Medical Simulation Center Opens

State-of-the-art education center features lifelike patient mannequins with heartbeats, blood pressure, body movement and even the ability to speak.

Drexel University College of Medicine is now home to one of the most innovative medical simulation centers in the country. The Independence Blue Cross Medical Simulation Center at the Queen Lane campus includes the latest high-fidelity human patient simulators to help students and practicing physicians gain experience in a realistic, interactive clinical environment with the newest technology available.

High-fidelity patient simulators are computer-driven robotic mannequins that exhibit life-like vital signs, including heartbeats, blood pressures, and body and eye movements. They can be programmed to display a variety of normal and abnormal conditions, and to respond realistically to medical interventions, such as intubation, drug injection, or cardiac defibrillation. They can even be programmed to speak or cry out in pain.

“This simulation center will provide a tremendous opportunity for practicing physicians, students and residents to enhance their skills and improve patient safety,” said Dean Richard Homan, M.D. “One of our goals is to collaborate with engineers and media discovery to develop new simulation prototypes for the future. We are extremely grateful to Independence Blue Cross for its generous gift and strong support of our goals.”

The medical simulation center is being funded in part through a $2.5 million donation from Independence Blue Cross.

In addition to the simulators, the center includes a suite of exam rooms equipped with digital audio and visual recording capabilities for use in standardized patient exam encounters. (Standardized patients are actors who are taught to portray various clinical conditions and who are trained to provide feedback to students and residents. Drexel University College of Medicine was the first medical school in Philadelphia to employ standardized patients, in the 1980s, at what was then Medical College of Pennsylvania.)
February was a banner month at the College of Medicine, with not one, but two grand openings. The dedication of the Independence Blue Cross Medical Simulation Center in the new wing at Queen Lane [cover and page 4], barely a year after we broke ground, was very exciting. The building is also the long-awaited permanent site of the Institute for Women’s Health and Leadership, the Center for Executive Leadership in Academics, including ELAM (the Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine program for women), and the Legacy Center: Archives and Special Collections. It is especially fitting that the archives of our legacy schools have their new home on our medical campus. In total the addition encompasses 25,000 square feet of space over three floors.

Earlier in February, the College held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to launch the Drexel Convenient Care Center at Liberty Place [February NewsPager], which provides walk-in medical care to downtown workers and visitors, not far from our Center City campus — a new endeavor for us, and a very timely one. The center was the creative concept of Dr. Howard Miller, CEO of the faculty practice plan, and one of the pre-eminent physicians in the region, who understands the needs of busy people and saw a way to offer the community both excellent care and easy access.

Two proud celebrations — two very different projects — yet they express the same wonderful things about our College: the innovative spirit of our faculty and the exceptional teamwork that brings ideas into reality, so that we may better teach our students, care for our patients, and engage in our community.
Commencement

Brigham and Women’s Hospital President Elizabeth G. Nabel, M.D. to Deliver Commencement Address

When Elizabeth G. Nabel, M.D., was a student at Cornell University Medical College in the late 1970s, New York City was a hotbed for the feminist movement. Betty Freidan had published The Feminine Mystique a decade earlier, and Gloria Steinem had recently founded Ms. magazine. “It was an exciting place for a young woman with career aspirations,” recalls Nabel, who will deliver the keynote address at Commencement on May 21.

Now the first female president of Brigham and Women’s Hospital, a teaching affiliate of Harvard Medical School, she is both an inspiration and an advocate for women pursuing careers in academic medicine. Since her appointment in January 2010, Nabel has set clear goals that include supporting and promoting the careers of women and underrepresented minorities.

“My medical school class at Cornell was one-third women,” she relates. “Today, women represent 50 percent of those in medical schools and training programs, but the number of women entering academic medicine and rising through the ranks into senior leadership is still quite limited. My goal is to ensure that women and underrepresented minorities have career advancement opportunities that include all ranks of faculty and senior leadership positions and to help them achieve that success in a way that is merit based and respectful of all individuals.”

