

NEWSLINE

School of Medicine Newsletter – April 2008, Vol. 11, No. 3

Produced by the Office of Faculty Affairs

Medical College of Virginia Campus, Virginia Commonwealth University

Next Issue, July 2008!

Departmental News deadline is June 15, 2008. Please send your faculty/department achievements to kkreutzer@vcu.edu.

Appointments and Search Updates

Dr. Isaac "Ike" Wood named Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education and Student Affairs July 1st



Dr. Wood's career at VCU has spanned 30 years, starting with his matriculation into medical school in 1978. Dr. Wood completed an internship and residency here in General Psychiatry and a fellowship in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. Dr. Wood is the M2 Behavioral Sciences Course Director, the M3 Psychiatry Clerkship Director, is the Director of Undergraduate Medical Education in Psychiatry and the Behavioral Sciences, and for the past three years has served as Associate Dean of Student Affairs in the School of Medicine. He has received the School of Medicine's top educational awards including the Faculty Teaching Excellence Award (2002) and the Educational Innovation Award (2006). He has also received the award for the Outstanding Professor in the Behavioral Sciences every year since 1999. In addition, the medical school class of 1997 selected Dr. Wood as the Teacher of the Year. His projects have included creating a virtual psychosis laboratory so students may experience the debilitating effects of severe mental illness; Project HEART (Healing with Empathy, Acceptance,

Respect, and Integrity), a nationally recognized program for helping students maintain humanism and altruism; and a comprehensive four-year career planning curriculum which was recently recognized by the LCME accreditation team as a strength of our school. Dr. Wood is a Harvard Macy Scholar; a Fellow of the National Board of Medical Examiners for Self-Directed Learning; he is a peer reviewer for the AAMC's MedEdPortal and FOCUS (the CME journal of the American Psychiatric Association); and is currently in his fourth year as a member of the National Board of Medical Examiners Behavioral Science Committee and the United States Medical Licensing Examination Step 1 Behavioral Sciences Test Material Development Committee.

As Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education and Student Affairs, one of Dr. Wood's first charges will be to lead the process of design of a new curriculum and develop the programming for the new School of Medicine Building. Please join us in congratulating Dr. Wood on this appointment.

Many thanks to the **Search Committee** for their efforts in selecting the successor to Jim Messmer, M.D, who has ably guided our undergraduate medical education program for 16 years. Search Committee members were Drs. Joel Silverman, Chair, (Psychiatry), John Bigbee (Anatomy), Rita Willett (Internal Medicine), Linda Costanzo (Physiology), Judy Brannen (VAMC Chief of Staff), Ross Mikkelsen (Radiation-Oncology), Thomas Wise (Inova Campus – Psychiatry), Daniel Santos (Otolaryngology Chief Resident), and medical students: Bella Gabice and Brandon Engorn.

Amy Sebring, Associate Dean for Finance and Administration



After a comprehensive search for a Bill Gleason successor focused on external candidates, it became evident that we had the ideal individual in our midst. This became clearer as we interviewed candidates and assessed their strengths and weaknesses.

Amy S. Sebring was appointed Associate Dean for Finance and Administration in the Dean's Office, VCU School of Medicine effective on March 25, 2008.

Mrs. Sebring earned her undergraduate degree in public policy at Duke University and her Masters degree in public policy at The College of William and Mary. Prior to joining the Dean's Office, she worked as a research associate at the Education Commission of the States, a higher education budget analyst at the Virginia

Department of Planning and Budget, the finance policy director at the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia and a legislative fiscal analyst for higher education for the Senate Finance Committee in the Virginia General Assembly. While an Assistant Dean, Mrs. Sebring has been responsible for the day-to-day management of Dean's office budget, SOM strategic planning initiatives, etc. This experience will serve her well as she assumes many of Bill Gleason's duties as he will be retiring on June 1. Please join me in congratulating Mrs. Sebring on this promotion.

Retirement Reception for Bill Gleason

Dr. Jerry Strauss invites all SOM faculty to a retirement reception for William (Bill) Gleason on **Wednesday, April 30, 2008, 5:00 – 7:00 PM, Scott House, 909 West Franklin Street**. The announcement about Mr. Gleason's retirement appeared in Newsline, January 2007, Vol. 10, No. 2, at www.medschool.vcu.edu/facultyaffairs/newsletter/Newsline107-2.pdf.

Submit your RSVP at <https://survey.vcu.edu/cgi-bin/qwebcorporate.dll?idx=WRMU35>. For questions only, please e-mail Ellen Osmundson, seosmund@vcu.edu.

Dr. Kate Lapane appointed Chair of Epidemiology and Community Health



Dr. Jerry Strauss has announced the appointment of Kate Lapane, Ph.D., as Chair of Epidemiology and Community Health in the emerging School of Public Health effective July 1, 2008.

Doctor Lapane is an epidemiologist whose contributions to the field of pharmacoepidemiology have been substantial. She has been continuously funded from the NCI, NIA, AHRQ, and foundations, as well as from industry sources. The overarching theme of her applied research is to improve the health outcomes of elderly persons through the understanding of risks and benefits of medications in patients systematically excluded from clinical trials. Her translational research focuses on interventions to evaluate the use of health information technology to improve patient-centered pharmacy care in nursing home settings, as well as ambulatory settings. Her methodologic research focuses on understanding the extent to which statistical approaches minimize bias in epidemiologic research. In particular, Dr.

Lapane thoughtfully critiques methods (e.g. propensity score techniques) to evaluate causal effects of medications in non-experimental study designs when the underlying data structures are inherently clustered in nature ("multilevel confounding"). She is also committed to advancing fundamental knowledge of issues central to the improvement of population health by focusing on understanding the complex interactions between biological, psycho/social, and economical forces which impact disease production.

Dr. Lapane comes to VCU from the Department of Community Health of Brown University. She was recently unanimously recommended for promotion to the rank of Professor by her colleagues in the Department after having received tenure in 2003. She was the Director of the Graduate Program in Epidemiology, stepping down to lead the development of the newly formed Graduate Program in Health Services Research. She was the chief instructor of the core epidemiologic methods courses. She has mentored over thirty junior faculty members, post-doctoral fellows, and graduate students. Her efforts as an educational innovator and mentor were recently recognized as she received the 2006 Harriet Sheridan Medal for Distinguished Teaching and Learning at Brown University.

Dr. Joseph Laver, Chair of Pediatrics, announces departure



Dr. Joseph Laver, Chair of the Department of Pediatrics, has accepted the position of Clinical Director and Vice President of the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital effective June 1, 2008. Over the last seven years, Dr. Laver has provided enlightened leadership to build the Department of Pediatrics. The residency program is thriving, the clinical enterprise remains strong and new faculty members have expanded the clinical subspecialty programs at VCU and in the community. Dr. Laver has been a strong advocate of pediatric services and a leading proponent of new facilities for pediatric care. He has fostered interdepartmental initiatives and his legacy includes the creation of a clinical and research childhood obesity program and community-based development activities to support pediatric services.

Please join us in wishing Dr. Laver every success at St. Jude's and thanking him for the years of service to the Department of Pediatrics, the VCU Health System and the School of Medicine. To thank him in person, please join the School of Medicine at a **reception honoring Dr. Laver on Tuesday, May 6, 5-6:30 p.m., Alumni House Parlors**.

Dr. William Moskowitz will assume the role of Interim Chair and **Dr. John Seeds** will Chair the Search Committee to recruit Dr. Laver's successor. Committee members will be named shortly.

