

NEWSLINE

School of Medicine Newsletter – September 2006 – Vol 10, No. 1

Produced by the Office of Faculty and Instructional Development

Medical College of Virginia Campus, Virginia Commonwealth University

Next Issue, November 2006!

Departmental News deadline is October 10, 2006. Please send your faculty/department achievements to kkreutzer@vcu.edu.

Department Chair Search Update

Department of Physiology

The Search Committee for a chair of the Department of Physiology has been appointed. Committee members are: Dr. Gordon Archer, Associate Dean for Research, Chair; Dr. Clive Baumgarten (Physiology), Dr. John Grider (Physiology), Dr. Cindy Cornelissen (Microbiology), Dr. Ross Mikkelsen (Radiation Oncology), Dr. Sarah Spiegel (Biochemistry), Dr. Franklin Zieve (Internal Medicine - VAMC).

Department of Biostatistics

Led by Dr. John Clore, Internal Medicine, the Biostatistics Search Committee is in the process of interviewing candidates on campus. For a list of Committee members, refer to April 2006 Newsline at www.medschool.vcu.edu/faculty_staff/newsletter/archives.html.

Search Committee formed for new Senior Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs

The School of Medicine has created a new position for a Senior Associate Dean to provide leadership in the development and coordination of faculty-related activities within the School of Medicine. This new position will be responsible for coordinating, assessing, and streamlining activities related to: faculty recruitment and orientation; faculty diversity and retention; faculty governance, including oversight of disciplinary procedures; and faculty compensation policies and administration. The individual in this position will also have responsibility for enhancing faculty orientation, career and leadership development programs; managing the promotion and tenure review process; maintaining updated policies; and communicating with the faculty on a routine basis. The full position description and qualifications are posted on the VCUHR website at www.pubinfo.vcu.edu/facjobs/facjob.asp?Item=2390.

Search Committee Chair: Dr. Bela Sood (Psychiatry)

Members: Dr. Suzanne Barbour (Biochemistry), Dr. Judy Brannen (VAMC), Dr. Bob Downs (Internal Medicine), Ms. Carol Hampton (Dean's Office) Dr. Barry Kirkpatrick (Pediatrics), Dr. Catherine Matthews (OB-GYN). Please send names of potential candidates directly to Dr. Sood.

Please welcome our new Assistant Dean for Student Affairs



Glenda Palmer, Ph.D., comes to us from Mount Sinai School of Medicine, where she has been the Associate Dean of Student Services and Assistant Professor of Medical Education. Dr. Palmer will be the Director of Financial Aid Services and assist in many of the programs operated through Students Affairs including Project H.E.A.R.T., developing a wellness program for students, and counselling. She has over 20 years of experience in financial aid and is nationally known for her expertise in medical school financial aid. She is a frequently invited speaker at national conferences on financial aid. Her presentations have included: "Providing Need Based Aid to the Truly Needy;" "A Case For and Against Direct Lending for Medical Schools;" "Financial Aid for Dean-ies;" "Student Wellness

as a Function of Medical Education;" and, "Get a Grip-on Money: How to Start Thinking About Money Management." She was the National Chair for the 2005 Access Group Meeting; has been on the Technical Advisory Committee for the AAMC; and has presented at the AAMC Professional Development Conferences in 2000, 2002, 2005 and 2006. At Mount Sinai School of Medicine, Dr. Palmer developed a curriculum for financial knowledge spanning four years of medical school. In

her role as Assistant Professor of Medical Education, she has taught in a course entitled “The Arts and Science of Medicine” which addresses topics such as ethics in medicine, how to be both compassionate and fair, and how to be the kind of doctor that anyone would want their mother, brother or best friend to see. Dr. Palmer also has a background in psychology and has a particular interest in substance abuse prevention and stress management.

Dr. Andrea Pozez appointed Chair, Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery



Andrea Pozez, M.D., Professor of Surgery, was appointed Chair of the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Department of Surgery, effective September 1, 2006. Dr. Pozez came here for training in plastic and reconstructive surgery and has been on the faculty in the division since 1989. The division will be actively recruiting in the areas of microsurgery, cranial facial surgery, and wound healing research.

Congratulations, Dr. Pozez!

Alan D. Johns is new Assistant V.P. for Health Sciences for Financial and Administrative Affairs

Following a very competitive national search, we are very pleased to announce the appointment of **Mr. Alan D. Johns** as Assistant Vice President for Health Sciences for Financial and Administrative Affairs. In this role, he will provide leadership in the analysis of financial and facilities information in support of strategic planning, decision-making and priority-setting regarding the academic, research, and clinical programs on the MCV Campus. He will also provide oversight to reporting units concerning policies and procedures related to financial, administrative, and information technology activities including budgeting, staffing, purchasing, and travel. Other key areas of responsibility include supporting the Vice President for Health Sciences and working with university administration on: the annual faculty salary adjustment process and regular analyses of the MCV Campus schools' finances; the evaluation of space utilization, space planning, and reallocation of space on the MCV Campus; budget development for initiatives coming from the MCV Campus schools and units. In this role Mr. Johns will work on a regular basis with the leadership in the MCV Campus Schools and Massey Cancer Center including deans, associate deans, and directors.

A native Floridian, Mr. Johns earned his B.S. in Business Administration from the University of Florida and his Master of Public Administration from the University of North Florida. He began his career in higher education administration at the University of North Florida where he served as Chief Fiscal Officer for Academic Affairs. During his career, Mr. Johns has served as Assistant Dean for Business and Finance at Emory University's Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing as well as Assistant Dean for Budgets and Financial Reporting at Duke University SOM. Most recently, Mr. Johns served as Assistant Director for the Office of Budget, Planning and Administration at the Georgia Institute of Technology.

Please join us in welcoming Mr. Johns to the VCU community. *(from announcement by Dr. David Sarrett, Associate Vice President for Health Sciences)*

Welcome to the SOM Class of 2010!

After 4800 applications received, 900 interviews completed, and 373 offers of acceptance, the Class of 2010 has arrived!! There are 184 students in the class; 93 females and 91 males. The average age is 24. Average MCAT is 29, average GPA is 3.51. There are 104 Virginians and 80 students from other states. 23 states are represented with out of state representation being highest from California (21), Maryland (12), North Carolina (11), and Pennsylvania (6). The students represent a variety of college majors: biology (58), psychology (13), neuroscience (11), biomedical engineering (10), chemistry (10), biochemistry (7), Economics (4), and molecular biology (4).

61 colleges are represented with the top seven being UVA (29), VCU (21), William and Mary (13), Duke (5), James Madison (5), UC Berkley (5), UC Irvine (4) and UNC Chapel Hill (4).

Once again the School of Medicine has matriculated a diverse class of students. This year, 11.9% of our students are from populations underrepresented in medicine. There are 16 African-American students and 6 students from Hispanic backgrounds. Other minority populations represented in this class are - Asian Indian (14), Chinese (10), Vietnamese (7),

Filipino (3), Korean (3), Japanese (1). In addition, we continue to have a broad age continuum with 51 students over the age of 25 (27.7%). This wealth of diversity continues to be a strong factor in attracting students to our institution.

Please join us in welcoming our newest students! Thanks to Dr. Michelle Whitehurst-Cook and Donna Jackson for this information.

VCU's developing School of Public Health appoints Chair of New Department of Social and Behavioral Health



Laura Siminoff, Ph.D., Professor and new chair in the Department of Social and Behavioral Health, arrived on campus, effective September 1, 2006. A new name of the department has been in development, and has been recently been approved by the VCU Board of Visitors as the Department of Social and Behavioral Health. In her new position, Dr. Siminoff will also serve as associate director of Cancer Prevention and Control at the VCU Massey Cancer Center, where she will continue her current work on treatment decision-making, and develop the cancer control research program.

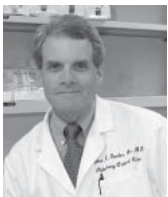
“Dr. Siminoff is a nationally recognized authority in cancer control and organ procurement for transplantation, which will benefit the Massey Cancer Center and the Hume-Lee Transplant Center, two of our most important programs,” said Dean Strauss. “Additionally, her vision to create a multi-disciplinary group of social and behavioral scientists who are dedicated to applying their knowledge of these disciplines to the study of health and healthcare will greatly benefit the development of a new and accredited VCU School of Public Health,” he said.

