

NEWSPAGER

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Progesterone for Treatment of Traumatic Brain Injury

Emergency physician is testing the hormone in Phase 3 trial.

Traumatic brain injury is a real public health problem. Many victims of serious head trauma die, but many more live with a TBI-related disability – 5.3 million Americans currently. For those who treat severe TBI, the holy grail would be a medication that makes the difference between a patient who faces a future of round-the-clock care and one who will need only minimal assistance. There have been approximately 30 trials of drugs for TBI, but none has proved effective.

If a head trauma victim is brought to the emergency department where Dr. Mark Saks works, and if the patient arrives soon after the injury and meets certain requirements, he or she can be enrolled in ProTECT III, a promising study to see if progesterone limits the damage from TBI. Drexel University College of Medicine is participating in the multicenter Phase 3 clinical trial sponsored by the National Institutes of Health and based at Emory University (<http://protectiii.com>). Mark Saks, M.D., MPH, assistant professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine, is the principal investigator for the Drexel site. With the aid of the emergency team and the Charles C. Wolfert Trauma Center at Hahnemann University Hospital, Saks and Romy Nocera, Ph.D., clinical research director for Drexel Emergency Medicine, are screening patients for the study when they come into the trauma center with moderate to severe TBI.

Why progesterone? Although it is usually referred to as a female sex hormone, progesterone is present in differing amounts in both men and women, and may affect many central nervous system functions.



CT scan shows hematoma resulting from blunt force trauma.

There is evidence that progesterone promotes repair following brain injury. Multiple animal studies have shown it to reduce the effects of traumatic brain injury, and two pilot studies have shown that progesterone may reduce mortality and brain damage in humans if given soon after TBI. Progesterone has a long history of safe use in men and women, and the pilot trials demonstrated the safety of the experimental progesterone, which is extracted from yams.

Although many people come into the emergency department with head trauma, most do not meet the criteria for the study.

TBI Not Uncommon

Each year, 1.7 million people in the United States sustain a traumatic brain injury; 52,000 die; 275,000 are hospitalized (CDC numbers). Severe TBI has gained new attention because of modern-day veterans returning from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Improved armor saves lives, but survivors bring home the neural effects of blast injuries and other blunt force trauma. For civilians, the leading causes of TBI are falls, traffic accidents, struck by/against events, and assault.



Daniel V. Schidlow, M.D.
Interim Dean and Senior Vice President
of Health Affairs

On the Road to Success

Life at the College of Medicine is very interesting and exciting! At any given time, there are literally dozens of initiatives created, projects carried out, and ideas being produced. Now that 2012 is under way, I would like to elaborate on my priorities and the progress that has

been made to date. I would also like to acknowledge the numerous people who play important roles in our standing and achievements.

Research at the College of Medicine sets the intellectual tone for the medical school, inspires exchange and collaboration, and creates excitement. I have visited the basic science laboratories over the past couple of months, and I have been impressed by how different laboratories approach similar research issues, such as neurocognitive effects of HIV infection, cancer biology, and brain protection from physical and chemical trauma. It has been energizing to meet so many graduate and postdoctoral students, and their mentors, who are so passionate about their personal journeys of discovery.

Clinical affairs. I have been working closely with my colleague Mike Halter, CEO of Hahnemann, to build on the already

considerable bonds between the hospital and the medical school. We have been discussing the development of joint programs in cancer, heart failure, bariatric surgery, and sleep medicine, among other projects. Working together, our institutions can offer better, more comprehensive services, and advance our reach and our reputation in the local healthcare market.

The College's affiliated hospitals and medical centers are essential to the clinical education of our medical students, and I am eager to continue to strengthen our connections. I have been on the road visiting affiliated campuses in an effort to secure those relationships and explore additional opportunities for collaboration.

Work on the LCME accreditation self-study is front and center at the College. Faculty, professional staff, and students are hard at work meeting and compiling the massive amount of information required for the self-study document that is to be submitted to the LCME in December 2012, in preparation for the site visit in March 2013. I would like to personally thank all those involved for their time and dedication to this very important endeavor.

Getting to know you. The biggest factor in the success of the College is the energy and engagement of the people who work and study here – the faculty, professional staff, and students. I have been meeting informally with members of our College community, as well as chairs and other leadership, so that I can hear from individuals with a variety of perspectives, and learn from their ideas and concerns. The College is also fortunate to have alumni who support the school, return to campus, and act as mentors to current students. I look forward to a continuing dialogue with all of you.

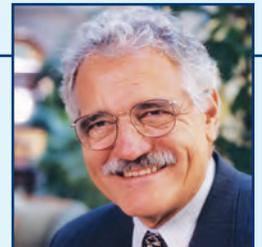
Dean's Office: 215-762-3500

AAMC President Emeritus to Speak at Commencement

Jordan J. Cohen, M.D., president emeritus of the Association of American Medical Colleges, will give the commencement address at the College of Medicine's Commencement Ceremony on May 18, 2012. He is currently chairman of the board of the Arnold P. Gold Foundation for Humanism in Medicine, and a professor of medicine and public health at George Washington University. He will receive an honorary doctorate from Drexel University.

As president and CEO of the Association of American Medical Colleges from 1994 to 2006, Cohen expanded and modernized the association's services for medical students, applicants, residents, and constituents; strengthened the association's communications and advocacy efforts; and established many initiatives for improving medical education and clinical care. Cohen also spoke extensively on the need to promote greater racial and ethnic diversity in medicine, to uphold professional and scientific values, and to transform the nation's healthcare system.

Prior to his leadership of the AAMC, he served as dean of the medical school and professor of medicine at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, and president of the medical staff at University Hospital. Before that, Cohen was a professor and associate chairman of medicine at the University of Chicago-Pritzker School of Medicine, and physician-in-chief and chairman of the Department of Medicine at the Michael Reese Hospital and Medical Center.



Dr. Cohen

He currently serves on the boards of the Morehouse School of Medicine and the Qatar Foundation for Education, Science & Community Development. He also chairs the VA's National Academic Affiliation Council and is co-chair of the Institute of Medicine's Global Forum on Innovations in Health Professional Education.

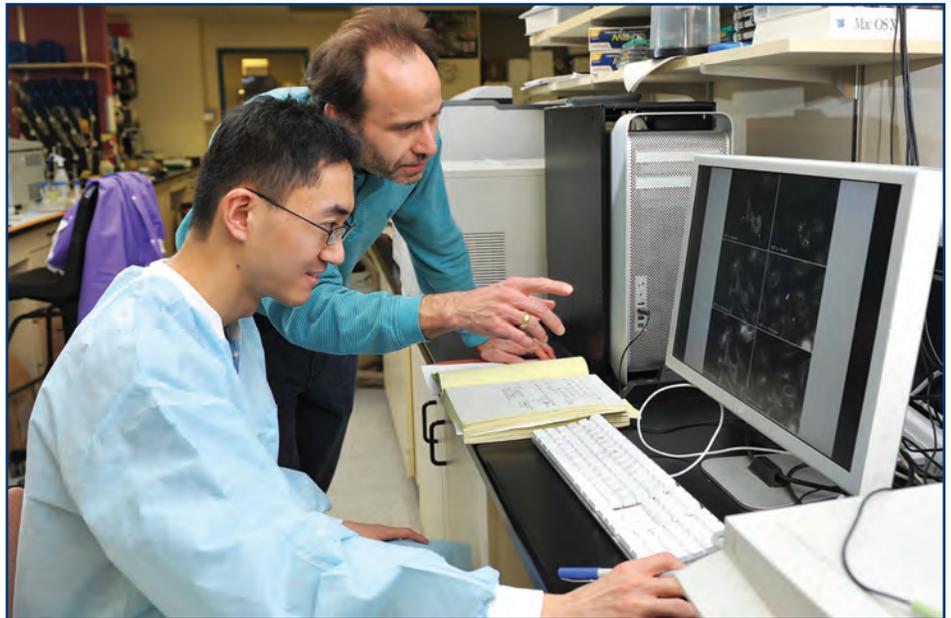
First-Person Profile: Dr. Lin Follows His Passion for Research

Shen Lin, Ph.D., is a postdoctoral fellow in the laboratory of Peter Baas, Ph.D., a professor in the Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy. Here Lin describes his scientific journey and what he has found in the Baas lab.

My English teacher once made us write a story about animals we kept at home, but since I had no pets, I studied ants crawling in my backyard. I was fascinated by how they found food. I read and learned about how ants used pheromones as guidance cues for navigation. As I grew older, I became more interested in humans than ants, but stuck with my interest in guidance cues. I went to university at King's College London, where I learned about how the billion nerve cells (neurons) in the brain make functional connections and bring about consciousness. It was an exciting time to be in neuroscience. Stephen Minger, a pioneer American neurobiologist, joined our university faculty and obtained the first license in Europe to use human embryonic stem cells to treat neurodegenerative diseases.

