical, educational, and emotional services for its patients and their families. The center treats children from birth through early adulthood in all areas of renal disorder diagnosis, treatment, and support. In addition, the Kidney Center's physicians, all faculty members at Drexel University College of Medicine, are nationally recognized for their pediatric expertise in the field.

Every year, approximately 15 children per 1 million population are born with or develop some type of renal disorder that will eventually result in dialysis and transplant surgery. For Philadelphia, that statistic translates to about 60 children annually who are affected by renal disorders and diseases.



Dr. Heiliczer

According to Jonathan David Heiliczer, M.D., Medical Director of the Kidney Center; Chief, Dialysis Program; Chief, Section of Nephrology; Professor of Pediatrics, Drexel University College of Medicine, the comprehensiveness of the Kidney Center is a tremendous asset to patients and their families. This holistic approach is also one of its distinguishing characteristics: The Kidney Center's services, Nephrology, Urology, and Dialysis and Transplant Surgery, are provided at a single site.

Dr. Heiliczer describes this innovative organization as a "one-stop shop" where patients, no matter what is wrong, can expect diagnosis and treatment by medical experts who ensure the best treatment for the patient. This all-encompassing approach greatly benefits the child and family, particularly since the clinical, diagnostic, medical, and surgical components of renal disease treatment are so intertwined. Marshall Z. Schwartz, M.D., Surgical Director, Renal Transplantation, and Director, Pediatric Surgery Research Laboratory at St. Christopher's; Professor of Surgery and Pediatrics, Drexel University College of Medicine, affirms this dynamic, stating, "there is excellent continuity of care."

The Section of Nephrology, headed by Dr. Heiliczer and Susan B. Conley, M.D., Medical Director, Renal Transplantation, and Professor of Pediatrics, DUCOM, offers immediate and long-term care for various renal disorders, including urinary tract infections, kidney stones, hypertension, and fluid-electrolyte and acid-based disturbances. Specializing in urology, Robert E. Steckler, M.D., lends his expertise to patients in that area. Dr. Heiliczer explains that the Kidney Center for Children does not believe in long-term dialysis, but rather views it as a "bridge" from kidney failure to the time of the transplant or kidney recovery.

Headed by Dr. Schwartz, the Dialysis and Kidney Transplant Section, one of the oldest in the United States, continues to pioneer pediatric surgical advances. The Kidney Center is the

only one in the region, and one of the few in the country, performing steroid-free transplants. During transplant surgery, the patient is commonly administered a steroid, namely prednisone, that helps suspend the immune system so the body does not reject the foreign kidney. The problem with the steroid, explains Dr. Heiliczer, is that it acts like a "hammer" rather than a "magic bullet." It has significant long-term side effects, and can lead to increased blood pressure, bone damage, cataracts, obesity, and stunted growth in the patient. Instead of this potentially damaging steroid, the Kidney Center uses a cocktail of drugs for immunosuppression during surgery and beyond. According to Dr. Schwartz, this cocktail does not exact a toll on the child's body. In addition to this landmark surgery, the Kidney Center also performs laparoscopic donor nephrectomy, a minimally invasive surgery.

The Kidney Center for Children at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children's is further distinguished by its overall mission of compassionately supporting patients and their families throughout the long and challenging process of treatment. In addition to the specialized physicians and nurses who provide care and education, the Kidney Center also employs a social worker and a dietician to work with the families. Everyone operates under the common goal of keeping the family well informed. Parents are made fully aware of any "problems, options, and pitfalls" associated with a particular course of action. As Dr. Heiliczer says, "We answer questions, in plain English, as often as needed."



Dr. Schwartz examining a patient.

This comprehensive approach continues after the patient has "graduated" from the Kidney Center for Children. Thanks to the center's unique affiliation with Hahnemann University Hospital, a 22-year-old patient will transition to receiving adult services at Hahnemann. The close affiliation ensures continuity of care.

The Kidney Center for Children operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Contact: 215-427-5190

Dr. Donald Goldsmith Honored with Hollander Award

Donald Goldsmith, M.D., Chief, Section of Rheumatology at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, and Professor of Pediatrics, Drexel University College of Medicine, was recently recognized by the Eastern



Dr. Goldsmith teaches while examining a patient.

Pennsylvania Chapter of the Arthritis Foundation with the 2006 Dr. Joseph Lee Hollander Award. The award, named for a pioneer in the field of rheumatology, honors physicians who exemplify excellence and achievement in that discipline.