Siminoff said that the focus of the new department is to understand how social, behavioral and cultural factors affect public health, and to educate the public to make lifestyle and other behavioral changes to improve the standard of health. The initial focus of the department, in terms of faculty recruitment and research, will be on cancer, health disparities and chronic disease. Siminoff's top priority is to create an active research base within the department and she brings two federally funded research projects with her to VCU. Additionally, Siminoff says she hopes to develop a nationally ranked doctoral program along with post-doctoral training programs and to contribute to the MPH program.

Prior to joining VCU, Siminoff was a professor of bioethics, oncology and family medicine, and the program leader of Behavioral Cancer Prevention and Control at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. She received her doctoral degree in public health in 1988 from Johns Hopkins University.

This establishes the third department needed for VCU's new School of Public Health. The other departments in place include Biostatistics, and Epidemiology and Community Health; two additional departments in the areas of health policy and management and environmental health are required for application for accreditation by the Council on Education for Public Health. (Adapted from news release by Sathya Achia-Abraham, University News Services, 9-1-06.) Additional article about Dr. Siminoff is in the April newslines found at www.medschool.vcu.edu/faculty_staff/newsletter/archives.html.

Outstanding Faculty Spotlighted at Faculty Convocation



Four distinguished faculty members were honored on September 19 during Virginia Commonwealth University's 24th Opening Faculty Address and Convocation at the VCU Medical Center. Each year, VCU recognizes faculty members at the Convocation for excellence in teaching, scholarship, service and overall excellence. Honorees this year are **Alpha A. Fowler, M.D.**, the University Distinguished Teaching Award; **Richard A. Glennon, Ph.D.**, the University Award of Excellence; **Robert Hobbs, Ph.D.**, the University Distinguished Scholarship Award; and **Michelle Whitehurst-Cook, M.D.**, the University Distinguished Service Award. A reception preceded the event at 3 p.m. in the Hermes A. Kontos Medical Sciences Building at 1217 E. Marshall St. The Convocation followed at 4 p.m. For more information, visit http://www.news.vcu.edu/vcu_view/pages.aspx?nid=1676. Please congratulate the awardees, especially our SOM faculty **Dr. Fowler and Dr. Whitehurst-Cook**.



Did You Know?

The Office of Graduate Education in the SOM is in the process of implementing an electronic system, GradTrak, for the identification of advanced degree students with advisors, the appointment of student advisory committees and housing information related to the progress toward degree completion by individuals. Access to information will be limited to those having a defined advisory role for a particular student. Students will be able to view their own information fields. The system will also provide a listing of the student advisory committees on which a faculty member is serving and includes fields that will allow the capture of “outcome” information on graduates.

This electronic system will replace the paper forms, providing an electronic pathway for approval of committees. The system will make information continuously available to users. Implementation of the system is expected before the end of September.

Access to the system will be through your eID and Password. A broadcast message will be sent when the system becomes “live” along with the URL for access. We will post information on the system on the School of Medicine web site and also will hold a couple of information sessions to display the system and familiarize faculty and students with its use in a few weeks. This will take some adaptation and we ask and appreciate your cooperation as we move forward. *(Thanks to Dr. Jan Chlebowski for this information.)*

Please join us! School of Medicine New Faculty Orientation, Faculty Excellence Awards, and Teaching Skills Workshop

The VCU School of Medicine will host:

- **12th Annual New Faculty Orientation, Wednesday, October 11 & Thursday, October 12 from 8 a.m. to noon, and Friday, November 3, 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**, at the Hermes A. Kontos Medical Sciences Building, Rooms 104 and 105. The program is for new and current faculty to get a “quick start” to resources and programs available to them that support their teaching, research, clinical service and career development. For more information, call Salina Mann-Ghee at 828-5415 or Carol Hampton at 828-6594 or visit www.apps.som.vcu.edu/cme/calendar.
- **SOM Faculty Excellence Awards Program, Medical Sciences Building, Wednesday, October 11, 12:00 p.m. - 1:10 p.m.** Presentation of Awards in the Auditorium followed by lunch on the Plaza. **All Faculty are Invited!**
- **Basic Teaching Skills for New Faculty and Faculty New to Teaching, Friday, December 1, 2006, 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**, MSB Rooms 104-105. This workshop is designed for new faculty and faculty new to teaching. Save the date and watch for the program announcement and registration information. The workshop is presented by the SOM Curriculum Office and the Office of Faculty and Instructional Development. Contact: Kathy Kreutzer, MEd, Assistant Professor and Curriculum Consultant, 828-9789, kkreutzer@vcu.edu.

Endowed Professorships and Chairs in the School of Medicine and Massey Cancer Center, 2005-2006

Professorships are crucial to the task of attracting and retaining an exceptional faculty. The endowment process must be sufficiently flexible to meet the desires and wishes of donors while adhering to all University policies.

Private funds raised for professorships in the SOM are housed at the MCV Foundation. Endowment works by preserving the principal and awarding a percentage of the income. Currently at the MCV Foundation, payment is between 4-5%. Additional earnings are returned to the principal to grow the fund. A Professorship can be endowed and named at three levels:

Required Funding Levels	Approximate Annual Award
\$250,000 Professorship	\$12,500
\$500,000 Distinguished Professorship	\$25,000
\$1 Million Endowed Chair	\$50,000

Endowed Chairs and Professorships may be used to attract new faculty members or reward individuals already on the faculty. In addition to rewarding excellence, an Endowed position carries with it the expectation of continuing worthy contributions to his or her specialty area. The holder of an Endowed Chair must be a Full Professor, while holders of Professorships must be at least an Associate Professor. Exceptions to these academic rank requirements may be recommended by the Provost or Vice President for Health Sciences. The Chair or Professorship appointment will be reviewed by the Provost or Vice President for Health Sciences and recommended to the President. It requires approval by the President of the University and the Board of Visitors. Every five years each appointment will be reviewed and evaluated for continuation by the Provost or Vice President for Health Sciences, as appropriate. See VCU Endowed Chairs and Professorships, Policy for Private Support (approved by Eugene P. Trani, President - March 2001) at www.vcu.edu/provost/univ_policies.html. Thanks to the generous donors, faculty, the SOM Development Office, and the MCV Foundation for their efforts on behalf of these awards to support our faculty - our most important resource.

Professorship Name	Department	Faculty Recipient
Fletcher Emory Ammons Distinguished Professorship in Surgery	Surgery	Dr. Thomas A. Miller
Charles L. Baird, Jr., M.D. Professorship in Innovative Cardiology	Internal Medicine - Cardiology	Fully Funded but Unfilled
Rachel Brown Banks Distinguished Professorship in Psychiatry	Psychiatry	Dr. Kenneth Kendler
William G. Blackard Professorship in Endocrinology	Internal Medicine - Endocrinology	Dr. John Nestler
George B. Bliley III Professor of Medical Research	Neurology	Dr. Robert J. DeLorenzo
Walter E. Bundy, Jr., Professorship in Community Pediatrics	Pediatrics	Dr. Colleen Kraft
Luther A. Butler Professorship in Drug and Alcohol Studies	Pharmacology and Toxicology	Dr. Robert Balster
Charles M. Caravati Distinguished Professorship in Gastroenterology	Internal Medicine - Gastroenterology	Dr. Arun Sanyal
John A. Cardea Chair in Orthopaedic Surgery	Orthopaedics	Dr. Robert Adelaar
Cardiovascular Professorship	Internal Medicine - Cardiology	To be completed with a bequest
W. Hans Carter, Jr., Ph.D. Professorship in Biostatistics	Biostatistics	To be completed with a bequest
Rosa Schwarz Cifu Professorship in Cancer Rehabilitation	Physical Medicine and Rehab	Dr. David Hess
Beverley Boyden Clary Chair in Pediatric Orthopaedics	Orthopaedics	Fully Funded but Unfilled
I. Kelman Cohen Chair in Wound Healing Research	Surgery	in progress
Harry P. Dalton Endowed Professorship in Clinical Pathology	Pathology	Dr. Richard McPherson
Leo J. Dunn Chair in Obstetrics and Gynecology	Obstetrics and Gynecology	Dr. John Seeds
Jesse Ball duPont Distinguished Professorship in Pediatrics	Pediatrics	Dr. Joseph Laver
E. Raymond Fenton, M.D. Chair in Pulmonary Disease	Internal Medicine - Pulmonary	To be completed by a bequest
Herman J. Flax Professorship in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	Dr. David Cifu
James H. Franklin Professorship in Developmental Pediatrics	Pediatrics	Dr. Pasquale Accardo
Geeraets Chair in Ophthalmology	Ophthalmology	Fully Funded but Unfilled
Irene Shaw Grigg Distinguished Professorship in Genetics Research	Massey Cancer Center	Appointment Pending
Gladys & Harvey Haag Professorship in Pharmacology and Toxicology	Pharmacology/Toxicology	Dr. Louis Harris