I pursued my passion for guidance cues and joined the lab of Phillip Gordon-Weeks at King's College for my Ph.D. I investigated the neuronal cytoskeleton in growth cones (comprising microtubules and actin filaments) and focused on MAP1B, a protein involved in microtubule stability. We obtained neural tissue from wild animals including coelacanth, snakes, opossum and frogs from "exotic" locations like the London Zoo, or the beach in Wales, to measure MAP1B expression. Although a Ph.D. in England only takes three years, with no qualifier exams or lab rotations (unlike the rest of the world!), I learned a lot about developmental neurobiology. All of my projects were interesting, but I wanted to dig deeper into mechanisms of neuronal growth, while also doing something more translational. In addition, my parents had moved to America and I wanted to reunite with them.

Coming to Drexel to do a postdoc with Peter Baas seemed like a natural choice. Dr. Baas is a world expert in microtubule transport and neuronal polarity, and the department is renowned for its spinal cord injury research. The first day I joined the lab, Dr. Baas gave me a challenging regeneration project (brand new to the lab) and handed me the reins to a daunting responsibility. Nerve



Shen Lin, Ph.D. (left) and his mentor, Professor Peter Baas, Ph.D.

regeneration has been a hot topic for many years, worthy of study considering that approximately 1.275 million Americans are afflicted with spinal injury. We wanted to improve regeneration of adult injured nerves by manipulating microtubules so that neurons could grow faster, as if they were in the developing embryo. We use drugs to inhibit kinesin-5, a microtubule motor, which when inactive augments significant

I wanted to dig deeper into mechanisms of neuronal growth

neuron growth in vitro. We have had some success using these drugs to treat injured rodents by collaborating with other department members like Veronica Tom, Young-jin Son, the Itzhak Fischer lab and others, who have along the way become my friends and mentors.

I have worked on several other projects including pico-spritzers to manipulate growth cone turning in *Xenopus* and dendrite formation in older neurons. All of these have developed from my pre-sunrise discussions with Dr. Baas in the lab. I have also become close friends with graduate students in the Baas lab as well as our incessantly

cheerful but fiercely resourceful graduate instructor, Wenqian Yu.

Dr. Baas has given me the freedom to pursue my own passions in research and guided me towards doing things that yield publications; what more can a postdoc ask of a PI? At the College of Medicine, I have found an earnest group of people to reorganize a Postdoctoral Association, supported by the ever-enthusiastic Rick Rest and the vice dean for Biomedical Graduate and Postgraduate Studies, Barry Waterhouse. Together, we have initiated an Annual Postdoc Appreciation Day to celebrate postdocs' hard work, accomplishments and contribution to the academy. For this event I managed to get away with doing little, yet ate a huge dinner, listened to a great speaker, and got credit for it – win win! I am now ready to enter my next career phase, which is to do another postdoc stint in a lab working more with animals; I would like to study ways to treat nerve injury. My career ambition is to become a principal investigator of my own lab to look at nerve growth and guidance – and, as unlikely as it seems given the current competitive climate, I may just have a chance!

MLAS Students Win Noonan Scholarship

Four students from the Master of Laboratory Animal Science program received the J.J. Noonan Scholarship Award from the Delaware Valley Branch of the American Association of Laboratory Animal Science. These awards are based on merit, achievement and need, and are for the purpose of “furthering the student’s education in the field of laboratory animal science.” Pictured with Dr. Richard Huneke, DVM, associate



director of the program, and director of ULAR, are award winners (l-r) Kristina Lau, Tolulope Olagbaju, and Melanie Sailor. The fourth recipient was Lori Fetter.

Sex and Gender Differences in Neurobiology and Cognition Explored



“Sex and Gender Differences in Neurobiology and Cognition” was the focus of the annual Helen I. Moorehead-Laurencin, M.D., Sex and Gender Research

Forum, presented by the Center for Women’s Health Research on October 27, 2011.

The topic was explored by an impressive group of guest speakers. Rebecca Jordan-Young, Ph.D., of Barnard College Women’s Studies, and author of *Brain Storm: The Flaws in the Science of Sex Differences*, lectured on the “Evaluation of Hormonal Sex Differentiation of the Brain and Its Impact on Health Outcomes.” Lise Eliot, Ph.D., of the Chicago Medical School, author of *Pink Brain, Blue Brain*, delivered the 2011 Doris Willig, M.D. lecture, “Neuroplasticity and Children’s Gender Development.” Sylvie Goldman, Ph.D., of Albert Einstein College of Medicine gave a clinical presentation, “Gender and Autism,” and Donald Pfaff,

Ph.D. of Rockefeller University gave a basic science lecture “The Impact of Hormones on Brain and Behavior,” which focused on animal models. Pfaff is the author of *Man & Woman: An Inside Story*.

Michele Follen, M.D., Ph.D., director of the Center for Women’s Health Research and associate vice dean for research, gave opening remarks.

The event, funded by Follen’s Program Project Grant and the center’s strategic funds, drew an audience of about 135 people, including researchers, clinicians, students, and social workers. Attendees came from Pakistan, North Carolina, and California, as well as from Penn, Temple and other regional institutions. Other Drexel University colleges and schools were also widely represented in the audience.

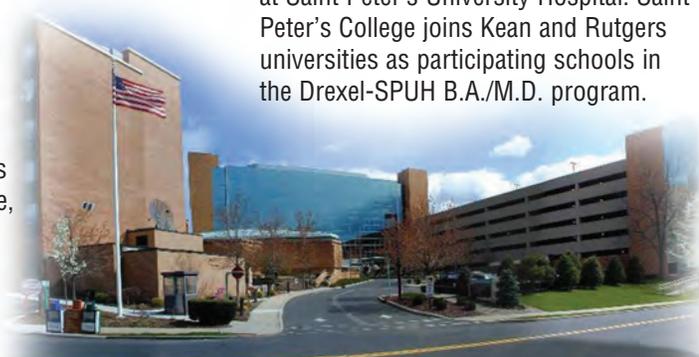
Cool story: Plasma Team’s \$1 Million Grant – page 11

Drexel and Saint Peter’s University Hospital Expand B.A./M.D. Program

Drexel University College of Medicine and Saint Peter’s University Hospital in New Brunswick, N.J., a Regional Medical Campus of the College, have welcomed Saint Peter’s College in Jersey City into their B.A./M.D. linkage program.

After completing their undergraduate degrees at Saint Peter’s College, students who have been accepted into

the B.A./M.D. program will spend their first two years of study at the College of Medicine in Philadelphia, then complete their third- and fourth-year clinical rotations at Saint Peter’s University Hospital. Saint Peter’s College joins Kean and Rutgers universities as participating schools in the Drexel-SPUH B.A./M.D. program.



Residents Receive Grant for Childhood Obesity Prevention

The Drexel/Hahnemann Family Medicine Residency Program has been awarded an Americans In Motion – Healthy Interventions (AIM-HI) grant for childhood obesity prevention from the American Academy of Family Physicians. The Drexel/Hahnemann program was one of only nine residencies across the country selected for the funding.

The grant is being used to support a community project that the Family Medicine Residency has established at the Salvation Army Eliza Shirley House, a shelter for women and families. Residents and faculty host the monthly sessions with the assistance of a nutritionist and a fitness trainer, incorporating physical activities, games and age-appropriate information to teach children and their mothers about fitness and healthy eating.

Faculty physicians Annette Gadegbeku, Julie Yeh, and David Berkson (residency program director) are involved in the project, as well as residents Stefanie Thomassin, Ami Khatri, and Deanna Erb.

Panel Discusses Women’s Health and the Healthcare Law

About 70 people from across the professions attended an interactive panel discussion, “Women’s Health in an Era of Change,” presented by the Institute for Women’s Health and Leadership and the law firm Dilworth Paxson in November. The panelists were Katherine M. Keefe, health law partner, Dilworth Paxson; Owen Montgomery, M.D., chairman, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology at the College of Medicine; and Anne Morrissey, executive vice president and CEO, AmeriHealth Mercy Family of Companies. IWHL Director Lynn H. Yeakel moderated the discussion.

Part of the institute’s ongoing series of Conversations about Women’s Health, the program began with comments about the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision to hear arguments on the Affordable Care Act. The panelists agreed that the act took a step forward for women’s health by increasing access to care and services covered by insurance.

The institute asked attendees to complete optional pre- and post-session surveys for a new study on the impact of the Conversations on attendees.



