



Clinical and Translational Research Institute Launched

A Drexel-wide initiative with roots in the University's strategic plan, the Clinical and Translational Research Institute was recently established with its academic home in the College of Medicine. The institute will act as an interdisciplinary hub, offering a clear organizational center for translational research that will span Drexel University's schools and colleges, with the objective of promoting and supporting research programs that lead to innovative science, advanced therapeutic applications, and ultimately to improved

clinical care. James Barrett, PhD, founding director of the institute, said that it will have a profound impact on the entire Drexel community as well as the College of Medicine.

Armed with initial funding from the medical school, Barrett is moving forward with three essential elements. The first is to find an administrative home for the institute — a discrete space that will be identifiable as the institute and separate from the Department of Pharmacology & Physiology, where Barrett is chair. The requirements are modest — room for a director's office and administrative support, a conference room. "What I really want is a place where I can bring in people from outside to introduce them to Drexel and to the many exciting translational research opportunities we currently have and which we hope to foster through the institute," Barrett said.

Second, the institute has a budget for seed funding to stimulate the growth of health sciences research throughout the University. Investigators can seek funding for exploratory projects; to enable transitions from one stage to another; or to branch from an ongoing line of investigation to pursue potentially interesting and beneficial projects, or to open other opportunities. Barrett

said the applications for seed funding were on schedule to roll out in January.

Third, scientists interested in pursuing translational research require access to core technologies. A number of specialized core facilities were proposed as part of the institute, and the first one, the Genomics Core Facility, has already been established with Garth Ehrlich, PhD, as the director.

The next step will be to appoint an executive advisory committee for the institute. Barrett is looking at people from outside the University who would be attracted to serving on this oversight body, including some who are interested in venture capital funding. A key aim is for the composition of the committee to raise the stature and visibility of the institute, not only within Drexel but across Greater Philadelphia.

An important future goal for the institute is to add more technology cores to facilitate translational research. For example, Barrett said, "we want to build a biorepository for



James Barrett, PhD, is the founding director of the Clinical and Translational Research Institute.

JANUARY/
FEBRUARY 2014
Vol. 2, No. 3



3 Away rotations
teach more
than medicine



8 New master's
degree offered in
medical simulation



14 Three alumni
practice as part of
one special team

Contents

Clinical and Translational Research Institute . . . 1
Destination Excellence 3
Students and the Business of Health Care 4
Compliance & Privacy 9
The Battleground for Viruses and T Cells 10
Partnership Practice Celebrates 20 Years 11
Pathways of Care: Profile of a Practice 14

NEWS & EVENTS

From Queen Lane to Kazakhstan 6-9

WHAT WE'RE DOING

Activities and accomplishments 12-14

ALUMNI NOTES

Class notes 16-19

Calendar 13

In Memoriam 19

pulse

Pulse, a publication for students, faculty, staff, and alumni of Drexel University College of Medicine, is published six times a year by the Marketing & Communications Department
1601 Cherry Street, Suite 11484
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Marsha Braverman

Executive Director of Marketing & Communications

Jean Tracy

Editor

Heidi Karl

Art Director, Hollister Creative

Contributing writers:

Ed Federico, Adrienne Hovey,
Kate McCorkle, Rachel Quimby, Nancy West

Editorial Advisory Council:

Patty Comey, Danielle Kane,
Nancy Minugh-Purvis, PhD, Shay Myers,
Michael Nonnemacher, PhD,
Brent Simmons, MD, Rachel Quimby

Submissions may be mailed to *Pulse* c/o the Marketing & Communications Department, emailed to pulse@drexelmed.edu, or faxed to 215.255.7301.

For questions, comments or additional copies of *Pulse*, call 215.255.7330 or email pulse@drexelmed.edu.

Drexel Medicine®, *ELAM*®, and *Institute for Women's Health and Leadership*® are registered trademarks of Drexel University College of Medicine, a separate not-for-profit subsidiary of Drexel University.

drexelmed.edu
drexelmedicine.org



Resolutions for 2014

Fewer than half of Americans (45 percent) say they usually make New Year's resolutions, according to a recent study from the University of Scranton. That's understandable, given the abysmal rate of compliance or, in some cases, the difficulty of remembering the resolutions.

Nonetheless, I have made a few resolutions for the College of Medicine, which I post here for public consumption and perhaps assistance. I am resolved:

- To verify that relationships with our clinical partners are all on a firm footing, adding value to our educational mission, and as beneficial as possible to our respective enterprises.
- To ensure that the Drexel University Physicians® clinical practice is a healthy organization, on its way to improvement of its operations and



Daniel V. Schidlow, MD

- bottom line, with the help of its board, the board chair, and various department chairs and administrators, as well as the chief operating officer.
- To make the initial set of changes to our MD curriculum, not only to comply with the standards of the Liaison Committee on Medical Education, as indicated during our last LCME site visit, but also to enhance our educational offerings and start planting the seeds for what will be a more transformational change in the educational program.
- To invest more money in education by enhancing the technology available to faculty and students, including tools for simulation and online delivery of knowledge.
- To successfully execute the elimination of the firewall between the medical school and the University, and accomplish the merger of the College of Medicine into Drexel, again with the input and help of many, many people.
- To expand our communication with researchers across the Drexel campuses, and to achieve some concrete collaborations this year with the other colleges and schools. In other words, to move beyond information sharing to actually increasing the number of grants we put together with Drexel colleagues outside the medical school.
- At a personal level, I am aiming at a better balance between life and work, and making a little time to spend with our grandchildren. When I started this job as an interim a little over two years ago, we had one grandchild; by April, God willing, we'll have six. So this has become another big dimension of our life.

Please accept my heartfelt wishes for a Happy New Year!

Daniel V. Schidlow, MD
Walter H. and Leonore Annenberg Dean
Senior Vice President of Medical Affairs

Destination Excellence: Third Year as a Nomad

I was really eager to find out where I would be doing each of my clinical rotations for third year. “Damn it!” — my first thought during round one. “Where is that?” — my second thought during round two. In both instances, my initial reaction involved ample gesticulations with a few unintelligible words, while two of my classmates looked on and laughed at me.

My anxiety stemmed mostly from being unsure about what to do with my apartment, which would have two months left on the lease. Also, I had to pack my furniture, find a storage place, get a moving van, move my things into storage, bribe friends with food to help me move, decide on the clothes I would keep or store, and learn how to live from a suitcase.

Being on the hospital floor can be intimidating by itself. Then you add the stress of adapting to different hospitals. At first, I was nervous, but with each subsequent transition the anxiety lessened. Undoubtedly, mistakes happened, like rounding with the toxicology team for 30 minutes before realizing that it was not the medicine team, or accidentally spilling fetal cord blood on the ob/gyn intern during a delivery. But I look on these as learning experiences.

Along my journey, I had the opportunity to interact with various attendings, most of whom I really liked and tried to emulate. Additionally, I was able to experience health care delivery in different communities and observe health care professionals’ interactions with diverse patient populations. Each site had its own culture. For example, in Altoona, the small-city environment really highlighted the doctor-patient relationship. Lastly, a perk of away rotations that only became apparent recently is being able to pick up on subtle behavioral cues between the support staff and the residents and attendings. Now that I’ve been going to residency interviews, being able to pick up on those subtle cues has assisted me in knowing what to look

for during interview days when each program is trying to impress the applicants.

What started as an emotional roller coaster ended in a very well enjoyed experience. Therefore, if the rotation lottery has you playing “Where’s Waldo?” consider yourself lucky. Enjoy the changing environments, be engaged, ask questions, and have fun.

— *Josué W. Menard*
Fourth-Year Medical Student



Now a fourth-year medical student, Josué Menard is still on the move — interviewing for next year’s residency position.



Laurada Byers to Receive 2014 Woman One Award

Laurada Byers, founder of the Russell Byers Charter School in Philadelphia, has been named the 2014 Woman One honoree by the College of Medicine’s Institute for Women’s Health and Leadership. The Woman One program recognizes outstanding women leaders in the Philadelphia community and raises scholarship funds for talented minority women medical students at Drexel University College of Medicine. A longtime advocate for women’s equality, Byers also co-founded the 56% League, an organization that advances women’s political engagement in Philadelphia. She will be honored on Monday, April 28, at the Rittenhouse Hotel. For information, please visit drexelmed.edu/iwhl.

Medical Students and the Business of Health Care

Medical students do not understand the business of health care, but changing that may be as easy as offering an eight-hour lecture course. That's according to a study from Drexel University College of Medicine that was published in *Medical Science Educator: The Journal of the International Association of Medical Science Educators*.

experiences before entering medical school, few students in any of the consecutive classes could pass a basic examination of health care business principles," said co-investigator Barbara Schindler, MD, professor in the Departments of Psychiatry and Pediatrics, vice dean for educational and academic affairs, and the William Maul Measey Chair in Medical Education.

