

NEWSPAGER

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AAMC Chief Academic Officer To Deliver Commencement Address

A passion for helping people in crisis led to an extraordinary career as a pioneer in emergency medicine and a leader in academic medicine.

When John Prescott, M.D., was a medical intern, he came upon a terrible automobile crash while driving one day on a rural Texas road. He found two women seriously injured, and although he was alone and feeling the weight of his inexperience, he mustered the courage to provide the immediate care they needed until emergency medical responders arrived.

"After that experience, I realized that I really wanted to take care of people in crisis situations, especially in that first hour," recalls Dr. Prescott, chief academic officer of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), who will deliver the keynote address at Commencement on May 15.

Prescott's passion for helping people in crisis led him to an extraordinary career as a pioneer in emergency medicine and a leader in academic medicine. After completing his residency in emergency medicine at Brooke Army Medical Center, San Antonio, Texas, and eight years of service in the U.S. Army, he was looking for a meaningful mission in his specialty. He found it at West Virginia University (WVU), where the School of Medicine was interested in establishing a new emergency medicine program.

JOHN PRESCOTT, M.D.



"When I first got to West Virginia in 1990, there were about eight emergency physicians in the entire state," relates Prescott, who initially served at WVU as medical director of Emergency Medicine Services and assistant section chief. "The need for better access to emergency care was great and so were the related challenges."

As founding director of WVU's Center for Rural Emergency Medicine, Prescott and his colleagues began to tackle those challenges through a rural research program with a strong teaching component, funded by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. During Prescott's tenure,

the center trained over 7,000 healthcare providers in advanced life support, which greatly enhanced the quality of emergency care throughout the state.

The center's research focused on injury control. "Individuals in rural areas work in occupations such as coal mining, farming and logging, which are prone to very serious injuries," Prescott explains. "We worked closely with engineers, researchers and field personnel to reduce the frequency and severity of injuries. It was fulfilling to help make a difference, not just one patient at a time, but with a whole population of individuals."

During the same period, Prescott became the founding chairman of WVU School of Medicine's Department of Emergency Medicine and spearheaded the establishment of its first emergency medicine residency program. In 2004, he was appointed dean of the School of Medicine. "It was tremendously rewarding to have the opportunity to help shape a whole new generation of physicians while serving the people of West Virginia with direct patient care," he recalls.

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

Recognizing New Department Chairs

As we look toward spring, I am reminded that this column has yet to acknowledge two important appointments that took place over the fall and winter, and I am pleased to share them with you now.

James Barrett, Ph.D., was appointed chair of the Department of Pharmacology

and Physiology. Dr. Barrett joined the College of Medicine in 2007 as a professor. Prior to that, he served as senior vice president of research and development and chief scientific officer and president of research at Adolor Corporation. He previously served as president of research and development at Memory Pharmaceuticals and as vice president of neuroscience development research at Wyeth.

He has held academic appointments with Columbia University, Rutgers University, and the University of Maryland.



Dr. Barrett

Dr. Barrett earned his doctoral degree in psychology/neurobiology from Pennsylvania State University and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in neurobiology, neuropsychopharmacology and behavioral pharmacology at the Worcester Foundation for Experimental Biology. He is on the editorial board of many journals, serves as a special review

consultant for the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the National Institute on Mental Health and has published extensively.

Cheryl Hanau, M.D., was appointed chair of the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine. A professor in the department, she has served the College of Medicine in a number of other key positions, most recently as associate dean for admissions, and program director of the Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Residency.

Dr. Hanau joined the College of Medicine in 1995 after completing fellowships in cytopathology and surgical pathology at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, where she also completed her residency in anatomic and clinical pathology. She earned her medical degree at Jefferson Medical College.

Dr. Hanau is also a graduate of the Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine® (ELAM) Program for Women at Drexel University College of Medicine. ELAM® is the nation's only in-depth program focused on preparing senior women faculty at schools of medicine, dentistry and public health to move into positions of institutional leadership where they can effect positive change.



Dr. Hanau

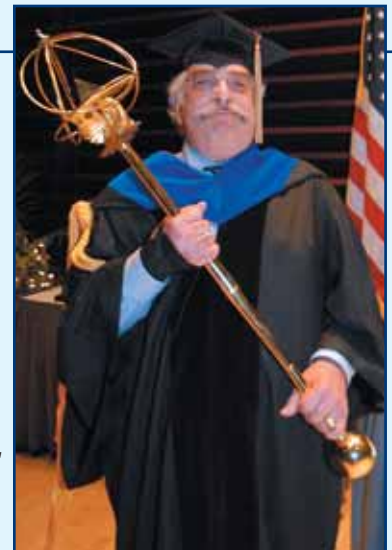
In addition to her many contributions in educational administration and on numerous faculty committees, Dr. Hanau has won more than a dozen awards for distinguished teaching, including the Lindback Award, the June Klinghoffer Clinical Educator Award and a bushel of Golden Apples from her students.

Dean's Office: 215-762-3500

All Trustees, Administrators, Alums, and Faculty Invited To Participate in Commencement Processions

This year's College of Medicine Commencement ceremony will be held on Friday, May 15, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts. All trustees, administrators, alums, and faculty are invited to participate in the academic processions. All responses and regalia orders will be completed online. If you plan to attend, please RSVP online at <http://webcampus.drexelmed.edu/regalia.asp> no later than **Friday, April 3, 2009**. *Even if you have your own regalia, we kindly request that you RSVP* so that appropriate seating arrangements may be made for you. If you are unable to utilize the online reservation server, please contact the University Bookstore at 215-762-7628 to RSVP and/or to order your regalia. All participants must respond and wear appropriate academic regalia. The University will cover the regalia rental

expenses. A confirmation and additional information regarding Commencement will be sent to you after your reply is received. Regalia will be distributed at the Kimmel Center prior to the ceremony. If you have any questions, please call Shay Myers, director of Student Affairs at the Queen Lane Medical Campus, at 215-991-8219 (e-mail: smyers@drexelmed.edu).



