A new device can improve the assessment of chronic wound healing and help physicians manage diabetic and other chronic wounds more effectively, according to researchers from Drexel University College of Medicine and the University’s School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems who developed the prototype.

The device uses diffuse near-infrared spectroscopy (NIR) to measure the level of oxygenated and deoxygenated hemoglobin within and under a wound and compares it to a control/non-wound site of the same patient. Since chronic wounds are constantly inflamed, they typically have higher levels of blood oxygen. In human clinical studies of the NIR wound monitor led by Michael S. Weingarten, M.D., MBA, FACS, professor of surgery and director of the Wound Care Clinic at the College of Medicine, the time course of blood oxygen level reduction was found to be a strong indicator of wound healing.

According to Weingarten, who is a co-investigator, this non-invasive device could help physicians to more accurately predict the effectiveness of wound healing treatment at least 50 percent earlier than conventional methods – four weeks versus eight weeks or more. “Until now, wound size has been the only accepted indicator of wound healing,” says Weingarten. “Accurate, consistent measurements of the surface area of a wound are difficult to obtain. Furthermore, a decrease in the size of the wound does not mean the wound is healing properly.”

Complex wounds affect more patients in the United States than heart attack and stroke combined, and five to seven million Americans with complex wounds account for over $20 billion in healthcare expenditures. About 150,000 amputations a year result from complex wounds – about 80,000 of them attributable to diabetes and peripheral arterial disease.

Using the NIR monitor, Weingarten anticipates that physicians will be able to improve patient outcomes by making appropriate treatment changes more rapidly. “This technology will enable us to provide more efficacious care to...”
Dean’s Desk

Honors to Our Fourth-Year Students

Alpha Omega Alpha, the national medical honor society, was founded in 1902 by six medical students at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Chicago, who were seeking to set a standard of excellence for themselves and their future profession. The ideals they formulated are expressed in the organization’s mission statement: “Alpha Omega Alpha – dedicated to the belief that in the profession of medicine we will improve care for all by recognizing high educational achievement, honoring gifted teaching, encouraging the development of leaders in academia and the community, supporting the ideals of humanism, and promoting service to others.”

Students are considered for AOA based on academic scholarship, leadership among their peers, a strong commitment to professionalism and ethics, and service to school and community. Accordingly, I am very pleased to announce that 47 of our fourth-year medical students have been elected to Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society.

Class of 2010 Student Inductees

Courtney Abshier  James Choi  Ashley Hammer  Varsha Manjunath  Nika Priest  Shailja Shah
Fiori Alite  Christine Chung  Amy Huah  Kristen Marrone  Nishant Reddy  Thomas Sherman
Anish Bhatt  Mary D’Alelio  Richard Huynh  Christopher Melani  Sarah Rhee  Stacey Simons
Amber-Nicole Bird  Thomas D’Arville  Priya Iyer  Gregory Meloy  James Romano  Eliot Smith
Jacob Bledsoe  Andrew Donohoe  Wendy Kim  Megan Miller  Laura Samson  Claudia Weng
Rainy Boban  Hayley Dreyfuss  Joshua Kyle  Michael Minarich  Elizabeth Scharle  Michael Wilkinson
Namrata Bose  Idris Evans  Rebecca Lewen  Brittany Nagy  Jacob Sechrist  Xiaoyu Yang
Nicole Brown  Robert Goldfarb  Elizabeth Malsin  Karalynn Otterness  Mohammad Shafqat

In Memoriam

Over the past few months, the College of Medicine has lost two staff members who were an integral part of the school’s daily life and, more important, of our College family. They are sadly missed by their colleagues.

Diane Cohen, the director of the Standardized Patient Program, passed away on July 30. She was also an associate director of the first-year “Physician and Patient” course. Diane joined Medical College of Pennsylvania in 1981 as a program coordinator and later became a standardized patient (the program began in 1985). As the program grew, she became the standardized patient trainer, and then director of the program. She was well known in the field and in its national organization, the Association of Standardized Patient Educators, often writing columns on assessment for the national newsletter. She was a core member of the clinical skills group, helping to design educational and assessment programs for students and residents. Passionate about her work, she loved to participate in research and was a co-author on a number of papers, most recently one that her colleagues dedicated posthumously to her (see page 12, top right).

Linda Roth, chief communications officer, passed away on October 14. Linda joined the College 11 years ago as director of the Office of Communications at what was then MCP Hahnemann University, seeing the school through its merger with Drexel and its establishment as Drexel University College of Medicine. As chief communications officer, she headed the Office of Communications & Marketing, with responsibility for branding; media and public relations; maintaining the College website; marketing of the physician practices; publications, including this newsletter; and special events. She created two major fundraising programs – the annual Manuel Stamatakis Golf Outing and the Black Tie White Coat Ball – which together have raised more than $5 million for the College. She was a member of the board of the St. Christopher’s Foundation for Children and the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Consumer Affairs Council.
Hahnemann Ranked Among Nation's Best Heart Hospitals

This year U.S. News & World Report’s Best Hospitals ranked Hahnemann University Hospital in the top 50 in the country for heart and heart surgery. Of the 4,852 facilities analyzed for the 2010-11 Best Hospitals rankings, only 152, or 3 percent, were ranked in any of the 16 specialties, the magazine said.

Dr. Eisen

Howard Eisen, M.D., professor of medicine and chief of the Division of Cardiology at Drexel University College of Medicine, said that he was proud of the part played by physicians on his faculty in garnering the accolades. “I’m not surprised,” Eisen said. “I know that heart patients at Hahnemann receive the best of care.” HUH scored 35th overall, and was second only to the Cleveland Clinic in survival rate (measured by deaths of medically challenging patients within 30 days after admission compared with number of deaths expected after adjusting for severity and other risks). The hospital also ranked high in the number of important technologies available in this specialty, scoring 6 out of a possible 7.

