

NEWSLINE

School of Medicine Newsletter – June/July 2007 – Vol. 10, No. 4

Produced by the Office of Faculty and Instructional Development

Medical College of Virginia Campus, Virginia Commonwealth University

Next Issue, September 2007!

Departmental News deadline is August 15, 2007. Please send your faculty/department achievements to kkreutzer@vcu.edu.

Deans and Chair Search Update (*There is a lot going on!*)

Department of Biostatistics



Dr. Jerry Strauss is pleased to announce **Shumei S. Sun, Ph.D.**, has accepted the position as Chair of the Department of Biostatistics in the School of Medicine beginning November 1, 2007. Dr. Sun received a B.P.H. from the College of Medicine, National Taiwan University and an M.S. in Applied Mathematics and Statistics from SUNY – Stony Brook and her Ph.D. in Biostatistics from the University of Pittsburgh. Most recently she was the Brage Golding Distinguished Professor in the Department of Community Health in the Boonshoft School of Medicine at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio. Dr. Sun has authored 190 research articles and book chapters. She has been the recipient of 46 grants and contracts and her career federal research funding totals over \$30M.

Dr. Sun's research specialty is designing and analyzing longitudinal studies and randomized, controlled clinical trials of growth, body composition, obesity, cardiovascular disease and metabolic disorders. She has experience in all aspects of study design, data management and data analysis of the Fels Longitudinal Study and other research projects.

In 1996 and 2002 she received the Presidential Award for Research Excellence from Wright State University. She also was the recipient of the Wright State University International Women's Day Tribute in recognition of her work with and for Women Across Cultures. She participated in Executive Leadership for Women in Academic Medicine (ELAM) in 1998-1999. She also has been a member of NIH Scientific Review Committees in Epidemiology and the Disease Control Study Section. *Thanks to the Biostatistics Search Committee and Dr. John Clore, Chair, for their good work!*

Department of Physiology

The search for the chair of Physiology remains active. The search committee is chaired by **Dr. Gordon Archer (Internal Medicine and Associate Dean for Research)**.

Senior Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs position

The Search Committee, led by **Dr. Bela Sood (Psychiatry)**, has interviewed and reviewed comments on the first round of candidates. Recommendations on the top three candidates have gone to the Dean. The candidates are excellent and second visits are being scheduled.

Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

The School of Medicine is recruiting for the position of Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education. This position will be responsible for leadership in the development and evaluation of undergraduate medical education including the design and programming of a new School of Medicine building, which is planned for construction. The successful candidate should also be experienced in working with diverse constituencies; demonstrate an ability to work effectively with administrators, faculty, students, and staff; and possess excellent interpersonal and communication skills. Salary and rank will be based on the applicant's experience.

To be considered for this position, the individual must hold a medical degree and have credentials meriting appointment at the rank of Associate for Full Professor with tenure. The successful candidate will be required to commit 80 percent of his/her time to carrying out the duties of this position. The remaining 20 percent will be dedicated to responsibilities of the department from which the individual receives a faculty appointment.

More detailed information regarding the position can be found on the VCU Human Resources website at www.pubinfo.vcu.edu/facjobs/facjobs.asp?Item=2674

To apply, please submit a letter of interest, curriculum vitae including relevant experience, and three letters of reference to Joan Barrett at jmbarret@vcu.edu or Box 980565.

The Search Committee (**Dr. Joel Silverman, Chair**) has had an initial meeting and advertisements are being placed in the appropriate journals. This is a national search and internal candidates are invited to apply.

Sr. Associate Dean for Finance and Administration

The Search Committee has been announced, with **Dr. Anton Kuzel** (Chair, Family Medicine) serving as Chair, including:

Dr. Tilahun (Tilay) Adera, Chair, Dept. of Epidemiology & Community Health /Assoc. Dean for Public Health

Dr. Gordon Archer, Associate Dean for Research, School of Medicine, Dean's Office

Ms. Dianna Chinnici, Associate VP Finance and Administration VCU Budget Operations

Dr. Jan Chlebowski, Associate Dean for Graduate Education, School of Medicine, Dean's Office

Dr. Ann Fulcher, Chair, Radiology

Mr. Alan Johns, Assistant Vice President for Health Sciences, Office of VP for Health Sciences

Mr. James Potyraj, Associate Dean for the Practice Plan, MCV Physicians

Dr. John Povlishock, Chair, Department of Anatomy & Neurobiology

Mr. Dominic (Dom) Puleo, Chief Financial Officer, Office of the CEO, VCU Health System

Dr. John Seeds, Chair, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology,

Dr. Wilhelm (Wil) Zuelzer, Associate Professor, Orthopaedic Surgery

The search firm of Witt-Keiffer has presented the Search Committee with a list of 10 candidates. The Search Committee is reviewing the CVs and will present a "short" list to the Dean for invitations to interview shortly. This position announcement is posted at <http://www.pubinfo.vcu.edu/facjobs/facjob.asp?Item=2590>.

Chief Operating Officer for MCVH

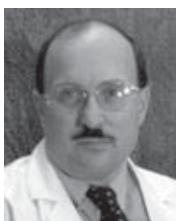


Deborah Davis will be joining the VCU Health System's executive team as the Chief Operating Officer of MCV Hospitals on July 16th. Ms. Davis comes from Pitt County Memorial Hospital, a component organization of University Health Systems of Eastern Carolina. Ms. Davis has held a number of key leadership roles during her 32 years at the hospital, serving most recently as its President. In her role as Chief Operating Officer she will assume leadership of day-to-day hospital operations, compliance, capital construction and other key responsibilities.

Under her leadership, Pitt County Memorial Hospital earned Magnet recognition, was recognized as a 100 Best Companies for Working Mothers by Working Mother magazine, and received a top 100 hospitals ranking by Solucient. A Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives, she is a recognized leader nationally and serves on numerous boards and councils for the AMA, AAMC/Council of Teaching Hospitals, and other national organizations. Ms. Davis is also an active community leader.

