

# NEWSPAGER

Linking Technology to a Tradition of Caring®

## DUP Mediation Program Builds Successful Track Record

Four years ago, the College of Medicine's physician practice group, Drexel University Physicians®, became the first in Pennsylvania to adopt mediation as its preferred method of resolving healthcare disputes. The program includes claims that had already been filed in court, as well as complaints that are subject to voluntary mediation agreements. In both spheres, it has been a resounding success. Since its inception in 2004, 42 plaintiffs who had already filed have chosen to take their cases out of court; of those, 39 have been amicably resolved and just three are pending. Meanwhile, three lawsuits went on to trial, all ending in defense verdicts.

In the voluntary mediation program, patients are asked to sign a mediation agreement at the physician's office at the outset of their care (see [www.drexelmed.edu/FindaPhysician/Mediation](http://www.drexelmed.edu/FindaPhysician/Mediation)). As of December 31, 2007, 91 percent of Drexel Medicine's eligible patients have been willing to do so. So far, most problems that have arisen under the voluntary program have been resolved by quick intervention. One was referred to mediation, and that was successfully resolved.

DUCOM's mediation program has drawn accolades from the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, which issued a certificate of appreciation to the College for this cutting

edge initiative; and a wide array of organizations – from chambers of commerce to the American Medical Association – have requested presentations on the program.

"Mediation allows doctors and their patients to communicate directly and openly about what has occurred," says attorney Carl (Tobey) Oxholm, executive vice president and chief of staff, Drexel University. "That brings the human element back into the doctor-patient relationship, which has been stressed by the unexpected adverse event. Having the ability to talk without worrying about lawyers or courts can, in itself, be healing to the patient and the doctor."

"I've seen patients who wouldn't even come into the same room with the doctor at the beginning of the mediation process, and by the end, the patient and doctor are shaking hands or even hugging each other," relates the College's director of risk management, Deborah Lorber.

With mediation, both patients and their doctors can come to a resolution at far less personal cost and in far less time – usually 60 days versus the four years that a court

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## February 2008

Newsletter Volume 9, No. 1

## Black Tie Gala to Benefit Autism Programs

The College of Medicine's award-winning Black Tie White Coat Ball will take place on March 29, with proceeds benefiting autism treatment and research programs. To understand the breadth and depth of commitment the College brings to this cause, view the special video on the College's website at [www.drexelmed.edu/blacktie](http://www.drexelmed.edu/blacktie).

Two-time winner of the award for best event given by the Philadelphia Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America, the Black Tie White Coat Ball is always a wonderful party. This year's gala begins with a cocktail reception at 6 o'clock, followed by entertainment by *Village People*, a gourmet dinner, and dancing to the premier party band *Masquerade*. For more information, visit [www.drexelmed.edu/blacktie](http://www.drexelmed.edu/blacktie), email [melanie.pizzulo@drexelmed.edu](mailto:melanie.pizzulo@drexelmed.edu) or call 215-255-7327.



Presented by DREXEL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF MEDICINE



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

eight years as editor on January 1, 2008, and was appointed to the new position of JTCVS editor emeritus.

The leadership of the American Association for Thoracic Surgery (AATS) commended Dr. Wechsler in the December issue for "superlative stewardship," including many innovations and

**Dr. Wechsler is only the seventh  
awardee selected by AATS**

improvements he made to the journal, noting that "academically, the Journal earned the highest impact factor in its history" during his tenure.

Then we learned that greater kudos waited in the wings. In May, Dr. Wechsler will receive the AATS 2008 Scientific Achievement Award, for contributions to thoracic surgery "worthy of the highest recognition the association can bestow." He is only the seventh person selected for this honor since its inception in 1994, which places him in the rare company of such luminaries as Drs. Denton Cooley and Michael DeBakey.

## Faculty Honors Make the College Proud

It is always a pleasure to acknowledge the success of our faculty in their professional endeavors. We recently honored **Andrew Wechsler, M.D.**, professor and chair of the Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery, for his impressive service as editor of *The Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery*. Dr. Wechsler completed

Andy has held several National Institutes of Health grants supporting a career-long interest in myocardial ischemia and reperfusion injury, ventricular performance and valve surgery. He has served as chair of the NIH Surgery and Bioengineering Study section and holds numerous leadership positions in professional organizations. The AATS cited his seminal research contributions, his leadership in mentoring young cardiac researchers and his role, for over a decade, in the NIH peer-review process. Please join me in congratulating him on his well-deserved honors.



**Dean Homan presented a certificate of commendation to Andrew Wechsler, M.D., professor and chair of Cardiothoracic Surgery.**

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

## Sadly Missed: Peter Pitsakis

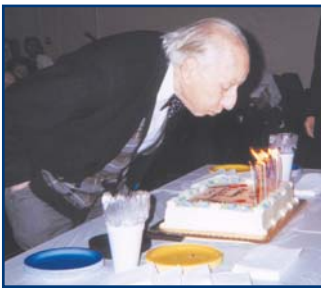


**Peter George Pitsakis**, a clinical research coordinator in the Division of Infectious Diseases and HIV Medicine, passed away on January 1, 2008, at his home in Huntingdon Valley, Pa., after a long illness. He would have been 56 on January 10. He had worked at the College of Medicine, or Medical College of Pennsylvania, in various medical research capacities for more than 30 years, and also managed the TravelHealth Center practice. He held a degree in biology from Temple University. Pitsakis was very involved in Greek religious and cultural organizations in the Philadelphia area. He was a past president of the Hellenic University Club of Philadelphia, and was a co-founder and past president of the Greek American Historical Society of Philadelphia. A professional clay artist, he had served as president of the Cheltenham Clay Guild and was a board member of the Cheltenham Center for the Arts for nearly a decade. He is survived by his parents, George and Eugenia Tsamoutalis Pitsakis of Huntingdon Valley, his brother Theodore, his niece and nephew, and extended family.