Medical Students Teach CPR

Eighth graders throughout the Philadelphia school system will soon be learning CPR thanks to the generosity of Drexel University College of Medicine Chairman Manuel Stamatakis and the guidance of Drexel medical students. Part of a new initiative with the American Heart Association, the project kicked off September 21 with 60 students from Philadelphia’s Masterman School who became the first of 3,000 eighth graders to be trained in CPR using the AHA’s CPR Anytime kits. The kits were purchased through a donation by Stamatakis, who was on hand for the first training demonstration at the school district headquarters. Also in attendance were Drexel medical students who ensured that the schoolchildren were correctly administering chest compressions.

According to the AHA, effective bystander CPR, provided immediately after sudden cardiac arrest, can double or triple a person’s chance of survival. Yet less than one-third of sudden cardiac arrest victims receive immediate CPR. The portable CPR Anytime kit is designed to make CPR easier to learn.

CoM-IT Brings Home National Award

The College of Healthcare Information Management Executives (CHIME) and the American Hospital Association have presented their 2010 Transformational Leadership Award to Drexel University College of Medicine. The award honors an organization that has excelled in developing and deploying transformational information technology that improves the delivery of care and streamlines administrative services.

The award – given to Tish Calvarese, Chief Information Officer, and Richard V. Homan, M.D., President and Annenberg Dean – was presented to Calvarese at the CHIME10 Fall CIO Forum in Phoenix on October 7. CHIME has more than 1,400 CIO members across the country.

“We are so proud to receive this award,” said Calvarese. “This recognition is a testament to the dedication, strategy and hard work of our team at the College of Medicine.”

Over the past four years, under the guidance of Calvarese, the College has focused on the transformation of its information technology physical infrastructure. One notable change was the replacement of varying departmental billing systems with one enterprise-level Practice Management System. This laid the foundation for implementation of the electronic health record, which was integrated into 29 outpatient physician practices from 2007 to 2009 (a rapid deployment by industry standards). That effort has streamlined recordkeeping and communication and resulted in improved patient care.
**Discovery 2010 October 7**

Discovery Day was held on Thursday, October 7 at the Queen Lane Campus. The event showcased research posters on topics as diverse as malaria, HIV/AIDS, infectious diseases, cancer, cardiology, spinal cord injury and repair, behavioral neurobiology, and many more.

The featured speaker was Gregory Petsko, D. Phil., the Gyula and Katica Tauber Professor of Biochemistry & Chemistry at Brandeis University, who presented the lecture “Pharmacological Chaperones: Protein Stabilization as a Therapeutic Approach for the Treatment of Protein Conformational Diseases.”

**Discovery 2010 First Prize Winners**

**Graduate Citation Award**

Peter S. Amenta, M.D., HU ‘80; Ph.D., HU ‘84

Dean, UMDNJ–Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

**Outstanding High School Poster**

Zoe Steier, Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy

**Outstanding Undergraduate Poster**

Karen Shen, Swarthmore College

**Outstanding Technician Poster**

Tanu Singh, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology

**Outstanding Medical Student Poster**

Alexander Potashinksy

**Outstanding Junior Graduate Student Poster**

Victor Lin, Cardiothoracic Surgery

**Outstanding Post Doctoral Fellow**

Vidya Nadar, Neurobiology & Anatomy

**Outstanding Distinguished Achievement in Clinical Research**

Leonard Jacob, M.D., Ph.D.

**Outstanding Senior Graduate Student Poster**

Tie: James Alaro, Microbiology & Immunology, and Chintan Oza, Biomedical Engineering

**Outstanding Platform Presentation**

Gregory Botta (M.D./Ph.D. student), Molecular & Cell Biology & Genetics

**Outstanding Medical Student Poster**

Alexander Potashinksy

**Outstanding Junior Graduate Student Poster**

Victor Lin, Cardiothoracic Surgery

**Outstanding Technician Poster**

Tanu Singh, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology

**Outstanding Undergraduate Poster**

Karen Shen, Swarthmore College

**Outstanding High School Poster**

Zoe Steier, Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy

**Outstanding Post Doctoral Fellow**

Vidya Nadar, Neurobiology & Anatomy

**Outstanding Platform Presentation**

Gregory Botta (M.D./Ph.D. student), Molecular & Cell Biology & Genetics

**Outstanding Graduate Citation Award**

Peter S. Amenta, M.D., HU ‘80; Ph.D., HU ‘84

Dean, UMDNJ–Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

**Basic Research Scientist Award**

Elizabeth Blankenhorn, Ph.D., Microbiology & Immunology

**Young Investigator Award**

Mauricio Reginato, Ph.D., Biochemistry & Molecular Biology

**Distinguished Achievement in Clinical Research**

Leonard Jacob, M.D., Ph.D.

**Distinguished Discovery Award 2010**

John Leander Po, MD., Ph.D.

**ELAM Receives AAMC Award**

The Hedwig van Ameringen Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine® Program for Women is this year’s institutional recipient of the Association of American Medical Colleges Women in Medicine Leadership Development Award. Since it was first given in 1993, the award has recognized just 16 individuals and seven medical school-based women-in-medicine programs.

“Your organization clearly has distinguished itself with its organizational commitment to helping women in medicine, dentistry, and public health realize their potential, with special attention to the unique challenges facing women in leadership positions,” wrote AAMC President Darrell Kirch, M.D., to ELAM® leaders. More than 90 percent of U.S. medical schools have sent at least one participant to ELAM and the program has nearly 700 alumnae.

