

NEWSLINE

School of Medicine Newsletter – December 2007, Vol. 11, No. 2

Produced by the Office of Faculty Affairs

Medical College of Virginia Campus, Virginia Commonwealth University

Next Issue, February 2008! *Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!*

Departmental News deadline is February 10, 2008. Please send your faculty/department achievements to kkreutzer@vcu.edu.

Appointments and Search Updates

Dr. Diomedes Logothetis Appointed Professor & Chair of Physiology



We are pleased to announce that **Diomedes Logothetis, PhD**, has accepted the position of Professor and Chair in the Department of Physiology effective January 2, 2008. As Department Chair, he will be named the John D. Bower, M.D. endowed Chair in Physiology. Dr. Logothetis received the Ph.D. degree in Physiology and Biophysics from Harvard University in 1987. He has served on the faculty at Mount Sinai School of Medicine since 1993, where he has established an excellent record of teaching, research, administration, and service. For the past six years, he has served as Professor and Vice Chair in the Departments of Physiology and Biophysics and presently Structural and Chemical Biology. Dr. Logothetis is internationally recognized as a leader in the study of ion channels. He has

an exceptional research track record, and has continually generated external funding for his research activities from the National Institutes of Health and the American Heart Association. At Mount Sinai School of Medicine he has served as Dean of the Graduate School of Biological Sciences, has directed the Medical Scientist Program and has received multiple awards for teaching excellence, including the Excellence in Teaching Award for his outstanding teaching service for three consecutive years. Dr. Logothetis serves on multiple national and professional committees and provides leadership in numerous research settings. As a world-class investigator and teacher, Dr. Logothetis will provide valuable leadership in the School of Medicine at Virginia Commonwealth University.

On the behalf of the administration of the School of Medicine, we wish to thank Dr. Margaret Biber for her years of dedicated service as Chair of the Department of Physiology, her loyalty to the institution, the Department and its faculty.

Dr. Paul Fisher to Join SOM Faculty January 1, 2008



We are pleased to announce that **Paul B. Fisher, MPH, PhD**, has accepted our offer to join the faculty of the VCU School of Medicine. Dr. Fisher will be appointed as Professor of Human Genetics and Interim Chair of the Department as well as The Thelma Neumeyer Corman Chair in Cancer Research. He will also have an appointment in the Massey Cancer Center and will serve as Director of the Institute of Molecular Medicine, once the Institute has been formally approved by the VCU Board of Visitors.

Dr. Fisher received a B.A. degree from Hunter College of the City University of New York, an M.A. in Genetics from H. Lehman College of the City University of New York, a M.Ph. in Somatic Cell Genetics and a Ph.D. in Mammalian Genetics from Rutgers University. He is currently Professor of Clinical Pathology, Michael and Stella Chernow Urological Cancer Research Scientist, Director of Neuro-Oncology Research and a full member of the Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center at Columbia University School of Medicine.

Dr. Fisher developed powerful techniques for gene discovery and carried out groundbreaking research in the identification and validation of genes involved in tumor growth and tumor suppression, including the Mda-5 and Mda-7 genes. These discoveries have led to a number of novel therapeutic strategies that are being pursued for various types of cancer based on these genes. His research has also uncovered a role for the Mda-5 gene in innate immunity. He has authored nearly 300 original articles. His research program is currently sponsored by 5 NIH grants, including a Program Project grant.

Dr. Fisher holds numerous patents for diagnostic and therapeutics. He is a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Goldhirsh Foundation for Brain Tumor Research and serves or has served as editor, associate editor and member of the

editorial board of key journals including Editor of Mechanisms of Differentiation, Molecular and Cellular Differentiation, Associate Editor of Archives of AIDS Research, Cancer Biology and Therapy, Cancer Research, Current Cancer Therapy Reviews, In Vivo, The Journal of Experimental & Clinical Cancer Research, and The Journal of Experimental Therapeutics and Oncology, and a member of the editorial board of Molecular Therapy.

Dr. Fisher will assume his duties at VCU on January 1, 2008.

Dr. John Ward named MCVP Chief Medical Officer



John Ward, MD, MSHA, has been appointed as Chief Medical Officer for MCV Physicians and Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs, School of Medicine, effective October 1, 2007. Dr. Ward is the Hirschler Professor of Neurosurgery, Executive Vice Chair and Chief of Pediatric Neurosurgery, and Co-Director of the Harold F. Young Neurosurgical Center, VCU Health System. He will continue in his clinical practice and devote 50% effort to MCV Physicians. His responsibilities with MCVP are to: 1) expand physician leadership in the group practice; 2) focus on quality of care, patient safety, and service; 3) coordinate new program development; 4) expand communication among clinical departments, and 5) develop and implement clinical practice standards throughout all areas of the group practice. Dr. Ward brings many years of experience in clinical practice at VCUHS as well as service on both the VCU Health System and the MCV Physicians Boards. Congratulations on the new appointment!

Dr. Ellen Brock Appointed Medical Director, Center for Human Simulation and Patient Safety



We are pleased to announce the appointment of **Ellen Brock, MD, MPH**, Associate Professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, as the first Medical Director for the Center for Human Simulation and Patient Safety effective January 1, 2008. In this important role, she will lead the development of the emerging center in the field of medical simulation. Dr. Brock received the M.D. degree from the Medical University of South Carolina and completed residency training in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU). She also received the M.P.H. degree from VCU. Since 1987, Dr. Brock has served with distinction as faculty in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, where she established a record of excellence in patient care, teaching, and service. Dr.

Brock serves or has served on multiple departmental, institutional and professional committees. She is currently the Medical Director of the VCU Women's Surgical Care Wing and has been a consultant in women's health to Azerbaijan, Belarus, and the Czech Republic. Her research interests include the analysis of fatigue on performance of laparoscopic surgery simulator. She is also leading the early notification project to inform patients and families about medical errors. Dr. Brock is dedicated to the development and implementation of curricula for simulation-based training at VCU. Her leadership in the Center for Human Simulation and Patient Safety will be a major asset to the School of Medicine and the institution.

Dr. Lenore Joseph named VAMC Associate Chief of Staff for Education



Lenore Joseph, MD, Chief of Neurology at the McGuire Veteran's Affairs Medical Center, has been selected as the new Associate Chief of Staff for Education. She assumed her new role full-time on November 25. Dr. Joseph is Assistant Professor of Neurology in the VCUHS Division of Adult Neurology and attended medical school at the University of Minnesota. She completed her residency at the Harvard/Longwood Neurology Residency Training Program, fellowship training at Boston University School of Medicine, and is board certified in Neurology and Neurophysiology. Dr. Joseph is also the co-director of the M2 Nervous System Course and has received many teaching awards. **Congratulations to Dr. Joseph! Thanks to Dr. Kathy Gianola, who did a superb job filling as Interim**

Associate Chief of Staff for Education.

Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

The search is well underway with six candidates invited for interviews in November, December and January. Each candidate has been asked to present a guest lecture commenting on the future of medical education. Watch for e-mail from Dr. Jerry Strauss to all School of Medicine faculty announcing each candidate's lecture. Thanks to Dr. Joel Silverman, Professor and Chair of Psychiatry, for his leadership in chairing this search committee and arranging the candidates' presentations.

Sr. Associate Dean for Finance and Administration

The search for this position is ongoing. Dr. Tony Kuzel, Professor and Chair of Family Medicine, continues to chair the Search Committee. Committee members are: Dr. Sarah Spiegel - Chair, Biochemistry; Dr. John Povlishock - Chair, Anatomy and Neurobiology; Dr. Tilay Adera - Senior Associate Dean for the emerging School of Public Health within the medical school; Dr. Ann Fulcher - Chair, Radiology; Dr. John Seeds - Chair, OB/GYN; Dr. Gordon Archer - Associate Dean for Research; Dr. Wil Zuelzer - MCVP Board member and Chair of the MCVP Finance Committee; Jim Potyraj - Executive Director, MCVP; Dominic Puleo - CFO, VCUHS; Alan Johns - Assistant Vice President for Health Sciences (Finance); Dianna Chinnici - VCU Associate Vice President for Finance & Administration, and Dr. Jan Chlebowski, Associate Dean for Graduate Education.

Bill Gleason will continue in this position while the search proceeds. Bill had scheduled to retire March 1, 2008. We appreciate his willingness to continue service in this leadership position.

New Position Established - Assistant Dean for Advanced Degree Programs

The VCU SOM seeks an **Assistant Dean for Advanced Degree Admissions**. This position reports to the Associate Dean for Graduate Education, serving in assigned functions on a part-time basis. Required effort would range from 10%-25% dependant on the scope of responsibilities. A full description of the position is found at VCU Faculty Vacancies website at <http://www.pubinfo.vcu.edu/facjobs/facjob.asp?Item=2900>. The central focus of this position is the advancement of the recruitment and admission of students to programs administered in the SOM.