A Gift and a Challenge: Scholarship Program to Promote Primary Care

Drexel University alumnus William T. Schleyer, DU '73, Hon. '06, is one of those rare people who, upon recognizing a problem, seek to correct it at its core. Schleyer, now retired from leading roles in the communications industry, remains an active force in the Drexel community. Inspired by what he sees as a social injustice, combined with a deep appreciation for the College of Medicine, Schleyer has created a tuition reimbursement program to benefit primary care physicians practicing in Philadelphia. It is both a gift and a challenge – one he fully expects Drexel alumni will rise to and meet.

The Schleyer Family Matching Gift Challenge for Scholarships in Medicine addresses what Schleyer identifies as two looming problems: a lack of access to healthcare in urban areas and the crushing debt confronting newly minted physicians.



Drexel alumnus William T. Schleyer has created a tuition reimbursement program to encourage Drexel medical students to become primary care physicians in Philadelphia.

Schleyer first became interested in healthcare when his middle son entered medical school. Learning more about the industry, he became very concerned that urban “access to healthcare is bad and is getting worse.... Given the reimbursement rate for Medicaid, and given the large preponderance of Medicaid recipients in inner-city markets, it will make the economics of being a [primary care] physician very difficult,” Schleyer said. “You can become a general practitioner on the Main Line and do OK, because you’re getting a lot of insurance reimbursement. But if you go into the inner city where it’s usually a Medicaid population, then being a general practitioner [makes] the economics significantly different.”

That economic notion introduces his second reason for creating the Matching Gift Challenge. Medical school students face a tremendous amount of debt upon graduating. “The debt load is

so large now for kids coming out of medical school. It’s a massive problem we have to solve,” Schleyer said. “We have to provide a means for them to not make [professional] choices based on what specialties pay. General practitioners are probably the lowest paid [specialty].”

Schleyer has yoked these two problems together in an attempt to remedy both. Believing that debt-laden students are reluctant to become general practitioners and that there is going to be a real shortage of healthcare providers in urban areas, he wanted “to do something, albeit very small, to help at least the city of Philadelphia area.” The Schleyer Family Matching Gift Challenge for Scholarships in Medicine provides debt relief to students who become primary care physicians in Philadelphia.

Schleyer was particularly motivated to choose the College of Medicine as the vehicle for his generosity because two of his sons are enrolled at the College. He sees their experience as incredibly positive. “A lot of the faculty and administration – I can’t say enough about them,” he observes. “They’re terrific people. They’re very focused on the students. The feedback I get from my kids has been incredible: how passionate they are, educating them in a way that they’ll be the very best they can be. When you hear from your kids, ‘These are great people, and they have this very difficult mission,’ it inspires one to try and do something to help out.”

Schleyer hopes that the prospect of having some of their school debt forgiven will lead graduates to seriously consider becoming general practitioners in Philadelphia. He modestly says, “Two million dollars doesn’t solve a lot of problems, but to the extent that you can leverage that and give more money through a matching program, you’ve improved the reach of the concept.”

Indeed, Schleyer hopes individuals as well as corporations will be inspired by this challenge and generously give to the scholarship. He says he and his wife have always been interested in philanthropy. It’s part of their mindset to “take some of the resources we have and put them back into efforts to help other people.” Urban healthcare is one of those critical areas of need.

“There will always be a multi-tiered level of healthcare service provided to citizens in this country. There will never be a level playing field,” he said. “Anything we can do as individuals to narrow those imbalances would be a positive thing.”

To learn about contributing to the Schleyer Family Matching Gift Challenge for Scholarships in Medicine, please contact John Zabinski at jjz@drexel.edu or 215-255-7343, or visit www.drexelmed.edu/schleyer.



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In the tradition of Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania and Hahnemann Medical College

'40s

Lorna M. Forbes, M.D., WMC '46

a private consultant specializing in forensic psychiatry in Pomona, Calif., has recently been recognized by Strathmore's Who's Who for her outstanding achievements in healthcare.

'60s

Mahin Behbehanian, M.D., WMC '65 a general surgeon, was listed as one of the "Top Doctors of 2011" in *Main Line Today*. Behbehanian practices at Riddle Memorial Hospital in Media, Pa.

'70s

Paula M. Duncan, M.D., MCP '72

received the Abraham Jacobi Memorial Award from the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). She is a professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Vermont College of Medicine and is president of the Vermont Medical Society.

Todd Stefan, M.D., HU '72 was named vice president and president-elect of the medical staff of Evangelical Community Hospital in Lewisburg, Pa. He practices with Central Susquehanna Surgical Specialists in Lewisburg.

Deborah Hirtz, M.D., HU '73 received the 2011 Hower Award of the Child Neurology Society. Hirtz is program director of the Division of Extramural Research at the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke.

Mary-Blair Matejczyk, M.D., MCP '75 was listed in *Becker's Orthopedic, Spine & Pain Management* as one of "70 Female Orthopedic and Spine Surgeon Leaders to Know." Matejczyk practices at the Cleveland Clinic.

Kay Kerr, M.D., MCP '77 was listed as a "Top Doctor of 2011" in *Main Line Today*. Kerr is the medical director of the Bryn Mawr College Health Center, and also serves as chairman of Main Line Health's family medicine department.

Michael B. Wax, M.D., MCP '77; Internal Medicine Resident, MCP '80 and the oncology team at Summit Medical Group

were honored by the American Cancer Society, Metro NJ Region, at its Diamond Ball on November 19.

Raymond E. Cogen, M.D., HU '78 has been named chief medical officer for SCAN Health Plan Arizona, a not-for-profit Medicare Advantage plan serving Maricopa and Pima counties.

Zoe Maria Rodriguez Mazzoni, M.S., MCP '78 the corporate director of Pathology & Laboratory Services with Kennedy Health System in southern New Jersey, was named a 2011 Prominent Hispanic of Camden County.

Frederick J. Denstman, M.D., HU '79 was rated as one of *Delaware Today's* "Top Doctors." Denstman is the associate chief of colorectal surgery at the Helen F. Graham Cancer Center at Christiana Care Health Systems in Newark.

Vera G. Howland, M.D., HU '79 was chosen as a "Top Doc" in internal medicine by *U.S. News & World Report*. Howland was also named among the "Top Doctors of 2011" by *Main Line Today*. She practices at Crozer Chester Medical Center in Upland, Pa., and is the director of the Crozer International Travel Medicine Center.

John W. Seedor, M.D., HU '79 received the Horace Furness Taylor, M.D., Physician Service Excellence Award from Taylor Hospital. He is the section chief of gastroenterology and director of continuing medical education for the medical and dental staff at the hospital in Ridley Park, Pa.

'80s

Richard J. Mercier, M.D., HU '80 medical staff president of Montgomery Hospital Medical Center, became a 2012 ex-officio board member of the Albert Einstein Healthcare Network in Philadelphia. Mercier is also a cardiologist with Cardiology Consultants of Philadelphia P.C. in East Norriton.

Thomas Weida, M.D., HU '80 was elected by the Pennsylvania Medical Society to serve a four-year term as the society's primary care family medicine

trustee. Weida is medical director of the University Physician Group in Hershey, Pa., and a professor in the Department of Family & Community Medicine at Penn State Hershey College of Medicine.

Cynthia Fisher, M.D., MCP '81 was recently appointed director of the Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery at Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Ann Honebrink, M.D., MCP '81 was listed as one of the "Top Doctors of 2011" in *Main Line Today*. Honebrink is an obstetrician/gynecologist and medical director with Penn Health for Women in Radnor, Pa.

JoAnn M. Leahy, M.D., MCP '81 a fellow of the American College of Legal Medicine, has joined the radiation oncology team at Sacred Heart Healthcare System in Allentown, Pa.

Stephen G. Diamantoni, M.D., HU '82 was elected to his second term as coroner in Lancaster County, Pa.

Donald L. Levick, M.D., MCP '82 has become the first chief medical information officer at Lehigh Valley Health Network. He had previously served as medical director of clinical informatics for LVHN. He is also editor-at-large of *CMIO Magazine*.

Brock Roben, M.D., MCP '82 was listed as a "Top Doctor of 2011" in *Main Line Today*. Roben is a psychiatrist in Swarthmore, Pa.

Jeffrey L. Canose, M.D., MCP '83 president of Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Plano, has been named a fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives.

Catherine Hanlon, M.D., HU '83 chairman of the Department of Emergency Medicine at Monmouth Medical Center, was rated one of *New Jersey Monthly's* "Top Doctors." Hanlon is an associate professor in the Department of Medicine at Drexel University College of Medicine.

John Heath, M.D., HU '83 has joined Summit Medical Group of Berkeley Heights, N.J., as their inaugural medical

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director for geriatric services. Heath is also a volunteer clinical professor at the Robert Wood Johnson Medical Center in New Brunswick, N.J.



