Dr. Schidlow Is Named Dean and Senior Vice President

Daniel V. Schidlow, M.D., has been appointed Walter H. and Leonore Annenberg Dean and senior vice president of medical affairs at the College of Medicine. Schidlow assumed the role from his position as interim dean and senior vice president on June 27.

“In his eight months as interim dean, Dr. Schidlow wholeheartedly embraced this role, tackling both existing and new challenges with innovation and professionalism,” said Drexel President John A. Fry. “As the University and its College of Medicine continue to grow in both quality and impact, I have complete confidence that he will be the ideal leader to guide the College of Medicine in the years to come.”

After an extensive national search, Schidlow clearly emerged from the pool of extremely talented applicants as the candidate with the best balance of strategic thinking, broad experience, deep humanity, and commitment to the medical school’s missions of research, education and patient care, according to search committee chair and Drexel trustee Mary R. “Nina” Henderson.

“Dr. Schidlow has demonstrated the solid leadership and interpersonal skills that are needed to advance the mission of Drexel University College of Medicine,” said Stanley W. Silverman, chairman of the medical school’s board of trustees. “He is a builder of relationships, which will be a great asset as he continues to develop synergies and partnerships with our affiliate hospitals, the Drexel community, and beyond. I am confident that he will be a very effective leader and a true asset to the College and the University.”

Schidlow has cultivated a strong relationship between the College of Medicine and Tenet Healthcare, the parent of Hahnemann University Hospital and St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children, making significant progress in developing programs and joint hires that represent the interests of both organizations. He has also helped unify the Queen Lane and Center City campuses, actively participating in student and faculty events and activities and spending significant time in both settings.

“I am honored to have been chosen as the College’s next dean,” said Schidlow. “I am looking forward to growing the College’s efforts in translational research; to enhancing diversity in student population and academic leadership; and to deepening our collaboration with the entire Drexel community, particularly those involved in public health, engineering, nursing, and the sciences.”

A leader in the study of cystic fibrosis and pulmonary conditions in children and...
Introducing Pulse, 
Farewell NewsPager

At last! We are proud to introduce Pulse, a new concept for the Drexel University College of Medicine newsletter. In April we announced that we would be rolling out a new design with a fresh and contemporary format. We floated a name change – and many of you cast your vote in a Facebook poll. Sedate titles were left behind in favor of the dynamic Pulse. Our editorial advisory council (another innovation) liked its many meanings: pulse of a busy college, rhythmic beat, vitality, change in magnitude.

The NewsPager did noble service from its launch in 2000 by MCP Hahnemann University School of Medicine, the name of our College from 1998 until 2002. The NP evolved over the years, with a redesign in 2003, full color the next year, and other tweaks. But it was time for something new!

Pulse includes features, a profile, and alumni notes. All accomplishments are recognized in “What We’re Doing.” The design allows us to highlight all sorts of news and events, with more pictures. There’s a table of contents to guide you too. Let us know what you think at pulse@drexelmed.edu.

Dr. Schidlow • continued from cover

adolescents, Schidlow is board certified in both pediatrics and pediatric pulmonology. As the principal investigator for numerous research studies, he has co-authored more than 180 publications and given lectures around the globe. He has received numerous accolades and awards for his contributions to medicine and education, including the 2010 Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching and recognition in America’s Best Doctors 2009-10 and 2011-12.

Schidlow joined the College of Medicine in 1994. He is a professor and former chair of pediatrics, and a professor of medicine, and pharmacology and physiology. Previously, he served the College as senior associate dean of the pediatric clinical campus, and was the chief medical and academic officer and physician-in-chief at St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children, where he played a critical role in more than doubling the number of faculty, establishing strategic partnerships for the hospital and producing high-quality clinical and academic programs.

The doctors are in – 260 new medical students have arrived on campus.
Balint Group Helps Residents Connect

An important element in the Drexel/Hahnemann Family Medicine Residency training is a structured Balint group. Part of the behavioral medicine curriculum, Balint group is a small group of residents that meets monthly to discuss clinical cases, in order to better understand the physician-patient relationship. Rather than seek the “right” answer to medical problems or review clinical content, the residents are encouraged to tell a story about a patient encounter focusing on their own reactions to the patient.

Balint groups are the namesake of Michael Balint, a physician and psychoanalyst, who developed a group method to train primary care physicians to be more empathic. He and his wife, Enid Balint, also a psychoanalyst, started seminars in London in the 1950s for general practitioners to study the doctor-patient relationship. Later they promoted the growth of these groups in the United States. Today, most family medicine residency programs in the United States have Balint groups, and they are used around the world in physician training.

In referring to these groups, Michael Balint coined the term patient-centered medicine.

The Balint group is facilitated by Dr. Florence Gelo, behavioral science faculty for the residency program. A session begins with a resident presenting a case for the group to discuss. The group listens and learns about the patient through the presenting physician’s story. During the discussion, the other residents offer observations and insights about the patient’s and physician’s feelings, but are asked to refrain from giving advice. The goal is to enhance the residents’ skills in behavioral medicine, specifically their ability to address the psychological aspect of their patients’ problems – and their own challenges with their patients. All group discussions are confidential.

Third-year resident Stefanie Thomassin, M.D., says of the experience, “Balint helps us take the values and lessons that most of us are taught and reminds us to put them into action, which can sometimes be difficult when sleep deprivation or a tough day in the hospital comes into play. Taking a step back, listening to the patient, and getting to know them as a person has helped me personalize my care to each individual.”

Michael Kraft, M.D., a second-year resident, says, “With the responsibilities of an intern, life has many new-found difficulties to adjust to: long hours, the stress of making the right decisions for patients, acceptance that not everyone wants to be helped, similar situations in your patient’s life that resonate with your personal experiences. With these new responsibilities and newly found emotions towards patients, some situations can seem almost impossible. Balint is a platform that allows us to start to sort out these situations that trouble us, situations that stir deep-seated emotions that we may not have thought about in a long time, situations that require...”

* continued on page 5

Destination Excellence: Recruiting a Diverse Staff

At Drexel University College of Medicine, we know that students who learn in a diverse environment are better prepared to provide the highest level of professionalism, innovation and creativity to all aspects of patient care, education and research. With commitment and dedication to this goal, our Human Resources Department has developed a plan for effectively recruiting a diverse and qualified applicant pool for professional staff positions.

In addition to advertising positions online on drexelmedjobs.com, our talent acquisition consultant collaborates with hiring departments to determine the best places to advertise to reach our target candidates. Our school also participates in job fairs that serve underrepresented minority populations. All advertisements and other communications clearly state that we are an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

Currently, our Human Resources Department is developing a workshop to ensure that all applicants for positions at Drexel University/Drexel University College of Medicine are reviewed in an equitable manner. This workshop will be rolled out to hiring managers in the near future.

To track our progress in hiring a diverse workforce, we work closely with the Drexel Office of Equality & Diversity and the Office of Disability Resources, comparing our results with data from the U.S Department of Education National Center for Education Statistics and the Association of American Medical Colleges. This information is rolled up into the University’s Diversity Achievement Plan, which details the demographics of the professional staff.

In a review of the diversity of the population at large in the Philadelphia metropolitan region, we as an organization compare favorably in the diversity of our staff.

On May 1, the College of Medicine established a process for recruiting a diverse faculty workforce with all positions posted online at drexelmedjobs.com. We will review this process monthly to gauge our success and determine how we can further improve the process to reach our goals.
Global Health: A Powerhouse in Malaria Research

To most U.S. residents malaria is an exotic disease, but globally it is a scourge. The World Health Organization estimated that there were 216 million cases of malaria in 2010, and 655,000 deaths. Most of the victims are young children. An effective vaccine has proved elusive, and over time, seeming gains against the disease are set back as the malaria parasite becomes resistant to commonly used medications.

Now scientists at the College of Medicine have high hopes for new candidates they have developed for vaccine and treatment. These compounds emerged from research performed in the College’s Center for Molecular Parasitology, where more than two dozen people – faculty, post-docs, graduate students and technicians – devote their time to malaria. Akhil Vaidya, Ph.D., is the director of the center. Drs. Lawrence (Bill) Bergman and James Burns are the other senior faculty – making up what Vice Dean Kenny Simansky calls “the malaria troika.” The center is part of the Institute for Molecular Medicine & Infectious Disease and the Department of Microbiology & Immunology.

The most widespread and deadly type of malaria is caused by the \textit{P. falciparum} parasite, which is transmitted by the female Anopheles mosquito. When she has a blood meal, the parasite is deposited in the bloodstream and travels to the liver. New parasites develop in the liver and then emerge in the red blood cells, where they continue to multiply.