Candidates for this position must hold the rank of Associate Professor or above and have had a demonstrable record of activity in student recruitment. The successful candidate must have an ability to work with the administrative leadership of the School and its Departments, the faculty, staff and students varied programs of the School, possess excellent interpersonal and communication skills and be able to represent the interests of all constituencies on an equitable basis. Compensation will be based on responsibilities and required commitment of effort.

Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest including a brief statement describing initiatives or enhancements that might increase the effectiveness of doctoral student recruitment along with a curriculum vitae and a letter of recommendation to Mr. Harold Greenwald, Graduate Coordinator in the School of Medicine Office of Graduate Education (haroldg@vcu.edu) or Office of Graduate Education, VCU School of Medicine, Box 980565). Submission of materials in electronic format is acceptable. VCU is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Women, minorities, and persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply. **Application deadline: January 4, 2008.**

New Endowed Chairs and Professorships are Approved

The VCU Board of Visitors approved the following first incumbent appointments to two endowed professorships and two endowed chairs at their November 2007 meeting.



Sarah Spiegel, PhD, has been appointed to the Mann T. and Sara D. Lowry Professorship in Oncology. This endowed distinguished professorship was established to attract and retain a nationally recognized cancer researcher to the Massey Cancer Center. Since 2001, Dr. Spiegel has served with distinction as Professor and Chair in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. She has established an outstanding record of teaching, research, service, and administration. Dr. Spiegel is internationally recognized as a leader in the field of lipid signal transduction and the MAP kinase pathway. She has an exceptional research track record and has continually generated impressive external funding for her research activities from the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Spiegel serves on multiple national and professional committees and provides leadership in numerous research settings. She is very deserving of the special recognition for her key role in promoting collaboration as a Program Co-Leader of the Cancer Cell Biology Program of Massey Cancer Center. In 2007, Dr. Spiegel was honored by VCU with the University Distinguished Scholarship Award. She also received one of the three Women in Science, Dentistry, and Medicine Professional Achievement Awards in 2007. Her leadership in the field of cancer research has enhanced the prominence of Virginia Commonwealth University's research programs.



Laura A. Siminoff, PhD, has been appointed the Theresa A. Thomas Memorial Foundation Chair in Cancer Prevention and Control at VCU Massey Cancer Center. This endowed chair was established to support the recruitment and retention of a distinguished researcher in the area of cancer prevention and control at the VCU Massey Cancer Center. In 2006, Dr. Siminoff was appointed Professor and Chair in the Department of Social and Behavioral Health. She is recognized as a national and international expert on breast cancer, informed consent, and organ transplantation. Dr. Siminoff has a 20-year record of being a highly successful researcher with continuous funding from various institutes within the National Institutes of Health, the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research, the Alzheimer's Association and others. Dr. Siminoff serves on multiple national and professional committees and provides leadership in numerous research settings. She is an exceptional researcher, teacher and leader whose contributions are a major asset to Virginia Commonwealth University.



Andrew C. Larner, MD, PhD, was appointed to the Martha Anne Hatcher Distinguished Professorship in Oncology at VCU. This endowed distinguished professorship was established to support the recruitment and retention of a distinguished researcher at Massey Cancer Center. In 2007, Dr. Larner was appointed Professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. He is one of the premier researchers in the field of molecular biology of signal transduction and interferon gene regulation. His experience includes research at the top-rated institution, the Cleveland Clinic Research Foundation, as well as many contributions to national scientific organizations. His research is currently supported by two RO1 NIH grants and a grant from the Multiple Sclerosis Society. Dr. Larner is a pre-eminent researcher in his field who is committed to training the next generation of scientists, physicians, and health professionals at Virginia Commonwealth University.



Norbert F. Voelkel, MD, has been appointed the Raymond Fenton, M.D., Chair in Pulmonary Disease at VCU. This endowed chair was established to support a distinguished faculty member in the Division of Pulmonary Medicine in the Department of Internal Medicine. This endowed chair was created by Dr. E. Raymond Fenton, who graduated from the MCV School of Medicine in 1930, and his wife. In 2007, Dr. Voelkel was appointed Professor in the Division of Pulmonary Medicine at VCU and Director of the Victoria W. Johnson Center for Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Research. His past experience includes a distinguished career in research and education and quality management at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. Dr. Voelkel is an exceptional clinician and investigator, whose contributions in the fields of pulmonary and vascular physiology and pathophysiology are recognized world-wide.

Two SOM Faculty honored at VCU Convocation

The School of Medicine is extremely proud that two of our faculty members received VCU's Distinguished Faculty Awards at the VCU Convocation in September.



Sarah Spiegel, PhD, Professor and Chair of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, was the recipient of the VCU Distinguished Scholarship Award. This award recognizes outstanding scholars and individuals who demonstrate a pattern of productive scholarly activity which is recognized nationally or internationally.



Aradhana (Bela) Sood, MD, Professor of Psychiatry and Medical Director of the Virginia Treatment Center, was the recipient of the VCU Distinguished Service Award which recognizes individuals for their superior service to the University, their profession and the wider community, evidenced by activities which extend beyond normal expectations and make unique contributions impacting upon the University and beyond.

Please join us in congratulating Drs. Spiegel and Sood on these well deserved honors.

Dr. Leah Bush Appointed Chief Medical Examiner



Governor Timothy M. Kaine has announced the promotion of **Leah Bush, MD**, to serve as Chief Medical Examiner for the Commonwealth of Virginia. Dr. Bush will begin her service as Chief Medical Examiner on January 1, 2008, following the retirement of Marcella Fierro M.D., who served in this capacity for 13 years.

Bush has served as Assistant Chief Medical Examiner in the Tidewater District of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner since 1986. Dr. Bush is certified by the National Board of Medical Examiners, and Board Certified in Forensic Pathology and Clinical Pathology. Bush has taught forensic pathology at EVMS and VCU. Bush earned her M.D. at VCU School of Medicine in 1984, and completed a pathology residency at VCUHS and a forensic pathology fellowship at the Medical Examiner's Office in Richmond. She is also a member of the Tidewater Emergency Medical Services Board. Dr. Bush also has served as a consultant for the CBS TV drama CSI: Crime Scene Investigation.

LCME Accreditation Update

The final version of the self study summary and database has been submitted to the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME), the Association of American Medical Colleges, and the five site visitors. The outside consultants the School engaged to review the report last month provided helpful feedback, and we feel that we have presented a strong case for reaccreditation. Portions of the report will be available on the SOM website and information on how to access this will be sent to all faculty. Now our efforts turn to preparing for the February 11-13, 2008 mock site visit and the actual site visit on February 25 – 27, 2008. Those faculty meeting with the site visitors will be contacted as soon as the LCME notifies us of the schedule. If you have any questions about the accreditation site visit, please contact Jim Messmer, Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education, at 828-9790.

VCU CERSE: Center for Rehabilitation Science & Engineering

The Center for Rehabilitation Science and Engineering (CERSE) is a consortium coordinated by **Dr. David X. Cifu**, Chair of the VCU Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (PM&R), School of Medicine, and partially supported by the Virginia Department of Rehabilitative Services (DRS). CERSE is an alliance of the VCU Schools of Medicine, Allied Health, Engineering, Education, and DRS. The mission is to foster interdisciplinary rehabilitation research across the lifespan through careful coordination and consolidation of VCU's significant scientific and educational capacities in the rehabilitation arena. The breadth and depth of expertise within CERSE allows pursuit of a wide range of research, education, training, and leadership development efforts related to disabilities across the lifespan.

At the heart of CERSE are 6 core Research/Training components each with a director:

- Children & Disability, **Fred Orelove, PhD**, Director, Associate Professor, School of Education
- Health & Human Performance, **Brent Arnold, PhD**, Director, Associate Professor, Health & Human Performance, School of Education, Director Sports Medicine Research Laboratory
- Rehabilitation Engineering, **Gerald Miller, PhD**, Director, Professor and Chair, Department of Biomedical Engineering, School of Engineering
- Rehabilitation of Neurological Illness & Injury Core, **Jeff Kreutzer, PhD**, Professor, PM & R
- Veterans, **David Gater, MD, PhD**, Director, Professor, PM & R, based at the VAMC
- Vocational Rehabilitation, **Paul Wehman, PhD**, Director, Professor & Chair, Division of Rehabilitation Research, PM&R

Key community/clinical partners include the Hunter Holmes McGuire VA Medical Center (VAMC), the Virginia Department of Rehabilitative Services, Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center, and Children's Hospital. For more information visit <http://www.cerse.vcu.edu/> or call Mike Barcus @ 828-9547.