These students were then required to participate in a module that consisted of a series of two-hour lectures spread out over a two-week period. At the completion of the two-week module, another test was given to assess the students' understanding of the basic principles of health care economics. Nearly all the students passed this test, suggesting that the concentrated lecture format can be effective in teaching the basics of health care business to medical students. The data for the study were collected from 2008 to 2011; the size of the four classes taking the course varied from 193 to 207 students. Class averages on the pre-assessment exam ranged from 47 to 54 out of a possible 100. The post-course assessment was given one week after the completion of the lecture series and also consisted of 50 multiple-choice questions. Scores increased dramatically on the post-test, with class averages ranging from 84 to 90 out of a possible 100.

The fundamental lack of health care business knowledge is of national concern. Although the Liaison Committee on Medical Education guidelines mandate that medical schools teach aspects of health care financing, health care systems and medical socioeconomics, less than 70 percent of all allopathic schools do so, based on a national survey. Only 40 percent of schools surveyed offered courses in subjects such as health care systems, health services financing, the health care work force and the health policy process. At Drexel, Dr. Weingarten has integrated a course on the business of health care into the curriculum for third- and fourth-year medical students, which is unique among medical schools in the United States.

In addition to Drs. Weingarten and Schindler, co-investigators of this study included Burton J. Landau, PhD, emeritus professor in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology and former associate dean for medical education (retired), and Edward Siegel, MD, a 2012 alumnus.

"The implementation of recent health care reforms and the national debate associated with them have made it clear to medical school educators that students need to have a basic understanding of the business of health care," said Michael S. Weingarten, MD, MBA, professor in the Department of Surgery, chief of the Division of Vascular Surgery, and a co-investigator of the study.

The researchers gave tests, consisting of 50 multiple-choice questions, to four consecutive classes of second-year medical students to assess their knowledge of health care economics. Simply put, these students did not understand the U.S. health care system.

"Although the students came from diverse educational backgrounds and had many different life



Research Institute

• continued from the cover

tissue samples and fluid samples that will be accessible by any scientist within Drexel. That's a huge initiative, but it's also a critical part of providing scientists with tumor samples, or cerebrospinal fluid, or whatever they might be interested in."

Also on the list is a bioinformatics core, a centralized resource that will integrate information across a number of different disciplines: genomics, epidemiology, and clinical work of a variety of kinds.

Built into the long term are plans to provide support for new faculty hires to help drive research in the clinical enterprise. "It is absolutely essential that we be able to engage more clinicians in research," Barrett said. In addition, there will be money to hire more postdoctoral fellows. "The idea is to make sure we not only populate the CTRI with technology, with infrastructure, with opportunities for doing research, but that we also increase the number of researchers themselves," he added.

"One of the very important things to me was to increase the competitive landscape of biomedical research within the University," Barrett said.

Educational Programs

A significant outgrowth of this initiative will be the further evolution of one of Drexel's key strengths — teaching and training students — and, in this case, developing a new generation of investigators in clinical and translational sciences.

"I see our master's program in Drug Discovery and Development as part of the CTRI because it is really doing what it says it is doing: taking basic science and translating it into effective clinical outcomes and therapeutics," Barrett said. "We can build on the drug discovery program to add formal educational courses in translational medicine."

Community Engagement

There is one other critical component, and that is community engagement. "We are working with individuals

to provide outreach facilities for engaging the community," Barrett said. "Some of this is to provide information to people in the Philadelphia community, but it's also to apprise them of what's going on within the University with regard to research, so that we can engage them in new developments in science and also interest them in participating in clinical research activities themselves."

The institute will be well positioned to do this, Barrett pointed out. It is part of the history of Drexel and its commitment to the city. "President Fry, in particular, is very keen on community involvement, enhancing the reach of Drexel into the community, and the community's reach into Drexel. I see it as a very valuable component of what we're trying to do," he said.

"One of the striking things to me is that it is a University initiative that has emerged from the College of Medicine, and President Fry has embraced it. I see this as one way of unifying the research efforts across the University. It's not only a community outreach; it's an outreach from the medical school to the rest of the University, to establish something like this, to provide an infrastructure, and to contribute to Drexel's growth and cohesion.

"I've been to the College of Computing and Informatics, the School of Public Health and the School of Biomedical Engineering, Science, and Health Systems, and all offer unique opportunities for these initiatives," Barrett said. "The College of Computing and Informatics has computational approaches; they are interested in analyzing certain processes with regard to medicinal chemistry and predicting outcome. Public Health has epidemiological analyses that are critically important to pharmacoepidemiologic studies — looking at what happens when a new drug gets on the market."

Westphal College of Media Arts & Design and the School of Law are already involved in the Drug Discovery and Development Program, Barrett noted. He also mentioned LeBow College of Business and Drexel's new Close School for Entrepreneurship. "It seems that the institute could be the core that serves to unify a lot of the different components of the University under one giant umbrella," he said.

Website: drexelmed.edu/CTRI

THE EVENTS
@ Alumni Weekend

There's so much to do! **May 2 & 3, 2014**

Back to the Future

Recent Graduate Reception

CME Programs

Silver Dragon Reception



The Events @ Alumni Weekend offer exciting new venues, creative interactive programs, and new opportunities to see old classmates!

For information, visit drexelmed.edu/alumni or email medical.alumni@drexel.edu.

Abington Memorial Hospital Becomes Regional Medical Campus

Abington Memorial Hospital will serve as a regional medical campus for Drexel University College of Medicine under a new agreement to take effect in July 2014. This designation expands on an existing academic affiliation.

Regional medical campus is a term used by the Association of American Medical Colleges to refer to hospitals and health systems that serve as alternative venues for third- and fourth-year medical students to gain clinical education. Under the new agreement, Drexel medical students will be able to complete all of their required clinical rotations at Abington Memorial Hospital. Abington will provide two years of training in core clinical areas such as surgery, internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology, family medicine, neurology, and psychiatry.

Drexel and Abington have had an affiliation agreement since 2004. Under the new regional medical campus designation, Drexel medical students will be able to select Abington as their primary clinical campus at the time of matriculation and complete their third and fourth years there if they choose.

Abington Memorial Hospital is a 665-bed, acute care

teaching hospital with a medical staff of more than 900 physicians. Margot Boigon, MD, clinical associate professor of medicine, has been appointed associate dean and director of undergraduate medical education at the Abington campus, and David Gary Smith, MD, clinical professor of medicine, will serve as director of graduate medical education.



Dean Daniel V. Schidlow, MD, cloaked Associate Dean Margot Boigon, MD, in a white coat bearing her new title during a signing ceremony on November 20.

Dr. Hanau Named First Shuman Chair in Anatomical Pathology

Cheryl A. Hanau, MD, professor and chair of the Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine, was installed as the Richard Shuman, MD Chair in Anatomical Pathology at a ceremony on October 21, 2013.

The Shuman Chair was made possible by a generous

bequest from Marie Shuman in honor of her late husband, who was a professor of pathology at Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania at the time of his sudden death in 1975. From then on, Marie Shuman devoted her life to perpetuating her husband's memory. She was determined to fund a chair in anatomical pathology that would honor Richard Shuman's significant achievements and foster future contributions in his field.

Hanau was appointed department chair in 2009. She has served the College of Medicine in a number of key positions, including associate dean for admissions, director of the Anatomic and Clinical Pathology Residency Program, and course director for pathology for first- and second-year medical students. Hanau joined the College in 1995 after completing fellowships in surgical pathology and cytopathology at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, where she had earned her medical degree and completed her residency training. She is a graduate of ELAM, the Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine Program for Women, at Drexel University College of Medicine.



Drexel Provost Mark L. Greenberg, PhD; College of Medicine Dean Daniel V. Schidlow, MD; Dr. Hanau; Dr. Shuman's nephew, Jeffrey Levine; Drexel President John A. Fry; and Board Chairman Richard Greenawalt.

Dragons Walk to End Alzheimer's

Drexel Neurology and friends put together a team of 16 people for the Philadelphia Walk to End Alzheimer's on November 10, 2013. The walkers, led by Carol F. Lippa, MD, professor and interim chair of the Department of Neurology and director of the Memory Disorders Program, raised \$1,039 for the Alzheimer's Association. Team name: Drexel Dragons Against Dementia.



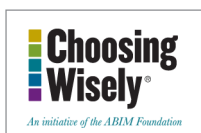
Carol Lippa, MD (far right), led a team in the Walk to End Alzheimer's.

ABIM Foundation Launches Modules Developed at College of Medicine

The ABIM Foundation has announced new education modules developed by Drexel University College of Medicine, along with nine medical specialty societies, to help physicians engage their patients in conversations about avoiding unnecessary tests and procedures. Research has found that patient-doctor communication is perhaps the most significant component of a patient's visit; yet many physicians receive limited training to develop these critical communication skills. To help address this gap, the ABIM Foundation funded the College of Medicine to create a series of interactive instructional modules based on specialty society recommendations from the *Choosing Wisely* campaign (choosingwisely.org).

The scenario-based modules include situations physicians commonly encounter, using *Choosing Wisely's* lists of things to question as a starting point. Modules address areas such as patient requests for an MRI for back pain, antibiotics for sinusitis, CT scans for

head trauma in children, and pre-operative stress tests, and provide specific recommendations on how physicians can engage their patients in conversations about the risks and benefits of these tests or treatments. The modules are annotated with the evidence supporting each recommendation, along with a feature that allows physicians to engage in more active learning by comparing their attitudes and practices with others in their specialty.