Over the course of his 30-plus-year career, Dr. Goldsmith has been responsible for many diagnostic advances in the field of rheumatology. For example, Dr. Goldsmith and his colleagues first described a rare but devastating illness in 1993, neonatal onset multisystem inflammatory disease, or NOMID syndrome. Eventually the disorder was identified as one of the auto-inflammatory diseases, and further research has helped to develop more effective therapy.

Dr. Goldsmith says he specialized in rheumatology because he was moved by the children who could have such serious illnesses, yet “remain so upbeat despite their pain.” He also enjoyed the intellectual and academic challenge of diagnosing these various disorders – particularly since they are frequent masqueraders – as well as the opportunity to “develop a personal relationship with each family” throughout the course of their child’s treatment and recovery.

“What Dr. Goldsmith really cares about the most is guiding, supporting and advocating for his ‘kids,’” said Dr. Audrey Uknis of Temple University College of Medicine, who received the Hollander Award last year. “All inhibitions come tumbling down when he bounds into the exam room and says to his newest patient, ‘Hi ... I’m Dr. Goldfish!’”

Dr. Goldsmith stresses that patient advocacy and education are an important part of the Rheumatology Section’s mission. In addition to “a strong nurse-clinician presence,” the section integrates physical therapists, orthopedists, nutritionists, and social workers to help treat the patient and educate the family. Dr. Goldsmith points out that the Arthritis Foundation has been vital in their support of patient and family education at St. Christopher’s.

Dr. Goldsmith is personally committed to educating the medical community about juvenile arthritis and other rheumatic disorders, and as director of Continuing Medical Education at St. Christopher’s, he is similarly interested in the hospital’s overall educational mission. Not content to rest on his laurels, Dr. Goldsmith says that the Section of Rheumatology at St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children is still building.

Contact: 215-427-5051

Dr. Maria Delivoria-Papadopoulos Wins Lifetime Achievement Award

Director of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children and Professor of Pediatrics at Drexel University College of Medicine, Maria Delivoria-Papadopoulos, M.D., is internationally regarded for her groundbreaking research into problems affecting premature and at-risk babies. Dr. Delivoria, as she is known, has dedicated her professional career to ensuring that her fragile patients not only survive, but enjoy a quality of life. In recognition of her enduring and peerless contributions to medical research and practice, the Castle Connolly Foundation has honored her with its 2007 Lifetime Achievement Award.

The Lifetime Achievement Award is bestowed upon an individual who embodies, “an unwavering dedication to their patients and to medicine as a whole.” The nomination process is quite rigorous, and Dr. Delivoria was selected from among thousands of nominees. She is to be formally honored during the Castle Connolly National Physician of the Year Awards, Tuesday, March 13, 2007, in Manhattan.

Dr. Delivoria explains that she trained in pediatrics because she loved children, but that she “fell in love with the newborns” as a resident and was particularly drawn to work with the premature ones. In the early days of her career, she saw newborns die because of conditions that, at the time, physicians could not alter. Dr. Delivoria believed that she could make a contribution.



Dr. Delivoria holds a tiny neonate.

During her almost 50-year career, Dr. Delivoria has helped drastically improve the lives of thousands of children through her medical practice and research. Her work includes studying the mechanisms of brain damage in infants and finding therapeutic interventions for extremely ill premature infants.

“It would be impossible to quantify Maria’s impact on the field of neonatal medicine,” said Bernadette Mangan, CEO of St. Christopher’s. “She has touched the lives of hundreds of thousands of children over the course of her career. Her devotion to the care of at-risk infants is inspiring, and even decades from now, her contributions will continue to reach far beyond the lives of her patients and students.”

Today, Dr. Delivoria is leading the research into neonatal cognitive problems. “We’ve conquered the ability to survive,” she explains. “Even babies who are born at 24 weeks and who are 500 grams [1.1 pounds]” have the ability to survive. Understanding the brain is key for these and other newborns to have a quality of life.”

Contact: 215-427-5202



Dr. Boateng

Percy Boateng, M.D., joined the College of Medicine as Instructor in the Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery. After receiving his undergraduate degree from Howard University, Dr. Boateng earned his M.D. from the University of Maryland School of Medicine, where he completed a residency in the Department of General Surgery, followed by a fellowship in the Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery at Drexel University College of Medicine. Dr. Boateng is a member of the Ghana Health Foundation and is board-eligible in Cardiothoracic Surgery.

Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery: 215-762-7802



Dr. Gzesh

Dan Jonathan Gzesh, M.D., joined the College of Medicine as an Associate Professor of Neurology, specializing in strokes. After receiving his undergraduate degree from Haverford College, Dr. Gzesh earned his M.D. from Jefferson Medical College and completed a residency in neurology at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital and a fellowship in cerebrovascular disease research at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. Most recently Dr. Gzesh held the title of Section Head, Division of Neurology, and Director of the Stroke Program at Mercy Catholic Medical Center in Philadelphia. Dr. Gzesh has served as Vice Chair of the Medical Advisory Committee, Operation Stroke, Delaware Valley Division, and is on the Executive Board of the Philadelphia Stroke Council.

Department of Neurology: 215-762-6915



Dr. Khan

Zafar Khan, Ph.D., joined the College of Medicine as a Professor in the Department of Microbiology & Immunology. Dr. Khan earned his Ph.D. in microbiology from Banaras Hindu University, India, and was awarded high-level postdoctoral fellowships at the Pasteur Institute, Paris, France, and Borstel Institute, Germany. He served as Chair, Department of Medical Microbiology, and Deputy Director, Central Drug Research Institute, a premier government organization of drug development in India. Dr. Khan was a visiting scientist at various universities in Europe and the United States. He was formerly a Research Associate Professor in the Department of Bioscience and Biotechnology at Drexel University, where he established BL-3 facility for the screening and evaluation of antiviral agents in xenograft mouse model system. Dr. Khan has published extensively, held editorial and review responsibilities for several publications and received various awards and grants for his research.

Department of Microbiology & Immunology: 215-762-7598



Dr. Mukhtar

Muhammad Mukhtar, Ph.D., CRM, joined the College of Medicine as an Assistant Professor of Microbiology & Immunology. After earning his Ph.D. in Biosciences from Drexel University, Dr. Mukhtar completed his postgraduate training as a postdoctoral fellow and Research Associate at Thomas Jefferson University, focusing on the *in vitro* blood-brain barrier modeling for the study of AIDS dementia. Most recently Dr. Mukhtar held the positions of Research Assistant Professor of Medicine and Section Director of Neurovirology, both at Thomas Jefferson University. Dr. Mukhtar has been published extensively and received numerous grants. In 2002, he won the Atorvastatin Research Award from Pfizer Pharmaceuticals for his research in the field of neurovirology. He has held editorial responsibilities for several publications, including the *International Journal of Virology*.

Department of Microbiology & Immunology: 215-762-7598



Dr. Mullin

Daniel K. Mullin, M.D., joined the College of Medicine as an Instructor in the Department of Emergency Medicine. After receiving his undergraduate degree from the University of California, Berkeley, Dr. Mullin earned his M.D. from the Keck School of Medicine at the University of Southern California. He began his postgraduate training with an internship in internal medicine at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, followed by a residency in emergency medicine at Drexel University College of Medicine, where he also held the position of Chief Resident. Dr. Mullin is a member of the American Medical Association as well as the American College of Emergency Physicians.

Department of Emergency Medicine: 215-762-7963



Dr. Rybak

Ilya Rybak, Ph.D., joined the College of Medicine as a Professor of Neurobiology & Anatomy. Dr. Rybak received his M.S. in electrical engineering from Odessa Polytechnic University, Ukraine, and Ph.D. in biophysics from St. Petersburg State University, Russia. He began his scientific career as a Senior Research Fellow at AB Kogan Research Institute for Neurocybernetics at Rostov State University, Russia, and then was promoted to head of the Lab for Neural Network Modeling. Then he was a Visiting Professor at Le Havre University, France, and Visiting Scientist at DuPont Company, Wilmington, Del. Dr. Rybak joined Drexel University (School of Biomedical Engineering) in 2000 as a Research Professor and the College of Medicine in 2006. He

has published 232 papers in scientific journals, books and conference proceedings and is a member of the American Society of Neuroscience.

Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy: 215-991-8596



Dr. Berkson

David Berkson, M.D., joined the College of Medicine in 2006 as the Program Director of the Family Medicine Residency Program and an Assistant Professor in the Department of Family, Community & Preventive Medicine. He received his M.D. from Pennsylvania State University, then completed his Family Medicine residency at Abington Memorial Hospital and a

Sports Medicine fellowship at the University of South Carolina, Palmetto-Richland Memorial Hospital in Columbia, S.C. Dr. Berkson is board certified in Family Medicine and Sports Medicine and is the Chief Medical Officer of Pennsylvania Senior Games and the team physician for Monsignor Bonner High School in Upper Darby. Dr. Berkson received the Degree of Fellow from the American Academy of Family Physicians in 2005. He gives national presentations and, most recently, was featured on CBS 3 where he commented on cold fighting remedies.

