

NEWSPAGER

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Clinical Research Group Builds on Regional Relationships



Liz and Jay Scott, Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation for Childhood Cancer

Among the most impressive advocates for clinical research are Liz and Jay Scott, whose daughter, Alex, was responsible for the launch of Alex's Lemonade Stand, a national organization that has raised \$25 million for childhood cancer research.

Alex, who was just 4 when she set up her lemonade stand to raise money for children with cancer, had exhausted traditional treatment options. Inspired by their daughter's strength, the Scotts decided to pursue experimental treatments, which they credit with giving Alex 4½ more years of life.

"Experimental treatment is a different decision for every parent," said Liz. "In the back of your mind, you're always hoping for a cure, but in Alex's case, the chances of a cure were small. The treatments gave Alex a lot more time. Even if you don't feel hope for a cure, there are ways to extend life and quality of life."

Partnering to advance research and educate the public

In 2006, a national poll conducted by the Center for Information & Study on Clinical Research Participation (CISCRP) asked an interesting question: Which of the following makes the greatest contribution to mankind – donating an organ, giving blood, volunteering for a clinical trial, or participating in a charity run? The clinical trial volunteer finished last, behind the runner. In 2007, a national survey by a Chicago healthcare research firm found that only 57 percent of American adults had read about or even heard of clinical trials. In 2008, in response to a survey by Research! America, 57 percent of Americans said that health-related research had helped them or someone close to them – yet 90 percent said they had purchased prescription drugs, clearly not recognizing the link between medication and research.

Helping the public connect those dots is one focus of the regional outreach efforts of the Clinical Research Group (CRG) at Drexel Medicine. Last spring the College hosted Aware for All, a clinical research education and awareness day organized in various cities nationwide by CISCRP. Drexel partnered with local medical schools and hospitals, including our affiliates Abington Memorial Hospital, St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, and Saint Peter's University Hospital, in sponsoring the event, which drew 450 participants – nearly double that of the first Philadelphia Aware for All in 2006.

In addition to raising awareness of clinical research and increasing the potential pool

of study volunteers, the joint project served another purpose for the sponsors, says Donna Walsh, CRG chief operating officer. "There is an initiative to build collaborative standards among area research institutions," Walsh explained. "Educating the public seemed to be an area where the schools could collaborate. It gets the academics talking to each other, not only about raising public awareness, but also about research practices."

Doctors across campuses worked together to create the day's program of presentations and workshops. In addition to research into specific diseases, sessions addressed the informed-consent process and the roles of different populations as study participants, including the healthy volunteer.

Awareness is but a first step toward participation, but it is the essential one. Surveys of attendees at Aware for All workshops show that 75 percent are more willing to participate in clinical trials than they were before. "We share CISCRP's belief that volunteers in clinical research are the unsung heroes in the discovery of new medical treatments," says Walsh.

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

Like Teacher Like Student – Kudos and Congratulations!

I am pleased to note that, once again, members of the Drexel University College of Medicine clinical faculty have been named to Best Doctors in America® 2009-10. Only 5 percent of the doctors practicing in the United States make the list each year, according to Best Doctors, Inc., which makes its selection through a peer-to-peer survey of the medical profession.

More than 120 physician faculty members received this honor. (For a list, see Web Extras at drexelmed.edu/Newspaper.)

I am also very pleased to announce that 45 of our 4th-year medical students have been elected to Alpha Omega Alpha National Honor Medical Society. Election is on the basis of academic scholarship, leadership and professionalism.

Class of 2010 student inductees, Delta/Zeta Chapter, Alpha Omega Alpha:

Maire Abraham	Sharon Deol	Brianne Hackman	Adam Lipman	Nathan Olson	Gregory Smith
Stephanie Austin	Timothy Donegan	Scott Harris	Kristin Livingston	Elizabeth Pinney	Vikas Thondapu
Therese Bittermann	Lindsay Finkas	Meredith Harrison	Peter Maropis	Sarah Rhee	Shannon Tocchio
Rahul Biyani	Tamir Friedman	Megan Healy	Amelia Mclennan	Shawn Robinson	Pollianne Ward
Jeffrey Brennan	David Galos	Joann Hunsberger	Michael Messina	Amanda Roof	Jason Winkler
Jillian Buhler	Robert Goldfarb	Jared Johnstun	Brian Mosier	Avnee Shah	Rosemary Yi
Nicholas Celano	Sujeet Govindan	Krister Jones	Joshua Obuch	Christa Siebenburgen	Shuhao Zhang
Preston Chadwick	Jared Grochowsky	Rachel Kadakia			

More kudos: Our students are sometimes mentioned in the Grants & Kudos and Presentations & Publications departments of the *NewsPaper*, but this is a banner month for student achievements. Please share my pride as you read about all the things they are doing. I am sure that there are many other such honors we don't even know of.

Dean's Office: 215-762-3500

\$25,000 Grant for Chinatown Women's Services

TD Charitable Foundation, the charitable giving arm of TD Bank, made a \$25,000 grant to the Women's Care Center project at the College of Medicine's Chinatown Clinic. The free clinic, which provides primary care services to uninsured in the community, principally those whose primary language is Mandarin or Indonesian, had long recognized a significant need for women's services but did not have the resources. The new grant will enable the clinic to offer its female patients reproductive health care, including family planning, and screening for cancer, HIV and STDs. The Chinatown Clinic is held Wednesdays from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. at Holy Redeemer Church, 915 Vine Street, Philadelphia.



Joseph Tammaro (left), sector president, TD Bank, who presented the grant, receives a token of appreciation from College of Medicine Chairman Manuel Stamatakis.