"We know many physicians aspire to the ideals of the *Choosing Wisely* campaign but sometimes have a difficult time saying no to a patient request,

even when a particular test or treatment won't provide benefit," said Pamela Duke, MD, assistant professor of medicine and a course director for the Clinical Skills and Primary Care practicums at the College of Medicine. "We hope these modules — featuring real physicians — provide guidance in conversations they have with the patients they see on a daily basis."

The modules are available at choosingwisely.org/resources/modules/.

Brian Wigdahl, PhD, Named 2013 Pioneer in NeuroVirology

The International Society for NeuroVirology has selected Brian Wigdahl, PhD, professor and chair of the Department of Microbiology & Immunology, as the 2013 Pioneer in NeuroVirology, in recognition of his numerous achievements in research, education, and service in the field. He is the 11th recipient of this award and only the second not trained as a clinician.

The society's announcement highlights Wigdahl's impressive career to date (isnv.org/pioneer/current.php), concluding, "Over the past three decades, Dr. Wigdahl has established himself as the consummate researcher, educator, and mentor whose contributions have advanced neurovirology. His professionalism, commitment and leadership distinguish him among his peers. His genuine dedication to the advancement of the field through his research, mentoring, and extramural activities garner respect from his peers and make him an inspiration to young scientists."

In addition to leading his department, Wigdahl is the director of the Institute for Molecular Medicine & Infectious Disease at the College of Medicine, and director of the institute's Center for Molecular Virology & Translational Neuroscience. He served two terms as the founding president of the International Society for NeuroVirology; he now serves as treasurer and is a member of the board of directors.



Molecular Medicine & Infectious Disease at the College of Medicine, and director of the institute's Center for Molecular Virology & Translational Neuroscience. He served two terms as the founding president of the International Society for NeuroVirology; he now serves as treasurer and is a member of the board of directors.

National Center for School Crisis and Bereavement Receives \$1.4 Million From New York Life Foundation

The National Center for School Crisis and Bereavement, located at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children and Drexel University College of Medicine, has received a four-year, \$1.4 million grant from the New York Life Foundation. David Schonfeld, MD, director of the center, is professor and chair of the Department of Pediatrics at the College of Medicine and pediatrician-in-chief at St. Christopher's.

The funding provides support for capacity building as well as the center's current operations, which include responding to schools and other entities that deal with grieving children and providing counsel and training to school professionals, mental health providers, health care providers, and other professionals in a position to support grieving children and families.

It will also enable the center's key role in



Pediatrics Chair David Schonfeld, MD, directs the National Center for School Crisis and Bereavement.

the "Coalition to Support Grieving Students" initiative. The coalition is a group of representatives from the major national education associations across the country, whose sole goal is to provide bereavement resources at all touch points for children in the school system. The coalition will provide the expertise to develop new bereavement resources, including training modules, guided learning, talking points, and supportive materials tailored to each educational leadership group — superintendents, counselors, principals, psychologists, and teachers.

"This groundbreaking project gets to the heart of what our research has revealed — educators and other school professionals are in a unique position to create a supportive environment for students who have experienced the death of a loved one. And now, with this funding and creation of the coalition, educators will have the tools and resources they need to support grieving students," said Maria Collins, vice president of the New York Life Foundation. "This initiative will ultimately change how grieving students are supported in the educational system throughout the country."

Striding Against Pancreatic Cancer

Drexel Cancer Care was a silver sponsor of Purple Stride Philadelphia 2013, an annual walk for the nationwide Pancreatic Cancer Action Network. Wilbur Bowne, MD, a pancreatic surgeon and surgical oncology specialist, captained the Drexel Medicine/Hahnemann University Hospital team in the walk on November 9 to raise money for pancreatic cancer research and to raise awareness of the disease.



New Master's Program in Medical and Healthcare Simulation

A new program offering a Master of Science degree in medical and healthcare simulation is accepting applications for its first class. The two-year, part-time program offers advanced training in simulation

teaching, curriculum design, and the fundamentals of simulation research. It is believed to be the first of its kind. The blended instructional approach consists of a curriculum of online coursework combined with three

on-campus weeklong immersive simulation practicums.

The goal of the program is to provide a scientific and educational foundation to prepare graduate-level students for transition into an enduring, productive educational and research-oriented career in simulation. The program is intended for individuals with prior training or experience in health care, including, for example, residents and clinical fellows; physician assistants, nurses, and nurse practitioners; attending physicians; or individuals already employed in the health sciences industry and looking to transition into a new career. Sharon Griswold, MD, PhD, is the director of the program.

For more information, visit drexelmed.edu/MSsim or email MSsim@drexelmed.edu.



Bench and Tree Dedicated in Memory of Dr. Bartuska

The memory of Doris G. Bartuska, MD, emeritus professor of medicine, was honored October 8 by the Institute for Women's Health and Leadership with the dedication of a crape myrtle tree at the Queen Lane Campus and the unveiling of a bench beside it, which has a commemorative plaque. In addition, the institute made a donation of \$1,500 to East Falls Tree Tenders to plant 20 trees throughout the East Falls community, where Bartuska lived.



Karen Herrmann and Tina Kistler, daughters of the late Doris G. Bartuska, MD, unveil a bench placed in her honor at the Queen Lane Campus by the Institute for Women's Health and Leadership.

Leading Kazakhstan Institution Collaborating With Drexel Department of Surgery

Drexel's initiative to develop global platforms for innovations in research and education has taken a step forward at the College of Medicine through a new relationship with one of the leading institutions of Kazakhstan, Al-Farabi Kazakh National University (KazNU).

In October 2013, Zulfiya Orynbayeva, PhD, research assistant professor in the Department of Surgery, visited KazNU's Department of Biophysics and Biomedical Studies, led by Professor Sultan Tuleuhanov, and presented a series of lectures focused on establishing collaborative research and education programs between KazNU and Drexel. The two departments are working together on the training of international doctoral students and on research in biomedicine, nanotechnology and health care. Ben-Gurion University in Israel, represented by Professor Michael Danilenko, is a third collaborator. Current active research includes projects on fundamentals of cancer biology and cancer medication using naturally derived polyphenolic compounds and electric fields.



Professor Tuleuhanov (left) and Dr. Orynbayeva pose together following a lecture at KazNU. The Drexel pictures behind them are in a slide that was part of Orynbayeva's introductory presentation.

Since mid-July 2013, Aigul Zhunussova, a first-year doctoral student from Kazakhstan, has been working in Orynbayeva's lab.

Compliance & Privacy

Office of Inspector General Annual Work Plan

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General (OIG) recently announced that it would release its 2014 work plan in January. The annual work plan, usually issued in October for the following year, includes projects in each of HHS's major entities, including the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the public health agencies, the Administration for Children & Families, and the Administration on Aging (now a unit of the Administration for Community Living).



**Edward Longazel
Chief Compliance & Privacy Officer**

Information is also provided on projects related to issues that cut across departmental programs, including state and local government use of federal funds, as well as the functional areas of the office of the HHS secretary. Some of the projects described in the work plan are

statutorily required, such as the audit of the OIG's financial statements, which is mandated by the Government Management Reform Act.

The OIG notes that the January release will better align with priorities it has set for the coming year. Each year the OIG releases a work plan setting forth the various projects to be addressed during the fiscal year by the Office of Audit Services, Office of Evaluation and Inspections, Office of Investigations, and Office of Counsel to the Inspector General.

The work plan for 2014 is expected to continue to address the potential for misuse of the electronic health record, as a tool for fraud and abuse. Auditing and monitoring of services for providers accepting meaningful use incentives will likely be a priority. The expectation is that the longstanding practice of selecting providers for audit based on billing profiles that categorize their activity as an "outlier" from peers will continue.

One focus is likely to be the representation of services being provided that were simply copied from a prior date of service and not actually repeated on the later date of service. Compliance with the information security requirements of meaningful use is also likely to be a focus as the number of patients with information in electronic health records grows exponentially with eligibility for care under the Affordable Care Act.