Department of Family, Community & Preventive Medicine: 215-482-4744



Dr. Goldenberg

Robert Goldenberg, M.D., joined the College of Medicine in 2006 as a Professor in the Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, in the OB research division. After receiving his undergraduate degree from Columbia University, Dr. Goldenberg earned his M.D. from Duke University and later returned to Columbia to begin his residency. After two years at the NIH, Dr. Goldenberg finished

his residency at Yale University; there, he became Assistant Professor of Obstetrics & Gynecology, and Director of the Yale Infertility Clinic. He served on the faculty of the Ob/Gyn Department at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and also as its chair. Dr. Goldenberg serves on the editorial board of several journals and is an editorial adviser for the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*. He is a member of the Institute of Medicine and continues to be involved in numerous public and university services. Dr. Goldenberg has published over 416 refereed publications, 267 abstracts and multiple other articles. He has been the principal investigator for many studies supported by governmental and privately funded grants in the United States, Africa and Asia, and is currently involved in the Philadelphia Collaborative Preterm Prevention Project.

Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology: 215-762-3600



Dr. Hasni

Syed Farhan Ahmed Hasni, M.D., has joined the College of Medicine as an Instructor in the Department of Medicine, Division of General Internal Medicine, following his tenure as the College's Chief Medical Resident. Dr. Hasni had significant medical training in his native Pakistan, where he earned his medical degree.

Dr. Hasni has been involved in several studies, including the improvement of communication skills among internal medicine residents and served as the editor for the case of the week series for residents at the College of Medicine. He won the Golden Apple teaching award in 2005.

Department of Medicine: 215-762-2514



Dr. Nair

Shailaja Nair, M.D., joined the faculty of Drexel University College of Medicine in 2006 as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine. A graduate of the College of Medicine, Dr. Nair also had extensive medical training in medicine, and Obstetrics and Gynecology in her native India, where she also earned her MBBS.

At the Drexel Center for Women's Health, Dr. Nair has been involved in various research projects, including studies to lower blood pressure and cholesterol, and the use of testosterone in improving libido in menopausal women. Dr. Nair is a member of the American Medical Association.

Department of Medicine: 215-762-2514



Dr. Peterlin

Lee Peterlin, D.O., has joined Drexel University College of Medicine as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Neurology. She earned her Bachelor of Science from the University of Scranton and her Doctor of Osteopathy degree from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. She completed her neurology residency and a neurophysiology fellowship

at the Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine. She also completed a headache fellowship at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center. Dr. Peterlin is a panel member of the 2007 American Academy of Neurology Guidelines for Acute Migraine Therapy, a reviewer for several journals including *Cephalalgia* and *Headache* and has written several peer-reviewed articles in the field of headache.

Department of Neurology: 215-762-1267

Dr. Irwin M. Chaiken, a Professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, was awarded an R21 grant from the National Institutes of Health with two years of funding. The grant is entitled "CVN-12p1 Chimeras and Combinations for AIDS Microbicides."

John A. Curtis, M.D., Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine, has recently attained board certification in medical toxicology by the American Board of Emergency Medicine. Dr. Curtis is a member of the Division of Medical Toxicology within the Department of Emergency Medicine and is one of only approximately 300 physicians in the United States who hold dual board certifications in emergency medicine and medical toxicology.



Dr. Jameson

Dr. Bradford Jameson, a Professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, was awarded an R01 grant from the National Institutes of Health with three years of funding, entitled "A Study of the Mitogenic Effects of Serotonergic Receptors."

Dolloff Wins Benjamin Weiss Endowed Scholarship



Nathan Dolloff

Nathan G. Dolloff, a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Pharmacology and Physiology, is this year's recipient of the Benjamin Weiss Endowed Scholarship in Pharmacology. He has done extensive research in the area of cancerous tumors. Some of his studies were published in the January 2007 issue of *Cancer Research*, in an article entitled "Human Bone Marrow

Activates the Akt Pathway in Metastatic Prostate Cells through Transactivation of the α -Platelet-Derived Growth Factor Receptor," and the June 2005 edition of *Oncogene*, in an article entitled "Bone-Metastatic Potential of Human Prostate Cancer Cells Correlates With Akt/PKB Activation by α -Platelet-Derived Growth Factor Receptor."