Louis & Ruth Harris Distinguished Professorship in Pharmacology and Toxicology	Pharmacology/Toxicology	Dr. Billy Martin
Harris-Mayo Chair in Family Practice	Family Medicine	Dr. Anton Kuzel
Martha Anne Hatcher Distinguished Professorship in Oncology	Massey Cancer Center	Appointment Pending
G. Douglas Hayden Professorship in Otolaryngology	Otolaryngology	Dr. Aristides Sismanis
B.W. Haynes, Jr., M.D. Professorship in General and Trauma Surgery	Surgery	Fully Funded but Unfilled
Edward S. and Elizabeth W. Hirschler Endowed Professorship in Neurosurgery	Neurosurgery	Dr. John Ward
F. Norton Hord, Jr., Professorship in Neurosurgery	Neurosurgery	Dr. William Broaddus
David Hume Endowed Chair in Surgery	Surgery	Dr. Marc Posner
W. Glen Hurt Professorship in Gynecologic Surgery	Obstetrics and Gynecology	Dr. Stephen A. Cohen
Carolyn Wingate Hyde Distinguished Professorship	Massey Cancer Center	Appointment Pending
Internal Medicine Professorship I	Internal Medicine	Dr. Mitchell Shiffman
Internal Medicine Professorship II	Internal Medicine	Dr. Bruce Hillner
Internal Medicine Professorship III	Internal Medicine	Fully Funded but Unfilled
Internal Medicine Professorship IV	Internal Medicine	Dr. Thomas Smith
W. Robert Irby Distinguished Professorship in Rheumatology	Internal Medicine	Dr. Christopher Wise
Saul Kay Endowed Chair in Diagnostic Pathology	Pathology	Dr. William Frable
Edwin L. Kendig, Jr., M.D. Professorship in Pediatric Pulmonary Diseases	Pediatrics	Dr. Greg Elliott
Martha M. and Harold W. Kimmerling, M.D. Chair in Cardiology at MCV/VCU	Internal Medicine - Cardiology	Dr. George Vetrovec
Hermes A. Kontos, M.D. Professorship in Cardiology	Internal Medicine - Cardiology	Dr. Kenneth Ellenbogen
Warren W. Koontz, Jr., Research Professorship in Urology	Urology	in progress
Carl W. LaFratta, M.D. Professorship	Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	Dr. William McKinley
Dr. Walter Lawrence, Jr., Chair in Surgical Oncology	Surgery	Dr. Harry Bear
H. M. Lee Distinguished Professorship in Vascular Surgery	Surgery	Dr. Robert Fisher
Jeanette and Eric Lipman Distinguished Professorship in Cardiology	Internal Medicine - Cardiology	Dr. Rakesh Kukreja
Eric and Jeanette Lipman Chair in Oncology	Massey Cancer Center	Dr. Gordon Ginder
Richard R. Lower, M.D. Professorship in Cardiovascular Surgery	Surgery - Cardiothoracic	Fully Funded but Unfilled
Mann T. and Sara D. Lowry Professorship in Oncology	Massey Cancer Center	Appointment Pending
Marsland Chair in Family Practice	Family Medicine	in progress
Massey Club Distinguished Professorship	Massey Cancer Center	Appointment Pending
McGlothlin Chair in Neurosurgery	Neurosurgery	Dr. Harold Young
Stuart McGuire Chair of Surgery	Surgery	Dr. James Neifeld
Florence and Hyman Meyers Chair of Radiation Oncology	Massey Cancer Center	Dr. Mitchell S. Anscher
Grace Branch Moore-Arthritis Foundation Professorship	Internal Medicine Rheumatology	Dr. George Moxley
Orhan Muren Distinguished Professorship	Internal Medicine - Pulmonary	Fully Funded but Unfilled
The Herman M. and Vera H. Nachman Distinguished Research Professorship in Orthopaedic Surgery	Orthopedic Surgery	Fully Funded but Unfilled
Harold I. Nemuth Professorship for Neurological Disorders	Surgery	Dr. Anthony Marmarou

Nephrology Chair (I)	Internal Medicine	Dr. Todd Gehr
Nephrology Distinguished Professorship	Internal Medicine	Dr. Domenic A. Sica
Nephrology Education Professorship II	Internal Medicine	Dr. Susan Digiovanni
Nephrology Professorship	Internal Medicine	Fully Funded but Unfilled
Nephrology Transplantation Professorship I	Internal Medicine	Dr. Anne L. King
Moses D. Nunnally Professorship in Cardiology	Internal Medicine - Cardiology	Fully Funded but Unfilled
Paul J. Nutter, M.D. Professorship in General Surgery	Surgery	Dr. James Maher
Shirley Carter and Sture Gordon Olsson Distinguished Professorship in Oncology	Massey Cancer Center	Dr. Steven Grant
Ophthalmology Distinguished Research Professorship	Ophthalmology	Fully Funded but Unfilled
Sidney Page, M.D. Professorship of Bioethics and Humanities	Internal Medicine	Dr. Laurie Lyckholm
Peter and Julia Pastore Professorship in Otolaryngology	Otolaryngology	Dr. Aristides Sismanis
Dr. William Branch Porter Chair in Infectious Disease	Internal Medicine	Dr. Richard Wenzel
William G. Reynolds, Jr., Chair in Neuro-Oncology	Massey Cancer Center & Neurosurgery	in progress, to be completed in 2011
Richard Roland Reynolds Chair in Neurosurgery	Surgery	Dr. Ross Bullock
David Richardson, M.D. Professorship in Cardiology	Internal Medicine - Cardiology	Dr. Michael Hess
James C. Roberts, Esq. Professorship in Cardiology	Internal Medicine - Cardiology	Fully Funded but Unfilled
Louise Robertson, M.D. Professorship in Pediatric Cardiology	Pediatrics	in progress
Arnold Salzberg Professorship in Pediatric Surgery	Surgery	in progress
Hugo R. Seibel, Ph.D. Teaching Professorship		To be completed by insurance policy
James Asa Shield, Jr., M.D. Chair in Psychiatry	Psychiatry	Dr. Joel Silverman
Leroy Smith Distinguished Professorship in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery	Surgery	Fully Funded but Unfilled
Veronica Donovan Sweeney Professorship for the Chief of Breast Imaging	Radiology	Dr. Gilda Cardenosa
Thomas Branch Scott, Jr., Mrs. Carrie Triplett Taliaferro Scott, Horace Dade Taliaferro, M.D. and Lucy Nelson Taliaferro Endowed Distinguished Professorship in Internal Medicine	Internal Medicine - Rheumatology	Fully Funded but Unfilled
Barbara and William B. Thalheimer Professorship in Urology	Surgery	Dr. Harry Koo
Theresa A. Thomas Chair in Cancer Control and Prevention	Massey Cancer Center	Appointment Pending
Charles W. and Evelyn F. Thomas Distinguished Professorship in Epidemiology	Epidemiology	Dr. Jack Lanier
Charles W. & Evelyn F. Thomas Professorship in Internal Medicine	Internal Medicine -Rheumatology	Dr. W. Neal Roberts
Charles W. Thomas Chair in Rheumatology, Allergy & Immunology	Internal Medicine - Rheumatology	Dr. Lawrence Schwartz
W. T. Thompson Distinguished Professorship in Pulmonary Medicine	Internal Medicine	Dr. Alpha Fowler
David E. Tolman Professorship in Heart Failure	Internal Medicine - Cardiology	in progress
Elam C. Toone, Jr., M.D. Distinguished Professorship in Rheumatology	Internal Medicine - Rheumatology	Fully Funded but Unfilled
Universal Corporation Professorship in Cancer Cell Signaling	Massey Cancer Center	Dr. Paul Dent

Z. Reno Vlahcevic Research Professorship in Gastroenterology	Internal Medicine - Gastroenterology	in progress
Wazeter Professorship	Pharmacology and Toxicology	Fully Funded but Unfilled
Dianne Harris Wright Professorship for the Division Director of Gynecologic-Oncology	Obstetrics and Gynecology and Massey Cancer Center	Dr. Weldon Chafe
Dianne Harris Wright Professorship in Ob/Gyn Oncology Research	Obstetrics and Gynecology & Massey Cancer Center	Dr. Cecelia Boardman

Thanks to Erin Lucero, SOM Development Office, for providing this information.