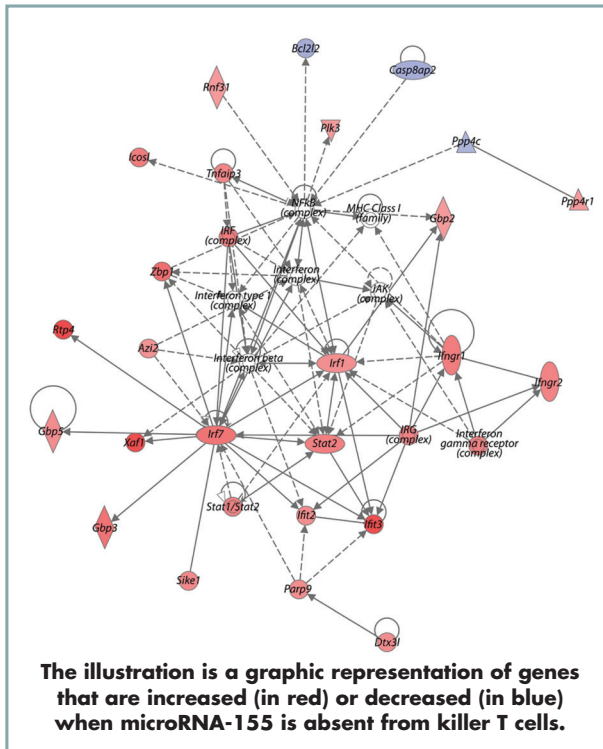
We never guess ... we ask! Call anytime to ask a compliance or privacy question, or to request compliance or privacy training: 215-255-7819

Confidential compliance hotline: 866-936-1010 or visit drexelmed.edu/ComplianceHotline

Understanding the Battleground for Viruses and T Cells

Discoveries by Drexel Scientists Shed Light on the Dual Nature of Immune Defense Mechanisms

When you acquire a short-lived, acute infection such as seasonal influenza, the body responds in a coordinated fashion to rapidly clear the invading pathogen. Then, upon completion of its mission, the army of effector immune cells stands down, leaving a troop of memory sentinels behind in case the invader returns. This immune response requires cross-talk and collaboration between innate (first lines of defense) and comprehensive adaptive (reserve) battalions to mount a strong and effective attack. However, regulating the intensity of the siege is also important to minimize casualties of war.



Researchers in the laboratory of Peter D. Katsikis, MD, PhD, have shown just how this occurs. Their findings, reported in *Nature Immunology*¹, provide new insight into how the intricate responses of certain types of white blood cells (killer CD8+ T cells) are controlled.

A linchpin that harnesses the appropriate immune responses and aids in the establishment of long-term immunological memory is microRNA-155. These small molecules originate from DNA, but are not translated into proteins; instead, microRNAs regulate gene expression by imperfectly pairing with related messenger RNA sequences. This degrades the RNA or blocks protein synthesis from it.

When killer T cells are activated in response to viral or bacterial infections, microRNA-155 expression increases,

and this affects the sensitivity of those cells to type I interferon (IFN) — proteins that make up the biochemical bulwark of the innate defense system. Following non-specific detection of an invader, these type I IFN messengers “alert” surrounding cells by initiating protective defenses.

This research sheds light on an unresolved enigma involving the regulation of type I IFN signaling in killer T cells. Paradoxically, these chemical messengers mediate both increased expansion (build up the troop strength) and diminished growth of these cells (downsize the force). The study, authored by Donald Gracias, PhD; Erietta Stelekati, PhD; and colleagues, identifies a previously unknown role for microRNA-155, in tipping the balance in favor of immune expansion and, in turn, improved control of viral infections.

Katsikis, professor of microbiology and immunology, and senior author of the paper, explains, “The IFN paradox — that is, why IFN sometimes inhibits but other times enhances T cell immunity — has been a long-lasting puzzle for immunologists. Our studies have uncovered some of the molecular mechanisms at work.”

But what about long-term, chronic infections such as those caused by HIV and hepatitis C virus? In these types of infections, the immune system and the pathogen fight to the point of a prolonged stalemate, during which neither the invader nor the defender prevails. However, as time progresses, persistent and excessive immune responses kill battle-fatigued T cells, as well as innocent bystanders, giving the enemy pathogen an advantage.

In a related paper published in *PLoS Pathogens*², the Katsikis laboratory uncovered the mechanism by which the same type I IFN mediators render T cells sensitive to death. In chronic HIV infection, there is an ongoing production of these chemical messengers that is likely triggered by the presence of the enemy virus. The research shows that helper CD4+ T cell death (a hallmark of HIV disease) is mediated by type I IFN and its ability to increase Bak, a gene that is a major factor in cellular death. Not only did type I IFN exposure make healthy helper T cells sensitive to death in the same way and to a similar extent as HIV-positive patient T cells, but elevated type I IFN-stimulated gene expression in HIV-infected patients was also associated with accelerated helper T cell death and loss.

This study, authored by Joseph Fraietta, PhD, and colleagues, highlights that the decline of T cells in the blood in HIV disease is not largely due to direct viral infection, but is instead a bystander effect of excessive immune responses involving type I IFN (too much collateral damage). Importantly, the research also shows for the first time that, although type I IFN production may be protective during acute (early stage) AIDS virus infections, the beneficial effects of these cytokines are lost during the chronic (late) stage when they harm the immune system by killing helper T cells. Indeed, experiments in the study involving monkeys infected with simian immunodeficiency virus, which is closely related to HIV, show that the interferon response may exert an opposing effect on viral control that is dependent on the stage of infection (early versus late).

Thus, while battling acute viral infection may require a “strike hard and often” approach, careful tempering and appropriate deployment of specific immune responses are needed to win the war against chronic disease.

¹ *Nature Immunology*, 14: 593–602, 2013. ² *PLoS Pathogens*, 9(10):e1003658, 2013.

Partnership Practice Celebrates 20 Years of HIV Treatment and Research

Drexel Medicine's Partnership Comprehensive Care Practice is celebrating its 20th anniversary. Over the span of two decades, the Partnership Practice has grown not only in size, but also in reach. It started humbly in 1993 as one of the first clinics to treat a segment of the population that had been marginalized due to the stigma that came with an HIV-positive diagnosis. Through the years, the Partnership has served thousands of patients and families in Philadelphia coping with HIV/AIDS. It is a comprehensive primary and specialty practice that offers treatment and prevention services to about 1,900 people a year — regardless of their ability to pay.

Mayor Michael Nutter and the City of Philadelphia recently honored the Partnership and its staff with a citation officially recognizing and congratulating the

The Partnership started out as a clinic — founded by Marla Gold, MD, professor and former dean of the Drexel University School of Public Health — dedicated to treating those with an illness that few understood in the early '90s. Its primary focus has always been providing compassionate, non-judgmental treatment for HIV patients. In addition to primary and specialty HIV medical care, treatment at the Partnership can include gynecologic care, prenatal care, nutrition assessment, pharmacy services, HIV support groups, and more. The Partnership also educates future providers of multidisciplinary HIV care.

"HIV specialists at the Partnership are skilled in managing HIV, as well as a patient's other conditions, which could include diabetes and hepatitis C," said Sarah L. Allen, MSN, CRNP, clinical director of the Partnership. "The staff here feels very passionate about what they do and the impact they have in the community. The work they do is very well known in the Philadelphia area, and the Partnership has become a beacon to those who need medical attention and may have nowhere else to turn."

The Partnership is investigating long-term treatment options for those who are HIV positive, including a once-a-week injectable drug. Over the past 20 years, the Partnership has garnered millions of dollars in research grants. Jacobson has been awarded in excess of \$10 million in National Institutes of Health funding for a series of studies on improved HIV treatments, novel medicines and potential vaccines.

An injectable drug would be much more desirable than the current treatment regimen, a litany of antiretroviral drugs a patient has to take at precise moments throughout the day, commonly referred to as the "AIDS cocktail." Although effective, the antiretroviral drugs come with limitations, including potentially serious side effects and problems with patient adherence. "For some, including portions of the patient population we see at

the Partnership, it can be difficult to take their medication regularly, putting themselves and others at great risk," Jacobson said. "A drug designed to be taken once a week could dramatically increase a patient's adherence to a treatment schedule," he added.

Over the past 20 years, what was once a small clinic has blossomed into the largest HIV practice in the Greater Philadelphia area, with a thriving research arm dedicated to finding a cure. The Partnership is located at 1427 Vine Street in Center City Philadelphia, with satellite practices at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children and Kensington Hospital.



James Reynolds, MD, professor and chair of the Department of Medicine, presented a citation from the City of Philadelphia to Drs. Jeffrey Jacobson, head of the Partnership Practice, and Marla Gold, its founder.

Partnership for two decades of "steadfast service" to the citizens of Philadelphia and commending its dedicated staff for the delivery of the highest quality care to citizens living with the challenge of HIV/AIDS.

"We are a full-service clinic to our patients, and that includes supporting not only their medical needs, but also their emotional needs," said Jeffrey Jacobson, MD, professor of medicine and chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases and HIV Medicine. "The Partnership also maintains an active and engaged research arm, working to develop the next generation of HIV medications, with the goal, of course, being a cure."



Dr. Ahuja

Amir Ahuja, MD, chief resident in the Department of Psychiatry, received the Resident Achievement Award at the Philadelphia Psychiatric Society's annual Benjamin Rush Ball on November 16, 2013. This award is given to a resident in one of the area training programs who has been nominated for outstanding activity as a resident. Ahuja has been a resident representative for the Philadelphia Psychiatric Society for several years. He has also been actively involved in work to increase the visibility of LGBT individuals and to improve their mental health care and access to care. He is on the board of two LGBT organizations and has developed an LGBT symposium that has been incorporated into the Department of Psychiatry's yearly didactic curriculum. He has presented four times at the American Psychiatric Association, and has published several articles.