Please Join Us for the next WISDM Book Club, Wednesday, February 13th, 6-8pm Dinner

Book: *Outlander* by Diane Gabaldon (available in audio CD)

Facilitator: Dr. Bonny Bukaveckas, School of Pharmacy

Location: Cafe Gutenberg, 1700 E. Main St., Shockoe Bottom (accessible to persons with disabilities)

We have a core group of 10 - 20, with room for more. Come, bring a friend, and join us for a delightful evening. See you there! If you'd like to help lead the discussion or be added to the book club e-mail list, please advise carol.hampton@vcu.edu.



A.D. Williams Awards for October 2007 Award Cycle

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. Funds are allotted to foster and support research and faculty development. Multi-school applications were not accepted this spring/summer; the next available deadline for these awards will be January 1. For more information, including applications: <http://views.vcu.edu/adw/>

A. D. Williams Research Grants

“Immunostimulatory Effects of DNA from *Porphyromonas gingivalis* on Human Monocytes.” **Dr. Sinem Esra Sahingur**, Assistant Professor of Periodontics, was awarded \$15,000 from the A. D. Williams Trust Funds.



“Synthesis and Biochemical Characterization of 3rd Generation Rationally Designed Antithrombin Activators.” **Dr. Umesh R. Desai**, Professor of Medicinal Chemistry, was awarded \$25,000: 10,000 from the Harvell Foundation Trust Funds and \$15,000 from the A. D. Williams Trust Funds.



“Enhancing Early Detection of Hearing Loss by Newborn Molecular Screening of Common Deafness Genes.” **Dr. Arti Pandya**, Associate Professor of Human Genetics, was awarded \$22,635: \$2,635 from the Bayliss Foundation Trust Funds and \$20,000 from the A. D. Williams Trust Funds.

“Role of ELR+CXC Chemokine CXCL5 in Tumor Development.” **Dr. Hiroshi Miyazaki**, Assistant Professor of Oral and Craniofacial Molecular Biology, was awarded \$14,999 from the Medical Research Endowment Trust Funds.

“Ligand-Selective Regulation of CB₁ Receptors in Brain.” **Dr. Laura Sim-Selley**, Associate Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology, was awarded \$24,955: \$8,750 from the Baruch Foundation Trust Funds and \$16,245 from the A. D. Williams Trust Funds.



“Prevention of Oxidant Induced Apoptosis in Gastric Epithelial Cells by Heat Shock Proteins.” **Dr. Thomas A. Miller**, Professor of Surgery, was awarded \$24,850: \$6,300 from the Friel Foundation Trust Funds and \$18,550 from the A. D. Williams Trust Funds.

WISDM Professional Achievement Award Call for Nominations

DUE DATE: Friday, February 15, 2008

The **WISDM Professional Achievement Award** is presented annually by the Women in Science, Dentistry, and Medicine (WISDM) Faculty Organization, VCU School of Medicine, MCV Campus. This unique award was established in 1993 to acknowledge the special contributions and accomplishments of women faculty in the School of Medicine. The primary purpose of this award is to recognize those women who have served as strong role models and mentors for the professional development of women faculty and who consistently demonstrate qualities that show excellence in one or more of the areas listed below:

1. Success as a mentor and role model; promoter of the professional development of women
2. Professional excellence: to include accomplishments in whichever primary arena (clinical, basic sciences, etc.)
3. Leadership: includes university administrative duties as well as other leadership roles
4. Scholarly endeavors
5. Teaching expertise

Nominations are solicited annually from all School of Medicine faculty members and should include a 1-2 page biosketch and between 3 and 10 support letters from supervisors, faculty, trainees, and/or students. Previous nominations may be updated and resubmitted. The letters should be addressed to Dr. Mary Helen Hackney, WISDM President, and all materials sent to Debbie Stewart at P.O. Box 980565, fax 828-4048, or by e-mail dstewart@vcu.edu. The award will be presented at the annual WISDM Pathways to Leadership Conference, March 21, 2008, MCV Campus, and at the 2008 SOM Faculty Excellence Awards next fall.

Nominations are sought for SOM women faculty only. The VCU School of Dentistry also has a WISDM award and manages their selection process separately.

Previous SOM awardees are listed at www.womeninmedicine.vcu.edu/APPA.html.



VCU Libraries

The VCU Libraries and the VCU Office of Research present **Research Day** on Thursday, March 27, 2008 from 8:30 – 6:00 pm, Tompkins-McCaw Library for Health Sciences, MCV Campus, 509 N. 12th St., in recognition of the growing research enterprise at Virginia Commonwealth University. Research Day will highlight the vast resources available at VCU to support YOUR research.

Program includes:

- Presentations on the ethics of publishing, online searching for research funding, publishing in the New England Journal of Medicine, overview of library resources to support researchers, and scholarly publishing alternatives
- New Authors Mentoring Session
- Demonstrations on using VCUeRA, including SPIN and SMARTS, and GENIUS; RefWorks, and much more
- VCU Author's Tea celebrating the contributions that VCU book authors have made to scholarly literature

For more information call 804-828-0626 or email sdjones@vcu.edu. This event is free and open to the public. The full agenda is available at: www.library.vcu.edu/events/rday/. Registration required at: http://www.pubinfo.vcu.edu/training/it/course_detail.asp?ID=5247.

Mark your calendars! VCU Technology Days: April 8 - 9, 2008

April 8, 10 - 2, Monroe Park Campus, Commonwealth Ballroom, University Student Commons

April 9, 9 - 2, MCV Campus, Tompkins-McCaw Library for Health Sciences

Technology Days 2008 @ VCU, co-sponsored by the VCU Libraries and VCU Technology Services, brings the latest in information technology developments for the classroom and research to VCU. Thinking about purchasing a PDA, a BlackBerry, a cellphone, or an iPod? Want to learn how others are using emerging technologies to streamline their research, workflow, patient interactions, and educational experience? In addition to helpful practical advice and a hands-on look at new products, Technology Days @ VCU will feature an impressive roster of speakers and presenters. For more information, go to www.library.vcu.edu/tml/techdays

CME Opportunities

The **36th Annual HANS BERGER Symposium** will be held **May 19-20, 2008**, at Virginia Commonwealth University Medical Center in the Hermes A. Kontos Medical Sciences Building. Distinguished faculty from epilepsy centers and neurophysiology laboratories across the country have been invited to the 36th Annual commemoration of Hans Berger's birthday.

This symposium offers physicians, technologists and medical professionals practical information in applying state-of-the-art electrodiagnostic testing in the clinical management of patients with epilepsy and related disorders. For more information and to register online visit www.cmeregistration.som.vcu.edu or call the VCU Office of Continuing Professional Development and Evaluation Studies at (804) 828-3640.

The **30th Annual Pediatric Primary Care Conference – Pediatrics at the Beach** will be presented by the Department of Pediatrics and the Office of Continuing Professional Development and Evaluation Studies, VCU SOM, July 18-20, 2008, at the Wyndham Virginia Beach Oceanfront Hotel located at 57th Street and Atlantic Avenue. Three half-day sessions include important topics in the areas of Emergency Medicine, Primary Care and Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics. This course is designed for physicians and other health care professionals who deliver primary care to children and adolescents. For registration information please call (804) 828-3640. A brochure and on-line registration will be available February 1st at www.cmeregistration.som.vcu.edu

Institutional Academic Industry Relationships - Reported in JAMA 2007 Oct. 17, 298(15): 1779-86

Nearly two-thirds of the department chairs at medical schools and teaching hospitals who participated in a recent survey have financial or other ties to industry that could create institutional conflicts of interest, according to a report published in The Journal of the American Medical Association. Ties between individual faculty members and companies have been closely scrutinized in recent years (The Chronicle, January 25, 2006), but relatively little attention has been paid to institutional conflicts that arise when schools and departments or their senior officers have financial connections with companies.

The report's authors surveyed 125 accredited medical schools and 15 of the largest independent teaching hospitals in the country from February to October of 2006. The survey was completed by 459 of the 688 eligible department chairs, a response rate of 67 percent.

The researchers found that nearly two-thirds of the respondents had some kind of personal relationship with industry, with 27 percent having worked as a paid consultant for a company and an equal percentage having served on a scientific advisory board. Seven percent had served as an officer or executive of a company, and 9 percent were founders of companies.

About two-thirds of the departments themselves also had relationships with industry. Most were clinical departments that received research equipment or money from companies. The money was used to support residency and fellowship training, continuing medical education, and research seminars.

“Failure to address the existence and influence of industry relationships with academic institutions could endanger the trust of the public in U.S. medical schools and teaching hospitals,” the authors conclude. The study's lead author is Eric G. Campbell, an assistant professor at Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital's Institute for Health Policy. (excerpted from the Chronicle of Higher Education, 10-17-07)

2007 SOM Teaching Excellence Award Recipients

The SOM held its 9th Annual Faculty Excellence Awards ceremony on Tuesday, October 9th. Some 300 faculty, staff, and students came out to recognize and honor our outstanding faculty at VCU. Photos of the event are available on the SOM website at http://www.medschool.vcu.edu/ofid/2005_Teaching_Awards/. *Congratulations to all! Thank you to everyone for your continued support!*

The Awards



Faculty Teaching Excellence Award

Leslie S. Satin, Ph.D.