I want to express my gratitude for the excellent job done by Dr. David Wilkinson and the search committee in identifying a candidate of the caliber of Deborah Davis. Committee members included Debbie Bolling, Dr. Lenore Buckley, Ann Charles-Craft, Maria Curran, Paul Dalby and Linda Pearson. Thank you for your efforts. *(from announcement from John F. Duval, Chief Executive Officer, MCV Hospitals, VCU Health System)*

MCVP Board Election



Dr. Zuelzer



Dr. Wilkinson

The MCV Physicians held the nomination process for a Chair position and for a Non-Chair position on the 9-member Board. There was a very high level of participation, and 160 nominations were received for the 12 candidates who were interested in the position. This is the highest number of candidates and the highest number of ballots in recent memory. **Dr. Wilhelm Zuelzer, Jr.**, Associate Professor of Orthopedic Surgery, was selected as a the non-chair member of the Board, and will serve an additional three-year term. **Dr. David Wilkinson**, Chairman of Pathology, was selected as the Chair member and will serve a second three year term. *(Thanks to James Potyraj, Executive Director, MCV Physicians, Associate Dean, SOM, for this information .)*

Judy L. Brannen, MD, MBA, Appointed Chief of Staff at McGuire VAMC



In this capacity, Dr. Brannen also serves as Associate Dean for Veterans Affairs, VCU SOM. Dr. Brannen has been the Interim Chief of Staff since July 2004 and was first appointed as Staff Physician in July 1988. She also served as Chief, Medical Education and Quality Management Section from July 1993 – June 2000. Prior to assignment as Interim Chief of Staff, she was the Associate Chief of Staff for Quality Management Service, July 2000 – July 2004. Dr. Brannen is a veteran having served as Lieutenant Commander in the US Navy Reserve from September 1989 – September 1997 and was called to active duty to the Portsmouth Naval Hospital August 1990-April 1991.

Dr. Brannen received her MBA in May 2000 from the University of Richmond, received her MD degree from VCU in 1985 and completed an Internship and Residency in Internal Medicine at VCU in 1988. She is Board Certified in Internal Medicine and Geriatric Medicine. Professional societies include the AMA, AAMC, and Richmond Society of Internal Medicine. Dr. Brannen has served as an Clerkship Director in Internal Medicine and continues to serve on many local and national hospital and university committees. ***Congratulations on this new appointment!***



Please Join Us in Welcoming These New Faculty!
(Jan-July 1, 2007)

Department/Division	Name	Degree	Academic Rank	Location	Start Date	*Category
Anatomy & Neurobiology	Melissa J. McGinn	Ph.D.	Assistant Professor	MCV Campus	06/10/07	Teaching/Research
	Alexandre Medina	Ph.D.	Assistant Professor	MCV Campus	06/10/07	Teaching/Research
Anesthesiology	Maged Hamza	M.D.	Associate Professor	MCV Campus	04/01/07	M.D. Clinical
	Pingle S. Reddy	M.D.	Associate Professor	MCV Campus	07/01/07	M.D. Clinical
	Dina E. Soliman	M.D.	Assistant Professor	MCV Campus	04/16/07	M.D. Clinical
Biochemistry & Molecular Biology	Andrew C. Larner	M.D., Ph.D.	Professor	MCV Campus	06/11/07	Teaching/Research
	Michael W. Maceyka	Ph.D.	Instructor	MCV Campus	04/01/07	Teaching/Research
Biostatistics	Nitai D. Mukhopadhyay	Ph.D.	Assistant Professor	MCV Campus	06/06/07	Teaching/Research
	Leroy R. Thacker	M.S.	Assistant Professor	MCV Campus	01/03/07	Teaching/Research
	Jacob A. Wegelin	Ph.D.	Assistant Professor	MCV Campus	07/01/07	Teaching/Research
Dermatology	Calvin O. McCall	M.D.	Associate Professor	MCV Campus	06/01/07	M.D. Clinical
Family Medicine	Daniel R. Longo	Ph.D.	Professor	MCV Campus	03/01/07	Teaching/Research
	Mark H. Ryan	M.D.	Assistant Clinical Professor	MCVP	08/13/07	
Internal Medicine	Rahim Kassamali	M.D.		MCV Campus	07/01/07	
	Beth K. Rubinstein	M.D.	Assistant Professor	MCV Campus	09/01/07	M.D. Clinical
Internal Medicine, Cardiology	Antonio Abbate	M.D.	Assistant Professor	MCV Campus	04/15/07	M.D. Clinical
	Anindita Das	Ph.D.	Assistant Professor	MCV Campus	06/01/07	Teaching/Research
Internal Medicine, General Medicine & Primary Care	Shamima Sattar	M.D.	Assistant Professor	VAMC	03/01/07	
	Zahra Shariff	M.D.	Assistant Professor	VAMC	03/01/07	
	Hasan M. Yousuf	M.D., MPH	Assistant Professor	VAMC	03/01/07	
Medicine - Deans Office	Lelia E. Brinegar	M.Ed.	Assistant Professor	MCV Campus	01/03/07	

Neurology	Robert Blair	Ph.D.	Assistant Professor	MCV Campus	02/10/07	Teaching/Research
Ophthalmology	Kimberly Doty	M.D.	Assistant Professor	VAMC	03/01/07	
Otolaryngology	Charles	M.D.	Clinical Professor	MCVP	07/01/07	
Pediatrics	Mayuri Lakdawala	M.D.	Instructor	MCV Campus	07/01/07	M.D. Clinical
	N. Ramesh Wijesooriya	M.D.	Instructor	MCV Campus	07/01/07	M.D. Clinical
Pediatrics, Genetics/ Endocrinology/ Metabolism	Anshu Gupta	M.D.	Assistant Clinical Professor	MCVP	07/01/07	
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation	Juan Carlos Arango- Lasprilla	Ph.D.	Assistant Professor	MCV Campus	02/15/07	Teaching/Research
	Yaoming	M.D.	Assistant Professor	MCV Campus	02/01/07	M.D. Clinical
Psychiatry	Seon Sook An	Ph.D.	Research Associate	MCV Campus	04/10/07	Teaching/Research
	Danielle M. Dick	Ph.D.	Assistant Professor	MCV Campus	07/01/07	Teaching/Research
	Vladimir I. Vladimirov	Ph.D.	Assistant Professor	MCV Campus	03/25/07	Teaching/Research
Psychiatry, Child Psychiatry	Valerie H. Bishop	LCSW	Assistant Professor	MCV Campus	04/16/07	Non-M.D. Clinical
Radiology	Rakesh Agarwal	M.D.	Instructor	MCV Campus	07/01/07	M.D. Clinical
	Marco A. Amendola	M.D.	Professor	MCV Campus	08/01/07	M.D. Clinical
	William S. Conrad	M.D.	Instructor	MCV Campus	07/01/07	M.D. Clinical
	Michael P.I. Habeeb	M.D.	Instructor	MCV Campus	07/01/07	M.D. Clinical
	Ashley G. Merritt	M.D.	Instructor	MCV Campus	07/01/07	M.D. Clinical
	James Primich	M.D.	Instructor	MCV Campus	07/01/07	M.D. Clinical
Radiology Diagnostic Radiology	Sarah J. Fitch	M.D.	Associate Professor	MCV Campus	03/01/07	M.D. Clinical
Social & Behavioral Health	Levent Dumenci	Ph.D.	Associate Professor	MCV Campus	06/01/07	Teaching/Research
	Sally K. Norton	MPH	Research Assistant	MCV Campus	01/03/07	Teaching/Research
Surgery Vascular Surgery	Joel A. Berman	M.D.	Associate Professor	MCV Campus	01/15/07	M.D. Clinical
	Lorraine M. Wolpert	M.D.	Assistant Professor	MCV Campus	01/15/07	M.D. Clinical