Medical Student Spends Volunteer Year in Guatemala

Medical student James Heilman and his wife, a third-year law student, are spending the 2008/09 academic year volunteering in Guatemala. Heilman sends this report:

“My interest in international medicine and public health is one of the major motivations that initially drew me to medical school. There has not been much time to pursue this interest while I've been in school, and I thought it would be something I would get involved with after I completed my residency. I changed my mind about the timeline after I attended Penn's Global Health Day two years ago. The speakers there inspired me to do something now instead of waiting, because the experience of doing medical work abroad will alter the decisions you make as a medical student, resident, and attending physician.

“We have been working for an NGO called Mayan Medical Aid, which is located on the shores of Lake Atitlan in an indigenous Mayan village called Santa Cruz La Laguna. The organization works in cooperation with the Guatemalan government to help run the ‘Puesto de Salud’ (a small public health clinic) in town, and in addition provides regular mobile health clinics to surrounding rural villages. Mayan Medical Aid generates funding for its local staff and medications by teaching medical Spanish to medical students and other health professions students from the United States and Canada. It does not have a religious affiliation.

“Both my wife and I are volunteering our services. She is serving as the clinic's development coordinator. We both applied for multiple grants, but obtained only very limited funding. However, we had decided early on that we were going to go no matter

“The experience of doing medical work abroad will alter the decisions you make as a medical student, resident, and attending physician.”



James Heilman

what funding we might receive. My main reason for going to Guatemala is to help provide quality health services to those with limited access to health care, and the goal is to improve health outcomes for the children and families that the clinic serves.

“My role this year has been coordinating the mobile health clinics, managing the clinic's medications, evaluating patients under the direction of the two full-time physicians at the organization and assisting in public health initiatives.

“When I arrived I could speak Spanish at a basic to intermediate level. Through my work at the clinic my medical Spanish has greatly improved and I am able to see patients without the use of interpreters.”

New Oral Health Center to Study Link Between Oral Diseases, Preterm Birth

The College of Medicine has announced the establishment of the AmeriChoice Oral Health Center at 1435 Vine Street in Philadelphia. The center will provide dental care to women while studying the relationship between periodontal disease and preterm low-birth-weight babies. The center is a partnership between AmeriChoice, which has donated the equipment, and the College, which will enroll patients in a treatment study.

The center will be under the direction of D. Water Cohen, DDS, chancellor emeritus of the College of Medicine. The principal investigator of the study will be Jennifer Culhane, Ph.D., associate professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the College. Culhane says this study will be different from previous research in this area which has evaluated women who are receiving periodontal treatment during pregnancy.

“What makes our study unique is that we plan to provide periodontal treatment between pregnancies in women who have already delivered a preterm baby,” said Culhane. “We

want to see if treatment after delivery can help prevent preterm babies in subsequent pregnancies.”



Left to right: Dean Richard Homan, M.D.; Ernie Monfiletto, executive director, AmeriChoice of PA-Philadelphia; Allen Finklestein, DDS, AmeriChoice vice president and chief dental officer; Reed Tuckson, M.D., executive vice president and chief of medical affairs, UnitedHealth Group; Russell Petrella, Ph.D., president, AmeriChoice; and D. Water Cohen, DDS. Inset: PI Jennifer Culhane, Ph.D., describes her research.

CF Centers Win Special Research Designation

The Adult Cystic Fibrosis Center at Drexel University College of Medicine and the Cystic Fibrosis Care Center at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children have together been designated as a Cystic Fibrosis Therapeutics Development Center by Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Therapeutics, Inc., an affiliate of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. The award allows the centers to participate in early phase clinical studies in cystic fibrosis and provides financial support for those endeavors for the next five years. It is a split grant between the pediatric and adult centers, with 50 percent of the funding going to each site.

"We are very proud to have received this award, and it really should help us to advance CF treatment options," said Jeffrey B. Hoag, M.D., M.S., principal investigator and associate director for the Adult Cystic Fibrosis Center. Anas Hadeh, M.D., assistant professor of medicine, is the director of the adult center. Laurie Varlotta, M.D., associate professor of pediatrics, is the director and principal investigator for the Cystic Fibrosis Care Center at St. Christopher's.

Drexel Medicine One of 10 Schools Selected for Millennium Conference

Drexel University College of Medicine has been selected to participate in Millennium Conference 2009: Patient Safety – Implications for Teaching in the 21st Century, sponsored by the Shapiro

Institute for Education and Research at Harvard Medical School and Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts. In addition to Harvard and Drexel, eight other medical schools will participate, selected from 22 that applied: Case Western Reserve, Medical College of Georgia, Michigan State, Northwestern, Ohio State, Tufts, University of Kentucky, and University of Texas at Houston. The conference takes place May 7-9.

Drexel Heart Physicians Share Distinction in Cardiac Care

Independence Blue Cross (IBX) recently designated Hahnemann University Hospital as a Blue Distinction Center for Cardiac Care, based on objective standards for cardiac services established in collaboration with leading clinicians, medical societies and professional organizations, including the American College of Cardiology and the Society of Thoracic Surgeons. The criteria are divided into five categories: patient results, treatment expertise, procedure volume, structure, and process.

According to IBX, Blue Distinction Centers for Cardiac Care have demonstrated their commitment to quality, resulting in better overall outcomes for their patients. The physicians of Drexel Cardiology and Drexel CT Surgery provide the full range of cardiac services, including inpatient cardiac care, cardiac catheterization, and cardiac surgery, necessary for the designation. Howard Eisen, M.D.,

professor of medicine and chief of the Division of Cardiology at Drexel University College of Medicine, is also the director of the Center for Advanced Heart Failure Care at Hahnemann University Hospital. Andrew Wechsler, M.D., is professor and chair, Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery. We are very proud of our heart doctors, and we congratulate Drs. Eisen and Wechsler and their teams for their excellence in patient care.