Dr. Baas

Peter W. Baas, PhD, professor of neurobiology and anatomy, was an invited speaker at two international congresses: the IBRO School in Nerve Injury and Regeneration in Nantong, China (October 2013), and the second international congress of the Molecular Biology

Association of Turkey, in Istanbul (November 2013). His talk at both meetings was entitled "Fidgetin Provides a Microtubule-Based Means for Therapeutically Enhancing Regeneration of Injured Axons."



Dr. Babaria

Usha Babaria, MD, clinical associate professor of radiation oncology at the College of Medicine and medical director of the Department of Radiation Oncology at Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital, served as a panelist for the hospital's Dine with the Docs program on September 17, a special

roundtable event on preventing and surviving breast cancer. In addition, Babaria was one of the speakers for a continuing medical education session at Mercy Fitzgerald, "Prostate Cancer: Evidence-Based Diagnosis, Treatment and Outcomes," on November 14.

Tish Calvarese, chief information officer, served on the planning committee for the CHIME 13 Fall CIO Forum held October 8–11 in Scottsdale, Ariz. The meeting was attended by more than 750 hospital CIOs and health IT



Ms. Calvarese and Dr. Mostashari

professionals. Calvarese is pictured with speaker Farzad Mostashari, MD, who had recently stepped down as the national coordinator for health information technology in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.



Dr. Churchill

Judy Rae Churchill, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy, was an honoree at Drexel University's seventh annual awards ceremony in celebration of National Distance Learning Week. Churchill, who teaches several courses in the Master of Laboratory Animal Science and post-baccalaureate programs, was recognized for employing online learning tools to engage her students in both face-to-face and online courses.



Dr. Daetwyler

Christof Daetwyler, MD, associate professor in the Department of Family, Community & Preventive Medicine, who specializes in integrating computer technology and alternative media with medical education, received a grant of \$100,000 from the University City Science Center's QED Proof-of-Concept Program. The award is for an online system he is developing to improve the communication skills of healthcare professionals using practice, assessment, and feedback.



Dr. Delivoria-Papadopoulos

Maria Delivoria-Papadopoulos, MD, professor of Pediatrics, Physiology, and Obstetrics & Gynecology at the College of Medicine; chief of the Division of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children; and the Ralph W. Brenner Endowed Chair in Pediatrics at St. Christopher's, has been honored by the creation of a prize in her name. The Johns Hopkins Children's Center Neurosciences Intensive Care Nursery has established the "Maria Delivoria-Papadopoulos Prize for Research in Neonatal Neurosciences" in recognition of the lifetime of service Delivoria has provided to students of neonatal medicine. The prize will be awarded by Hopkins to a fellow of neonatal-perinatal medicine who has accomplished an outstanding research project in neuroscience.



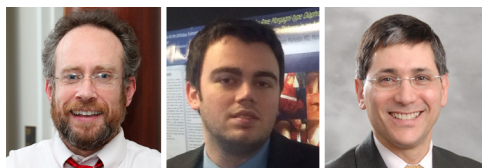
Dr. Faerber

Eric N. Faerber, MD, professor of radiologic sciences and pediatrics, and director of radiology at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, received the Mary Stuart Fisher Outstanding Educator Award for 2013 from the Philadelphia Roentgen Ray Society, the oldest regional radiologic society in North America.



Dr. Falnikar

Aditi Falnikar, PhD, and her mentor, **Peter W. Baas, PhD**, professor in the Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy, have published a brief article, "Neuronal Migration Re-purposes Mechanisms of Cytokinesis," in *Cell Cycle* (12:23, 3577–3578). The article highlights their recent work published earlier in the year in *Current Biology*.



Dr. Holland

Mr. Grinberg

Dr. Tabby

Neil R. Holland, MD, associate professor of neurology, and medical director of the Neuroscience Institute at Monmouth Medical Center; **Ilya Grinberg**, third-year medical student; and **David Tabby, DO**, associate professor of neurology, published "A Standardized Online Clinical Education and Assessment Tool for Neurology Clerkship Students Assigned to Multiple Sites" in *Perspectives on Medical Education*, December 2013 (published online with open access at SpringerLink.com).



Dr. Huneke

Richard B. Huneke, DVM, MPH, director of University Laboratory Animal Resources and associate professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, and colleagues presented "Investigation of Commonalities Among Laboratory Animal

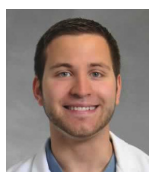
Facilities Associated with the Group A Rotavirus Outbreaks in Spring 2013" at the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science national meeting, October 27-31, 2013, in Baltimore, Md. He also was on the faculty for a workshop at the meeting, "Preparing for an AAALAC International Site Visit."



Dr. Jean

Daphney C. Jean, PhD, and her postdoctoral mentor, **Peter W. Baas, PhD**, professor in the Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy, have published a brief article, "It Cuts Two Ways: Microtubule Loss During Alzheimer Disease," in *EMBO*

Journal (32: 2900-2902), describing recent discoveries that may lead to new microtubule-based therapies for Alzheimer's disease.



Mr. Nacarelli

Timothy Nacarelli, a third-year molecular and cellular biology and genetics doctoral student in the laboratory of **Christian Sell, PhD**, was awarded a Drexel Aging Initiative Grant (externally reviewed competitive proposal) for "Character-

izing Mitochondrial Dysfunction in Hutchinson-Gilford Progeria Syndrome." Nacarelli also was awarded a research fellowship during summer 2013 in the Molecular Biology of Aging program at the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole, Mass.

Calendar

January

National Glaucoma Awareness Month

- 23 **U.S. Presidents' Secret Illnesses and the Effects on World History and Politics**
The Racquet Club of Philadelphia, 6–8:30 p.m.
Information: medical.alumni@drexel.edu or call 215.255.7345 or 866.373.9633
- 24 **A Day With the Newborn**
Annual symposium at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, 7:15 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Information: kathy.rellstab@tenethealth.com

February

American Heart Month

Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

- 15 **Pediatric AIDS Benefit Concert**
Main Building, University City Campus
Information: shay.myers@drexelmed.edu

March

National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

- 21 **Match Day**
Information: shay.myers@drexelmed.edu

April

National Parkinson's Awareness Month

- 9 **Golden Apple Awards Ceremony**
Information: shay.myers@drexelmed.edu

May

National Mental Health Month

- 2–3 **Alumni Weekend**
- 14–16 **50-Year Reunion**
- 16 **Commencement**
50-Year and Grand Classes Luncheon

Save the Date

- March 13 **Medical Student Research Day**
Queen Lane Campus
Information: caitlin.kaltenbach@drexelmed.edu
- April 28 **Woman One Award Ceremony**
Rittenhouse Hotel, Philadelphia
Information: janine.barber@drexelmed.edu
- July 14 **Stamatakis Golf Classic**
Philadelphia Cricket Club
Website: drexelmed.edu/golf

For more information about alumni events, please call 215.255.7345 or 866.373.9633, or email medical.alumni@drexel.edu

Victoria Spruance, a PhD candidate in the neurobiology and anatomy graduate program, won an award for outstanding poster presentation at the annual Spinal Research Network Meeting, which was held September 6–7 in London. The title of Spruance's poster was "Neural Progenitor Transplantation Improves Diaphragm Function Following Cervical Spinal Cord Injury."



Victoria Spruance receives her award from Dr. Mark Bacon, director of research at Spinal Research.



Dr. Sudak

Donna M. Sudak, MD, professor of psychiatry and director of psychotherapy training, presented grand rounds at the University of Vermont in Burlington on November 15, 2013. Later,

at the annual convention of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, held November 20–23 in Nashville, Sudak co-presented an institute, "Empirically Based CBT Supervision: Making Supervision More Effective for Novice Trainees," and served on the panel for "Evolution of the Revolution: Shifting Our Focus From Evidence-Based Treatments to Evidence-Based Training."

Erin Vogelsong, MS, instructor and academic administrator for the Master of Laboratory Animal Science program, was an honoree at Drexel University's seventh annual awards ceremony in celebration of National Distance Learning Week. Vogelsong was recognized for being instrumental in the development of online courses and for training and assisting faculty in the use of web-based learning systems.



Erin Vogelsong (center) with Drs. Susan Aldridge, president of Drexel University Online, and Mark Greenberg, University provost

Pathways of Care: Profile of a Practice

The practice of Andrews & Patel Associates embodies a tradition of personal care to the community of central Pennsylvania. It is also home to three College of Medicine alumni: A. Thomas Andrews, MD, HU '68; Mary Simmonds, MD, MCP '75; and Joshua Shipley, MD, Drexel '04. As alumni, they represent the traditions of the College as they evolved through different parent institutions, but they also reflect the development of medical oncology. The specialty, and indeed the treatment of cancer, has changed considerably since the practice began in the early '70s.

When Andrews began his residency in 1968, oncology had just started to become a unique specialty. Early oncology derived from the field of hematology because of the high blood toxicity of chemotherapy drugs. "Only the hematologists could use these drugs," Andrews says. There was no separate training in medical school, no boards that qualified one to administer these drugs. While a professional oncology society was created in 1964, training was nascent.