*Faculty appointment category is indicated for those paid by VCU SOM on MCV Campus

New Outside Professional Activities (OPA) Reporting Procedures

As outlined in detail in **Dr. Strauss' June 11 memo**, in order to facilitate the approval and reporting of OPA, the SOM in conjunction with the University has developed a web-based OPA reporting and approval system. This web-based system should be ready for implementation by July 1, 2007. The web-based approach replaces the cumbersome paper form approach that has been used since the 1980's. Faculty will be able to easily login to the OPA web site using your VCU eID and password. The web-based system will keep an electronic record of reported outside professional activities so that the required annual reporting will be simplified.

Each Department Chair has been charged with developing a set of written guidelines and procedures for OPA that are consistent with the School's guidelines and University policy but allows a department to adopt its own unique set of procedures. If a department does not have an approved set of OPA guidelines and procedures, the department will default to the SOM OPA Guidelines and Procedures. Your Department Chair will provide you with information regarding your department's OPA procedures prior to July 1, 2007. The SOM policy is at http://www.medschool.vcu.edu/faculty_staff/policies/index.html.



Inova Campus Recognizes Faculty with Teaching Awards

On May 2, the VCU SOM Inova Campus recognized 34 faculty and residents for teaching excellence as part of a faculty development program. Dr. Jerry Strauss, Dean, addressed some 120 practitioners, residents, and administrators in attendance about the “Vision for the Future of the VCU SOM and Inova Relationship,” and thanked the Inova faculty for their excellent contributions to the clinical education of our medical students. The first class of 24 medical students who completed their clinical training (M3 and M4 years) at the Inova Campus graduated this spring.

Other topics discussed during the program included results of a student mistreatment survey, evaluation of clinical student performance using the “passport” to document patient encounters, and an LCME update. Presenters were Dr. Ike Wood, Associate Dean for Student Affairs, Dr. Jim Messmer, Sr. Associate Dean for Medical Education, and Dr. Elizabeth Waterhouse, Assistant Dean for Clinical Education, from the MCV Campus. Dr. Craig Cheifetz, Assistant Dean for Medical Education, Inova Campus, chaired the faculty development program and the teaching awards presentation. Thanks to Dr. Cheifetz, Sarina Luangkhot, and Alyssa Thurman from the Inova Campus, and Kathy Kreutzer and Carol Hampton, MCV Campus for arranging the session. Thanks to Dr. Russ Seneca, Associate Dean, VCU SOM, Inova Campus, for his continuing support. *Congratulations to the award winners!*

Family Medicine	Internal Medicine
Top Clinical Educator: Marjorie Hermes, MD	Top Clinical Educator: Alita Mishra, MD
Top Resident Teacher: Josh Edward Lewis, MD	Top Community Preceptor: Ellen Jenkins, M.D.
Certificate, Clinical Educator: Steven Crossman, MD	Top Resident Teacher: Gopi Manthripragada, MD
Certificate, Resident Teacher: Britta Johnson, MD	Certificate, Clinical Educator: Chalapathy Venkatesan, MD
	Certificate, Community Preceptor: Ali Assefi, MD
	Certificate, Resident Teacher: Wyatt Ehrlander, MD
Neurology	Obstetrics and Gynecology
Top Teaching Faculty: Lewis Eberly, MD	Top Clinical Educator: Samantha Buery-Joyner, MD
Certificate, Teaching Faculty: John Cochran, MD	Top Resident Teacher: Ruchi Puri, MD
	Certificate, Clinical Educator: Rasha Ebeid, MD
	Certificate, Resident Teacher: Sheneika Walker, MD
Pediatrics	Psychiatry
Top Clinical Educator: Karen Carpenter, MD	Top Clinical Educator: Cynthia Gauss, MD
Top Community Preceptor: Carolina Duall, MD	Top Resident/Fellow Teacher: Michael Marcangelo, MD
Top Resident Teacher: Karim Sadak, MD	Certificate, Clinical Educator: Van Nguyen, MD
Certificate, Clinical Educator: Alicia Freedy, MD	Certificate, Resident/Fellow Teacher: Cindy Shappell, MD
Certificate, Community Preceptor: Rajesh Raman, MD	
Certificate, Resident Teacher: Christine Sunia, DO	
Surgery	Emergency Medicine
Top Clinical Educator: Dai Vinh, MD	Top Clinical Educator: Peter Auerbach, MD
Top Specialty Preceptor: Joseph Watson, MD	Certificate, Clinical Educator: Robert Vezzetti, MD
Top Resident Teacher: Stanley Okosun, MD	
Certificate, Clinical Educator: John Moynihan, MD	
Certificate, Specialty Preceptor: Josef Gurian, MD	
Certificate, Resident Teacher: Edward “Chip” Malin, MD	



The Golden Apple Award

The Golden Apple Award goes to the faculty member who received the most number of votes from the students during the nomination process. This educator represents the ongoing tradition of teaching excellence fostered at the VCU School of Medicine Inova Campus. This was awarded to **Dr. Samantha Buery-Joyner**, Obstetrics-Gynecology.

Dr. Andrea Pozez becomes VCU's 10th ELAM Fellow



Dr. Andrea Pozez, Professor of Surgery and Chair, Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, has been selected as a 2007-2008 Fellow in the national Hedwig van Ameringen Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine Program for Women. She is one of 48 selected from across the US and Canada, and is the 10th faculty member in 12 years sponsored by our SOM for the prestigious leadership program generally referred to as **ELAM**.

ELAM was established in 1995 and is the only in-depth national program that focuses on preparing women faculty at medical and dental schools in the U.S. and Canada for senior institutional leadership positions at academic health centers. Since its inception, some 475 women faculty have participated in ELAM and serve in numerous leadership positions within academic medicine.