Professor, Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology



Irby-James Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching

Stephanie A. Call, M.D., M.S.P.H.

Associate Professor, Department of Internal Medicine



Distinguished Mentor Award

James M. Messmer, M.D., M.Ed.

Professor, Department of Radiology and Senior Associate Dean, Medical Education



Educational Innovation Award

Leanne M. Yann, M.D., and Team

Assistant Professor, Department of Internal Medicine

Team: *Sarah Harrington, M.D.*, Internal Medicine; *Betty Anne Johnson, M.D., Ph.D.*, Internal Medicine; *Elizabeth Micalizzi, B.A.*, Office of VPHS; *Laura Morgan, Pharm.D., BCPS*, School of Pharmacy; *John Priestley, M.A.*, Educational Technology; *Jeanne Schlesinger, M.Ed.*, Instructional Development; *Chris Stephens, M.S.*, Educational Technology; *Michael Weaver, M.D.*, Internal Medicine; *Carl Wolf II, Ph.D., M.S.*, Pathology



Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award, presented by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation

Gita V. Massey, M.D.

Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics



Women in Science, Dentistry, and Medicine Professional Achievement Award

Aradhana Bela A. Sood, M.D., M.S.H.A.

Professor, Departments of Psychiatry and Pediatrics



Sarah Spiegel, Ph.D.

Professor and Chair, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology



MCV Physicians Distinguished Clinician Award

Julia A. R. Nunley, M.D.

Professor, Department of Dermatology

Outstanding Departmental Teacher Award in Health Sciences Education

Jeffrey L. Dupree, Ph.D., M.S.

Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology

Tomasz K. Kordula, Ph.D., M.S.

Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Viswanathan (Ramesh) Ramakrishnan, Ph.D., M.P., M.S.

Department of Biostatistics

Resa M. Jones, Ph.D., M.P.H.

Department of Epidemiology and Community Health

Michael S. Grotewiel, Ph.D.

Department of Human Genetics

Francine Marciano Cabral, Ph.D.

Department of Microbiology and Immunology

Dana E. Selley, Ph.D.

Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology

Richard M. Costanzo, Ph.D.

Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology

Outstanding Teacher Awards in Undergraduate Medical Education

Best Teacher in the Course and Clerkship Awards

M-I Courses

Neil Sonenklar, M.D.
Jeffrey L. Dupree, Ph.D.
Jack Haar, Ph.D.
Colleen Jackson-Cook, Ph.D.
Deborah Lebman, Ph.D.
Carmen Sato-Bigbee, Ph.D.
George Leichnetz, Ph.D.
Linda Costanzo, Ph.D.
Michael B. Edmond, M.D., M.P.H., M.P.A.

Behavioral Sciences I Course
Gross and Developmental Anatomy Course
Histology Course
Human Genetics Course
Immunology Course
Medical Biochemistry Course
Neurosciences Course
Physiology Course
Population Medicine Course

M-II Courses

Isaac Wood, M.D.
Mark A. Wood, M.D.
Robert Delorenzo, M.D., Ph.D., M.P.H.
David Gardner, M.D.
Melissa Contos, M.D.
Laurie Lyckholm, M.D.
Sara Monroe, M.D.
Christopher M. Wise, M.D.
Richard A. McPherson, M.D.
Margaret Grimes, M.D.
Sandra P. Welch, Ph.D.
Susan R. DiGiovanni, M.D.
R. Paul Fairman, M.D.
Fidelma Rigby, M.D.
Curtis Hayes, M.D.

Behavioral Sciences II Course
Cardiovascular Course
Central Nervous System Course
Endocrine Course
Gastrointestinal Course
Hematology/Oncology Course
Microbiology Course
Musculoskeletal Course
Pathogenesis Course
Pathology Teaching
Pharmacology Course
Renal Course
Respiratory Course
Women's Health Course
Radiology Teaching

M-I and M-II Courses

Kathy Kreutzer, M.Ed.
Alger Rixey Southall III, M.D. and
Edward Rex Lakey Harkrader, Sr., M.D.
Brett Law, M.D.
Sandra Bell, M.D.
Elizabeth Williams, M.D.
Cynthia Burke, M.D.
Harold T. Green, Jr., M.D.

Medical Bioethics Course
Foundations of Clinical Medicine
Foundations of Clinical Medicine
Foundations of Clinical Medicine
Foundations of Clinical Medicine
Foundations of Clinical Medicine

M-III Clerkships

Shelley Short, M.D.
Frank Fulco, M.D.
Lenore Joseph, M.D.
Nicole Karjane, M.D.
Joseph Iobst, M.D.
Sean McKenna, M.D.
David Albright, M.D.
Huan Vu, M.D.

Family Medicine Clerkship
Medicine Clerkship
Neurology Clerkship
Obstetrics/Gynecology Clerkship
Obstetrics/Gynecology Clerkship, Riverside
Pediatrics Clerkship
Psychiatry Clerkship
Surgery Clerkship

Faculty with High Evaluation Awards

M-I Courses

Joel J. Silverman, M.D.
M. Alex Meredith, Ph.D.
David G. Simpson, Ph.D.
Virginia Pallante, M.S.
John Ryan, Ph.D.
Suzanne Barbour, Ph.D.
Richard M. Costanzo, Ph.D.
Raphael J. Witorsch, Ph.D.

Behavioral Sciences I Course
Gross and Developmental Anatomy Course
Gross and Developmental Anatomy Course
Human Genetics Course
Immunology Course
Medical Biochemistry Course
Neurosciences Course
Physiology Course

M-II Courses

Robert Balster, Ph.D.
Michael L. Hess, M.D.
George W. Vetrovec, M.D.
Warren Felton, M.D.
Diane M. Biskobing, M.D.
Edmund Wickham, III, M.D.
Mitchell L. Shiffman, M.D.
Richard T. Stravitz, M.D.
Jonathan M. Ben-Ezra, M.D.
Francine Marciano-Cabral, Ph.D.
Lenore M. Buckley, M.D.
Edward J.N. Ishac, Ph.D.
Linda Costanzo, Ph.D.
Kevin R. Cooper, M.D.
Curtis N. Sessler, M.D.
Christine Isaacs, M.D.
Julia R. Nunley, M.D.
H.D. Massey, M.D., D.D.S., Ph.D.
Michael Idowu, M.D.
James M. Messmer, M.D., M.Ed.

Behavioral Sciences II Course
Cardiovascular Course
Cardiovascular Course
Central Nervous System Course
Endocrine Course
Endocrine Course
Gastrointestinal Course
Gastrointestinal Course
Hematology/Oncology Course
Microbiology Course
Musculoskeletal Course
Pharmacology Course
Renal Course
Respiratory Course
Respiratory Course
Women's Health Course
Dermatology Teaching
Pathology Teaching
Pathology Lab Teaching
Radiology Teaching

M-III Clerkships

Christine Isaacs, M.D.
Thomas Peng, M.D.
Ellen Brock, M.D.
Jewell Barnett, M.D.
Bill Shaw, M.D.
Wei Zhao, M.D.
Martin Graham, M.D.
Linda Meloy, M.D.
Ahmad Shahab, M.D.
Elizabeth Waterhouse, M.D.
Sultan Lakhani, M.D.
Daniel Sheneman, M.D.
Ronald Merrell, M.D.
Therese Duane, M.D.
Clay Hall, M.D.

Obstetrics/Gynecology Clerkship
Obstetrics/Gynecology Clerkship
Obstetrics/Gynecology Clerkship
Obstetrics/Gynecology Clerkship, Riverside
Pediatrics Clerkship
Pediatrics Clerkship
Pediatrics Clerkship
Pediatrics Clerkship
Pediatrics Clerkship
Pediatrics Clerkship
Neurology Clerkship
Psychiatry Clerkship
Psychiatry Clerkship
Surgery Clerkship
Surgery Clerkship
Family Medicine Clerkship

Alumni and Development Office News



The first-ever Reunion of Dr. Tee Thompson's trainees and colleagues drew more than 130 guests who celebrated the elevation of the Fund that bears Dr. Thompson's name to the level of an Endowed Chair. The Thursday evening reception was followed by a Friday presentation that updated attendees on the latest news from the Division of Pulmonary & Critical Care.

This fall, **The John L. and Marjorie L. Thornton Scholarship** was established with a \$100,000 gift from 1949 alumnus Dr. John L. Thornton and his wife. Dr. Thornton's granddaughter is following in his footsteps as a member of the Class of 2011. The Thornton Scholarship will be awarded for the first time next fall to a student who shows merit as well as financial need.