Baylor Geneticist to Receive 2009 Marion Spencer Fay Award

Cited for her groundbreaking work in the field of genetics, Huda Y. Zoghbi, M.D., of the Baylor University College of Medicine is the recipient of the 2009 Marion Spencer Fay Award, to be presented on April 20 at the Queen Lane Campus. The national award, administered by the College of Medicine's Institute for Women's Health and Leadership, honors a woman scientist or physician who has made exceptional contributions to medicine and science.

Beyond her highly regarded work in neurodevelopmental and neurodegenerative diseases, Dr. Zoghbi is now developing a new multidisciplinary approach to understanding the brain structure of children.

Zoghbi will deliver a lecture at 4 p.m., prior to receiving the award, entitled "A Career in Balance" – a play on words about her research on balance disorders as well as work-family balance. Students and faculty are invited to attend.

Contact: iwhl@drexelmed.edu

In Memoriam: Wagner H. Bridger, M.D.

Wagner H. Bridger, M.D., emeritus professor in the Department of Psychiatry, died on February 10 after a long illness, in Fountain Hills, Ariz. He was 81. A research pioneer in the fields of biological psychiatry, psychopharmacology and neonatology, Bridger joined the Medical College of Pennsylvania in 1982 as professor and chairman of psychiatry at MCP and the Eastern Pennsylvania Psychiatric Institute. He stepped down as chair in 1993, and became professor emeritus in 1998. Bridger was appointed president of the Society of Biological Psychiatry in

1988, and was editor emeritus of its journal from 1992 to 1997. A committed social activist, in 1964 Bridger helped found the Medical Committee for Human Rights, an association of medical professionals organized in support of the Civil Rights Movement. He is survived by his wife of 35 years, Rita Hayes Bridger, his seven children, Eric Bridger, Cindy Bridger, Laurie Bridger, Colleen Jacobson, Mary Jane Sanacore, Colo Hayes III, and Christopher Hayes, and 11 grandchildren.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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



Upcoming Events

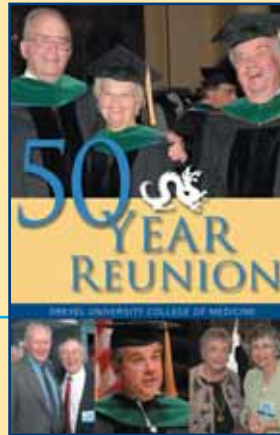
Wednesday, March 25
Happy Days: The Musical: Reception and Show
5:30 p.m. Reception; 7:30 p.m. Curtain
The Academy of Music, Philadelphia

Friday, April 24
ACP American College of Physicians Reception
6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Marriott Courtyard Philadelphia Downtown
Logan Room

Friday, May 1 – Saturday, May 2
Alumni Weekend
Drexel University College of Medicine
Visit www.drexelmed.edu/ForAlumni/Reunions
or call 866-373-9633



Monday, May 4
**American College of Obstetricians
and Gynecologists Reception**
6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Hilton Chicago Hotel, Chicago



Wednesday, May 13 –
Friday, May 15
**Class of 1959
50-Year Reunion**
Drexel University
College of Medicine
Visit www.drexelmed.edu/ForAlumni/Reunions
or call 866-373-9633

Saturday, May 16
Napa Valley Alumni Wine Tasting
Flora Springs Winery & Vineyards
St. Helena, Calif.

Tuesday, May 19
American Psychiatric Association
San Francisco
Details to follow

Monday, June 22 – Tuesday, June 30
Rome and Greece

Saturday, August 29 – Saturday, September 5
The Great Lakes

For more information contact The Office of
Alumni Relations at **1-866-373-9633** or
medical.alumni@drexel.edu

Alumni Association Elections

The Board of Directors of the Alumni Association of Drexel University College of Medicine will post the slate for the 2009 election (term July 1, 2009, to June 30, 2012) online at: www.drexelmed.edu/alumni/Association. Additional nominees may be added by sending a written petition signed by 20 active members to:

Dr. Donald Girard, c/o Patty Comey, Director, Alumni Relations
Drexel University College of Medicine
Suite 11489, 1601 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102

Voting will be available to all members on the Alumni Association web page at www.drexelmed.edu/alumni/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. Paper ballots can be obtained by calling **1-866-373-9633**.

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ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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

'70s

Rick Ervin, M.D., HU '71, was highlighted in an article in the *Greater Pee Dee Business Journal*, Columbia, S.C. Ervin was named 2008 Physician of the Year by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. He serves as the South Carolina Tuberculosis Program physician consultant, under the auspices of the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, and works part-time as the director of medical informatics at McLeod Regional Medical Center.

Mary Ann Haflin, M.D., MCP '71, was the guest speaker at the Restless Legs Syndrome Support Group. Haflin practices family medicine in North Wildwood, N.J., with North Wildwood Medical Associates.

John D. Irvin, M.D., HU '75, Ph.D., HU '75, was elected to the board of the Association of Clinical Research Professionals. He recently retired as vice president for Worldwide Regulatory Affairs and Product Safety, COMET at Johnson & Johnson/Merck Schering Plough. He was also senior vice president for Global Research and Development for Johnson & Johnson–Merck CPC, and he continues his work in clinical research and alliance management as a consultant.

Scott Hoffer, M.D., HU '76, an integrated-therapy doctor, joined the staff of Advance Behavioral Health Center in Tavares, Fla. In addition to being board certified in adult psychiatry, he is a certified fitness trainer through the International Sports Science Association. He recently was granted specialty certification in fitness training of older adults.

