

NEWSLINE

School of Medicine Newsletter - June 2005 - Vol 8, No. 4

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Virginia Commonwealth University, Medical College of Virginia Campus

Next Issue, August/Sept 2005!

Departmental News deadline is August 15, 2005. Please send your faculty/department achievements to kkreutzer@vcu.edu.

H. H. Newsome, Jr., Dean, Retires July 1



H. H. "Dickie" Newsome, Jr., M.D., will step down as dean effective June 30, 2005. On May 21, 2005, he was awarded the VCU Presidential Medallion at the VCU Commencement Ceremony. The Presidential Medallion was established to honor the outstanding contributions of the university community for extraordinary achievement in learning and commitment to the mission of VCU. During the SOM graduation ceremony Saturday evening, a portrait of Dean Newsome, was presented to Dr. and Mrs. Newsome and the School by the graduating class president, as the class of 2005's gift to the SOM.

Dr. Newsome attended Wake Forest University on a football scholarship, was voted class president all four years and also was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. While at Tulane Medical School, he obtained an M.D. degree as well as a Master of Science in Pharmacology, and graduated second in his class.

He arrived at MCV as a surgical intern in 1962 under Dr. David Hume. Dr. Newsome then interrupted his surgical training at MCV Hospitals to spend three years as a research associate in endocrinology at the National Institutes of Health under Dr. Frederick Bartter. In 1970 he joined the faculty in the Department of Surgery, where he carried out NIH-sponsored endocrine research. His clinical specialties included vascular, trauma and endocrine surgery.

Dr. Newsome served as vice chair of the Department of Surgery for 21 years, from 1975 – 96, and chair of the Division of General/Trauma Surgery from 1982 – 96. After serving as interim chair of the department in 1986 – 87, he was appointed associate dean for clinical activities, making him chief of medical staff for MCV Hospitals, until 1996. Dr. Newsome became senior associate dean for the School of Medicine on Jan. 1, 1997, and the full dean on July 1, 2000. He maintained his trauma practice until 1997 and an endocrine surgery practice until 2000.

Under the leadership of Dr. Newsome, the School has successfully weathered severe cuts in funding, participated in the restructuring of the VCU Health System, introduced faculty teaching and research awards, emphasized humanism and professionalism, as well as accountability in teaching activities, financial stewardship and faculty development. Centered on basic research, federal funding has increased by 50 percent, and development dollars have been channeled toward young faculty and retention of established faculty. Programs in faculty development, with special emphasis on women in medicine, have received national recognition.

Dr. Newsome and his wife, Jerome, have three children and five grandsons. Join us in wishing him well in his retirement!

Dr. Jerome F. Strauss, appointed Dean, School of Medicine



On June 14, 2005, Dr. Sheldon Retchin, VCUHS CEO and VP for Health Sciences, announced the appointment of Jerome F. Strauss III, M.D., Ph.D., as the next Dean of the VCU School of Medicine. Dr. Strauss is currently at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine's Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, where he has been the Associate Chairman of one of the nation's top programs since 1987. Dr. Strauss also is the Luigi Mastroianni Jr. Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology and founding director of the Center for Research on Reproduction and Women's Health at the University of Pennsylvania Medical Center. The VCU Board of Visitors approved the appointment of Dr. Strauss as Dean of the VCU School of Medicine, on Monday evening, June 13, and his term will begin September 15, 2005. Dr. Strauss' appointment as Dean follows a yearlong, national search to replace Heber H. "Dickie" Newsome, who will retire from the position on June 30th after 40 years of service to VCU. As Dean, Dr. Strauss also will hold the appointment as Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs with the VCU Health System. In that role, he will have chief responsibility for oversight of MCV Physicians, the faculty practice plan.

In an e-mail sent to the University and Health System Communities, Dr. Retchin said, "Dr. Strauss' strengths in medical education research and research training were clearly judged as outstanding in a highly competitive national field. His credentials as a nationally renowned researcher, educator and administrator are a perfect match for VCU's aggressive agenda to dramatically grow the research program at the School of Medicine."

"I am excited about attracting someone of Dr. Strauss' caliber to a position of leadership with our School. Please join me in welcoming Dr. Strauss as the next Dean of the VCU School of Medicine."

For additional details about Dr. Strauss, go to www.vcu.edu/uns/Releases/2005/june/061405.html and at www.med.upenn.edu/crrwh/Strauss.html

Department Chair Searches Update

Department of Biostatistics

Dr. Walter Hansbrough Carter, Jr., will retire after 37 years of outstanding service to the University of which 21 years were served as Chairman of the Department of Biostatistics. He is nationally and internationally known for his work developing statistical methodology for the design and analysis response surfaces and developing statistical methodology for the design and analysis of drug/chemical combinations. His research has been supported by grants from the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Defense, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. He has more than 130 peer-reviewed publications (with one appearing in the Virginia Law Review), has co-authored a book entitled Regression Methods in the Analysis of Survival Data in Cancer Combination Chemotherapy, and has co-authored 6 book chapters. He has trained 12 M.S. students and 22 Ph.D. students and, in 2000, he received the School of Medicine Distinguished Mentor Award. Dr. Carter has also served on a number of advisory committees, including those for the National Research Council and for the Institute of Medicine. He has provided consulting services to a variety of industries, including the chemical, aluminum, pharmaceutical, tobacco, and insurance. In 1986, Dr. Carter was elected Fellow of the American Statistical Association an honor granted to less than 1/3 of 1% of the ASA membership each year.

Department of Radiation-Oncology

The Search Committee for the Chair of the Department of Radiation-Oncology, under the leadership of Dr. James Neifeld, Chairman of the Department of Surgery, has begun its work. (For a list of committee members, refer to April 2005 Newsline, at www.medschool.vcu.edu/faculty_staff/newsletter/newsline_apr2005.pdf).

Dr. Diane Biskobing Appointed Interim Assistant Dean



Diane Biskobing, M.D., Associate Professor of Internal Medicine (Endocrinology) was appointed Interim Assistant Dean for Pre-Clinical Medical Education, effective July 1, 2005. In his announcement, SOM Dean Dr. Dickie Newsome, stated, "She has distinguished herself by her innovative efforts to improve the education/experience for the medical students during their first two years. While this does not change her current job description, it does recognize her outstanding contributions and formalize her position."