Seizure Detection and Control Device Holds Promise for Epilepsy Patients

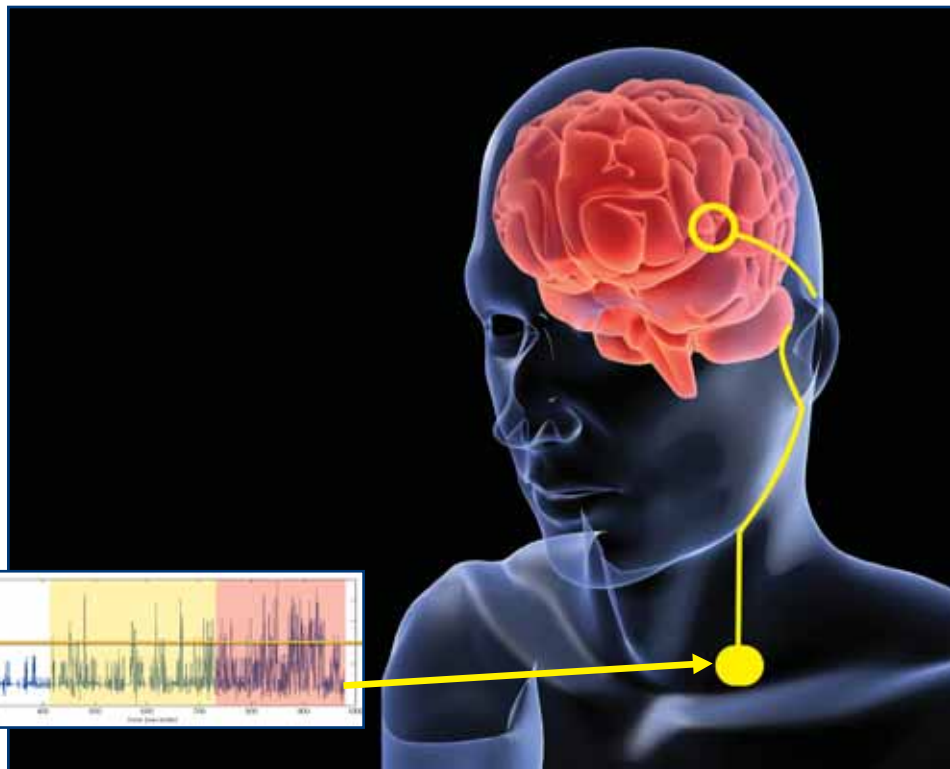
A small, implantable device may help to predict seizures and reduce the number of seizures suffered by patients with epilepsy and other neurological disorders, according to researchers from Drexel University College of Medicine and the School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems who are developing the device as part of a translational research collaboration.

The collaborators include principal investigator Karen Anne Moxon, Ph.D., associate professor, Department of Neurobiology and Anatomy, College of Medicine, and associate professor, School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems; and co-investigator Sigmund Jenssen, M.D., associate professor, Department of Neurology. Moxon is also co-director of Drexel's Neuroengineering Program, a joint initiative between the two schools.

The seizure control device is based on neuromodulation, a technique in which electrical stimulation is delivered to specific regions of the brain, in this case to prevent the occurrence of seizures. Neuromodulation therapy is used to alleviate the symptoms of several neurological disorders or diseases. For example, neuromodulation is used in open-loop systems, in which uncontrolled electrical currents are delivered to the nervous system constantly, to alleviate tremors in Parkinson's disease.

Due to the lack of efficacy in the open-loop mode to minimize seizures, scientists have been developing a more sophisticated, closed-loop system that predicts the occurrence of seizures and delivers the stimulation just prior to seizure onset. However, current methods of closed-loop neuromodulation are based on predicting seizures with EEG recordings, and so far, this has proven to be only 50 percent effective.

Jenssen stressed the importance of developing a much more accurate device that would not miss a single seizure and, therefore, provide a better quality of life for patients with epilepsy. Approximately 2.5 million people in the United States suffer from epilepsy. Roughly one third of them – approximately 800,000 – do not respond adequately to medication, and



The real-time seizure detection device uses single-neuron recordings, a new technology, to predict seizures. A patented ceramic-based multisite electrode is implanted into the affected neural tissue. Impulses are recorded from single neurons at precisely spaced sites and fed into a computer. The signals are amplified and then fed into the neuromodulation system.

only 8 percent of patients who have chronic epilepsy are candidates for epilepsy surgery.

"Dr. Jenssen's clinical input helped us more fully understand the huge lack of freedom that epilepsy patients endure because they never know when a seizure will occur," says Moxon. "Many can't work, and some are afraid to even leave the house. If we can predict with some level of certainty that a seizure is imminent within a small period of time, the individual can take the necessary precautions; at other times, he or she can feel free to go about daily life."

The Drexel researchers expect to predict seizures far more precisely with their implantable closed-loop neuromodulation device, which uses single-neuron recordings, a cutting edge technology.

"The brain represents information in single neuron activity, or firing," explains Moxon. "To predict seizures, we need to know which neurons fire and when they fire, and we have found that single-neuron recording provides this information. Our

ceramic-based multisite electrode allows us to record from large numbers of single neurons from multiple, precisely spaced recording sites, a feat which previously had been unattainable."

This breakthrough in material science and neurological recording has enabled the Drexel researchers to move forward with the device with support from the Wallace H. Coulter Foundation. Human clinical studies are expected to begin soon.

Key to the success of the device is its ceramic base. "We need a durable insulating material such as ceramic to protect the electrode once it is implanted in the brain," explains Moxon, who invented the core technology for the device. "The brain acts like a salt solution which has corrosive effects on materials such as silicon dioxide, and this could render the device useless in a very short time. By using ceramic, we expect that the device will function for 20 to 30 years." The device can be implanted using currently available surgical methods.