Dr. Hoffmann

Barbara L. Hoffmann, M.D., HU '83 has been appointed chief medical officer at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children. Prior to joining St. Christopher's,

she served as the associate medical director for Capital Blue Cross as well as medical director for the Office of Medical Assistance for Pennsylvania.

Clifford Hudis, M.D., MCP '83; Internal Medicine Resident, MCP '87 has been elected president of the American Society of Clinical Oncology for a one-year term beginning in June 2012. During his term, he will also serve as an ex-officio board member of the Conquer Cancer Foundation. Hudis is chief of the Breast Cancer Medicine Service at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and a professor of medicine at Weill Cornell Medical College.

William F. Muhr, M.D., HU '83; Diagnostic Radiology Resident, HU '88 president and CEO of South Jersey Radiology Associates in Marlton, was appointed to the advisory board of peerVue, a provider of healthcare IT workflow and communication solutions.

Susan A. Clement, M.S., HU '84 joined the marketing operations practice of TGaS Advisors, a benchmarking and advisory services firm for pharmaceutical commercial operations located in East Norriton, Pa.

Rachelle Lanciano, M.D., MCP '84 was listed as one of the "Top Doctors of 2011" in *Main Line Today*. Lanciano is chief of the Department of Radiation Oncology at Radiation Oncology Associates of Delaware County in Drexel Hill, Pa.

Robert C. Messey, M.D., HU '84 joined the law practice of Carter Mario in Milford, Conn. Prior to joining Carter Mario, he practiced at Sinoway, McEnery, Messey & Sullivan in North Haven, Conn.

Michelle Andrews, M.D., HU '85 was listed in *Becker's Orthopedic, Spine & Pain Management* as one of "70 Female Orthopedic and Spine Surgeon Leaders to Know." Andrews maintains a clinical practice at the Cincinnati Sports Medicine and Orthopaedic Center. She was the first female team physician for a major league baseball team, the Baltimore Orioles, and also served as a team physician for Johns Hopkins athletics.

Glenn R. Harper, M.D., MCP '85 was listed as one of the "Top Doctors of 2011" in *Main Line Today*. Harper is a cardiologist at Cardiology Consultants in Bryn Mawr, Pa.

Mary I. O'Connor, M.D., MCP '85 chair of the Department of Orthopedic Surgery at Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Fla., was listed in *Becker's Orthopedic, Spine & Pain Management* as one of "70 Female Orthopedic and Spine Surgeons Leaders to Know."

Matthew J. Finnegan, M.D., HU '88 has been appointed director of surgical services for Lourdes Medical Associates in Haddon Heights, N.J.

Robert Quinn, M.D., HU '88, an orthopedic surgeon, will become chairman of the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio in April. He is currently a professor and vice chairman in the Department of Orthopaedics at the University of New Mexico.

Cora Lee Foster, M.D., MCP '89 has been named medical director of the new Cayuga Center for Wound Healing in Ithaca, N.Y.

'90s

Kenneth Krumins, M.D., MCP '90 a partner with Jewett Orthopaedic Clinic in Winter Park, Fla., was rated one of *Orlando Magazine's* "Top Doctors."

Louis Boxer, M.D., MCP '91 an anesthesiologist, was listed as one of the "Top Doctors of 2011" in *Main Line Today*. Boxer practices at West Chester Anesthesiology Associates in Pennsylvania.

Charles Moser, M.D., HU '91 has joined the Sutter Pacific Medical Foundation as

a primary care provider in San Francisco. Moser is board certified in internal medicine and HIV medicine.

Barbara Rugo-Focht, M.D., MCP '91 has opened a pediatric practice in Grafton, Mass., called "Kids on the Common." Rugo-Focht also serves as medical director of The Evergreen Center, a school for children with severe developmental delays.

Glenn Stambaugh, M.D., HU '91 a vascular and interventional radiologist in Tampa, Fla., published "Catheter-Directed Tenecteplase (TNK) Thrombolysis of Acute Unilateral Thrombosed Left Hand" in the October 2011 issue of *Vascular Disease Management*.

Lee A. Surkin, M.D., HU '91 began offering Provent sleep apnea therapy, a non-invasive treatment for obstructive sleep apnea. Surkin practices integrative cardiology, sleep medicine and bariatric medicine in Greenville, N.C.

Beverly K. Dolberg, M.D., HU '92 has been named a medical director of Kern Health Systems in Bakersfield, Calif. She is a fellow of the American College of Physicians and serves on the Governor's Council for Southern California Region II.

Sandra Latona, M.D., HU '92 an internist, has joined Grand View Hospital in Sellersville, Pa. She is also an associate of Lawn Avenue Medical Associates of Sellersville.

David Pfisterer, M.D., MCP '93 a family medicine physician at Guthrie Health in Wellsboro, Pa., received the Donald Guthrie Distinguished Provider Award.

Joseph James Pierce, III, M.D., MCP '93 has joined the staff of internal medicine physicians at Emerald Physicians in Mashpee, Mass. In 2010, Pierce was commissioned by the United States Navy and currently serves as a commander and physician in the Naval Reserves.

Kenneth Gelman, M.D., MCP '94 a pediatrician, was listed as one of the "Top Doctors of 2011" in *Main Line Today*. Gelman practices at CHOP Pediatric & Adolescent Care in Paoli, Pa.

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Behnaz Atree, M.D., HU '96, and her husband, **Susheel Atree M.D., HU '96** have joined Wake Specialty Physicians—North Wake Internal Medicine in Raleigh, N.C. The couple opened North Wake Internal Medicine at WakeMed North Healthplex in 2004.

Azra Shoaib Ayubi, M.D., HU '96 has joined the obstetrics and gynecology practice of Metro Health's Southwest Neighborhood Outpatient Center in Wyoming, Mich.

Raymond T. Kuwahara, M.D., HU '97 a board-certified dermatologist, joined Tri-State Specialists in Sioux City, Iowa.

Adrienne Towsen, M.D., MCP '98 was listed as a "Top Doctor of 2011" in *Main Line Today* magazine. Towsen practices general orthopedics with concentrations in sports medicine and arthroscopic surgery at Chester County Orthopaedics Associates in Pennsylvania.

Yi Liu, M.D., Ph.D., MCPHU '99 a radiologist at Lake Medical Imaging in Leesburg, Fla., received the "2011 Best Practices in Patient-Centric Radiology Award" from the Radiology Business Management Association, the Association for Medical Imaging Management and *Health Imaging* magazine.

Nichole Polin, M.D., MCPHU '99 joined the staff of Lee's Summit Medical Center.

'00s

Josh Goldknopf, MMS, MCPHU '00 an orthodontist, has joined the staff of St. Johns Family Dentistry in St. Augustine, Fla.

Mohamed M. Elrefaei, Ph.D., MCPHU '01 assistant medical director of immunogenetics at the Puget Sound Blood Center in Seattle, became a certified diplomate of the American Board of Medical Laboratory Immunology.

Magdalena Cadet, M.D., '02 a rheumatologist, is a clinical instructor of medicine at Weill Cornell Medical College and an attending physician and director of rheumatology at New York Hospital Queens in Fresh Meadows, N.Y. She is also a reviewer for the journal *Arthritis Care and Research*.

Jason Estrin, M.D., '02 has joined the hospitalist staff of the Department of Internal Medicine at Doylestown Hospital.

Stefan Reynoso, M.D., '02 has established a family practice in San Jacinto, Calif. Reynoso is a diplomate of the American Academy of Family Practice.

Raymond Drabicki, M.D., '03 an orthopedic surgeon, has joined the Cranberry office of Greater Pittsburgh Orthopaedic Associates.

Danielle Durie, M.D., '03 joined Grand View Hospital in Sellersville, Pa. Durie is also an associate of Lehigh Valley Physician Group in Allentown, Pa. She specializes in maternal-fetal medicine.

Lisa Cheley Espinoza, M.D., '04; MBS, MCPHU '00 relocated her medical spa La Chelé Medical Aesthetics to New Hope, Pa.

Jeevan Sekhar, M.D., '04 an oncologist, has joined the staff of Reid Hospital & Health Care Services at its new Oncology Services Center in Richmond and Winchester, Ind.

Gabriel E. Lewullis, M.D., '05; Orthopedic Surgery Resident, HU '10 an orthopedic surgeon, joined Bayhealth Medical Center in Dover, Del.

Michelle Chudow, M.D. '06 completed her residency in pediatrics at the University of Maryland and is currently an attending physician in the Pediatric Emergency Department at Franklin Square Hospital Center. She is a member of the hospital's Child Protection Team, with a focus on physical and sexual abuse.

Sepinoud Bazil, M.D., '07 joined the Stowe Family Practice in Vermont.