“News” continued on page 15
Radiology for the Practitioner – December 11

Clinical faculty and house staff are invited to learn from the experts in a continuing medical education conference organized by radiologists for their non-radiologist colleagues. “Radiology Symposium for the Practitioner” will be held on December 11, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Geary Auditorium, New College Building.

Co-sponsored by the College of Medicine and Hahnemann Radiology, the conference is approved for AMA and AOA continuing medical education credits.

The symposium will consist of four sessions, addressing important topics in neuroradiology, thyroid imaging, chest radiology, and cardiac and abdominal imaging, as well as musculoskeletal imaging. A cardiac focus session will feature renowned coronary CTA expert David Dowe, M.D., of AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center. The course director is Robert A. Koenigsberg, D.O. FAOCR, professor of radiology at the College of Medicine.

Due to space constraints, registration is limited to 200 attendees. The cost is $25 for a resident; $100 for faculty. Conference details can be found online at: [http://sites.google.com/site/radiologyupdate/system/app/pages/sitemap/hierarchy](http://sites.google.com/site/radiologyupdate/system/app/pages/sitemap/hierarchy)

For more information, please contact Maria Fuentes at 215-762-8746.

Call for Nominations of Candidates for AOA Election

Attention all AOA Alumni and Faculty Members of Drexel University College of Medicine, Hahnemann & MCP Delta Zeta Chapter

The Delta-Zeta Chapter of Alpha Omega Alpha is requesting nominations of candidates for AOA election. Following are the categories of candidates who will be considered.

Residents and fellows: The chapter may elect to membership 3 graduate trainees after their first year of training, based on continued achievement and promise.

Alumnae/i: After 10 years or more following graduation, alumnae/i who have distinguished themselves in their professional careers and are judged on the basis of achievement to be qualified, may be elected to membership. No more than 2 alum members per year may be elected.

Faculty: A chapter may elect to membership 2 faculty members each year from the faculty of the College of Medicine who have distinguished themselves in their professional careers and are judged on the basis of achievement to be qualified. Such faculty members must hold an earned doctoral degree.

Submit all nominations to Marie Hartman via email at mhartman@drexelmed.edu. Please include with your nomination a brief description of the nominee’s achievements. In the case of faculty, curriculum vitae must be provided. The deadline for submitting nominations is December 31, 2010.

We are also in the process of updating our Delta Zeta Chapter membership list. If you are an AOA member and would like to join the Delta Zeta Chapter of AOA, please contact Marie Hartman. In addition, if you are a current member and your email or mailing address has changed, please let us know so we can update our files. For more information about the Delta Zeta Chapter, upcoming elections or events, contact Dr. Allan Tunkel, AOA Councilor, or Marie Hartman in the Career Development Center.
'60s

Rose Mary Hatem Bonsack, M.D., WMC '60 was featured in an article in the Record of Havre De Grace, Md., that recounted her experiences as a female medical student. In addition to her career as a physician, Bonsack was a state legislator who represented Harford County in the Maryland General Assembly. She now serves on the boards of the University of Maryland Medical System and the John Carroll School.

Ronald D. Emkey, M.D., HU '65 and his son practice rheumatology in a father-and-son team at Emkey Arthritis & Osteoporosis Clinic in Wyomissing, Pa. Dr. Gregory Emkey joined the practice last summer after completing his fellowship training. Ronald Emkey is also a clinical instructor and chairman of the Rheumatology Section at Reading Hospital and Medical Center as well as medical director and principal investigator at Radiant Research, also in Reading.

'70s

Andrew S. Levin, M.D., HU '73 a specialist in internal medicine, has been named to the Massachusetts Medical Society's Committee on Ethics, Grievances and Professional Standards. Board certified in emergency medicine, Levin maintains a full-time private practice and is also the medical director of the Mont Marie Infirmary and the Marian Center, all in Holyoke, Mass.

Colleen Carey, M.D., MCP '74 a physician who specializes in endocrinology and metabolism, has been hired as medical director of the Community Health Education and Resource Diabetes Education Center in Spokane, Wash.

Marlene R. Wolf, M.D., MCP '77 was voted “Best Doctor” in the “Best of Coral Springs and Parkland” in 2010 by readers of the Coral Springs Forum, Coral Springs, Fla. A family practice physician, Wolf is presently chair of the Department of Medicine for Coral Springs Medical Center.

'80s

Karl B. Kern, M.D., HU ’80 University of Arizona professor of medicine and chair of the Sarver Heart Center Resuscitation Research Group, has been appointed acting chief, Section of Cardiology in the University of Arizona College of Medicine Department of Medicine. In addition, Kern will continue as director of the cardiac catheterization laboratory at University Medical Center and director of the Interventional Cardiology Fellowship Program.

Daniel Wilkinson, Jr., M.D., HU ’80 was named a “Top Doctor” for the 10th consecutive year by Seattle magazine. Wilkinson is a cardiologist at Summit Cardiology in Seattle, Wash.

Eugene Gorski, M.D., HU ’81 a board-certified physician in family medicine and age management medicine, is the new physician at Mountaintop Family Care at Hazleton Professional Services in Hazleton, Pa. Gorski is also board certified in herbal medicine and is a certified life coach. His focus is on education, maintenance, wellness and prevention.

Jay M. Burstein, M.D., HU ’86 medical director of Corporate Care, the occupational and environmental health service of St. Joseph Health Services of Rhode Island, located in North Providence, co-authored a scientific abstract and poster, “Pulmonary Alveolar Proteinosis in Indium-Exposed Workers,” presented at the annual American Thoracic Society meeting in May 2010 in New Orleans.

Robert Drew Fanelli, M.D., MCP '86 was appointed medical adviser to PolyTouch Medical Ltd., an Israeli developer of laparoscopic soft tissue prosthetic placement technologies. Fanelli is the president of Surgical Specialists of Western New England and specializes in minimally invasive surgery, gastrointestinal surgery, and advanced gastrointestinal and pancreaticobiliary endoscopy.