Dr. Biskobing's role is to provide leadership and oversight of the curriculum for the first and second years.
Congratulations Dr. Biskobing!

In Memoriam

Elizabeth Ann Fries, Ph.D., an associate professor with VCU's department of psychology and co-director of cancer control research for the Massey Cancer Center, died May 20 at the VCU Medical Center. She was 42. Fries died of complications following treatment for breast cancer. Fries was an active researcher who focused her work on reducing cancer-causing behaviors, such as tobacco use and poor dietary habits, among those who were at risk for cancer. In addition, she was director of research for the VCU Women's Health Center of Excellence. Her studies included increasing mammography use for women, reaching rural residents with innovative nutrition strategies, and helping teens to understand their family health history and risk for cancer, among many other projects. Fries led a statewide study to evaluate programs aimed to discourage tobacco use among children.



Fries is survived by her husband and two daughters, her parents, a brother, Greg, and his family, and a tight and loving circle of aunts, uncles, and cousins. VCU has established the Elizabeth A. Fries Memorial Scholarship Fund in her honor for graduate students in psychology pursuing cancer control research. Contributions to the fund may be sent to: Elizabeth A. Fries Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 842018, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, 23284. (*Thanks to University News Service*)

Robert G. Lamb, Ph.D., Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology died suddenly April 17, 2005. He was 60 years old. A native of Portland, Oregon, Dr. Lamb earned his doctorate and served as a postdoctoral fellow at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill before he came to VCU in 1974. He became a full professor in 1990. A dedicated teacher, he taught courses for medical, dental, pharmacy, graduate students, and undergraduate honors students and won several teaching awards. His research interests focused on how different chemicals and drugs affect liver function. He recently discovered that vitamin E phosphate, an antioxidant, can protect the liver from damage, and had received a patent for the idea of adding vitamin E to beverages to protect the liver from damage.



Dr. Lamb is survived by his wife, one daughter, two sons, his brother, and four grandchildren.

MCVP Update

The MCV Physicians Board of Directors has developed a new vision statement, missions and specific goals. Their vision is that "MCV Physicians will be THE provider of choice for quality health care that is accessible, efficient, data-supported, patient-dedicated, and in the highest standards of academic medicine." Furthermore, according to Richard P. Wenzel MD, MSc, President of MCV Physicians, "The missions of MCV Physicians are to advance state-of-the-art patient care consistent with the education and research goals of the VCU School of Medicine and to represent the interests of physicians and other providers."

Dr. Wenzel said that nine long term goals underpin the vision and missions, and there will be an aggressive time line to advance all nine goals: “As a result of our favorable financial turnaround in recent years, we can now be proactive in creating a quality health care institution.” Previously the Board had to focus on reversing the earlier losses, but in the last two and a half years the new Board has led the Physicians group from a negative to positive bottom line statements. Once the new long term goals have been reviewed by the clinical chairs, they will be widely distributed on campus and available online.

Just recently the Board has also created a Clinical Practice Council of 11 senior clinicians to advise the Board on operations and the needs of the clinical faculty. A major focus will be on preserving the safety of our patients and maintaining high quality of care. It is expected that the Clinical Practice Council will meet monthly. A chair will be appointed by the MCVP Board. The members are listed below:

Jonathan Bekenstein, M.D. (Neurology)

Cecelia Boardman, M.D. (Ob-Gyn)

Michael Edmond, M.D., MPH, MPA

(Internal Medicine/MCVH Director of Quality - ex-officio)

Mike Gonzalez, M.D. (Emergency Medicine)

Robert Halverson, M.D. (Radiology)

Anne-Marie Irani, M.D. (Pediatrics)

Mark Levy, M.D. (Vascular Surgery)

Brian Kaplan, M.D. (Surgical Oncology)

Richard McPherson, M.D. (Pathology)

Ari Sismanis, M.D. (ENT-HNS)

George Vetrovec, M.D. (Internal Medicine)

(thanks to Dr. Richard Wenzel for this information)

SOM Awards first Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award _____

The Arnold P. Gold Foundation initiated the Humanism in Medicine Awards to recognize a graduating medical student and a faculty member at participating medical schools. The purpose of the Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award is to underscore the value of humanism in the delivery of care to patients and their families. The principles of integrity, excellence, compassion, altruism, respect, empathy and service are paramount qualities in the recipients of this award. The Gold Foundation bestows a personalized certificate and a \$1,000 prize each on a graduating medical student and a faculty member, nominated and selected by their peers. Criteria for nomination are the following:

Graduating Medical Student

- * consistently demonstrates compassion and empathy in the delivery of care to patients
- * illustrates professional and ethical behavior by example
- * shows respect for everyone he/she comes in contact with
- * demonstrates cultural sensitivity in working with patients and family members of diverse ethnic or religious backgrounds
- * displays effective communication and listening skills—good rapport with patients
- * understands a patient’s need for interpretation of complex medical diagnosis and treatment and makes an effort to ensure patient comprehension—shows respect for the patient’s viewpoint
- * helps to articulate the patient’s concerns to attending physicians and others
- * pays attention and is sensitive to the patient’s psychological well-being
- * is cooperative, easy to work with—engenders trust and confidence
- * willing to help others and, when necessary, willing to seek help from others
- * displays concern for the general welfare of the community and engages in volunteer activities
- * seeks and accepts criticism, using it to improve performance
- * is personally committed to reflection and objective self-evaluation of his/her skills
- * displays competence in scientific endeavors

Medical School Faculty Member

- * consistently demonstrates compassion and empathy in the delivery of care to patients
- * serves as a role model—illustrates professional behavior by example—for students and colleagues
- * is approachable and accessible to students
- * welcomes opportunities for teaching and one-on-one mentorships with students
- * exhibits enthusiasm and skill in professional and personal interactions with students
- * shows respect for everyone he/she comes in contact with
- * demonstrates cultural sensitivity in working with patients and family members of diverse ethnic or religious backgrounds
- * displays effective communication and listening skills