Nicolai Receives 2006 Mary Shaw Travel Award



Jackie Nicolai

The Department of Pharmacology and Physiology has chosen **Jackie Nicolai**, a second-year doctoral student, to receive the 2006 Mary Shaw Travel Award. Jackie has been interested in the role of cell cycle proteins in HIV neuropathology, and she has made important contributions to these studies. The research project in which Jackie is involved aims to elucidate

the cellular and molecular mechanisms of HIV-induced neurodegeneration. She has done significant research on this topic and will present her findings at the 2007 meeting of the Society on NeuroImmune Pharmacology. It is a great honor that she is being supported by the Mary Shaw Award.

Sex and Gender Research Forum Draws From Many Disciplines

Advancing research and exchanging ideas. Those were among the goals of the annual Sex and Gender Research Forum presented by the Drexel University College of Medicine Institute for Women's Health and Leadership. The event, held January 10 at the Queen Lane Campus, brought together researchers from the College of Medicine and several Drexel University schools and colleges.

The program included panel discussions on public and private funding for research, and on multidisciplinary research on women and minorities. Oral presentations were given on a variety of topics including breast cancer, autoimmune diseases, domestic violence, and depression. A special focus this year was on research into sexually transmitted diseases. The featured speaker, Polly Harrison, Ph.D., Director of the Alliance for Microbicide Development, emphasized the importance of developing female-controlled microbicides as key in the prevention of the progression of the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

The event ended with a combined poster session and reception showcasing 36 abstracts in diverse areas of research on sex and gender issues. It included a competition for best poster presentation in three categories. The winners in each category were:

- Undergraduate Student Researcher: Joseph Fraietta, Department of Bioscience and Biotechnology, Drexel University, for "*In vivo* Model to Test the Use of Sodium Dodecyl Sulfate (SDS) as a Microbicide in Milk for Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV"
- Graduate Student Researcher: Alexandra P. Vamvakidou, School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems, Drexel University, for "Heterogeneous Breast Tumoroids: An *in vitro* Assay for Investigating Cellular Heterogeneity and Drug Delivery"
- Postdoctoral Researcher: Alison Schneider, 3rd-year Gastroenterology Fellow, Department of Medicine, Drexel University College of Medicine, for "High Prevalence of Gender Preferences for Endoscopists in an Inner City, Tertiary Care Population"

A full report on the outcomes of the event is available on the IWHL website at www.drexelmed.edu/iwhl.

Neurology Clinical Trials...continued

Potential participants are screened to be sure the severity of their disease and their general medical health fall in the targeted range for the specific study. All of our subjects are followed closely, and all of the direct treatment and assessment costs are covered.

For more information, contact: Marjorie Hepler, R.N., at **215-762-7783**.

Upcoming CME Programs

March

March 28 **Advances in Management of Hypertension**
Drexel University College of Medicine
New College Building, Geary Auditorium
245 N. 15th Street, Philadelphia
Contact: **Walter Albright – 215-762-8695**

May

May 30 – **2007 Internal Medicine Board Review Course**
June 3
Marriot Courtyard
21 N. Juniper Street, Philadelphia
Contact: **Walter Albright – 215-762-8695**

APAMSA Chapter Earns High Regard from National Organization

Their outreach to the Asian community has earned our chapter of the Asian Pacific American Medical Student Association (APAMSA) high marks from the national organization. One of 82 groups at medical schools across the country, each focused upon providing medical assistance to the Asian community, the DUCOM chapter has 11 active officers in addition to about 50 members. The Drexel group was recognized by the National APAMSA for its successful efforts to increase bone marrow donor registration within the Asian Pacific American population, which is severely underrepresented in the national bone marrow registries. The chapter was credited with the “Best Education Event of 2006” and was named the “Best Community Service Chapter” in 2005.

Chapter members say they would like to thank Drexel University College of Medicine for providing them the opportunity to make



a difference in the Asian health community. Pictured here are the 2005/06 chapter officers. Front row (l-r): Julie Xu, Lucy Huynh, Elinor Lin, Chau Che, Carol Liu, Deborah N. Kim, Grace Thammasuvimol, Shawn Chen. Back row (l-r) Mike Chuang, James Lim, Steve Kim, Anthony Chuang, Richard Wu.