Gov. Timothy Kaine recognizes VCU Researcher As One of Virginia's Outstanding Scientists for 2008



Sarah Spiegel, Ph. D., Professor and Chair, Department of Biochemistry, has been named Virginia's Outstanding Scientist for 2008. Governor Timothy M. Kaine and Science Museum of Virginia Director Richard Conti introduced the recipients to the General Assembly on Thursday, February 14. She will receive her awards at a banquet at the Science Museum on Thursday, April 17. Dr. Spiegel is recognized as one of the state's Outstanding Scientists of 2008 for her discovery of a potent lipid mediator, which she demonstrated to have important roles in cancer, inflammation and allergy. Spiegel's contributions to this research have opened new avenues for drug development to fight these diseases.

Dr. Spiegel, who is also the program co-leader of the Cancer Cell Biology Program at the VCU Massey Cancer Center and the Mann T. and Sara D. Lowry Professor of Oncology, has received multiple grants from the National Institutes of Health to continuously fund her research for nearly 20 years. In 2003, she was awarded a National Institutes of Health MERIT award totaling nearly \$2.1 million, to continue her research on S1P. The award is given to investigators who have demonstrated superior competence and productivity.

VCU BIRCWH Scholars Are Announced

The VCU School of Medicine is the recipient of an NIH-sponsored **Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health (BIRCWH) Program**. The \$2.5 million career-development program will provide Ph.D and M.D. junior faculty, BIRCWH Scholars, with interdisciplinary training and in-depth mentoring to enable them to develop independent research programs in broad areas relevant to women's health, particularly as it relates to cancer, neuroscience, metabolism, and maternal health. Dr. Jerry Strauss is P.I. for the grant. ***Congratulations to the following faculty who have been selected as BIRCWH Scholars:***



Amelia Grover, MD
(Surgery)



Aylin Rizki, PhD
(Radiation Oncology)



Lori Sweeney, MD
(Internal Medicine)



Kazuaki Takabe, MD, PhD
(Surgery)

Recruitment of Associate Dean for Student Affairs

The VCU School of Medicine seeks an Associate Dean for Student Affairs who will report to the Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education and Student Affairs. Responsibilities include oversight of all support services for students (student health; academic, career and personal counseling; financial aid, etc.). For full position description, go to <http://www.pubinfo.vcu.edu/facjobs/facjob.asp?Item=3016>

Interested applicants should send a letter of interest, a CV, and two letters of reference to Janet Mundie, Student Activities Office, Box 980565 or by e-mail to jhmundie@vcu.edu.

LCME Accreditation Update

The LCME site visit occurred in February and we want to thank all of the students and faculty who participated in this important project. We have a great school and the visitors were fully aware of that fact by the conclusion of their visit. In their exit interview, the visitors were very complimentary of our self study document, the team that organized the site visit and the enthusiasm and commitment of all of the groups they saw.

Among the strengths of the School of Medicine, the site visitors noted:

- The high quality of the leadership of the school and hospital and the collaborative working relationship that exists;
- Support services and programs, e.g., Project HEART, for students and our responsiveness to student needs;
- The depth of resources at the Inova campus, as exemplified by the teleconferencing capabilities used to foster communication between the two campuses, and
- The quality of the facilities on the MCV Campus.

The visitors noted four areas of noncompliance with the 130 LCME standards:

- The curriculum is not designed to foster self-directed learning skills among the students, which is another way of stating that our curriculum relies too heavily on didactic lectures and not enough on such activities as small group learning, case based discussions, etc.;
- Some community physicians who supervise students in third year clerkships are not VCU faculty;
- The current lack of a Chief Academic Officer at Inova (this individual has been hired and will start March 31) may have implications for the management of Inova's academic mission, and
- A Promotion and Tenure policy for the Inova faculty has not yet been approved by VCU.

The next step in the process is that a draft of the site visitors' report will be returned to the school for review. Once reviewed, the report will be sent to the LCME who will make a final decision about our accreditation in June.

This preliminary report from the site visitors is excellent and one that we should all be proud of. The visitors were emphatic in their praise of the school, our faculty and our students and we thank all of you for the outstanding job you did in this very important effort.

2008 WISDM Professional Achievement Award to Dr. Ellen Brock



Ellen Brock, MD, MPH, is the recipient of the Women in Science, Dentistry, and Medicine (WISDM) Professional Achievement Award and was recognized during the 16th Annual Pathways to Leadership Conference, March 21, at the MSB, MCV Campus. Dr. Brock is Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Section Head in General Obstetrics and Gynecology. She recently created a year-long instructional simulation training course for residents, teaching them minimally invasive surgery -- primarily laparoscopic surgery. Dr. Brock also was named the first Medical Director of the Center for Human Simulation and Patient Safety for the SOM, effective January 2008.

"I'm honored to be the recipient of this year's award and anytime something like this happens, I always think of so many people who belong on the stage with me," said Dr. Brock, as she accepted the award and acknowledged the many contributions of her colleagues, friends, and family that have helped her throughout her career.

The WISDM Professional Achievement Award is presented annually and was established in 1993 to acknowledge the special contributions and accomplishments of women faculty in the SOM and to recognize those women who have served as strong role models and mentors for the professional development of women faculty. The WISDM faculty organization solicits nominations annually. For more information visit <http://www.womeninmedicine.vcu.edu/APPA.html>.

WISDM 16th Pathways to Leadership Conference a Success!



Over 100 faculty, students, trainees, and staff from across the MCV Campus and the VAMC attended the 16th Annual Pathways to Leadership Conference, Friday, March 21, MSB and Egyptian Buildings. Dr. PonJola Coney, Senior Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs and Professor of Ob-Gyn presented the keynote address, "Learning to Lead." Workshops featured topics such as managing emotions, translational research, mentoring, exercise and healthy living, financial planning, and eldercare and caring for family members. Tours were an added feature and included the Massey Cancer Center's healing garden, the new critical care hospital, simulation labs in the School of Nursing and School of Dentistry, and VCUHS Family Care Services. Fifty women full professors were recognized along with WISDM Professional Achievement Award winners. Thanks to all the presenters, WISDM Executive Council members, Office of Faculty Affairs and this year's conference sponsors: the VCU

Schools of Medicine and Dentistry and the VCU Health System.

Report on Faculty Salaries Available

The Report on Medical School Faculty Salaries, 2006-2007, paper publication and web access is now available. This publication is the Association of American Medical Colleges' (AAMC) 43rd review of full-time faculty compensation. The Report includes 33 tables that present the total compensation for 84,239 full-time medical school faculty. Fiscal year 2007 data were submitted by all of the 125 accredited medical schools in the United States that were administered the 2007 AAMC Faculty Salary Survey, and cover all sources of compensation: fixed/base salary, medical practice supplement, bonus/incentive pay, and uncontrolled outside earnings. The publication reports total compensation statistics for six faculty ranks in 79 departments/specialties. The tables provide the 25th percentile and 75th percentile as well as the mean and median for each combination of faculty rank and faculty department/specialty. The number of faculty in each total compensation statistic is given also.

Complimentary Web access to the general tables from this publication is available at <https://services.aamc.org/fssreports>. If you have an AAMC Login user name and password but cannot access the reports, click on the "Enter your access code to register" link, enter the case-sensitive access code ZioNCGob and click "next," then type in your user name and password on the right-hand side of the screen. If you do not yet have an AAMC Login, click on the "Enter your access code to register" link, and then enter the case-sensitive access code ZioNCGob and follow the instructions provided on the screen to register for an AAMC Login. In the future, just log in with your user name and password.



Library Bits 'n Bites

Please join us for these upcoming faculty development opportunities!