- * understands a patient's need for interpretation of complex medical diagnoses and treatments and makes an effort to ensure patient comprehension—shows respect for the patient's viewpoint
- * pays attention and is sensitive to the patients' psychological well-being
- * effectively identifies emotional concerns of patients and family members
- * engenders trust and confidence
- * adheres to professional and ethical standards
- * is personally committed to reflection and objective self-evaluation of his./her skills
- * displays competence in scientific endeavors

Following a call for nominations from all faculty and medical students, a committee of clinical and basic science faculty and graduating medical students was convened to review the nominations and make the selection. The graduating medical student selected was **Karen Burch**. Karen is described by all as being the quiet, humble, unobtrusive student who makes wonderful things happen for her patients. Prior to medical school, Karen volunteered a number of years in Northern France with L'Arche De Cuise Community where she cared for adults with severe mental and physical disabilities. In medical school, Karen has been an active member of the Inner City/Rural Preceptorship Program, completing the majority of her clinical work caring for the underserved. A most moving story of Karen's involves her patient who was a native of Benin, Africa. Mr. G. was diagnosed with terminal liver cancer. He spoke little English, understood less and had no family here. Karen supported Mr. G. by communicating in French. She led her class to raise over \$2000 in two days so Mr. G. was able to return to his fiancée and family in Benin to die at home. Karen will be staying at VCU to complete a residency in Internal Medicine with an emphasis on Women's Health. Karen was recognized for receiving the Humanism Award at Students Honors Day and the School of Medicine Graduation Ceremony.

The faculty member receiving the award will be recognized at the Faculty Excellence Awards on October 12, 2005, 12noon - 1:10pm in MSB Auditorium. *(Thanks to Dr. Isaac Wood, Associate Dean for Student Activities, for this information)*



Congratulations to these faculty who were recently awarded promotions and/or tenure! _____

VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY

School of Medicine

Faculty Promotion and Tenure

Effective July 1, 2005

TENURE REVIEW (PROFESSOR)

Betty A. Forbes, Ph.D.

Rao R. Ivatury, M.D.

Pin-Lan Li, Ph.D.

Elinore McCance-Katz, M.D., Ph.D.

Paul Ratz, Ph.D.

Stephen Shapiro, M.D.

Pathology

Surgery

Pharmacology & Toxicology

Psychiatry

Biochemistry

Neurology

PROMOTION TO PROFESSOR WITH TENURE

Andrea Ferreira-Gonzalez, Ph.D.

Elizabeth Waterhouse, M.D.

Pathology

Neurology

PROMOTION TO PROFESSOR (ALREADY TENURED)

Gregorio Gil, Ph.D.

Colleen K. Jackson-Cook, Ph.D.

Robert L. Jesse, Ph.D.

Karnam Murthy, Ph.D.

John F. Kuemmerle, M.D.

Richard T. Marconi, Ph.D.

Biochemistry

Pathology

Internal Medicine

Physiology

Internal Medicine

Microbiology & Immunology

Gea Ny Tseng, Ph.D.
Wade K. Smith, M.D.

Physiology
Internal Medicine

PROMOTION TO PROFESSOR (COLLATERAL)

William O. McKinley, M.D.
Andrea L. Pozez, M.D.
Roger S. Riley, M.D., Ph.D.
Aradhana Sood, M.D.

Physical Med. & Rehab.
Surgery
Pathology
Psychiatry

TENURE REVIEW (ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR)

Jeffrey V. Siebers, Ph.D.
Diane B. Wilson, Ed.D.

Radiation Oncology
Internal Medicine

PROMOTION TO ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (COLLATERAL)

Cecelia Boardman, M.D.
Catherine Cooper, M.D.
Adrian Cotterell, M.D.
Bethany Denlinger, M.D.
Jeffery J. Ericksen, M.D.
Jeffrey A. Green, M.D.
Karen Ingersoll, Ph.D.
Susan Lanni, M.D.
Vijay Lyall, Ph.D.
Michelle A. Meade, Ph.D.
Daniel E. Nixon, D.O.
Richard K. Shepard, M.D.
Christine L. Tully, M.D.

Obstetrics & Gynecology
Anesthesiology
Surgery
Internal Medicine
Physical Med. & Rehab.
Anesthesiology
Psychiatry
Obstetrics & Gynecology
Physiology
Physical Med. & Rehab.
Internal Medicine
Internal Medicine
Internal Medicine

PROMOTION TO ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

(no peer review required; recommendation letter and curriculum vitae required)

Zhi-Jian Chen, M.D., Ph.D.
Mohamed Rahmani, Ph.D.
Lei Xi, M.D.

Neurosurgery
Internal Medicine
Internal Medicine

AFFILIATE AND NON-PAID, VOLUNTEER FACULTY

(no peer review required; recommendation letter and curriculum vitae required)

PROMOTION TO AFFILIATE PROFESSOR

Jeffrey Taubenberger, M.D., Ph.D.

Anatomy & Neurobiology

PROMOTION TO CLINICAL PROFESSOR

Frances Christian, Ph.D.

Psychiatry

PROMOTION TO ASSOCIATE CLINICAL PROFESSOR

Allen S. Burris, M.D.
Joseph S. Galeski, III, M.D.
Michael S. Godin, M.D.
Arthur S. Harrow, M.D.
David A. McLeod, M.D.
Randall M. Robinson, M.D., Ph.D.
Leslie W. Rose, III, M.D.
Katherine LaVan Smallwood, M.D.
C. Kent Titus, M.D.
Robert T. Turner, M.D.
Stephen C. Young, M.D.

Internal Medicine
Internal Medicine
Otolaryngology
Internal Medicine
Internal Medicine
Internal Medicine
Internal Medicine
Internal Medicine
Internal Medicine
Internal Medicine
Internal Medicine

PROMOTION TO ASSISTANT CLINICAL PROFESSOR

J. Bryan Cooper, M.D.

Neurology

News from the SOM Development Office

On May 19, a reception was held at the Windsor Farms home of **Dr. Erika and Mr. Eldridge Blanton** to honor those who have supported the ongoing **Campaign for the School of Medicine**. Dr. Blanton, who serves as one of the three Campaign co-chairs, welcomed about 130 alumni and friends to the garden party, including her co-chair **Dr. Wyatt S. Beazley III**. Dr. Beazley, who completed both his medical degree as well as his surgery residency here, reported to the guests on the success of the Campaign for the School of Medicine. The Campaign is currently \$68.7 million toward its \$87-million goal and is on schedule for completion in July 2007. Gifts to the campaign will fuel the School's traditional strengths and are geared toward medical research, chairs, teaching professorships, and importantly, scholarships for medical and graduate students. Dr. Blanton, who completed her obstetrics and gynecology training at the medical center, also led the group in a salute to **Dr. Dickie Newsome**, thanking him for his service to the medical school with a small gift for his retirement. The campaign's third co-chair, Roanoke's **Dr. Harry Johnson**, was not able to attend.