Contact: km57@drexel.edu



Dr. Aaron

Erika Aaron, MSN, CRNP, and Shannon Criniti, MPH, Division of Infectious Diseases & HIV Medicine, published an International AIDS Society-USA *Cases on the Web* activity entitled "Pregnancy Planning and Preconception Health Care for HIV-Infected Individuals and Couples." The module is live online at www.iasusa.org and offers CME credit to physicians who complete it.



Dr. Artlett

Carol Artlett, Ph.D., associate professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, and **Danielle Loughlin**, a 4th-year graduate student, co-authored "3-Deoxyglucosone-Collagen Alters Human Dermal Fibroblast Migration and Adhesion: Implications for Impaired Wound Healing in Patients with Diabetes" in the November issue of

Wound Repair and Regeneration. Artlett also made a platform presentation at the Military Health Research Forum in Kansas City on "Decreased Extracellular Matrix Molecules in Systemic Sclerosis Fibroblasts Utilizing the Glucose Metabolite 3-Deoxyglucosone" in September.



Dr. Faerber



Dr. Piatt

Eric N. Faerber, M.D., FACR, associate professor of pediatrics, and director of radiology, at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, presented "Imaging Features of X-linked

Hydrocephalus" at the 46th Annual Meeting of the European Society of Pediatric Radiology in Istanbul, Turkey in June. Co-authors were **Joseph H. Piatt, Jr. M.D., FAAP**, professor of pediatrics, and chief of the Section of Neurosurgery at St. Christopher's, and their colleague David D. Lee M.D.



Dr. Gelo



Dr. Harris

Florence Gelo, D.Min, NCPsyA, associate professor, and **Rosemary Harris, M.D.**, assistant professor, Department of Family, Community & Preventive Medicine, published "The Secret

Garden" in the June 2009 issue of *Family Medicine*. Gelo also published "Forgotten Partners: Overlooked at the End" in the July/August 2009 issue of *Aging Well*.

Jatinder Goraya, resident, Department of Pediatrics, St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, published a report "Subacute Sclerosing Panencephalitis (SSPE) Presenting As Acute Disseminated Encephalomyelitis in a Child" in *Child Neurology*.



Dr. Ledley



Dr. Gorodin

Gary S. Ledley, M.D., professor and **Paulina Gorodin, M.D.**, assistant professor, both in the Department of Medicine, Division of Cardiology, published "Papillary Fibroelastomas:

Innocent Bystanders or Ignored Culprits?" in the May edition of *Postgraduate Medicine*.



Dr. Novack

Dennis Novack, M.D., professor, Division of Internal Medicine, presented "Reclaiming the Art of Medicine: Seven Challenges in Medical Education" at the 41st Annual Congress of the Japan Society for Medical Education in Osaka, Japan, July 24-25.



Dr. McGregor



Dr. Spector

Robert McGregor, M.D., professor, and **Nancy Spector, M.D.**, associate professor, Department of Pediatrics, and colleague, authored "Promoting Professionalism in Pediatrics" published

in the September edition of *Academic Pediatrics*.



Dr. Nyirjesy

Paul Nyirjesy, M.D., professor, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, published a study on topical amitriptyline/balcofen cream for localized provoked vestibulodynia, featured in the newsletter of the National Vulvodynia Association. The study itself will be published in *Lower Genital Tract Diseases*.



Dr. Pelleg

Amir Pelleg, Ph.D., FACC, FAHA, adjunct professor, Division of Cardiology, has co-authored a chapter entitled "Adenosine Receptors and the Heart: Role in Regulation of Coronary Blood Flow and Cardiac Electrophysiology," published in the *Handbook of Experimental Pharmacology*.

Submissions for Presentations & Publications and Grants & Kudos may now be emailed directly to NewsPager@drexelmed.edu. Please be sure to include all the relevant information, including full name, title, and department for any College of Medicine or University colleagues involved. For Grants & Kudos, please use the entries on page 8 of this issue as a model. Thank you.

Clinical Research Group...continued



Dr. Sataloff

Robert Sataloff, M.D., DMA, professor and chair, Department of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery, co-authored "Fungal Laryngitis" published in the August issue of *Ear, Nose & Throat*.



Dr. Varjavand

Nielufar Varjavand, M.D., assistant professor of medicine, is the first author and **Dennis Novack, M.D.**, professor of medicine and associate dean of medical education, and **Barbara Schindler, M.D.**, professor and vice dean for educational and academic affairs, are co-authors of the abstract "A Physician Refresher Course

for Communication Skills" presented at the International Conference on Communication in Healthcare, October 4-7 in Miami Beach, Fla.



Dr. Johanson

Andrew C. Waligora, M.D. (Class of 2009); **Norman A. Johanson, M.D.**, professor and chair, Department of Orthopedic Surgery; and **Bruce Elliot Hirsch, Ph.D.**, associate professor, Neurobiology & Anatomy, are authors of "Clinical Anatomy of the Quadriceps Femoris and Extensor Apparatus of the Knee" to be published

in *Clinical Orthopaedics and Related Research* (pre-published online August 19).



Janet Galloway



Quintina Herrera

Janet Galloway and Quintina Herrera, 2nd-year students in the Pathologists' Assistant Program, presented posters at the annual American Association of

Pathologists' Assistants Continuing Education Conference held in Baltimore. Galloway's poster title was "Gallbladder Carcinoma: An Incidental Finding," and Herrera's was "Association of 'Tree-Bark' Aorta and Lyme Disease: An Unusual Autopsy Finding."



DeeDee Cao



Yi Zhang

DeeDee Cao and Yi Zhang, 2nd-year students in the Pathologists' Assistant Program, have published articles in the American Association

of Pathologists' Association Fall Newsletter. Cao's article is "Ovarian Cancer at a Young Age" and Zhang's is "A Review of Twin-Twin Transfusion Syndrome."