In late October, the MCV Campus celebrated gifts like Dr. Thornton's at the MCV Foundation's annual Scholarship Brunch. At the Brunch, scholarship donors had the chance to meet their student recipients. Each year, the MCV Foundation distributes \$1 million in scholarship monies to students in MCV Campus schools.

Brenda Eggleston has recently made a second gift to endow a **Distinguished Fellowship in Cardiology** in the name of her father, **Cecil Reid Hopkins**. The fund now stands at \$200,000. Mrs. Eggleston has also made a gift of \$50,000 to the Koontz Professorship in appreciation of the care that **Dr. Mayer Grob** provided to her husband.

A reception honoring alum **John Bower (M'61, H'65)** was held in October at the home of his classmate **Dr. Wyatt Beazley**. A nephrologist who is responsible for introducing dialysis to the state of Mississippi, Dr. Bower has been generous to the medical school, with a major gift that completed the campaign to establish the Hume Chair in 1999.

The Steering Committee that is working to establish the **Parkinson's Disease & Movement Disorders Center** in the medical school recently held a dinner reception at the Commonwealth Club. Dean Jerry Strauss and faculty from the Department of Neurology spoke with about 60 guests, sharing information about the need to create a Center where movement disorders can be addressed on both the research and treatment fronts.

While in the DC area for the annual AAMC meeting, Dean of Medicine **Dr. Jerry Strauss and his wife Cathy** hosted a cocktail reception. Alumni from DC and Northern Virginia were on hand along with associate deans and other faculty, who shared the latest news from the medical school. The gathering of more than 40 guests also included staff from the AAMC and 1960 alum **Dr. Charles McKown**, who is dean of Marshall University's medical school and in town for the AAMC meeting.

News on Alumni

Edith P. Mitchell, MD, 1974, clinical professor of medicine and medical oncology at Jefferson Medical College, has reported on a study of more than 2,200 women at Jefferson's Kimmel Cancer Center showing that African American women have more advanced breast cancer at the time of diagnosis than Caucasian women. In addition, African American women tend to have breast cancer tumor types that are more aggressive and have poorer prognoses.



VCUHS/Departmental News

Dean's Office, School of Medicine

Every year the Dean approves and funds **School of Medicine Summer Research Fellowships** for our medical students. This year we will have about 15 at approximately \$3,000 each. If you are interested in sponsoring a student, please contact Janet Mundie, jhmundie@vcu.edu, Office Student Affairs, for details. Deadline for inquiries: **December 21, 2007**.

Dr. Gordon Archer, Associate Dean for Research and Professor of Internal Medicine, has been appointed to the University of Virginia Undergraduate Biomedical Engineering Advisory Committee, and also serves as the Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board of Cubist, Inc., a pharmaceutical company that makes antibiotics.

Massey Cancer Center

Dr. Harry Bear represents Massey on video in ABC News's special breast cancer section online, and gives his expert insight on various breast health topics: <http://abcnews.go.com/search?searchtext=harry%20bear&type>

Tim Ford, chaplain on our palliative care unit, was featured in Monday's Richmond Times Dispatch. The story covers the unique spirituality Tim brings to his job, and gives a great overview of the unit:

<http://www.inrich.com/cva/ric/entertainment.apx.-content-articles-RTD-2007-10-01-0002.html>

On Saturday, Oct. 6, **Stephanie Rochon's Buddy Check Six** story featured The Breast Cancer Diaries documentary that Massey hosted. Stephanie interviewed the film's producer and subject when were here filming The Richmond Diaries, a 10-minute short film produced by Massey and featuring 16 area survivors and caregivers.

Richmond Times Dispatch's special breast cancer section carried a story about **The Pink Key that Dr. Jim Khatcheressian helped to develop** with Vital Key. The Pink Key is a personal health records tool that keeps and updates patient information on a thumb drive, and is very rich in content that Dr. K provides and updates.

Finally, the **Online Giving feature of the Massey Web site is now activated**. Carrie Kozonasky from our development office served as project manager for a VCU-wide initiative to make e-giving available not just for Massey, but for all VCU-related foundations. It was a huge undertaking involving more than two dozen departments. Now we can accept gifts by credit card online to support research, palliative care and clinical trials. When your patients, friends or family ask what they can do to help the cancer center, or if they want to give a tribute or memorial gift in someone's name, just send them to the Support Massey section of our site at <http://www.massey.vcu.edu/support/?pid=1908> . (Thanks to Andrea Butler for this information)

Department of Emergency Medicine

The **Virginia Poison Center** has moved from Main Hospital to 600 East Broad St., Suite 640. The phone numbers remain the same. Emergency Phone Numbers: (804) 828-9123 and 800-222-1222. Business Phone: (804) 828-4780; Fax: (804) 828-5291.

Dr. Rutherford Rose, Professor of Emergency Medicine and Director, Virginia Poison Center received a HRSA grant award of \$196,487 in September for a project entitled "Poison Control Stabilization and Enhancement Program."

Department of Family Medicine

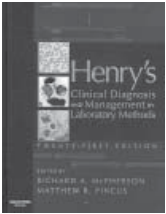
Dr. Ellen Palen, an Assistant Clinical Professor in the Department, and **Dr. Mark Ryan**, an Assistant Clinical Professor, have been selected to receive the American Academy of Family Physicians 2007 Pfizer Teacher Development Award. The award is a national honor for a select group of physicians who have chosen to teach on a part-time basis. The recipients are selected based on scholastic achievement, leadership qualities and dedication to family medicine. Each recipient receives a cash award, funding to attend a seminar, workshop or fellowship to further their development and teaching skills.

Department of Pathology



The Department recently welcomed a new faculty member, **Lorin M. Bachmann, PhD**. Dr. Bachmann comes to VCU from UVA in Charlottesville, where she recently completed three years as a Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine fellow. She received her PhD in Molecular Medicine/Microbiology from the UVA in 2005.

Already involved in numerous professional societies, well-published in the peer-reviewed literature, and the recipient of several awards, Dr. Bachmann will be a tremendous asset to Clinical Pathology Services. When not in the lab, you will most likely find Dr. Bachmann riding her horse or enjoying the great outdoors of the Shenandoah Valley. Her husband is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Integrated Science and Technology at James Madison University.



Eleven Pathology Faculty Members Contribute to the 21st Edition of *Henry's Clinical Diagnosis and Management by Laboratory Methods*. The recent release of the 21st edition of this authoritative text marks almost a century in publication. This edition has been renamed, in tribute to Dr. John Bernard Henry, as “Henry’s Clinical Diagnosis and Management by Laboratory Methods.” However, this is not the first time the book has been retitled since first appearing in 1908 as, “A Manual in Clinical Diagnosis.” **Richard A. McPherson, MD**, one of two Editors, is joined by colleague and Associate Editor **H. Davis Massey, MD, PhD**, and nine other contributing experts, including a Chief Resident and a Fellow of Hematopathology, from the VCU Department of Pathology.

Dr. McPherson has been a contributing expert for over 20 years, since 1984, when he authored a chapter on “Specific Proteins” in the 17th edition. He served as Assistant Editor for the 17th and 20th editions and has contributed to every edition since. Updated throughout, this comprehensive textbook includes new sections on Hemostasis and Thrombosis, a new chapter on the microbiologic aspects of bioterrorism, as well as a new section on the Clinical Pathology of Cancer.

Department of Psychiatry

Susan Williams White, PhD, has been awarded a five-year career award to develop expertise in treating children with high-functioning Autism Spectrum Disorders from the NIMH (National Institute of Mental Health). She will design an evidence-based cognitive behavioral therapy that aims to help these children overcome anxiety and develop better social skills. Once an initial version of the therapy is developed, Dr. White intends to test it in a clinical trial.



Dr. Susan Kornstein, MD, is a professor in Psychiatry at VCU and Executive Director of the Mood Disorders Clinic. She will be a keynote speaker at the Third International Congress on Women’s Mental Health in Melbourne, Australia. This conference will be held in March of 2008, and will explore the psychosocial, economic and cultural contexts of women’s mental health as well as the genetic, cellular, neural, hormonal, pharmacologic and other basic science aspects. To find out more about this 4-day event, please visit www.iawmhcongress2008.com.au.



Ananda Pandurangi, MD, a professor of psychiatry, was appointed by Governor Tim Kaine as a member of the State Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services Board. Pandurangi, born in Karnataka, came to the US in 1979. He obtained his medical degree from the Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research (JIPMER), Pondicherry (now Puducherry).

A board certified psychiatrist, Pandurangi currently holds the position of chairman of inpatient psychiatry, and director of the Schizophrenia Program at VCU. He has received the National Merit Scholarship in India, the Young Investigator Award in Schizophrenia Research (US) and the Distinguished Academician Award from Indo-American Psychiatrists Association.