(Thanks to Erin Lucero for this information)



A Lasting Legacy – The MCV Society

The MCV Foundation celebrated Cinco de Mayo with a fiesta honoring members of the MCV Society – those friends of the university who have included an MCV Campus School in their estate plans. About 80 guests gathered at the Commonwealth Club on May 5 for a Mexican-themed dinner and a special performance by the Latin Ballet of Virginia. That evening, they also received a green and gold lapel pin (shown at left).

In the 10 years since the Society was established, more than 100 School of Medicine alumni, faculty and friends have joined its ranks. It is open to individuals who provide future support of the MCV Campus through provisions in their estate plans in any of the following ways:

- * Charitable Bequest in a Will
- * Retirement Plan Designation
- * Irrevocable Gift to a Charitable Trust, Gift Annuity or Pooled Income Fund
- * Insurance Policy Provision

If you would like to learn more about membership, please contact Tom Holland, Interim Associate Dean for Development, SOM, at 828-3800 or tehollan@vcu.edu.



Did you Know?

Mutated, drug-resistant “superbugs” can live for weeks on bed linens, computer keyboard covers and under acrylic fingernails. A recent study supports other research that shows super-strict hygiene is needed to battle the bacteria, some of which are now nearly impossible to kill even with the strongest antibiotics.

A team at sanitation-services company Ecolab Inc. dabbed methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* onto samples of bed linen, keyboard covers and acrylic fingernails. MRSA could be detected eight weeks later on acrylic fingernails, six weeks later on computer keyboard covers and five days later on bed linens, the researchers told a meeting in Atlanta of the American Society for Microbiology.

“The results of this study clearly demonstrate the need for frequent hand washing and environmental disinfection in health care settings,” said researcher Kris Owens of Mendota Heights, Minnesota-based Ecolab.

Staphylococcus aureus is usually harmless and very common, found on skin or in the noses of about 30 percent of people. It can cause stubborn problems such as rashes and boils and an infection is often mistaken for a spider bite.

In hospitals, MRSA can cause serious and sometimes deadly infections, including necrotizing fasciitis or “flesh-eating” disease. It resists almost everything but an intravenous antibiotic called vancomycin.

A study at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago, published in April, found that computer keyboards can contaminate the fingers, bare or gloved, of a nurse or doctor, who could then transfer bacteria to patients. The researcher, epidemiologist Gary Noskin, says hospitals are increasing their investment in technology for patient use as well as for staff use. Some hospitals are putting computers in patient rooms. Because of the delicate electronic circuitry they house, keyboards, Blackberries, and similar devices make them a challenge to clean.

For the study, Noskin’s team contaminated some keyboards with three types of bacteria commonly found in hospitals: VRE; methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus(MRSA); and Pseudomonas aeruginosa. Both VRE and MRSA survived on a keyboard 24 hours after contamination, according to the study. VRE can cause urinary tract infections and infections at the entry sites of intravenous or dialysis lines.

One Toronto-area hospital had to throw out their keyboards when it was battling an outbreak of vancomycin-resistant Enterococcus, or VRE.

Noskin advises that frequent handwashing is the best defense. For health care workers, he noted that hand washing before using a computer is “superfluous,” as “contamination can be transmitted from the keyboard to the hands of health-care workers. So the best intervention would be to wash your hands (after using a computer) before you have direct contact with a patient.” The findings were presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America.

Other studies have shown that, despite the importance of hand-washing, doctors, nurses and other health care workers often fail to do so or do not wash thoroughly. *(Excerpted from Reuters and The Canadian Press)*

13th Annual WISDOM Pathways to Leadership Conference - Another Success!

The 13th Annual Women in Science, Dentistry, Osteopathy, and Medicine (WISDOM) “Pathways to Leadership” Conference was held Friday, March 4, 2005, at the Marriott Hotel. The 204 participants included academic women physicians and scientists, community practitioners, housestaff, medical students, graduate students, administrators, and this year some 35 women dentists and dental students. They came from 13 states, including Virginia, California, Connecticut, FL, MD, MI, MN, Nebraska, Nevada, NY, TX, W Va, and WI plus Washington, DC., with representatives from the Women’s Dermatological Society, the Va. Chapter of the Associate of Women Surgeons, and Women’s Health Centers of Excellence from Wisconsin and Minnesota.



This year’s theme “Balancing the Equation” featured Molly Carnes, MD, co-director of Women in Science and Engineering Leadership Institute (WISELI) and PI on an NSF ADVANCE Institutional Transformation Award. Dr. Carnes discussed the development and evaluation of strategies to increase participation and advancement of women in medicine, science and dentistry. Also featured was Regina Barreca, PhD, humorist, columnist, and author of the best-selling “They Used to Call Me Snow White, But I Drifted,” as well as other books on humor in relationships. She kept the group laughing as she discussed the benefits of humor in the workplace and in striving for personal achievement and for a shared sense of community. In addition, 7 workshops were conducted including owning your own practice, effective negotiation, leadership and equity in the workplace, mentoring, using appreciative inquiry to produce organizational change, choosing that first job, and liked or in charge.

The conference is sponsored by the Virginia medical schools – Virginia Commonwealth University, University of Virginia, and Eastern Virginia Medical School - along with the Medical Society of Virginia, the Richmond Academy of Medicine, Via Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine, the VCU School of Dentistry, and the Virginia Dental Association. The VDA is a new partner this year.