PubMed: The Basics

Tuesday, April 15, 2008, Noon – 1:00PM, Sanger B1-020 Classroom

Learn to search MEDLINE via PubMed, including basic features and search techniques such as limits, display options and print formats. Methods to identify locally available journals or fulltext online articles will also be discussed. **Instructor:** Kristine M. Hughes, 828-1150 or kmhughes@vcu.edu. **Register online:** http://www.pubinfo.vcu.edu/training/course_detail.asp?ID=5513

Workshop: Women's Health Overview: National Data Available From NCHS That Address Health Issues Of Adult Women - Thursday, April 17, 2008

This presentation provides an overview of the NCHS data systems and how they can be used to address questions of health and health care utilization among women.

Speaker: Kate Brett, PhD - National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Location: **Tompkins McCaw Library-** Library Instruction Classroom, Room 2- 012
Time: 2:00 – 4:00PM
Register: http://www.pubinfo.vcu.edu/training/it/course_detail.asp?ID=5116
Sponsors: VCU Libraries and the VCU Institute for Women's Health

Who's Citing You?

Thursday, May 8, 2008, Noon – 1:00PM, Sanger B1020 Classroom

This session provides an overview of Web of Science and Journal Citation Reports (JCR). Attendees will learn how to use Web of Science to determine who is citing whom in a given field or given a specific paper; while using JCR to find the impact factor for journals within a specific discipline. **Instructor:** Shannon D. Jones, 828-0626 or sdjones@vcu.edu. **Register online:** http://www.pubinfo.vcu.edu/training/course_detail.asp?ID=5515

Learn more about the
NIH Public Access Policy
IMPLEMENTATION

MANDATE TAKES
EFFECT APRIL 7

Effective April 7, 2008, recipients of funding from the National Institutes of Health are subject to new reporting requirements. Principal investigators must ensure that electronic versions of all peer-reviewed manuscripts arising from NIH funding and accepted for publication on or after April 7, 2008 are deposited into PubMed Central. PubMed Central is NIH's full-text digital archive of biomedical and life science journal literature. Beginning **May 25, 2008**, anyone submitting NIH applications, proposals, and progress reports must include the PubMed Central reference number when citing an article that arises from his/her NIH funded

research. For more information go to http://www.research.vcu.edu/vpr/resources/nih_pap.htm on the VCU Office of Research website. Additional information from Tompkins-McCaw Library is found at <http://www.library.vcu.edu/tml/bibs/nihpubaccess.html>. For questions, contact Lynne Turman, luturman@vcu.edu, 828-0638.



Please join us for the next WISDM Book Club, Wednesday, May 21, 6-8 pm

Book: Atonement by Ian McEwan (in paperback and audio CD)

Location: Cafe Gutenberg, 1700 E. Main St., Shockoe Bottom

Facilitator: TBD; if someone would like to co-facilitate, please let Carol Hampton know 828-6594, clhampto@vcu.edu. It's easy to lead discussion with this group! All are welcome.



AD Williams Awards for January & April 2008 Award Cycles 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.

January, 2008 Awards:

Dr. Aylin Rizki, Assistant Professor of Radiation Oncology,* was awarded \$15,000 in support of her application entitled "Genome Stability Genes which Acquire a Function in Invasion during Breast Cancer Progression". This support comes from the A. D. Williams Trust Funds.

Dr. Roland N. Pittman, Professor of Physiology,* was awarded \$25,000 in support of his application entitled "Role of Nitric Oxide in Microvascular Oxygen Transport". This is a bridge application. This support comes from the A. D. Williams Trust Funds.

Dr. Jeffrey L. Dupree, Assistant Professor of Anatomy and Neurobiology,* was awarded \$14,944 in support of his application entitled "Isolation and Identification of Novel Forms of Neurofascin." This support comes from the A. D. Williams Trust Funds.

Dr. Timothy P. York, Assistant Professor of Human Genetics,* was awarded \$13,700 in support of his application entitled "Molecular-genetic Analysis of the Effects of Population Admixture on the Development of Behavioral Disorders in the NICHD Puerto Rican Twin Study ("PRINTS")". This support comes from the A. D. Williams Trust Funds.

Dr. Ronald B. Smeltz, Assistant Professor of Microbiology & Immunology,* was awarded \$15,000 in support of his application entitled "Maintaining Protective Immunity to *Trypanosoma Cruzi*". This support comes from the A. D. Williams Trust Funds.

Dr. Cristina I. Vargas-Irwin, Assistant Professor of Pharmacy,* was awarded \$14,810 in support of her application entitled "Effect of NMDA - Partial Agonists and Histaminergic H3 Antagonists/Inverse Agonists on the Spontaneous Recovery of Aversive Memories". This support comes from the A. D. Williams Trust Funds.

April, 2008 Awards:

Dr. Clive M. Baumgarten, Professor of Physiology and Biophysics,* was awarded \$25,000 from the A. D. Williams Trust Funds in support of his application entitled "Regulation of Cardiac Chloride Currents by Reactive Oxygen Species".

Dr. Michael Fuchs, Associate Professor of Internal Medicine (Division of Gastroenterology),* was awarded \$15,000 in support of his application entitled “The Role of Sterol Carrier Protein 2 (SCP2) and Liver Fatty Acid Binding Protein (FABP1) for Cholesterol Homeostasis”. This award came as \$7,250 from the Medical Research Endowment Trust Funds and \$7,750 from the A. D. Williams Trust Funds.

Dr. Stacey E. Reynolds, Assistant Professor of Occupational Therapy,* was awarded \$14,946 from the A. D. Williams Trust Funds in support of her application entitled “Health Psychophysiological and Neuroendocrine Reactivity Patterns in Children with Autism.” For more information, including applications for the next funding cycle: <http://views.vcu.edu/adw/>

CCTR Research Incubator Offers Resources for Faculty



The Research Incubator (RI), a unit of the **Center for Clinical and Translational Research (CCTR)** under the direction of **Dr. John Clore**, is a unique resource available to faculty investigators at VCU. The RI was created to promote and facilitate multidisciplinary, clinical and translational research by providing resources to support and train our faculty engaged in this type of research.

The RI is a resource available to all faculty researchers who are working on novel, clinical and translational research. RI staff are available to help investigators identify and access core resources for their research including personnel who can assist with research proposal development/design, ethics considerations, regulatory requirements, database management, links to community partners, and Sponsor/regulatory agency interactions. The RI staff can also help researchers identify and access physical resources necessary for their research.

Another fundamental mission of the RI is the promotion of collaborative, interdisciplinary research. Toward this goal, the RI works to link faculty investigators with complementary interests and expertise to form multidisciplinary research teams. Through its mentoring program, including its distinguished Academy of Mentors, the RI offers investigators additional opportunities for collaborative research. The RI helps investigators identify mentors who are able to provide therapeutic area expertise, technical skill training, grantsmanship instruction, and career development advice.

The RI also offers a number of educational opportunities for clinical and translational researchers. From individual instruction to training seminars, the RI seeks to meet the educational needs of VCU's faculty researchers.

The RI is directed by Dr. Chris Gennings, Professor, Biostatistics, and is currently staffed by a research liaison, a community research liaison, a grant writer, an ethics consultant, and two biostatisticians.

Faculty researchers who are interested in learning more about the RI or in using the resources available through the RI should contact Pamela Dillon, PharmD, by telephone (7-1519) or by e-mail (pmdillon@vcu.edu). Investigators are also welcome to visit the RI; it is located in the Richmond Academy of Medicine (1200 E. Clay Street, Suite 2000).

Major Cerner Enhancements at VCUHS

The most recent Cerner (Clinical Information System) upgrades have laid the foundation for the implementation of a portfolio of functions and features that are more intuitive to use, and a more powerful tool for clinicians. This project, called Enhanced View, will impact almost all current Cerner users. The PowerChart Office application will be retired, and those users will transition to an improved version of PowerChart. The Enhanced View implementation will emphasize a unified order entry protocol, allowing the retirement of SuperBill and EasyScript.