Contact: **Anthony Chuang, arc37@drexel.edu**

Compliance Corner

Hotline: Toll-Free Phone Call and Secure Website Offer Confidential Reporting



Edward G. Longazel
Chief Compliance Officer

Each month in Compliance Corner we provide the phone number and web-link location for the Confidential Hotline. This month we will review the process and the valuable alternatives provided by EthicsPoint, our external hotline call and website manager.

We contract with EthicsPoint to offer both a toll-free telephone number and a secure, anonymous, web-based option for reporting a situation or incident to the hotline. The two intake methods are completely confidential and accessible 24/7/365.

The reporting process is extremely flexible and is designed to accommodate a wide spectrum of issues. All calls coming into the EthicsPoint Call Center are answered by Call Intake Specialists at EthicsPoint. When a Drexel University College of Medicine caller contacts EthicsPoint on the phone or submits a report via the web, he or she will be guided through a series of thoughtful, issue-appropriate questions. These questions were created by a team of Certified Fraud Examiners and former law enforcement personnel and are designed to generate actionable reports that can be readily managed by those charged with review and resolution.

After a report is submitted to the EthicsPoint call center or website, the person reporting can follow up and get feedback on the report confidentially through either the website or the call center.

Remember...we never guess...we ask!

DREXEL MED CONFIDENTIAL HOTLINE: 866-936-1010; CONFIDENTIAL 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:

April 1 Deadline for Edward Jekkal Muscular Dystrophy Research Fellowship

The Edward Jekkal Muscular Dystrophy Association Fellowship was established to strengthen the training program for Drexel University College of Medicine senior postdoctoral fellows aspiring to faculty positions and junior research faculty members. The fellowship carries an annual stipend of \$55,000 including salary support, fringe benefits and research expenses, and is renewable for a second year. Applicants are expected to prepare an independent research project, or identify a sponsor from within the training faculty and prepare an application with the sponsor. Application forms, due April 1, and a description of the training faculty may be obtained at <http://neurobio.drexelmed.edu/Department/Fellowships.php>.

Woman One Award to Be Presented April 23

Noted physician and humanitarian Dr. Risa Lavisso-Mourey will accept the fifth annual Woman One Award, presented by the Drexel University College of Medicine Institute for Women's Health and Leadership, in a ceremony on April 23 at the Rittenhouse Hotel in Philadelphia. Dr. Lavisso-Mourey, President and CEO of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, is an acclaimed researcher in health initiatives and a leader in health policy reform. Funds raised through Woman One provide tuition support for medical students enrolled at the College of Medicine. **Contact: 215-255-7373**

AAMC Anticipates Insufficient Increase in Medical Students

First-year enrollment in U.S. medical schools is projected to rise to nearly 19,300 students by 2012, reports the Association of American Medical Colleges. This represents an increase of 17 percent compared to the baseline academic year of 2002/03, when first-year enrollment totaled 16,448 students. AAMC President Darrell G. Kirch, M.D., called the expansion "a significant step in the right direction," but said it was not enough to meet the projected demand for doctors in coming decades. Included in the 19,300 count are an estimated 250 first-year students (1.5 of the 17 percentage points) expected to be enrolled in new medical schools that don't exist today.

Calendar:

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| March | <i>National Brain Injury Awareness Month</i>
<i>National Nutrition Month®</i> |
| Mar 15 | Match Day
Queen Lane Campus, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Reception follows
Contact: Marie Hartman, 215-991-8219 |
| | Kate Hurd-Mead Lecture
Featuring Speaker Toby Appel, Yale University
The College of Physicians of Philadelphia, 5:30 p.m.
Contact: 215-255-7373 |
| Mar 28 | Advances in Management of Hypertension
Continuing Medical Education
New College Building
Contact: Walter Albright, 215-762-8695 |
| April | <i>Alcohol Awareness Month</i>
<i>National Donate Life Month</i> |
| Apr 5 | The Media & Women's Health: Sorting Fact from Fiction
Public Health Grand Rounds featuring Author Judy Norsigian
NCB Geary Auditorium, 4:30 p.m. |
| Apr 23 | 5th Annual Woman One Award Ceremony
The Rittenhouse Hotel, Philadelphia, 5:30 p.m.
Contact: 215-255-7373, \$125 per ticket |
| May | |
| May 18 | Commencement
The Kimmel Center, 10:00 a.m. |
| May 30-
Jun 3 | Internal Medicine Board Review Course
Marriott Courtyard
21 N. Juniper Street
Contact: Walter Albright, 215-762-8695 |
| June | |
| Jun 16 | Drexel University Commencement |