Over the years, the conference has become a model of success in multi-organizational collaboration toward a single goal: professional development for women in medicine, science, and dentistry from both academia and the community. **Save the date for 2006: Friday, March 17, 2006, Marriott Hotel, Richmond.**

Three VCU Health System representatives selected for Governor's task force

Three VCU Health System representatives have been appointed to Gov. Mark Warner's new Task Force on Information Technology in Health Care, which will study how to make health care more efficient and affordable through the use of electronic health record systems.

Carl F. Gattuso and **Carol B. Pugh, Pharm.D.**, both executives of the VCU Health System, as well as **John M. O'Bannon III, M.D.**, a member of the VCU Health System Board of Directors, were among 33 people named to the task force.

The task force will evaluate digital information systems as well as other information-gathering technologies to improve the security and efficiency of health-care information in Virginia.

The VCU Medical Center is already one of just five completely digital health systems in the US with its use of CERNER, an advanced software system implemented in May 2004. The CERNER system provides easy access to physicians, nurses and other health care professionals so they can see and process all available patient information clearly and accurately. The database also assists with diagnoses and research. In the midst of rising health care costs and Medicaid expenses that reach nearly \$4 billion annually in Virginia, the use of health care information technology aims to reduce these costs by eliminating extra paperwork and duplicate testing.

Gattuso is chief corporate officer, Office of the CEO, for the VCU Health System. Pugh is a pharmacist coordinator with the Health System's Department of Community Outreach; and O'Bannon, a member of the Virginia House of Delegates representing the 73rd District, and a community physician, serves on the VCU Health System Board of Directors. *(Thanks to University News Services for this article)*



Inova Campus Update

On May 4, 2005, a Spring Faculty Development program was held for teaching faculty at the Inova Fairfax campus, to help the faculty there learn more about the 24 students moving to the Fairfax Campus this August, and their preparation for the M3 year. Presentors from the Richmond Campus included **Michelle Whitehurst Cook, M.D.**, Chair, SOM Admissions Committee, **James M. Messmer, MD., MEd**, Sr. Assoc. Dean for Medical Education, **J. K. Stringer**, Director of Video Applications and Distance Education, **Rita Willett, M.D.**, FCM Course Director, **Carol Hampton**, MMS, Assoc. Dean, Faculty & Instructional Development, **Robert Adler, M.D**, Professor of Medicine, Chief of Endocrinology & Metabolism, McGuire VAMC; **Jeannie Savas, M.D.**, Surgery Clerkship Director, and **Elizabeth Waterhouse, M.D.**, Asst. Dean for Clinical Education. **Dr. Craig Cheifetz**, Assistant Dean for Medical Education, Inova Fairfax Campus, was also a presenter. The program was very well reviewed and information and resources presented are being collected for ongoing use at the Inova Campus. Thanks to **Dr. Craig Cheifetz**, **Sarina Luangkhot**, Academic Coordinator, Office of the Deans, Inova Fairfax, and **Kathy Kreutzer** and **Carol Hampton**, Dean's Office, MCV Campus, for organizing this event.



Did You Know?

The Department of Epidemiology and Community Health is the new name of the department formerly known as “Preventive Medicine and Community Health.” The new name reflects the department’s expertise in epidemiology, a core area in public health. This also aligns the department name with the plans for the new School of Public Health, which will have four departments in addition to Epidemiology and Community Health: Biostatistics, Public Health Management and Policy, Behavioral Sciences and Health Promotion, and Environmental and Occupational Health. Position descriptions for the new chair positions are posted at:

Chair, Behavioral Sciences and Health Promotion: <http://www.pubinfo.vcu.edu/facjobs/facjob.asp?Item=1793>

Chair, Environmental and Occupational Health: <http://www.pubinfo.vcu.edu/facjobs/facjob.asp?Item=1794>

Chair, Public Health Management and Policy: <http://www.pubinfo.vcu.edu/facjobs/facjob.asp?Item=1795>

Dr. Susan Kornstein becomes VCU’s 8th ELAM fellow

Dr. Susan Kornstein, Professor of Psychiatry and Obstetrics and Gynecology, Executive Director of the VCU Institute for Women’s Health, and Director of Clinical Research for the Department of Psychiatry and Executive Director of the VCU Mood Disorders Institute has been selected as a 2005-2006 Fellow in the national Hedwig van Ameringen Executive Leadership In Academic Medicine Program for Women. She is the eighth faculty member sponsored by the School in eight years for the national leadership program generally referred to as **ELAM**.



ELAM was established in 1995 as part of the Institute for Women’s Health and Leadership at Drexel University College of Medicine. ELAM is the only in-depth national program that focuses on preparing women faculty at medical and dental schools in the United States and Canada for senior institutional leadership positions at academic health centers.

Past ELAM fellows sponsored by VCU SOM:

*2004-2005: **Dr. Michelle Whitehurst-Cook**, is associate professor, Family Medicine; Chair of the SOM Admissions Committee.

* 2003-2004: **Dr. Betty Ann Johnson**, professor, internal medicine, Division of General Internal Medicine and Primary Care.

* 2002-2003: **Dr. Bela Sood**, professor and chair, Division of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, Department of Psychiatry; medical director, Virginia Treatment Center for Children

* 2001-2002: **Dr. Karen Sanders**, professor, internal medicine, Division of Rheumatology, Allergy & Immunology; associate chief of staff for Education at the McGuire VAMC; Acting Chief, Office of Academic Affiliations, Veterans Health Administration, Washington, D.C.

* 2000-2001: **Dr. Mary Nettleman**, currently professor and chair of the Department of Medicine at Michigan State University, former VCU professor and division chair, internal medicine.

* 1999-2000: **Dr. Lisa Kaplowitz**, currently deputy commissioner, Emergency Preparedness & Response Programs, Virginia Department of Health; former associate professor, internal medicine, Division of Quality Health Care, and director, VCU HIV/AIDS Center.

* 1997-1998: **Dr. Roberta Sonnino**, currently Associate Dean for Academic and Faculty Affairs, and professor of surgery and pediatrics, Creighton University School of Medicine.

Dean Newsome relates that we are among the top 10% of medical schools supplying ELAM fellows. He has attended the ELAM graduation of all seven fellows and currently serves on the ELAM selection committee (ineligible to vote for our faculty). For more information on ELAM, visit www.drexel.edu/elam. *(Thanks to University News Services, for some of the information in this article)*

The Dean's office is proud to present the new SOM Research Space Management System!