### Correction

In the November *NewsPager*, page 10, we included a memorial item for Dr. Jerome Brody, who had passed away in September. Unfortunately, we mistakenly included a photo of Dr. David Brody, a former faculty member who is now living in Colorado. We regret this careless error and any distress it may have caused.

## Dr. DiPalma Keeps the College Close to Heart



This spring Dr. DiPalma will count 92 candles! This was 2006.

Since 1951, when he arrived as chairman of the Department of Pharmacology at Hahnemann Medical College, Joseph DiPalma, M.D., has looked to the future of our medical school. A brilliant scientist and distinguished professor, he brought boundless energy to the lab and lecture hall, and made quite a mark as an administrator as well.

Although DiPalma won international recognition for his research and is credited by many as a mentor who propelled them toward professional success, he is also fondly remembered by former students for lectures marked by wit, storytelling, and occasionally music, that made pharmacology exciting even for those not so inclined.

Alumnus Saul William (Bill) Seidman, M.D., HU '62, recalls meeting the professor: "The first day of Dr. DiPalma's pharmacology class he won my affection and respect. He said, 'Gentlemen and lady, this is a 16-week course; this is a 1600-page book. The object is obvious.' Of course, he had written the pharmacology text."



Heart surgery pioneer Charles P. Bailey, M.D., and Dean DiPalma, 1970

DiPalma was dean of the College for 15 years, from 1967 to 1982, and by the time he stepped down, he was also senior vice president for academic affairs. During his first year as dean he was active in getting funding for the New College Building. Under his supervision, Hahnemann established the College of Allied

Health Professions and developed Pennsylvania's first physician assistant program. In 1976, he helped raise the bond issue to build the new Hahnemann Hospital. He was also instrumental in securing university status for Hahnemann.

Professor Emeritus DiPalma's 50-year service anniversary, in 1991, was celebrated with the dedication of the Joseph R. DiPalma, M.D., Department of Medicine Conference Room, recognizing his generous support of research in the department.



The 1991 dedication of the DiPalma Conference Room

Still an engaged and active friend of the medical school, he recently let it be known that he has included a planned gift in his will to establish The DiPalma Family Endowed Chair of Cardiology Therapy at Drexel University College of Medicine. This generous bequest is intended to provide an enduring resource to recruit the nation's best cardiologists and pharmacologists to lead the investigative efforts into cardiovascular pharmacology at Drexel University College of Medicine.

In 2004, DiPalma published an autobiography, *Decanus Maximus* ("Big Dean") – "the story of a youngster who had a career in aviation in mind but was forced by his family to enter medicine." How fortunate for the College, and for all the individuals in medicine and science who have come into contact with him, that his family succeeded.

To learn more about or contribute to the DiPalma Family Endowed Chair in Cardiology Therapy, please contact Christa Cardullo, Office of the Annual Fund, Suite 11489, 1601 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102; or telephone 866-373-9633 or 215-255-7347.

## IM Residents Going to "Medical Jeopardy" Championships

A team of internal medicine residents from Drexel University College of Medicine has taken home the state title of "Medical Jeopardy" champions. The Drexel University College of Medicine team won the Pennsylvania title in a competition held in December at Hershey Medical Center. The team had advanced to the state round after winning the Southeastern Pennsylvania regional championship in October. At that time, Drexel University College of Medicine beat out seven other residency programs from the Philadelphia region, including last year's national champs Albert Einstein Medical Center.

The national medical jeopardy competition, formally known as Doctor's Dilemma, is hosted by the American College of Physicians. The final round of competition will be held at the group's annual meeting in Washington, D.C. in May. At that time, the Drexel University College of Medicine team will compete against 40 teams of residents from around the country for the coveted title of national champion.



Congratulations to "Medical Jeopardy" team members, (l-r) Petros Grivas, Vaibhav Sahni, Joseph Vadakara, Gayathri Nagaraj, all internal medicine residents.



**Dr. Abaza**

**Nabil A. Abaza, DMD, Ph.D.**, professor and residency program director of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at Drexel University College of Medicine, was the invited grand rounds speaker at the November 2007 CME Program at St. Mary's Medical Center, Langhorne, Pa. Abaza spoke on the topic of "Biphosphonate-Related Osteonecrosis of the Jaws." Abaza discussed the available medical and surgical managements of these lesions, with major emphasis on educating healthcare providers and patients.



**Dr. Goldman**

**Haviva M. Goldman, Ph.D.**, assistant professor, Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy, was invited to speak at the 2007 Pathology Visions Conference in San Diego, October 21-23. Goldman's presentation, entitled "Incorporating Virtual Slides into Web-based Learning Modules and Laboratory Exercises," discussed the innovative ways in which virtual microscopy has been integrated into undergraduate medical education at Drexel University College of Medicine. The College's virtual microscope has been developed in collaboration with **Janet Smith, Ph.D.**, associate professor, Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy, and **Arnold Smolen, Ph.D.**, associate dean, information technology. Web-based learning modules were developed in collaboration with **Judy Churchill, Ph.D.**, associate professor, Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy.