SOM Moves Up in NIH Award Rankings!

School of Medicine and hospital rankings by NIH funding amounts have been updated for FY05, and VCU moved up a couple of spots. **Great work everyone!**

(VCU School of Medicine, FFY 2004 to FFY 2005)

Department	FFY 2004			FFY 2005			Change in Absolute Rank
	Rank	Total # Ranked	Awards (\$, in millions)	Rank	Total # Ranked	Awards (\$, in millions)	
Anatomy	42	90	\$4.1	43	86	\$4.4	-
Biochemistry	32	109	\$5.9	34	107	\$6.4	-
Biostatistics	15	17	\$0.2	17	18	\$0.2	-
Family Medicine	Not Ranked			47	50	\$0.1	+
Human Genetics	37	47	\$2.8	34	45	\$3.5	+
Internal Medicine	61	112	\$11.2	64	112	\$11.4	-
Microbiology & Immunology	40	103	\$5.8	50	99	\$5.5	-
Neurology	44	71	\$2.2	58	75	\$0.8	-
Neurosurgery	11	43	\$2.2	23	44	\$0.8	-
Obstetrics & Gynecology	68	76	\$0.3	37	77	\$1.3	+
Pathology	79	98	\$0.8	74	95	\$0.9	+
Pediatrics	60	92	\$1.9	63	93	\$1.8	-
Pharmacology & Toxicology	13	101	\$10.1	8	100	\$14.0	+
Physiology	76	98	\$2.0	79	95	\$1.7	-
Psychiatry	42	95	\$4.6	43	93	\$5.0	-
Radiation Oncology	23	68	\$3.4	27	68	\$3.3	-
Surgery	47	86	\$1.8	54	88	\$1.4	-
VCU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, ALL DEPARTMENTS	60	123	\$59.1	58	123	\$62.7	+

Note: Rankings based on total awards, including research grants, R&D contracts, training grants and fellowships.



Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE) Small Grant Awards - Applications due November 3

The Center for Teaching Excellence annually requests proposals from the faculty for small grants to support their teaching efforts. The purpose of this program is to supply the faculty with necessary resources to improve their delivery of instruction. Given the recent unveiling of the new Strategic Plan, VCU2020: Vision for Excellence, a special priority will be placed on all applications whose goal is to increase student learning through learning-centered teaching practices. Faculty can request up to \$3500 in support. The funds must be distributed by the end of the fiscal year- June 30th, 2007. Proposals from all faculty are welcomed and due in the Center for Teaching Excellence, Cabell Library, 4th floor--Suite 440, by Friday, November 3, 2006 by 12 p.m. Any questions please call Dr. Joe Marolla at 827-8203 or the Center for Teaching Excellence at 827-0838. Additional information and application can be found on the CTE homepage <http://www.vcu.edu/cte/>

CTE Workshops for Faculty

The VCU Center for Teaching Excellence is offering opportunities for faculty to explore teaching and learning topics this Fall semester. Topics include teaching with Blackboard, problem-based learning, critical thinking, instructional uses of podcasting and teaching online. To view a full schedule and session descriptions, visit <http://www.pubinfo.vcu.edu/training/it/course.asp?Keyword=&Sponsor=CTE&Category=All&Audience=All&Campus=All>. For more information or questions, contact the CTE at 827-0838.

Library Bytes

Workshops for Researchers, Tompkins-McCaw Library, VCU Libraries, Fall 2006

If you have a question about these sessions or would like to schedule a class, please contact Thelma Mack mackta@vcu.edu at 828-0017.

Advanced PubMed

This class reviews topics covered in the PubMed Basics class while presenting advanced tips and techniques for searching the database. TML-LIMERC, Rm. 2-012 MCV Campus. Wednesday, Nov. 8, 11:00 am – Noon. Registration at: <http://www.library.vcu.edu/events/detail.html?ID=37940>

RefWorks: A Web-based Citation Management Program

RefWorks is an extremely useful tool that allows you to easily create and manage your own personal research database. With a personalized account, you can quickly add citations to your database as you are searching the literature. When you are ready, RefWorks will automatically generate your bibliography to finalize your grant, thesis, dissertation, or manuscript. With all the needed styles contained within RefWorks, your bibliography can easily be generated in APA, MLA, or most any other style. RefWorks is excellent for collaborative projects as well as on-the-go researchers working from various locations. Tompkins-McCaw Library - LIMERC, Rm. 2-012 MCV Campus.

Thursday, Sept. 21, Noon – 1:00 pm; Wednesday, Oct. 11, Noon – 1:00 pm; Monday, Oct. 30, 11:00 am – Noon; Monday, Nov. 13, Noon – 1:00 pm; Tuesday, Nov. 28, 11:00 am – Noon; Tuesday, Dec. 12, Noon – 1:00 pm, Registration at: <http://www.library.vcu.edu/events/index.html>

Keeping Current: Resources for Researchers

Learn tips to help make your research efforts more effective and efficient. Attendees will be shown how to customize library services, store searches and find the most current research using PubMed and Web of Science (WOS), NCHS data sources, CRISP, and an introduction to searching for funding. TML - TML- LIMERC, Rm. 2-012, MCV Campus. Thursday, Sept. 14, Tuesday, October 10, Tuesday, November 7, Friday, Dec. 1; All dates Noon – 1:30 pm; Registration at: <http://www.library.vcu.edu/events/index.html>

Instructional Media Workshop Orientation

Learn to use the Instructional Media Workshop, a self-service facility in TML for creating media presentation materials. The IMW computers include a variety of software, including Adobe software used to convert MS Word documents into .pdf files. Equipment and supplies are available in the Workshop to produce posters, banners, signs, digital images, audio and video. First-time users are encouraged to attend the class before using the Workshop independently. Meet at the Service Desk, 1st floor, TML. Thursday, Sept. 21, Tuesday, Oct. 3, Thurs., October 19, Thurs., Nov. 9, Thurs., Nov. 30, Thurs., December 14, All Dates 2-3 pm; Registration at: <http://www.library.vcu.edu/events/index.html>

Super Searcher Workshop

This hands-on course focuses on the advanced search features of web search engines and the cutting edge of searching. Participants will use various search engines, compare the features and utility of each and develop search strategies that will increase the precision and scope of their searching. The students will have discussions, exercises and view short presentations as a part of the class. The class includes: discussions of web search engines, indexes and hybrids of the two, commercialism and how it influences searching, finding current events information with search engines, specialized databases for special needs and topics suggested by the participants. This class will be taught by a librarian from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine. Advanced registration is required. Tompkins-McCaw Library - LIMERC, Rm. 2-012, MCV Campus. Friday, Oct. 27, 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm. Registration at: <http://www.library.vcu.edu/events/detail.html?ID=37624>

VCUeRA (VCU electronic Research Administration) Training

The Office of Research has installed VCUeRA, a system for the electronic submission of proposals and protocols. Two training classes on the new system will be held throughout this semester. The first class shows how to configure GENIUS profiles for electronic submissions. The second class focuses on NIH submissions to Grants.gov using the VCUeRA. For more information, including class dates and times, visit <http://www.research.vcu.edu/vcuera>

2006 Prematurity Initiative Conference, November 10

A conference for health care professionals, researchers, graduate & medical students, and families focusing on issues related to premature birth will be held **Friday, November 10, 2006, 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., VCU Student Commons, Capital Ballroom**. CE credits will be available. Topics will address the NICU Experience; Neonatal Ethics; A Premature Infant's 1st Year, & Preventing Premature Birth. Also featured will be a welcome address by **The Honorable Timothy Kaine, Governor** of Virginia, and **Joshua Durette**, 1986 graduate of the MCV NICU. Other speakers will include: Rita Pickler, Ph.D., RN, PNP, Prof. & Chair, Dept. of Maternal Child Nursing, VCU; **Michelle Flynn**, M.S.W., March of Dime's Virginia Chapter Prematurity Chair; Stacy Dusing, PT, Ph.D., Asst. Prof., Dept. of Physical Therapy, VCU, **Marilyn Stern**, Ph.D., VCU Professor, Dept. of Psychology & Pediatrics; **Michael Weaver**, M.D., Associate Professor, Department of Internal Medicine, VCU SOM, Joann Bodurtha, M.D., M.P.H., Director of Clinical Genetics, Professor, Departments of Human Genetics and Pediatrics, VCU; **Robert J. Boyle**, M.D., FAAP, Prof. of Pediatrics & Center for Biomedical Ethics, UVA.