Nabel’s overarching goal is to ensure that Brigham and Women’s Hospital continues to be a national leader in a time of health care reform. “This is a time of tremendous challenge but also one of great opportunities to reshape the vitality and importance of academic medical centers in this country,” she reflects. “I share a personal passion with world class clinicians and scientists to link excellent patient care to internationally respected research and then carry our collective wisdom forward to our students. All this will be done with a keen focus on how we can make a difference in the lives of those who depend on us, whether they live half way around the world or across the street from our front doors.”

During her distinguished career, Nabel served on the faculty at the University of Michigan, where she directed the Division of Cardiology and the Cardiovascular Research Center. During her tenure, she became known for her research in the fields of vascular biology and molecular cardiology and for her gene transfer studies of the cardiovascular system.

In 1999, Nabel joined the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) at the National Institutes of Health as scientific director for clinical research. In 2005, she was appointed NHLBI director, overseeing an extensive national research portfolio and an annual budget of approximately $3 billion. Among her leadership efforts as director, Nabel launched new scientific programs in genetics and genomics, stem and progenitor cell biology, translational research, global health and support for young investigators. She also took an active role in public education and awareness programs, developing highly successful campaigns focused on women and heart disease as well as childhood obesity, the precursor to First Lady Michelle Obama’s current initiative.

A nationally recognized scholar, Nabel is the author of more than 250 scientific publications and the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including the American Heart Association Distinguished Achievement Award. She is a member of the American Academy of the Arts and Sciences, the Association of American Physicians (Council), the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences (Council), and a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Nabel currently serves on the editorial boards of the New England Journal of Medicine and Science Translational Medicine.

Among her many achievements, Nabel is most proud of the individuals she has mentored. “Nothing gives me greater joy than helping an individual develop a professional career as a clinician, researcher or educator,” she relates. “I encourage medical school graduates to find their passion within medicine, then go for it. Dream big, dream often and work to achieve your goals.”

“Medicine is an enormously gratifying profession where one can be intellectually engaged as well as having the enormous privilege and honor of making a positive impact on one’s fellow humankind. Our field needs the hard work, energy, commitment, passion and compassion of our truly outstanding medical school graduates.”

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Commencement

Friday, May 21, 2010
Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts
300 South Broad Street
8:00 a.m. Robing
9:00 a.m. Procession
www.drexelmed.edu/commencement
For further information: smyers@drexelmed.edu
The medical simulation center is part of a $9.3 million expansion at the Queen Lane campus. The new building also houses the Drexel University College of Medicine Institute for Women’s Health and Leadership and the Office of Executive Leadership in Academics, which includes the nationally respected ELAM® program (the Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine program for women).

The building also serves as the home of the College’s Legacy Center: Archives and Special Collections, a vast and impressive compilation of the records and heritage of Drexel University College of Medicine and its predecessor institutions, including Woman’s Medical College of Pennsylvania and Hahnemann Medical College. The bulk of the collections fall between 1835 and the present, and include books, photographs, costumes, medical instruments and other teaching tools.
Upcoming Events

April 30 – May 1
Alumni Weekend
Drexel University College of Medicine
Queen Lane Campus
For event details, hotel information and to register visit:
www.drexelmed.edu/AlumniWeekend

May 2
Digestive Disease Week Reception
6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
New Orleans Marriott – Glavez

May 17
American College of Obstetricians
and Gynecologists Reception
6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
San Francisco Marriott Marquis – Nob Hill A

May 19 – 21
50 Year Reunion – Class of 1960
Drexel University College of Medicine
For event details, hotel information and Directory Forms visit:
www.drexelmed.edu/50YearReunion

May 25
American Psychiatric Association Reception
6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
New Orleans Marriott Convention Center
Fleur De Lis Room, First Floor

For more information contact the Office of Alumni Relations
at 1-866-373-9633 or medical.alumni@drexel.edu.
Patty Comey, Director, Alumni Relations

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'50s

Wilbur Oaks, M.D., HU ’55 was highlighted in a Philadelphia Inquirer article, “A Doctor Gives Homeless a Healthy Chance.” Oaks, who is 81, only recently stopped seeing patients, but still teaches 25 hours a week. He organized the Body and Soul Soccer Team, made up of homeless men, at St. John’s Hospice. Oaks was also honored by the Philadelphia City Council for his homeless outreach.