**Dr. Lund**

**Mark Lund, M.D.**, assistant professor, Department of Medicine, Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine, spoke on behalf of Cancer Treatment Centers of America at the "Women's Lung and Wellness Conference" of the New Jersey chapter of the American Lung Association November 7 in Park Ridge, N.J. Lund presented and spoke on two panels. His topics were "New Offerings for Treatment, Healing and Hope in Interventional Pulmonology" and "Follow Up for the Development of Recurrent Cancer After Therapy."



**Dr. Malone**

**Richard Malone, M.D.**, professor, Department of Psychiatry, presented several talks at a conference in Rome, "Autismo dalla Diagnosi al Progetto di Vita" (Autism: From Diagnosis to Programs for Life), sponsored by the Italian National Health System, December 17-18, 2007. The presentations were entitled "Autism and Research: The State of the Art. False Illusions and Scientific Evidence," "Psychopharmacologic Treatments in Children and Adolescents with Aggressive Conduct Disorder," and "Psychopharmacologic Treatments in Autism."



**Dr. Mehta**



**Dr. Block**

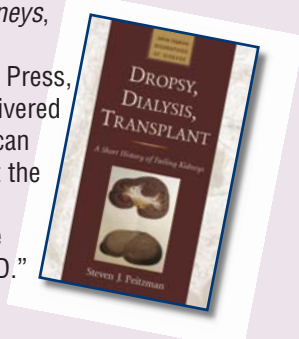
**Anand Mehta, Phil.D.**, associate professor and associate director of the Drexel Institute for Biotechnology & Virology Research, and **Timothy Block, Ph.D.**, professor and director of the institute, both in the Department of Microbiology & Immunology, have published a study entitled "Increased Levels of Galactose-Deficient Anti-Gal Immunoglobulin G in the Sera of Hepatitis C Virus-Infected Individuals with Fibrosis and Cirrhosis," in the February 2008 edition of the *Journal of Virology*.



**Jose Nativi, M.D.**, resident, Department of Medicine, presented the results of the study "Electrocardiographic Patterns During Biventricular Pacing with Variations in the Ventricle-to-Ventricle Timing Intervals" at the

World Congress of Cardiac Pacing and Electrophysiology, held in Rome in December 2007. This research was coauthored with **Karthik Liganathan, M.D.**, cardiology fellow, and **John M. Fontaine, M.D.**, professor, Department of Medicine, Division of Cardiology. A similar presentation with the preliminary results took a first prize at the College of Medicine's Discovery 2007 in October.

**Steven J. Peitzman, M.D.**, professor, Department of Medicine, Division of Nephrology, is the author of *Dropsy, Dialysis, Transplant: A Short History of Failing Kidneys*, part of the Johns Hopkins Biographies of Disease series (Johns Hopkins University Press, November 2007). Last May, Peitzman delivered the annual Garrison Lecture of the American Association for the History of Medicine at the association's annual meeting in Montreal. The title was "'I Am Their Physician': The Too-Many Patients of Owen J. Wister, M.D."



**Dr. Sataloff**

**Robert Sataloff, M.D., DMA**, professor and chair, Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery, wrote the lead chapter, entitled "Excellence in Otolaryngology: The Difference Between 'World Class' and 'Good,'" for *The Art & Science of Otolaryngology*, in the Inside the Minds series (Aspatore Books, October 2007).





**Dr. Schulman**

**Edward S. Schulman, M.D.**, professor, Department of Medicine, and director, Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, was a visiting professor at the University of Virginia School of Medicine, speaking on “The Role of Mast Cells in Innate Immunity,” September 24. He was also a visiting professor at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, speaking on “The Role of Adenosine and Adenine Nucleotides in Asthma and Cough,” on September 28.

## Treatment of High-Grade Gliomas of the Brain

The major research program in the treatment of high-grade gliomas of the brain was the subject of presentations at two international meetings. The data reported represent an ongoing long-term cooperative effort among a number of institutions in collaboration with Drexel University College of Medicine, including the Wistar Institute, the Medical University of South Carolina, Wake Forest University, and Bryn Mawr Hospital, and include research projects that have significantly involved several of our medical students, as well as residents in radiation oncology. The data clearly indicated the advantages of combined modality management in high-grade gliomas of the brain including surgery, radiation therapy, chemotherapy, and the utilization of anti-epidermal growth factor receptor monoclonal antibody.



**Dr. Brady**



**Dr. Gracely**



**Dr. Emrich**

**Linna Li, M.D., CoM '06; Edward Gracely, Ph.D.**, associate professor, preventive medicine; **Jacqueline G. Emrich, Ph.D.**, professor, radiation oncology; **Ji Kim**, fourth-year medical student; **Luther W. Brady, M.D.**, professor, radiation oncology; and colleagues presented “Radioimmunotherapy and Temozolomide in the Treatment of Glioblastoma Multiforme: A 20-Year Experience” at the American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology meeting in Los Angeles, October 27-November 1, 2007. They also presented “Glioblastoma Multiforme: A 20-Year Experience Using Radioimmunotherapy and Temozolomide” at the Society for Neuro-Oncology meeting in Dallas, November 15-18, 2007.