ADVANCED REGISTRATION BEGINS SOON – stay tuned for more information!

The conference is sponsored by the March of Dimes Virginia Chapter, the Family Support & Research Center, and VCU Dept. of Psychology Center For Psychological Services & Development

Latino Health Summit: *Latino Cultures and Beliefs in Health Care*, November 16-17, 2006

Location: Greater Richmond Convention Center

Hosted by: VCU Center on Health Disparities and School of World Studies

Brochure & Register On-Line: www.cmeregistration.som.vcu.edu; Questions: (804) 828-3640

In the 2000 U.S. Census reveals that Latinos are this nation's fastest growing minority population. According to the Greater Richmond Area Immigrant Health Needs Assessment, more than 20,000 persons immigrated into the Greater Richmond Area between 1990 and 2000. Latin Americans represent one of the largest population groups immigrating to the area, with a growth rate of five times the overall population. This Summit seeks to equip health care providers, community leaders and individuals involved in the provision of health services with information, knowledge and resources to better serve the growing Latino population in Central Virginia.

Nationally known leaders and researchers will be brought together in a critical mass to share their knowledge and experience with regard to demographic trends, key health issues, current best practices in healthcare, and key provider and patient resources for achieving better health outcomes for Latinos. Plenary sessions include opportunities for interaction with speakers and colleagues. Small group breakout sessions on selected topic areas related to Health Policy and Administration, Language Access, and Culture and Health will provide further opportunities for learning and interaction. Participants may select two breakout sessions. Breakout session assignments will be made on a first-come, first-served basis due to seating restrictions (please indicate your first and second choices for each session in the space provided on the course registration form).

Limited space is available and registrations will be on a first-come first-served basis. All registration fees are Non-Refundable. The course registration fee is \$60.00 (\$25 for students). The registration fee includes tuition, course materials, meals and coffee breaks. Scholarships are available.

Alumni and Development Office News

The **School of Medicine Annual Fund** has dramatically surpassed its \$300,000 goal for FY06! This year's gifts in hand stand at more than \$325,000, a 12-percent increase over last year. Dean Strauss has designated nearly 70 percent of these gifts to go toward student scholarships in the coming year to help meet the increasing need for financial assistance.

A recent \$200,000 gift from the Guilford Foundation has raised a fund that supports the Department of Psychiatry to the \$1-million level. For several years, the Foundation has actively supported the **James Asa Shield, Jr., M.D. Chair in Psychiatry** as well as the Massey Cancer Center.



Harris Honored for Philanthropic Leadership - In July, at the MCV Foundation's Annual Dinner, Louis Harris, Ph.D. was honored with the W. Robert Irby Award for Philanthropic Leadership. The award recognizes outstanding philanthropic effort by a member of the faculty on the MCV Campus.

Dr. Harris, who holds the Gladys & Harvey Haag Professorship in Pharmacology and Toxicology, was lauded for his efforts in inspiring private support for his beloved department. Not only was he successful in moving the Department into the top echelons of its field, he also has encouraged its alumni and friends to join him in supporting its work. In doing so, he himself has challenged and matched the gifts from departmental alumni; he has funded two university professorships—one in the medical school and one in the School of Engineering; and he has worked to establish the Graduate Student Support Endowment.

The award bears the name of Dr. Bob Irby, a much beloved alumnus and faculty member of the School of Medicine who also served as trustee of the MCV Foundation. The annual award commemorates the inspiration he provided other faculty members to get involved with the Foundation. Previous recipients are Drs. Berry Fowler, George Vetovec, Gordon Ginder, Harry Young and Dick Wenzel. (thanks to Erin Lucero for these items)

New and Competing Grant Awards – April 1 through June 30, 2006

Please join us in recognizing the following researchers who received grant awards during April 1 - June 30, 2006. These are listed by faculty member name, department, awarding agency/institution titles, and amount. Data source: InfoEd utilized by the VCU Office of Research. (*Note: Grant titles are as available from InfoEd.*)

Behavioral Sciences & Health Promotion

Other Federal

Kennedy, May G.	Health Resources and Services Administration/DHHS	Subproject for Institution # PT095319	Initial	5,586
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Biochemistry

National Institutes of Health

Diegelmann, Robert F	National Institute of General Medical Sciences/NIH/DHHS	Differential Expression of Collagen by Transforming Growth Factor-b1 and b3	Initial	50,428
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Oskeritzian, Carole A.	National Institute of Arthritis & Musculoskeletal & Skin Diseases/NIH/DHHS	Sphingosine-1-Phosphate, A Novel Mediator of Human Skin Mast Cell Functions	Initial	99,652
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Non-Profit

Chalfant, Charles E.	American Heart Association	Regulation of Ceramide Kinase	Initial	35,000
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Other Federal

Barbour, Suzanne E.	National Science Foundation	Regulation of Cell Phospholipid Metabolism by Phospholipase A2	Initial	204,436
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Beckman, Matthew J	Department of Agriculture	Effects of Acid/Base Balance on Renal Vitamin D Metabolism	Initial	96,130
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Sub-awards

Dent, Paul	Columbia University	MDA-7IL-24: Therapy of Malignant Glioma	Initial	248,415
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Biostatistics***National Institutes of Health***

Ramakrishnan, Viswanathan	National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke/NIH/DHHS	Pathophysiology and Mortality of Status Epilepticus	Initial	27,447
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Non-Profit

Best, Al M III	Richmond Eye and Ear Hospital Foundation	Improving Metrics for Monitoring the Therapeutic Effectiveness of Radiation Treatment in Head and Neck Cancers	Initial	6,498
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Emergency Medicine***Industry***

Ward, Kevin R.	TraumaCure	Efficacy of Novel Hemostatic Agents in Lethal Vascular Injury	Initial	86,500
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Ward, Kevin R.	Draeger Medical Systems, Inc.	Testing of a Device to Noninvasively Measure Central Venous Pressure	Initial	85,000
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Family Medicine***Non-Profit***

Krist, Alexander H.	Robert Wood Johnson Foundation	Cost of Implementing an Electronic Health Record Prompt System	Initial	5,000
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Human Genetics***Industry***

Corey, Linda A	Alpha Gamma Technologies	National Twin Registry	Supplement	902
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National Institutes of Health

Grotewiel, Michael S.	National Institute on Aging/NIH/DHHS	Genetic Dissection of Locomotor Senescence in Drosophila	Initial	183,270
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Lloyd, Joyce A	National Institutes of Health	KLF2 and the Profile of Mouse Primitive Erythropoiesis	Initial	39,594
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Sub-awards

Windle, Jolene J.	University of Pittsburgh	Pathobiology of Paget's Disease - Transgenic Mouse Core	Supplement	205,804
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Internal Medicine***Industry***