Implementation Date

The go-live date for this initiative will be during the weekend of June 14, 2008. Plans are underway to integrate Enhanced View functionality training into all new employee training beginning May 1, 2008.

Training

Because the changes included in this functionality are substantial, training for all affected users has been mandated. Required training elements will be determined by clinical role, and will be shared in forthcoming communications.

Enhanced View training will be offered via web-based training modules or open classroom labs starting in early May. Users will be able to log into the interactive training modules 24/7, either at home or at VCUHS. Each training module will have a competency-based component that requires 80% or better to pass. Dr. Ron Clark, Dr. John Ward, Carol Crosby and Darrell Johnson will receive weekly progress reports on this topic.

To protect the safety of our patients and ensure end-user readiness, all Enhanced View training is to be complete by Friday, June 13th. Nurses, Resident and Attending Physicians will be documenting in Cerner. It will be necessary to review and sign these documents within Cerner; therefore, training and subsequent usage is crucial.

Support

Additional end user support will be provided following the go-live date to ensure that our customers have assistance readily available should it be necessary.

Additional communication will follow in the coming weeks to provide further details surrounding this extraordinary initiative. Please share this information through multiple venues with all staff so that they can be informed about this training effort and new functionality.

Please note, there is also a separate initiative to replace PARS (the hospital billing system). The replacement software is an IDX application called HPA, and will be activated on July 1, 2008. This is a separate project and should not be confused with Enhanced View. *(Information courtesy of John D. Ward, M.D.MSHA, CMO, MCV Physicians, Associate Dean Clinical Affairs, SOM)*

Class of 2008 Match Results

VCU SOM experienced an unprecedented Match Day this year. Over the past four years, we have seen the percentage of our students who match prior to the scramble increase from 80% to 85% to 94% last year. This year, we exceeded the national average with 96% of our students matching prior to the scramble. It was a very exciting event at the Women's Club March 20 as students learned about where they would be pursuing graduate medical education. We had an unusually high number of students who matched into the most competitive residencies and who will be training at extremely prestigious institutions. Thirty-six students matched with the VCUHS for either preliminary, categorical or advanced positions. In terms of primary care, 31 students matched into Internal Medicine, 21 in Pediatrics, 16 in Family Medicine and 5 in combined programs.. The tremendous progress being made is attributable to many factors: the school has developed a four-year comprehensive career planning curriculum; faculty on both the INOVA and MCV campuses have played a very active role in advising and advocating for students; the experienced staff in the Office of Student Affairs have continued to provide excellent service to the students; and, the Office of Graduate Medical Education and Program Directors have played an integral role in collaborating and advising the Office of Student Affairs. We are very proud of accomplishments of the Medical School Class of 2008 and extremely appreciative of the services provided to them by our faculty. For match results for each student, please contact Janet Mundie, jhmundie@vcu.edu, 828-9791.

2008 Project ACEe



Project ACEe (Academic, Clinical & Educational experiences) is a program designed to expose rising high school juniors and seniors to medical career opportunities, assist them in skill development, and prepare them to enter collegiate health science programs by developing high self-esteem and motivation to pursue a career in medicine. It is one of the capstone programs of the School of Medicine's Office of Student Outreach.

The 2008 Project ACEe Program was held each Friday beginning January 18th, ending with a culminating presentation by the participants at the closing ceremony on March 21.

Weekly sessions covered topics to help prepare them for the transition to college, such as professionalism, using library resources and effective study skills. Other sessions exposed them to the world of research. New this year was a book discussion where the students along with session facilitator explored the ethical issues presented in the Jodi Picoult novel "My Sister's Keeper."

The students were also mentored by 1st year medical students who are members of the Student National Medical Association (SNMA). Among these students was a 2003 Project ACEe participant, Xavier Belcher. This year's medical student participants were: (from left to right) Tyrell Junius, Tiffany Clark, Rodnika Lewis, Mamie Dosla, Marshieka Gee, Alpha Taylor, Chelsea Coward. The 8th student, Jasmine Rogers, is not pictured.



VCU CTE offers Summer Institute on Teaching and Learning

The Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE) is currently accepting applications for the Summer Institute on Teaching and Learning. The Institute is scheduled for **May 12 - 16th, 2008**. A brief description of the institute is below. For more information and to download an application, please go to the Institute website at http://www.vcu.edu/cte/workshops/teaching_learning/index.htm

The theme for this year's CTE Summer Institute on Teaching and Learning is "**Reflection, Alignment, and Engagement: 3 Keys to Better Learning**" A key focus of this year's institute is the teaching philosophy. How we think about teaching and learning impacts the decisions we make about our course design, classroom teaching and how we interact with our students. How do we view our role as instructors? How do we view our students as learners? What are the conditions that are conducive to learning and how can we create these conditions in our course(s)? Faculty who participate in the institute will emerge with a teaching philosophy that informs their teaching and their students' learning, ideas on how to better align their learning objectives with course activities, assignments and assessments, and how to promote student engagement. Questions? Contact Zachary G. Goodell, Associate Director, CTE, (804) 827-0838



Alumni and Development Office News

Reunion Weekend 2008: April 11-13

The Alumni and Development Office welcomes back alumni from class years ending in '3s and '8s. For the first time, Friday night's party was held on the Egyptian Building Plaza!

Reunion Weekend began with Friday's day-long CME course designed to update alumni on a broad variety of topics from Parkinson's disease to obesity and depression. The popular course provided up to 6.75 credit hours and was taught by 10 members of our own faculty.

News on Alumni

Dr. Andrea Allen, a 1987 alumna of the SOM's Fairfax Family Medicine Residency program, was named president of the Maryland Academy of Family Physicians.

Dr. Perry Fine, Class of 1981, has received the prestigious John and Emma Bonica Public Service Award from the American Pain Society. The John and Emma Bonica Public Service Award honors outstanding contributions by an individual or an organization to the field of pain through public education, dissemination of information, public service, or other efforts to further knowledge about pain.

Dr. John Bower (M'61, H'65) has made a \$1 million gift to the School of Medicine, creating an Endowed Chair in the Department of Physiology. Diomedes Logothetis, Ph.D., is the first holder of the Bower Chair.

Dr. Regina M. Milteer, who earned her medical degree in 1979, and is the Pandemic Influenza Physician Consultant at the Fairfax County Department of Health, was appointed by the Governor to the State Child Fatality Review Team

Dr. Donald M. Poretz M'66, HS'71, Fellow '72, became President of the Infectious Diseases Society of America at the Society's recent Annual Meeting, Oct. 6, in San Diego, California.



VCUHS/Departmental News

Office of the Vice President for Health Sciences

Dr. Sheldon M. Retchin, chief executive officer of the VCU Health System, testified before a Congressional Committee that a proposal to eliminate Medicaid funding for graduate medical education would endanger the ability of teaching hospitals to maintain their mission of training physicians as well as reduce the access of millions of Americans to healthcare. Dr. Retchin has also been appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services to the 17-member Council on Graduate Medical Education. The Council provides ongoing assessment of physician workforce trends, training issues and financing policies, and recommends appropriate federal

VCU Health System Recognized with Two Awards

For the second consecutive year, the National Association for Female Executives, NAFE, has named the Virginia Commonwealth University Health System one of five top nonprofits in the country. NAFE's mission is to encourage women's advancement by honoring companies that demonstrate strong numbers of women in top positions and in the pipeline. In addition, the VCU Health System has been named to the 2008 Honor Roll by the [Center for Companies that Care](#), making the VCU Health System one of 41 companies nationwide selected for the quality of its work environment. For more information, see http://www.news.vcu.edu/vcu_view/pages.aspx?nid=2415 *Congratulations, VCUHS!*

Massey Cancer Center

Massey Cancer Center was recently named a Blue Distinction Center for Complex and Rare CancersSM by Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield in Virginia. Blue Distinction Centers for Complex and Rare Cancers are facilities within participating Blue Cross and Blue Shield network service areas that offer comprehensive inpatient cancer care programs for adults, delivered by multidisciplinary teams with subspecialty training and distinguished clinical expertise in treating complex and rare subtypes of cancers. Cancers considered complex and rare include: acute leukemia (inpatient/non-surgical), brain cancer – primary, esophageal cancer, gastric cancer, head and neck cancers, liver cancer, and pancreatic cancer. The Blue Distinction Centers for Complex and Rare Cancers designation is focused primarily on multidisciplinary treatment planning and complex, major surgical treatments.