Past VCU SOM ELAM Fellows are Dr. Suzanne Barbour, Biochemistry (2006-07); Dr. Susan Kornstein, Psychiatry and Women's Health Institute COE (2005-06); Dr. Michelle Whitehurst-Cook, Family Medicine (2004-05); Dr. Betty Ann Johnson, Internal Medicine (2003-04); Dr. Bela Sood, Psychiatry (2002-03); Dr. Karen Sanders, Internal Medicine (2001-02); Dr. Mary Nettleman, Internal Medicine (2000-01), Dr. Lisa Kaplowitz, Internal Medicine (1999-00), and Dr. Roberta Sonnino, Surgery (1997-98). VCU is among the top 10% of medical schools who have ELAM Fellows.

Margaret Grimes, M.D., Appointed Chair of GMEC



We are pleased to announce that Dr. Margaret Grimes will chair the Graduate Medical Education Committee effective July 1. Dr. Grimes has been a member of the GMEC since 1997 in its old format and as a chair of the Accreditation Review Committee since 2001. Her role as a pathologist and undergraduate medical education leader go ahead of her. However, many may not know of her numerous roles outside the institution in GME. She has been in leadership positions of the Program Directors Section of the Association of Pathology Chairs since 2000. She was on the ERAS Advisory Committee from 2001-2002 and has been on the RRC for Pathology since 2000 and as chair of the RRC from 2005 until she steps down at the end of this year. She goes from the RRC to her current role as a trustee for the American Board of Pathology. Dr. Grimes received her MD degree from New York Medical College and completed an Internship in Internal Medicine and a Residency in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology at VCU. Following a Fellowship in Surgical Pathology at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center, she was appointed an assistant professor of pathology at Columbia-Presbyterian until 1990 when she joined the faculty in the VCU Department of Pathology and has risen to rank of Professor. She is currently pursuing a Masters in Education at VCU.

Dr. Grimes has been a strong advocate for quality and excellence in all aspects of medical education and we look forward to her leading the GMEC to even higher levels.

We have seen tremendous growth and development in Graduate Medical Education, much of this has happened since the GMEC was reorganized in 2001, and Dr. Carlos Arancibia led the committee through all of the change. He supported the GMEC through the introduction of the competencies and into and through the Duty Hours Rules. Carlos has been a strong leader and so giving of his time and talents and we thank him for his service.



Call for Nominations: 2007 School of Medicine Teaching Excellence Awards

- Faculty Teaching Excellence Award (the School's highest recognition for teaching)
- Irby-James Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching
- Educational Innovation/Educational Research Award
- Distinguished Mentor Award

Deadline for Nomination Form & all documentation: Friday, July 13. Submit nomination packages to Carol Hampton, Associate Dean, Box 980565, Sanger 1-017.

Eligibility: Faculty, administrators, residents, students, postdocs, or a candidate may nominate any School of Medicine faculty members teaching in UGME, GME, CME, graduate education or other schools/programs. Previous nominees/ packages may be updated and resubmitted.

What to include in the Nomination Package:

- Nomination form, go to <http://www.medschool.vcu.edu/ofid/fd.html>
- An up-to-date CV of nominee
- Letters of recommendation/support no more than 12
- Other documentation such as student evaluations, educational activities, examples, innovations, outcomes, etc.

Questions: contact Carol Hampton, carol.hampton@vcu.edu, 8-6594, or Debbie Stewart, dstewart@vcu.edu, 8-6591. Sample nomination packages of previous years' winners can be viewed in Faculty & Instructional Development, Sanger 1-017.

Join us for the School of Medicine 13th Annual New Faculty Orientation 2007 and Faculty Excellence Awards

Get a "quick start" to leaders, programs, and resources to help support your teaching, research, clinical service, and career development: Location (all sessions): Kontos Medical Sciences Building.

Day 1: ½ day – Tuesday, October 9 8 am – 12:00 pm
SOM Overview, Career Planning

Faculty Excellence Awards 12:10 – 1:00 pm
followed by a luncheon reception on the plaza

Day 2: ½ day – Wednesday, October 10 8 am – 12:30 pm
The Clinical Enterprise
Educational Environment & Resources

Day 3: ½ day – Thursday, November 1 8 am – 12:30 pm
Research: Getting Started at VCU
Presented with the **VCU Office of Research**

All School of Medicine Faculty are welcome to join us for all or part of the program.

Research Opportunities Expand for Students, Residents, & Faculty



Many opportunities are availing themselves for students on the research front. Beginning with the 2008-2009 academic year, medical students will have the opportunity to take a year out from school to pursue research. Tuition will be covered by the School and there will be a stipend. Research may be either clinical or basic and, at the end of the year, students who complete established milestones will receive a Masters degree in the appropriate discipline. It is advisable for students who want to do clinical research to take their year out after their M3 year while students doing basic research can do so after either M2 or M3. Those taking the year out after M3 can use elective time during M4 to complete or continue projects. There will be a limited number of slots and entry will be competitive.

Also, in the fall of 2007, the Departments of Internal Medicine and Psychiatry began short-track or research-focused residency programs to attract residents who envision careers in academic medicine. The Internal Medicine program shortens the general medicine portion of training to move residents more rapidly into subspecialty training, followed by intensive research training. Psychiatry weaves research training into the clinical portion of the residency. Candidates for each of these tracks will be expected to demonstrate previous research training. Having a PhD or Masters degree (see above) will be an important measure of previous research achievement.

In the past year, 13 research-intensive faculty members have been added to the SOM. They range in rank from Assistant Professor to full Professor; five are MD or MD/PhD; and all but three have NIH grant funding. The three unfunded are junior faculty who are just beginning their research careers. Searches for additional faculty are continuing at a rapid pace in oncology, neuroscience, immunology, metabolism and women's health.

Forbes Day

On Friday, May 18, the 35th Annual John C. Forbes Research Symposium recognized the Graduates of our Certificate, Master's and Ph.D. programs for the academic year 2006-07 and achievement by students. Participants in the Forbes Research Symposium, our Clayton, Waller, Phi Kappa Phi Scholarship and Lindau award winners were recognized as well as individuals who were recognized by their departments/programs for achievement.

The John C. Forbes Research Symposium honors the memory of John Forbes who pioneered research and graduate education on this campus back in the 1930's. His efforts and that of colleagues resulted in the initiation of advanced degree training at what was then the Medical College of Virginia and indeed the first graduates (M.S. awardees in Biochemistry... one male, one female) were mentored by Dr. Forbes. The student research presentations were initiated to continue the sharing of scholarship that was a tenet of Dr. Forbes leadership. On his passing, a faculty group and the Forbes family commissioned a portrait which was given prominent display in the MCV Alumni House. This year the portrait was moved to the Sanger Hall, Room 1-025 Conference Room with the permission of the Forbes family, a location most suitable as it is the meeting place of many activities involving advanced degree education, including our monthly meeting of Graduate Program Directors as the MCV Campus Graduate Committee.