Research in the Burns lab focuses on preventive vaccines. Different stages in the disease process are targeted for vaccine. After working with several different models, Burns, who earned his doctorate at Hahnemann, developed a vaccine candidate that targets blood-stage malaria — when the parasite is circulating in the red blood cells. His lab collaborated with investigators at the National Institutes of Health and Walter Reed Army Institute of Research for preclinical studies in small animal models. The proof of concept has been patented and the rodent work has been published. In the next step, the Centers for Disease Control will test the candidate vaccine in a non-human primate. Data may be available as soon as November.

Burns noted that a different model, which targets the parasites at an earlier stage, is the focus of an ongoing trial in sub-Saharan Africa. Halfway through the four-year study, an interim report said that the vaccine protected children 50 percent of the time. Clearly, it needs more work, Burns said, “but considering the number of deaths [without vaccine], 50 percent still makes a huge difference.”

That vaccine, like Burns’s, is based on recombinant proteins, but his concept does not seem to be affected as much by strain variation. Perhaps one day, the two types will be combined in a one-two punch of immunization.

“While we are waiting for a vaccine,” said Vaidya, “we need to feed the pipeline with drugs.” Two important compounds have emerged from research at the College of Medicine.

A drug currently used to treat malaria and given prophylactically to travelers targets the mitochondria of malaria parasites. Vaidya laid the groundwork for this long ago. In 1989, his laboratory at Hahnemann University made an important discovery: the mitochondrial genome of malaria parasites consisted of a very unusual DNA molecule, quite distinct from its counterpart in humans, and a validated target for antimalarial action. A new compound with improved properties compared to the currently used drug has
The facilitator’s role is to create safety and maintain the structure of the group as members explore patient encounters that were disturbing, curious, or upsetting. “The Balint group invites residents to become aware of self and other, and the interactions between the two,” Gelo explains. “It is my challenge to ‘teach’ residents to talk at this level – to acknowledge and discuss feelings and emotionally difficult situations within a professional context.”

Kraft describes “one of many great experiences with Balint.” He had an unsettling response while observing a patient discussion group. “I was not expecting to have the reaction that I did – anger, hurt, resentfulness due to past experiences. I was respectful throughout, but when I left I knew I had to discuss what happened. Through Balint, I was able to work out my issues and develop better techniques so that I will not take those feelings with me from patient to patient.”

Balint Group • continued from page 3
a new understanding.”

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been developed by a collaborative team that included Vaidya (along with researchers from Oregon Health Sciences University and the University of South Florida). It is now undergoing testing in preparation for first-time-in-humans study. Vaidya continues to investigate mitochondrial functions with an NIH grant now in its 23rd year of funding with a view to discovering additional targets.

The second compound, a pyrazole derivative, is cause for great excitement. “It is a completely new chemical entity,” Vaidya explained – “it has not been used to treat anything.” The candidate compound was discovered as a result of Bergman’s research into cell invasion.

The malaria parasite actively penetrates the red blood cell, involving numerous components of parasite and host cell. Bergman’s team set out to design compounds that would inhibit a critical interaction in the invasion process. Once the target was resolved, a computer-based screening conducted by Dr. Sandhya Kortagere, an assistant professor, identified a group of unique compounds for investigation. The drug candidate that emerged targets a new molecular pathway in the parasite, killing \textit{P. falciparum} very quickly in vivo – as fast as or faster than current therapies – and its mode of action diminishes the likelihood of acquired resistance. It also works against \textit{P. vivax}, the other major malaria parasite.

Key to the drug discovery and development work has been support from Medicines for Malaria Venture, a venture-capital nonprofit based in Geneva. After presenting their work on pyrazole derivatives to MMV, the Drexel team received a grant of $1 million to optimize their lead compounds for further development. The organization, which is funded about 60 percent by the Gates foundation and 40 percent by health agencies in different countries, also matches researchers with industry people. Monthly teleconferences involving multidisciplinary international teams are convened by MMV to foster each project.

In addition to producing a “candidate compound” (a phrase not used lightly by Pharma, Bergman remarked), these studies were the basis for a new grant Vaidya received from NIH — an award of $2 million to investigate molecular pathways targeted by antimalarial pyrazole compounds. “So there is excitement from the drug point of view — moving that forward — and from the basic science point of view,” Vaidya concluded with a smile.

The Influence of Malaria
Beyond its power to kill a child or decimate a village, malaria has influence on a grand scale, affecting even evolution. As an example, consider the interplay between the disease and sickle cell trait, which offers some protection from malaria. A child who is born with two genes for sickle cell in sub-Saharan Africa is likely to die from sickle cell disease at an early age. A child born in a malaria-endemic area with two genes for normal hemoglobin is likely to die of malaria. But a child born in a malaria-endemic area who carries one gene for sickle cell is more likely to survive his or her first encounter with malaria. In the genetic accounting over time, sickle cell trait is represented more frequently in each succeeding generation.
College Receives Grant to Enhance Physician-Patient Communication About Overuse of Health Care

Physicians will soon benefit from a new set of interactive instructional modules to encourage and enhance conversations with patients about avoiding unnecessary tests and procedures. The modules are being developed by the College of Medicine with a $50,000 grant recently awarded by the American Board of Internal Medicine Foundation.

The modules will help advance the foundation’s Choosing Wisely campaign, designed to help physicians, patients and other healthcare stakeholders think and talk about overuse of healthcare resources. In April, nine medical specialty societies released lists of “Five Things Physicians and Patients Should Question.” The lists provide specific, evidence-based recommendations physicians and patients should discuss to help make wise decisions about the most appropriate care based on their individual situations.

“The modules will promote strategies for physicians to build trust and address patient attitudes and beliefs, and will be annotated with references showing the evidence base,” said Pamela Duke, M.D., assistant professor of medicine and a course director for Clinical Skills and the Primary Care Practicum. “In addition, physicians will be able to compare their attitudes and practices with others in their specialty.” Other faculty members working on this project include Drs. Dennis Novack, Steven Rosenzweig, and Christof Daetwyler.

The modules, expected to be completed in early 2013, will reside on the websites of participating specialty societies. The full list of Choosing Wisely participants can be found at www.choosingwisely.org.

AAALAC Recommends Continued Full Accreditation

The Association for the Assessment and Accreditation for Laboratory Animal Care has recommended continued full accreditation of the College of Medicine’s animal care and use program after a recent triennial site visit. Site visitors recognized the College’s program as strong, with a variety of commendations.

“I am especially proud of the commendation for the tremendous level of teamwork and collegiality between University Laboratory Animal Resources, the research teams and the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee,” said ULAR Executive Director Richard Huneke, DVM, MPH. “We take pride in creating a collegial atmosphere that facilitates investigations while animals are maintained with high regard for their welfare.”

Front (l-r): Janet Schulenberg, Mary Victor, Kyla Yeregui, Sean Daniels; back (l-r): Faith Witherspoon, Carlton Reed, Luciana Mills, Sallyann Carpenter, Andrea McCurry, Richard Huneke, Christina Stinger, Maria Peters-Hample, Charlene Glenn.

As part of the 2012 National EMS Week, the College of Medicine and the Philadelphia Fire Department joined forces for the second “Annual Day of EMS” May 23 at the Philadelphia Fire Academy. This event provides the opportunity for emergency medicine residents, fire department cadets and future emergency service responders to train together and become more familiar with each other’s respective roles within the emergency medical services system. Participants rotated through several training stations, including fire scene hazards, assessment and management of burns, and a live fire suppression exercise.
Alpha Omega Alpha Inducts New Members

The Delta Zeta Chapter of Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society held its annual banquet and induction ceremony on March 21.

Inductees included 43 members of the Class of 2012 (announced in the December/January NewsPaper); two alumni, Drs. John Mahan, HU ’77, and Barbara Simon, MCPHU ’00; two faculty members, Drs. Christof Daetwyler and Ellie Kelepouris; and three residents, Drs. Darshita Bhatia, Renu Culas, and Amanda Michael.

Robert Massaro, M.D., of Monmouth Medical Center, was selected by the Class of 2012 AOA inductees to receive the Volunteer Clinical Faculty Award. Sandra P. Levison, M.D., gave the June F. Klinghoffer, M.D. Lecture.

New Affiliation with Shore Medical Center

Fourth-year Drexel medical students will have the opportunity to do one-month elective rotations at Shore Medical Center in Somers Point, N.J., under an affiliation agreement that was announced in June.

“We are excited to be affiliated with Drexel University’s prestigious College of Medicine, and to contribute to the clinical education of these exceptional young physicians-in-training,” said Shore Medical Center President and CEO Ron Johnson.

According to Barbara Schindler, M.D., vice dean for academic and educational affairs at the College of Medicine, the new affiliation will be a wonderful benefit to both institutions. “From the quality of patient care to the caliber of physicians to technological advances, Shore is an excellent environment for our students’ clinical education,” she said.