James D. Luketich, Sr., M.D., MCP ’86 a professor of cardiothoracic surgery at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, has been appointed the founding chair of the university’s new Cardiothoracic Surgery Department. Prior to this appointment, Luketich served as the director of the University’s Heart, Lung, and Esophageal Surgery Institute and chief of the Division of Thoracic and Foregut Surgery.

David Shulkin, M.D., MCP ’86 was named president of Morristown Memorial Hospital in Morristown, N.J. Shulkin, a certified internist, previously served for four years as president and CEO of Beth Israel Medical Center in New York.

David A. Brake, Ph.D., HU ’87 was recently appointed to the scientific advisory board of the Found Animal Foundation, a Los Angeles-based nonprofit organization dedicated to animal welfare issues and led by business and medical professionals. Brake is founder of BioQuest Associates, a Connecticut-based vaccine consulting company with clients from government, and the biotech and pharmaceutical industries.

Daniel Doolittle, M.D., HU ’89 a board-certified emergency medicine physician, became the new head of the Crossroads Community Hospital Emergency Department in Mt. Vernon, Ill. Doolittle was most recently the Emergency Department medical director at the Sparta Community Hospital in Sparta, Ill.

Michael Joseph Panella, M.D., MCP ’89 joined the University of Missouri Hospital and Clinics, where he serves as an assistant clinical professor in the Department of Pathology and a medical examiner for Boone, Callaway and Greene counties. Panella is board certified in anatomic and clinical pathology as well as forensic pathology, and he holds a law degree from the University of Pittsburgh. He previously worked in private practice as a forensic pathologist in Newberry, S.C.
'90s

Alireza Farpour, M.D., MCP’90 joined Southeastern Surgical Associates of Chesapeake Regional Medical Group in Chesapeake, Va. Farpour is the past chief of the Department of Surgery and past president of both the Chesapeake Regional Medical Staff and the Chesapeake Medical Society. He is board certified in general surgery.

Glenn W. Stambo, M.D., HU’91 an interventional radiologist affiliated with St. Joseph's Hospital in Tampa, Fla., presented his group’s research on stroke therapy at the annual International Symposium on Endovascular Therapy in Miami: “Modern Ischemic Stroke Therapy in a Large Community Based Dedicated Stroke Center: A Five-Year Retrospective Review.” The group’s research was also cited and Stambo was interviewed in the article “Stroke Therapy with Corkscrew Device Most Beneficial, Study Finds” in Interventional News (March 2010).

Philip F. Pacelli III, M.D., HU’92; DMD an oral and maxillofacial surgeon, was ranked as a “Top Dentist” in Fairfield County, Conn., by Westport Magazine. His office is located in New Canaan.

Thomas N. Bottoni, M.D., HU’93 a board-certified emergency physician, received the “Teacher of the Year” award (for the third time) from the emergency medicine residents at the Naval Medical Center in Portsmouth, Va., where he is currently a civilian contractor. Bottoni also holds an assistant professorship in military and emergency medicine through the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. He served 10 years on active duty with the Navy before transitioning into a civilian provider role.

Daniel Kim, M.D., HU, ‘94; MBA, FACP was appointed chair for the Department of Medicine at Riverside County Regional Medical Center in Moreno Valley, Calif. He continues to serve as an associate professor at Loma Linda University Medical Center. Kim was previously chief of the Division of Ambulatory Care at Riverside.

David Galbraith, M.D., MCP’95 and Kathryn Galbraith, M.D., MCP’95 opened a practice, Galbraith Family Medicine, in Limerick, Maine. The couple, who met at medical school, purchased the practice after working at Sacopee Valley Health Center for several years.

Kathryn Galbraith, M.D., MCP’95 See above.

Brian Robert Kann, M.D., HU’97 joined Penn Surgery and Penn Presbyterian Medical Center in Philadelphia in the Department of Surgery as an assistant professor of clinical surgery and program director of the Colon and Rectal Surgery Residency Program. Kann had served as medical director of the Colorectal Care Center at Cooper University Hospital in Camden, N.J., for four years.

Lionel Catlin, M.D., MCPHU’99 a family physician, joined Weems Medical Center East in Carrabelle, Fla. Catlin previously worked at Eastpoint Medical Center in Eastpoint, Fla., as a National Health Service Corps scholar.

Jazmine A. Harris, M.D., MCPHU’99 joined Community Health Care Inc. as a full-time pediatrician, serving its Bridgeton and Millville, N.J. locations. Harris most recently was in private practice in Willingboro, N.J. She is board certified in pediatrics.

Timothy Patrick Monahan, M.D., MCPHU’99 a board-certified dermatologist, joined Day Kimball Healthcare’s Physician Service for Northeast Connecticut at the Danielson Healthcare Center in Putnam. Dr. Monahan was a member of the U.S. Army for 20 years and most recently served as chief of dermatology at the army hospital supporting the West Point Military Academy.

Juana “Cheli” Sainez, M.D., MCPHU’99 joined the UHS Chenango Memorial Hospital Women’s Health Center in Norwich, N.Y. Sainez had previously practiced at A.O. Fox Hospital in Oneonta, N.Y.

’00s

Eric E. Maur, M.D., MCPHU’01 an emergency medicine specialist, was appointed Emergency Department medical director for Shamokin Area Community Hospital. He previously served as a general medical officer for the Naval Aerospace Medical Institute in Pensacola, Fla., and the 3rd Marine Regiment, Kaneohe, Hawaii. He has served on the boards of the Emergency Medicine Residents’ Association and the Pennsylvania Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians.