For more than a year we've had an outstanding team working together to create a user friendly, informative system that provides all space and award data in one place. This web-based system represents the combined efforts of Dean's office staff as well as staff from VCU Facilities Management and the VCU Office of Sponsored Programs Administration. The SOM Research Space Advisory Committee, comprised of active researchers and with a representative from each department appointed by the Department Chair, offered great assistance and advice from a user point of view in the development of the Research Space Guidelines and information necessary to create the RSMS database. The RSMS is a real time space management system that tracks not only departmental space but also individual PI assigned space and is linked to active award data. This database will provide information regarding over and under-utilized research space and will, in conjunction with the Research Space Guidelines, be the basis of potential space reassignments. In addition to providing textual space information, the RSMS will also provide floor plan images relating to space and award data. The system, still a work in progress, will be available on the SOM website in mid June and is the combined efforts of many. An overview of the development process and the RSMS was presented to the SOM Executive Committee of the Faculty, the VCU Council of Deans and to Dr. Trani and the Vice Presidents. To view this PowerPoint presentation, please go to:

http://www.medschool.vcu.edu/faculty_staff/policies/index.html

Again, the system will be available for use mid June. Be on the lookout for additional information!
(Thanks to Leigh Ann Kensky, Facility Space Manager, for all of her work on this project, and for this information)

VAMC News

McGuire VAMC has been recruiting for a new Chief of Staff. Recruitment has been closed for the position and the committee is in the process of evaluating candidates. **Dr. Judy Brannen**, Associate Professor of Internal Medicine and Director of the M3 Clerkship in Internal Medicine, is serving as Interim Chief of Staff.

Dr. Katherine Gianola, Associate Chief of Staff for Information Technology and Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine, is directing the VAMC's newest telehealth initiative in Care Coordination. This will involve case management through wireless technology allowing patient health to be monitored from their homes. The goal is to enroll 1,000 patients by August, 2005.

The VAMC Ambulatory Care Clinics have been participating in a program called "See you in 20," which strives to have no patient wait more than 20 minutes to be seen.

USMLE Update: Our students continue to excel

As the class of 2007 prepares to take Step 1 of the USMLE this summer, the results from the classes of 2005 and 2006 are available. The SOM requires students to take Step 1 and both parts of Step 2 prior to graduation but does not require students to pass the examinations for promotion or graduation.

94% of the class of 2006 passed Step 1 on the first taking with an average score of 211. Six of 13 repeat test takers have subsequently passed. These results compare to a national pass rate of 92% and average score of 216. The class will take the Step 2 Clinical Knowledge and Step 2 Clinical Skills examinations during their M4 year.

For the class of 2005, 98% of first time takers passed Step 1 with an average score of 217, compared to national results of 92% and 216. 96% of the class passed Step 2 CK with an average score of 228. We don't have the national numbers yet, but typically the pass rate for Step 2 CK is 94-6% and the average score approximately 215-217.

The class of 2005 was the first class required to take the new Step 2 CS (Clinical Skills) examination, which uses standardized patient encounters to determine the examinee's communication skills, proficiency in the English language, and ability to interview, perform a physical examination and write an encounter note. The exam is graded on a pass/fail basis. Although not all scores have been reported, the pass rate for the class so far is 99%. For U.S. and Canadian school graduates the national pass rate to date is 96%.

The SOM offers review courses for the students for both Step 1 and Step 2. During their M4 year, the class of 2005 also participated in a Clinical Skills Assessment using five standardized patients at Eastern Virginia Medical School. The effort of the many faculty who have participated in these reviews has contributed significantly to the fine performance of our students. *(Thanks to Dr. James Messmer for this information)*

March 17 Match Day successful for SOM Fourth Year Students



The Match which started in 1952 brought good news to our graduation class. Of the 151 students who participated, 96% gained positions (national rate 93.7%). Even more impressive is the fact of our achievements in the "Specialty Matches": ENT – 2; Urology – 2; Ophthalmology– 1 ; Neurology – 4; and Neurosurgery – 3.

Some Basic National Statistics

| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Number of Positions – 21,454 | 5 th Pathway - 96 |
| Total Applicants – 25,348 | U.S. Foreign Grads – 2,091 |
| Active U. S. Seniors – 14,719 | Non U.S. Foreign Grads – 5,554 |
| Canadians – 85 | |
| U.S. M.D.'s – 1,279 | Osteopaths – 1,524 |
| End result 0.8 positions per applicant | |

2005 School of Medicine Statistics

Total in Program – 151

PGY-1

| | | | |
|----------------------|--|----------------------------|----------|
| INTERNAL MEDICINE | 54 (20 OF WHICH ARE PRELIMINARY) (3 Women's Health, 1 Geriatrics) | PLASTIC SURGERY | 1 |
| PEDIATRICS | 21 | MEDICINE/EMERG MED | 1 |
| SURGERY | 12 (5 OF WHICH ARE PRELIMINARY) | NEUROLOGY | 1 |
| TRANSITIONAL | 6 | ENT | 1 |
| EMERGENCY MEDICINE | 8 | PSYCHIATRY/FAM PRAC | <u>1</u> |
| OB/GYN | 11 | | 151 |
| FAMILY PRACTICE | 10 | | |
| MEDICINE/PEDIATRICS | 2 | <u>PGY-2 MATCH RESULTS</u> | |
| PSYCHIATRY | 8 | RADIOLOGY-DX | 9 |
| ANESTHESIOLOGY | 4 | ANESTHESIOLOGY | 4 |
| PATHOLOGY | 8 | PHYSICAL MED & REHAB | 3 |
| ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY | 1 | RADIATION ONCOLOGY | <u>1</u> |
| PHYSICAL MED & REHAB | 1 | TOTAL | 17 |

Students Matched to the VCU Health System

Internal Medicine 23 (3 Women's Health, 11 Pre); Pediatrics 7; Surgery 2 (2 Pre); Emergency Medicine 1; Family Practice 2; Medicine/Pediatrics 1; Anesthesiology 2; Orthopedic Surgery 1; Pathology 1; Psychiatry 2, Ob/Gyn 3; Plastic Surgery 1.