Louis M. Nardella, M.D., HU '76, an internal medicine specialist with Watson Clinic, Lakeland, Fla., recently conducted an educational seminar on the obesity epidemic, the causes for weight gain, and the most effective strategies for achieving healthy weight loss. He has been with Watson Clinic since 2002.

Thomas Stoneback, M.S., HU '75; Ph.D., HU '77, joined the National Canal Museum and Hugh Moore Park as the executive director. Stoneback was retired and most recently had overseen the Direct Marketing Association's educational foundation. He previously worked for 25 years for Rodale, where he was the chief administrative officer and the company's first chief environmental officer.

Jeffrey A. Stead, M.D., HU '78, a board-certified pathologist, has been named medical director of Laboratory Services for West Virginia University Hospitals–East, responsible for overseeing laboratory services at City Hospital in Martinsburg and Jefferson Memorial Hospital in Ranson. Stead, a professor of pathology at West Virginia University, previously worked at the university's Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center.

'80s

Stephanie S. Durruthy, M.D., HU '81, a psychiatrist on staff at Howard County [Maryland] General Hospital, has been elected a distinguished fellow by the American Psychiatric Association. She will receive her award medallion on May 18 at the APA's annual meeting in San Francisco.

Thomas F. Freenock Jr., M.D., HU '84, a physical medicine and rehabilitation specialist, was re-elected to the Pennsylvania Medical Society Board of Trustees, representing physicians from Armstrong, Butler, Clarion, Indiana, Jefferson, and Venango counties. Freenock treats patients suffering from muscle and joint pain and injuries at the SSJ Diagnosis and Rehab at Clarion Hospital in Clarion, Pa. He also specializes in sports medicine and electro-diagnostic testing.

Richard D. Kinnard, M.D., HU '88, was appointed the new medical director of the Joint Academy at the Howard County [Maryland] General Hospital. Kinnard is

also a member of Orthopaedic Associates of Central Maryland.

'90s

Glenn Stambo, M.D., HU '91, a board-certified vascular and interventional radiologist practicing in Tampa, Fla., was cited in *U.S. News and World Report* for his work in the use of transarterial chemoembolization to target and kill malignant tumors of the liver under radiographic guidance. He presented his work at the International Symposium on Endovascular Therapy January 20 in Hollywood, Fla.

Amelia A. Paré, M.D., HU '92, has been elected treasurer of the Allegheny County Medical Society. A board-certified plastic surgeon, Paré is in private practice and is affiliated with the Washington Hospital, St. Clair Hospital, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center South Side, and Jefferson Regional Medical Center.



Dr. Weiss

Patrice M. Weiss, M.D., HU '92, vice chair and residency program director, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, and medical director

of the Carilion Breast Center, Carilion Clinic, Roanoke, Va, has been appointed professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the newly forming Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine in Roanoke. She was previously at Lehigh Valley Hospital, Allentown, Pa., where she was the vice chair of education and research and residency program director for OB/GYN.

Thomas Lheureau, M.D., HU '94, has joined the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) and will see patients at UPMC Horizon. Formerly affiliated with Allegheny General Hospital, Lheureau, with two other surgeons from Allegheny, has established a new practice known as Northern Area Surgical Associates–UPMC.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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



David Kennedy, M.D., HU '95, a pediatrician, was granted medical staff privileges at Grand View Hospital. He has a private practice in Pennsburg, Pa.

Sean O'Donnell, M.D., HU '95, a hospitalist, joined the medical staff at Penobscot Bay Medical Center, Rockport, Maine. He previously worked at Cape Cod Hospital in Hyannis, Mass., the Miles Medical Group, Damariscotta, Maine, and the Lahey Clinic in Lexington, Mass., where he was a senior staff physician.

Darren Frank, MMS, MCP '97; M.D., MCPHU '01, an orthopedic surgeon, was appointed to the medical staff of Canonsburg [Pa.] General Hospital. He specializes in sports medicine, and repair of the foot and ankle.

Denise Kelley, M.D., HU '97, has joined the staff of the Neurosensory Center of Eastern Pennsylvania. Kelley is certified in the Defeat Autism Now approach.

Patty Ohrum, M.D., MCP '98, a specialist in hospice and palliative care, internal medicine and critical care medicine, is a full-time physician at Coastal Hospice, Salisbury, Md. She provides hospice care to patients at home, at nursing homes, and at Coastal Hospice, and palliative care services to patients at Peninsula Regional Medical Center.

Kertrisa McWhite, M.D., MCPHU '99, a surgical breast oncologist at Atlantic General Hospital and director of Atlantic General's breast services for women and men diagnosed with cancer, has relocated her office as part of the hospital's Women's Health Center in Berlin, Md.

'00s

Lisa Cheley Espinoza, MBS, MCPHU '00; M.D., '04, owns and operates La Chelé Medical Aesthetics at Zanya Spa/Salon, Lambertville, N.J., where she diagnoses and treats common dermatologic conditions. She is a member of the American Society for Laser Medicine and Surgery.

Matthew Gerstberger, M.D., '05, was officially granted medical staff privileges by Grand View Hospital in Sellersville, Pa. Gerstberger has also joined the staff at TriValley Primary Care, in Pennsburg, Pa.

Former Residents

Emeka M. Umerah, M.D., Resident, MCPHU, OB/GYN '99, has joined the practice of Women's Health Center of Lebanon, Ltd. in Lebanon, Pa.