## Anesthesiology Well Represented at Society Meeting



**Drs. Gary Okum, Jay Horrow and Mario Gonzalez (l-r)**

The Department of Anesthesiology presented seven posters at the annual meeting of the American Society of Anesthesiologists October 13-17 in San Francisco.

**Gary Okum, M.D.**, associate professor, and **Mario Gonzalez, D.O.**, instructor: “You Just Learned Your Patient on Bypass Has Salmon Allergy: What Next?”

**Russell Miller, D.O.**, resident, and **Marcus Zebrower, M.D.**, assistant professor, “Arthrogyposis of the Temporomandibular Joint and Postoperative Reintubation Using a Trach Light.”

**Hla Phon, M.D.**, resident, and **Jay Horrow, M.D.**, professor and chair: “Perioperative Management of Acute Ischemic Stroke and Locked-In Syndrome.”

**Michael Gollotto, M.D.**, resident, and **Susan Kaplan, M.D.**, clinical associate professor: “Continuous Spinal Anesthesia for Cesarean Section in the Morbidly Obese: Is It Time for a Resurgence?”

**Patrick O'Connor, M.D.**, resident, and **Bryan Chambers, M.D.**, assistant professor: “Bread and Butter Anesthesia with a Twist – MH, How to Recognize, Treat and Diagnose.”

**Dmitri Chamchad, M.D.**, adjunct assistant professor, **Horrow**, and **Alexander Zonshayn, M.D.**, associate professor: “Comparison of Rhythms and Rhythmogenic Indices Between Patients Undergoing Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting With and Without Cardiopulmonary Bypass.”

**Chamchad, Horrow, and Zebrower**: “Prophylactic Glycopyrrolate Prevents Bradycardia After Spinal Anesthesia for Cesarean Section.”



**Dr. Brady**

**Luther W. Brady, M.D.**, the Hylda Cohn/American Cancer Society Professor of Clinical Oncology and Distinguished University Professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, was presented with the 2007 Distinguished Honoree Award of the Association of Fundraising Professionals, Greater Philadelphia Chapter, on National Philanthropy Day, November 9, 2007.



**Dr. Clearfield**

**Harris R. Clearfield, M.D.**, professor, Department of Medicine, Division of Gastroenterology, has been selected by the American College of Physicians for a mastership. Mastership is awarded to select fellows of the ACP in recognition of “exceedingly stellar career accomplishments and service to the College.” The official recognition will take place during the ACP convocation May 15 in Washington, D.C.



**Dr. Greenberg**

**Michael I. Greenberg, M.D., MPH**, professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, and chief, Division of Medical Toxicology, has been selected by the American College of Emergency Physicians as one of its “Heroes of Emergency Medicine,” members of ACEP who are being honored for significant contributions to their specialty, their communities and their patients. Greenberg was recognized for donating thousands of hours as police physician to the Upper Merion Township Police for the past 25 years, and writing and reviewing policies relevant to the health of officers and persons in custody. He has provided immunizations and training in first aid and work-related health issues, and developed a training program for officers, intended to promote survival following assaults by deadly weapons.

In addition, Greenberg was recently appointed co-editor of *Disease-A-Month*, a peer-reviewed journal for primary care physicians. Each issue of *Disease-A-Month* presents an in-depth review of a single topic. The publication covers all aspects of

the topic – pathophysiology, clinical features of the disease or condition, diagnostic techniques, therapeutic approaches, and prognosis.



**Dr. Waterhouse**

**Barry Waterhouse, Ph.D.**, professor, Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy, and associate dean for Biomedical Graduate, Postdoctoral and Professional Studies, was awarded a new grant from NIH-NIDA to study the effects of the recreational drug ecstasy on sensory signal processing in the rodent central nervous system. The R21 grant from the National Institutes of Drug Abuse entitled “Neurochemistry and Neurophysiology of MDMA (Ecstasy)” totals \$250,000 over the course of two years. The work is an extension of the dissertation research recently completed by **Melanie Alexander-Starr, Ph.D.** Alexander-Starr is continuing her work on the project as a postdoctoral fellow.



**American Friends of the Hebrew University (AFHU) paid tribute to D. Walter Cohen, DDS, chancellor emeritus of Drexel University College of Medicine, at the “Bridges to Peace” dinner in New York City, October 16, given in support of the Hebrew University-Hadassah School of Dental Medicine and its D. Walter Cohen Middle East Center for Dental Education. Cohen (at right in photo) was one of six “giants of dental medicine” presented with the Tree of Peace award by Professor Adam Stabholz, dean of the Hebrew University-Hadassah School of Dental Medicine.**

**Drexel University College of Medicine** won kudos in the 39th annual Pepperpot Awards of the Public Relations Society of America, Philadelphia Chapter, presented December 6, 2007. The 2006 Black Tie White Coat Ball, which raised \$750,000 for HIV/AIDS research at the College, took first prize for special events. (The Black Tie earned first place in 2003, as well.) *Stepping Up to the Future*, the 2006/07 annual report, received second place for single-piece communications, and the Drexel Medcast™, a monthly medical podcast featuring faculty, physicians and scientists, was honored in the online media category.



# ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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



## '50s

**Doris Bartuska, M.D., WMC '54**, was acknowledged for mentoring and inspiring other physicians by the Physician Mentor Recognition Program of the Women Physicians Congress of the American Medical Association, November 9, 2007.