Did you Know? The “Chief Doctor” of the U.S. is also a Nurse! _____

Dr. Carmona is the first Surgeon General in US History with nursing experience.



“It has made me a much better physician and a much better surgeon general to have had that unique opportunity to be a nurse,” said Vice Admiral Richard H. Carmona, M.D., MPH. Carmona began his health career in the Army Special Forces, serving in Vietnam as a medic and furthering his education. The combat-decorated veteran became a registered nurse and worked in emergency, trauma and critical-care departments after leaving active duty. He built on that experience and pursued a medical degree, graduating at the top of his class from the University of California, San Francisco in 1979. He later earned a master’s degree in public health from the University of Arizona. He was appointed as Surgeon General in 2002.

Carmona often denies he is a “former” nurse, saying “once a nurse, always a nurse. “The culture is still with you, the training and patient approach,” said Carmona. “You’re not really former. You are still a nurse and build on that profession, [although you may be] doing something a little different now.”

Surgeon Generals advise the president on health policy, protect and improve citizens’ health, and administer the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, a team of uniformed-service health professionals who respond to the nation’s immediate and long-term health needs, including disaster preparedness and response. *(information excerpted from Nursezone.com)*



Hold the Date!! Wednesday, October 12, 12 Noon – 1:10 pm SOM Faculty Excellence Awards _____

Presentation of Awards in the MSB Auditorium & Lunch on the Plaza - All Faculty, Housestaff, and Students are Invited.

FCM Collaborative Educational Initiative marks 10th Anniversary _____

For a decade, the Foundations of Clinical Medicine (FCM) program in the VCU SOM has placed first- and second-year medical students on the front lines of healthcare – working in concert with community physicians and their patients. What began as a project to provide more primary care physicians to the Commonwealth has become an engine that turns out well-rounded, patient-centered doctors. A ceremony marking the 10th year of the collaboration was held on May 24.

Established in 1995 through a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant, the FCM course is a two-year, hands-on, out-of-the-classroom experience that teaches students basic clinical skills, including medical interviewing, physical diagnosis, clinical reasoning and professionalism.

Initially, VCU was one of only 16 medical schools in the United States to develop a program pairing medical students with community preceptors. Today most medical schools have such a program.

By its second year, the program was expanded to include second-year students, and today FCM harnesses the expertise of nearly 300 community physicians – almost half of whom are VCU alumni. During the ceremony, 218 physicians received plaques recognizing six or more years of service. Several of the community physicians are graduates from the first class.

Medical students at VCU previously had to wait until their third-year before having direct patient contact. Administrators view the early patient interaction the program provides as vital to preparing students for the challenges of the medical environment.

In addition to the FCM celebration, the event also recognized the physicians who completed the VCU/Reynolds Partnership in Geriatric Education Scholars Program, many of whom also are involved in the FCM program as well. The Geriatric Education Scholars Program was created in 2001 through a \$1.8 million grant from the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation. *(Thanks to University News Services for this information)*

AD Williams Awards for April, 2005 Award Cycle Announced ---

A. D. WILLIAMS FACULTY DEVELOPMENT AWARD

Dr. Shelly J. Lane, Professor of Occupational Therapy, was awarded \$2,500 in support of her application entitled "Quantifying Electrodermal Responses in Children". These funds were provided from the A. D. Williams Trust Funds.

A. D. WILLIAMS RESEARCH GRANTS

Dr. Zhongming Zhao, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, was awarded \$14,900 in support of his application entitled "Neighboring-Nucleotide Effects on Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms in the Mouse Genome." These funds were provided from the A. D. Williams Trust Funds.

Dr. Alex S. Golub, Associate Professor of Physiology, was awarded \$15,000 in support of his application entitled "Detection and Quantification of PO₂ Transients in Capillaries." These funds were provided from the A. D. Williams Trust Funds.

Dr. Siddhartha S. Ghosh, Instructor in Internal Medicine (Division of Nephrology) was awarded \$14,981 in support of his application entitled "Cellular Cholesterol Homeostasis in Glomerulosclerosis." These funds were provided from the A. D. Williams Trust Funds.

Dr. Bonny L. Bukaveckas, Assistant Professor of Pharmacy, was awarded \$15,000 in support of her application entitled "The in vivo Pharmacokinetic Effect of CYP2C9*8". These funds were provided from the A. D. Williams Trust Funds.

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. For more information, including applications: <http://views.vcu.edu/adw/>



WISDM BOOK CLUB Meeting, Tuesday, June 28, Café Gutenberg ---

Come, bring a friend, and join us for a delightful evening at the **Cafe Gutenberg, 1700 E. Main Street, Shockoe Bottom**. Our book is "**Kite Runner**" by Khaled Hosseini and our facilitators will be Dr. Rita Shiang, Human Genetics, and Polly Cole, Massey Cancer Center. The meeting will finish about 8 pm.

There's been fun, collegiality and lively discussions at the two meetings this year with 15 faculty and friends in January, and 17 in April. Thanks to all for a wonderful start!

Governor's Task Force on Cervical Cancer adds SOM and VAMC Faculty ---

A number of individuals with connections to the medical school recently joined the Governor's Task on Cervical Cancer:

Olubunmi Kehinde Abayomi, M.D., of Glen Allen, Associate Professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology, VCU Health System; **Julie L. Beales, Ph.D.**, 87 (Micro and Immuno), MD96, HS02, MSHA02,

of Richmond, Interim Assistant Chief of Staff for Extended Care at McGuire Veteran's Affairs Medical Center; **Cecelia H. Boardman, M.D.**, of Doswell, Assistant Professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology of the VCU Health System; **Richard R. Brookman, M.D.**, of Glen Allen, Director of Adolescent Health Services for the VCU Health System; **Wendy Simons Klein, M.D., H88**, of Richmond, Associate Professor of Internal Medicine, SOM, and Senior Deputy Director, VCU Institute for Women's Health, VCU Health System.