Andrews became interested in hematology at Hahnemann. "I felt, at the time, the science of hematology was much more advanced than the other medical specialties," he says. "I was always aiming for internal medicine. Hematology seemed so far ahead. I liked the biochemistry of all the different pathways."

After graduation, Andrews came to Harrisburg Hospital for his residency. There, he was mentored by Herbert Bowman, MD, the first — and for a long time only — hematologist in central Pennsylvania.

Over time, Andrews became director of education and chair of internal medicine at Harrisburg. In fact, Simmonds recalls that Andrews taught her to do her first bone marrow biopsy during a medical school rotation there. Eventually, Andrews decided to open a private practice because his increasing hospital responsibilities were taking him away from patients.

Opening a practice for outpatient chemotherapy in the early '70s was very exciting, Andrews says. "I love my experiences developing things," he comments. "I like to be able to make decisions quickly and accurately."

Having a co-founder in the practice enabled Andrews to spend more time with patients — something he continues to enjoy today. "I'm really more of an oncologist now, even though that wasn't a specialty when I became a hematologist," he says.

In addition to his clinical work, Andrews has long been involved with the region's hospice programs. "The gorilla in the room is this terrible prognosis, especially in the early days with cancer," he observes. "You just have to go hit it head on. I ended up going to meetings with some of the early hospice leaders, so I'm very comfortable talking with patients about death and palliative care."

In Andrews' estimation, progress in the treatment of cancer, particularly medical oncology, has been "nothing

other than dramatic" in the 30-plus years he's been in practice. "I feel fortunate to have seen so much happen in my professional life," he says. Planning to retire in early 2014, Andrews reflects that he will miss all the patients and staff.

Prior to medical school, Andrews had wanted to become an entomologist. His father had been a farmer in Medford, N.J., so Andrews was familiar with pesticides. He notes the irony: "We were working with insecticides for the farm program. Now I'm giving chemotherapy for cancer."

In contrast, Mary Simmonds, MD, is the fourth generation in her family to practice medicine.

"We have a very special practice," Simmonds says. "We work as a team even though we see patients independently. Our group is particularly compatible and close — we just fit very well." Simmonds is well qualified in this assessment, having worked in academia and with other practices for over a decade before coming to Andrews & Patel in January 2001.

each person. Each organ has its own pathology. "Personalized medicine is very true in oncology," Simmonds states. "There are definitely many different treatment possibilities."

When Joshua Shipley joined Andrews & Patel in 2010, medical oncology was a specialty in its own right — one in which personalized patient care continues to be a hallmark. This focused care was, in fact, one of the main reasons Shipley entered the field.

The interaction oncologists have with their patients is how he envisioned the doctor-patient relationship, he explains. "Oncologists know their patients in and out," he says. They know the patient's medical history, but also their lives. Similarly, the patients put a lot of faith, confidence, and trust in their physician.

While at the College of Medicine, Shipley was leaning toward becoming an orthopedic surgeon. During his fourth year, however, the hematology/oncology rotation at Hahnemann University Hospital made up his mind. Transitioning from surgery to a new specialty took some

time, but he enjoyed the coursework, particularly the clinical pathology.

Shipley also has personal insight into his specialty. His father, an internist, passed away from a type of leukemia in 2013; he had been sick for ten years. Shipley went from not knowing anything during the diagnosis in his second year of medical school, to being the attending oncologist at the end of his father's life. "It's hard when it's your own father," he says.

Shipley downplays the influence his father's illness may have had on his own philosophy as an oncologist. "Every experience shapes how I relate to patients, whether it's something big and dramatic or a run-of-the-mill interaction," he explains. Going through the illness with his father,

however, has enabled him to relate more personally to what patients are going through, he says, and gave him an element of understanding for the family members.

Family has always been important to Shipley. He was inspired by his great-aunt, Libby Marks, HU '49, to apply to the College of Medicine all the way from Sacramento. Rather than return to California after his residency at Brown, he moved closer to his wife's family, near Gettysburg. It was here that he connected with Andrews & Patel.

Andrews is justifiably proud of the practice he built and the medical team he assembled over the decades. Creating that team, on which Simmonds and Shipley are key players, he says, "has been so satisfying for me."



Alumni Joshua Shipley, MD '04; Mary Simmonds, MD, MCP '75; and A. Thomas Andrews, MD, HU '68, practice together.

In 1975, when Simmonds graduated from MCP, medical oncology was still developing as a specialty distinct from hematology. Technically, MCP had no oncologist on its faculty, and at the time of Simmonds' fellowship at Jefferson, there was no medical oncology training.

Simmonds knew from a young age that she wanted to be a hematologist. Receiving her acceptance letter from the Medical College of Pennsylvania remains a vivid memory. "As soon as I opened that envelope," she says, "my life fell into place." The class of 1975, only the fifth to admit men, was also the 125th graduating class. "The men in our class were as proud of our tradition as we were," Simmonds says.

One aspect that drew Simmonds to hematology was its emphasis on patient care. While patients are certainly treated as individuals, cancer itself presents differently in

'60s

Wilma Bulkin-Siegel, MD, WMC '62; Hon. '06, has been included in *Strathmore's Who's Who Worldwide*. Bulkin-Siegel is considered a pioneer in the field of hospice. She established one of the first hospices in the state of New York and one of the first to accept AIDS patients. A retired oncologist, she is president of the Foundation for the History of Women in Medicine. She is an award-winning artist.

'70s



Louis F. Rose, DDS; MD, HU '72, a periodontist in Philadelphia, was honored with the Gold Medal Award by the American Academy of Periodontology. Rose is a clinical professor of periodontics at the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine.

Thelma Z. Korpman, MD, HU '74, an anesthesiologist at Kaiser Permanente in Fontana, Calif., was named as one of the "Top Doctors" in the anesthesiology category in the Riverside, Calif., magazine *Inland Empire*.

Raymond Fabius, MD, HU '77, led a group of health-care researchers in a study about the relationship between the quality of health-care company programs and their stock prices. Fabius is the vice chair of the health-care research firm, HealthNEXT, in Newtown Square, Pa. He previously served as chief medical officer at General Electric and at Thomson Reuters.

Steven H. Farber, MD, HU '77, published the book *As Sick as Our Secrets* (Wasteland Press, 2012), which recounts his battle with addiction and his journey to sobriety.

Richard Cohen, PhD, MCP '78, president and CEO of Public Health Management Corp (PHMC), Philadelphia's largest nonprofit public health institute, was a finalist for the *Philadelphia Business Journal's* Health Care CEO of the Year Award. PHMC was named the "Health Care Company of the Year" by the *Philadelphia Business Journal*.

Charles Cox, MD, HU '78, a board-certified gastroenterologist, has joined Mark Twain Medical Center in San Andreas, Calif. Cox has practiced gastroenterology in California in the Bay Area and Tuolumne and Calaveras counties, as well as in Nevada.

Steven J. Mattleman, MD, HU '78; Cardiology Fellow, HU '83, has joined Fox Chase Cancer Center's Department of Medicine as director of the Division of Cardiology. Mattleman continues to work at Pennsylvania Heart and Vascular-Temple Health, a cardiology practice based in Jenkintown and Northeast Philadelphia.

Gerald Bertiger, MD, HU '79, was appointed to the board of the National Foundation for Celiac Awareness. Bertiger is a board-certified gastroenterologist in private practice at Hillmont GI in Flourtown, Pa. He has served as the chief of gastroenterology and head of the endoscopy unit at Chestnut Hill Hospital since 1995. He is also on the staff of Lansdale Hospital, part of Abington Health.

'80s

Jeffrey F. Gryn, MD, MCP '82, has joined Hematology and Oncology Associates of Northeastern Pennsylvania and sees patients in its Dunmore and Scranton, Pa., offices. Gryn is board certified in hematology.

Robert O'Connor, MD, MCP '82; MPH, was re-elected as a board member of the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP). O'Connor is physician-in-chief, professor and chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine at the University of Virginia. He also is an emergency physician at Culpeper Regional Hospital. O'Connor has served on the ACEP board of directors since 2010 and as secretary-treasurer for the past year.

Mark Grove, MD, HU '85, chair of the Department of Vascular Surgery at Cleveland Clinic Florida in Weston, was awarded the Len Stuart Distinguished Chair in Vascular Surgery. He has been a staff physician with Cleveland Clinic Florida since 1991.

Gary W. Szydlowski, MD, HU '86, joined Bayhealth Cardiovascular Surgical Associates as chief of cardiovascular and thoracic surgery. Szydlowski previously served as associate chief, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery; chief of section, cardiac surgery; and physician practice leader at the Lehigh Valley Health Network in Allentown, Pa.

Beth Baughman DuPree, MD, HU '87, medical director of the Holy Redeemer Breast Health Program in Southampton, Pa., was honored in 2013 at the University of Pittsburgh Varsity Letter Club award dinner. DuPree was also named one of *More* magazine's "10 Fierce Females" as a leader in health care and inducted into "The Drexel 100."