'70s

J. Kenneth Brubaker, M.D., HU ’70 a physician who specializes in family and community medicine, was named to the board of Landis Homes in Lititz, Pa. Brubaker is the co-founder of Norlanco Family Practice in Elizabethtown, Pa.

Raymond J. Fabius, M.D., HU ’77 joined Thomson Reuters as chief medical officer of the company’s healthcare and science business. Fabius develops and fosters relationships with customers, advises on product development, and provides counsel to Thomson Reuters on business strategy and medical issues.

Chester H. Sharps, M.D., HU ’79 took part in an orthopedic surgery mission to St. Vincent and the Grenadines to perform a complex spine repair procedure for a young girl. Sharps is an orthopedic surgeon in Richmond, Va., with special interest in pediatric orthopedics and scoliosis. This is the second time he has taken part in mission work abroad.

'80s

Lou-Anne Beauregard, M.D., MCP ’80 a cardiologist who specializes in cardiovascular diseases and hypertension, completed a master’s degree in bioethics and health policy from Loyola University Chicago Neiswanger Institute of Bioethics & Health Policy. Beauregard writes on ethical challenges of cardiac electrophysiology and the impact of market forces on healthcare delivery.

Robert G. Everhart, M.D., HU ’81 was recently appointed to the faculty of Duke University as assistant professor, Department of Medicine, Division of Cardiology, and will be contributing to the development of interventional cardiology services at Southeastern Heart Center in Lumberton, N.C.

George W. Fouse, M.D., Ph.D., MCP ’84 will make a safety presentation called “Injured Again: Who Foots the Bill?” for the Human Resource Management Association of Blair County and the Chamber of Commerce of Altoona, Pa. Fouse is the medical director of HealthForce, the occupational medicine program of Altoona Regional Health System.

Prema Arasu, Ph.D., HU ’85 was named associate vice president for international programs and chief international officer at Washington State University. Previously, she was associate vice provost, Office of International Affairs, at North Carolina State University, as well as director of the Global Health Initiative and professor in the Department of Molecular Biomedical Sciences, College of Veterinary Medicine.

Mark B. Farnsworth, M.D., MCP ’86 was designated a December 2009 “Member of the Month” by Barbour County (West Virginia) Chamber of Commerce. Farnsworth is a family physician at Barbour County Family Medicine in Philippi.

Reginald J. Blaber, M.D., HU ’89 a cardiologist, was named president of Lourdes Medical Associates, Haddon Heights, N.J. Blaber is also the president of the medical staff at Our Lady of Lourdes Medical Center, where he has served in many other leadership positions since joining the staff in 1998. He is board certified in cardiology and internal medicine, and was the recipient of Health Grades’ 2010 Coronary Excellence Award.

'90s

Annette Lee, M.D., HU ’91 a reproductive endocrinologist, opened her own practice in Chalfont, Pa. Lee manages her patients through the Pennsylvania Reproductive Specialists. She is also on the active staff of Grand View, Doylestown, and Bryn Mawr hospitals.

Amelia A. Paré, M.D., HU ’92 a plastic and reconstructive surgeon, was elected secretary of the Allegheny County Medical Society. Paré is in private practice and is affiliated with Washington Hospital, St. Clair Memorial Hospital, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, and Jefferson Regional Medical Center.

James Myer, M.D., HU ’93 chief of staff of the Tucson Heart Hospital, was highlighted in an article, “Profiles in Cardiology,” in the Tucson Lifestyle magazine. Myer is board certified in internal medicine and cardiology. He said in the article that he chose to become a cardiologist because he loves helping people overcoming illness and maintaining their health.

Susan Sordoni, M.D., MCP ’97 was featured in a story in the Wilkes-Barre Times Leader about the path she took to become a physician and the medical clinic she founded.

Camille Gardner, M.D., MCPHU ’99 a family medicine physician, joined Maxton Family Practice Center in Maxton, N.C. She was previously with the Clark Clinic at Ft. Bragg, where she was a civilian contractor. Clark Clinic is the largest primary care clinic in the Department of Defense. While there, Gardner provided medical care to active military members and their dependents, and military retirees.