Downs, Robert W Jr.	Amgen, Inc.	A Randomized, Double-Blind Study to Compare the Efficacy of Treatment with Denosumab vs Alendronate Sodium in Postmenopausal Women with Low Bone Mineral Density	Initial	69,487
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Ellenbogen, Kenneth A	Stereotaxis	Helios Electrophysiology Ablation Remote Treatment ("HEART") Study	Supplement	69,120
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Ellenbogen, Kenneth A	Guidant	Pacing Evaluation - Atrial Support Study in Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy	Initial	57,500
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Gehr, Todd W.B.	Astra Zeneca	A Randomized, Double-Blind, 52-week, Parallel-Group, Multicentre, Phase IIIb Study to Evaluate the Effects of Rosuvastatin 10mg, Rosuvastatin 40mg and Atorvastatin 80mg on Urinary Protein Excretion in Hypercholesterolaemic Non-Diabetic Patients with Moderate	Initial	44,000
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Gehr, Todd W.B.	NXStage Medical, Inc.	Following Rehabilitation Economics and Everyday-Dialysis Outcome Measurements Study	Initial	45,000
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McCarty, John M.	Celgene Corporation	A Multicenter, Single-Arm, Open-Label Expanded Access Program for Lenalidomide Plus Dexamethasone in Previously Treated Subjects with Multiple Myeloma	Initial	30,000
McCarty, John M.	Amgen, Inc.	A Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Trial to Evaluate Palifermin (rHuKGF) in the Reduction of Acute Graft Versus Host Disease in Subjects with Hematologic Malignancies Undergoing Allogeneic Marrow/PBPC Transplantation	Initial	43,813
Nixon, Daniel E.	Tibotec Pharmaceuticals Limited	A Phase III randomized, double-blinded, placebo-controlled trial to investigate the efficacy, tolerability and safety of TMC125 as part of an ART including TMC114/RTV and an investigator-selected OBR in HIV-1 infected subjects with limited to no treatment	Initial	32,957
Nixon, Daniel E.	Tibotec Pharmaceuticals Limited	TMC114-C226 Early Access of TMC 114 in combination with low Dose ritonavir (RTV) and other antiretrovirals (ARVs) in highly treatment experienced HIV - 1 infected subjects with limited to no Treatment options	Initial	14,628
Peberdy, Mary Ann	Encysive, LP	A Phase 2, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled exploratory efficacy study of Sitazsentan Sodium to improve impaired exercise tolerance in subjects with diastolic heart failure	Initial	33,428
Shepard, Richard K.	Stereotaxis	Multicenter Assessment of Gain in Navigation Efficiency to Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy	Initial	27,500
Sica, Domenic A	CVRx, Inc.	A Study of Baroreflex Hypertension Therapy Supplement in Refractory Hypertension		128,750
Sica, Domenic A	Sankyo Company Limited	Evaluation of RAAS and PPAR in hypercholesterolemic glomerulopathy	Initial	79,800
Sterling, Richard K.	Hoffmann-La Roche Inc.	A Multi-center, randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Trial To Evaluate The Efficacy Safety and Tolerability of Rifaximin 550mg BID For 6 Months in Preventing Hepatic Encephalopathy	Initial	79,810
Wise, Christopher M.	Centocor, Inc.	A Multicenter Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-controlled Trial of Golimumab, A Fully Human Anti-TNF a Monoclonal Antibody, Administered Subcutaneously, in Subjects with Active Rheumatoid Arthritis Despite Methotrexate Therapy	Initial	139,152
<i>National Institutes of Health</i>				
Sanyal, Arun J	National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism/NIH/DHHS	Biliary Microlithiasis in Alcohol Induced Pancreatitis	Initial	205,843
<i>Non-Profit</i>				
Fawcett, Paul M.	Jeffress	Stimulation of IFN Beta Gene Transcription in Response to Engagement of the Toll Like Receptor 2	Initial	35,751
Ghosh, Siddartha S.	Jeffress	Regulation of Renalase the Enzyme Modulating Hypertension and Renal Disease	Initial	27,962
Pandak, William Michael Jr.	American Heart Association	StarD5 and StarD4 New "Players" in the Transport and Homeostasis of Cholesterol	Initial	35,000

Schumacher-Penberthy, Lynne T.	Richmond Eye and Ear Hospital Foundation	Improving Metrics for Monitoring the Therapeutic Effectiveness of Radiation Treatment in Head and Neck Cancers	Initial	1,501
<i>State/Local</i>				
Nixon, Daniel E.	Virginia Department of Health	Comprehensive Risk Counseling and Services to Persons Living with HIV/AIDS	Initial	70,000
<u>Microbiology & Immunology</u>				
<i>Industry</i>				
Tew, John G	VaxDesign, Inc.	A Functional In Vitro Human Immune System	Supplement	245,097
<i>National Institutes of Health</i>				
Christie, Gail Ellen	National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases/NIH/DHHS	Helper Phage Mobiliation of Staphylococcal Enterotoxin Genes	Initial	218,573
Jefferson, Kimberly K	National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases/NIH/DHHS	Gene Expression in S. Aureus Biofilms	Initial	227,636
Marconi, Richard T.	National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases/NIH/DHHS	Development of a Polyvalent Chimeric Vaccine for Lyme Disease	Initial	354,860
Zhou, Huiping	National Institutes of Health	HIV Protease Inhibitors, the Unfolded Protein Response and Atherosclerosis	Initial	186,250
<i>Non-Profit</i>				
Marconi, Richard T.	American Heart Association	Development of a Polyvalent Chimeric Lyme Disease Vaccine Based on Outer Surface Protein C	Initial	35,000
Nicola, Anthony V	Jeffress	Cellular Function Required for an Early Stage of Herpes Virus Entry into Host Cells	Initial	36,124
Smeltz, Ronald B	Jeffress	Synergy of Inflammation and Interleukin 15 in Development of Effector Cytotoxic T Cells	Initial	20,000
<u>Neurology</u>				
<i>Industry</i>				
Delorenzo, Robert John	UCB Pharma, Inc.	Effect of Levetiracetam on Calcium Homeostatic Mechanisms in epileptic Neurons	Initial	50,000
Felton, Warren L III	Vernalis (R&D) Limited	A Phase II Multi-centre two part study to evaluate the safety and efficacy of V10153 in acute ischaemic stroke in respect of V10153, and identified by Protocol No: V10153-2S-01	Initial	123,500
Felton, Warren L III	Sanofi-Aventis	Comprehensive Rimonabant Evaluation Study of Cardiovascular Endpoints and Outcomes	Initial	185,000
Felton, Warren L III	Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	Prevention Regimen For Effectively Avoiding Second Strokes: A Double-Blind, Active And Placebo Controlled Study of Aggrenox versus Clopidogrel + Aspirin, With And Without Micardis	Supplement	128,000
Felton, Warren L III	Eli Lilly	Safety, Tolerability, Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics of LY548806 Administered by Continuous IV Infusion to Patients with Acute cerebral Infarction and Hyperglycemia	Initial	118,500
Pellock, John M	Children's Hospital of Philadelphia	Childhood Absence Epilepsy: Coordinating Center	Supplement	2,235

Towne, Alan R	Abbott Laboratories	Tolerability and Efficacy of Depakote-ER in Elderly	Initial	163,071
Towne, Alan R	Valeant Pharmaceuticals International, Inc.	VRX-RET-E22-303: A Multicenter, Open-Label, Long-Term, Safty, Tolerability and Efficacy Study of Retigabine in Adult Epilepsy Patients with Partial Onset Seizures (Extension of Study VRX-RET-E22-301)	Initial	36,300

National Institutes of Health

Delorenzo, Robert John	National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke/NIH/DHHS	Pathophysiology and Mortality of Status Epilepticus	Initial	551,004
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Obstetrics and Gynecology

Other

Karjane, Nicole W.	American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists	Quick Start Initiative of Contraceptive Ring in Adolescents: A Randomized Controlled Trial	Initial	28,384
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Otolaryngology

Non-Profit

Dinardo, Laurence J	Richmond Eye and Ear Hospital Foundation	Improving Metrics for Monitoring the Therapeutic Effectiveness of Radiation Treatment in Head and Neck Cancers	Initial	16,179
Dodson, Kelley	Richmond Eye and Ear Hospital Foundation	Genetic Studies of Phenotypically Distinctive Forms of Deafness	Initial	49,554

Pathology

Non-Profit

Dumur, Catherine I.	Richmond Eye and Ear Hospital Foundation	Improving Metrics for Monitoring the Therapeutic Effectiveness of Radiation Treatment in Head and Neck Cancers	Initial	41,318
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Sub-awards

Dumur, Catherine I.	University of Pittsburgh	Validation of PathWork Oncology Suite: Tissue of Origin Test	Initial	37,210
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Pediatrics