Curriculum Office Update

Anita Navarro, M.Ed., Director of the Curriculum Office since June 1999, will be moving to a part-time faculty position at the end of the summer. She will continue to work on selected projects, including mentoring students on career options in medicine and the monitoring of clerkship education. Under Anita's guidance, day to day administrative support for medical students and teaching faculty has become more electronically-based and streamlined and career counseling resources have been greatly enhanced. *Thanks to Anita for her many contributions to the School of Medicine!*

Library Bytes

NEW NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH (NIH) PUBLIC-ACCESS POLICY--IMPLICATIONS FOR AUTHORS MORE:

Beginning May 2, 2005, National Institute of Health (NIH)-funded investigators are asked to submit voluntarily to PubMed Central (PMC) an electronic version of their final manuscript when the article is accepted for publication. This version is defined as "the final version accepted for the journal publication, and includ[ing] all modifications from the publishing peer review process." Included are publications resulting from current projects that are funded in whole or in part by the NIH, as well as reports on previous NIH-supported research that are accepted for publication on or after May 2, 2005. The new policy applies to all research grants, career-development awards, cooperative agreements, contracts, and national research service awards, as well as NIH intramural research studies. It does not apply to book chapters, editorials, review articles, or conference proceedings.

PMC (<http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/>) is NIH's digital repository of full-text, peer-reviewed biomedical, behavioral, and clinical research journals. It is a publicly-accessible, permanent, and searchable electronic archive available on the Internet at: <http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/>. A password-protected, Web-based, NIH Manuscript Submission (NIHMS) (<http://www.nihms.nih.gov/>) system has been developed to facilitate the PMC submission process. Though the NIH anticipates that investigators will use this opportunity to submit their manuscripts, sending electronic copies is voluntary and will not be a factor in the review of scientific progress. Additional details on the implementation of NIH Public-Access policy can be found online at the NIH Web site (<http://www.nih.gov/about/publicaccess/>). For additional information contact Susanna Pathak (sbpathak@vcu.edu), Planning & Assessment Librarian for the VCU Libraries.

PDA TECHNOLOGY FAIR:

VCU Libraries received a \$5000 Award from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Southeastern/Atlantic Region. The award money will be used in the 2005-2006 academic year to host a PDA Fair. To find out more about this and/or would like to participate in planning the event, please contact Shannon Jones at sdjones@vcu.edu.

GET IT @ VCU IS COMING!:

Obtaining full-text articles and books is getting easier! A new service from VCU Libraries called **Get it @ VCU** will provide an efficient method for linking article citations in a database to the full-text of that article (if available) in another database, as well as linking to other Library services. When you search a database (such as Web of Science) links will appear that say **Get it @ VCU**. The link will take you to a page containing links to the full-text (when available), links to the VCU Libraries catalog (to know available in print), and a link to order the article through Interlibrary Loan if the article is not owned by VCU Libraries. If you click on the link for Interlibrary Loan, the article citation information will automatically be copied into the order form, saving you from having to type in the information. **Get It @ VCU** is being added to each of library databases and is being piloted, and is anticipated to be in all library databases by Fall 2005.

LOCAL LEGENDS: NOMINATE AND CELEBRATE RICHMOND AREA WOMEN PHYSICIANS:

VCU Libraries will be hosting the traveling Changing the Face of Medicine exhibit when it arrives at the Tompkins-McCaw Library from June 20 - August 3, 2006. The exhibit will feature the Local Legends Project, a companion gallery highlighting the contributions of women physicians in rural and urban towns and cities throughout America. Local Legends and Changing the Face of Medicine is a partnership of Congress, the National Institutes of Health's National Library of Medicine, the NIH

Office of Research on Women's Health (ORWH), and the American Medical Women's Association (AMWA). Do you know a VCU woman physician who deserves recognition for the positive contributions she has made to VCU and/or the Richmond community? Nominate her for inclusion in the Local Legends: Celebrating America's local women physician gallery. Consult the Local Legends web site for more information on the nomination process at <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/locallegends/who.html>.

UPCOMING LIBRARY WORKSHOP DEMOS HELPFUL TIPS AND RESOURCES FOR RESEARCHERS:

Keeping Current: Resources for Researchers will provide an overview of how to find relevant, reliable, and up-to-date information for researchers with a focus on biomedical and health information research. This class will provide tips for searching several databases including PubMed, Web of Science, ClinicalTrials.gov, CRISP, and NCHS (the National Center for Health Statistics). The presentation will also provide an overview of RefWorks, an extremely useful tool that allows you to easily create and manage your own personal citation database. A helpful workshop for new faculty or those wanting an update on newly available resources. *Keeping Current: Resources for Researchers* will be held at the Tompkins-McCaw Library in the LIMERC classroom July 11, 3-4:30pm. If you are interested in attending, please contact Aparna Sharma (828-0017, asharma@vcu.edu).

Departmental News

Department of Epidemiology and Community Health

Dr. Jack Lanier, Dr. P.H., CACHE, Professor, was honored at the Departmental Diploma Ceremony on May 21, 2005 as Outstanding Instructor of the Year. His award was presented by **Thuy Quynh N. Do**, President of the Public Health Student Association.

Department of Internal Medicine

The Department of Internal Medicine continues to make progress in the area of research. One of its faculty members, **Paulina A. Essah, M.D.**, has been awarded a NIH R03 grant to fund a project in which she is the principal investigator. Dr. Essah is an assistant professor with joint appointments in the Division of General Medicine and the Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism. She completed her medical training at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and residency training at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. The R03 is a 2-year grant for \$100,000 intended for pilot studies. Dr. Essah's project is entitled "Combination metformin and oral contraceptive for polycystic ovary syndrome." The study aims to determine whether combination therapy with an oral contraceptive and an insulin-sensitizing drug provides optimal maintenance therapy for women with polycystic ovary syndrome in terms of preventing long-term complications, particularly cardiovascular disease.

Laurie Lyckholm, M.D., Associate Professor of Internal Medicine (Hem/Onc) has been named to the editorial board of the journal The Journal of Opioid Management.

Department of Radiology

Robert A. Halvorsen, Jr., M.D., received the Richard H. Marshak International Lecturer award at the Society of Gastrointestinal Radiologists annual meeting in San Antonio, Texas May 2-5, 2005.

Laura A. Carucci, M.D., received the Roscoe E. Miller Best Paper Awards at this year's annual Society of Gastrointestinal Radiologists meeting held in San Antonio, Texas, May 2-5, 2005.



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

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