The Clinical Research Group also plays a leading role in the Delaware Valley Chapter of the Society of Research Administrators International. SRA International, a nonprofit founded in 1967, has approximately 5,000 members who work in research administration at hospitals, universities, nonprofits or the federal government. In 2007 the College of Medicine hosted the organizing meeting of the Delaware Valley Chapter, where participants included representatives of Jefferson, Penn, Temple, the University of Delaware and Drexel University. The chapter's primary mission is to bring SRA training to the backyard of the many colleges and universities in this region.

Kenny Simansky, Ph.D., vice dean for research at the College of Medicine and interim vice provost for research administration at Drexel University, gave the keynote address at the most recent DV-SRA chapter meeting, held in June on Main Campus. He emphasized the importance of research administrators in every phase of research and their crucial role in building a bridge to the local community.

The CRG is also sharing its expertise in a more direct way, in a research partnership with Saint Peter's University Hospital, one of our regional medical campuses. The CRG has been helping to build Saint Peter's research infrastructure for the past year by providing centralized services in contract and budget review, regulatory support, and good research practice training standards.

Along with the virtual CRG team, **Esther Nkrumah**, who recently joined the College of Medicine as assistant director of research management, will provide on-site support at the Saint Peter's campus. "The Saint Peter's team has been wonderful to work with," Walsh said, "and our ability to collaborate across sites will make us very attractive to industry partners."



Dr. Kenny Simansky, vice dean for research, and **Donna Walsh**, chief operating officer, clinical research operations, were the hosts of the third Philadelphia Aware For All, which drew 450 people.

Contact: donna.walsh@drexelmed.edu



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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

'40s

John Broman, M.D., HU '46 held a book-signing party to celebrate publication of a book of his memoirs as a physician, *Family and Medicine: Memoirs and Reflections* (AuthorHouse, 2009). Broman, now retired, had practiced medicine in Maquoketa, Iowa.

'70s

Leon Feldhamer, M.D., MCP '77 a radiologist, was appointed to the active staff in the Department of Medical Imaging at St. Joseph's Hospital in Elmira, N.Y. Feldhamer is also affiliated with the Guthrie Clinic in Sayre, Pa.

Charles G. Cox, M.D., HU '78 a gastroenterologist, has joined the active medical staff at Mark Twain St. Joseph's Hospital, San Andreas, Calif. He also is in private practice with Sierra Gastroenterology Consultants. Most recently, Cox practiced medicine at the Alameda County Medical Center. He has participated in several Ironman Triathlons, including nine Ironman Triathlon World Championships in Hawaii.



Thomas J. Zaydon, Jr., M.D., HU '78 chief of plastic surgery at Mercy Hospital, Miami, was a member of the American Society

of Plastic Surgeons delegation to Capitol Hill to educate lawmakers on the concerns of plastic surgeons and their patients, in particular the "Children's Access to Reconstructive Evaluation and Surgery" bill. This legislation would require that group and individual health insurance and group health plans provide coverage for treatment of a minor child's congenital

or developmental deformity or disorder due to trauma, infection, tumor, or disease. Zaydon is a board-certified plastic and reconstructive surgeon.

'80s

David Pelkowski, M.D., HU '83 a cardiologist, recently joined the cardiology medical staff at Weeks Medical Center in Lancaster, N.H.

Marianne L. Burda, M.D., MCP '85; Ph.D. an obstetrician/gynecologist, graduated from Duquesne University with her Ph.D. in healthcare ethics.

Joseph Cacchione, M.D., HU '85 senior vice president and director of the Saint Vincent Heart Center, and medical director of the Cardiac Catheterization Labs at both Saint Vincent and Millcreek Community Hospital, spoke on "The Landscape of Quality Reform Initiative in Health Care" at Chautauqua Institution.



Dr. Yealy

of Medicine. He had been vice chair of the department since 1995. Yealy is a principal investigator on two current federally funded research trials totaling \$9.6 million. In October he received the American College of Emergency Physicians' Outstanding Contribution in Research Award.

Nissage Cadet, M.D., HU '86 has been named chief of surgery at Quincy Medical Center, Quincy, Mass. He had served as interim chief of surgery at the medical

center since 2005. Cadet is also a member of the center's board of trustees and is past president of the medical staff.

'90s

Yejide Sokoya, M.D., MCPHU '94 an obstetrician/gynecologist, joined HealthPoint Medical Group in Tampa, Fla.

Chad Caldwell, M.D., MCP '96 is one of three doctors who will be working in the new Franklin County Breast Care Center in Louisburg, N.C. Caldwell was recently certified to perform stereotactic biopsies of the breast. He also performs general surgery, colon and rectal surgery, and laparoscopic and oncological surgery.

Dean R. Focht III, M.D., MCPHU '99 a pediatric gastroenterologist, joined Geisinger's Janet Weis Children's Hospital. He sees patients at Geisinger Medical Center and Geisinger clinics in Harrisburg, State College, Pottsville, Hazleton, South Wilkes-Barre, Scranton, Towanda and South Williamsport, Pa.

'00s

Brandon M. Mikolich, M.D. '02 an interventional cardiologist, joined the medical staff of Sharon Regional Health systems, Sharon, Pa. Mikolich's cardiology practice focuses on cardiac stress testing, echocardiography, cardiac catheterization, and angioplasty. He is also associated with Sharon Cardiology Specialists.

Sudhakar R. Satti, M.D. '02, Internal Medicine Resident '07 completed a two-year fellowship in interventional neuroradiology/endovascular neurosurgery at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. He has been appointed

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



director of neurointerventional radiology at Albert Einstein Medical Center in Philadelphia.

James Sheehy, M.D. '08 a pediatrician joined Pediatrics West in Westford, Mass.