'00s

Rachel Ash-Bernal, M.D., MCPHU ’00 a cardiologist, joined Western Carolina Cardiology in Clyde, N.C. Ash-Bernal specializes in general non-interventional cardiology with an emphasis in cardiac imaging, particularly nuclear cardiology and echocardiography and cardiac CT.
She has worked in clinics on the Navajo and Hopi reservations in Tuba City, Ariz., volunteered for the Medical Eye Dental Care organization in Honduras, and spent time working in medical clinics in Lima and Iquitos, Peru.

David Lebec, M.D., MCPHU ’00 an anesthesiologist, was part of a crew from the Medical Benevolence Foundation who went to Haiti to help the earthquake victims.

Garrett Cuppels, M.D., MCPHU ’01 was appointed to the medical staff at Boca Raton Community Hospital in Florida. Cuppels is a board-certified orthopedic surgeon.

Former Residents and Fellows

Andrew C. Greene, M.D., FACC, Cardiology Fellow, HU ’82 of Summit Medical Group in Berkeley Heights, N.J., was named one of “America’s Top Cardiologists” by the Consumer Research Council. Greene is board certified in cardiovascular diseases and internal medicine.

David M. Dickman, M.D., Ophthalmology Resident ’06 was appointed to the staff of North Carolina Ear, Nose & Throat. Dickman was hired as a full-time physician to provide ophthalmic care to the Raleigh community.

Robert E. Levin, M.D., Internal Medicine Resident, HU ’81 is celebrating 25 years of service as the first rheumatologist in the Norwich, Conn., area. A physician at the William W. Backus Hospital in Norwich as well as a clinical assistant professor of medicine at Tufts University School of Medicine, Levin was also selected as a Castle Connolly Top Doctor in rheumatology for 2009-10.

Michelle Kolton Mackay, M.D., Radiation Oncology Resident ’09 joined the Marshfield Clinic staff in Stevens Point, Wis., as a radiation oncologist. Mackay earned her medical degree from the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health.

Nuwan Pilapitiya, M.D., Family Medicine Resident ’09 was profiled in an article appearing in the Valley Courier of Alamosa, Colo. Pilapitiya was in the process of applying for his residency when a tsunami struck his home country of Sri Lanka in December 2004. He returned to Sri Lanka, where he helped build shelters, distribute food and medicine, and serve as a grief counselor. Pilapitiya is now a family physician at Conejos Medical Center in Colorado.

In Memoriam

D. Craig Aicher, M.D., HU ’55
January 22, 2010

Frederick K. Cressman, Jr., M.D., HU ’61
January 10, 2010

Jess Edward, M.D., HU ’44
February 3, 2010

Himeko Kashiwabara, M.D., WMC ’57
January 23, 2010

Garrett M. Keating, M.D., HU ’59
January 16, 2010

Karl E. Nicolai, M.D., HU ’57
December 30, 2009

Frederick H. Roever, M.D., HU ’66
January 15, 2010

Herbert W. Schultz, M.D., HU ’54
January 10, 2010

Norman Max Warner, M.D., HU ’41
January 8, 2010

Elaine G. Whitbeck, M.D., MCP ’75
January 16, 2010

Alumni Association of Drexel University College of Medicine
 Slate of Nominees for Board Term 2010-2013

The Alumni Association’s Nominating Committee has put forth the slate for the year 2010 election period. The numbers of nominees listed below fulfill the Bylaws membership requirements of 24 M.D. graduates and 6 Ph.D. or M.S. graduates. Receiving no other petitions for elections, the Association’s Executive Board approved the slate and is submitting this current slate to the active Association Membership for approval.

M.D. Positions

Catherine Nicolaides Coletta, M.D., HU ’84
Angelo Capo Granata M.D., MCP ’86
Michael Marcucci M.D., HU ’82
Giancarlo Mercogliano, M.D., HU ’83
Kathleen Ryan, M.D., HU ’91
Susan Sandler M.D., MCP ’78
Raymond Schreyer M.D., HU ’78
Eighth nominee to be named

Ph.D. Positions

Heather Painter, Ph.D. ’08
Second nominee to be named

Voting will be available to all members on the Alumni web pages at www.drexelmed.edu/alumni/Association/BoardNominations beginning March 19 with a voting deadline of April 20. The results of the election will be announced at the annual meeting during Alumni Weekend. Paper ballots can be obtained by calling 1-866-373-9633.