Marcy Byrns, M.D., '08, Internal Medicine Resident '11 joined Essentia Health-St. Joseph's Brainerd Clinic in Brainerd, Minn.

Stephen Sam-fong Chen, M.D. '08 has joined the staff of Bright Health Physicians at Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital in Whittier, Calif. He completed his internal medicine residency at Los Angeles County USC Medical Center in June 2011 and became board certified in internal medicine in August.

Former Residents and Fellows

Gary Drizin, M.D., Internal Medicine Resident, MCP '80 a pulmonary medicine specialist, joined the board of Albert Einstein Healthcare Network in Philadelphia. Drizin is also chairman of the Department of Medicine at Montgomery Healthcare Systems and has a clinical practice in Trappe, Pa.

Richard L. Lammers, M.D., Emergency Medicine Resident, MCP '80, professor of emergency medicine, director of emergency medicine research and co-director of the simulation center at Kalamazoo Center for Medical Studies, was named the assistant dean for simulation at Western Michigan University School of Medicine in Kalamazoo.

Martin Bergman, M.D., Internal Medicine Resident, MCP '85; Rheumatology Resident, MCP '87 clinical associate professor in the Department of Medicine, was awarded the Joseph Lee Hollander, M.D. Award for Excellence and Achievement in Rheumatology from the Pennsylvania Arthritis Foundation.

Vince McLaughlin, M.D., Internal Medicine Resident, HU '87 a gastroenterologist, was voted "Best of the Best" by the Cumberland Community for his Gastroenterology Group of South Jersey in Vineland.

Mark Stacy, M.D., Neurology Resident, HU '90 received a Merit Award from the Alumni Association of Southeast Missouri State University, from which he graduated in 1981. He is a professor of neurology and associate dean of clinical research at the Duke University Medical Center in Durham, N.C.

Martin J. Wall, D.O., Psychiatry Resident, MCP '90 a board-certified family physician, joined the staff of the Holy Spirit Health System's Dillsburg Family Center at the Broad Street Family Health Center in Marysville, Pa.

Michael Moulton, M.D., Emergency Medicine Resident, MCP '94 is the 2011-12 president-elect of the North Carolina Medical Society. Moulton is a physician at New Hanover Regional Medical Center in Wilmington, N.C.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

In the tradition of Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania and Hahnemann Medical College



Abby Kurien, M.D., Internal Medicine Intern, HU '96 has been appointed medical director for behavioral health at Warren Hospital in Phillipsburg, N.J.

Darin G. Wiggins, M.D., Emergency Medicine Resident, MCP '97 is chairman of the Department of Emergency Medicine at Southampton Hospital in New York.

Shujaat Nathani, M.D., Psychiatry Resident, MCPHU '99 was appointed medical director of the J.C. Blair Memorial Hospital's Behavioral Health Services and will oversee the inpatient psychiatric unit and the Children's Partial Hospitalization Program.

Olusola Osundeko, M.D., Endocrinology Fellow, HU '01 joined the staff of Holy Spirit Endocrinology Center in Camp Hill, Pa., as medical director.

Michael Nillas, M.D., Internal Medicine Resident '03 joined the cardiology practice of Floyd Casaday, M.D., in Indiana, Pa.

Emilie Cheung, M.D., Orthopedic Surgery Resident '05 who practices at Stanford University Medical Center, was listed in *Becker's Orthopedic, Spine & Pain Management* as one of "70 Female Orthopedic and Spine Surgeon Leaders to Know."

Ean R. James, M.D., DMD, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Resident '06 joined the practice of Facial Cosmetic & Maxillofacial Surgery in Longmeadow, Mass.

Weiquan Lu, M.D., Ph.D., Internal Medicine Resident '07 joined the Pocono Medical Center Physician Associates Hematology/Oncology Department in East Stroudsburg, Pa.

Igor Sister, M.D., Internal Medicine Resident '07 a hospitalist, was named member-at-large when the medical staff at Hilton Head Hospital in South Carolina elected new leadership for 2012.

Jeffrey I. Peretz, M.D., Orthopedic Surgery Resident '10 has joined Resurgens Orthopaedics in Atlanta. He completed the Otto E. Aufranc Fellowship in Adult Reconstructive Surgery at New England Baptist Hospital in Boston.

Rima DeFatta, M.D., Laryngology Fellow, American Institute for Voice and Ear Research '11 an ear, nose, and throat specialist, joined the staff at Sacred Heart Hospital in Eau Claire and St. Joseph's Hospital in Chippewa Falls, Wis. DeFatta is on the editorial board of *Ear Nose and Throat Journal* and is a member of the otolaryngology advisory committees of the American College of Surgeons and the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery.

Mikhail Kirnus, M.D., Interventional Cardiology Fellow '11 joined the cardiology department of Altru Health System in Grand Forks, N.D.

In Memoriam

Ann Louise Steele Buck, M.D., WMC '56 November 17, 2011, in McKeesport, Pa., age 81. She started a private practice in radiology in 1968, and became the first to offer mammography in McKeesport and the 12th site in the nation to be certified in mammography by the American College of Radiology.

Thomas S. Cretella, M.D., HU '45 November 29, 2011

Stephen L. Derkash, M.D., HU '40 December 13, 2011, in Vero Beach, Fla. He retired there in 1982 after practicing 35 years as a family doctor in Greenwich, Conn., where he also had served as president of the Greenwich Medical Society. He was awarded the Bronze Star for heroic action as a Navy medic during the invasion of Normandy. He was 101.

Leonard H. Doloff, M.D., HU '52 August 22, 2011

Laura B. Eastman, M.D., WMC '48 March 10, 2011

Homer B. Fegley, M.D., HU '34 December 14, 2011

Jean L. Forest, M.D., WMC '55 November 5, 2011 at the age of 88. She practiced pathology, internal medicine and addiction medicine in the Philadelphia area until her retirement in 2002. She was a pioneer and physician mentor in the Pennsylvania Physicians' Health Program.

James P. Frick, M.D., HU '47 June 10, 2011

Doris Goodman, M.D., WMC '60 August 18, 2011

Helen Horowitz, M.D., WMC '51 September 10, 2011

Thomas H. Irving, M.D., HU '61 November 26, 2011, in Cridersville, Ohio. He spent most of his professional career at Wake Forest's Bowman Gray School of Medicine, where he served as the first chair of the Department of Anesthesiology.

Bruno V. Manno, Sr., M.D., HU '45 October 14, 2011

Stephen A. Matarazzo, M.D., HU '71 November 23, 2011

Louis C. Murray, M.D., HU '53 October 29, 2011

Kathleen T. O'Shea, M.D., HU '64 December 3, 2011, of Boston, formerly of Peabody, Mass., at the age of 74. She was one of the first female dermatologists appointed at Massachusetts General Hospital and practiced there for more than 20 years.

Morton W. Perkoff, M.D., HU '55 October 21, 2011

Alfred R. Richlan, M.D., HU '41 April 22, 2011

Morton W. Richman, M.D., HU '62 May 19, 2011

Charles E. Rigby, Jr., M.D., HU '43 March 24, 2011

Carmelo G. Russo, M.D., HU '58 November 17, 2011

Louise E. Schnauffer, M.D., WMC '51 October 14, 2011

Shiego Shinkawa, M.D., HU '42 May 11, 2011

G. Kent Smith, M.D., HU '43 October 11, 2011

R. Jack Zeluff, M.D., HU '46 December 31, 2011

Update your alumni record by sending your email address to medical.alumni@drexel.edu.

Dr. Loll to Serve on NIH Study Section



Dr. Loll

Patrick Loll, Ph.D., professor, Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, has been chosen by the National Institutes of Health to become a member of the Center for Scientific Review's Macromolecular Structure and Function B Study Section. He will serve for a six-year term, from

July 1, 2012, to June 30, 2018. Study sections review grant applications submitted to the NIH, make recommendations on these applications to the appropriate NIH advisory council or board, and survey the status of research in their fields. Members are selected on the basis of demonstrated competence and achievement in their scientific discipline, as evidenced by the quality of research accomplishments, publications in scientific journals, as well as other significant achievements and honors. Membership on a study section represents a major commitment of professional time and energy, and is a unique opportunity to contribute to the national biomedical research effort.



Dr. Barrett

James E. Barrett, Ph.D., professor and chair, Department of Pharmacology & Physiology, will receive the 2012 P.B. Dews Lifetime Achievement Award in Behavioral Pharmacology for his numerous contributions to the field, including his research on the behavioral determinants of drug action.

Barrett will be presented with the award on April 21 at a reception given by the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics/Experimental Biology. He will deliver the 2012 P.B. Dews Lifetime Achievement Award Lecture, "Drugs of Abuse: Behavioral Determinants in Pharmacological Plasticity."