Kimberly Lingler, MBS, MCPHU’02 a family practice physician, has joined First-Health Family Care-Richmond Family Medicine in Rockingham, N.C. She earned her medical degree at Temple University School of Medicine and completed her family practice residency at Washington Hospital, Washington, Pa.

Judy C.Y. Lin, M.D. ‘02 joined United Hospice of Rockland in New City, N.Y., as its first full-time medical director. She is also on the medical staff of both Nyack and Good Samaritan Hospitals in upstate New York. Lin, who is board certified in internal medicine, previously practiced as a general internist at Hudson Valley Medical Associates.

Christy R. Skibicki, M.D. ‘02 a family medicine physician, has joined the staff of the Spring Grove Express Care Center and the Hanover Medical Group Family Practice in Hanover, Pa. Skibicki served in the U.S. Air Force Reserves while attending medical school. After completing her active duty as a major at the 436th Medical Group at Dover Air Force Base, she was on staff at Kent General Hospital in Dover, Del.

Raphael Bonita, M.D. ‘03 joined Thomas Jefferson University Hospital as an assistant professor of medicine in the Cardiology Division and an advanced heart failure and cardiac transplant physician. Bonita completed his advanced heart failure and cardiac transplantation fellowship at Jefferson.

Glendon Cook, M.D. ‘03 joined Geisinger Medical Group-Dallas in Dallas, Pa. He is also a clinical faculty member of the
Community Medical College in Scranton, Pa. Board certified in family medicine, Cook completed a family medicine internship and residency at Wyoming Valley Family Practice.

Denise M. Torres, M.D. '03 joined the Emergency Department at Geisinger Medical Center in Danville, Pa., as a general trauma surgeon. Torres completed fellowship training in critical care in 2010 at the Shock Trauma Center, University of Maryland in Baltimore. She has been recognized by the Pennsylvania Commission on Trauma for her work in arterial injury detection following extremity trauma.

Matthew Myers, M.D. '04 joined Northeast Digestive Health Center and Cabarrus Gastroenterology Associates in Concord, N.C. He completed his residency in internal medicine at Brown University Internal Medicine Program-Rhode Island Hospital and his fellowship in gastroenterology at the University of Connecticut in Farmington.

Alex Grand, M.D. '05 has joined Medical Vision Technology in Sacramento, Calif. Grand, who specializes in dry eye and oculoplastic disorders, completed his residency at Louisiana State University and his fellowship at St. John Health Oculoplastics and Neuro-Ophthalmology in Detroit. He is board eligible in ophthalmology and a fellow in oculoplastic and neuro-ophthalmic surgery.

Tom J. Henderson, M.D. '06 joined the Emergency Department at St. Mary’s Health System in Evansville, Ind. He had worked in the Emergency Department at Yakima Valley Memorial Hospital in Yakima, Wash. He completed an emergency medicine residency at York Hospital in York, Pa., where he was the chief resident for the Class of 2009.

John Sangl, M.D. '07 has joined the Saint Vincent Emergency Department in Erie, Pa.

Catherine Choi, M.D./Ph.D. '09 was part of a research team that published findings in the Journal of Neuroscience on reversing cognitive decline in flies with an Alzheimer’s gene mutation. Choi recently completed an internship in internal medicine at Lehigh Valley Hospital in Allentown, Pa. She is currently working on a residency in dermatology here at Drexel Medicine.

In Memoriam

Joseph T. Buckey, M.D., HU ’41 August 16

John R. Clark, M.D., HU ’54 June 8, St. George, Utah, at the age of 76. After completing his training in neurosurgery, he set up his practice in Chico, Calif., in 1969. Called to active military duty in 1991, he served in Dubai and Kuwait during Operation Desert Storm. Upon his return, he began the transition to retirement in Utah. After retiring, he regularly traveled to Ethiopia as a physician volunteer, treating patients and training medical students at the University of Addis Ababa and the Black Lion Hospital. He also served medical missions in Guatemala, Singapore, Tanzania, China and Bulgaria. He is survived by his wife, Antoinette Evans Clark, six children, 29 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

James L. Garofalo, M.D., HU ’56 February 26

Milton Graub, M.D., HU ’44 July 12

Larry D. Hammarberg, M.D., HU ’62 July; Bluffton, S.C. After completing his training in general surgery and cardiothoracic surgery at the Cleveland Clinic, where he was part of the team that performed the first heart transplant at Cleveland, he served in the U.S. Air Force in Vietnam and received the Bronze Star. Hammarberg entered private practice as a cardiothoracic surgeon and, with another physician, founded the open-heart surgery program at Lakewood (Ohio) Hospital. He was on the staff of seven Cleveland hospitals. When he retired from private surgical practice in 1986, he continued working as a surgical intensivist until 2007. He is survived by his wife, Scotti (nee Carol Harrison), three stepchildren, and a grandson.

Sophy H. Hardy, M.D., WMC ’45 August 17

Corinne V. Newton, M.D., WMC ’54 July 18

Aileen Cordon Nosal, M.D., WMC ’61 April 28

Joseph J. O'Connor, M.D., HU ’59 August 8

Ursula L. Seinige, M.D., MCP ’78 August 15

Former Residents and Fellows

Harry H. Pote, Jr., M.D., Nephrology Fellow, HU ’75 has been named the outstanding preceptor for 2009-2010 by the Department of Physician Assistant Sciences at St. Francis University, Loretto, Pa. Pote has been a clinical preceptor for physician assistant students for their internal medicine clinical rotation for the past 12 years. He has also maintained a medical practice in Johnstown, Pa. since 1975.

Shekeeb Sufian, M.D., General Surgery Resident, HU ’76 announced his retirement from Hilo Medical Center in Hilo, Hawaii. Since 2007, Sufian had practiced for one- to two-month stretches to cover the community’s surgical needs. Sufian began his nearly 40-year career at Hahnemann Medical College, where he became assistant professor in the Department of Surgery after completing his residency.