Blue Distinction Centers for Complex and Rare Cancers were developed in strategic collaboration with the National Comprehensive Cancer Network* (NCCN) and input from a panel of leading clinicians and professional organizations. Blue Distinction® is a designation awarded by Blue Cross and Blue Shield companies to medical facilities that have demonstrated expertise in delivering quality healthcare. The designation is based on rigorous, evidence-based selection criteria established in collaboration with leading clinicians, medical societies and professional organizations.

The VCU Health System has now earned Blue Distinction Center designation for four specialties: Cancer, Cardiac Care, Transplants and Bariatric Surgery.

Dean's Office



Brenda L. Seago, M.L.S., M.A., AHIP received a \$3,000 grant March 2008 from the Southern Group on Educational Affairs of the AAMC for her research in medical education project titled "Pelvic Examination Skills Taught with a Pelvic Exam Simulator and with Genital Teaching Assistants (GTAs)." The study is being conducted with second year medical students to determine whether the order of performance (GTA then simulator or simulator then GTA) affects anxiety in, or readiness for performing a pelvic examination. Ms. Seago is Director of the SOM Computer Based Instruction Lab (CBIL) and Administrative Director of the SOM Center for Human Simulation and Patient Safety.

Department of Emergency Medicine



The American Heart Association has selected **Joseph Ornato, M.D.**, professor and chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine, as recipient of the 2007 Resuscitation Science Symposium Lifetime Achievement Award for Cardiac Resuscitation Science.

Department of Family Medicine



Dr. Anton Kuzel has been appointed a member of the Annals of Family Medicine, Inc. Board of Directors as the representative from the North American Primary Care Research Group, comprised of 1,000 members and which was conceived and started in the VCU Department of Family Medicine in the early 1970s.

Department of Human Genetics



Welcome to these new faculty!

Paola Barral, PhD. Dr. Barral received her Ph.D. in Oncology from the Institute of Cancer Studies, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom. She studies two novel genes involved in innate immunity, mda-5 and RIG-I. Small molecule screening approaches are being employed to identify novel therapeutics that will delimit viral pathogenesis.

Hyun Yong Jeon, MS. Ms. Jeon received her M.S. in Molecular Genetics from Seoul National University. Her research areas include effects of combined expression of human complement regulatory proteins and –H transferase on the inhibition of complement-mediated cytolysis in porcine embryonic fibroblasts.

Seok-Geun Lee, PhD. Dr. Lee received his Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from Seoul National University. He studies the molecular basis of neurodegeneration and the role of glutamate transport and astrocyte elevated gene-1 in normal astrocyte physiology and malignant glioma development.

Devanand Sarkar, MBBS, PhD. Dr. Sarkar received his Ph.D. in Endocrinology and Molecular Biology from Nagoya University. He analyzes structure and functions of novel oncogenes and tumor suppressor genes and employs that knowledge to develop innovative and efficient cancer gene therapy protocols targeted towards clinical application.

Zhaozhong Su, PhD. Dr. Su received his Ph.D. in Molecular Biology from L'Universite Libre de Bruxelles. He is investigating a novel cancer suppressor gene induced by interferon that specifically inhibits growth of transformed and tumorigenic cells.

Nikollaq Vozhilla, DVM. Dr. Vozhilla received his D.V.M. from the University of Tirana. He establishes and maintains animal models for research studies in such diverse areas such as genotyping, crossing, autopsy, etc. with seven kinds of different transgenic mice, protein purification, and biochemical, cellular and molecular biological experiments.

Department of Internal Medicine



Dr. Arun Sanyal has received the Achiever's Award from Maulana Azad Medical College, his alma mater, during their recent Founder's Day. This award acknowledged Dr. Sanyal's commitment towards exploration of new frontiers of knowledge and commitment to better health for the Society.




Dr. Richard Wenzel, is the recipient of this year's (2007-08) Laureate Award from Virginia Chapter of American College of Physicians and will receive this award at the annual state meeting on March 7-8, 2008.


Department of Microbiology


Dr. Dennis E. Ohman, Professor and Chair of Microbiology & Immunology, has been elected the President-Elect of the Association of Medical School Microbiology & Immunology Chairs (AMSMIC). This organization's purpose is to promote and advance the educational and scientific purposes of the field of microbiology and immunology in American and Canadian academic medical centers. AMSMIC provides the main forum for communication among the departmental Chairs. Dr. Ohman will be the President of the AMSMIC organization in the year 2010. He has been the departmental Chair at the VCU School of Medicine since 1998.

Department of Pathology

Marcella F. Fierro, MD, Virginia's Chief Medical Examiner, retired after more than 30 years on Dec. 31, 2007. Both the Washington Post and the Richmond Times Dispatch carried news of this woman pioneer in the field of Forensic Pathology. Dr. Fierro will continue in SOM as Professor Emerita and Chair, Department of Legal Medicine effective March 2008.

 **David S. Wilkinson, MD, PhD**, Professor and Chairman, and **Joy L. Ware, PhD**, Professor of Pathology participated in the The Science Museum of Virginia Mini Medical School this winter. The focus was “The Cutting Edge: Advances in Surgical Technology.”

 **David C. Williams Jr., MD, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Pathology, was awarded an American Society of Hematology Scholar Award for Basic Research Junior Faculty. The title of the project is “Developing a methyl cytosine-binding protein complex as a molecular therapeutic target.”

 **Richard A. McPherson, MD**, Chair of the Division of Clinical Pathology, Director of Clinical Pathology Services, Harry P. Dalton Professor of Pathology, recently received an award from the British Medical Association during their 2007 annual book awards. This award recognizes the authoritative text, *Henry's Clinical Diagnosis and Management* by Laboratory Methods, Twenty-first Edition.

Department of Pharmacology/Toxicology


Bill Martin, PhD, has won the Nathan Eddy Award to be given by The College on Problems of Drug Dependence at their meeting in June. This award is the highest award given in the drug abuse field.


Department of Physiology


Dr. Karnam S. Murthy was invited to serve as a member of the Clinical and Integrative Gastrointestinal Pathobiology Study Section, Center for Scientific Review for the term beginning July 1, 2008 and ending June 30, 2012.

Dr. Edgar Leal-Pinto joined the department on March 1. He received his MD from Central University of Venezuela and completed postdoctoral training in Cornell. He has held academic appointments at the Universidad Central de Venezuela, Cornell, and at Mount Sinai from 1996 to 2008. His research interests are in the area of renal medicine.


Department of Psychiatry

 **Jack Hetteema, MD**, has been appointed to the Editorial Board for the journal “Depression and Anxiety for a three-year period.