## '60s

**Eleanor E. Howell, M.D., WMC '64**, received the Lifetime Achievement Award of the La Salle County Medical Society on December 13, 2007. Howell was cited "for her lifetime dedication attending to the health needs of the people of La Salle County and the state of Illinois and for her exemplary service to the medical profession in the open arenas of organized medicine at both state and national levels." Howell practiced internal medicine at Cook County Hospital and at St. Mary's Hospital in Streator, Ill., from 1969 to 1988. She was president of the medical staff at St. Mary's in 1984 and president of the La Salle County Medical Society in 1985. She has also served as a La Salle County delegate to the Illinois State Medical Society House of Delegates, a member of the La Salle County Tuberculosis Board, a member of the Salvation Army Board, and a volunteer physician at Indian Health Services in Eagle Butte, S.D.

## '70s

**Joseph Reichman, M.D., HU '73**, has been elected to the board of trustees of the Camden Area Health Education Center. Reichman is the vice president of medical affairs, Surgical Programs, at the Kennedy Health System in Stratford, N.J. He also serves as the first vice president of the Medical Society of New Jersey.

**Martin Auster, M.D., HU '77, MBA**, assistant professor, Department of Radiology, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, and attending radiologist, Vascular/Interventional Radiology, Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center in Baltimore, serves on the International Medical Advisory Board of Axiom Worldwide, a manufacturer and distributor of non-surgical medical equipment for use in back, neck and shoulder pain.

**Catherine S. Manno, M.D., HU '78**, presented "Women in Medicine in the 21st Century" at the Community Club of Garden City and Hempstead, Long Island, January 9. Manno is a professor of pediatrics at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, as well as associate chair for clinical activities in the Department of Pediatrics and medical director of the Children's Hospital Hemostasis and Thrombosis Center.

## '80s

**Thomas Weida, M.D., HU '80, FAAFP**, a practicing family physician in Hershey, Pa., was re-elected speaker of the Congress of Delegates, the governing body of the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP). Weida will continue to serve on the

AAFP board of directors. He is also a professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine at the Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, Penn State College of Medicine, as well as medical director of the University Physician Group at Fishburn Road, which is affiliated with the Hershey Medical Center.

**Daniel Becker, M.D., MCP '82**, has joined Nashoba Valley Healthcare Group's Townsend Family Practice. Becker is board certified in family practice and provides healthcare services in all aspects of family medicine from newborn to geriatric care. He is also certified in the Advanced Team Physicians Course from the American College of Sports Medicine.

**Bruce J. Levin, M.D., HU '83**, a member of the medical staff at Chestnut Hill Hospital and the University of Pennsylvania Health Systems, has been appointed a training and supervising psychoanalyst by the Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia and the American Psychoanalytic Association.

**Peggy Stineman, M.D., HU '83**, a professor of rehabilitation medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, was highlighted in an article, "These Philadelphians Are Making History," that appeared in the *Philadelphia Daily News*. Dr. Stineman and her mother, Margaret, participated in the StoryCorps project, sponsored by WHYY, that records stories of ordinary Americans for history. Stineman overcame many physical challenges to become a physician. She was born with severe scoliosis and other skeletal abnormalities, and without extraocular muscles needed to control her eyes.

**Richard Wozniak, M.D., HU '84**, has been named program director of Graduate Medical Education (GME) at Memorial Medical Center, Johnstown, Pa., a community and regional referral hospital that is part of Conemaugh Health System. A family practice physician at Memorial's Family Medical Center, Wozniak has been with the Conemaugh system since graduating from its Family Medicine Residency Program in 1987. He also serves as deputy director of that program and medical director of clinical documentation.

## '90s

**Kelly Eschbach, M.D., HU '91**, has become the president of the Medical Society of Delaware, a group that includes 1,700 physicians. She is also medical director for physical medicine and rehabilitation at Christiana Care Health System.



**Dr. Diamant**

Photo: Kevin Scanlon, courtesy of the Jewish Journal

**Allison Diamant, M.D., HU '92**, has been named one of "L.A.'s Top Ten Mensches" by *The Jewish Journal of Greater Los Angeles*. Diamant, a practicing physician and researcher on the faculty at UCLA, was cited particularly for her work in public health, including 15 years as a volunteer provider at the Venice Family Clinic and her work on issues of

■ **continued**



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access to healthcare, preventive self-care and health literacy for the homeless and other underserved populations.

**Thomas Vero Lheureau, M.D., MCP '94**, has been elected to the board of the Greater Pittsburgh Unit of the American Cancer Society. Vero Lheureau is a general surgeon with Allegheny Specialty Practice Network. He was appointed Cancer Liaison Physician for the Commission on Cancer 2002–2005 with the American Cancer Society, Trinity Health System in Steubenville, Ohio.

**Alon Ronen, M.D., MCP '94**, is co-director of the Regina L. Cozza Women at Heart Program at St. Vincent's Medical Center, Bridgeport, Conn., practices at Connecticut Heart & Vascular Center in Bridgeport, and is staff cardiologist at St. Vincent's.

**Mark A. Schmidheiser, M.D., HU '94**, has joined AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center's Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine. ARMC is a teaching hospital with campuses in Atlantic City and Pomona, N.J. Schmidheiser most recently served as an anesthesiologist with Rancocas Valley Anesthesiology Associates, Cinnaminson, and on the medical staff at Lourdes Medical Center, Willingboro, N.J.