Henry J. Dalsania, M.D., Radiology Resident ’08 is an interventional radiologist with Mid-South Imaging and Therapeutics in Memphis, Tenn., and is affiliated with Baptist Memorial Hospital also in Memphis. He completed his fellowship at Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology at Washington University in St. Louis. He is board certified in diagnostic radiology.
Kevin Bernstein, a fourth-year medical student, has been elected as the student member of the American Academy of Family Physicians Board of Directors. The AAFP represents 94,700 physicians and medical students nationwide. Bernstein was elected to a one-year term by the National Congress of Student Members and was confirmed by the governing body of the AAFP, the Congress of Delegates.

Bernstein has served as a student delegate to the AAFP Congress of Delegates, a member of the AAFP Commission on Education and its subcommittees on Resident and Student Issues, and International Family Medicine since October 2009. In May 2010, he began his term as the student member of the Pennsylvania Academy of Family Physicians board of directors and chair of the PAFP Student Assembly. He has been a member of the PAFP Resident and Student Affairs Commission since 2009.

Norman A. Johanson, M.D., professor and chairman, Department of Orthopedic Surgery, was honored by the Arthritis Foundation Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter with the Sir John Charnley Award, recognizing excellence and achievement in the field of orthopedics, at the chapter's Evening of Honors, October 26, in Philadelphia.

Simon Cocklin, Ph.D., research assistant professor in the Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, has won a ProteOn™ XPR36 protein interaction array system from Bio-Rad in a recent scientific research proposal competition sponsored by Bio-Rad and Genetic Engineering & Biotechnology News with more than 100 applicants. Cocklin submitted his winning proposal on the application of surface plasmon resonance technology to the development of novel small-molecule HIV-1 inhibitors. The total value of the award (including training and service) is approximately $350,000. In addition to using the instrument in his own lab, Cocklin plans to make it available to other researchers at the College of Medicine.

In addition, Cocklin has received a National Institutes of Health R21 two-year grant in the amount of $275,000 (total direct costs) for “High-Throughput Computational Docking Screen for Small-Molecule Inhibitors of HIV-1 Matrix.”

Michael I. Greenberg, M.D., MPH, professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, and chief of the Division of Medical Toxicology, received the Teisinger Medal from the Czech Occupational Medicine Society on June 10, in recognition of his contributions to occupational toxicology. Professor Jaroslav Teisinger, for whom the award was named, was an outstanding scientist and renowned occupational toxicologist. In a lectureship associated with the award, Greenberg presented “Lethal Occupational Exposures” at the Charles University in Prague.

Dr. Block

Dr. Schlecht

Dr. Núñez

Thomas Julian, M.D., associate professor of human oncology, received the Vivian and Meyer P. Potamkin Foundation Award for Breast Cancer Research, presented by the Pennsylvania Breast Cancer Coalition on October 14 at its annual conference. Julian is associate director of the Allegheny Breast Center and associate director of medical affairs at the National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project, based at Allegheny General Hospital.

Ana Núñez, M.D., associate professor of medicine and director of the Women’s Health Education Program, has been invited to be a member of the national Heart Truth Professional Expert Panel, part of the Department of Health and Human Services Office on Women’s Health/National Heart Lung and Blood Institute’s Heart Truth Professional Education Campaign. The panel will address professional education for updated NHLBI heart health guidelines (anticipated in February 2011), as well as dissemination strategies.

Hans P. Schlecht, M.D., M.M.Sc., assistant professor of medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases and HIV Medicine, received a two-year National Institutes of Health R03 grant in the amount of $100,000 (total direct costs), entitled “Discovery of a Urine Biomarker of HIV for Noninvasive, Point-of-Care Testing Use.” He is seeking a marker of HIV infection in urine that could potentially be used for an on-the-spot test.
Erika Aaron, R.N., CRNP, MSN, director of Women’s Services, and Shannon Criniti, MPH, manager, both in the Division of Infectious Diseases and HIV Medicine, and Edward Gracely, Ph.D., associate professor, Department of Family, Community, and Preventive Medicine, and colleagues published “Adverse Events in a Cohort of HIV Infected Pregnant and Non-Pregnant Women Treated with Nevirapine Versus Non-Nevirapine Antiretroviral Medication” in *PLoS ONE*, October 2010.


Saeid Alemo, M.D., clinical assistant professor, Department of Surgery, is the principal author of “Role of Facet Arthropathy and Discopathy in Chronic Mechanical Lower Back Pain” published in *Journal of Neurological and Orthopaedic Medicine and Surgery*, July 2010. Alemo is also co-author of “Sources and Patterns of Pain in Lumbar Disc Disease: Revisiting Francis Murphy’s Theory” published in *Acta Neurochirurgica: Volume 152, No. 9* (2010).

Catherine H. Choi, M.D., Ph.D., a Drexel/Hahnemann resident in dermatology, is among the authors of “Pharmacological and Genetic Reversal of Age-Dependent Cognitive Deficits Attributable to Decreased Presenilin Function,” published in *Journal of Neuroscience*, July 14, 2010. The other investigators are at Albert Einstein Medical College and the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. Choi participated in the research, involving fruit flies, while she was in the College of Medicine’s M.D./Ph.D. program, from which she graduated in 2009.