In Memoriam

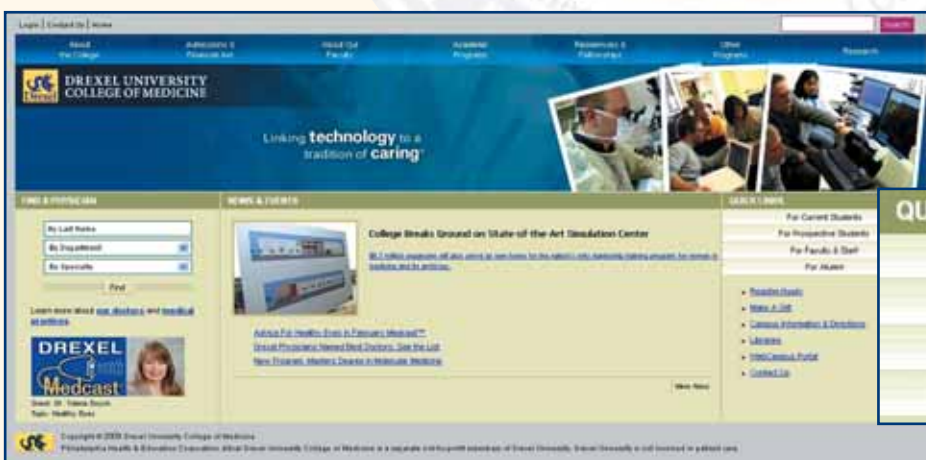
Harry M. Rhoads, M.D. HU '49 *January 31*

Kathryn Uhrich, M.D. WMC '47 *January 13*

Charles S. Yost, M.D. HU '41 *February 6*

Please note: The NewsPaper publishes brief obituaries, space permitting, when information is made available by the family or a media service.

Find Your Home on the Web



All the information you need about the Alumni Association, reunions, and other events is a quick link from the "front door" of the new www.drexelmed.edu.

QUICK LINKS

For Current Students

For Prospective Students

For Faculty & Staff

For Alumni

Patty Comey, Director, Alumni Relations
Drexel University College of Medicine
Suite 11489, 1601 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102

Toll-Free at: 1-866-DREX MED (1-866-373-9633)
Fax: 215-255-7302
E-Mail: medical.alumni@drexel.edu

Presentations & Publications



Dr. Berkson

David Berkson, M.D., FAAFP, assistant professor, Department of Family, Community and Preventive Medicine, and program director, Family Medicine Residency, is a co-author with former resident Carmelo DiSalvo, M.D., of the chapter "Earache" in *Family Medicine: Ambulatory Care and Prevention* (McGraw-Hill Medical, 2009).



Dr. Gleason



Dr. Richman



Dr. Morahan

Katharine Gleason, MPH, research manager, and **Rosalyn Richman, M.A.** and **Page S. Morahan, Ph.D.**, co-directors, Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine® Program for Women, and colleagues published "Medical School Deans' Perceptions of Organizational Climate: Useful Indicators for

Advancement of Women Faculty and Evaluation of a Leadership Program's Impact" in *Academic Medicine* 84:1 (January 2009).

Richman was invited to discuss the ELAM® Program on a panel, "Models for Academic Leadership Development," at the American Dental Education Association's 50th Annual Deans' Conference, November 9, in Tempe, Ariz.

Jane E. McGowan, M.D., professor, Department of Pediatrics, was an invited speaker at the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development Workshop on Neonatal Hypoglycemia, held September 8-9 at the Bolger Center, Potomac, Md. Her talk was entitled "Mechanisms of Hypoglycemic Brain Injury in the Newborn."

She also presented two talks at the National Neonatal Nurses Meeting, held in Washington, D.C., October 8-11, "Neonatal Hypoglycemia: How Low is Too Low?" and "Hyperglycemia and the Newborn."

McGowan gave a lecture, "Neonatal Resuscitation and the Preterm Infant," at the March of Dimes Conference on the Changing Landscape of Prematurity, December 5, 2008, in Edison, N.J.

Grants & Kudos



Dr. Koffler

Sandra P. Koffler, Ph.D., emeritus associate professor, Department of Psychiatry, will receive the Distinguished Neuropsychologist award of the American Academy of Clinical Psychology. The honor will be presented at the June meeting of the academy in San Diego. Koffler was the first woman president of the National

Academy of Neuropsychology. She held the position of director of neuropsychology for Hahnemann University Hospital, St. Christopher's Hospital for Children and Medical College of Pennsylvania. She continues in the practice of neuropsychology and the training of students.



Dr. Minugh-Purvis

Nancy Minugh-Purvis, Ph.D., associate professor, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, and director of the Interdisciplinary Sciences Program in the Office of Professional Studies, has been elected to the Executive Committee, as treasurer, of the Humanity Gifts Registry. This is Pennsylvania's willed body program,

which oversees the donation and distribution of human remains for medical education in the Commonwealth.



Dr. Shea

Bill G. Shea, CPA, has been promoted to assistant vice president, Internal Audit and Management Consulting Services, Drexel University College of Medicine. Shea joined the College of Medicine as director of audit in 2004 following positions as director for Catholic Health Audit Network, manager of internal audit and compliance for Mercy

Health System, and senior auditor for Allegheny Health, Education, and Research Foundation. He has also worked as a senior consultant for both Arthur Andersen and Deloitte & Touche. Shea is a member of the Institute of Internal Auditors and the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants.



Dr. Wechsler

Andrew S. Wechsler, M.D., professor and chair, Department of Cardiovascular Surgery, has been named senior adviser to the Division of Cardiovascular Diseases of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, National Institutes of Health. He has also been appointed as the first CEO and medical director of CTSNet, a nonprofit created by

the Society of Thoracic Surgeons, the American Association for Thoracic Surgery, and the European Association for Cardio-thoracic Surgery to advance education and collaboration in the global cardiothoracic surgical community through Internet resources.

Submissions for Presentations & Publications and Grants & Kudos may now be emailed directly to NewsPager@drexelmed.edu.

Medicine, Engineering and Technology: Device May Lead to Earlier Cancer Detection

Medicine may soon have a new weapon in the fight against breast cancer. Clinical trials are expected to start this year on an innovative device for breast tumor detection and differentiation being developed in a translational research collaboration between Drexel University College of Medicine, the College of Engineering and the School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems.