Jeanne Rowe, M.D., Shore Medical Center’s chief medical officer, is the new program’s director of medical education. She will work closely with the College to provide program oversight. It is anticipated that Shore will eventually offer rotations in approximately 10 medical fields, with a clinical director and four to five teaching physicians staffing each area.

Raymond S. Schreyer, M.D., of Regional Nephrology Associates in Northfield, N.J., facilitated the initial contact between Shore and Drexel. Schreyer, a Hahnemann alumnus (’78), is a member of the Drexel University College of Medicine Alumni Association Board of Directors.

First-year Drexel medical students partnered with the Wissahickon Charter School to teach third-graders more about the human body. The year-long project is part of the College’s Community Educational Experience course, designed to prepare medical students to become community-responsive physicians. Wissahickon third-graders recently visited our Queen Lane Campus.
Unique Symposium Addresses Treatment and Prevention of Infectious Disease

Top infectious disease research scientists from across the country, including a Nobel laureate, gathered in Philadelphia in June when the College of Medicine hosted the 2012 International Symposium on Molecular Medicine & Infectious Disease, the first meeting of its kind in the region.

There were more than 50 presentations over three days in sessions focused on topics such as HIV/AIDS, brain impairment and neuroprotection; molecular mechanisms of malarial disease; pathogenic mechanisms of bacterial disease; biomarkers of human infectious disease and cancer; and viral oncogenic disease.

In addition, the College awarded the inaugural Drexel Prizes for scientific excellence to three eminent scientists. Paul Offit, M.D., Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, received the Drexel Prize for Translational Medicine; John Mekalanos, Ph.D., Harvard Medical School, the prize for Infectious Diseases; and 2011 Nobel Prize recipient Bruce Beutler, M.D., University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, the prize for Immunology.

“We were particularly excited to be able to highlight Drexel’s scientific accomplishments concerning diseases with national and global impact while recognizing the scientific achievements of our Drexel Prize awardees,” said Brian Wigdahl, Ph.D., professor and chair of the Department of Microbiology & Immunology and director of the College’s Institute for Molecular Medicine & Infectious Disease, who spearheaded the symposium.

Research Partnership Funds New Medication Delivery Methods

Four new methods for delivering improved medication within the bodies of suffering patients are on track to be developed for commercialization as part of a translational research partnership between Drexel University and the Institute for Drug Research of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Research aimed at stalling the progress of multiple sclerosis symptoms was one of the four projects selected for funding. Dr. Timothy Cunningham, a professor in the College of Medicine’s Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy, is collaborating on the development of an effective new treatment based on blocking the production and inhibiting the reception of enzymes that cause the disease’s debilitating symptoms.

Another research project will take on the challenge of identifying the areas of the brain responsible for the initiation of seizures in patients with medication-resistant epilepsy, with the goal of improving the outcomes of surgeries. The particle-based targeting system, which would use magnetic resonance imaging to identify the epileptogenic brain tissue, could be further developed as a way to deliver drug treatments precisely to the areas of the brain that need it. Dr. Boris Polyak, assistant professor of surgery at the College, is a lead researcher on this project.

Faculty in the School of Biomedical Engineering, Science & Health Systems are collaborating on two other new projects: one that seeks to develop both a diagnostic test kit for the different types of asthma and a novel asthma treatment; and another looking into the prevention of ultraviolet radiation–related skin cancer. A fifth project – transdermal delivery and efficacy monitoring of arthritis medication – selected in 2011, the first year of the partnership, received a second year of funding.
The Albert Schweitzer Fellowship recently selected three Drexel medical students as Greater Philadelphia Schweitzer Fellows for 2012-13. Phoebe Dacha, Alicia Howard, and Ashley Stephens will join approximately 240 Schweitzer Fellows from across the country in conceptualizing and carrying out service projects that address the unmet health needs of underserved individuals and communities.

Third-year students Dacha and Howard will serve low-income youth in the West Philadelphia area through Foundation to Success — a project that seeks to assist participants in successfully navigating the pathway to higher education and preventing the future development of general adverse health outcomes.

First-year student Stephens will develop a tutoring and health education program for pediatric HIV patients at St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children. She will support patients in improving their performance in school as well as making healthy choices throughout their lives.

Upon completion of their fellowship year, these students will become Schweitzer Fellows for Life, and join a vibrant network of nearly 2,500 individuals who are skilled in, and committed to, addressing the health needs of underserved people throughout their careers as professionals.

Vision 2020 Given White House Briefing

More than 150 delegates and supporters of Vision 2020, a national initiative of the Institute for Women’s Health and Leadership at the College of Medicine, attended a White House briefing about issues of importance to women on March 27. Tina Tchen (left), chief of staff to Michelle Obama and executive director of the White House Council on Women and Girls, and Ana Harvey, acting director of the National Women’s Business Council, were among the speakers who discussed education, health care, and challenges for women in the workforce and in senior leadership positions. These issues are integral to Vision 2020’s Campaign for Equality, which is working to move America toward equality through shared leadership among women and men by 2020.

Students Selected as 2012 Schweitzer Fellows
Student Affairs and Admissions Appointments

Dr. Fuchs Named Senior Associate Dean
Amy Fuchs, M.D., has been named senior associate dean for student affairs. An associate professor of medicine in the Division of Infectious Diseases and HIV Medicine, Fuchs joined the College of Medicine after completing her fellowship in infectious diseases in 1995. She served as course director for the Introduction to Clinical Medicine course from 1999 through the 2009 academic year, when she was named associate dean for student affairs. Fuchs has also served for eight years as the associate vice chair for student education in the Department of Medicine and director of the Medicine Pathway. She will continue to provide inpatient consultative care as an infectious diseases specialist at Hahnemann University Hospital.

Dr. DePace Appointed Associate Dean
Dennis DePace, Ph.D., has been appointed associate dean for medical student admissions. He is an associate professor in the Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy and director of the gross anatomy course, a position he will continue to hold. DePace began his academic career at Hahnemann Medical College and Hospital as an assistant professor of anatomy in 1974. He soon started the first course in sectional anatomy in the Delaware Valley, and he has continued to introduce innovations in the teaching of anatomy throughout his career. He is the recipient of numerous teaching awards, including the Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching.

Drexel medical students and St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children teamed up in February and March to combat hunger with the “Take a Bite Out of Hunger” campaign to benefit Philabundance. Together they collected over 500 pounds of food and $800 in change, which will provide more than 2,000 meals for needy families in the Philadelphia region. Campaign coordinators included (l-r) Jaime Brown, Ethan Han, Victor Cueto ’12, and (not pictured) Robin Whitehall.
The following awards were presented at the 11th annual Faculty Development Day, held on June 1 at the Queen Lane Campus.

**Julian Marsh Faculty Scholar Award** presented to a faculty member who has demonstrated excellence in scientific research, has achieved national/international recognition, demonstrated outstanding teaching skills, mentored students as well as peers, and provided consistent, high quality leadership to the medical school, thereby creating a better environment for all faculty and students: John Houle, Ph.D.

**William Likoff Clinical Excellence Award** presented to a clinician whose professionalism, humanity, ethical standards, diagnostic acumen and ability to develop outstanding clinical programs serves as a role model for those striving for excellence in the practice of medicine: Roberta Laguerre, M.D.

**Oksana Korzeniowski Patient Care Award** presented to a faculty member who has demonstrated outstanding skills and commitment in the clinical care of patients and through his/her teaching has substantially improved the skills and knowledge of residents, students and medical colleagues: Kenneth Granet, M.D.

**Angelo Pinto Basic Science Educator Award** presented to a faculty member who has demonstrated commitment and excellence to the education of medical students through innovative educational programs, serving as a teacher, a leader, mentor and role model to students and colleagues alike: Deborah Ziring, M.D.

**Vincent Zarro Community Outreach Award** presented to a faculty member whose exemplary and selfless commitment to the care of members of medically underserved communities serves as the standard for medical students seeking to attain the medical school’s exit objective requiring them to provide high quality care to all regardless of age, race, socioeconomic class, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity or religion and be an advocate for uniform access to healthcare: Hans Kersten, M.D.

**Elias Abrutyn Mentoring Award** presented to a faculty member who has demonstrated excellence in mentoring colleagues, residents, and/or students, by creating a supportive, effective environment in one or more of the following areas: research, clinical care, education and scholarship, while advocating for the advancement of their mentees in their chosen discipline, and serving as a trusted advisor and role model: Denise Ferrier, Ph.D.

**Phyllis Marciano Woman in Medicine Award** presented by the WMC/MCP Trust Fund to a woman in medicine as recognition for her outstanding contributions to teaching, mentoring, and patient care, and for her leadership as a role model for women in medicine: Anna T. Meadows, M.D.

**The Mary DeWitt Pettit Fellowship** awarded by the Trust Fund of the Alumnae/i Association of WMC/MCP to a young female faculty member to aid in advancing her career: Zsofia Szep, M.D.