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Dr. Smergel

Maria Wiener Kirber, Ph.D., a retired professor of microbiology and virology at Medical College of Pennsylvania, died at home in Lakeville, Conn., on March 11. She was 93. Born in Prague, Czechoslovakia, Kirber emigrated to the United States in 1939. She earned her master’s and doctorate in bacteriology at the University of Pennsylvania, and joined the faculty of Woman’s Medical College in 1941. She was devoted to teaching medical students but was also a productive researcher with a significant number of peer-reviewed publications. Kirber retired in 1972 and received an honorary Doctorate of Science in 1973. She was a charter fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology, and a member of the American Society for Microbiology, Sigma Xi, the American Association of Immunologists and the New York Academy of Sciences. Kirber’s late husband, H. Peter Kirber, was chief of ophthalmology at Chestnut Hill Hospital in Philadelphia. The couple moved to Lakeville in 1987. She is survived by her sons Michael Kirber and William Kirber, their wives and five grandchildren.

Eleanor Maloney Smergel, M.D., associate professor of radiologic sciences, passed away on February 15, at the age of 59. She was a radiologist at St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children for 24 years and served as director of St. Christopher’s pediatric radiology training program. Smergel was active at all levels in dragon boat racing, from captaining St. Chris’s entries in the Philadelphia International Dragon Boat Festival to competing abroad as a member of the Philadelphia Dragon Boat Association/Team USA. She is survived by her husband, Dr. Henry Smergel, and two children, Emily and Jacob.
Chairman Stamatakis Receives Heart of Philadelphia Award

The American Heart Association presented Manuel Stamatakis, chairman of Drexel University College of Medicine, with the 2010 Heart of Philadelphia award at the annual Heart Ball gala on Saturday, February 20, at the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown.

Stamatakis was honored for his dedication to the community. In addition to his work as chairman of the College of Medicine, he serves as chairman of Greater Philadelphia Tourism Marketing Corporation, chairman of the Philadelphia Shipyard Development Corporation, and chairman of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court Investment Authority Advisory Board. Stamatakis also currently serves on the boards of Drexel University, the Philadelphia Zoo and the Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Gender Differences Among Children and Youth: School, Violence and Health

Child sexual abuse, adolescent sexuality, school-based sexual harassment and violence were among the powerful topics addressed by the 7th Helen I. Moorhead-Laurencin Sex and Gender Research Forum, presented by the College of Medicine’s Institute for Women’s Health and Leadership on March 4. The event offered a stimulating menu with much food for thought. Some highlights follow.

Treating Child Sexual Abuse Esther Deblinger, Ph.D., co-director of the New Jersey Child Abuse Research, Education & Service (CARES) Institute, and professor of clinical psychiatry at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey–School of Osteopathic Medicine, discussed her research on the treatment of sexually abused children.

Deblinger and colleagues modeled their treatment for child sexual abuse on that for adult rape victims, using short-term treatment (12 sessions) with pre- and post-treatment assessments. They found that trauma-focused cognitive-behavioral therapy (TF-CBT) was significantly more effective than client-centered treatment, nondirective treatment, or passage of time.

The therapist does not wait for the child to be “ready” to discuss the abuse. The child is encouraged to talk and write, and the therapist helps with cognitive/affective processing and disputes dysfunctional thoughts. The children have said the most helpful thing was talking about the abuse even though they didn’t want to, Deblinger noted. A federally funded website offers training in TF-CBT for therapists at www.musc.edu/tfcbt.

Healthcare Transitions in Adolescence

Studies show that about 85 percent of parents rely on healthcare providers and schools to do some sex education, said Laniece Coleman, DNP, CNM, instructor, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, who has a special interest in adolescent gynecology. Of particular concern, Coleman noted, Philadelphia has seen a dramatic increase in syphilis among young women ages 15 to 24.

Exercise can play a role in reducing unwanted pregnancy and smoking, said Eugene Hong, associate professor and chair, Family, Community & Preventive Medicine. Involvement in sports has long-term implications, too: “If girls are not engaged in regular exercise by the age of 10, the likelihood of their being engaged at the age of 25 is less than 10 percent,” Hong said.