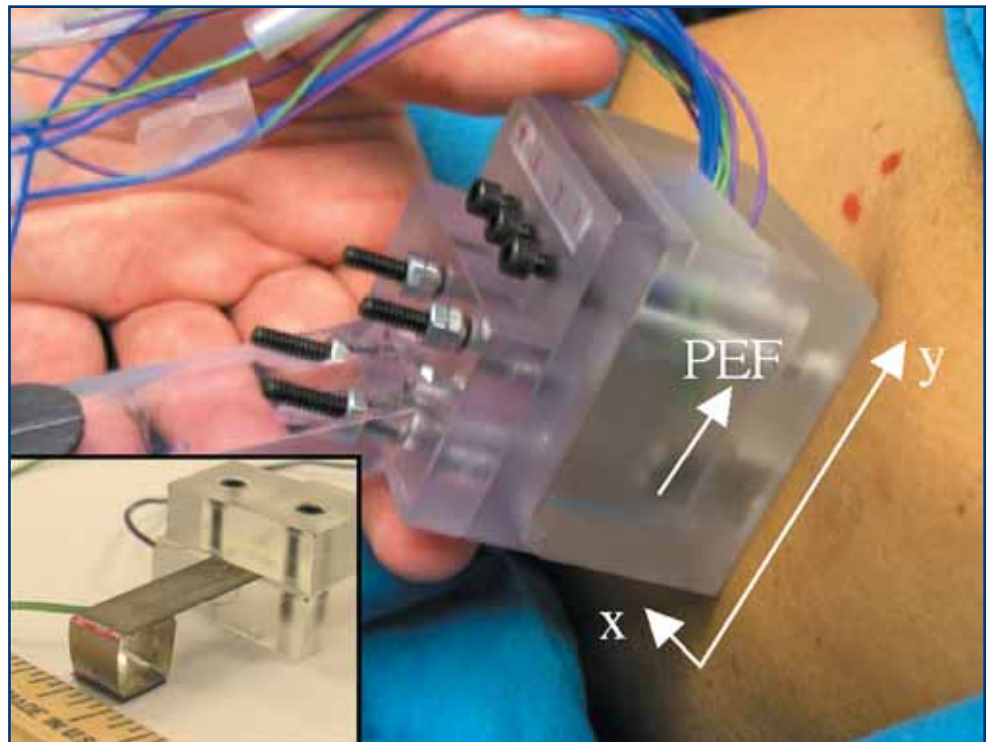
Known as piezoelectric fingers (PEF), the device uses the same principle as the mechanoreceptors in the skin of human fingertips, but has the ability to detect tumors that are much smaller than those found with the human hand, explains Ari Brooks, M.D., associate professor, Department of Surgery.

Brooks is a co-investigator with Wan Y. Shih, Ph.D., associate professor, School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems; Wei-Heng Shih, Ph.D., professor, Department of Materials Science and Engineering; Vanlila Swami, Ph.D., professor, Department of Pathology, and Lydia Komarnicky, M.D., professor and chair, Department of Radiation Oncology. The group has been supported by the National Institutes of Health, the Nanotechnology Institute, and the Wallace H. Coulter Foundation for this work.

"This device could be very helpful in annual screening exams for women under age 40 where screening mammography is not the standard, as well as for women with denser breasts where mammogram screening is not as effective," Brooks says.

In studies involving about 70 cases conducted over the past four years, the PEF device has detected tumors as small as 3 millimeters in tissue specimens removed in surgery by Brooks. "In comparison, the trained physician's hand can detect a tumor that measures between 1 and 2 centimeters on average," says Brooks. "In the U.S., it is recommended that young patients with tumors measuring 5 millimeters or more undergo chemotherapy and radiation following surgery. By enabling us to find tumors earlier when they are smaller than 5 millimeters, this device could improve the prognosis for many patients and help them avoid the need for such treatment."

The PEF device has also been effective in differentiating between malignant and benign tumors. Designed by the two Shih's, it features a lever with four fingers that generate an



A 4x1 piezoelectric finger (PEF) array in a polycarbonate holder performing measurements on the right breast of a patient lying on her back. The inset photo shows a single PEF.

electrical charge as they bend while pressing against a tissue sample. Based on these electrical charges, calculations can be made that indicate the shear elasticity and the hardness or softness of the tissue. "Since tumors and cancerous tissues in breasts are stiffer than surrounding tissue, this enhances our ability to differentiate," says Brooks.

Brooks also notes that the device could benefit women in other parts of the world where mammography is not as readily available as in the United States "In eastern Europe, India, China and Africa, for example, they don't have the infrastructure to offer the level of screening that we take for granted in this country," he says. "The PEF could help bridge that gap."

The group is also studying use of the device in robotic surgery. "We lose our sense of touch when we work with the robot or instruments during minimally invasive surgery," Brooks observes. "The PEF device could be very advantageous in this and other types of surgery where we need to characterize tissue by the way it feels."

Contact: Ari.Brooks@drexelmed.edu

Forum Takes On Hormone Therapy, Women's Health and Well-Being

Women's health and well-being in the post-reproductive years was the subject of the annual Sex and Gender Research Forum, a program of the Institute for Women's Health and Leadership, held February 3. A key focus was the use of hormone therapy, which became controversial several years ago as a result of studies by the Women's Health Initiative of the National Institutes of Health.

At least one member of a panel discussion, "What Can We Blame on Menopause," advocated strongly for hormone therapy to treat menopausal symptoms and chided the media for reporting medical findings in a tone that induces fear in the general audience. All agreed that there is a great need for further research on hormone therapy.