Industry

Meloy, Linda D	Wellspring Pharmaceutical Corporation	Long-Term Follow-Up of children Enrolled in Stansoporfin Clinical Trial	Supplement	92,676
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Pharmacology & Toxicology

National Institutes of Health

Harris, Louis S	National Institute on Drug Abuse/NIH/DHHS	Rodent and Monkey Testing for NIDA Medication Discovery Programs	Supplement	60,000
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Sub-awards

Miles, Michael F.	Oregon Health and Science University	Molecular Mechanisms of Individual Variation in Ethanol Drinking Behavior	Initial	74,285
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Physiology

Industry

Lyall, Vijay	Kyowa Hakko Food Specialties Co., Ltd.	Evaluation of Mallaird Reacted Peptides As Possible Agonists of the TRPV1-Variant Salt Taste Receptor (TRPV1t)	Initial	25,000
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National Institutes of Health

Desimone, John A	National Institute on Deafness & Other Communication Disorders/NIH/DHHS	Physiochemical Investigation of Taste	Initial	358,573
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Pittman, Roland N	National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute/NIH/DHHS	Microvascular Responses to Hemorrhage and Resuscitation	Supplement	81,236
<i>Non-Profit</i>				
Golub, Aleksander	American Heart Association (Mid-Atlantic Affiliate)	Erythrocyte-Associated Transients of Oxygen Tension in Capillaries of Mesentery	Initial	66,000
Zhang, Mei	American Heart Association (Mid-Atlantic Affiliate)	Molecular Mechanisms and Structural Basis for Kv4 Channel Modulation by Auxiliary SubUnits	Initial	66,000
<u>Psychiatry</u>				
<i>Industry</i>				
Kornstein, Susan G	Astra Zeneca	A Multicenter, Double-blind, Randomized-Withdrawal, Parallel-group, Placebo-Controlled Phase III Study of the Efficacy and Safety of Quetiapine Fumarate Sustained Release (Seroquel ST) as Monotherapy in the Maintenance Treatment of Patients with Generaliz	Initial	126,389
<i>Non-Profit</i>				
Keyser-Marcus, Lori	Alcohol Beverage Medical Research Foundation	Detecting Problem Drinking in Mothers of Young Children Concordance Between Interviewer and Computer Delivered Screening Methods	Initial	45,000
Keyser-Marcus, Lori	Alcohol Beverage Medical Research Foundation	Detecting Problem Drinking in Mothers of Young Children: Concordance between Interviewer and Computer Delivered Screening Methods	Initial	45,000
Linker, Julie A	National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression	Genetic and Environmental Risk Factors for Suicidal Behavior in Depressed Youth	Initial	56,984
<i>Other Federal</i>				
Forte, Janett A.	Department of Health & Human Services	Center of Excellence in Women's Health Sustainability Workshop--Travel Grant	Initial	1,455
<i>State/Local</i>				
Horvatic, Paula K	Virginia Department of Corrections	Expertise and Training in Therapeutic Community Programs and Related Evidence Based Practices (EBP) Program Services	Initial	85,621
Horvatic, Paula K	Virginia Department of Mental Health, MR & SAS	Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program (VASAP)	Initial	5,775
<u>Radiology</u>				
<i>Industry</i>				
Hirsch, Jerry I	Science Applications International Corporation	Development of SOPs for the Optimization and Development of Automated Synthesis Procedures for the Production of (F-18)FLT	Supplement	4,470
Hirsch, Jerry I	Science Applications International Corporation	Development of SOPs for the Optimization and Development of Automated Synthesis Procedures for the Production of (F-18)FLT	Supplement	26,704
Hirsch, Jerry I	IBA Molecular	F-18 Fluorodeoxythymine (F-18 FLT) Chemistry Optimization and Validation Using the IBA Synthera (tm) Multipurpose Chemistry Box	Initial	77,416

Total SOM New and Competitive Renewals: \$6,803,043

(Thanks to Dr. George Ford, Assistant Dean of Medicine for Sponsored Programs Research, and Meenu Tolani, Director of SOM Information Systems, for this information.)

A. D. Williams Awards for July 2006 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, 2006 were:

A. D. Williams Research Grants

“The Effect of a Five Week Electrical Myostimulation Program in Patients with Heart Failure.” Dr. Ross A. Arena, Assistant Professor of Physical Therapy, was awarded \$14,935 from the A. D. Williams Trust Funds.

“Vestibular System and Motor Development in Deaf Children.” Dr. Mary S. Shall, Associate Professor of Physical Therapy, was awarded \$5,450 from the A. D. Williams Trust Funds.

“Stress and Anxiety in ADHD: Links to Sensory Modulation Dysfunction.” Dr. Stacey E. Reynolds, Assistant Professor of Occupational Therapy, was awarded \$14,700: \$11,200 from A. D. Williams Trust Funds and \$3,500 from the Feamster Foundation Trust Funds.

A. D. Williams Multi-School Awards

“Aging and Epilepsy: A Multi-disciplinary Approach.” Dr. Severn B. Churn, Associate Professor of Neurology, was awarded \$100,000 as Principal Investigator of the project. Support comes from the A. D. Williams Trust Funds.

“Nanofabrication of bone scaffold for cleft palate repair.” Dr. Gary L. Bowlin, Associate Professor of Biomedical Engineering, was awarded \$100,000 as Principal Investigator of the project. Support comes from the A. D. Williams Trust Funds.

For more information, including applications: <http://views.vcu.edu/adw/>. *Thanks to Dr. George Ford for this information.*

Did You Know?



Searching for a better way to listen to music while swimming, CEO VCU Health System and VCU Vice President for Health Sciences **Dr. Sheldon Retchin** tracked down VCU biomedical engineer Marty Lenhardt, who had expertise on how sound frequencies pass through bones. They developed a concept and filed for a patent in 2003, which is still pending.

The pair eventually licensed the bone-conduction technology to Livermore, Calif.-based Finis Inc. The company launched the SwiMP3 in 2004. It connects “headphones” to the jaw or cheekbones instead of into the ear, to pump The Rolling Stones or Gnarl Barkley through your skull. The 128-megabyte SwiMP3 about 32 songs (*excerpted from the Richmond Times-Dispatch, 7-21-06*).

Ivan Christopher Davis, M4 student, awarded AMA Foundation Scholarship

The American Medical Association (AMA) Foundation awarded Ivan Christopher Davis, M’07, a Physicians of Tomorrow Scholarship based on academic excellence and/or financial need. Mr. Davis was one of nine recipients selected nationally, and will receive a \$10,000 scholarship to help defray medical school expenses. Mr. Davis was nominated by the Dean and chosen by a selection committee. The Physicians of Tomorrow Scholarships were created by the AMA Foundation in 2004 to provide financial assistance to medical students facing spiraling medical school debt. On average, medical students in the U. S. graduate with more than \$120,000 in debt. (Information provided by Dina Lindenberg, AMA Foundation press release, 9-11-06.)

WISDM Book Club

The next book is *Galileo's Daughter* by Dava Sobel. Bring a friend and join us for a delightful evening of lively discussion and easy collegiality, Thursday, November 9, 6 – 8 pm, Café Gutenberg, 1700 E. Main Street. Café Gutenberg is planning to add a ramp at the entrance to be accessible to persons with disabilities by the time of our November meeting.

VCU Staff Senate Bridging the Gap with Community Outreach



VCU Staff Senate collected more than 10,000 donated school supplies for Martin Luther King Middle School. Building one community and bridging the gap are two central themes that the VCU Staff Senate strives to carry out, so it was natural for the VCU Staff Senate to reach out to the neighboring middle school by sponsoring the first Back to School Drive in its name. “We believe that our next VCU students and health care professionals are in this community,” said LaForest F. Williams, president of the VCU Staff Senate. “We wanted to help provide these students with some tools and resources to enhance their education.” School supplies were collected by members of the VCU community

from both the Monroe Park and MCV campuses (*excerpted from University News Service article on 9/5/06*).