 **Aradhana “Bela” Sood, MD**, has been elected to the Board of Directors, YWCA of Greater Richmond.

 **Zhongming Zhao, PhD**, will provide leadership in the following two international conferences: Program Committee Member and Session (Gene Network and Pathway Analysis) Chair, IEEE 2008 International Conference on BioMedical Engineering and Informatics, Hainan, China, and Program Committee and Session (Computational Analysis and Data Mining in Biological Systems) Chair, 2008 International Conference on Intelligent Computing (ICIC 2008), Shanghai, China.

Department of Radiology

 **Jamal Zweit, PhD**, has accepted the position of Professor of Radiology and Director of the Center for Molecular Imaging. He expects to assume these responsibilities in April of this year.

Dr. Zweit is currently Reader in Biomolecular Imaging at the University of Manchester, where he also serves as Group Leader: CRUK/UM Radiochemical and Molecular Targeting & Imaging, Paterson Institute for Cancer Research (PICR) and Joint Head of the Manchester Positron Emission Tomography Centre of the Paterson Institute for Cancer Research, Christie Hospital NHS Trust and the University of Manchester.

Dr. Zweit received the B.Sc. degree in Radiation Biophysics (with biochemistry double major), from the University of Kansas, a *Master Diploma* in Nuclear Medicine and Oncology, J.F.K. Medical Center/ The City University, Nuclear Medicine Certification from the J.F.K. Medical Centre and The Brooklyn Hospital, and a Ph.D., Radiochemistry and Radiopharmacology of PET Imaging: Applications in Oncology from the University of Manchester.

He has authored over 80 peer-reviewed papers and obtained over £10 M in total research grant funding. Dr. Zweit conducted the world's first molecular PET imaging trial to study the pharmacokinetics of anti-angiogenic therapy and pioneered the production of laser-induced proton production of PET isotopes. As one of the leading Imaging Scientists and Radiochemists in the world, Dr. Zweit will build an innovative multi-modality molecular imaging research program which will be a highly interactive and influential translational research program at VCU that will advance our research initiatives requiring molecular imaging, particularly in the fields of cancer biology, oncology and the neurosciences.

VCU School of Medicine, Inova Campus: Faculty Feature



Zobair M. Younossi, MD, MPH, is the Executive Director of Research for Inova Health System, Executive Director of the Center for Liver Diseases at Inova Fairfax Hospital, and a Professor of Medicine for the VCU, Inova Campus. Dr. Younossi earned his medical degree from the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry (Alpha Omega Alpha, 1989), and completed his residency in internal medicine as well as a fellowship in gastroenterology and hepatology at Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation in La Jolla, California. In 2000, Dr. Younossi was recruited to establish Inova's Center for Liver Diseases. The center is currently well known for its excellence in clinical hepatology, teaching, and research. In 2006, Dr. Younossi was appointed Executive Director of Research for Inova Health System. In this capacity, he has developed new research infrastructure to support clinical, translational, and outcomes research carried out by Inova investigators. Over the

past decade, Dr. Younossi has been involved in teaching students, residents, and fellows. He is currently mentoring a number of students and residents as well as a hepatology fellow and a junior staff at Inova Fairfax Hospital. He has been Associate Director of Gastroenterology Fellowship at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation as has had multiple advanced hepatology fellows trained under his mentorship. He has also served in the Doctoral Thesis Committee of several PhD candidates. Dr. Younossi has authored over 150 articles and presented more than 155 abstracts at national and international meetings. He has given faculty presentations to over 190 local, national, or international meetings. He sits on multiple local and national committees and has served on the editorial board of *Hepatology*, *World Journal of Gastroenterology* and served as the associate editor of *Liver International* and *Evidenced-Based Gastroenterology*.



New and Competing Grant Awards: Jan. 1 - March 31, 2008

Please join us in recognizing the following researchers who received grant awards during January 1 - March 31, 2008. These are listed by faculty member name, department, awarding agency/institution titles, and amount. Data source: InfoEd utilized by the VCU Office of Research. Snapshot date: April 7, 2008. (*Note: Grant titles are as available from InfoEd.*)

Anatomy & Neurobiology

National Institutes of Health

Fuss, Babette	National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke/NIH/DHHS	Guidance of Oligodendrocyte Processes The Role of Local Protein Synthesis	Supplement	32,594
Guido, William	National Eye Institute/NIH/DHHS	Functional State of Developing Retinogeniculate Synapse	Supplement	52,086
Jacobs, Kimberle M.	National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke/NIH/DHHS	Role of Interneuron Subtypes in Malformed Cortex	Initial	310,774
Phillips, Linda L	National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke/NIH/DHHS	Matrix Metalloproteinases and Regenerative Plasticity Following Brain Injury	Initial	321,115
Povlishock, John T	National Institutes of Health	Combined Hypothermia and Neuroprotectants Extend Their Usefulness and Efficacy	Initial	162,969

Other Federal

Fuss, Babette	Fogarty International Center/NIH/DHHS	PD-1alpha/ATX's role for forebrain oligodendrocyte specification and migration	Initial	37,412
---------------	---------------------------------------	--	---------	--------

Anesthesiology

Industry

Green, Jeffrey A	Actelion	Multicenter, double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, parallel-group study to assess the efficacy, safety and tolerability of tezosentan in patients with pre-operative pulmonary hypertension, due to left heart disease, undergoing cardiac surgery	Initial	5,388
Howell, Keith A	I Flow Corporation	Multicenter Continuous Peripheral Nerve Block Surveillance Study Comparing Ultrasound Guided Catheter Placement to Non-Guided Catheter Placement Techniques	Initial	7,250

Other Federal

Spiess, Bruce D.	Office of Naval Research	Mechanistic and Monitoring Studies in Experimental Decompression Sickness (DCS) Utilizing Novel Treatments with Perfluorocarbon Emulsions (PFC)	Initial	325,229
Spiess, Bruce D.	Office of Naval Research	Post Doctoral Position - Study of the Microcirculation in Decompression Sickness with and without Treatment Using a Perfluorocarbon Based Oxygen Therapeutic	Initial	77,190
Spiess, Bruce D.	Office of Naval Research	Treatment of Arterial Gas Embolism with Oxycyte, a Novel Perfluorocarbon Emulsion	Initial	389,667

Biochemistry & Molecular Biology

Industry

Peterson, Darrell L	VLP BioTech, Inc.	Development of Prophylactic HCV Vaccine	Initial	70,620
---------------------	-------------------	---	---------	--------

Epidemiology And Community Health

National Institutes of Health

Liu, Hongjie	National Institute on Drug Abuse/NIH/DHHS	A Pilot Study of School-Based HIV Intervention in China	Initial	35,401
--------------	---	---	---------	--------

Family Medicine

Sub-Awards

Woolf, Steven	George Washington University	Creating and Managing the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation on Health in America	Initial	15,400
---------------	------------------------------	---	---------	--------

Human Genetics

Industry

Sarkar, Devanand	The Goldhirsh Foundation	Molecular Mechanism of Astrocyte Elevated Gene (AEG)-1 Function.	Initial	500,000
------------------	--------------------------	--	---------	---------

Internal Medicine

Industry

Baker, Sherman Jr.	Amgen, Inc.	A Phase 3, Multicenter, Randomized, Placebo-Controlled, Double-Blind Trial of AMG 706 in Combination with Paclitaxel and Carboplatin for Advanced Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer	Initial	519,956
Carl, Daniel	Johnson & Johnson	An Open-Label, Single-Dose Pharmacokinetic Study of Doripenem in	Initial	217,396