Former Residents and Fellows

David Blecker, M.D., MPH, Resident and Nephrology Fellow, HU '78 a nephrologist in Northfield, N.J., and his wife, Norma, were honored with the 2009 Martin H. Klein Executive Leadership Award in tribute to their outstanding service and dedication to the Simon & Sylvia Zisman Seashore Gardens Living Center and Community, a nonprofit home for the aged. Blecker is an assistant clinical professor of medicine at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey School of Medicine and is in private practice at Regional Nephrology Associates. He co-founded the first dialysis unit at the Atlantic City [N.J.] Medical Center, established the first ambulatory hypertension center in Atlantic City, and was the medical director of the first community health center in Atlantic City.

Michael Gliatto, M.D., Internal Medicine and Psychiatry Resident, MCP '88 was selected as associate chief of staff of mental health at Coatesville Veterans Affairs Medical Center. Previously, Gliatto was chief of mental health at the Philadelphia Veterans Affairs Medical Center from 2004 until 2009.

Navy Capt. Paul D. Pearigen, M.D., Emergency Medicine Resident, MCP '90 became the commanding officer of the Naval Hospital at Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Pearigen served two years as deputy commander of the Naval Medical Center in San Diego.

Vibhavasu Sharma, M.D., Fellow, Geriatric Medicine '04 an endocrinologist, joined New Bedford Medical Associates in Bedford, Mass. Sharma is board-certified in endocrinology, diabetes and metabolism, geriatric medicine, and internal medicine.

Neeta Somaiah, M.D., Resident, Internal Medicine '05 a medical oncologist, joined the Fox Chase Cancer Center in Philadelphia as an attending physician in the Medical Oncology Department. Somaiah will treat patients with bone and soft tissue sarcomas and lung cancers in addition to performing clinical research.

Sujala Chirla, M.D., Resident, Internal Medicine '06 and Gastroenterology '09 has joined the Department of Medicine/Gastroenterology at Doylestown Hospital in Doylestown, Pa., in association with Central Bucks Specialists.

Coming in December!

The New Electronic DREXEL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF MEDICINE ALUMNI MAGAZINE

In order for you to view this exciting, innovative, online publication, we need your email address.

Send your name and email to:
medical.alumni@drexel.edu

In Memoriam

John Charles Ansel, M.D., HU '77
August 7

James R. Enyon, M.D., HU '38
September 1, Medford Leas, Medford, N.J., at the age of 95. A longtime resident of Haddonfield, he began practicing in Collingswood, N.J., then served as a flight surgeon in the U.S. Air Force during World War II. Upon his return he became a surgical resident at West Jersey Hospital and completed graduate school at the University of Pennsylvania. He opened his own practice in Camden, moving it in 1953 to Cherry Hill. He was a founder of the SJ Medical Center and practiced there from 1956 until his 1976 retirement.

Loretta J. Giuffra, M.D., WMC '67
July 11

Lester O. Gregg Jr., M.D., HU '42 July 6

David A. Harvey, M.D., HU '60 August 7

Jane Woods Marshall, M.D., WMC '41
August 8

John D. Milburn III, M.D., HU '46
August 12, San Francisco, at the age of 88. Milburn served in the navy after earning his medical degree, then moved to San Francisco to complete his residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Stanford Medical School. He was in private practice in Palo Alto for 30 years, until his retirement in 1987, and was also a member of the clinical faculty at Stanford. Milburn was said to be ahead of his time in his approach to the prevention of osteoporosis and heart disease in women.

I. Ken Rosner, M.D., HU '32 August 23

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

Shannon Criniti, MPH, manager, Division of Infectious Diseases & HIV Medicine, was granted \$15,000 from the Society of Family Planning, in which she is a junior fellowship member, for a study entitled "Predictors of Contraceptive Choice and Use in HIV-Positive Women: A Pilot Study."



Dr. Eisen

Howard Eisen, M.D., professor and chief, Division of Cardiology, was selected to be a member of the American Heart Association peer review committee for cardiac research grants.



Dr. Eiser

Arnold R. Eiser, M.D., FACP, professor, Department of Medicine, and associate dean for Mercy Programs at the College of Medicine, is the 2009 recipient of the Parker Palmer Courage to Lead Award for designated institutional officials, small hospital division, presented by Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education.



Dr. Gelo

Florence Gelo, D.Min, NCPsyA, associate professor, Department of Family, Community & Preventive Medicine, was honored with the Family Medicine Through the Visual Arts Award for her "Heart of Empathy" video. Given by the Family Medicine Education Consortium, the award was to be presented to Gelo during the 2009 Society of Teacher

of Family Medicine: Northeast Region Meeting in Rye Brook, N.Y., on October 31.



Dr. Hong

Eugene Hong, M.D., FAAFP, associate professor and chair, Department of Family, Community & Preventive Medicine, recently received fellow status from the American Academy of Family Physicians.

Surbhi Jain, Ph.D., postdoctoral researcher, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, received a competitive \$80,000 postdoctoral training fellowship for two years from the Prevent Cancer Foundation to utilize innovative DNA technology for the development of a urine test for the early detection of liver cancer.



Dr. Jannetta

Peter J. Jannetta, M.D., professor and vice chairman, Department of Neurosurgery at Allegheny General Hospital, was awarded the AGH Medal of Honor for his research into the pathology and treatment of cranial nerve compression syndromes.



Dr. McLeer

Susan McLeer, M.D., professor and chair, Department of Psychiatry, has been appointed to the American Psychiatric Association's Council on Health Systems and Financing and the American College of Psychiatrists Committee for the Education Award.



Dr. Núñez

Ana Núñez, M.D., associate professor, Division of Internal Medicine, and director of the Women's Health Education Program, was nominated for the 2009 Arnold P. Gold Foundation Humanism in Medicine Award for exemplifying the qualities of a caring and compassionate mentor in the teaching and advising of medical students.