Joseph W. Fanelle, MD, HU '87, chairman of the Department of Radiation Oncology at the Frank and Edith Scarpa Cancer Pavilion at Inspira Medical Center in Vineland, N.J., was named Inspira Health Network's Physician of the Year. The award is presented by the physician's peers.

Jeffrey Louis Silveira, MD, HU '87, was selected to represent otolaryngology in the International Association of Healthcare Professionals' publication *The Leading Physicians of the World*. Silveira sees patients at Ear, Nose & Throat Clinic of Coffee County in Douglas, Ga. He also practices at Sleep Apnea Treatment Centers of America, of which he is CEO and one of the founders.

Christopher Olivia, MD, HU '88, was honored with Penn State's Outstanding Science Alumni Award. Olivia is the president of Continuum Health Alliance in Marlton, N.J.

Marc D. Colton, MD, MCP '89, a urologist with Morris Urology in Denville and Mine Hill, N.J., was selected as one of the "Top Docs" of 2013 by *Inside Jersey* magazine. He is certified by the American Board of Urology.

Christine Gerbstadt, MD, MCP '89, published a weight-loss self-help book, *Doctor's Detox Diet: The Ultimate Weight Loss Prescription* (Nutronics, 2012). Gerbstadt, who is board certified in anesthesiology and is also a registered dietitian, is a spokesperson for the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

'90s

Ashiwel Undieh, PhD, MCP '90, was appointed associate provost for research at The City College of New York. He previously worked as professor and founding chair of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia.

Kenneth Strauss, PhD, HU '91, associate professor of translational science and molecular medicine at Michigan State University's College of Human Medicine, has been selected as a researcher and principal investigator for the university's new biomedical sciences research facility in Grand Rapids.

Ali Sajjadian, MD, HU '93, a rhinoplasty specialist in Orange County, Calif., was selected by his peers as the 2013–14 president of the Orange County Society of Plastic Surgeons. Sajjadian holds triple board certification from the American Board of Plastic Surgery, the American Board of Otolaryngology, and the American Board of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery.

John Whyte, MD, HU '93, joined the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, a subsidiary of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, as the director of professional affairs and stakeholder engagement. The center is based in Silver Spring, Md. Previously, Whyte was the vice president of health and medical education, and the chief medical expert at the Discovery Channel.

Angela Tama Zang, MD, HU '95, a pediatrician, recently joined Physician Care in Towanda, Pa. Zang is board certified in pediatrics and is a fellow of the American College of Pediatrics. She previously worked as a pediatrician at Children's Hospital Colorado.

Azra Ayubi, MD, HU '96, an obstetrician and gynecologist, joined Piedmont Obstetrics and Gynecology of Frye Regional Medical Center in Hickory, N.C. Ayubi is a fellow of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology and a member of the American Association of Gynecologic Laparoscopists.

Michael Moreno, MD, HU '96, or "Dr. Mike," author of the *New York Times* best-selling book *17 Day Diet Meal Plan*, created a new diet program called the 17 Day Diet Meal Plan by bistroMD. BistroMD delivers meals based on the diet to consumers. Moreno practices family medicine in La Mesa, Calif. He serves on the board of the San Diego Chapter of the American Academy of Family Physicians and has appeared as a guest on television series such as *The Doctors* and *Dr. Phil*.

Charles B. Yarnall, BS, MCPHU '96, a clinical specialist in cardiovascular perfusion at Specialty Care, Inc., at Abington Memorial Hospital, Abington, Pa., was inducted into the Montgomery County Community College Hall of Fame. He is one of only 3,600 licensed cardiac perfusionists in the world.

Curtis Waln, MD, HU '97; Internal Medicine Resident, MCPHU '99, an internist, joined Banner Health Clinic in Greeley, Colo.



Lawrence D. Dodds, PhD, HU '99, an attorney in the Education Law and Family Law Groups at Wisler Pearlstine, Blue Bell, Pa., was a speaker at the 2013 Philadelphia Bar Institute's Exceptional Children Conference. He co-led the session "The New DSM-5: Changes You Need to Know for Your School Law Practice."

'00s

Brian Holzer, MD '01, has been named senior vice president for Diversified Businesses for the Allegheny Health Network, headquartered in Pittsburgh. He previously was executive director of brand management at Nevada-based Spectrum Pharmaceuticals.

Jeffrey M. Pitcher, MD '02, a plastic surgeon, has joined the ReGenesis Plastic Surgery and Skin Care Center in Grand Junction, Colo. Pitcher previously was in practice in Minot, N.D. He is board certified by the American Board of Plastic Surgery.

Mark Tousignant, MD '02, of Backus Physician Services in Norwich, Conn., was selected by the International Association of Healthcare Professionals to be the general surgery representative in their publication *The Leading Physicians of the World*.

Michael Medeiros, MD; MS '03, a neurologist, joined Adventist Health/Physicians Network in Selma, Calif.

Danielle Johnson, MD '04, a psychiatrist at the Lindner Center of Hope in Mason, Ohio, was appointed vice president of the medical staff. Johnson is also an adjunct assistant professor at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine.

Abbas Husain, MD '05, Drexel/Hahnemann Emergency Medicine Resident '08, has been appointed as a fellow of the American College of Emergency Physicians. In addition, he has been promoted to associate program director of the Emergency Medicine Residency Program at Staten Island University Hospital.

Jennifer M. Worth, MD '05, joined Lancaster General Health in Lancaster, Pa. Worth is a specialist in thoracic cardiovascular surgery. She was previously an administrative chief resident in cardiothoracic surgery at Ohio State University Medical Center.

Brendan O'Hare, MD '07, was hired by Saint Thomas Rutherford Hospital in Murfreesboro, Tenn. O'Hare is a gastroenterologist.

Allen Bernas, MD '08, an infectious disease physician, has joined the staff at Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital in Salinas, Calif.

Ariel Savitz, MD '08, was named medical director of the Acquired Brain Injury Program at the New England Rehabilitation Hospital in Woburn, Mass. Savitz is responsible for expanding care to include the establishment of a concussion clinic and enhanced outpatient follow-up and continuity of care. She is board certified in physical medicine and rehabilitation.

Revital Yehezkel, MD '09, an obstetrician and gynecologist, joined the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Mount Auburn Hospital in Cambridge, Mass. She completed her residency at the University of Massachusetts.

'10s

Jennifer B. White, MD '10, a family medicine physician, joined University Primary Care Associates and the medical staff of University Healthcare Jefferson Medical Center in Harpers Ferry, W.Va. White is also an assistant professor at the West Virginia University School of Medicine Eastern Division.

Jason Winkler, MD '10, a pediatrician, joined the medical staff at Northern Westchester Hospital in Scarsdale, N.Y. Winkler also practices at the Pediatric Associates of Westchester in Scarsdale.

Former Interns, Residents and Fellows

Michael Adenaike, MD; Drexel/Hahnemann Internal Medicine Resident '10; Drexel/Hahnemann Cardiology Fellow '13, has joined Summit Cardiology, an affiliate of Summit Health, in Chambersburg, Pa.

Hoda Asmar, MD; Infectious Diseases Resident, HU '96, has joined Comprehensive Pharmacy Services as senior vice president and chief medical officer. Asmar most recently served as SVP/CMO at Presbyterian Healthcare Services in Albuquerque, N.M. She is a member of the board of directors of the American College of Physician Executives.

Manjula Balasubramanian, MD; Pathology Resident, MCP '83, was listed as a co-inventor on a patent, "methods for non-thermal application of gas plasma to living tissue." The patent is assigned to Drexel University.

Priti Bijpuria, MD; Drexel/Hahnemann Gastroenterology Fellow '13, joined Capital Digestive Cares Maryland Digestive Disease Center at its office locations in Ellicott City, Laurel, and Takoma Park, Md. Bijpuria is a diplomate of the American Board of Internal Medicine and a member of the American Gastroenterological Association.

Brian Cooper, MD; Drexel/Hahnemann Cardiology Fellow '12 and Cardiac Electrophysiology Fellow '13, joined Erlanger Health System in Chattanooga, Tenn. Cooper is board certified in internal medicine and cardiology and board eligible in electrophysiology.

Andrey Espinoza, MD; Internal Medicine Resident, HU '00; Drexel/Hahnemann Cardiovascular Disease Fellow '03 and Interventional Cardiology Fellow '04, was selected as a "Top Doctor" for 2013 by *New Jersey Monthly* magazine. Espinoza is an interventional cardiologist and endovascular specialist at Hunterdon Cardiovascular Associates, Flemington, N.J. He is medical director of the cardiac catheterization laboratory and the primary angioplasty program at Hunterdon Medical Center, and director of the Hunterdon Cardiovascular Research Division.

G. Peter Gliebus, MD; Drexel/Hahnemann Neurology Resident '08, has been named director of the Alzheimer's Disease and Cognitive Disorders Program at the Capital Institute for Neurosciences, part of Capital Health, Hopewell Township, N.J. A board-certified neurologist, Gliebus previously was the J. Rosenstone Behavioral Neurology and Neuropsychiatry Fellow at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, in Chicago.