Many chronically ill adolescents drop out of medical care sometime between the ages of 16 and 25, said Daniel V. Schidlow, M.D., professor and chair, Pediatrics. It is important to begin sex education early. A woman with cystic fibrosis may not be able to carry a child to term or may produce a child with the same disease. An adolescent girl may not think about the consequences and become pregnant. Male CF patients are sterile and must face that issue.

Sexual Harassment and Gender Violence

Nan Stein, Ed.D., senior research scientist at the Wellesley Centers for Women, delivered the Doris Willig, M.D., Lecture: “Teaching Children and Youth about Sexual Harassment, Gender Violence, and Bullying in Schools.”

There are often gender dimensions to school violence, Stein said. She finds that “bullying” is used as a euphemism for racism, homophobia, and sexual or gender violence in the school setting. Further muddling the language, these days anything can be called bullying, from stating that you prefer one classmate over another, to actions that are violent, even criminal. There are laws against the latter, but there are no laws against bullying.

Visit www.drexelmed.edu/sgrf
Saeid Alemo, M.D., clinical assistant professor, Department of Surgery, had an “e-letter” selected for publication online by the British Journal of Anaesthesia entitled “An Observational Study to Assess the Significance of Epidurogram in Interlaminar Lumbar Epidural Steroid Injection” (November 19, 2009).

David Berkson, M.D., assistant professor, Department of Family, Community and Preventive Medicine, published “Commotio Cordis in a 17-year-old Baseball Catcher” in Pediatric Cardiology (online January 14, 2010).

Dr. Alemo

In addition, Berkson gave a talk on “Sudden Cardiac Arrest in Athletes” at the Eastern Athletic Trainers’ Association 62nd Annual Meeting and Clinical Symposium, January 8-11 in Boston.


Weiye Li, M.D., Ph.D., professor and director of research, Department of Ophthalmology, is the first author of “Effects of Intravitreal Erythropoietin Therapy for Patients with Chronic and Progressive Diabetic Macular Edema” published in Ophthalmic Surgery, Lasers and Imaging (January/February 2010).

Weiye Li

The frontal portion of the brain (prefrontal cortex) is associated with cognitive and executive functions (e.g., attention, working memory, decision making) and is therefore implicated in numerous mental disorders, including schizophrenia and attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder. Using electrophysiological recording and biochemical analysis, Dr. Yan-Chun Li and colleagues in the laboratory of Dr. Wen-Jun Gao, assistant professor, Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy, examined the effects of excessive dopamine receptor activation on suppression of specific neuronal communication in the prefrontal cortex. They discovered that the signaling pathway required for the hyper-dopamine-induced suppression is activated by psychostimulant drugs and related to behaviors associated with schizophrenia and drug addiction, thus shedding light on the pathological mechanisms associated with these disorders and potential therapeutic targets. Their study, entitled “Activation of GSK-3ß Is Required for Hyperdopamine and D2 Receptor Mediated Inhibition of Synaptic NMDA Receptor Function in the Rat Prefrontal Cortex,” has been published in The Journal of Neuroscience (December 9, 2009). The other researchers included graduate students Dong Xi and Joy Roman.

Dr. Berkson

Gagandeep Goyal, M.D., a Drexel/Hahnemann resident in the Department of Anesthesiology is presenting an abstract, “Unusual Case of Very Late Coronary Artery Stent Thrombosis in the Post-anesthesia Care Unit,” at the International Anesthesia Research Society annual meeting in Honolulu in March. His co-authors are Drs. Bryan Chambers, Melissa Brodsky, and Michael Green, all assistant professors in the Department of Anesthesiology.

Gene Hong, M.D., Hamot Endowed Chair, Department of Family Community and Preventive Medicine, and chief, Division of Sports Medicine, organized and moderated a half-day Clinical Sports Medicine Symposium at the annual meeting of the MidAtlantic Regional Chapter of the American College of Sports Medicine in Harrisburg, Pa., November 5-6, 2009. He also presented the Knee Exam Workshop during the symposium.

Hong was recently appointed to the executive board of the chapter for a two-year term.