Project ACEe Students Recipients of 2007 Gates Millennium Scholarships

Darryl Stephens and **Barbaratta Whitaker**, 2006 Project ACEe participants, were recently honored with 2007 Gates Millennium Scholarships. They were among four Richmond City students who will receive a full scholarship to the colleges of their choice for undergraduate and graduate studies. Each student has a 4.0 or higher grade point average and all are entering college this fall. Mr. Stephens will attend the College of William and Mary and Ms. Whitaker will attend either Spelman College or Howard University. The School of Medicine and the Health Careers Opportunity Program of VCU developed and implemented Project ACEe, a program targeting disadvantaged high school students, to promote and encourage health awareness, interest, ability and/or commitment in pursuing a career in medicine. The program is a five-month academic enrichment experience designed to expose students from the Richmond Metropolitan area to the health professions, specifically medicine, and to provide them with academic survival skills. It also provides students with clinical experiences, through which they gain first-hand knowledge about medical careers. The goal of Project ACEe is to increase the number of minority and/or disadvantaged health care practitioners who will practice in the state of Virginia. *(Thanks to Donna Jackson, MEd, Director, Office of Student Outreach Services, SOM, for this information)*



Did You Know?

Aradhana 'Bela' Sood, M.D., head of child and adolescent psychiatry at VCU SOM, is serving on an eight-member panel reviewing the massacre at Virginia Tech, which occurred April 16, 2007. The panel, appointed by Governor Timothy Kaine, is evaluating the circumstances surrounding the tragedy at Virginia Tech.



Copyright and the Classroom

Confused about what you can share legitimately with your students in the classroom? Intellectual property issues do not always have a clear cut answer but often you do not need to seek permission or pay a fee for using copyrighted works. The Association of Research Libraries has now produced an informative brochure of practical information for faculty and teaching assistants.

"Know Your Copy Rights" is available for free on the web at <http://www.knowyourcopyrights.org/> along with other resources and tips for using copyrighted works. Check out the especially useful chart of situations you might encounter in live classrooms or on Blackboard sites.

For more information on copyright, publishing, and scholarship visit the VCU Libraries' Scholarly Communication Issues website at <http://www.library.vcu.edu/scholarcomm/> or contact Lynne Turman, luturman@vcu.edu , x8-0638.

Student Clinician's Ceremony on Friday, July 27

All SOM faculty are invited to attend the M3 Student Clinician Ceremony with luncheon reception following 11am- 12pm, MSB Auditorium. The ceremony serves several purposes. It marks the threshold as our student move from the preclinical to the clinical years. It also give us the chance to recognize six members of the housestaff who have been recognized by students as exemplifying humanism in the practice of medicine and excellence in teaching. This years awardees are:

Ajo Joy, M.D.
U. Sint Eustatius SOM, 2004
Department of Neurology

Richard A. Stanger, M.D.
Albert Einstein COM, 2006
Department of Neurosurgery

Tavanaiepour Daryoush, M.D.
University of Otago SOM, 2003
Department of Neurosurgery

Marc A. Lotano, M.D.
VCU School of Medicine, 2006
Department of Anesthesiology

Michael P. Stevens, M.D.
VCU School of Medicine, 2004
Department of Internal Medicine

Makeba Williams, M.D.
Meharry Medical College, 2004
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

In addition, the keynote speaker will be **Laurie Lyckholm, M.D.**, Page Professor of Bioethics and Humanities and the 2006 Faculty Recipient of the Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award.

The ceremony will be held in the MSB Auditorium from 11 a.m. to 12 noon, followed by a luncheon reception. It would be wonderful to see faculty supporting this worthwhile event. *Please RSVP to Janet Mundie 8-9791 or jhmundie@vcu.edu.*



Did You Know?

The American Medical Student Association's new scorecard for grading medical schools according to their policies for preventing pharmaceutical companies from marketing drugs directly to students ranks us among 40 schools to receive an F. AMSA describes the F grade as "No policy, no discussion or the school has decided not to form a policy; students encouraged to interact with industry representatives." Of the 117 schools that responded, only 14 received an A or B. See the full article at: <http://chronicle.com/daily/2007/05/2007051107n.htm> .

Student-Organized Series Focuses on Culture and Healthcare

A physician walks in to the exam room and finds the patient kneeling on the floor, mumbling. Thinking the patient fell off the exam table and hit his head, the physician tries to help the patient to his feet, but the patient resists and becomes agitated. What would you do?

Would it help to know that the patient was Muslim and it was time for mid-day prayers? Using this case study and others like it, three panelists led students in learning about a few Islamic requirements that could impact their delivery of care to Muslim patients. Addressing issues like modesty, dietary restrictions and fasting, the discussion was part of a six-week series designed by students to introduce their fellow classmates to cultures that might be unfamiliar.

"We knew that our fellow students were interested in learning about health disparities and cultural competency," explained Ali Khan, a second-year student who is president of the student group Physicians for Human Rights. PHR teamed up with the MCV Campus chapter of the Student National Medical Association to put together a series of lectures.

So well-conceived and organized that it can earn participants elective credit on their transcripts, the series also included panels on Latino and minority health along with issues that physicians might encounter when treating lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender patients. In order to secure elective credit, students must also volunteer service hours at an area free health clinic.

The elective has been approved by the Curriculum Council to be offered annually. "We've been able to use the generosity of the Annual Fund as an incubator of sorts for longitudinal curricular change - driven by students - at the School of Medicine," said Ali. "That's an incredible resource for the entire student body to rely on -- and one that definitely sets apart the School of Medicine." (*excerpted from School of Medicine eNews*)



New and Renovated Facilities

Construction on the new Medical Sciences Building II has begun and work on the foundation is moving ahead. Renovation of the Third Floor of Sanger Hall for the new Chair of Physiology will begin soon and construction of the Center for Obstructive Pulmonary Disease on Sanger Seven is on schedule, slated to be completed by the end of the summer. Renovations to the third floor of the Egyptian Building are complete, providing four new small group teaching room for the Foundations of Clinical Medicine Course and a 40-seat conference room. In addition, beginning in the fall M1 and M2 students will be assigned a locker in the new locker space on the third floor of the Egyptian Building. This is the first time ever that M1 and M2 students will have their own lockers. A card reader will allow students access to the building after hours. The new locker space is part of the renovations to the Egyptian building that have increased the small group space for FCM.