**June Klinghoffer Clinical Educator Award** presented to a faculty member who has devoted his/her career to promoting excellence in the learning of clinical skills and clinical knowledge, serving as a teacher, an innovative educator, a leader, role model and mentor for students, residents and faculty colleagues alike: Christine Stabler, M.D.
Compliance & Privacy: Hidden Columns and Other Security Risks

We have been testing our security settings for data loss prevention in preparation for the introduction of auto encryption protocols. The testing has proved very useful in revealing common data security risks. The issues we have encountered most frequently are instructive and provide the “teachable” moments that can assist us all in protecting data and avoiding personal involvement in data loss and liability for the consequences.

The “hidden column” has tripped up quite a few departments. Many business partners send us data in spreadsheets with hidden columns of Social Security numbers. We have no use for the numbers and often do not realize they have been included. But when we return the database to the business partner, our security scan alerts us of an improper email sent by Drexel Medicine.

Lesson: Check all spreadsheets for hidden columns and protected health information or personally identifiable information. Remove the data that is not needed, or encrypt the file before sending.

Auto-forwarding from Drexel Med email accounts to external email accounts (Gmail and so on) snares mainly students and residents. Often the data detected by the security scan includes a list of potential research data or clinical census requiring action. The auto-forward of PHI or PII from the Drexel Med email system to a personal email account sends an alert to the security team! The Privacy Officer then has no choice but to contact the sender and the related administrative department to curtail the activity and protect the information. The data must be re-sent using encryption and destruction at the transfer and destination devices is required. Lesson: Use REDCap for database design and secure storage, and do not auto-forward from Drexel Med email addresses!

Think twice before providing more than the minimum necessary information needed for any purpose. Remove unneeded data. Encrypt each time the data moves and avoid auto-forwarding.

We never guess … we ask! Call anytime to ask a compliance or privacy question, or to request training: 215-255-7819.

Confidential Hotline: 866-936-1010

10th Annual Student Clinician Ceremony

The College of Medicine’s 10th annual Student Clinician Ceremony, held June 26, recognized the rising third-year medical students of the Class of 2014, and honored a half dozen of their future teachers.

Theodore Corbin, M.D., MPP, assistant professor of emergency medicine, gave the keynote address, “Humanism in Medicine: Doctors Being True to Their Practice.” Corbin is the founding medical director of “Healing Hurt People,” the violence intervention program based at Hahnemann University Hospital and St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children, and co-director of the Center for Nonviolence and Social Justice at Drexel’s School of Public Health.

Barbara A. Schindler, M.D., the William Maul Measey Chair in Medical Education, and vice dean for educational and academic affairs, presented the Arnold P. Gold Foundation 2012 Humanism and Excellence in Teaching Awards to Drexel/Hahnemann or affiliate program residents representing six specialties:

Family Medicine
Stefanie Thomassin, M.D., Drexel/Hahnemann

Internal Medicine
Ayodeji Adegunsoye, M.D., Mercy Catholic Medical Center

Obstetrics & Gynecology
Sarah Shelden, D.O., Allegheny General Hospital–Western Pennsylvania Hospital

Pediatrics
Frances Austin, M.D., St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children

Psychiatry
Jonathan Barton, M.D., Drexel/Hahnemann

Surgery
Alexey Markelov, M.D., Easton Hospital

Barbara A. Schindler presents an Arnold P. Gold Foundation award to Dr. Thomassin.
Deep Roots: 
Lydia Komarnicky, M.D., MCP ’81

Lydia Komarnicky-Kocher, M.D., MCP ’81, is one physician who has not forgotten her roots. Professor and chair of the College of Medicine’s Department of Radiation Oncology, Komarnicky is known for her compassionate commitment to patient support as well as her thoughtful mentorship of residents. Recently, she has broadened this attentiveness to include other students in the College of Medicine: An endowed scholarship in her father’s name will have a profound and lasting effect on medical students with financial need.

Komarnicky’s parents encouraged her interest in science and medicine throughout high school and college, yet she did not know whether her family could afford medical school. Also around this time, her father became ill. Throughout his battle with cancer, Komarnicky was the one to speak with the doctors, surgeons, and oncologists about his disease and prognosis. Her mother, whose own pursuit of a medical career in the Ukraine was interrupted after World War II, did not have as strong a command of the English language as her daughter. As Komarnicky interacted with the physicians on behalf of her father, she became increasingly interested in oncology. Despite the family’s limited financial resources, her parents agreed that her medical education was a priority. She enrolled at the Medical College of Pennsylvania.

A Compassionate Practice
Today, as head of the practice, Komarnicky works to ensure that cancer patients receive support the minute they walk through the doors of Drexel Radiation Oncology. There are art, music, and massage therapies, acupuncture, a nutritionist, social workers, and a shuttle service for treatment appointments. There is an annual Cancer Survivors Brunch, with around 200 in attendance.

Komarnicky acknowledges the particular challenges of working in radiation oncology, observing that it is “very easy” to become emotionally involved with one’s patients. “You can get very wrapped up in all that, with the family, with the patient. You get emotionally drained really fast if you keep doing that.” This involvement is particularly difficult when patients are children, she adds. The emotional or personal connection to the patient, while potentially problematic, also carries the possibility of joy and solace. “It’s very uplifting when you have a patient who’s cured,” she says.

Listening to the Patient
It is this sense of personal concern that shines through. Komarnicky says she tells her residents, “Get to know your patients. If you listen to your patients, 90 percent of the time they’ll tell you what’s wrong with them. You just have to sit and listen to what they’re saying.” She believes that in this age of electronic medical records, there’s a real danger of becoming disconnected from the patient as a person. One of her own patients recently remarked that doctors don’t look at her anymore, rather, they simply type on their computers. Since this habit is easy to fall into, Komarnicky urges her residents not to lose “that personal touch.”

This year, Komarnicky established an endowed scholarship fund specifically for medical students in financial need. She knows how vitally important these contributions are to students. “I was in that particular scenario where I had two or three jobs to pay for my college tuition and almost had to drop out of school because we weren’t sure we could afford it when my dad was sick,” she relates. Part of her motivation for creating the scholarship is the idea that it’s important for one to give back to one’s medical community. Yet there is also another, deeper, dimension of the scholarship fund for Komarnicky.

Gifts to Honor a Legacy
“We should all remember where we came from,” she says. “I never forgot my roots.” Both her parents were Ukrainian and placed a high value on education. Her father, a first-generation American in very modest circumstances, put himself through the Drexel Institute of Technology at night, graduating as an engineer, and later earned a second degree. The Michael Komarnicky, COE ’58 ’64 Endowed Scholarship Fund honors that legacy. Komarnicky’s generous gift was matched through the Schleyer Family Matching Gift Challenge for Scholarships in Medicine. She was also inspired to give a scholarship in her father’s name to be matched by the Manuel Stamatakis Matching Gift Challenge. That scholarship was awarded in its entirety to the winning student for support during the current academic year.

“I don’t know why I didn’t think to do this earlier,” Komarnicky says. Through her generosity and empathy, further generations of Drexel medical students have the opportunity to realize their potential and be of service.

To learn about creating a scholarship, please contact John Zabinski at jjz@drexel.edu or 215-255-7343.

Dr. Komarnicky is known for patient support.
Renee Amori, M.D., assistant professor of medicine, Division of Endocrinology, was inducted into the American College of Endocrinology at the college’s convocation on May 26, during the American Association of Clinical annual meeting in Philadelphia.

David Berkson, M.D., assistant professor, Department of Family, Community & Preventive Medicine, presented “Evaluation and Management of a Downed Athlete,” an instructional course lecture offered at the annual meeting of the American Medical Society for Sports Medicine, held April 21-25, in Atlanta. He also served on the planning committee for the meeting.

D. Walter Cohen, DDS, chancellor emeritus of Drexel University College of Medicine and a member of the board of trustees, was honored by Philadelphia University with an honorary doctorate in humane letters on May 13. He also received the Heritage Medal from the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies of Science in April for his service to the organization.

Garry P. Condon, M.D., clinical associate professor of ophthalmology, published “When a Torn Capsule Becomes a Total Capsulectomy” in the June 2012 issue of Cataract & Refractive Surgery Today. He is affiliated with Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh.

Drs. Christof J. Daetwyler, associate professor of family medicine, and developer, Technology in Medical Education; and Dennis Novack, professor of medicine and associate dean of medical education, presented “WebOSCE: An Online Tool for Remote Encounters Between Learners and Standardized Patients for the Practice, Assessment, and Remediation of Clinical Skills” on March 20 as part of the International Association of Medical Science Educators spring webinar series, Promises and Challenges of Virtual Learning Environments.