VCU Health System/UVA Collaborate in Supply Cost Initiative

Over the last few months, members of the Health System management have been working with their counterparts at the University of Virginia Health System in an important new collaborative. VCUHS is a member of the University Health System Consortium and purchases most of our supplies through its subsidiary group purchasing organization Novation. This relationship has enabled the Health System to save significant dollars over the years, however our savings opportunities have been limited when compared to those achieved by large multi-hospital systems.

In an effort to harness the combined purchasing power of both academic health systems to reduce costs, Senior Leadership at UVAHS and VCUHS have agreed to work together to conduct joint procurements. To this end, a three-year 4-party agreement has been finalized between UVAHS, VCUHS, Novation and the University Health System Consortium. A joint steering committee has been formed with representatives from all four organizations. Currently, the two hospitals have over \$164 million in spending common to the same vendors. By grouping our purchasing power, we believe we can secure additional discounts, provide standardization opportunities, and benefit from each other’s specialty contracts where advantageous. Initial focus will be on bulk medical supplies, with plans to expand the cooperation to capital equipment and services where possible.

The University Health System Consortium and Novation will be providing custom contracting services at no charge to coordinate procurement activities, conduct market research and analysis, and manage a consolidated bid calendar. Mr. Larry Little will serve as liaison to this joint effort.

As pressure mounts on health care providers to reduce costs, this type collaboration presents an excellent opportunity for us to control our expenses with little, if any, impact on our core operations. I am delighted to announce this important collaboration between sister academic health centers in the Commonwealth and I look forward to your support of it.

Please do not hesitate to contact either Mr. Little or myself if you have any questions. -- John F. Duval, CEO, MCV Hospitals.

WISDM Pathways to Leadership Conference, Friday, March 21, 2008, MCV Campus

Plan to attend the **16th annual conference, 8 am–2 pm, Medical Science and Egyptian Buildings, presented by the Women in Science, Dentistry, and Medicine Faculty Organization (WISDM)**, in collaboration with the VCU Schools of Medicine and Dentistry and the VCU Health System. Keynote speaker will be **Ponjola “P.J.” Coney, MD**, our new VCU School of Medicine Senior Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs and Professor of Obstetrics-Gynecology, who will address “Learning to Lead.” Seven workshops will be offered: preparing your CV, mentoring, managing emotions, research resources, eldercare and taking care of family, planning your financial future, and diet, exercise and healthy living. In the afternoon, tours of new facilities on the MCV Campus are planned to include the Massey Cancer Center (healing garden, “magic touch” salon, patient library, collaborative research lab design); newly renovated Hunton Student Center; School of Dentistry “DentSim”(computerized dental simulator) Manikin Lab; the beautiful new School of Nursing Building and Clinical Learning Center with human patient simulators; Elder Care Facility, VCUHS; and the VCUHS Critical Care Tower under construction. Look for full brochure and registration information in January.

Faculty Expertise is Growing . . . and Growing

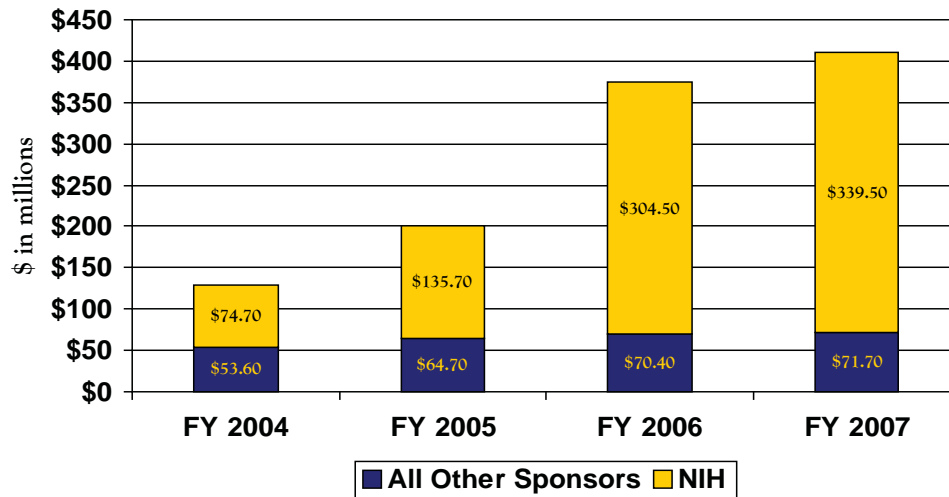
Please welcome these faculty from around the country (University of Kentucky, Harvard Medical School, University of Colorado, Mount Sinai School of Medicine, Yale, Washington University of St. Louis School of Medicine, Columbia University in the City of York, National Cancer Institute, Wright State University, Wayne State University, Stanford School of Medicine) who have joined us over the past year and several who will be arriving in 2008. We are pleased to have them as part of the VCU School of Medicine family.

- ***Behavioral Medicine & Neuroscience***
 - Pamela Knapp, Ph.D., Professor
 - Kurt Hauser, Ph.D., Professor
 - Steven Negus, Ph.D., Professor
 - Michelle Block, Ph.D., Asst Professor
 - Michael A. Fox, Ph.D., Asst Professor
 - Diomedes Logothetis, Chair, Physiology & Professor
 - Darlene Brunzell, Ph.D., Asst Professor
 - Danielle Dick, Ph.D., Asst Professor
 - Levent Dumenci, Ph.D., Assoc Professor
- ***Pulmonary Medicine & Vascular Biology***
 - Norbert Voelkel, M.D., Professor
- ***Endocrinology***
 - Lori Sweeney, M.D., Asst Professor
- ***Regenerative Medicine***
 - Juan Carlos Arango-Lasprilla, Ph.D., Asst Professor
 - Henry Lew, M.D., Ph.D., Professor
- ***Pathogens & Infectious Disease,***
 - Jason Carlyon, Ph.D., Asst Professor
 - Honjie Liu, Ph.D., Assoc Professor
- ***Cancer***
 - Andrew Lerner, M.D., Ph.D., Professor
 - Matthew Hartman, Ph.D., Asst Professor
 - Paul Fisher, M.P.H., Ph.D., Professor and Interim Chair, Human Genetics
 - Devanand Sarkar, M.B.B.S., Ph.D., Asst Professor
 - Amy Sullivan, Ph.D., Asst Professor
- ***Maternal and Child Health***
 - Elizabeth McGee, M.D., Assoc Professor
- ***Aging & Metabolism***
 - Shumei Sun, Ph.D., Chair of Biostatistics

School of Medicine's Proposal Activity Increases

During the SOM faculty meeting on Nov. 29, Dr. Jerry Strauss, Dean, presented these data. The total requested project budgets for grants submitted in 2007 have more than doubled over the past three years. Thanks to our faculty and staff - our greatest assets - for the creativity, innovation, hard work, and perseverance. It's a great time to be at VCU School of Medicine!

Total requested project budgets have more than doubled.



Faculty Fun Facts



Dr. Susan Miller, Professor of Family Medicine, is featured in the "I Am Woman" chapter of Tom Brokaw's new book "Boom! Voices of the Sixties, Personal Reflections on the '60s and Today." (Random House 2007). Dr. Miller's story as a woman in medicine in the 60s includes her determination to go to medical school, her acceptance (she entered UCLA Medical School in 1973), her finding a place for residency training as part of a married physician couple, and her views about being a woman in medical practice today.

You'll also find a photo of Dr. Miller's self-described "semi-hippie wedding" in November 1976. You may recognize her husband, **Dr. Ken Kendler**, currently Professor of Psychiatry, who at the time was a recent Stanford medical school graduate. Dr. Miller says that her featured vignette (pps. 510 – 514) is placed "before James Taylor's and after Jane Pauley's." Thanks to Dr. Miller for alerting us to this lovely recognition. VCU School of Medicine is proud to have her among our family and included among the voices of the 60s!



Dr. William Moskowitz, Professor of Pediatrics, Chair, Division of Pediatric Cardiology, played clarinet with the other members of the Klezm'Or'Ami at the holiday concert on Saturday, Dec. 1, Richmond. His photo with his clarinet and an article were featured in "Merry Music for the Holidays," TheSeason 2007, Richmond Times-Dispatch, November 2007. Excerpts follow. Thanks to Dr. Moskowitz for allowing Newsline to share this feature. Our faculty are, indeed, multi-talented!

"Bill Moskowitz, a native of the Bronx, began playing the clarinet in the third grade. He had asthma as a child and his parents thought playing a wind instrument would help strengthen his lungs. Today, the classically trained clarinetist, who is Chief of Pediatric Cardiology at the VCU Medical Center, set feet and hearts pounding as a member of Richmond's favorite klezmer band, Klezm'Or'Ami'm. Klezmer's roots wind back to 15th century Eastern Europe, when small troupes of musicians wandered town-to-town entertaining at weddings and parties . . . Today, the clarinet's expressive tone and vocal quality, which make it seem able to laugh and weep, have made it klezmer's most recognizable component. Bill's Buffet Crampon prestige clarinet, which was made in Paris, is constructed of grenadilla wood and has silver-plated copper keywork. The klezmer clarinet's influence on American music can be heard in Benny Goodman's jazz riffs and the opening strains of George Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue. Since klezmer is at heart, party music, it's a perfect fit for festive Hanukkah celebrations."