Dr. Cohen

D. Walter Cohen, DDS, chancellor emeritus, Drexel University College of Medicine, and a member of the board of trustees, was honored with the "Excellence in Leadership Award" by the Friends of the National Institute for Dental & Craniofacial Research at the National Institutes of Health, which was presented December 6, 2011, during the Friends' annual conference.

In addition, the American Academy of Periodontology has established the D. Walter Cohen Teaching Award for periodontal postgraduate students entering careers in education.



Dr. Cooperberg

David Cooperberg, M.D., assistant professor of pediatrics, and a hospitalist at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, received the gold prize in Patient Safety Awards in the 2011 Healthcare Innovation Awards sponsored by the *Philadelphia Business Journal* and United Healthcare. He developed a new "Patient Safety Conference" with multidisciplinary participation and the assessment of systems instead of individual care providers.

Todd J. Cooperman, M.D., assistant clinical professor, Department of Medicine, and medical director of HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital of Tinton Falls (New Jersey), was named the 2011 Medical Director of the Year at HealthSouth's annual Medical Director's Conference.



Dr. Delivoria-Papadopoulos

Maria Delivoria-Papadopoulos, M.D., professor, Department of Pediatrics, received an Outstanding Woman in Pediatric Medicine Award from the Women in Pediatric Academic Medicine Committee at University of Oklahoma College of Medicine. Delivoria-Papadopoulos was honored for serving as an outstanding mentor to Anne Wlodaver, an associate professor of pediatrics at University of Oklahoma College of Medicine.



Dr. Eskin

Bernard Eskin, M.D., professor, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, represented the Philadelphia County Medical Society as a member of the Public Health Reference Committee at the Pennsylvania Medical Society's annual meeting in October.



Dr. Foster

Jill Foster, M.D., associate professor, Department of Pediatrics, and director of the Dorothy Mann Center for Pediatric and Adolescent HIV at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, was awarded two grants from the Philadelphia Department of Health and one from Gilead Focus. Two of the grants will be used to increase routine HIV testing in pediatric primary care sites and the emergency department at St. Christopher's. One of the grants will support an intervention called "SWEAT" (Sexuality with Education and Truth) for male HIV-positive youth.



Dr. Greenberg

Michael Greenberg, M.D., MPH, professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, and chief of the Division of Medical Toxicology, has been named to a CDC/U.S. Army committee to review the chemical agent safety systems and processes at nine U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency destruction facilities.

Linda Katz, associate director of the Health Sciences Libraries, is the editor of *MLA News* – a publication of the Medical Library Association.



Thomas Lynch

Thomas Lynch, Ph.D. candidate in the Molecular & Cell Biology & Genetics Program, received a Keystone Symposia Future of Science Fund scholarship to travel to Alberta, Canada, to present his research at the upcoming 2012 Keystone Symposia on Cancer and Metabolism.

George Magovern, M.D., professor, Department of Surgery, and director of the Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery Program at Allegheny General Hospital, was appointed as a director of the American Board of Thoracic Surgery.



Dr. Sataloff

Robert T. Sataloff, M.D., DMA, professor and chair, Department of Otolaryngology–Head and Neck Surgery, was named an honorary member of the Royal Belgium Society for ENT, Head and Neck Surgery.



Dr. Shore

Paul Shore, M.D., assistant professor, Department of Pediatrics, won the gold prize for Medical Education Innovator in the 2011 Healthcare Innovation Awards sponsored by the *Philadelphia Business Journal* and United Healthcare. Shore led the development of a multidisciplinary quality improvement initiative involving residents

in the Section of Critical Care Medicine at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children.



Dr. Templeton

Bryce Templeton, M.D., M.Ed., emeritus professor in the Department of Psychiatry, has been awarded the American Psychiatric Association's top national award for excellence, leadership and creativity in education, the APA/NIMH Vestermark Psychiatry Educator Award. He will deliver an original address and receive the award on May 8, during the APA's 2012 annual meeting in Philadelphia.



Dr. Tunkel

Allan Tunkel, M.D., Ph.D., professor, Department of Medicine, was honored with an APPLE award by the Trenton-based Institute for Nursing, the charitable affiliate of the New Jersey State Nurses Association. Tunkel is chairman of the Department of Medicine at Monmouth Medical Center. The award, presented on

December 8, 2011, recognizes physicians who are supportive of nurses and patient advocacy.



Dr. Yeakel

Lynn H. Yeakel, MSM, director of the Institute for Women's Health and Leadership, and Betty A. Cohen Chair of Women's Health, received a Pinnacle Lifetime Achievement Award from the Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Red Cross at the 2011 Red Cross Spectrum Awards. The breakfast event recognized and celebrated

the achievements of exceptional corporate and community female leaders who embody the values of the Red Cross.

Drexel Plasma Team Receives \$1 Million Grant

Drexel University has received a \$1 million grant from the W.M. Keck Foundation, which is focused primarily on pioneering efforts in the areas of medical science and engineering research. The goal of the grant, which is entitled, "Transformation of Biomolecules by Nonequilibrium Plasma," is to further characterize the chemical and biophysical properties of plasma, which is an ionized gas, and the interactions between plasma and nucleic acids, proteins, and cells in order to gain a better understanding of plasma characteristics and its effects on biochemical processes.



Photo: Greg Fridman, A.J. Drexel Plasma Institute

Cold plasma sterilizer generates plasma directly on the tissue to be sterilized.

Until recently, plasma was used in medicine only to ablate or cauterize tissues through intense heat. Over the past decade, it has become clear that plasma can affect living systems in more subtle ways by influencing biochemical processes outside and inside cells. Plasma treatment may provide new ways to treat wounds, burns, and diseases such as ulcers and cancer. An interdisciplinary plasma team of faculty from the College of Medicine and Drexel's College of Engineering has been working together for about five years investigating the mechanisms of action and potential applications of non-thermal plasma and will lead the grant-funded research.

The principal investigators in the College of Medicine are **Drs. Jane Azizkhan-Clifford**, professor and chair, and **Alexander Mazin**, associate professor, both in the Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, and **Ari Brooks**, associate professor in the Department of Surgery. The team is led by Dr. Alexander Fridman, director of the A.J. Drexel Plasma Institute and professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, and Dr. Gary Friedman, professor in the Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering and director of the Plasma Medicine Laboratory in the A.J. Drexel Plasma Institute.

Christopher Haas, a candidate for the M.D./Ph.D. in the Neuroscience Graduate Program, published a single-author review, “Strategies, Development, and Pitfalls of Therapeutic Options for Alzheimer’s Disease,” in volume 28, number 2 of the *Journal of Alzheimer’s Disease*. He submitted the article as a first-year Ph.D. student with the encouragement of his course adviser, Janet Clark, Ph.D., associate professor, Department of Pharmacology & Physiology. Haas is now working on his thesis project, which focuses on the therapeutic properties of neural stem cells in spinal cord injury, in the laboratory of Itzhak Fischer, Ph.D., professor and chair, Department of Neurobiology & Anatomy.

Drs. Joanna Bajgier and **James Bender**, residents, and **Rose Ries**, clinical assistant professor, all in the Department of Psychiatry, co-authored “Use of Templates for Clinical Documentation in Psychiatric Evaluations – Beneficial or Counterproductive for Residents in Training?” published in the January 2012 issue of the *International Journal of Psychiatry in Medicine*.

Martin J. Bergman, M.D., clinical associate professor of medicine, was a faculty member in an interactive continuing education activity, “Optimizing Clinical Outcomes in Rheumatoid Arthritis: Strategies for Improving Adherence,” which was webcast live on November 16, 2011, by CME Outfitters and available on demand.



Gregory Botta



Dr. Reginato

Gregory Botta, M.D./Ph.D. candidate, Molecular & Cell Biology & Genetics Graduate Program; **Mauricio Reginato, Ph.D.**, assistant professor, Department of Biochemistry & Molecular

Biology; and Peter Lelkes, Distinguished Calhoun Scholar and Visiting Research Professor, School of Biomedical Engineering, Science & Health Systems, are among the authors of “Constitutive K-Ras^{G120} Activation of ERK2 Specifically Regulates 3D Invasion of Human Pancreatic Cancer Cells via MMP-1” in *Molecular Cancer Research* (first published online December 8).



Dr. de Chadarévian

Jean-Pierre de Chadarévian, M.D., professor of pathology and pediatrics at the College and medical director of the Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine at St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children, published “Renal Giant Cytoplasmic Inclusions in Chédiak-Higashi Syndrome: First Ultrastructural

Demonstration in a Human Biopsy” in the August 2011 edition of *Ultrastructural Pathology*.