Daetwyler also presented “The Next Chapter in the doc.com Story: HTML5 Version for Tablet Computers” at the MedBiquitous annual conference held May 2-4 in Baltimore.


Barbara B. Frank, M.D., clinical professor of medicine, received her 50-year award from the Philadelphia County Medical Society at their annual event June 9.

Amy Fuchs, M.D., associate professor of medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases, and senior associate dean for student affairs, was selected as a fellow for the 2012-13 class of ELAM® – the Hedwig van Ameringen Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine® Program for Women, offered by the College of Medicine.


Michael I. Greenberg, M.D., MPH, professor of emergency medicine, co-authored “FMCSA’s Medical Review Board – Five Years of Progress in Commercial Driver Medical Examinations” published in the April 2012 issue of the Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine. He is also a professor in the School of Public Health.

Tal Grunwald, M.D., a second-year resident at St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children, gave a platform presentation at ENDO 2012, the annual meeting of The Endocrine Society, held June 23-26 in Houston. Grunwald had completed a research elective in the laboratory of Francesco De Luca, M.D., professor of pediatrics, and chief of the Section of Endocrinology and Diabetes at St. Christopher’s. In addition, the section presented nine posters at the meeting. The first authors of all but one abstract were pediatric endocrinology fellows or pediatric residents who completed a research elective in endocrinology.

Christopher J. Haines, D.O., assistant professor of pediatrics and emergency medicine, and Drs. Aun Woon Soon and Danielle Mercurio, pediatric residents at St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children, published “Community Acquired Pneumonia in Pediatric Populations” in the April 2012 issue of Pediatric Emergency Medicine Reports.
Pooja Jain, Ph.D., associate professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, whose lab is at the Drexel Institute for Biotechnology & Virology Research in Doylestown, was session chair for “Rodent Models of the Interaction of Substances of Abuse and HIV-Associated Neurocognitive Disorders” at the Society on NeuroImmune Pharmacology conference, April 25-28 in Honolulu. Divya Sagar, a Ph.D. candidate in Jain’s lab, received the Young Investigator Travel Award for the conference and was selected to give an oral presentation. Jain was also selected as a member of the scientific organizing committee of the 2nd World Congress on Virology to be held August 22-24 in Las Vegas.

The following papers from Jain’s lab have been published in 2012:


Jain and collaborators are authors of “Unique and Differential Protein Signatures for HIV-1 and HCV Mono-infection Versus Co-infection” accepted for publication in Clinical Proteomics (in press).

Rahman, Kevin Quann, Devanshi Pandya, Shrutti Singh, Khan, and Jain published “HTLV-1 Tax Mediated Downregulation 1 of miRNAs Associated with Chromatin Remodeling Factors in T cells with Stably Integrated Viral Promoter” in PloS One, 7(4), 2012.


Martin J. Herman, M.D., associate professor of pediatrics, gave an invited presentation at the Pediatric Orthopaedic Society of North America 2012 Specialty Day, held during the annual meeting of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, February 7-11 in San Francisco. His topic was “Flexible Intramedullary Nailing for Tibial Fracture in Children and Adolescents; Indications and Technical Tips.”

Bruce E. Hirsch, Ph.D., associate professor, Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy, was an invited speaker at the seventh international Symposium on Multispectral Image Processing and Pattern Recognition, organized by the Huazhong University of Science and Technology, and held in Guilin, China, November 4-6, 2011. He presented the workshop “Making a Scientific Presentation in English, Spoken or Written,” followed by a session in which volunteers who were non-native speakers of English gave parts of their planned presentations for critique and suggestions by Hirsch and his wife, Dr. Charlene Hirsch.

Neil R. Holland, M.D., associate professor of neurology, has been appointed medical director of the Neuroscience Institute at Monmouth Medical Center.

Gene Hong, M.D., Hamot and Sturgis Endowed Chair and Professor, and chief of the Division of Sports Medicine, Department of Family, Community & Preventive Medicine, was the program chair for the annual meeting of the American Medical Society for Sports Medicine, held April 21-25 in Atlanta, which drew 1,200 sports medicine doctors, including team physicians for the MLB, NBA, NFL, Olympic teams, U.S. national teams and major collegiate teams. Hong’s research into the impact of concussion on driving skills (with co-PI Maria Schultheis, Ph.D., of Drexel’s Department of Psychology) was selected for a live podium presentation, and he also presented two posters.

In addition, Hong was the lead-off speaker for the American Academy of Family Physicians annual course “Practical Advances in Musculoskeletal and Sports Care,” held May 2-5 in Phoenix. He presented “The Shoulder: Pearls and Principles,” “The Cervical Spine,” and “An Update on Concussions.”

Richard B. Huneke, DVM, MPH, executive director, ULAR, and associate professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, authored the chapter “Basic Experimental Methods in Guinea Pigs” in The Laboratory Rabbit, Guinea Pig, Hamster, and Other Rodents (Academic Press, 2012). In June, he presented the workshop “Is Your IACUC Meeting the New Requirements for Protocol Review?” and gave a special presentation, “AAALAC Update and Site Visit Trends,” at the 2012 American Association for Laboratory Animal Science Tribranch Symposium in Atlantic City, N.J.
Jessica L. Israel, M.D., clinical associate professor of medicine, and Allan R. Tunkel, M.D., Ph.D., professor of medicine, are the authors of a new internal medicine textbook, *Medicine: A Competency-Based Companion* (Elsevier, Saunders, 2012). She is chief of the Division of Geriatric and Palliative Medicine at Monmouth Medical Center, and he is chair of the Department of Internal Medicine there.

Daphney Jean, Ph.D., a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy, has been awarded one of three inaugural fellowships from the Brody Family Medical Trust Fund to work under the supervision of Dr. Peter Baas on the mechanism and potential therapy for microtubule loss underlying nerve degeneration in Alzheimer's disease. The Brody Fund is administered by The Philadelphia Foundation. Jean earned her doctoral degree in neuroscience from the College of Medicine in January 2012.

**WHAT WE’RE DOING**

**12 PEG Grants for 2012**

Professional Enrichment and Growth grants were awarded to 12 College of Medicine faculty members chosen from a pool of very competitive applications. Intended to help faculty achieve their professional goals, as well as advance the academic mission, the awards help fund a striking range of activities; this year, they include a research collaboration with Tel Aviv University, coursework in bioethics, and training in robotic surgery. Mary M. Moran, M.D., vice dean for faculty affairs and professional development, announced the following recipients:

- Peter W. Baas, Ph.D., Neurobiology & Anatomy
- Bruce Bernstein, M.D., Pediatrics
- David Cooperberg, M.D., Pediatrics
- Jennifer Hamilton, M.D., Ph.D., Family, Community & Preventive Medicine
- Ying Jin, Ph.D., Neurobiology & Anatomy
- Sandhya Kortagere, Ph.D., Microbiology & Immunology
- Zulfiya Orynbayeva, M.D., Surgery
- Juan L. Poggio, M.D., Surgery
- Paul M. Shore, M.D., Pediatrics
- Philip Stein, M.D., Pediatrics
- Veronica Tom, Ph.D., Neurobiology & Anatomy
- Beth Zigmund, M.D., Radiologic Sciences

Visit www.drexelmed.edu/PEGgrants to see their projects.

**Hans Kersten, M.D.,** associate professor of pediatrics, has been named the recipient of the first annual Celebrate Literacy Award from the Delaware County Reading Council. This award acknowledges "an organization, institution, or individual who has made an exemplary effort to promote literacy at the regional/local level." Kersten is a founder and co-director of the Reach Out and Read program at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children.

**Harvey B. Lefton, M.D.,** clinical professor, Department of Medicine, was installed as the 151st president of the Philadelphia County Medical Society on June 9. He is chief of gastroenterology at Aria Health.

**Frank J. Lexa, M.D.,** professor and vice chair, Department of Radiologic Sciences, was invited to give two talks at the American Roentgen Ray Society meeting in Vancouver, B.C., on April 29, as part of a special session on economics and business in diagnostic radiology. One talk covered leadership issues for radiologists and the other addressed management issues in productivity in advanced imaging centers.

Lexa was also one of five radiologists selected to lecture at the inaugural event of the Radiology Leadership Institute, a leadership development program of the American College of Radiology, held July 12-15 at Northwestern University. He presented “Healthcare Reform and the Future of Radiology: Navigating the Change.”

**Deborah R. Lorber**, assistant vice president for risk management, was invited by Main Line Health to be a panel member at the seminar “Navigating the Current Medical-Legal Environment: Continuing the Dialogue” on April 30.


**Owen C. Montgomery, M.D.,** associate professor and chair, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, has been elected fellow-at-large of the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.
Dennis Novack, M.D., professor of medicine and associate dean of medical education, was honored by the Society of General Internal Medicine with the 2012 SGIM Career Achievement in Medical Education Award. The award recognizes medical educators whose lifetime contributions have profoundly impacted the field of medical education.