Christof J. Daetwyler, M.D., associate professor, Department of Family, Community, and Preventive Medicine, and developer, Technology in Medical Education; the late Diane G. Cohen, who was director of the Standardized Patient Program; Edward Gracely, Ph.D., associate professor, Department of Family, Community, and Preventive Medicine, and Dennis H. Novack, M.D., professor, Department of Medicine, and associate dean for medical education, co-authored “eLearning to Enhance Physician Patient Communication: A Pilot Test of ‘doc.com’ and ‘WebEncounter’ in Teaching Bad News Delivery” published in the journal *Medical Teacher, Volume 32*, No. 9. The publication was dedicated to the memory of Diane Cohen.

Howard J. Eisen, M.D., professor of medicine and chief of the Division of Cardiology, presented “Serum 24-Hydroxyvitamin D Concentration: 018 Heart Failure Mortality, and Premature Death from All-Cause in US Adults: An Eight-Year Follow-Up Study” at the 14th annual scientific meeting of the Heart Failure Society of America, held September 12-15 in San Diego. Among the co-authors were Shelley R. Hankins, M.D., assistant professor of medicine, and Longjian Liu, M.D., Ph.D., an associate professor of epidemiology and medicine at the Drexel University School of Public Health.


In addition Ge and colleagues recently published the following articles:


Ge was among the authors of an abstract at the American Heart Association Scientific Sessions 2010: “Strain Analysis by 2D Speckle Tracking Imaging Sensitive Identifies Early Dystrophin Cardiomyopathy in Murine Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy Model: An Ultrasound Biomicroscopy and Histology Correlation Study.”

In addition, he made two presentations at the 4th Oriental Congress of Cardiology, Shanghai, PRC, May 2010: “What’s New in Fetal Echocardiography & Fetal Cardiology: A US Perspective” and “What’s New in Contemporary Management of Congenital Heart Disease: From Experience to Evidence.”

At the World Congress of Cardiology, Beijing, PRC, in June 2010, Ge co-chaired “New Advances in Cardiovascular Disease Therapy: A U.S. Perspective” and presented “What’s New in Clinical Trials for Congenital Heart Diseases?”

Edward Gracely, Ph.D., associate professor, Department of Family, Community & Preventive Medicine and colleagues published “Bedside Ultrasound Diagnosis of Clavicle Fractures in the Pediatric Emergency Department” in the July 2010 issue of Academic Emergency Medicine.

In addition, Gracely and colleagues, including Drexel medical students Adam Green and Joshua Siembieda, and Drs. Coleen C. Mull and Eileen Quintana, both assistant professors of pediatrics and emergency medicine, are authors of “Ketamine/Midazolam Versus Bumidine/Fentanyl: Procedural Sedation for Pediatric Orthopedic Reductions” published in the June 2010 issue of Pediatric Emergency Care.

Michael I. Greenberg, M.D., MPH, professor of emergency medicine, and chief, Division of Medical Toxicology, and David Vearrier, M.D., fellow in medical toxicology, co-authored “Anticholinergic Delirium Following Datura stramonium [jimsonweed] Ingestion: Implications for the Internet Age” published in the Journal of Emergency, Trauma and Shock, June 2010.

Dr. Greenberg

Christopher Haines, D.O., assistant professor of pediatrics and emergency medicine, and Lillian M. Sarraff, M.D., a fellow in the Department of Emergency Medicine, are authors of “Common Orthopedic Injuries in the Pediatric ED” published in two parts in Pediatric Emergency Medicine Reports (July and August 2010). Haines is also director of the Department of Emergency Medicine at St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children.

Andrea Ketschek, Ph.D. ’09, and Gianluca Gallo, Ph.D., associate professor, Department of Neurobiology and Anatomy, are co-authors of “Nerve Growth Factor Induces Axonal Filopodia Through Localized Microdomains of Phosphoinositide 3-Kinase Activity That Drive the Formation of Cytoskeletal Precursors to Filopodia” published in the Journal of Neuroscience, September 8, 2010. Ketschek is currently a postdoctoral fellow in the Gallo laboratory.

Dr. Ketschek, Dr. Gallo

Francis Kralick, D.O., assistant professor of neurosurgery presented his paper “An Innovative Permanently Implanted Wireless Intracranial Pressure Monitor Using MEMS Technology and Microwave Telemetry for the Diagnosis of Hydrocephalus” at the 5th International Hydrocephalus Workshop last May in Crete, Greece.

In addition, Kralick presented “Innovative Shunt System for the Treatment of Hydrocephalus Using Microelectromechanical Machine” at the 4th International Conference on Intracranial Pressure and Brain Monitoring in Tubingen, Germany, in September. This work is in conjunction with Dr. Moses Noh and the Department of Mechanical Engineering at Drexel University.

Dr. Kralick

Dr. Kresh

J. Yasha Kresh, Ph.D., professor and research director, Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery, and professor of medicine, presented the work of his group on cardiac remodeling (in collaboration with the University of Pennsylvania’s Institute for Medicine and Engineering) at the University of Oxford: “The Multi-cellularly Coordinated Myocyte Cytoskeleton Self-reorganization in Response to Self-generated Stress Fields.” This was part of the 5th International Workshop on Cardiac Mechano-Electric Feedback and Arrhythmias held at Oxford in September.

Dr. Kresh


Dr. Long, Dr. Schidlow

Dr. Ketschek

Dr. Gallo
Amir Pelleg, Ph.D., adjunct professor of medicine, Division of Cardiology, and colleague published a review entitled “The Mechanism of the Negative Chronotropic and Dromotropic Actions of Adenosine 5'-Triphosphate in the Heart: An Update” in the July issue of the Journal of Cardiovascular Pharmacology.

Ralph Petrucci, Ed.D., clinical professor of psychiatry and medicine, recently participated in an FDA Neurological Devices Advisory Panel meeting for deep brain stimulators and the FDA guidance panel for pediatric neurological and neuropsychological assessments involving mechanical cardiac assist devices. In addition, he recently presented a paper at the annual meeting of the International Heart and Lung Society entitled the “Neurocognitive Evaluation of Destination Therapy Patients Receiving Continuous Flow Left Ventricular Assist Devices.”