Departmental News

University Sponsored Programs

Herbert Brooke “Chuck” Chermiside, III, died suddenly on June 22, 2006. He was born September 17, 1937, in Charlottesville, Va. Survivors include his wife, three sons and families, and two grandchildren. He is also survived by his father, Herbert Brooke Chermiside Jr.; and two sisters. He graduated from Darrow School and attended Reed College. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps and later graduated from San Francisco State University. He received a master’s degree from Virginia Tech. He retired from VCU in 2004 as emeritus director of Sponsored Programs. He was active with Boy Scouts of America for 25 years. He was an avid gardener and ballroom dancer. Memorial donations may be made to Blue Ridge Mountains Council Scout Reservation, Boy Scouts of America, P.O. Box 7606, Roanoke, Va. 24019. Published in the Richmond Times-Dispatch from 6/25/2006 - 6/26/2006.

McGuire VA News



Jonathan Perlin, M.D., Ph.D., former undersecretary for health for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and a three-time VCU alumnus who earned all three of his graduate degrees from VCU, became chief medical officer and senior vice president of quality at the Nashville-based HCA Inc. on Aug. 17. As senior vice president at HCA, Perlin will monitor and improve quality throughout the 180-hospital health system. He will be responsible for patient safety initiatives and the system’s quality review system, which helps improve hospital clinical quality. For more information, visit <http://www.vcu.edu/uns/news/vcuview/archives/2006/july/perlin.htm> (University News Service)



Dr. Mitchell Schubert, Professor of Medicine and Physiology at VCU and Chief of Gastroenterology at McGuire VAMC, has been continuously funded from 1982-2009 by VA Merit Review grants to study the physiology of gastric secretion. His studies have (i) identified the neural (e.g., acetylcholine, vasoactive intestinal peptide, and gastrin releasing peptide), paracrine (e.g. somatostatin, histamine, and atrial natriuretic peptide), and hormonal (e.g., gastrin) pathways regulating acid secretion and (ii) elucidated the pathways by which physiological (e.g. protein and distension) and pathophysiological (e.g. *Helicobacter pylori*) stimuli influence acid secretion. His studies have shown that during the interdigestive phase, acid secretion is maintained at low levels by the paracrine restraint exerted by somatostatin on gastrin cells in the antrum as well as on histamine and parietal cells in the fundus of the stomach. During meal ingestion, elimination of this restraint is one mechanism by which acid secretion is stimulated. Dr. Schubert has been the recipient of the Veterans Career Development Award and American Gastroenterological Association Research Scholar Award. He edits *Current Opinion in Gastroenterology* and *Current Treatment Options in Gastroenterology*, and serves as Associate Chair of the Esophagus, Gastric, and Duodenum Section of the American Gastroenterological Association.

MCV Physician News

New Members of the VCUHS and MCVP Boards

VCU Health System: Two new board members have been appointed:

- **Dr. Ann Fulcher**, Professor and Chair, Department of Radiology, July 1, 2006 - June 30, 2009, appointed for a second term, reappointed by the Speaker of the House
- **Dr. George Vetovec**, Professor of Internal Medicine and Chair, Division of Cardiology, July 1, 2006 - June 30, 2009, appointed by the Senate

MCV Physicians Board:

- **Chair members:** **Dr. Joel Silverman**, Professor and Chair, Department of Psychiatry, term through 6/30/09, re-elected by the chairs, and **Dr. Harry Young**, Professor and Chair, Department of Neurosurgery, term through 6/30/09
- **Non-Chair members:** **Dr. Alistair Erskine**, Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine, and **Dr. John Ward**, Professor of Neurosurgery, both have terms through 6/30/09

Mr. Keith Purcell has been promoted to Controller for MCV Physicians. Mr. Purcell's promotion was approved by the MCVP Board of Directors at their August 16, 2006, meeting, and is a component of our finance restructure plan to provide enhanced financial services to our clinical departments and central MCVP. Mr. Purcell's work with the MCVP Finance Committee, Clinical Administrators, Executive Director's office and VCUHS finance over the past year added to his ability to assume this key management position within MCVP.

Keith has been with VCU and/or MCV Physicians for the past 8 years and has served in finance related positions in the Department of Neurology as Senior Accountant and Administrator, in Central Finance as Senior Accountant, and most recently as Manager of Accounting. Please join us in welcoming Mr. Purcell to his new responsibilities within MVCP and the Virginia Commonwealth University Health System.

Dean's Office



Jerome F. Strauss, M.D., Ph.D., served as a pre-publication expert reviewer of the recent Institute of Medicine report, "Preterm Birth, Causes, Consequences and Prevention."

"It's a major economic burden, both in the short term for the care of the premature newborn infant and the medical problems that are associated with prematurity," said Dr. Jerome F. Strauss III, dean of the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine. The report estimated that the cost in 2003 of preterm birth was about \$26 billion, accounting for hospital, medical and other expenses.

"That is probably on the low side if you factor in chronic care," said Strauss. The report makes a number of recommendations, including creating multidisciplinary research centers to study preterm labor and instituting guidelines for infertility treatments that can lead to a woman carrying multiple fetuses.



Paul E. Mazmanian, Ph.D., associate dean for Continuing Professional Development and Evaluation Studies in the School of Medicine, was co-author on an article in the September 6 issue of JAMA, "Accuracy of Physician Self-assessment Compared With Observed Measures of Competence: A Systematic Review" (JAMA 2006;296 1094-1102).

Department of Internal Medicine



Domenic Sica, M.D., professor of internal medicine and nephrology, has been awarded a 2006 Master Clinician Award from the International Society of Hypertension in Blacks. The award, which was presented June 23 at ISHIB's opening and awards ceremony in Atlanta, recognizes leadership and achievements in overcoming health disparities in ethnic minority populations. Sica was honored for research, clinical care, education and philanthropy.



This summer, **Richard Wenzel, M.D.**, was installed as President of the International Society for Infectious Diseases with 3000 delegates from 106 countries looking on. He will serve a two-year term, leading the organization that is unique for its focus on infectious diseases in the third world. The Society operates the largest international surveillance system in the world for emerging infections, with 10,000 hits a day. The surveillance system identified the SARS outbreak even before the World Health Organization.

Department of Physiology



New Editions!! Linda Costanzo, Ph.D., Professor of Physiology, recently published new editions of two of her physiology books. The Third Edition of her textbook, *Physiology* (Elsevier), published in April 2006; it is now in full-color, and the content of the book is also provided in electronic form on Elsevier's Student Consult site. Dr. Costanzo also wrote "Frequently Asked Questions" for the Student Consult site, and she is providing an "ask-the-author" opportunity for students. In August 2006, the Fourth Edition of her board review book, *BRS Physiology* (Lippincott Williams and Wilkins) was published. Both books are popular with U.S. and international medical students. Dr. Costanzo's books are translated into seven languages.

Department of Surgery



Tissue Technologies LLC, which makes bandages for non-healing wounds, had its first product approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration this month. The Richmond-based company's cotton dressing is a complex bandage that has therapeutic capabilities, unlike a strip of gauze.

"Our hope, our goal and objective with our first product was to make an inexpensive dressing that will interact with the wound and improve healing in wounds that fail to heal," said **I. Kelman Cohen**, the firm's president and professor emeritus in the division of plastic and reconstructive surgery at Virginia Commonwealth University. The company is based in the Virginia BioTechnology Research Park downtown.

While regulators gave Tissue Technologies the OK to sell the wound dressing, the company cannot market the bandage as having the ability to heal human wounds until further testing, Cohen said. The approved wound dressing is particularly suited for treating pressure ulcers, commonly called bedsores. Chronic wounds may affect between 5 million and 7 million people in the U.S. every year, with management of the ever-present lesions costing more than \$20 billion, according to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, a unit within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Tissue Technologies relies on grants from the National Institutes of Health and has received about \$1.5 million from the federal medical research agency in the past two years, Cohen said. (*excerpted from Richmond Time-Dispatch, author Jeffrey Kelley, July 14, 2006*)



The First (and hopefully not the last) Perisurgical Golf Tournament will be held Saturday morning, September 23, 2006, Mattaponi Springs Golf Club, www.mattaponisprings.com, 22490 Penola Road, Ruther Glen, VA. If you are interested in participating please contact: Dr. Jeff Green, Anesthesiology, 828-9160 ext. 263, or Dr. James Neifeld, Surgery, 827-1033.



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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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Thanks to all those who have provided information for this newsletter!