Drs. Caspian Oliai, then a preliminary intern in internal medicine; Brandon Fisher, Ashish Jani, and Michael Wong, radiation oncology residents; and Drs. Jagannmohan Poli, assistant professor; Luther W. Brady, University Professor; and Lydia T. Komarnicky, professor and chair, Department of Radiation Oncology, are the authors of “Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy for Radiation-Induced Cystitis and Proctitis” in International Journal of Radiation Oncology, in press (e-pub March 22). Oliai, a College of Medicine alumnus, is now a radiation oncology resident at California Pacific Medical Center. Jani is also an alumnus.

Oxygen Therapy for Radiation-Induced Cystitis and Proctitis” in International Journal of Radiation Oncology, in press (e-pub March 22). Oliai, a College of Medicine alumnus, is now a radiation oncology resident at California Pacific Medical Center. Jani is also an alumnus.

Thomas P. Lynch and Christina M. Ferrer, doctoral students; S. RaElle Jackson, research assistant; Kristina S. Shahriari, second-year medical student; Keith Vosseller, Ph.D., assistant professor; and Mauricio J. Reginato, associate professor, all in the Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, published “Critical Role of O-Linked β-N Acetylglucosamine Transferase in Prostate Cancer Invasion, Angiogenesis, and Metastasis” in The Journal of Biological Chemistry, March 30 (e-pub January 24). This work was supported by a National Institutes of Health R01 grant to Reginato, and also received support from the Drexel University College of Medicine CURE grants.

Richard Rest, Ph.D., professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, and director of the Center for Bacterial Pathogenesis and Biodefense in the Institute of Molecular Medicine and Infectious Diseases, presented “Who Is Afraid of the Big Bad Bacillus? Studies on a Pore-forming Toxin of the Anthrax Bacillus” at the Penn State Berks Division of Science Colloquium on April 20.

Ralph Riviello, M.D., M.S., associate professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, has been installed as president of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians, which represents more than 1,300 EM physicians and residents.

Drs. Marshall Z. Schwartz, professor of surgery and pediatrics; Matthew L. Moront, assistant professor of pediatrics and surgery; Lindsay G. Arthur and Shaheen J. Timmapuri, assistant professors of surgery; Brittany K. Nagy (’11); and Rajeev Prasad (corresponding author), assistant professor of surgery and pediatrics, published “Single-Incision Thoracoscopic Surgery in Children: Equivalent Results with Fewer Scars When Compared with Traditional Multiple-Incision Thoracoscopy” in Journal of Laparoendoscopic & Advanced Surgical Techniques, March 2012. The first author, Michael S. Katz, M.D., was a research fellow at St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children.
Raza Shah, M.D., a third-year ophthalmology resident, won the award for Excellence in Clinical Practice for Intern, Resident, and Fellow presented by Hahnemann University Hospital at the hospital’s Service Award Dinner on May 9.

Barbara Simon, M.D., assistant professor of medicine and chief, Division of Endocrinology; Renee Amori, M.D., assistant professor of medicine (endocrinology); and David Bernstein, M.D., assistant professor of medicine (internal medicine), presented the poster “Internal Medicine Residents Confidence, Knowledge and Comfort Levels in Managing Diabetes Mellitus” at the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists annual Scientific & Clinical Congress conference held May 23–27 in Philadelphia. At the same meeting, Simon and Amori, and Jason Schafer, M.D., an internal medicine resident, presented the poster “Profiles of Participants Attending a Free Diabetes Education Class.”

Drs. Nielufar Varjavand, assistant professor of medicine; Dennis H. Novack, professor of medicine and associate dean for medical education; Barbara A. Schindler, William Maul Measey Chair in Medical Education, vice dean for educational and academic affairs, and professor of psychiatry and pediatrics; and a colleague at UMDNJ published “Assessment of an Innovative Instructional Program to Return Non-practicing Physicians to the Workforce” in Medical Teacher, 2012, Vol. 34, No. 4.

Olivia Rheinhart, director of Graduate Medical Education, and Myron Yanoff, M.D., chair of the Department of Ophthalmology, congratulate Dr. Shah.

2012 Medical Student Summer Research Fellowships

Summer research fellowships were awarded to 19 medical students jointly with their research advisers. A committee of basic science and clinical faculty selected the recipients based on the statement of the problem, experimental design and role of the student in the research project. The students will present the outcome of their research at Discovery 2012 on October 4.

Christine Azizkhan with David Bennett, Ph.D.
Catherine Calvert with Boris Polyak, Ph.D.
Michael Christiansen with Simon Giszter, Ph.D.
Lekhaj Daggubati with John Houle, Ph.D.
Brent Dembo with Tara Davis, Ph.D.
Cynthia Edirisuriya with Michele Kutzler, Ph.D.
Jared Guth with Haviva Goldman, Ph.D.
Amy Javia with John Houle, Ph.D.
Peter Kim with Jed Shumsky, Ph.D.
Philip Hyuntae Kim with Claudio Torres, Ph.D.
Kaila Krishnamoorthy with Karen Berkowitz, M.D.
Briana Leung with Suresh Joshi, M.D., Ph.D.
Eugene Lucas with Alessandro Graziano, Ph.D.
Eric Prouty with Marie-Pascale Cote, Ph.D.
Priya Sahay with Jane Clifford, Ph.D.
Callie Schnitker with David Tabby, M.D.
Anokhi Shah with Julio Martin-Garcia, Ph.D.
Ashley Stephens with Jeffrey Jacobsen, M.D.
and Erika Aaron, CRNP, MSN
R. Taylor Stringer with Ari Brooks, M.D.

Summer fellowships were also awarded to 17 undergraduate students; and eight high school students received summer research internships. For a list of all awardees and advisers, including the medical students’ research topics, visit www.drexelmed.edu/summerfellowships.
Andrew S. Wechsler, M.D., professor and former chair of the Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery, was an invited lecturer at the meeting of the Society of Cardiac Surgery of Great Britain and Ireland in April, and was made a lifetime honorary member of that organization. Also in April, he presented “A New Epicardial Method for Surgical Left Ventricular Volume Reduction: Six Month Results in the First 26 patients” at the European Society for Cardiovascular Surgery meeting in Dubrovnik, Croatia.

Drs. Andrew S. Wu, Rachel Sensenig, and Erica Podolsky, surgical residents; Michelle Paff, medical student; Kimberly Wasko, CVT; Kristine Garcia, medical student; and Drs. Robert Ownbey, clinical associate professor of pathology; Suresh G. Joshi (corresponding author), director of surgical infections research and assistant professor of surgery; and Ari D. Brooks, associate professor of surgery, published “Porcine Intact and Wounded Skin Responses to Atmospheric Nonthermal Plasma” in Journal of Surgical Research, 2012 (March 10 e-pub ahead of print), in press. Wu (’12) and Sensenig (’11) finished their residencies; Paff and Garcia graduated in 2012. Authors from other Drexel departments and institutes, notably the A.J. Drexel Plasma Institute, were Drs. Sameer Kalghatgi, Danil Dobrynin, Ekaternia Cerchar, Essel Dulaimi, Krishna Priya Arjunan, Gregory Fridman, Manjula Balasubramanian, Kenneth A. Barbee, Alexander Fridman, and Gary Friedman.

Calendar

August
National Immunization Awareness Month

29-30 National Conference of Hospital-Based Violence Intervention Programs
Drexel University Creese Student Center
Information: www.nnhvip.org/nnhvip-national-conference

September
National Recovery Month

3 Labor Day

October
Breast Cancer Awareness Month

2 Drexel University Convocation
3-4 Graduate Alumni Research Forum
Information: 866-373-9633 or medical.alumni@drexelmed.edu

4 Discovery 2012: Annual Research Day
Information: Angelo Milone, amilone@drexelmed.edu

5 An Evening With Bill Cosby
Drexel University Mandell Theatre, 8 p.m.
Benefiting the 11th Street Family Health Services College of Nursing & Health Professions
Information: Rachel Ward, 215-762-8868, rsw24@drexel.edu

10 CME: Hypertension Highlights – ASH 2012
American Society of Hypertension – Delaware Valley Chapter
Drexel University College of Medicine
Geary Auditorium B, New College Building
Information: Silina Garrett, 215-991-8324

November
American Diabetes Month

14 D. Walter Cohen, DDS, Lectureship in Diabetes
New College Building, Geary Auditorium, 4 p.m.
“The Future of Diabetes Care in the 21st Century”
Presented by Mark H. Schutta, M.D.
Information: Joan Mitchell, 215-991-8324

14-16 Vision 2020 Third Annual Congress
Collaborating for Change
The Hilton Portland, Portland, Ore.
Information: 215-991-8190

2013

Mar 15 Match Day
May 17 Commencement
Carol Shear, M.D., WMC ’57 was recognized by the Women’s Commission of the University of Miami for her contributions to the institution. A retired developmental pediatrician and former associate professor of pediatrics at the University of Miami School of Medicine, she was one of the healthcare professionals responsible for bringing the Mailman Center for Child Development and the Debbie Institute into existence at the University of Miami.