**Barry A. Barrett, M.D., MCPHU '97**, a board-certified family physician, has joined the medical staff of West Florida Hospital and will practice at West Florida Primary Care. Dr. Barrett has been in private practice in Opp, Alabama, for the past five years. He also has experience as an emergency room physician and as a medical director for a home health agency.

**Lisa Christopher-Stine, M.D., MCPHU '97, Residency MCPHU '01, MPH**, returned to her alma mater to give medical grand rounds on the antisynthetase syndrome on November 14. Christopher-Stine is co-director of the Johns Hopkins Myositis Center, a unique clinic with a multidisciplinary approach combining expertise of rheumatology, neurology, and pulmonology, which opened in March of last year. The center has been featured nationally, and Christopher-Stine appeared in the *New York Times* and on *Good Morning America* in the same week. She has also been featured on The Discovery Channel's *Mystery Diagnosis* series. Christopher-Stine is currently an assistant professor of medicine in the Division of Rheumatology at Hopkins, which she joined in 2003 after completing her fellowship there.



Dr. Christopher-Stine

## '00s

**Timothy M. Mahoney, M.D., MCPHU '00**, a radiologist, has joined Radiology Services at Berkshire Health Systems in Pittsfield, Mass. Mahoney provides general radiology services and specializes in vascular and interventional radiology care.

**Abigail Rose, M.D., MCPHU '01**, a physician who specializes in family medicine, joined the Henry J. Austin Health Center in Trenton, N.J.

**Suzanne Jaffe Walters, M.D., MCPHU '01, Resident '06**, has been hired by Nemours Children's Clinic, Orlando, Fla., to launch Nemours Division of Orthopedics in Central Florida. Jaffe Walters is an orthopedic surgeon, specializing in pediatric and adolescent sports medicine. Following her residency, she completed a fellowship in pediatric sports medicine at Harvard/Children's Hospital Boston, with additional subspecialty training in dance medicine.

**Pamela Lacy, M.D., MCPHU '02**, an obstetrician/gynecologist has joined the Physicians & Surgeons Clinic in Amroy and Columbus, Miss.

**Eric Isenman, M.D., CoM '04**, an internist, has joined MIMA Associates, originally known as Melbourne Internal Medicine Associates. His father, Martin Isenman, is also an internist with MIMA. The group consists of a number of offices housing primary care physicians in locations throughout South Brevard County, Fla., supported by subspecialty consultants and diagnostic facilities in convenient larger offices.

## Former Fellows and Residents

**Marla J. Gold, M.D., Fellow, Infectious Disease, MCP '90**, dean and professor of the Drexel University School of Public Health, was honored as a distinguished female leader by the *Philadelphia Business Journal* which named her one of its 2007 Women of Distinction.

**Tejas P. Deliwala, M.D., DAPN, Fellow, Clinical Neurophysiology, CoM '04**, a specialist in clinical neurophysiology, has joined the medical staff of Kimball Medical Center.

**Brigit Meyer, M.D., Resident, Psychiatry, CoM '05**, is a new child and adolescent psychiatrist at Trillium Children's Farm Home in Corvallis, Ore. She was previously affiliated with Oregon Health & Science University in Portland as fellow and chief resident of the Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.

**Suzanne Jaffe Walters, M.D., MCPHU '01; Resident, Orthopedic Surgery, '06** See Class of '01 notes above.

**Aman Arora, M.D., Resident, CoM '07**, has joined Cape Fear Valley Medical Associates as an associate staff member in internal medicine.

**Sonam Ruit, DPM, Resident, CoM '07**, wrote an article, "Is This a Mole or Skin Cancer on My Foot? Biopsy Is Key to Diagnosis," that appeared in the Health & Medicine section of *Lancaster County Woman*. Dr. Ruit is a podiatrist at Martin Foot and Ankle in York, Pa.

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## Alumni Weekend

Alumni and alumnae of WMC, MCP, Hahnemann, MCPHU and Drexel Medicine, join classmates, friends and faculty in Philadelphia May 2-4 to share your memories, celebrate your legacy, and renew the pride you feel in your College of Medicine.

DREXEL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF MEDICINE


Join us for  
**Alumni Weekend!**  
May 2 - 4, 2008



Inside this booklet you will find important program information, exciting event descriptions and your registration form.

## 50-Year Reunion

Members of the Class of 1958, come to Philadelphia May 14-16 to reminisce, reconnect and participate in the graduation events!



**50 Year Reunion!**

MAY 14 - 16, 2008

## Upcoming Events

Saturday, February 23  
**Pittsburgh Winter Wine Tasting Reception**  
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Duquesne Club, Pittsburgh

Tuesday, March 4  
**Honors Day Reception**  
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.  
Queen Lane Campus

Friday, March 7  
**American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons Alumni Reception**  
6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.  
San Francisco

Saturday, March 29  
**Black Tie White Coat Ball**  
Benefiting autism programs at  
Drexel University College of Medicine  
6:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 12  
**The Austin Alumni Ranch Party**  
4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
Austin, Texas

Friday, May 2 – Sunday, May 4  
**Alumni Weekend 2008**

Monday, May 5  
**American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists Alumni Reception**  
6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.  
New Orleans

Tuesday, May 6  
**American Psychiatric Association Alumni Reception**  
6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.  
Washington, D.C.