Dr. Faerber



Dr. Piatt

Additionally, de Chadarévian and professors **Drs. Agustin Legido** (Pediatrics; Neurology), **Eric Faerber** (Pediatrics), **Joseph Piatt** (Pediatrics), and **Christos D. Katsetos** (Pathology



Dr. Morrisette

& Laboratory Medicine; Pediatrics; Neurology); with assistant professors **Drs. Ara Jahan** (Pediatrics) and **Mitzie Grant** (Psychiatry); associate professor **Gregory Halligan, M.D.** (Pediatrics); and **Jennifer Morrisette, Ph.D.**, assistant professor (Pathology & Laboratory Medicine), are authors of “Cerebellar Gliomatosis in a Toddler: Case Report of a Challenging Condition and Review of the Literature,” published in the September 2011 edition of the *Journal of Child Neurology*.



Dr. Pascasio

Drs. de Chadarévian, Halligan, and **Judy Pascasio**, clinical associate professor, Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine, authored “Chemotherapy-Related Leiomyopathy: A Suggested Morphological Explanation for the Intestinal Dysmotility Affecting Patients Treated with Anthracyclines,” with a colleague at Penn State Hershey

Medical Center. The article was published in the October 2011 edition of *Modern Pathology*.

Drs. de Chadarévian; Pascasio; and **Lindsay Arthur III**, assistant professor of surgery, Department of Pediatrics, published “Appendiceal Goblet Cell Metaplasia and Benign Mucus Retention in Children: Report of 8 Cases and Review of the Literature” in *Pediatric and Developmental Pathology* with a colleague at Saint Louis University School of Medicine. The report was published online November 9.



Dr. Liu

Drs. de Chadarévian, Pascasio, Halligan, and **Jinglan Liu**, assistant professor (Pathology & Laboratory Medicine); **Jun Hou**, professor (Pathology & Laboratory Medicine); **Matthew Keisling**, resident (Pathology & Laboratory Medicine) with colleagues in the Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine at St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children,

Drs. Donna Pezanowski, Patel Dilipkumar, John Hauptman, and Hope Punnett, published “FOXO1-FGFR1 Fusion and Amplification in a Solid Variant of Alveolar Rhabdomyosarcoma” in the October edition of *Modern Pathology*.



Dr. Entwistle

Drs. John W. C. Entwistle, associate professor, Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery, and **Ralph J. Petrucci**, clinical professor, Departments of Psychiatry and Medicine, are among the authors of “The Ethics of Mechanical Support: The Need for New Guidelines” in the December issue of *Annals of Thoracic Surgery*.

Michael J. Goldenthal, Ph.D., research associate professor, Department of Pediatrics, was an invited speaker on the panel “Mitochondrial Disease Testing Update” at the Mitochondrial Medicine 2011 symposia, held June 15-18, 2011 in Schaumburg, Ill. Goldenthal and colleagues also presented “Non-invasive Evaluation of Mitochondrial Dysfunction in Children by Buccal Swab” at the meeting.

Goldenthal was also the lead author of an abstract titled “Non-invasive Analysis Reveals Mitochondrial Dysfunction as a Useful Biomarker in Autistic Spectrum Disorders” presented at the Child Neurology Society annual meeting, held October 26-29, 2011, in Savannah. His co-authors included **Agustin Legido, M.D., Ph.D.**, professor of pediatrics and neurology, as well as research assistants **Nidhi Shah, M.D.**, and **Sudip Sheth, M.D.**



Dr. Marks



Dr. Khurana

In addition, Goldenthal published “Non-invasive Evaluation of Buccal Respiratory Chain Enzyme Dysfunction in Mitochondria Disease: Comparison with Studies in Muscle Biopsy” in

Molecular Genetics and Metabolism with Drs. Legido, **Harold Marks**, clinical professor; **Divya Khurana**, associate professor; and **Ignacio Valencia**, assistant professor; all in the Department of Pediatrics. The article was published online November 30.



Dr. Valencia



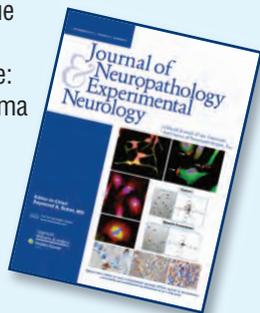
Dr. Katsetos



Dr. Baas

Christos D. Katsetos, M.D., Ph.D., professor, Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine, and research professor, Departments of Pediatrics and Neurology, together with **Pei S. Liu, MMS**,

second-year medical student; and professors **Drs. Jean-Pierre de Chadarévian** (Pediatrics; Pathology & Laboratory Medicine), **Agustin Legido** (Pediatrics; Neurology), and **Peter W. Baas** (Neurobiology & Anatomy), and collaborators at the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic in Prague are authors of “Microtubule Severing ATPase Spastin in Glioblastoma Multiforme: Increased Expression in Human Glioblastoma Cell Lines and Roles in Cell Motility and Proliferation” published in the September 2011 issue of *Journal of Neuropathology and Experimental Neurology*. The article was featured on the cover and in the highlights section of the journal.



In addition, Katsetos and colleagues at the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic and Children’s Cancer Institute Australia published a concept article titled “Targeting Beta III-Tubulin in

Glioblastoma Multiforme: From Cell Biology and Histopathology to Cancer Therapeutics” in the October 2011 issue of the journal *Anticancer Agents in Medicinal Chemistry*.

Katsetos and colleagues at the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic also published an original research article titled “Nuclear Gamma-Tubulin Associates with Nucleoli and Interacts with Tumor Suppressor Protein C53” in the January 2012 issue of the *Journal of Cellular Physiology*.



Dr. Legido

Agustin Legido, M.D., Ph.D., chief, Section of Neurology, St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children; and professor of pediatrics and neurology, organized and presided over the fourth international meeting of the (Spanish) West Syndrome Foundation, held November 24-25, 2011, in Madrid. Legido presented “Current Treatments of Autism with Proved Efficacy” and “Future Treatments of Autism, Including Improvement of Mitochondria Dysfunction, Gene Therapy and Stem Cell Transplantation” at the meeting.



Dr. Nyirjesy

Paul Nyirjesy, M.D., professor, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, was a speaker at two CDC-sponsored symposia. On November 3, Nyirjesy spoke at the Contraceptive Technology: Quest for Excellence Conference in Atlanta about treatment guidelines for managing vaginal infections. He also presented “Clinical

Challenges of Trichomoniasis in the United States” at the annual meeting of the American Society for Tropical Medicine and Hygiene in Philadelphia on December 7.



Dr. Petrucci

Ralph J. Petrucci, Ed.D., clinical professor, Departments of Psychiatry and Medicine, and colleagues in a national multisite study published “Neurocognitive Function in Destination Therapy Patients Receiving Continuous-Flow vs. Pulsatile-Flow Left Ventricular Assist Device Support” in the January 2012 issue of the *Journal of Heart and Lung Transplantation*.



Dr. Schlecht

Hans P. Schlecht, M.D., MMSc, assistant professor of medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases and HIV Medicine, is the author of an editorial, “Oral Human Papillomavirus Infection: Hazard of Intimacy,” in *JAMA* (published first online January 26, 2012).

■ continued on page 15

Progesterone for Treatment of Traumatic Brain Injury...continued

To be included, the patient has to be unconscious, with suspicion for serious head trauma (between 4 and 12 on the Glasgow Coma Scale) but survivable injuries. The brain injury must be “closed” (caused by movement of the brain within the skull, not by a bullet or other penetrating object). And some who would otherwise qualify are too late – the protocol requires treatment to begin within four hours of brain injury, a window of time when it may be possible to prevent or interrupt the cascade of secondary damage. Because the potential subjects are unconscious, the study is being conducted under special rules known as Exception from Informed Consent (see sidebar).

When a person comes into the ED with head trauma, he or she receives the standard care (it is usually he – nationally, 59 percent of TBI patients are male). Then, if the patient is enrolled in the study, the progesterone or placebo is administered by IV. The treatment is given continuously for 72 hours, and then tapered off for 24 hours. It is a double-blind study; the study team does not know if the patient is getting progesterone or the placebo.

Following treatment, Nocera checks in with the patient by phone each month, using a standardized case report form. Six months out, the patient returns for

an extensive assessment by a neuropsychiatric tester, who is not otherwise part of the study and has not met the subject before. The testing sessions are videotaped to ensure cross-site comparability. That’s the end of the data-gathering. Eventually, patients may be able to find out whether or not they received the progesterone, but not until the study has been completed.

Nationally, the ProTECT III trial will enroll a total of 1,140 patients. As of January 26, the enrollment was 408 across all sites. Five subjects have been enrolled by the Drexel researchers (100 to 120 have been screened). Two have already completed the six-month assessment. One patient died shortly after enrollment, but his injuries were worse than they had initially seemed. “Multiple specific injuries are lumped into TBI,” Saks explained. “Ideally, we start the process before we even know what type of injury the patient has, so it’s hard to know who is going to do well,” he said.