		Chronic Hemodialysis Subjects During and After a Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy Session and in Healthy Subjects		
Digiovanni, Susan R.	Johnson & Johnson	“A Randomized, Open-label, Multicenter, Study of Epoetin Alfa Comparing Two Extended Dosing Regimens, Once Every Two Weeks and Once Every Four Weeks, With the Once Weekly Dosing Regimen for Maintenance Treatment in Anemic Subjects With Chronic Kidney Dise	Initial	74,624
Gehr, Todd W.b.	Mitsubishi Pharma Corporation	A Phase III, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Multi_Center, Withdrawal Study comparing MCI-196 Versus Placebo Following a 12 week Dose Titration Period with MCI-196 in Chronic Kidney Disease (Stage V) Subjects on Dialysis (Hemodialysis or Per	Initial	70,114
Gehr, Todd W.b.	Mitsubishi Pharma Corporation	Phase III Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Study of AST-120 for Prevention of Chronic Kidney Disease Progression in Patients with Moderate to Severe Chronic Kidney Disease Including Assessment of Quality of Life KRM 307	Initial	148,456
Gibney, Eric M.	Pfizer Inc., U.S. Pharmaceuticals Group	“A Phase 2 Randomized, Multicenter, Active Comparator-Controlled Trial to Evaluate the Safety and Efficacy of Coadministration of CP-690,550 and Mycophenolate Mofeti / Mycophenolate Sodium in De Novo Kidney Allograft Recipients ”	Initial	124,767
Goudreau, Evelyne	Eisai, Inc.	A Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Study of the Safety and Tolerability of E5555, and its Effects on Markers of Intravascular Inflammation in Subjects with Coronary Artery Disease	Initial	44,500
McCarty, John M.	Genzyme Coropration	A Phase 2, Multicenter, Prospective, Observational, Open-label Study to Evaluate the Safety and Efficacy of AMD3100 (240mg/kg) Added to a G-CSF Mobilization Regimen in Poor Mobilizing Adult Patients Who Have Previously Failed Stem Cell Collection Attempts	Supplement	86,063
McCarty, John M.	Genzyme Coropration	A Phase II Study of the Efficacy of Rabbit Anti-Thymocyte Globulin (rATG) in Patients with Low and Intermediate-1 Risk Myelodysplastic Syndrome	Initial	125,000
McCarty, John M.	Osiris Therapeutics, Inc.	A Phase III, Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-Controlled Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of Prochymal (Ex-vivo Cultured Adult Human Mesenchymal StemCells) Infusion in Combination with Corticosteroids for the Treatment of Newly Diagnosed Acute G	Initial	176,683

Sandhu, Bimaljit S	Solvay Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	A Study to Investigate the Effect of Pancrelipase Delayed Release Capsules on Maldigestion in Patients with Exocrine Pancreatic Insufficiency Due to Chronic Pancreatitis and Pancreatectomy	Initial	107,070
Sanjeevi, Arthi	Sucampo Pharmaceuticals Inc	A Multicenter, Randomized, Placebo-controlled, Double-blinded Study of the Efficacy and Safety of Lubiprostone in Patients with Opioid-induced Bowel Dysfunction	Initial	31,656
Sanyal, Arun J	Salix Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	A Multicenter open label trial to evaluate the long term safety and tolerability of rifaximine 550mg BID in subjects with a history of hepatic encephalopathy	Initial	43,938
Sanyal, Arun J	Intercept Pharmaceuticals Inc.	An Exploratory Study of INT-747 in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus and Presumed Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease	Initial	48,345
Sica, Domenic A	Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation	A Multi-Center, Randomized, Double-Blind, Active-Controlled Clinical Trial to Evaluate the Safety and Tolerability of 24 Weeks Treatment with Vildagliptin (50 mg qd or 100 mg qd) Versus Sitagliptin (25 mg qd) in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes and Severe Re	Initial	62,223
Wood, Mark Allen	Medtronic	Reducing Episodes by Septal Pacing Efficacy Confirmation Trial	Initial	27,500
National Institutes of Health				
Archer, Gordon L	National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases/NIH/DHHS	Staphylococcal Methicillin Resistance Locus	Supplement	90,242
Ghosh, Shobha	National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute/NIH/DHHS	Cholesterol Ester Hydrolysis and Cholesterol Efflux	Initial	335,250
Kepley, Christopher L.	National Institutes of Health	Career Enhancement Award for Stem Cell Research	Initial	112,788
Schwartz, Lawrence B	National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases/NIH/DHHS	Cellular & Inflammatory Pathways in Asthma & Allergic Diseases: From IgE to Cell & Mediators	Initial	1,403,057
Non-Profit				
Ellenbogen, Kenneth A	Reynolds (Donald W.) Foundation	Expression Profiling and Proteomic Biomarkers of Sudden Cardiac Death	Initial	50,000
Grant, Steven	Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation	A Combination Strategy Targeting the Bcl-2 Family in Multiple Myeloma	Initial	100,000
Other				
Roberts, William N Jr.	American College of Rheumatology	Research and Education Foundation RFT Award	Initial	26,500
State/Local				
Nixon, Daniel E.	Virginia Department of Health	Family Planning Rapid Testing Proposal	Initial	4,999
Sub-Awards				
Barrett, John C	University of Pennsylvania	Hemophilia Regional Diagnostic Center	Initial	67,936
Kirby, Donald F	University of Pittsburgh	Feeding and Pancreatic Rest in Acute Pancreatitis	Initial	90,158
Nixon, Daniel E.	George Washington University	Terry Beirn CPCRA Clinical Trials Unit - Adult Clinical Trials Group (ACTG) Richmond AIDS Consortium	Initial	190,263

Microbiology & Immunology

National Institutes of Health

Carlyon, Jason A.	National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases/NIH/DHHS	Characterization of Anaplasma Phagocytophilum Adhesins.	Initial	340,949
Carlyon, Jason A.	National Institutes of Health	Inhibition of NADPH oxidase by Anaplasma phagocytophila.	Initial	99,931
Conrad, Daniel H.	National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases/NIH/DHHS	Structure and Function of the Lymphocyte Fce Receptor	Initial	249,970

Other

Carlyon, Jason A.	National Research Fund for Tick Borne Diseases, Inc.	Identification of Novel Anaplasma Phagocytophilum Adhesins and Receptors	Initial	58,344
-------------------	--	--	---------	--------

Sub-Awards

Buck, Gregory A	University of Maryland	Cryptosporidium Genomics, Pathogenesis and Vaccinology	Supplement	75,799
-----------------	------------------------	--	------------	--------

Neurology

Industry

Felton, Warren L III	Bayer Inc.	"Open-label, multicenter, observational, phase IV study to evaluate the adherence to treatment with 250mcg (8MIU) IFNB-1b (Betaseron®) given subcutaneous every other day over a period of up to 12 months in patients with a first clinical demyelinating even	Initial	34,499
Felton, Warren L III	Biogen Idec, Inc.	Multi-Center, Open-Label Study to Evaluate the Effects of Natalizumab Treatment on Fatigue and Cognition in Subjects with Relapsing Forms of MS	Initial	19,350
Morton, Lawrence	UCB Pharma, Inc.	Open-Label, single-arm, multi-center, pharmacokinetic, safety and tolerability study of Levetiracetam intravenous infusion in children (4-16 years old) with epilepsy	Initial	22,087
Waterhouse, Elizabeth J.	GlaxoSmithKline	A Multicenter, Double-blind, Randomized, Parallel-group Evaluation of LAMICTAL Extended-Release Adjunctive Therapy in Patients with Primary Generalized Tonic-Clonic Seizures - LAM100036	Initial	28,698
Waterhouse, Elizabeth J.	GlaxoSmithKline	An Open-Label Evaluation of Drug Interactions, Safety, Tolerability and Efficacy of GW273225 Add-on Treatment of Partial Seizures, Whether or not secondarily Generalized	Initial	1,500

National Institutes of Health

Delorenzo, Robert John	National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke/NIH/DHHS	Status Epileptus Reorganizes Cannabinoid Receptors	Supplement	65,188
------------------------	--	--	------------	--------