During the Summer, the Computer Based Instruction Lab (CBIL) will undergo a complete renovation made possible by facility improvement funds from the Dean's Office. The new and improved CBIL will feature a state-of-the-art classroom to support group teaching as well as individual study; improved facilities for student services such as copying, printing, and curriculum reference materials; dedicated space for medical simulation equipment, and a conference room. The interior design plan includes 45 modern workstations for the lab and classroom; updated seating; and a fresh décor color pallet. CBIL service desk and a mini-CBIL facility are relocated to the Egyptian Building third floor during the renovation. Students and faculty are welcome!



Did You Know?

An innovative program which allows residents to practice their clinical empathy skills was recently featured in the Washington Post. The four week pilot program uses a collaboration between theater and medicine. Designed by theater department chairman David S. Leong, associate professor of theater Aaron Anderson and internist Alan Dow, M.D., the associate director of residency training, the program attempts to nurture the skills required to be more humanistic and more effective doctors. See: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/05/14/AR2007051401008.html>

SOM Admissions Committee Update

The Admissions Committee has selected the rising M4 committee members for the 2007-08 school year: **Natalie Ayres, Bella Gabice, Danielle Miranda, Myo Myint, Michelle Palumbo, Zeina Saliba, Neil Sheth, Chris Somerville, and Mireille Truong.** These students have agreed to put in the extra work it will take to help in reviewing over 2700 files and completing over 700 interviews. We are very grateful to them and appreciative of their service to the school.

Currently, the matriculating medical school class, which is to begin in August, 2007, is full. The waitlist has been formalized and many are anxiously hoping a seat will open. The average MCAT score this year is 30.5 and the average undergraduate GPA is 3.6. In total this past year, there were 5700 applications. Of those, 3300 were invited to submit supplemental applications and 730 interviewed. We continue to attract many outstanding candidates from both in and out-of-state.



A.D. Williams Awards for July 2007 Award Cycle Announced

The A.D. Williams family left a generous bequest to support medical scholarship and research at the Medical College of Virginia. Today these funds are administered by a committee including the Vice President of the Health Sciences Division

of VCU and the Deans of the five schools on the MCV campus. The Committee annually allots a portion of these funds to foster and support research and faculty development. It also sponsors outstanding researcher awards, the recipients of which are chosen by the individual schools. In addition, the MCV Foundation contributes funds from endowments specifically designated for medical research or research into specific diseases or conditions. Monies from these disease-related funds are used to support appropriate A. D. Williams research applications and are not available for direct solicitation.

The awards for July 1, 2007 are:

A.D. Williams Research Grants:

Dr. Shobha Ghosh, Associate Professor of Internal Medicine, Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, was awarded \$25,000.00 in support of her application entitled: "Cholesteryl Ester Hydrolysis and Cholesterol Efflux." *Note this is a bridge application. This support will all come from the A. D. Williams Trust Funds.

Dr. Dianne Pawluk, Assistant Professor of Biomedical Engineering, was awarded \$14,568 in support of her application entitled: "The Validation of a Test-bed Haptic Device for Examining the Utility of New Tactile Graphical Representations for People who are Blind or Visually Impaired." This support will come as \$6,000 from the Friel Foundation Trust Funds and \$8,568 from the A. D. Williams Trust Funds.

Dr. R. Wayne Barbee, Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine, was awarded \$15,000 in support of his application entitled: "Increased Vulnerability of the Hypertensive Subject to Hemorrhagic Shock." This support will all come from the A. D. Williams Trust Funds.

A.D. Williams Faculty Development Awards:

Dr. George F. Moxley, Associate Professor of Internal Medicine, Division of Rheumatology and Immunology, was awarded \$2,500 in support of his application entitled: "Gene Expression Profiles in Osteoarthritis Clinical Variants." This support will all come from the A. D. Williams Trust Funds. For more information, including applications: <http://views.vcu.edu/adw/>

CME Opportunities

Pediatrics at the Beach: July 20-22, Hilton Oceanfront Hotel in Virginia Beach. The 29th Annual Pediatric Primary Care Conference features three half-day sessions that include topics in Emergency Medicine, Primary Care and Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics.

Controversies and Updates in the Management of Prostate Cancer, Sept. 28-29, 2007, Jefferson Hotel. The conference is designed for physicians and other health care professionals who deliver care to patients with prostate cancer. This conference will cover the latest issues and updates in the management of prostate cancer in the areas of surgery, radiation therapy, systematic therapies, imaging and the economics of prostate cancer. Plenary sessions and case discussions will enhance your opportunity to learn more about this condition.

You can find out more and register online at www.cmeregistration.som.vcu.edu or call (804) 828-3640

Student Honors Day Recognizes Academic, Humanism, Research, and Service Achievements



On May 4, Kinloch Nelson, M.D. Student Honors Day was held. Over 100 students were recognized for academic merit, service to the community, humanism, research and emulating specific characteristics of professionalism desired by our generous scholarship donors. In total, \$575,623.00 in scholarships was awarded. This represents the highest level of scholarships ever granted by the SOM. The Development Office continues to actively sponsor events to generate additional scholarship funds. In addition, Mark Kovacs, M2, was selected as the winner of the research competition. Mark's abstract was entitled Diffusion Tensor Imaging (DTI) Analysis of

Brain Matter: White Matter Changes in Patients with Anxiety.

During the ceremony, 15 students from the Class of 2008 and 14 from the Class of 2007 were inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society (the top 16% of each class)

Inductees from the Class of 2008

Hafeez Yusuf Ahmed
Jaclyn Christine P Fertig
Jaime Lauren Knight
Omar Yusuf Mian
Mark Chester Ranck

Sabina Amin
David Randolph Gibb
Jason David Long
Michael David Nickerson, Jr.
Cecelia Nally Theobald

Erin Douglass Chiu
Joanna Karolina Jeruzal
Keith Peter Madsen
Christine Clara Picco
Kenneth Mann Wong

Inductees from the Class of 2007

Timothy William Caraher
Samantha Hastillo Hess Hudson
Kristin Marie Ondecko
Lisa Jeanette Rose-Jones
Matthew Kevin Walsworth

Ramesh Grandhi
Melissa Mondello
Erin Lindsay Reese
Ojas Niranjan Shah
Erin Megan Watson

Ni-Jui Liang
Sri Krishna Mukkamala
Sarah Anne Russell
Jeremy Thomas Sauer

Faculty Inductees

Dr. Gonzalo Bearman

Dr. Andrea Hastillo

Housestaff Inductees

Dr. Nicole Kelleher

Dr. Emily Rudnick

Dr. Mike Stevens

Alumna Inductee

Dr. Pamela Douglas

Did You Know?