The results of an ancillary study may help change that. A separate NIH-funded project will investigate biomarkers in the blood of the ProTECT III subjects. Blood samples taken at intervals from each enrolled patient will be used in this second study, which aims to validate several biomarkers that look promising for assessing the severity and prognosis of TBI, and monitoring treatment.

Exception from Informed Consent

The ProTECT III trial is being conducted under “exception from informed consent requirements for emergency research.” The FDA developed this set of rules to allow the responsible Institutional Review Board to approve an investigation without requiring informed consent, provided the IRB finds and documents certain conditions. Among them, the human subjects must be in a life-threatening emergency; available treatments are unproven or unsatisfactory; obtaining informed consent is not feasible; and participation in the research “holds out the prospect of direct benefit to the subjects.” The investigator must attempt to obtain consent within the specified therapeutic window (in this case, by finding the family or other legal representative, since the patient is unconscious).

As additional protections for potential subjects, the investigators must notify and consult with the community, disclosing plans for the research, including risks and expected benefits. ProTECT III investigators posted notices in public places and created public service announcements about the study. An online survey provides a locus for community feedback. People who know they would not want to be part of the study can place their names on a national opt-out registry. Investigators search that database before enrolling a subject. Those who would opt out can also wear a silicone bracelet with the words ProTECT III – DECLINED, available by mail.

Don't Get Stuck: Reducing Needlesticks Through Innovative Education

An award from the Independence Blue Cross Medical Simulation Center grant program is enabling us to test our hypothesis that the rate of needlesticks due to central venous catheter placement will decline among all residents exposed to either a simulation-based educational intervention or traditional education, but there will be a small yet observable difference between cohorts, with a lower incidence of needlestick among residents participating in simulation. We hypothesized only a small difference in effect size, as learning to use the CVC placement safety equipment is very simple, and residents may be able to understand and implement safe placement merely from attending the presentation. As residents learn how to use these needleless devices, we expect the incidence of their CVC needlestick injuries to decline.

– Sharon Griswold-Theodorson, M.D., PI, Associate Professor, Emergency Medicine

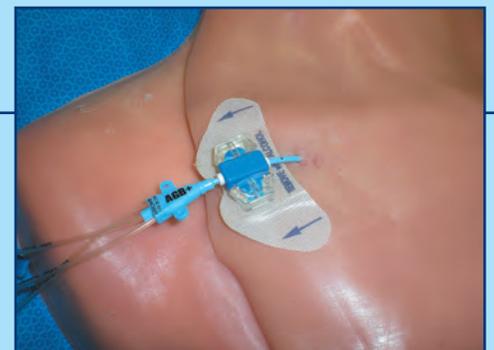


Figure shows placement of CVC in CentralLineMan task trainer. The needleless device replaces the need for suturing.

Presentations & Publications...continued



Dr. Shore

Paul Shore, M.D., assistant professor, Department of Pediatrics, and colleagues are authors of "Quality Improvement Curricula in Pediatric Residency Education: Obstacles and Opportunities" published in *Academic Pediatrics*, Volume 11, Number 6 (November-December 2011). He is a member of the Section of Critical Care Medicine at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children.



Dr. Simmons

Drs. Brent Simmons, assistant professor, Department of Family, Community, & Preventive Medicine, and **Brett Hartmann**, third-year resident, Family Medicine Residency Program, published "Evaluation of Suspected Dementia" in the October 15 edition of *American Family Physician*.



Dr. Taylor

Daniel Taylor, D.O., assistant professor, Department of Pediatrics, is the author of "Teens Are Seldom Honest About Serious Sexual-Health Matters," published in the *Philadelphia Inquirer* on January 6. The article is the fifth he has written as a guest editor on issues that affect the children he

treats and their families. Taylor is the founder of Cap4Kids — a web-based children's advocacy project that has been adopted for use in 15 cities or regions since its start in Philadelphia.

Drs. William R. Yorns, fellow; **Ignacio Valencia**, assistant professor; **Sudip Sheth**, research assistant; **Agustin Legido**, professor; and **Michael J. Goldenthal**, research associate professor, all in the Department of Pediatrics, co-authored the study "Buccal Swab Analysis of Mitochondrial Enzyme Deficiency and DNA Defects in a Child with Suspected Myoclonic Epilepsy and Ragged Red Fibers (MERRF)" in the *Journal of Child Neurology* (published online November 22, 2011).

Arvind Venkat, M.D., assistant professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, is the author of a new book, *Challenging and Emerging Conditions in Emergency Medicine* (John Wiley and Sons 2011). Venkat is on staff at Allegheny General Hospital.

Submissions for Presentations & Publications may now be emailed directly to NewsPager@drexelmed.edu. Please be sure to include all the relevant information, including full name, title, and department for any College of Medicine or University colleagues involved. Thank you.

Compliance Corner: Protecting Patient Privacy and Providing Information Security



Edward G. Longazel
Chief Compliance &
Privacy Officer

The Health Information Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) provided regulatory guidance for privacy in 2003 and security in 2005. The passage of the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act in 2009 strengthened reporting requirements and penalties. Opportunities to address privacy and security occur daily for each of us involved in the clinical, research, and educational missions at which we strive to excel.

Privacy refers to the federal rights granted to an individual to have his or her protected health information respected and guarded by an entity entrusted with the information. *Security* refers to the responsibilities that custodians of the entrusted information are required to meet in the process of gathering, maintaining, storing, transferring and utilizing the data entrusted to them.

Each of us can use the following quick checklist to perform a valuable personal review of our work area and work flow, and endeavor to improve where it is required.

- Physical security: Is the work area physically secured after work hours and when the area is not under employee supervision?
- Electronic security: Are encrypted thumb drives purchased and used where mobile storage is required? Are laptops encrypted? Encryption that meets the HIPAA standard may actually negate fines and penalties in the case of loss and theft of protected health information!
- Minimum use: Are work processes honed to use the minimum information required to accomplish the task at hand? Are Social Security and account numbers removed when not needed in the analysis being performed?
- Screen orientation: Are monitors and screens oriented to protect content from wandering eyes?
- Document storage: Are paper documents stored securely in locked containers and in locked rooms dedicated to storage? Are documents stored securely at the end of the day?

We never guess ...we ask! Call any time to ask a compliance or privacy question, or to request training: 215-355-7819. Confidential compliance hotline: 866-936-1010 or visit www.drexelmed.edu/ComplianceHotline.

Suite 11484, 1601 Cherry Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102

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Bulletins:

Medical Student Research Day, March 22

Save the date for the College of Medicine's first (annual) Medical Student Research Day on March 22. The event, to be held at the Queen Lane Campus from 1 to 5 p.m., will include an invited keynote speaker and medical student poster presentations, followed by an awards ceremony and reception for the presenters. For information, please contact Stephanie Hasson at **215-991-8146** or shasson@drexelmed.edu.

NIH Seeks Input on New Institute

The National Institutes of Health is seeking input from the scientific community on the new National Institute of Substance Use and Addiction Disorders (working title), scheduled to open in 2014. The proposed institute is the result of a November 2010 recommendation from the Scientific Management Review Board that the NIH should reorganize all substance use, abuse, and addiction-related research at the Institutes. Both the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism will be dissolved and their research programs folded into the new institute. <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-12-045.html>

Calendar:

- March** *National Nutrition Month*
- Mar 16 **Match Day**
Queen Lane Campus
Information: Shay Myers, shay.myers@drexelmed.edu
- Mar 22 **Medical Student Research Day**
Queen Lane Campus, 1-5 p.m.
Information: Stephanie Hasson, 215-991-8146 or shasson@drexelmed.edu
- April** *National IBS Awareness Month*
- Apr 4 **Golden Apple Awards Ceremony**
Queen Lane Campus, 5:30 p.m.
Information: Shay Myers, shay.myers@drexelmed.edu
- Apr 23 **Woman One Award Celebration**
Rittenhouse Hotel, 5:30 p.m.
Reservations required: www.drexelmed.edu/womanone
- May** *National Hepatitis Awareness Month*
- May 4-5 **Alumni Weekend**
www.drexelmed.edu/alumni
- May 15 **Senior Class Formal**
- May 16-18 **50 Year Reunion**
www.drexelmed.edu/alumni
- May 18 **Commencement**
Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts, 9 a.m.
Information: Shay Myers, shay.myers@drexelmed.edu
- June** *National Cataract Awareness Month*
- Jun 15-16 Drexel University graduation ceremonies
- July**
- Jul 16 **Manuel Stamatakis Golf Classic**
Philadelphia Cricket Club
Contact: Kelly Carlucci, 215-255-7327