Wednesday, May 14 – Friday, May 16  
**Class of 1958 50-Year Reunion**

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

continued



# ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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

## In Memoriam:

**Michael J. Mullin, M.S., HU '80, Ph.D., HU '82**  
December 8, 2007

**Drue Robert Paden, M.D., HU '77**  
December 4, 2007

**Ethel Platt, M.D., WMC '41**  
December 29, 2007

**William Rozanski, M.D., HU '49**  
November 13, 2007

**Hazel J. Weinberg, M.D., HU '68**  
November 28, 2007

**Ellen Richie Cressy, R.N., WMC '36**, of Willow Valley Manor, Lancaster, Pa., died December 8, 2007. Cressy served as a registered nurse for Burlington County Hospital in New Jersey and Swarthmore College infirmary. She married the late Rev. Robert A. Cressy in 1942. They settled in Springfield, Pa., and

worked together at the Lownes Free Church until moving to Lancaster in 1984.

**Jeffrey L. Lenow, M.D., HU '78**, passed away on December 17 at the age of 54. Residing in Medford, N.J., Lenow was not only a family physician but also a lawyer, receiving his law degree from Temple University. He was interested in how the legal system pertained to medicine. Most recently, he served as an associate professor at Thomas Jefferson University in the Department of Family and Community Medicine and as chief medical officer for the Vox Medica Institute for Continuing Healthcare Education in Philadelphia. He was a member of the Beneficiary Advisory Panel, which advocates for prescription benefits for military families, and founding president of the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Society. Lenow is survived by his wife, Roseanne Bourgeois Lenow, a son, Matthew; daughters Stephanie and Sarah; his parents, Mae and Martin; and a brother.

## DUP Mediation Program...continued

case can take. In addition, the College's expenses can be reduced \$50,000 to \$150,000 for every claim resolved through mediation.

The success of the mediation program is due in part to the adverse event training and consultation provided to physicians by DUCOM's Risk Management. "Physicians re-learn how to communicate so their patients will hear them," notes Oxholm. "They learn to sit down rather than stand, look the patient in the eye as they are talking, and use conciliatory language. We tell them it's OK to say they are sorry for what happened." This training also benefits the physicians by reducing their annual insurance costs.

The College has also started to include mediation in the communications skills training for medical students during the second and third years. "It's important for them to learn about effective patient-physician communication from the beginning," says Lorber.

"Through the mediation program, we have distinguished ourselves as an institution that puts patients first by providing a fair and equitable way to resolve healthcare disputes," Lorber emphasizes. "At the same time, we reduce the related stress for our physicians, and that in turn improves the quality of care for our patients."

With its mediation program, the College of Medicine is truly ahead of the curve, says Dean Richard V. Homan, M.D. "I am proud that our College has led the way in developing this equitable and humane process. In addition to Attorneys Oxholm and Lorber, I would like to thank our faculty physicians and their staff for all of their efforts in support of our best practices, risk management, and the voluntary mediation process. It makes a difference!"

**Contact: Deborah Lorber, 215-255-7841**

## Leading the Way

The malpractice mediation program was developed by attorney Carl (Tobey) Oxholm III, who was recently appointed executive vice president and chief of staff for Drexel University. Until assuming his new position, Oxholm was general counsel for Drexel University College of Medicine and had served as general counsel and senior vice president of Drexel University since 2001. Oxholm led the University's voluntary adoption of the governance practices outlined by the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, making it a trailblazer among nonprofit institutions. Among his many accomplishments involving the College of Medicine, in addition to helping create the nationally recognized mediation program, Oxholm founded the state-of-the-art insurance company for the physician group practice.



**Carl (Tobey) Oxholm**

## Upcoming CME Programs

### February 2008

February 29-  
March 1 **Gender and Ethnic Medicine CME Seminar**  
**Contact: Lindsey Hewitt, 215-255-7391,**  
**or [www.drexelmed.edu/iwhl](http://www.drexelmed.edu/iwhl)**

### March 2008

March 28 **57th Annual Update Pediatrics - Winter Session**  
**Contact Kathy Rellstab, 215-427-5159,**  
**or [kathy.rellstab@tenethealth.com](mailto:kathy.rellstab@tenethealth.com)**

## Gender and Ethnic Medicine Seminar First of Its Kind

Thirty-five members of the Drexel University College of Medicine faculty will conduct a first-of-its-kind two-day continuing medical education seminar, "Gender and Ethnic Medicine (GEM): How You Can Make a Difference in Patient Safety and Outcomes," on February 29 and March 1, 2008, at Philadelphia's Union League.

Targeted to physicians in primary care and family practice, as well as nurses, medical assistants and other healthcare professionals,

the program will highlight the preventive, diagnostic and treatment needs of diverse populations.

"Understanding and providing treatment based on gender and ethnic differences is critical in providing safe, appropriate and high quality medical care. Specific gender and ethnic medical care is embedded in our medical school's approach to education," says Barbara Schindler, M.D., vice dean, Educational and Academic Affairs, and seminar chair for the GEM event.

The sessions will include an opening address on "Primary Care in the 21st Century" by Drexel University College of Medicine Dean Richard Homan, M.D., and major interactive panel discussions on the reproductive life cycle, prevention and management of chronic illness, and the obesity crisis.

Created and conducted by the College of Medicine's Institute for Women's Health and Leadership, the GEM CME Seminar will put special emphasis on updating participants about the latest findings from research into gender and ethnic healthcare.

A second-day feature will include practical suggestions to attendees on improving communications with patients, technology advances and patient safety.