New and Competing Grant Awards: Sept. 1 - Dec. 31, 2007

Please join us in recognizing the following researchers who received grant awards during September 1, 2007 - December 31, 2007. 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: November 28, 2007. (Note: Grant titles are as available from InfoEd.)

Anatomy & Neurobiology

National Institutes of Health

Knapp, Pamela E.	National Institutes of Health	Glial Progenitors as Targets of HIV/Opiate Interactions	Initial	330,035
------------------	-------------------------------	---	---------	---------

Anesthesiology

Industry

Hamza, Maged	Pfizer Inc., U.S. Pharmaceuticals Group	"Phase II Randomized, Double-blind, placebo and active-controlled, multicenter, parallel group, proof of concept study of the analgesic effects of RN624 in adult patients with chronic low back pain"	Initial	104,098
--------------	---	--	---------	---------

Biochemistry & Molecular Biology

National Institutes of Health

Bell, Jessica	National Institutes of Health	The Role of Toll-Like Receptor 3 in Overcoming Cancer Immunoediting	Initial	160,459
Larner, Andrew C.	National Institutes of Health	Pathways that Regulate Antigrowth Effects of Interferons	Initial	232,824

Non-Profit

Chlebowski, Jan F	Hughes (Howard) Medical Institute	Initiative for Biomedical Research Institutions	Initial	160,604
Peterson, Darrell L	Vaccine Research Institute of San Diego	Development of HBc as a Vaccine Carrier	Initial	89,603

Biostatistics

National Institutes of Health

Gennings, Chris	National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences/NIH/DHHS	T32 Training Grant: Integration of Mixtures Toxicology, Toxicogenomics, and Statistics	Supplement	11,291
Sun, Shumei S.	National Institute of Child Health and Human Development/NIH/DHHS	Childhood Obesity and Sexual Maturation	Initial	333,258

Emergency Medicine

Industry

Ward, Kevin R.	TraumaCure	Comparison of Fresh WoundStat Compared to One-Year Aged WoundStat Using the Army Model:	Initial	15,133
----------------	------------	---	---------	--------

National Institutes of Health

Ornato, Joseph P	National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke/NIH/DHHS	Neurological Emergencies Treatment Trials (NETT) Network Clinical Site Hubs	Initial	372,500
------------------	--	---	---------	---------

Epidemiology and Community Health

Non-Profit

Liu, Hongjie	amfAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research	Mediation Effect of Network Function on HIV Risk Behavior Among Chinese MSM	Initial	148,609
--------------	---	---	---------	---------

Family Medicine

Non-Profit

Krist, Alexander H.	Robert Wood Johnson Foundation	Interface to Facilitate Smoking Quitline Referrals for EMRs	Initial	79,990
Woolf, Steven	Robert Wood Johnson Foundation	Virginia Commonwealth University Center on Human Needs	Initial	174,894

Other Federal

Longo, Daniel R.	Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality/DHHS	Defining Barriers and Potential Solutions for Collecting and Reporting Quality Performance Measures in Primary Care Offices - Subproject for Institution # PT101219	Initial	150,001
Rothemich, Stephen F.	Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality/DHHS	Task Order 1	Supplement	3,500

Human Genetics

Other Federal

Eaves, Lindon J	National Science Foundation	Collaborative Research: Genes and Politics: Providing the Necessary Data	Initial	37,997
-----------------	-----------------------------	--	---------	--------

Internal Medicine

Industry

Ellenbogen, Kenneth A	Spectranetics Corp.	LExlCon Retrospective Data Collection Study	Initial	6,562
Kirby, Donald F	Alba Therapeutics Corporation	A Phase 2b, Randomized, double-blind, placebo controlled dose ranging multicenter study to determine the safety tolerance and efficacy of AT-1001 in celiac disease subjects	Initial	46,500
Luketic, Velimir A.C.	The Emmes Corporation	Studies of Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis (STOPSC)	Initial	22,328
Nixon, Daniel E.	Bioytical	A Study to Evaluate the Point of Care Use and Laboratory Investigational Testing of INSTI HIV - 1 Antibody Test Kit in Volunteer Subjects at Risk for HIV Infection	Initial	41,056
Ripley, Elizabeth B. D.	Hoffmann-La Roche Inc.	An Open-label, randomized, multi-center, parallel group non-inferiority study of subcutaneous injections of RO503821 given once monthly vs. darbepoetin alfa given according to local label in patients with chronic kidney disease show are not on dialysis	Initial	85,775
Schumacher-Penberthy, Lynne T.	Information Management Services, Inc.	Feasability Study to Assess Automated Capture of Chemotherapy Treatment From Community Oncology Practices	Supplement	59,251
Smith, Wally R	BioMarin Pharmaceutical Inc.	"A Phase 2, Multicenter, Open-Label,	Initial	236,244

Dose-escalation Study to Evaluate the Safety, Tolerability, and Efficacy of 6R-BH4 in Subjects with Sickle Cell Disease.”

National Institutes of Health

Ginder, Gordon Dean	National Cancer Institute/NIH/DHHS	Massey Cancer Center Core Support	Supplement	89,780
Roberts, John D.	National Cancer Institute/NIH/DHHS	VCU Minority Based CCOP	Supplement	180,000
Sanyal, Arun J	National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases/NIH/DHHS	Clinical Studies of Non-alcoholic Steatohepatitis	Supplement	150,000

Non-Profit

Aggarwal, Aprita	Milheim Foundation for Cancer Research	Disparities in Cancer Prevention and Cancer Care among Individuals with CMI & SUD	Initial	8,918
Luketic, Velimir A.C.	Mayo Clinic	Multicentered Randomized Trial of High Dose Urso in Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis	Initial	62,591

Other

Baker, Sherman Jr.	American College of Radiology Imaging Network	ACRIN 6678: FDG-PRT as a Predictive Marker of Tumor Response & Patient Outcome Subproject for Insti	Initial	3,068
Baker, Sherman Jr.	American College of Radiology Imaging Network	ACRIN 6678: FDG-PRT as a Predictive Marker of Tumor Response & Patient Outcome Subproject for Insti	Supplement	6,136

Sub-awards

Shiffman, Mitchell L	University of Michigan	The A2ALL LADR Protocol: PreTransplant Treatment to Prevent Recurrence of Hepatitis C After Living Donor Liver Transplantation	Initial	6,000
----------------------	------------------------	--	---------	-------

Microbiology & Immunology

Sub-awards

Christie, Gail Ellen	University of Alabama at Birmingham	Structure and Size Determination S. Aureus Pathogenicity Island Capsids (Subaward; PI is R Dokland, University of Alabama at Birmingham)	Initial	26,820
----------------------	-------------------------------------	--	---------	--------

Neurology

Industry

Burakgazi-Dalkilic, Evren	Marinus Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	An Open-Label Extension Study to Evaluate the Safety, Tolerability, and Efficacy of Ganaxolone as Add-on Therapy in Adult Subjects with Epilepsy Consisting of Uncontrolled Partial-onset Seizures	Initial	31,843
Kernitsky, Lydia	Ovation Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Efficacy and Safety Study of Clobazam in Patients with Lennox-Gastaut Syndrome	Initial	70,375
Leszczyszyn, David J.	Eisai, Inc.	An Open-Label Extension Study of	Initial	127,530

		Rufinamide Given as Adjunctive Therapy in Patients with Refractory Partial Onset Seizures		
Pellock, John M	Marinus Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	An Open-Label Clinical Study to Evaluate the Safety and Antiepileptic Activity of Ganaxolone in Treatment of Patients Diagnosed with Infantile Spasms	Initial	70,757
Waterhouse, Elizabeth J.	UCB Pharma, Inc.	An International, double blind, parallel group, placebo-controlled, randomized study evaluation of the efficacy and safety of brivaracetam in subjects (>=16 to 70 years old) with Partial Onset Seizures	Initial	87,340
Waterhouse, Elizabeth J.	GlaxoSmithKline	Epilepsy/Depression 8LEP105974-7G0823-6816-402-C	Initial	1,500

Neurosurgery

Non-Profit

Tye, Gary W	Childhood Brain Tumor Foundation	Targeting Novel Angiogenic Factors Related to AKT Kinase Activity in Ependymoma	Initial	25,000
-------------	----------------------------------	---	---------	--------

Sub-Awards

Marmarou, Anthony	Erasmus University Rotterdam	Clinical Trial Design and Analysis in Traumatic Brain Injury	Initial	111,955
-------------------	------------------------------	--	---------	---------