Neurosurgery

Industry

Graham, Robert Scott	Confluent Surgical, Inc.	A Prospective, Multi-Center, Randomized Controlled Study to Compare the Sprinal Sealant System as an Adjunct to Sutured	Initial	61,952
----------------------	--------------------------	---	---------	--------

Dural Repair with Standard of Care
Methods during Spinal Surgery

Obstetrics And Gynecology

National Institutes of Health

Strauss, Jerome F III	National Institute of Child Health and Human Development/NIH/DHHS	Mechanisms of Fetal Membrane Rupture	Initial	111,750
-----------------------	---	--------------------------------------	---------	---------

Pathology

Industry

Ferreira-Gonzalez, Andrea	Roche Molecular Systems	A Reproducibility Study Across Lot. Site/Instrument System, Operator, and Day for COBAS AmpliPrep/COBAS TaqMan HCV Test with the COBAS TaqMan Analyzer	Initial	198,733
---------------------------	-------------------------	--	---------	---------

National Institutes of Health

Sirica, Alphonse E	National Cancer Institute/NIH/DHHS	Altered Growth Factor Pathways in Biliary Cancer	Supplement	60,447
--------------------	------------------------------------	--	------------	--------

Pediatrics

Industry

Godder, Kamar	Astellas Pharma US, Inc.	“A Phase 1 Open-Label Study of the Safety and Pharmacokinetics of Repeated-Dose Micafungin as Antifungal Prophylaxis in Children and Adolescents Undergoing Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation,”	Initial	40,950
Godder, Kamar	Grifols, Inc.	A Multi-Center, Prospective, Open-Label, Clinical Trial to Assess the Safety and the Efficacy of a New Intravenous Immune Globulin (IGIV31 Grifols 10 %) in Patients with Idiopathic (Immune) Thrombocytopenic Purpura	Initial	43,067
Irani, Anne-Marie	Schering	“A 52 Week Efficacy and Safety Non-Inferiority Study of Fluticasone Propionate/Salmeterol 250/50 mcg BID Delivered by Dry Powder Inhaler (Diskus®) Versus Mometasone Furoate/Formoterol Fumarate 200/10 mcg BID Delivered by Pressurized Metered-Dose Inhaler	Initial	75,251
Irani, Anne-Marie	GlaxoSmithKline	A Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Parallel-Group, Multi-Center Study to Evaluate the the Effects of a One-Year Course of Fluticasone Furoate Nasal Spray 110mcg QD on Growth in Pre-Pubescent, Pediatric Subjects with Perennial Allergic Rhinitis	Initial	103,315
Irani, Anne-Marie	Ception Therapeutics Inc.	An Efficacy and Safety Study of Reslizumab (CTX55700) in the Treatment of Eosinophilic Esophagitis in Subjects Aged 5 to 18 Years	Initial	87,451
Koch, William C	Sanofi Pasteur	An immunogenicity, Safety, and Non-Interference Evaluation of Pediatric Vaccines Administered Concomitantly	Initial	36,405

		with Menactra (Meningococcal{Groups A, C, Y and W-135} Polysaccharide Diphtheria Tooid Conjugate Vaccine) to Healthy Toddlers		
Schmidt, H. Joel	Altus Pharmaceuticals	An Open-Label Clinical Study Evaluatin the Long-Term Safety of ALTU-135 for the Treatment of Patients with Cystic Fibrosis-Related Exocrine Pancreatic Insufficiency	Initial	147,605
Villalona, Juan	Sucampo Pharmaceuticals Inc	“A Multi-center, Open-labeled Study of the Safety, Efficacy, and Pharmacokinetics of Lubiprostone in Pediatric Patients with Constipation”	Initial	30,906

Pharmacology & Toxicology

Industry

Dewey, William L	ACHE International (BVI) LTD	Master Research Services Agreement	Initial	0
Dewey, William L	ProTherapeutics Pte Ltd	Pharmacological Evaluation of Prohanin	Initial	0
Dewey, William L	ACHE International (BVI) LTD	Pharmacological Evaluation of Three Peptides Subproject for Institution # PT102810 (old # SC100834	Initial	135,746

National Institutes of Health

Bettinger, Jill C	National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism/NIH/DHHS	The Genetics of Acute Tolerance to Ethanol	Initial	258,057
Li, Pin-Lan	National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases/NIH/DHHS	Hypertension and Glomerular Injury in Hyperhomocysteinemia	Initial	316,625
Moran, Richard G.	National Cancer Institute/NIH/DHHS	Nucleotide Deprivation-Based Selective Therapeutics	Supplement	56,239
Satin, Leslie S	National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke/NIH/DHHS	Altered Excitatory Neurotransmission After Brain Trauma	Supplement	65,188
Satin, Leslie S	National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases/NIH/DHHS	Metabolically Coupled Ion Channel Interactions in Islets	Supplement	54,981
Sim-Selley, Laura J.	National Institutes of Health	Cannabinoid Regulation of CB1 Receptor Function	Initial	31,932

Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation

National Institutes of Health

Niemeier, Janet P.	National Institute of Child Health and Human Development/NIH/DHHS	An Acute Neurobehavioral Program for Improving Functional Status after TBI	Initial	221,638
--------------------	---	--	---------	---------

Non-Profit

Wehman, Paul H	Organization for Autism Research	Efficacy of Community-Based Instruction and Supported Employment on the Competitive Employment Outcomes of Transition Age Youth with Autism	Initial	60,000
----------------	----------------------------------	---	---------	--------

Physiology

National Institutes of Health

Qiao, Liya	National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases/NIH/DHHS	Neurotrophins and Neuropeptides in Colon and Bladder Hypersensitivity	Initial	298,000
------------	---	---	---------	---------

Tseng, Gea-Ny	National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine /NIH/DHHS	Molecular Mechanisms of Anti- & Pro-Arrhythmic Effects of Fish Oil Supplement	Initial	186,250
---------------	--	---	---------	---------

Psychiatry

Industry

Kornstein, Susan G	Pfizer Pharmaceuticals	“A phase 3, randomized, double-blind, placebo controlled, parallel group, 10 week study evaluating the efficacy and safety of PD0332334 for the treatment of generalized anxiety disorder”	Initial	118,362
--------------------	------------------------	--	---------	---------

Other

Chen, Xiangning	The Stanley Medical Research Institute	Association Studies of T Helper Cell Interleukins and Schizophrenia	Initial	155,302
-----------------	--	---	---------	---------

State/Local

Meyer, Brian L.	City of Richmond	Matching Clients with the Services they need under Structured Decision Making	Initial	94,327
-----------------	------------------	---	---------	--------

Sub-Awards

Neale, Michael C	University of Virginia	Open Mx: Multipurpose Software for Statistical Modeling	Initial	57,130
------------------	------------------------	---	---------	--------

Surgery

Industry

Mangino, Martin J.	Angion Biomedica Corp.	Kidney Preservation for Transplantation	Initial	187,500
--------------------	------------------------	---	---------	---------

Total SOM New and Competitive Renewals: \$ \$11,014,003



**Office of Faculty Affairs
 School of Medicine
 Virginia Commonwealth University, Medical College of Virginia Campus
 Box 980565, Richmond, VA 23298-0565**

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.

Editor: Kathy Kreutzer, MEd, Box 980565, Richmond, VA 23298; (804) 828-9789
 Assistant Editor: Debbie Stewart, Program Assistant, Faculty & Instructional Development
 Reviewers: Carol Hampton, MMS, Associate Dean, Faculty & Instructional Development
 Jerome F. Strauss, III, M.D., Ph.D., Dean, School of Medicine

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