Edwin Messey, M.D., HU ’59, a retired family physician, received the 2012 Healing Spirit Award from the Lourdes Health Foundation for his compassion, dedication to patients, and years of service. He retired in December 2011.

Paula Moynahan, M.D., WMC ’68, a plastic surgeon, has become a member of the Haute MD Network. She is the founder and director of the Institute of Aesthetic Medicine and Surgery in New York City. She also serves as an attending in plastic surgery at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York and St. Mary’s Hospital and Waterbury Hospital in Connecticut.

Anna T. Meadows, WMC ’69
See Awards, page 11.

Arnold Soslow, M.D., HU ’70 became the lead of the new Doctors Express urgent care center in Braintree, Mass. He has been the interim medical director of occupational medicine and employee health at Baystate Health Systems in Springfield since 2011.

Duane E. Davis, M.D., HU ’71 has been named CEO of Geisinger Health Plan. He will also serve as CEO of Geisinger Indemnity Insurance Company and Geisinger Quality Options, and executive vice president, Insurance Operations for Geisinger Health System. Davis joined Geisinger Health System in 1978 and continues to practice medicine in the Department of Rheumatology.

Allen Gabroy, M.D., HU ’71 has been appointed the first police surgeon for the city of Chester. His work has involved taking care of injured officers since 1976. He is a member of the trauma team at Crozer-Chester Medical Center and is also chairman of the surgery department at Taylor Hospital in Ridley Park, Pa.

Stephan Glicken, M.D., HU ’74, a board-certified pediatrician, joined the Alliance Medical Group’s Family Practice office in Hometown, Pa.

Matthew B. Mandel, M.D., HU ’74 has been honored by the Massachusetts Medical Society with its 2012 Senior Volunteer Physician award. He is currently co-medical director of Volunteers in Medicine Berkshires and vice chair of the organization’s board of trustees. He retired from active practice in 1996.

James Madara, M.D., HU ’75 received an honorary Doctor of Letters and delivered the commencement address at Juniata College. He has been the executive vice president and CEO of the American Medical Association since July 2011.

Robert Basarab, M.D., MCP ’78 was inducted as a fellow in the American College of Radiology in April. He is with the Department of Radiology and Diagnostic Imaging at Lancaster General Hospital in Lancaster, Pa.

Mark E. Braun, M.D., HU ’79 has been elected president of the medical staff of Roger Williams Medical Center, Providence, R.I. He served as vice president from 2009 to 2011. He is an internist, and a clinical assistant professor of medicine at Boston University.

Richard Latuska, M.D., HU ’80, a gastroenterologist, has become a member of the medical staff at DuBois Regional Medical Center, DuBois, Pa. He sees patients at his private practice, also in DuBois. He was previously division chief of gastroenterology for Butler Health System.

Carole J. Peterson, M.D., MCP ’80 has joined the staff of Angel Medical Center’s obstetrics practice, Angel Ob/Gyn in Franklin, N.C. She was previously a founding partner of Women Gynecology and Childbirth Associates in Rochester, N.Y.

Karen James, M.D., HU ’82 was inducted into the Berwick School District Academic Hall of Fame. She is the director of hemodynamic research, a staff cardiologist, and a member of the transplantation team in the Sydell and Arnold Miller Family Heart and Vascular Institute at the Cleveland Clinic.

Brian Fillipo M.D., HU ’83 has been appointed chief medical officer of Guthrie Healthcare Systems. He joins Guthrie after serving as vice president for medical affairs at St. Mary’s Hospital, Richmond, Va.

Margaret S. Morton, M.D., HU ’84 received the 2011 Nathaniel Bedford Award for Outstanding Primary Care Physician from the Allegheny County Medical Society. She is a family physician with Emmanuel Family Practice in Pittsburgh, Pa., affiliated with UPMC Shadyside Hospital in Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania Hospital.
Alexandros Demosthenes Powers, M.D., HU ’85
a partner at the Washington Brain & Spine Institute, was listed as a “Top Doctor” in the Washingtonian magazine.

Donald M. Yealy, M.D., MCP ’85 chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and UPMC, received the 2011 Ralph C. Wilde Outstanding Physician Award from the Allegheny County Medical Society. He is also the recipient of the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine Leadership Award, and the 2012 McEllroy Award, presented annually by the Medical Alumni Association to an outstanding non-alumnus who undertook residency training at UPMC.

Henry Dephillips, M.D., HU ’86 is the executive vice president and chief medical officer of Audax Health, which uses social gaming and artificial intelligence to help people stay healthy. He was previously senior medical director at Independence Blue Cross of Pennsylvania.

Timothy Page, M.D., HU ’86 medical director of the Emergency Department at St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Utica, N.Y., was elected president of the medical staff at St. Elizabeth for 2012. He is also the medical director at Watkins Glen International Racetrack.

Heather Z. Sankey, M.D., HU ’88 has been named by Nobel Hospital to the Women’s Health Partnership in Westfield, Mass. She serves as the program director for the ob/gyn residency program and as chief for the Division of General Ob/Gyn at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

Ruth Hoover, M.D., MCP ’89 became the first on-site physician at Life Care Center of Charleston, S.C. She was most recently developer of Tomorrow’s Medicine Today, a physical medicine and rehabilitation practice in Mount Pleasant, S.C.

Barrie Ruth Baker, M.D., MCP ’91 was appointed medical director of Health Partners, a nonprofit Philadelphia health plan in Plymouth Meeting, Pa.

Glenn W. Stambo, M.D., HU ’91 published a chapter entitled “Current Endovascular Treatments for Venous Thrombosis,” in Venous Thrombosis – Principles and Practice (InTech, January 2012). The study was conducted at SDI Radiologists, St. Joseph’s Hospital and Medical Center, Tampa, Fla.

Nancy Cross, M.D., MCP ’92 was listed as one of the "150 Pain Management Physicians to Know," in Becker’s ASC Review. She practices at the Advanced Pain Centers of Alaska in Fairbanks and is the president and CEO of the Alaska Society of Interventional Pain Physicians.

R. Michael Koch, M.D., HU ’93 a board-certified plastic surgeon with Hudson Valley Health Center’s Institute for Aesthetic and Reconstructive Surgery in Cortlandt Manor, N.Y., and the New York Group for Plastic Surgery, traveled to Ghana with the Health and Humanitarian Aid Foundation to perform reconstructive surgery.

Deborah A. Kuhls, M.D., MCP ’93 was accepted as a fellow in the 2012-13 class of the Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine® (ELAM) program for women offered by Drexel University College of Medicine. She is associate dean for academic affairs and associate professor for the University of Nevada School of Medicine.

Noah Rosenberg, M.D., MCP ’93 was appointed chief medical officer of Esperion Therapeutics, a company that discovers and develops novel therapies for the treatment of cardiovascular and metabolic diseases, located in Plymouth, Mich.

Raymond Kuwahara, M.D., HU ’97 has started a dermatology clinic at the Floyd Valley Family Medicine Clinic in Le Mars, Iowa. Kuwahara sees patients at the clinic once a month. He practices general dermatology at Tri-State Specialists, Sioux City, Iowa.

Heather Lorenzo, M.D., MCP ’97 has been selected as chief medical officer at Meritus Medical Center in Hagerstown, Md. She was chief medical information officer at the hospital two years ago, and then became physician adviser for care management.

George Dreszer, M.D. ’03 a plastic surgeon, joined Take Shape Plastic Surgery and Surgery Center in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., in July.

Lance Henninger, M.D. ’05 a lieutenant commander, is stationed with the Navy at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Okinawa, Japan, to serve with the Marines of the 1st Marine Air Wing and 3rd Marine Division. The photo shows him with children he met during a medical civil action project with the Marines in the Philippines.
Kristen Quinn, M.D. ’03 has been appointed assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology (maternal fetal medicine) at the Medical College of Wisconsin. She sees patients at Froedtert Hospital in Milwaukee, Waukesha Memorial Hospital – ProHealth Care, and Oconomowoc Memorial Hospital – ProHealth Care.

Cherridan Rambally, M.D. ’04 joined Methodist Medical Center in Oak Ridge, Tenn., in 2011, after completing her residency in neurology and a sleep medicine fellowship at the University of Vermont/Fletcher Allen Health Care. She is medical director of the Methodist Sleep Diagnostic Center.

Teresa Romano, M.D. ’04 a pediatric emergency physician, joined the Children’s ER at Lehigh Valley Hospital – Cedar Crest in Allentown, Pa. She earned a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Epidemiology & Biostatistics from Drexel’s School of Public Health in 2010.