From left **Emily Tafel**, **Zach McCluskey**, **Joga Ivatury** and **Veronica Sikka** took first place in the 2006 CLARION National Case Competition. Photo courtesy of VCU's Department of Health Administration.

For the second consecutive year, a team of VCU students took top honors at the National CLARION Interprofessional Case Competition. Held at the University of Minnesota, the competition is designed and administered by medical students in response to what they see as the need for interprofessional education to improve quality and patient safety in health care. Representing VCU SOM was Dan Barrett. Dan is currently completing his Masters in Health Administration and will be an M4 in the next academic year.

Alumni and Development Office News

Department of Internal Medicine Receives New Chair for Asthma Research

Mrs. Jeanette Lipman has made a gift of \$1 million to the Pulmonary Critical Care Division to endow the Aubrey Sage



Macfarlane Chair in Asthma Research. Mrs. Lipman has made this gift in honor of her late grandson. Mrs. Lipman wants the Macfarlane Chair in Asthma Research to form the nidus of a major new molecular research program in Asthma in the VCU Division of Pulmonary Disease and Critical Care Medicine. "This is an extraordinary gift to the Pulmonary/Critical Care Division and to the Department of Internal Medicine," noted Dr. Alpha A. (Berry) Fowler, III, Chairman of the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine. "Beginning a new research program in Asthma fits extraordinarily well with the goals of the new Victoria W. Johnson Center for Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Research."

(taken from the Department of Internal Medicine's newsletter Progress Notes) Photo:

Dr. Berry Fowler and Jeanette Lipman with Kenny Johnson, who has made generous gifts to establish the Victoria W. Johnson Center for Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Research.

\$1 Million Gift Will Establish a Chair in Neurodegenerative Diseases

FitzGerald and Margaret Bemiss have made a \$1 million gift to the School of Medicine to create an Endowed Chair that will be used to recruit a nationally recognized researcher in neurodegenerative diseases. Mr. Bemiss has lived for many years with Parkinson's disease. He serves on a recently formed volunteer steering committee that aims to raise money to create a center for research and clinical care related to Parkinson's and movement disorders. The Bemiss family has long-standing ties to the university, with Mrs. Bemiss serving as a member of the VCU Board of Visitors in the 1980s, and Mr. Bemiss' late father, Samuel M. Bemiss, serving on the MCV Board of Visitors for 20 years, including a term as Rector.

Reunion 2007

The last weekend in April saw the MCV Campus brimming with more than 1300 alumni and friends who had returned to celebrate Reunion. The weekend's attendance was the highest seen since 1999.

The School of Medicine's Classes of 1957 and 1982 celebrated the 50th and 25th anniversaries of their graduations by making generous gifts in support of student scholarships in the medical school. Dr. Russ Evett chaired the Class of 1957's effort, which has so far resulted in gifts totaling nearly \$19,000. Dick Hamrick led the Class of 1982's giving program that has raised nearly \$13,000 to date. In appreciation of the graduates' support of current students, Dean Jerry Strauss announced his intention to match what each Class raises dollar for dollar -- thereby doubling the gifts' impact.



News on Alumni

Dr. David B. Nichols, who completed his family medicine housestaff training here in 1979, has been named Country Doctor of the Year.

Virginia State Health Commissioner **Robert B. Stroube, MD, MPH**, took up the reins of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials on Jan. 12, 2007. Dr. Stroube earned his medical degree here in 1974 and completed housestaff training here in 1976.

Dr. Colleen A. Kraft, who earned her medical degree here in 1986 and now serves as the Bundy Professor in Community Pediatrics, is serving a 2006-08 term as president of the Virginia Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics & the Virginia Pediatric Society.

Governor Timothy M. Kaine announced appointments to boards and commissions including the appointment of **Dr. Susan R. DiGiovanni, MD'84 H'89**, associate professor of internal medicine, to Chair of the Medical Advisory Board for the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Dr. David Moliterno, MD'87, chief of cardiovascular medicine at the University of Kentucky College of Medicine, will be inaugurated as the American College of Cardiology Governor of the Kentucky chapter for the years 2007-2010.

The University of Texas Medical Branch has appointed **Dr. Gary D. V. Hankins, MD'77**, as its new chairman of obstetrics and gynecology.



Departmental News

Massey Cancer Center



Dr. Jeffrey Williamson led a successful NCI grant application to the radiation biology and oncology program's physics group. This Project Program Grant helps MCC to maintain leadership role in radiotherapy research while also helping to develop the most leading-edge treatments for the future. Congratulations to Dr. Williamson and colleagues for their remarkable success in securing this prestigious grant, and best wishes for the next five years as they manage this multi-site program.

School of Medicine Dean's Office



Bill Gleason, Senior Associate Dean for Finance and Administration, received the AAMC's 2007 award for "service with distinction" by the Group on Business Affairs (GBA) at their annual conference held recently. The award goes to an individual who has demonstrated "outstanding service and commitment to the mission of the GBA".

Department of Family Medicine

The VCU Student Family Medicine Association (SFMA) has been awarded a 2007 Program of Excellence Award by the American Academy of Family Physicians. The Program of Excellence (PoE) Awards recognize Family Medicine Interest Groups (FMIGs) for their efforts to stimulate interest in FMIG activities and a career in family medicine on medical school campuses around the nation. The award is presented to those 10 FMIGs who exhibit exemplary efforts in all of the following areas: infrastructure, student involvement and retention, family medicine advocacy and community outreach/patient advocacy. The PoE awards started in 1999. Past PoE Award winners can be found on the AAFP student website: <http://fmignet.aafp.org/x305.xml>

The winners of the 2007 PoE Awards will be recognized at the AAFP National Conference for Family Medicine Residents and Students in Kansas City, MO, on August 1st, 2007. Award winners are featured as "model programs" of FMIG success.

Department of Microbiology and Immunology

Margaret McCoy (a 3rd year graduate student in Dr. David Straus's laboratory) was invited to participate in a competitively awarded internship at the Pasteur Institute in Paris, France, for approximately six months. She is currently participating in this internship, and will return to her classes at VCU in the Fall 2007 semester. This is one of the most prestigious awards a graduate student can receive, and we are very proud of her accomplishment.