The **Department of Pediatrics** at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children was honored with the Excellence in Life Support Award by the Extracorporeal Life Support Organization. The award will be presented at the Annual ELSO Conference in Ann Arbor, Mich.

Student Grants & Kudos

Kevin Bernstein, a third-year medical student, was elected student delegate to the American Academy of Family Physicians Congress of Delegates by the Student Congress of the American Academy of Family Physicians. As student delegate he will represent medical students throughout the country in helping to create policies for the AAFP. He is also vice chair of the Pennsylvania Academy of Family Physicians Student Assembly.

Josya-Gony Charles, a third-year medical student, is one of 10 students in the country to receive the Kaplan Scholarship from the Student National Medical Association.

Bobby Kelly, a second-year medical student, was awarded a Jonathan Lax Scholarship by Bread & Roses Community Fund for his leadership in the gay community. Kelly is president of LGBT in Medicine and Doctor's Note a Capella. He is also one of the presidents of his College of Medicine class.

Chris Lisi, a second-year medical student, will be living in rural Peru for five weeks researching access to healthcare and will also volunteer at community schools and medical clinics.

Joshua Obuch, a fourth-year medical student, received the Eisenberg Award, given annually by Lehigh Valley Hospital to the student who the hospital's doctors felt most exemplified the tenets of practicing medicine.

Nathan Punwani, a second-year medical student, received the Hamilton Project Policy Innovation Prize from the Brookings Institution for his paper "Medicare & Medicaid Reform: Ensuring Long-Term Solvency," in which he proposes a comprehensive policy regime to curtail excess-cost growth in healthcare.

Brett Rosen, a third-year medical student, has been selected as a 2009-2010 Northeast Regional Representative for the American Academy of Emergency Medicine, Student Section Council.

Danielle M. Trappanese, a third-year Ph.D. student in the Department of Pharmacology & Physiology, received the Best Graduate Student Poster Presentation Award at the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology Summer Conference on Smooth Muscle held in Lucca, Italy, in August.



Usha Kumar

Usha Kumar and Alexander Potashinsky, both 4th-year medical students, have been named Albert Schweitzer Fellows for 2009/10. The Albert Schweitzer Fellowship is a national nonprofit organization that supports about 230 fellows from the nation's top health and human service schools annually. Each Schweitzer Fellow partners with a community-based organization to identify an unmet health need, design a sustainable service project with an impact on that need, and bring it from idea to implementation.



Alexander Potashinsky

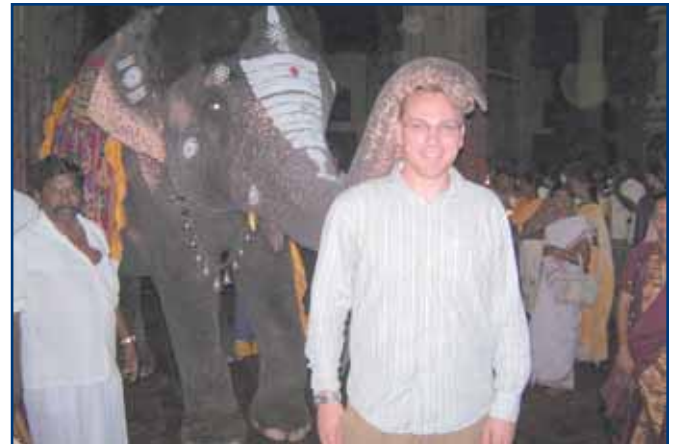
Kumar and Potashinsky are developing a patient-education program for Prevention Point Philadelphia, the city's only needle exchange program. They will talk to intravenous drug users about wound care and prevention, as well as the importance of good nutrition and hygiene. They also plan to create a video that can be shown in the waiting room at the clinic, and a brochure with basic and emergency information – weatherproofed so it can stand up to life on the streets. Fellows are expected to provide at least 200 hours of direct service. One of the tenets of the program is that by conducting their Schweitzer Project while they're in school, and for a full year, Schweitzer Fellows learn to make working with the underserved part of their "regular life."

A Wonderful Year-Out in India

Fourth-year medical student Paul Phelps spent the 2008/09 academic year on a Fulbright scholarship in India. Here is his first-person report.

My time as a Fulbright Scholar in India has come to an end, and I am now doing my fourth-year rotations at Drexel. The main focus of my project was basic science research on corneal epithelial stem cells at the Aravind Eye Hospital. Most of my work was done in the clinical lab within the hospital building, so it was also an amazing opportunity for me to see the world's largest eye hospital in action. My new environment also required a few lifestyle adjustments like dealing with the extreme heat and learning to eat with my right hand!

My main accomplishment was that I established in situ hybridization experiments which may help differentiate stem cells from transiently amplifying cells, essential in determining the longevity of the grafted stem cell tissue. The starting material for my project was harvested from the remnants of globes donated for corneal transplant, so I had an opportunity to practice my surgical skills too. I also worked on some other research projects and co-authored a case report to be published in the November/December issue of the journal of *Ophthalmic and Plastic Reconstructive Surgery* (2009).



As a Fulbrighter, I was involved in community outreach, which took the form of screening patients at eye camps and delivering first aid and educational supplies to orphans affected by HIV/AIDS. My education came in handy in the outreach clinics and as a resource to other Indian Fulbright Scholars. I was invited to talk at a Fulbright conference in Calcutta and on returning in Washington, D.C. I also attended the Asia Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology conference in Hyderabad.