**Contact: Lindsey Hewitt, 215-255-7391**  
**or [www.drexelmed.edu/iwhl](http://www.drexelmed.edu/iwhl)**

## Compliance Corner

### Minimum Necessary Protected Health Information Is the Standard



**Edward G. Longazel**  
Chief Compliance  
& Privacy Officer

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) will celebrate its 5th birthday in the spring of 2008. We appropriately place a priority on protecting the health information of our patients in the ongoing production and use of medical records. Additionally, we are moving toward use of an encryption tool for e-mail and enhanced security for our portable devices.

A sure way each of us can reduce the risk of a compromise to the security of valuable information is to follow the HIPAA "minimum necessary" principle and our Privacy Program Policy IM-02. The minimum necessary principle states that the minimum amount of information necessary to complete a task should be utilized, to limit disclosure of unnecessary protected health information. Simply stated, one should never create spreadsheets, logs or lists for administrative tracking, review or analysis that contain personally identifiable patient information. Key data elements including the Social Security number, birth date and diagnoses should be dropped from data requests and erased from initial downloads if not required for the work being completed. Individual access to protected information should not be above the level needed to effectively perform assigned job responsibilities.

The extension of risk in the electronic and digital age has moved beyond breach of patient confidentiality of healthcare information. Identity theft has come to include the theft of healthcare services by someone criminally assuming the identity of another to use stolen insurance information. State laws now also protect the individual when a data breach occurs. The healthcare provider and support staff are now a key link in the ever vigilant chain providing identity theft protection from time of information collection through use and appropriate destruction when due.

Be sure to review your daily processes and identify areas where the use of less protected information could render more information protection. Use of the minimum necessary information to complete the task is the standard and our best defense against loss of protected information.

**Confidential Hotlines: call toll-free 866-936-1010; or visit [www.drexelmed.edu/ComplianceHotline](http://www.drexelmed.edu/ComplianceHotline).**  
**Compliance or privacy training requests: 215-255-7819.**

Suite 11484, 1601 Cherry Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

## Bulletins:

### Mini-Medical School Launches Two Unique Programs

College students who see medical school in their future can have a one-of-a-kind experience with Mini-Med Spring Break™. The one-week sessions, available during the month of March, allow participants to accompany the teaching team and 3rd- and 4th-year medical students on rounds, and much more. Another new offering is Mini-Med Doc for a Day™ – a program that is customized for the individual who wants to experience a day in the life of a doctor or surgeon. Visit [www.drexelmed.edu/minimed](http://www.drexelmed.edu/minimed).

### Adult Americans Are Lagging in Vaccinations

A recent survey taken by the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases found that only 2 percent of Americans 60 years and older received the shingles vaccination in its first year of sales, and just 10 percent of women ages 18 to 26 took advantage of the newly introduced HPV vaccination. Additionally, less than 70 percent of seniors get the flu shot or have had a pneumonia vaccine, and only 44 percent of seniors have received a tetanus shot within 10 years. It was concluded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that these percentages were too low and more adults should receive routine vaccinations to prevent common health threats.

### ... and Mammograms

The *New England Journal of Medicine* has reported that even low insurance co-payments are enough to discourage women from getting annual mammograms. Previous research showed that the lifesaving procedure significantly reduces deaths by detecting breast cancer at an early stage. Still, studies show that women with insurance programs requiring even a minimal co-payment are more likely to skip their annual mammogram by a margin of 8.3 percent.

## Calendar:

<b>February</b>	<i>American Heart Month</i>
Feb 29-Mar 1	<b>Gender and Ethnic Medicine: How You Can Make a Difference in Patient Safety and Outcomes</b> Contact: 215-255-7373 or email <a href="mailto:iwhl@drexelmed.edu">iwhl@drexelmed.edu</a>
<b>March</b>	<i>National Multiple Sclerosis Education and Awareness Month</i>
Mar 20	<b>Match Day</b> Queen Lane Campus
Mar 20	<b>Kate Hurd-Mead Lecture</b>
Mar 29	<b>Black Tie White Coat Ball</b> to support autism research and treatment Philadelphia Marriott Downtown Contact: 215-255-7327 or email <a href="mailto:mpizzulo@drexelmed.edu">mpizzulo@drexelmed.edu</a>
<b>April</b>	<i>National Autism Awareness Month</i>
Apr 9	<b>Golden Apple/Golden Stethoscope Awards and Student/Faculty Art Show</b> Queen Lane Campus, 5:30 p.m.
Apr 28	<b>Woman One Award Ceremony</b> Contact: 215-255-7373 or email <a href="mailto:iwhl@drexelmed.edu">iwhl@drexelmed.edu</a>
<b>May</b>	<i>National Physical Fitness and Sports Month</i>
May 2-4	<b>Alumni Weekend</b>
May 13	<b>Senior Formal</b>
May 14-16	<b>50th Reunion</b>
May 16	<b>Commencement</b> Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts, 9 a.m. Faculty and students report at 8 a.m.
<b>June</b>	<i>National Scleroderma Awareness Month</i>
Jun 14	<b>Drexel University Commencement</b>
<b>July</b>	
Jul 28	<b>Manuel N. Stamatakis Golf Classic</b> Contact: 215-255-7327
<b>August</b>	
Aug 5	<b>Class of 2012 Orientation begins</b>
Aug 11	<b>Class of 2012 White Coat Ceremony</b>