Obstetrics And Gynecology

National Institutes of Health

Strauss, Jerome F III	National Institutes of Health	VCU Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health	Initial	518,641
Strauss, Jerome F III	National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities/NIH/DHHS	VCU Center of Excellence in Health Disparities Research Admin Core Subproject for Institution # P	Initial	96,792
Strauss, Jerome F III	National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities/NIH/DHHS	VCU Center of Excellence in Health Disparities Research Outreach Core Subproject for Institution	Initial	142,386
Strauss, Jerome F III	National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities/NIH/DHHS	VCU Center of Excellence in Health Disparities Research Project 1	Initial	1,446,344
Strauss, Jerome F III	National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities/NIH/DHHS	VCU Center of Excellence in Health Disparities Research Project 1 Subproject for PT101198	Initial	277,008
Strauss, Jerome F III	National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities/NIH/DHHS	VCU Center of Excellence in Health Disparities Research Research Core	Initial	135,831

Sub-awards

Strauss, Jerome F III	Wayne State University	Services in Support of the Perinatology Research Branch	Initial	222,488
-----------------------	------------------------	---	---------	---------

Ophthalmology

Non-Profit

Leffler, Christopher	Richmond Eye and Ear Hospital Foundation	Association of Intraocular Pressure Response to Timolol and Betaxolol with	Initial	30,800
----------------------	--	--	---------	--------

Beta-1 and Beta-2 Adrenergic Receptor
Polymorphisms in Glaucoma Patients

Pathology

Industry

Dumur, Catherine I.	Pathwork Diagnostics, Inc.	Clinical Validation of the Tissue of Origin Test	Initial	9,830
---------------------	----------------------------	--	---------	-------

Non-Profit

Ferreira-Gonzalez, Andrea	Richmond Eye and Ear Hospital Foundation	Association of Intraocular Pressure Response to Timolol and Betaxolol with beta-1 and beta-2 Adrenergic Receptor Polymorphisms in Glaucoma Patients.	Initial	12,000
---------------------------	--	--	---------	--------

Pediatrics

Industry

Godder, Kamar	Wyeth Pharmaceutical	A Phase I/II Safety and Exploratory Pharmacodynamic Study of Intravenous Temsirolimus (CCI-779) in Pediatric Subjects with Relapsed/Refractory Solid Tumors	Initial	377,730
---------------	----------------------	---	---------	---------

Gullquist, Scott D.	MedImmune, Inc.	A Study to Evaluate the Safety, Tolerability, Pharmacokinetics, and Immunogenicity of MEDI-524, a Humanized Enhanced Potency Monoclonal Antibody Against Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), in Children with Hemodynamically Significant Congenital Heart Diseases	Initial	99,701
---------------------	-----------------	--	---------	--------

Moskowitz, William B	Sanofi-Aventis	Clopidogrel 0.2 mg/kg once daily versus placebo in neonates and infants/toddlers with cyanotic congenital heart disease palliated with a shunt.	Initial	78,517
----------------------	----------------	---	---------	--------

Subproject for Institution # PT102597

National Institutes of Health

Meloy, Linda D	National Institute on Drug Abuse/NIH/DHHS	Subproject for Institution # PT101397: Development and Validation of the Sickle Cell Prescription M	Initial	6,444
----------------	---	---	---------	-------

Non-Profit

Elliott, Greg R.	Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Therapeutics, Inc.	Clinical Research Facilitation Award	Initial	64,800
------------------	---	--------------------------------------	---------	--------

Elliott, Greg R.	Cystic Fibrosis Foundation	Participation in the Cystic Fibrosis Registry	Initial	65,290
------------------	----------------------------	---	---------	--------

Sub-awards

Schmidt, H. Joel	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Multicenter Investigation of Genetic Modifiers in Cystic Fibrosis Liver Disease	Initial	3,328
------------------	---	---	---------	-------

Pharmacology & Toxicology

Industry

Beardsley, Patrick M.	Bioprojet SCR	Modulation of Cocaine's Stimulus Effects by Dopamine D3R Partial Agonists	Initial	61,768
-----------------------	---------------	---	---------	--------

Lichtman, Aron H	Microbia, Inc.	Evaluation of FAAH Inhibitors in the LPS Model of Inflammatory Pain - Subproject for Institution #	Initial	12,833
<u>National Institutes of Health</u>				
Dewey, William L	National Institute on Drug Abuse/NIH/DHHS	Training in the Pharmacology of Abused Drugs	Supplement	319,427
Hauser, Kurt	National Institute on Drug Abuse/NIH/DHHS	Mechanisms of Opiate Drug-HIV-Induced Neurodegeneration (TRANSFER)	Initial	173,636
Hauser, Kurt	National Institutes of Health	Opiate Drug Abuse and CNS Vulnerability to HIV (Transfer)	Initial	994,858
Selley, Dana E.	National Institutes of Health	Cannabinoid Signaling; Role of Cannabinoid Receptor Interacting Protein (CRIP1a)	Initial	32,020
<u>Non-Profit</u>				
Martin, Billy R	Institute of International Education	Scholar Rescue Fund Fellowship	Initial	32,728
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation				
<u>Industry</u>				
Gu, Yaoming	Allergan, Inc.	Research for Botulinum Publication	Initial	2,500
<u>Non-Profit</u>				
Wehman, Paul H	The Faison School	Design of a High Quality Community Based Instructional Program	Initial	55,697
<u>Other Federal</u>				
Kreutzer, Jeffrey S	Department of Education	Virginia Commonwealth University Traumatic Brain Injury Model System	Supplement	11,920
Physiology				
<u>Other Federal</u>				
Pittman, Roland N	Department of Defense	Hemoglobin-Based Oxygen Carrier Formulations and Their Effects on Microvascular Blood Flow and Tissue Oxygenation	Initial	112,355
Psychiatry				
<u>Industry</u>				
Kornstein, Susan G	Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	A Twelve month open-label, safety trial of Filanserin 50 milligrams to 100 milligrams daily in women with Hypoactive Sexual Desire Disorder	Initial	78,606
Kornstein, Susan G	Eli Lilly	F1J-US-HMFS, Duloxetine Versus Placebo in Patients with Major Depressive Disorder (MDD): Assessment of Energy and Vitality in MDD	Initial	221,280
<u>National Institutes of Health</u>				
Kendler, Kenneth S	National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism/NIH/DHHS	An Alcohol Affected Sib Pair Study of Alcohol Dependence	Initial	607,129

Other Federal

Cohen, Robert	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/DHHS	Virginia Commonwealth University- Center for Youth Violence Prevention Subproject for Institution #	Initial	35,926
Horvatic, Paula K	Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration	Addiction Technology Transfer Centers (ATTC)	Supplement	100,000
Horvatic, Paula K	Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration	Addiction Technology Transfer Centers (ATTC)	Initial	500,000

State/Local

Horvatic, Paula K	Virginia Department of Mental Health, MR & SAS	State Adolescent Coordinator	Supplement	5,381
-------------------	--	------------------------------	------------	-------

Sub-awards

Hettema, John M.	Boston University	The Classification of Anxiety and Mood Disorders	Initial	63,903
------------------	-------------------	--	---------	--------

Radiology**Industry**

Halvorsen, Robert A. Jr.	Bracco Diagnostics, Inc.	Closed - Patients with Renal Impairment and Diabetes Undergoing Computed Tomography	Initial	98,809
--------------------------	--------------------------	---	---------	--------

Other

Halvorsen, Robert A. Jr.	American College of Radiology Imaging Network	ACRIN 6678: FDG-PRT as a Predictive Marker of Tumor Response & Patient Outcome	Initial	96,000
--------------------------	---	--	---------	--------

Social & Behavioral Health**National Institutes of Health**

Sullivan, Amy M.	National Cancer Institute/NIH/DHHS	The Impact of Gender Differences at the End of Life	Initial	74,500
------------------	------------------------------------	---	---------	--------

Other Federal

Siminoff, Laura A.	Corporation for National and Community Service	The VCU MPH Program Health Disparities Service Learning Collaborative	Initial	69,000
--------------------	--	---	---------	--------

Surgery**Industry**

Fisher, Robert A	The Emmes Corporation	Studies of Pediatric Liver Transplantation (SPLIT)	Initial	9,877
Maher, James W.	EnteroMedics	EMPOWER Clinical Trial: Vagal blocking for Obesity Control	Initial	373,439

Total SOM New and Competitive Renewals: \$ \$11,693,647

(Thanks to Dr. George Ford, Assistant Dean of Medicine for Sponsored Programs Research, and Meenu Tolani, Assistant Dean for Technology Services, for this information.)



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.

Editor: Kathy Kreutzer, MEd, Faculty Development & Curriculum Consultant, Box 980565; (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.

Send submissions to Kathy Kreutzer, kkreutzer@vcu.edu. *Thanks to all those who have provided information for this newsletter!*