From touring the intraocular lens and pharmaceutical manufacturing facility at Aurolab to observing stem cell transplants in the operating rooms, I had a wonderful experience at Aravind. The research colleagues and friendships that I made in India will certainly outlast what in retrospect seems too short a time there. Check out my website for more information about my fellowship and the renowned Aravind Eye Hospital.

www.paulowenphelps.com

Ontario Veterinary College Saves Seat for DUCOM

The Office of Professional Studies in the Health Sciences recently announced the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the Ontario Veterinary College of the University of Guelph in Canada and the Animal Science Programs of Drexel University College of Medicine. Under the agreement, the Ontario Veterinary College will hold one seat in their incoming first-year class every year specifically for a graduate of the animal science programs at DUCOM. The Ontario Veterinary College is fully accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association. For more information, please contact Dr. Julian Mesina, program director, at jmesina@drexelmed.edu.

Pennsylvania Recognizes Biomedical Research Day

Both houses of the state legislature declared October 21, 2009, to be Biomedical Research Day in Pennsylvania. The similar resolutions highlighted these points:

- Virtually every major medical advance in the past century has depended upon biomedical research.
- These advances include the prevention and treatment of cancer, discoveries of vaccines for the prevention of measles, mumps, polio and hepatitis, and medications to treat high blood pressure, arthritis and mental illness, among many others.
- Biomedical research has contributed to the health and well-being of animals through vaccines and has helped the prospects of endangered species by reducing diseases and promoting reproduction.
- Biomedical research offers the best hope for new breakthroughs in detecting and treating diseases in the future.

Pathology Lab Accredited, Praised for Excellence

The Pathology Diagnostics Laboratory at Drexel University College of Medicine was awarded accreditation by the accreditation committee of the American College of Pathologists over the summer, based on the results of its site inspection. The committee congratulated Xiaoli Chen, M.D., clinical professor of pathology and the medical director of the laboratory, for the "excellence of the services being provided." During the accreditation process, inspectors review two years of laboratory records and quality control procedures, and examine the entire staff's qualifications, the laboratory's equipment, facilities, safety program and record, as well as the overall management of the laboratory. The CAP accreditation process is recognized by the federal government as being equal to or more stringent than the government's own inspection program. Chen praised the PDL staff for their outstanding efforts.

Vision 2020 Sets Sights on Equality

Vision 2020, a decade-long women's leadership campaign, co-sponsored by the College of Medicine, was launched September 14 at the National Constitution Center. The national initiative, led by Lynn Yeakel, director of the Institute for Women's Health and Leadership, was inspired by the suffragists, who pursued women's right to vote as the first step in achieving full social, political and economic equality. Their work was only partially completed with the 1920 ratification of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution giving women the right to vote. The aim of Vision 2020 is that by the amendment's centennial in 2020, women and men will have equal access to leadership roles at

all levels of American society, working together to shape the nation's future. As the initiative's lead sponsor, Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company is contributing \$600,000 to the effort.

Vision 2020 will focus on seven areas that go beyond the traditional spheres in which women have had the greatest influence, namely, family and community. The areas are *Politics and Government; Business, Law and Finance; Science, Technology and Health; Education; Communications and Media; Philanthropy, Faith and Voluntarism; and Arts and Culture*. Experts in each area will meet over the next year to create an action agenda, which will be developed in the fall of 2010 at Vision 2020's flagship event, *Vision 2020: An American Conversation About Women and Leadership*. The focus of the discussion will be on setting measurable objectives to advance equality for women.

The national advisory board includes philanthropist Doris Buffett, founder of The Sunshine Lady Foundation; Spelman College president emerita Johnnetta Cole, Ph.D.; JAMA editor-in-chief Catherine DeAngelis, M.D., MPH; Janet Dillione, CEO of Siemens Medical Solutions; American Bar Association president Carolyn Lamm; Sunoco CEO and president Lynn L. Elsenhans; Eileen McDonnell, EVP and CMO of The Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company; Mary Patterson McPherson, Ph.D., president emerita of Bryn Mawr College, former vice president of the Andrew Mellon Foundation, and current executive officer of the American Philosophical Society; journalist and author Anna Quindlen; Cokie Roberts, political commentator for ABC News and a senior news analyst for NPR; and Olympic basketball gold-medalist and coach Dawn M. Staley.

Contact: vision2020@drexelmed.edu

"Medical Jeopardy" Team Wins Region, Heads to States

The College of Medicine's Medical Jeopardy-Doctor's Dilemma team won the regional competition for the third consecutive year. All 10 internal medicine residency programs in Southeastern Pennsylvania entered teams in the contest, and the Drexel/Hahnemann program took first place. "We dedicate this victory to our beloved President 'Taki' Papadakis, who was our inspiration for this effort," said resident Petros Grivas. Grivas, Krishna Rao, and Ashwani Gupta (ably coached by Joseph Vadakara, David Sass, and Mohammed Islam) will head to the state championship on December 5 in Hershey.



From left to right: Mohammed Islam, Petros Grivas, Ashwani Gupta, Krishna Rao, Joseph Vadakara.

Surgeon Volunteers to Treat Wounded Troops in Germany

Dr. Michael S. Weingarten, a professor and chief of vascular surgery, is used to seeing his share of traumatic injuries. He spends most of his days in the Hahnemann O.R. In addition to vascular cases, he treats a large variety of blunt and penetrating trauma – ranging from gunshot wounds to life-threatening injuries sustained in automobile crashes. But even this experienced surgeon found himself taken aback by what he saw over a two-week period last summer when he volunteered to treat wounded troops overseas. Weingarten, who is also director of the wound healing program at Drexel University College of Medicine, made the trip in response to an email from the Society of Vascular Surgery about a shortage of vascular surgeons at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany. Landstuhl is the first stop for wounded American and coalition troops from the war zones in Iraq and Afghanistan. “The scope of the injuries you see is incredible,” said Weingarten. “The staff needs to be prepared for everything.” Weingarten would handle four to five cases in the O.R. each day, spending enough time to get the patient stabilized

so that he or she could be flown back to the U.S. within 72-96 hours on specially designed C-17s known as Critical Care Air Transport flights. The experience left a dramatic impression on Weingarten, who has already signed up to return next year, should he be needed. “It’s probably one of the best things I’ve done professionally,” he said.