Margaret Thomas, M.D. ’04 joined the Department of Geriatrics at Reliant Medical Group in Worcester, Mass. She is board certified in geriatric medicine.

Former Interns, Residents and Fellows

Michael Soojian, M.D.; Internal Medicine Resident, HU ’78 is the medical director of the newly opened Crozer-Keystone Hospice Residence at Taylor Hospital in Ridley Park, Pa. An oncologist specializing in hematology, he is certified in hospice and palliative care.

Thomas Showers, D.O.; Internal Medicine Resident and Nephrology Fellow, HU ’93 has been appointed to the board of directors of J.C. Blair Memorial Hospital in Huntington, Pa. He also joined J.C. Blair Medical Services physician group. He previously practiced as a hospitalist with the Medicus Company, which staffed J.C. Blair’s hospitalist programs.

Scott Zeigen, M.D.; Internal Medicine Resident, MCP ’94 an ophthalmologist at Wills Eye Institute, ran a day-long fundraiser for programs that serve the vision- and hearing-impaired community of Bucks County, Pa. He is the vice president of Northampton Township Lions Club, one of the few ophthalmologists who is also an officer of a Lions Club branch.

Mitra Assadi, M.D.; Neurology Resident, MCPH ’97 a board-certified and fellowship-trained neurologist, joined Capital Health’s Institute for Neurosciences in Pennington, N.J. She is the institute’s director of headache medicine and pediatric neurology.

Vijay Suhag, M.D.; Internal Medicine Resident ’05 joined Sutter Medical Group in Auburn, Calif., as a hematologist and medical oncologist.

Kuldip D. Dave, Ph.D. ’05 associate director, research programs, of the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson’s Research in New York City, was invited to give the keynote address at the second annual Targeting Parkinson’s Disease Symposium, June 4-5 in Philadelphia.

Geoffrey J. Cooper, M.D. ’05 has joined the staff of Fremont Family Care in Fremont, Neb. Previously, he was an adjunct assistant professor of family medicine at the University of Nebraska Medical Center while serving on active duty in the U.S. Air Force at Offutt Air Force Base, and was deployed to Kyrgyzstan. He is the recipient of the National Service Defense Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal and the Meritorious Service Medal.

Michael Loewinger, M.D. ’08 an internist, joined Heritage Medical Group, a Phelps Memorial Hospital Center physician practice, located in Sleepy Hollow, N.Y.

Meghan Berkenstock, M.D. ’11 is a resident in ophthalmology at St. Luke’s University Health Network in Bethlehem, Pa.

Kimberly Quigley, M.D.; Adult Psychiatry Resident ’06 joined the staff of Brookhaven Retreat in Seymour, Tenn., as attending psychiatrist. Quigley has a particular interest in the psychological well-being of women and their families.

Shruti Badhwar, D.O.; Internal Medicine Intern ’07; Neurology Resident ’10 a clinical neurophysiologist, joined Phoenix Neurology & Sleep Medicine, Phoenix, Ariz.

Drs. Morrison and Norman Johanson, department chair and program director

Martin J. Morrison, III, M.D. ’07, Orthopaedic Surgery Resident ’12 took first place in the annual Philadelphia Orthopaedic Society Resident Bowl, defeating contestants from Albert Einstein, Thomas Jefferson, PCOM, Temple, and the University of Pennsylvania. He becomes the sixth representative from Drexel/Hahnemann Orthopaedics to win the Resident Bowl since its inception in 1999.

Anjan R. Shah, M.D., Resident ’08 an orthopedic trauma specialist, has joined Florida Orthopaedic Institute in Brandon, Fla. Previously, he assisted in the development of Lawnwood Regional Medical Center’s orthopedic trauma service in Fort Pierce, Fla., and was an orthopedic trauma surgeon there.
Alumni Association Elects New Officers

The Drexel University College of Medicine Alumni Association recently elected Loretta P. Finnegan, M.D., HU ’64, as president. The other officers are Joseph M. Capo, M.D., MCP ’82, past president; Heather Painter, Ph.D. ’08, treasurer; and Vanessa Boyce, Ph.D. ’07, secretary. Capo was praised for being a very engaged and active president.

Finnegan is the former medical adviser to the director of the National Institutes of Health. She was the founder and director of a comprehensive, multidisciplinary program for pregnant addicted women and their children at Jefferson Medical College and Hospital. Currently, she is president of Finnegan Consulting, which addresses education, research, and treatment in issues relating to women’s health and perinatal addiction.

At Drexel, Finnegan has also been a member of the College of Medicine Dean’s Advisory Board. In addition to her induction into the Drexel 100 in 2009, she received the Medical College of Pennsylvania’s Gimbel Award for distinguished contributions to humanity and the 2007 Hahnemann University Distinguished Alumnus Award. As the Alumni Association president, she is now an ex-officio trustee of the College.

For a complete list of the Alumni Association Board members, please visit www.drexelmed.edu/alumni/board.

Reunion Reminder: Class Representatives are needed for years ending in 3 and 8 for Alumni Weekend, May 3 & 4, and 50-Year Reunion, May 15–17.

In Memoriam

Alumni

Anthony E. Biancardi, M.D., HU’52 April 24
David G. Burkett, M.D., HU’76 April 26
R. Douglas Cassel, M.D., HU’61 May 29
Betty J. Hannon, M.D., WMC’52 April 11
Edwin J. Henrie, M.D., HU’62 May 21
Paul G. Hess, M.D., HU’43 April 29
William M. Hutchinson, M.D., HU’48 June 4
Donald H. Johnson, M.D., HU’56 June 1
Donald J. Kasper, M.D., HU’56 March 16
James F. LeSar, M.D., HU’77 April 18
Joan Peterson, M.D., WMC’58 April 17
Martin M. Rothstein, M.D., HU’39 March 5
Garry Saget, M.D., HU’94 March 8
Russel E. Schatz, M.D., HU’51 May 5
Rita E. Scott, M.D., WMC’39 May 12
James F. Silverman, M.D., HU’61 April 27
Joseph H. Simon, M.D., HU’63 May 30
Robert L. Snyder, M.D., HU’57 June 10
Renee Solow, M.D., MCP’73 April 16
Stanley R. Sukowski, M.D., HU’58 May 1
June Mary Unger, M.D., WMC’58 March 19
Lester J. Van Ess, M.D., HU’47 April
Ann K. Wadstrom, M.D., WMC’58 April 15
Alan H. Wilde, M.D., HU’59 May 25

Andrew “Drew” Burgoyne, M.D., HU’65 of Danville, Calif., passed away March 28, 2011. Following military service as a captain in the U.S. Army in Vietnam, he completed his residency in dermatology at Stanford. He practiced dermatology in both California and Pennsylvania. He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Nicolyn, daughter Rachel, and a granddaughter. We regret the late notice and thank the classmate who let us know.

Faculty

Henry Huber Sherk, M.D., a professor of surgery at Drexel University College of Medicine, passed away April 9 at home in Philadelphia. He was 81. Following his residency in orthopedics, he went into the U.S. Naval Reserve as a lieutenant commander. He then practiced at several Philadelphia-area hospitals, including Jefferson and Pennsylvania. In 1984, he joined Medical College of Pennsylvania as professor of surgery and chief of orthopedics. He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Lea Carson Sherk, and daughters Katherine Simons, Drs. Mary Sherk Shimer and Julia Logan, and 10 grandchildren.
The eleventh annual Manuel Stamatakis Golf Classic held by Drexel University College of Medicine raised $340,000, bringing the total raised to $2.7 million since the event debuted in 2002.

The 140 golfers hit the links at the Philadelphia Cricket Club on July 16 to support a scholarship fund in the name of the founding chair of the College and trustee, Manuel Stamatakis. The scholarships benefit medical students with proven academic ability and financial need.

New to the event this year was the Manuel Stamatakis Matching Gift Challenge for Scholarships in Medicine. Qualifying donations were matched dollar-for-dollar, doubling the scholarship amount available to each student. The challenge inspired 11 new scholarships – in the names of Atul K. Amin, M.D.; Carlene and Pasquale T. Deon, Sr.; Richard A. Greenawalt; The Keeler Family; Keystone Outdoor Advertising; Michael Komarnicky, COE ’58 ’64; D. Howard Pierce; Marlene Goodhardt Rackson, M.D., MCP ’82; and Stanley W. Silverman ’69 ’74 and Ellen J. Silverman; as well as two anonymous.

Co-chairs for this year’s golf classic were Daniel V. Schidlow, M.D., Annenberg Dean and senior vice president of medical affairs at the College; Michael P. Halter, CEO of Hahnemann University Hospital; and William R. Sasso, Esq., chairman of Stradley Ronon Stevens & Young, LLP.