Kim A. Rutherford, M.D., assistant professor of pediatrics, and colleagues published an article, “Adolescents’ Perceptions of Interpersonal Communication, Respect, and Concern for Privacy in an Urban Tertiary-Care Pediatric Emergency Department,” in the April 2010 issue of Pediatric Emergency Care.


Nielufar Varjavand, M.D., assistant professor of medicine and program director for the Drexel Medicine Physician Refresher/Re-entry Course, is the author of “Physician Re-entry: One Way to Address the Physician Shortage,” published in Physicians News Digest (August 2010).

Kimberly Wasko, SRS, CVT, VTS, RLATg, certified veterinary surgical nurse, Department of Surgery, was selected to present one of only 13 poster presentations, “Supporting Basic Hemodynamic Response During General Anesthesia in the Rat Model” at the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine in Washington, D.C., August 26-27, 2010.

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 short entries on page 11 of this issue as a model. Thank you.

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Breakthrough Device… continued

patients while reducing costs associated with expensive treatments that are not proving to be effective,” he says.

The Drexel research team for this device is led by principal investigator Elisabeth S. Papazoglou, Ph.D., associate professor, School of Biomedical Engineering, who guided the development of the NIR wound monitor, winning funding from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Coulter Foundation. Co-investigator Leonid Zubkov, Sc.D., research professor, School of Biomedical Engineering, designed and implemented the hardware aspects of the device prototype. In addition to a Wallace H. Coulter Foundation Translational Research grant, the project has been supported with funding from the QED program of the University City Science Center.

Developed and tested over the past five years, the NIR wound monitor is controlled by software from a laptop computer and can move from patient to patient in a busy clinical setting. Blood oxygen levels can be measured in seconds at any spot within or around the wound. Results are displayed on the computer screen almost instantly. In its final stages, the device will become more portable. It was recently licensed for sale by Emunamedica, a Florida company.

As a result of this work, the Drexel research team has received international recognition as leaders in chronic wound management. Weingarten has been invited to organize and present a session on quantification of wound healing at the annual international conference of the Wound Healing Society in April 2011.
The Medicare administrative contractor for Pennsylvania will institute a prepayment edit for new patient office or outpatient office visits coded 99204 and 99205. Highmark Medicare Services, which is also the Part B MAC for Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, and the District of Columbia metropolitan area, announced the policy after a widespread post payment audit by their Medical Review Department revealed that 73 percent of new patient office or outpatient visits, procedure codes 99204 and 99205, were billed incorrectly. The number one error was incorrectly coding the level of service. Other common issues included:

- Lack of an accepted form of provider signature.
- Documentation failed to support “incident to” guidelines as there was no evidence of the physician initiating a plan of care [Compliance Corner, May/June 2010].
- No documentation existed to support the services billed.
- Patient had received care from the same specialty within the past three years and hence was not a “new” patient.

Highmark Medicare Services will begin a prepayment edit on procedure codes 99204 and 99205 for physician and non-physician practitioners of all specialties. Medical records will be requested to verify that the services rendered and billed were medically necessary and billed appropriately. If the requested medical record documentation is not made available to support the service billed the service may be denied.

Note that Medicare requires that medical record entries for services provided/ordered be authenticated by the author. The method used shall be a handwritten or electronic signature. Stamp signatures are not acceptable. Patient identification, date of service, and provider of the service should be clearly identified on the submitted documentation.

The Compliance Office is busy scheduling 30-minute coding refresher programs to review the critical elements of a properly documented new patient visit (codes 99204 and 99205). Call Linda Thomas at 215-255-7830 to schedule a session during a departmental faculty meeting or as a dedicated department-sponsored coding clinic.
November

American Diabetes Month

Calendar:

Nov 22
Woman One Kickoff and Celebration of Scholars
Institute for Women’s Health and Leadership
Queen Lane Campus
Contact: Call 215-991-0267 or email iwhl@drexelmed.edu

Nov 23
Humanism and Professionalism in Medicine Series
“Nowhere to Turn: Failure to Protect, Support and Assure Justice for Darfuri Women”
Presented by Dr. Sondra Crosby, Boston University Schools of Medicine
New College Building, Geary A, 4 p.m. – 5 p.m., reception to follow

December

International AIDS Awareness Month
Dec 3
15th Annual Medical Education Retreat – The Troubled Trainee
Queen Lane Campus Student Activity Center, 8 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Contact: Tracey McCafferty, 215-991-8561

Dec 4
The Annual Day of Trauma
The Union League of Philadelphia
140. S. Broad Street
Contact: Jennifer Sumter, 215-762-2581

Dec 11
Radiology Symposium for the Practitioner
New College Building, Geary Auditorium
Contact: Brian King, 215-762-4658

January

National Blood Donor Month
Jan 7
SGA Winter Formal

Jan 16
Echocardiography Update: Assessment of Diastolic Heart Disease
Loews Philadelphia Hotel, 7:45 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Contact: Mark Hirst, 215-389-2300

Jan 22
Pediatric AIDS Benefit Concert
Talent by Drexel Medicine students and faculty
Drexel University Main Building, 32nd & Chestnut Streets
Contact: Shay Myers, 215-991-8219 or smyers@drexelmed.edu

February

American Heart Month

March

National Kidney Month

LeBow Series on Healthcare Reform


The cost for each session is $35, with a $10 discount available for Drexel and Drexel Medicine alumni. Faculty, staff and graduate students may attend free. All attendees should register for each session and enter the appropriate coupon code at checkout. To obtain the discount code or for more information, contact Jody van de Sande at 215-895-0578 or jlv42@drexel.edu.