Eliana Papadakis Named Woman One 2010



Eliana Papadakis

The Institute for Women’s Health and Leadership® at the College of Medicine has named Eliana Papadakis Woman One 2010 in tribute to her contributions to education, youth and community. Presentation of the Woman One Award will be on Monday, April 19, at Philadelphia’s Rittenhouse Hotel located at 210 West Rittenhouse Square. The program begins at 5:30 p.m.

Papadakis is the widow of Dr. Constantine Papadakis, past president of Drexel

University. As first lady, Papadakis made vital contributions to Drexel fundraising, alumni and student relations, public relations and events. She traveled extensively on Drexel business, and she and Dr. Papadakis hosted more than 1,500 Drexel stakeholders each year at “The Orchards,” the Drexel president’s residence.

A tireless volunteer in community service, Papadakis served on the boards of the Philadelphia Foundation, Carelift International, and the American Red Cross, Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter. She was also a member of the Divas Committee of the Opera Company of Philadelphia, which raises funds through educational and social activities.

Funds raised at the Woman One event support medical school scholarships for talented minority women who plan to become physicians in medically underserved communities. This year’s scholarship recipients are Donyell Doram and Carla Zeballos, Drexel University College of Medicine class of 2013.

Contact: iwhl@drexelmed.edu

Compliance Corner: New Privacy Software to Monitor EMR and Billing System



Edward G. Longazel
Chief Compliance
& Privacy Officer

Drexel University College of Medicine has purchased the FairWarning® privacy surveillance solution to strengthen our ability to audit and monitor access to the electronic medical record and billing system now in use across the clinical practices. HIPAA Privacy and Security regulations prohibit access to the medical record and billing system unrelated to the provision of care, seeking payment, or performing required

operations for our educational mission; or quality, compliance and risk auditing.

The FairWarning tagline, Trust but Verify®, concisely and accurately describes the functionality of the software, which will enable sophisticated analysis of medical record and billing

system access. The College’s Privacy Officer will be able to detect, track, deter, and report on medical record access vulnerabilities, enabling required federal and state breach notification if needed. In addition, the Privacy Officer will be able to recommend appropriate sanctions for individuals determined to be involved in co-worker snooping, VIP snooping, neighbor snooping, and family member snooping, if these should occur. The software uses well-tested search and audit protocols to identify patterns that point to potential breaches of confidentiality and medical identity theft.

The College is installing the FairWarning solution to remain vigilant in our goal to secure the protected health information of every patient while complying with the federal HIPAA Privacy, HIPAA Security, Red Flags Rule and HITECH Breach Act requirements as well as the Pennsylvania breach act.

Questions? Compliance or privacy training requests: 215-255-7819

Confidential compliance hotlines: Call toll-free 866-936-1010; or visit www.drexelmed.edu/ComplianceHotline

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Suite 11484, 1601 Cherry Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Bulletins:

2009 Holiday Book Drive

The College of Medicine is delighted to be starting its 2009 Holiday Book Drive. We are collecting new books for every child enrolled at Mifflin Elementary School (pre-K through 8th grade). Book donations and/or funds can be sent to the Office of Community Experience, Drexel University College of Medicine, 2900 Queen Lane, G18D, Philadelphia, PA, 19129, anytime between now and December 4. Please make donation checks payable to Drexel University College of Medicine, indicating on the memo line that it's for the book drive. If you have questions, please contact Barbara Saba at **215 991-8578**.

Primary Care Practicum Needs Preceptors Anywhere in U.S.

Here's an opportunity to demonstrate the importance of primary care to our first-year students. The students in the Program for Integrated Learning, the College's problem-based curriculum, participate in a Primary Care Practicum at the end of their first year, to expose them to the practice of medicine and community health. They have already learned basic history-taking and physical exam skills, as well as their basic sciences. In the practicum the students begin to use patients and their problems as a basis for further learning, concentrating on basic sciences, clinical sciences, psychosocial and preventive issues. The program is looking for primary care physicians anywhere in the United States who will serve as preceptors for 12 hours a week for six weeks from April 26 – June 4, 2010. Contact: Natalie Myers in the PIL office, **215-991-8554** or email Natalie.Myers@drexelmed.edu

Calendar:

November	<i>American Diabetes Month</i>
Nov 26	Thanksgiving
December	<i>Safe Toys and Gifts Month</i>
Dec 3	Annual HIV Clinical Update Center City Campus, New College Building, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Contact: Darlene Wilson, 215-246-5426
Dec 4	14th Annual Medical Education Retreat Queen Lane Campus Contact: Robin Smith, 215-991-8360
Dec 5	Annual Day of Trauma The Union League of Philadelphia Contact: Jennifer Sumter, 215-762-2580
2010	
January	<i>Cervical Health Awareness Month</i>
February	<i>American Heart Month</i>
Feb 13	Pediatric AIDS Benefit Concert Talent by Drexel Medicine students and faculty Main Building, University City Main Campus Contact: Shay Myers, 215-991-8219 or smyers@drexelmed.edu
March	<i>National Nutrition Month</i>
April	<i>National Autism Awareness Month</i>
Apr 26	Woman One The Rittenhouse, 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Contact: lauren.holland@drexelmed.edu or 215-255-7377
Apr 30-May 1	Alumni Weekend
May	<i>Hepatitis Awareness Month</i>
May 19-21	50-Year Reunion
May 21	Commencement
June	
Jun 4	Fourth National Forum on Women's Issues in Gastroenterology and Hepatology The Ritz-Carlton Contact: Jennifer Sumter, 215-762-2581
Jun 12	Drexel University Commencement