The influence of estrogen and other hormones on cognitive function is at the center of research by Kristine Yaffe, M.D., professor in residence, Departments of Psychiatry, Neurology and Epidemiology, University of California, San Francisco, who was the forum's guest speaker. In her lecture, Yaffe highlighted studies that suggested a protective effect of estrogen on Alzheimer's disease onset in women. Estrogen clearly has effects – primarily favorable – on the central nervous system and on Alzheimer's disease models, she said.

Yaffe supports further studies of alternative modes of estrogen, such as selective estrogen receptor modulators, and their impact on cognitive functions. Ideally, research will eventually find the benefit without the harm.

In a separate presentation, Mary V. Spiers, Ph.D., associate professor of psychology at Drexel University, talked about her studies on gender differences and memory, and how they are affected by the hormonal changes associated with menopause.

Other topics were presented by Donna Murasko, Ph.D., dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, who lectured on gender and age differences in relation to immunity to the flu virus, and Kristene Whitmore, M.D., professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, who discussed the links between urinary dysfunction and female

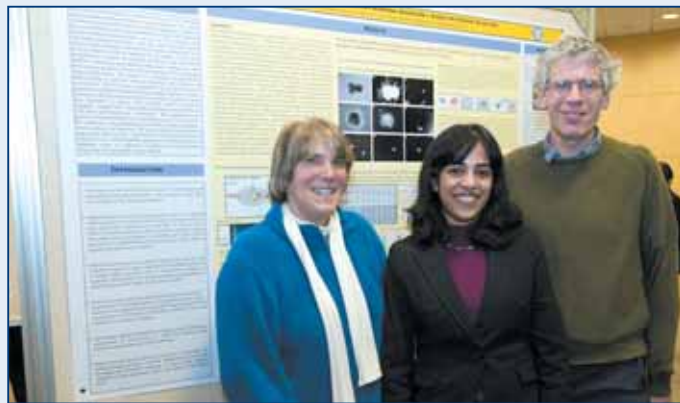
sexual dysfunction, their diagnosis, and treatment.

A panel entitled "Aging Is Not for Sissies," moderated by Institute Director Lynn Yeakel, addressed a broad range of challenges that face many older women, including the insidious stress long-term care-giving creates in the caregiver; the strong association between falls in elderly patients and the number of prescription medicines the patient is taking; and the corollary point that caregivers, who are stressed themselves, should be encouraged to keep a log of medications they administer so they do not contribute to the fall risk of the person they care for.

The enormous scope of sex and gender research occurring across the University was evident in the poster presentations that capped the event. Among them were abstracts describing new approaches to the study of bone quality changes in osteoporosis; microbicides to prevent the sexual transmission of HIV; and gender differences in embryonic brain development in relation to autism. The posters came from students, faculty, and staff in the Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Engineering, and Nursing and Health Professions, as well as 10 College of Medicine departments and one affiliated campus.

To help promote a spirit of collaborative inquiry, the Institute has launched the Sex and Gender Researcher Database (see sidebar). "We want to boost awareness since a database is only as good as the data it holds," said Sandra Urdaneta Hartmann, M.D., Ph.D., women's health research coordinator for the institute, who helped organize the forum.

The Sex and Gender Research Forum honors Helen I. Moorehead-Laurencin, M.D., a former faculty member of Medical College of Pennsylvania, who passed away in 1994. The half-day symposium, which



Aditi Falnikar (center), a doctoral student in the Department of Neurobiology and Anatomy, was the first recipient of the Doris M. Willig, M.D. Award, which supports research in the area of childhood development and mental health of girls. Presented at the forum, the award was established by Willig's children, two of whom are pictured: Susan Balder and Dr. Andrew Balder. Falnikar also won the competition for best poster by a graduate student for "Microtubule Severing, Transport and Sliding during Neuronal Migration: A Role in Etiology of Autism."

was accredited for continuing medical education, drew nearly 100 people. The 2009 Forum was made possible thanks to the financial support of the Helen I. Moorhead-Laurencin M.D. Foundation, the College of Medicine's Alumni Teaching and Research Fund, and the Office of the Vice Dean for Research.

Contact: iwhl@drexelmed.edu

Sex and Gender Researcher Database

The Sex and Gender Researcher Database brings together clinical, basic science and social/behavioral researchers across Drexel University who perform research on women's health issues or social/behavioral processes that reflect on women's role in society. Drexel researchers whose work falls into these areas are invited to visit the Institute for Women's Health and Leadership website research page, www.drexelmed.edu/iwhl/Research, click on the *Sex and Gender Researcher Database* link and upload their profiles.

The database is fully searchable by researcher name; Drexel school, college, or department; and area of research. The database can be searched by people outside the University, as well.

AAMC Chief Academic Officer...continued

A fellow of the American College of Emergency Physicians since 1987, Prescott was the recipient of WVU's Presidential Heroism Award for risking his own life to save the lives of an elderly couple who were injured and trapped in their burning automobile. In 2006, Prescott served as a member of the Institute of Medicine's committee on the "Future of Emergency Care in the United States," where he brought his expertise to the issues of rural emergency care and medical response to terrorism.

Now as the AAMC's first chief academic officer, he is excited about the opportunity to lead innovation in medical education along its entire continuum, from premed programs through continuing medical education, on a national level. "We train wonderful physicians, but we should never be satisfied with the status quo," says Prescott, who received his bachelor's and medical degrees from Georgetown University. "The health needs of the public are constantly changing, and new developments such as genomic medicine bring great promise as well as challenges. Society expects us to produce physicians who are not only very bright and technically savvy, but also very caring and compassionate. I'm thrilled to have the opportunity to work with all medical schools nationwide to shape our next generation of physicians."