Dr. Dennis E. Ohman, Chair of Microbiology & Immunology, was honored by his election into the American Academy of Microbiology, an organization recognizing scientific excellence.

New Grant Awards:



Richard T. Marconi, Ph.D., Professor, NIH 1RO1DE017401-01A1, co-awarded by NIDCR and NIAID. "Treponema denticola, complement regulatory proteins and periodontal disease." 5/15/07 – 5/14/11. Total award 5 yrs: \$1,262,500 Direct Costs; \$493,626 F&A Costs; Total Award \$1,756,126. These studies will investigate a novel virulence mechanism employed by a causative agent of periodontal disease. The outcome of these analyses will allow for the development of new preventive and intervention strategies for periodontal disease.



Kimberly K. Jefferson, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, NIH RO1 AI068892-01A1, "Post-transcriptional regulation of Biofilm formation in *S. aureus*." Award period: 4/1/07 – 3/31/12. Award 5 yrs: \$1,000,000 Direct Costs; \$437,633 F&A Costs. Total Award \$1,437,633. *Staphylococcus aureus* is an important pathogen that can cause a variety of infections. Antibiotic resistance in *S. aureus* is common and the problem is compounded by its ability to form adherent, polysaccharide-encased communities called biofilms. The goal of this research is to characterize the mechanism by which biofilm formation is regulated in *S. aureus*. Understanding the mechanisms of biofilm regulation could lead to the development of anti-biofilm therapies that would act synergistically with conventional antibiotics.



Huiping Zhou, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, NIH RO1 AT004148-01, "Prevent HIV protease inhibitor-induced atherosclerosis by berberine." Award period: 5/1/07 – 4/30/11. Total Award 4 yrs: \$1,000,000 Direct costs; \$454,861 F&A Costs. Total Award \$1,454,861. This is a study of Berberine, an alkaloid isolated from many medicinal herbs, which is known as an anti-inflammatory, was recently identified as a cholesterol-lowering drug, and has possible use as part of the treatment for HIV infection and complications associated with HAART.



John G. Tew, Ph.D., Professor, NIH 2RO1DE017223-01A2, "Periodontitis, Anti-phospholipids, Dendritic Cells, and Atherosclerosis." Award period 4/1/07 – 3/31/10. Total award 3 yrs: \$775,000 Direct Costs; \$330,750 F&A; Total Award \$1,116,000. This is a study of the relationship between periodontal infections and cardiovascular outcomes. If studies confirm that patients with periodontitis are at a higher risk for cardiovascular disease, then a periodontal examination followed by other tests could prompt a cardiovascular examination and earlier clinical intervention.



Gregory A. Buck, Ph.D., Professor, NIH R13HL088919-01, “Summit on Systems Biology: Integrating Basic and Clinical Research.” Award period: 4/15/07 – 3/31/08. Total Award 1 Yr: \$10,000. This is the second annual Summit on Systems Biology, held June 5 – 7, 2007, in Richmond, VA. **The grant was awarded to Dr. Buck through Life Sciences**, but will impact on many scientists at VCU. The Summit is comprised of five scientific sessions to discuss cutting-edge approaches to basic, clinical and translational research. Dr. Leroy Hood, honorary co-chair of the summit and director of the Institute for Systems Biology, led a panel of pre-eminent scientists and policy makers in academia, industry and government in discussions of the future of systems-based approaches in biological and biomedical research.

Competitive Renewal Awards:

Dennis E. Ohman, Ph.D., Professor and Chairman, NIH RO1 AI019146-23A2, “Activation of Alginate Genes in Pseudomonas aeruginosa.” Award period: 4/1/07 – 3/31/12. Total Award 5 yrs: \$1,125,000 Direct costs; \$583,305; F&A; Total Award \$1,833,305. These studies will continue to greatly improve our understanding of the complex regulatory pathway that induces alginate production in P. aeruginosa and may lead to novel therapeutic approaches.



Guy A. Cabral, Ph.D., Professor, NIH 2RO1 DA005832-13A1, “Cannabinoid modulation of macrophage function.” Award period 6/1/07 – 5/31/12. Total award 5 yrs: \$1,000,000 Direct costs; \$454,297 F&A; Total Award \$1,454,297. This award is a continuation of studies of marijuana (cannabinoids) in terms of their effects as medicinal treatment of chronic disabling diseases, including AIDS.

Guy A. Cabral, Ph.D., Professor, NIH 9R13 DA023184-04, “13th-17th Conferences: Drug Abuse, Immune Modulation and AIDS, awarded to the Society on NeuroImmune Pharmacology. Award period 4/9/07 - 2/28/2012. Total award 5 yrs: \$180,000. This grant is a competing renewal for 5 years to fund 4 annual meetings and 1 international meeting (Berlin, Germany) of the Society of NeuroImmune Pharmacology. The grant is funded jointly by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA/NIH) and the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke (NINDS/NIH) The meeting brings together national and international experts in the convergent areas of drugs of abuse, neuroAIDS, and immune pharmacology with the focus of highlighting the latest developments in the AIDS epidemic and how it is impacted by drug abuse. A major emphasis is on strategies for translational application of the latest breakthroughs in ablating the deleterious effects of drugs on AIDS-associated neuropathies and on development of related therapeutic strategies.

You are Invited! Opening Reception “Changing the Face of Medicine”



All Faculty, Housestaff, Students, Fellows and Postdocs

Join Us for the

Opening Reception

Friday, June 29, 2007, 5 - 7 p.m.

Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences

celebrating VCU's Own

Outstanding

Women in Medicine and Science



Dr. Marcella Fierro
Chair, Department of Legal
Medicine, VCU SOM



Dr. Eleanor Sue Cantrell
Alumna, VCU SOM



Dr. Yvonnecris Smith Veal
Alumna, VCU SOM

Also in attendance will be Ms. Carolease Ballou Wallace, retired VCU School of Nursing Faculty member.

RSVP to Shannon Jones at 828-0626.

For more information visit www.library.vcu.edu/events/faceofmedicine.html



Office of Faculty and Instructional Development
School of Medicine
Virginia Commonwealth University, Medical College of Virginia Campus
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Newsline is designed to better inform the faculty about activities and plans affecting the School of Medicine and to encourage open communication. So much that happens is a moving target, so we'll do our best. Send comments and questions and we'll try to find the folks who know the answers (if they'll tell us...) You can submit items for the newsletter to Kathy Kreutzer, Box 980565 or e-mail kkreutzer@vcu.edu.

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