Hussein Kiliddar, MD; Drexel/Hahnemann Pulmonary Disease Fellow '04, has joined the medical staff at the Memorial Hospital of Salem County, Salem, N.J. Kiliddar is board certified in internal medicine, pulmonary disease, sleep medicine, and critical care medicine.

Manish Malik, MD; Drexel/Hahnemann Cardiovascular Disease Fellow '13, joined the Division of Cardiovascular Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania Health System as an instructor of medicine, specializing in consultative cardiology. He is a member of the American College of Cardiology, American College of Physicians, American Society of Echocardiography and American Society of Nuclear Cardiology. Malik also practices at Penn Cardiology in Yardley, Pa., and Willingboro, N.J.

David Mann, MD; Fellow, MCP '81, a cardiac electrophysiologist in private practice in Louisville, Ky., announced his retirement effective January 1, 2014. He previously served as a professor of medicine in the cardiology division of the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in Denver.

Reza Mostofi, MD; Drexel/Hahnemann Internal Medicine Resident, '06, and Hematology and Oncology Fellow, '09, has joined the Oncology Institute of Hope and Innovation's location in Lynwood, Calif. He was previously with Associates in Hematology-Oncology at Crozer Regional Cancer Center, a Fox Chase Cancer Center affiliate in Philadelphia, and also served as assistant clinical professor of medicine at Temple University School of Medicine.

Sylvester Odeke, MD; Endocrinology Fellow, MCPHU '00, became the first endocrinologist with Vidant Medical Group when the network established Vidant Endocrinology-Greenville [N.C.] under his direction. Odeke has held clinical teaching positions at the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University, first as assistant professor, then associate professor, for the past decade.

John Paredes, DO; Internal Medicine Resident, HU '97, has joined Good Shepherd Medical Associates in Longview, Texas. He staffs the Good Shepherd Medical Center Medicine Clinic and supervises the internal medicine residents who work at the clinic while training in the center's residency program. Paredes previously worked for Good Shepherd Medical Associates in Newark, N.J. He is board certified in internal medicine.

Bina J. Patel, MD; Internal Medicine Resident, HU '92, has been named a physician partner at Cenegenics Las Vegas, an age-management medicine physician network. Patel is board certified in internal medicine. She was an institute physician at Cenegenics for five years before being named a physician partner.

Thomas A. Pezzi, MD; Surgery Resident, HU '96, was hired by Caldwell Memorial Hospital, part of the UNC Health Care System, as a general surgeon at Robbins Surgical in Lenoir, N.C. Pezzi is board certified in general surgery. He previously practiced in Fort Walton Beach, Fla.

Nauman Shahid, MD; Drexel/Hahnemann Internal Medicine Resident, '09, and Nephrology Fellow, '11, joined the staff of Eastern Nephrology Associates at the practice's Greenville, N.C., office. Shahid is board certified in internal medicine and nephrology.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Share your professional accomplishments in Alumni Notes. Email your news to pulse@drexelmed.edu.

Read and post more personal notes through the Drexel Online Alumni Directory. Register at alumniconnections.com/olc/pub/DXU.

Don't miss your alumni publications! Send your updated contact information to medical.alumni@drexel.edu

Vera Stewart, MD; Radiology Resident, MCP '82, joined the Tyanna O'Brien Center for Women's Imaging, an affiliate of Mercy Medical Center, in Baltimore, Md. Stewart previously worked at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston and Cape Cod Hospital.

Rodina Vatanparast, MD; Drexel/Hahnemann Internal Medicine Resident, '08, and Hematology and Oncology Fellow, '11, joined the Oncology Institute of Hope and Innovation's location in Downey, Calif. She is board certified in hematology, oncology and internal medicine. Previously, Vatanparast was with the Comprehensive Cancer and Hematology Specialists in New Jersey.

In Memoriam

Alumni

James O. Finnegan, MD, HU '64 October 13, 2013

John A. Gastaldo, MD, HU '72 November 5, 2013

Lois N. Kushner, MD, HU '56 September 28, 2013

Margarette Sophia Rogler, MD, WMC '51
October 11, 2013

George A. Swendiman Jr., MD, HU '46 October 27, 2013

John Raymond Walch, MD, HU '67 September 22, 2013

Faculty

George J. Magovern Sr., MD, professor of cardiothoracic surgery, who was on staff at Allegheny General Hospital, passed away on November 4, 2013, at the age of 89. Known as an innovator, he was recruited to Allegheny in 1959 to develop an open heart surgery program. In 1962, he implanted the first sutureless heart valve (known as the Magovern-Cromie heart valve). In 1963, he performed the world's second lung transplant. In the early '70s, he began performing coronary artery bypass surgery. In the late '70s, he developed the Pittsburgh region's first trauma center, using the Allegheny LifeFlight system. Magovern served as Allegheny's chair of surgery from 1970 to 1994. He was predeceased by his wife, Margaret Ann Magovern, and one son, James A. Magovern, MD. Another son, George Magovern Jr., MD, is a professor of cardiothoracic surgery at Drexel University College of Medicine. He is also survived by four daughters and 14 grandchildren.



DREXEL UNIVERSITY

College of

Medicine

Suite 11484, 1601 Cherry Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102

www.drexelmed.edu

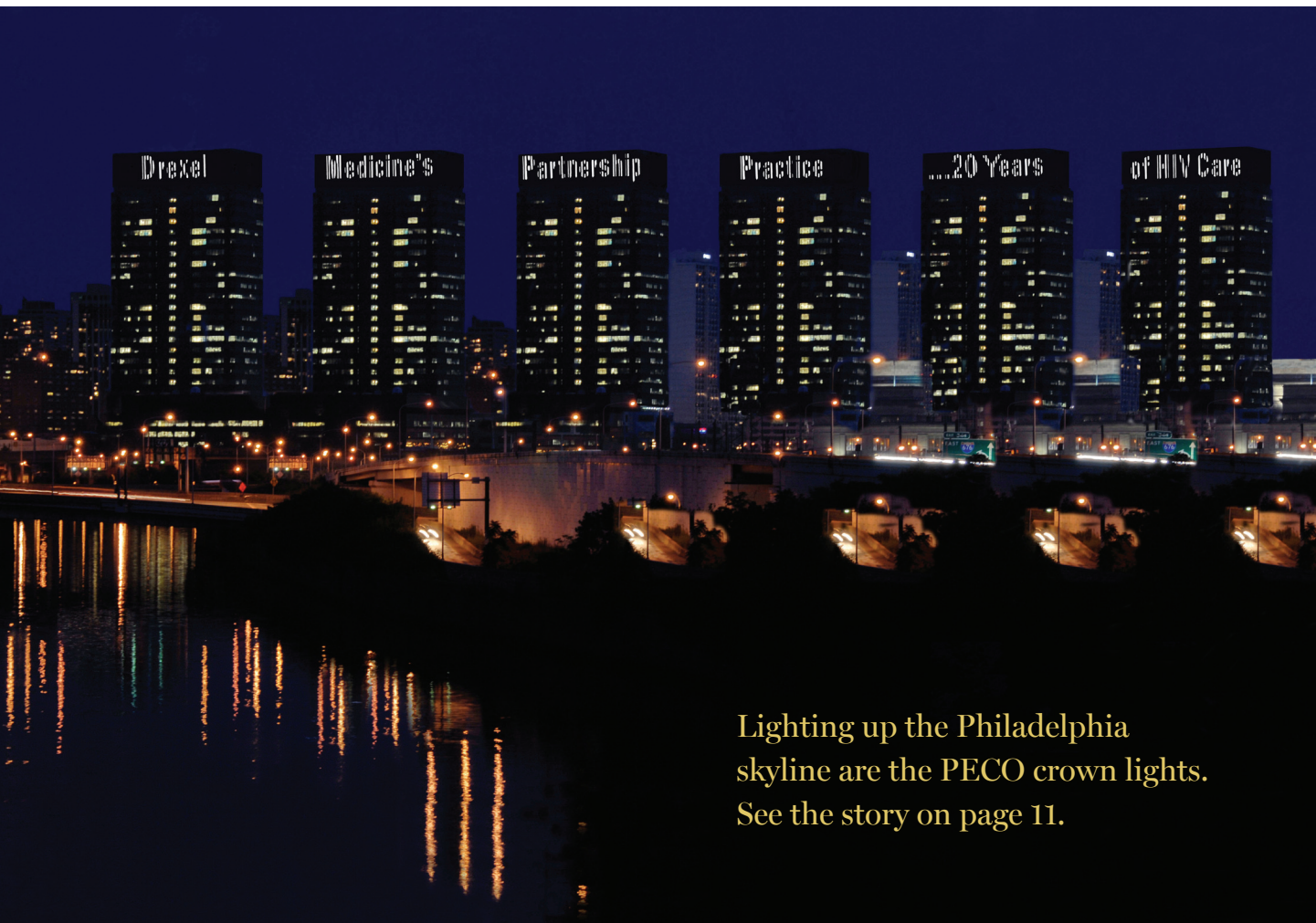
Non-profit Org.

U.S. Postage

PAID

Philadelphia, PA

Permit # 5600



Lighting up the Philadelphia skyline are the PECO crown lights. See the story on page 11.