ONGOING

Drexel Medicine® Physician Refresher/Re-Entry Course
Center City and Queen Lane Campuses
Contact: Cynthia Johnson, 215-762-2580

APRIL

Apr 25

Cardiology Update for the Primary Care Physician
Pocono Medical Center, 6:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
206 E. Brown Street, East Stroudsburg, Pa.
Contact: Cheryl Tutella, 610-882-3458

Apr 29

5th Annual Nuclear Cardiology Update
Loews Philadelphia Hotel, 12 noon – 8:00 p.m.
1200 Market Street
Contact: Lesa Greene, 215-389-2300

MAY

May 15

2nd Annual Ophthalmology Alumni Research Conference
New College Building, Lecture Hall A (2nd Floor)
12:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Contact: William Devers, 215-762-5622

JUNE

Jun 3–7

2009 Internal Medicine Board Review Course
Marriott Courtyard, 21 N. Juniper Street
Contact: Karen Rose, 215-762-8695

Compliance Corner: Identity Theft Prevention Policy Responds to "Red Flags Rule"



Edward G. Longazel
Chief Compliance
& Privacy Officer

The Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act of 2003, an amendment to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, required rules regarding identity theft protection to be promulgated. Those rules (known as the "Red Flags Rule"), which became effective November 1, 2008, require creditors, including healthcare providers, to implement an identity theft prevention program and policy.

Philadelphia Health & Education Corporation d/b/a Drexel University College of Medicine has adopted a policy for identity-related information, which it has determined to be in the best interest of the College of Medicine and its patients. The Identity Theft Prevention Policy is a component (Policy IM-22) of the HIPAA Privacy and Security Program and Policies, and addresses the specific issue of identity theft prevention.

To read this policy, visit www.drexelmed.edu/CorporateCompliance/CurrentTopics. The policy became effective on February 17, 2009.

The College of Medicine adopted this policy to enhance our existing privacy and security programs to detect, prevent and mitigate identity theft and to help protect patients, students, and employees of the College of Medicine from damages related to the loss or misuse of identity-related information. Training will be developed to enable members of the College community to recognize the red flags that indicate potential identity theft and to respond effectively.

The risk to the College of Medicine, its patients, students, and employees from data loss and identity theft is of significant concern to the College and can be reduced only through the combined efforts of every employee, student, contractor, and business associate.

**Confidential compliance hotlines: Call toll-free 866-936-1010; or visit www.drexelmed.edu/ComplianceHotline
Compliance or Privacy training requests: 215-255-7819**

Suite 11484, 1601 Cherry Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Bulletins:

Woman One Event, April 27

On April 27, Woman One will honor Pennsylvania Horticultural Society President Jane Pepper for her extraordinary community leadership. The event, to be held at the Rittenhouse Hotel, is sponsored by the Institute for Women's Health and Leadership and raises funds to support scholarships for women medical students. Contact: Institute for Women's Health and Leadership, 215-255-7373 or iwhl@drexelmed.edu.

Five Fight CF: Running for Cystic Fibrosis May 3

College of Medicine premedical students Danielle Belardo, Catherine Alessi, Alisha Lall, Emily Wolfe, and Blaire Stoveld have begun fundraising to help patients and their families at the Pediatric Cystic Fibrosis Center at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children. The five are organizing two teams – a running team and a walking team – to enter the May 3 Blue Cross Broad Street Run in Philadelphia. You can join them! For just \$20, you'll get a "Running for Cystic Fibrosis" T-shirt for race day and a training schedule for the Broad Street Run. Numerous advance fundraising events are planned. E-mail fivefightcf@gmail.com to join a team or get more information or visit www.fivefightcf.com.

Translational Medicine Symposium, September 27–30

Transitioning Success in Cardiovascular and Oncology Translational Medicine to the CNS Drug Discovery Area, a symposium organized by Drexel University College of Medicine and Elsevier's Biochemical Pharmacology, will take place September 27-30 at Loews Hotel in Philadelphia. James Barrett, Ph.D., professor and chair of the Department of Pharmacology & Physiology is a co-chair of the event. The meeting will focus on the basic science, rather than the technology, of translational medicine. Abstracts for poster presentations should be submitted (**abstract deadline: March 28**) via the online submission form at www.TranslationalMedicine2009.com.

Calendar:

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| March | <i>National Multiple Sclerosis Education and Awareness Month</i> |
| Mar 19 | Match Day |
| Mar 26 | Kate Hurd-Mead Lecture College of Physicians of Philadelphia, 6:15 p.m. |
| April | <i>National Autism Awareness Month</i> |
| Apr 8 | Golden Apple Awards Ceremony Queen Lane, 5:30 p.m. |
| Apr 15 | Conversation about Women's Hearts and Minds Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church, 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Contact: 215-255-7373 or visit www.drexelmed.edu/iwhl |
| Apr 20 | Marion Spencer Fay Award Program Queen Lane Campus, 4 p.m. Contact: 215-255-7373 or visit www.drexelmed.edu/iwhl |
| | WMC/MCP Trust Fund Meet the Leaders Program Queen Lane Campus, 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Contact: Laura Lynch, 215-255-7309 or Laura.Lynch@drexelmed.edu |
| Apr 23 | Drexel University Research Day www.drexel.edu/researchday Contact: Maryann Skedzielewski, 215-895-6091 or ms39@drexel.edu |
| Apr 27 | Woman One Award Ceremony Rittenhouse Hotel, 5:30 p.m. Contact: 215-255-7373 or www.drexelmed.edu/iwhl |
| May | <i>National Celiac Disease Awareness Month</i> |
| May 1-3 | Alumni Weekend Visit www.drexelmed.edu/Alumni/Reunions or call 1-866-373-9633 |
| May 12 | Senior Class Formal |
| May 13-15 | Classes of 1959 50-Year Reunion Visit www.drexelmed.edu/Alumni/Reunions or call 1-866-373-9633 |
| May 15 | College of Medicine Commencement Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts, 9 a.m. (Graduates and faculty report at 8 a.m.) |
| June | <i>National Aphasia Awareness Month</i> |
| Jun 13 | University Commencement |