Carol F. Lippa, M.D., professor, Department of Neurology, and director of the Memory Disorders Program, and colleagues published “TDP-43 Pathology Is Common in Familial Alzheimer’s Disease and Down Syndrome” in Archives of Neurology, December 2009. This work looked at the biology underlying Alzheimer’s disease in the brain.

Dr. Goyal

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 4 of this issue as a model. Thank you.
The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) provides educational documents that include a clear set of important questions and answers. The Medicare Learning Network–based “MLN Matters” series recently addressed coding options, since the payment of CPT consultation codes for Medicare Fee-for-Service physicians was eliminated.

The full document, MLN Matters Number SE1010, can be found at www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/SE1010.pdf. Some of the Q&A will assist with major coding decisions faced by those providing care. Here is a sample:

**Q.** How should providers bill for services that could be described by CPT inpatient consultation codes 99251 or 99252, the lowest two of five levels of the inpatient consultation CPT codes, when the minimum key component work and/or medical necessity requirements for the inpatient hospital care codes 99221 and 99223 are not met?

**A.** There is not an exact match of the code descriptors of the low level inpatient consultation CPT codes to those of the initial hospital care consultation CPT codes 99251 and 99252, respectively, requires “a problem focused history” and “an expanded problem focused history.” In contrast, initial hospital care CPT code 99221 requires a “detailed or comprehensive history.” Physicians should consider the following two points in reporting these services. First, CMS reminds providers that CPT code 99221 may be reported for an E/M service if the requirements for billing that code, which are greater than CPT consultation codes 99251 and 99252, are met by the service furnished to the patient. Second, CMS notes that subsequent hospital care CPT codes 99231 and 99232, respectively, require a “problem focused interval history” and “an expanded problem focused interval history” and could potentially meet the component work and medical necessity requirements to be reported for an E/M service that could be described by consultation code 99251 and 99252.

**Note:** While CMS expects that the CPT code reported accurately reflects the service provided, CMS has instructed Medicare contractors to not find fault with providers who report a subsequent hospital care CPT code in cases where the medical record appropriately demonstrates that the work and medical necessity requirements are met for reporting a subsequent hospital care code (at the level selected), even though the reported code is for the physician’s first E/M service to the inpatient during the hospital stay.
Look for Drexel Medicine On Television

Dr. Nancy Adler to Receive Marion Spencer Fay Award

Calendar:

April

Golden Apple Awards Ceremony
Queen Lane Campus, 5:30 p.m.
Contact: Shay Myers, 215-991-8219 or smyers@drexelmed.edu

Cardiac Auscultation for the Generalist in Office Practice
Continuing Education Seminar
New College Building, Geary Auditorium, 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Contact: Jennifer Sumter, 215-762-2580

Woman One
The Rittenhouse, 5:30 p.m. program, reception following
Contact: wwhl@drexelmed.edu or 215-991-0267

Marion Spencer Fay Award/Lecture & Reception
Queen Lane Campus, 4:00 p.m. – 6:15 p.m.
Contact: jbarber@drexelmed.edu or 215-991-8194

May

Alumni Weekend

Hepatitis Awareness Month

Senior Class Formal

50-Year Reunion

Commencement

National Scleroderma Awareness Month

Faculty Development Day

Fourth National Forum on Women’s Issues in Gastroenterology and Hepatology
The Ritz-Carlton
Contact: Jennifer Sumter, 215-762-2581

Drexel University Commencement

UV Safety Month

Manuel Stamatakis Golf Outing
Philadelphia Cricket Club
Contact: 215-255-7327

NEWSPAGER, a newsletter for the Drexel University College of Medicine community of students, faculty, staff, and alumni, is published by the Office of Communications & Marketing, Linda A. Roth, Chief Communications Officer. Submissions may be mailed to NEWSPAGER, Drexel University College of Medicine, 1601 Cherry Street - Suite 11484, Philadelphia, PA 19102, or e-mailed to NewsPager@drexelmed.edu, or faxed to 215-255-7301. Deadline: first of the preceding month. Telephone: 215-255-7330. Philadelphia Health & Education Corporation d/b/a Drexel University College of Medicine is a separate not-for-profit subsidiary of Drexel University.