**Patients Teach Students**

First-year medical student, Paul Bottone, and his senior partner, Harriet Duker, are both involved in the Alzheimer's Buddy Program at Northwestern. Look inside for more information about this fulfilling program. 14
Due to the destruction of their homes by the earthquake on January 12, hundreds of thousands of Haitians now live in tent cities, a multitude of multicolor real and makeshift structures. These tent cities can be seen in any open space in Port-au-Prince.

Correction:
The following caption appeared within the “Going Global” feature story in our summer 2009 issue. In the update below, we provide a more complete description of the laboratories where virology studies are being conducted.

Caption: Research is an important component of the new Center for Global Health led by Dr. Robert Murphy. He stands outside of the John R. Flanagan Biosafety Level-3 Laboratory, the largest high-containment virology laboratory of its kind in Chicago. This facility is housed within the Drucker Family Foundation Laboratory for Virology Research in the Robert H. Lurie Medical Research Center of Northwestern University.
October 2009
Orientation and the Art of Medicine

During orientation I gazed out at our new class of students, almost uniformly clad in shorts and flip-flops. I must admit wondering how they would evolve from this undergraduate casual style to professionals at the bedside of an elderly woman facing the greatest challenge of her life. I related this concern at home that night. My daughter, wise beyond her years, said “Dad, you’re just jealous. What difference does it make if they wear flip-flops if they are in the classroom all day.” Of course, she was right on both counts. I was a bit jealous and professionalism is much more than appearances. I have fond memories of my medical school days. And, no, I did not wear a coat and tie to class in those days!

November 2009
From Flexner to Flexible: Our New Education Curriculum

This past spring I welcomed the class of 1999 back to Northwestern for their 25th year reunion. They were an inspiring and surprisingly vigorous group, with more than a third of the class returning for the event. They regaled us with tales of revelry and nostalgic school memories, most of them involving the loyal Davis, an outspoken and colorful chair of Surgery (and stepfather of a future first lady Nancy Reagan). What also captured my attention was that many in this group are still in clinical practice or only recently retired. Obviously, medicine has changed enormously since 1959, the year before I entered medical school.

December 2009
Primary care — an underappreciated “specialty”

Debating which medical specialty is the most challenging is a bit like arguing which basketball team was the best ever — the 1996 Bulls, 1986 Celtics, or the 1987 Lakers. We will never know as time warps make the comparisons inherently different. I wish to share excerpts from the Dean’s Commentaries that are periodically e-mailed to medical school faculty and staff.

January 2009
Diversity: Essential for our Success

I started high school on the day the all-black school in our town was integrated into the main city high school. Emotions were high. The black students worried that their school traditions would be lost — this turned out to be a valid fear. The teachers struggled to sort out who would teach which classes. With rumors of riots, the National Guard patrolled the halls, armed in riot gear. The tension gradually abated as we went about the business of being teenagers — consumed by sports, romance, and occasionally, learning. We lived through a social experiment, and the result was mostly successful. Three years later, black and white students walked down the halls together and were happy teammates and lunch companions; however, we still lived in separate neighborhoods, attended different houses of worship, and led largely separate lives after school. Nonetheless, this high school experience prepared all of us for the diverse culture in which we would soon live and work.

Northwestern Provides Relief Efforts to Haiti Earthquake Survivors

Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine and Northwestern Memorial Hospital mobilized in a number of different ways to help in the aftermath of the magnitude 7.0 earthquake that hit Haiti on January 12. The medical school and hospital sent physicians and health care workers to provide medical relief to the victims. In addition, medical students brainstormed fundraising activities, making contributions to two relief organizations. Four Chicago medical institutions: Northwestern University, University of Chicago Medical Center, University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine, and Rush University College of Medicine forged an informal network called the Chicago Medical Response Consortium, collaborating to send health care workers and medical supplies to Haiti.

The first group from Northwestern and the University of Chicago left Monday, January 25, to provide medical services and assess the situation. Northwestern Memorial Hospital donated $25,000 of medical supplies and equipment. The University of Chicago provided two private planes and a survival backpack with personal supplies for each team member. Additional Northwestern health care professionals left for Haiti on Jan. 29 and Feb. 3. New teams of six to eight physicians, nurses, and technicians leave each week and will continue to do so through April.

Martin Lucenti, MD, assistant professor of emergency medicine at Feinberg and a physician at Northwestern Memorial, and Joseph Westeroff, MD, assistant professor of orthopedic surgery at Feinberg and spine surgeon at Northwestern Memorial, have both made the trip to Haiti as part of the response teams. Dr. Westeroff has extensive experience in disaster settings.

Northwestern’s relief effort is being led by Robert Murphy, MD, director of the Northwestern Center for Global Health. In addition, the center has also assumed the role of lead institution for the consortium efforts, coordinating day-to-day operations and medical supplies, cataloging and organizing volunteer travel, and providing IMC information updates. So far, 25 Northwestern clinicians have volunteered their time and personal finances to be a part of the team. The group includes orthopedic surgeons, anesthesiologists, internal medicine and emergency medicine physicians and nurses.

The medical response team partnered with International Medical Corps (IMC) to coordinate the physicians’ schedules and logistics while on the ground in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. IMC is currently operating an urgent-care health facility there.

In the early weeks, with only a few hospitals standing, most medical care in Haiti was provided in tents. By the end of February, eight medical teams had made the trip to Port-au-Prince or Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

To read more of the Dean’s Commentaries, visit WardRoundsOnline.com.

Northwestern’s relief effort is being led by Robert Murphy, MD, director of the Northwestern Center for Global Health. In addition, the center has also assumed the role of lead institution for the consortium efforts, coordinating day-to-day operations and medical supplies, cataloging and organizing volunteer travel, and providing IMC information updates. So far, 25 Northwestern clinicians have volunteered their time and personal finances to be a part of the team. The group includes orthopedic surgeons, anesthesiologists, internal medicine and emergency medicine physicians and nurses.

The medical response team partnered with International Medical Corps (IMC) to coordinate the physicians’ schedules and logistics while on the ground in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. IMC is currently operating an urgent-care health facility there.

In the early weeks, with only a few hospitals standing, most medical care in Haiti was provided in tents. By the end of February, eight medical teams had made the trip to Port-au-Prince or Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

To read more of the Haiti efforts or to make a donation, visit WardRoundsOnline.com.
Match Day 2010 Reveals Residency Training Placements for Graduating Feinberg Medical Students

The countdown is finally over for 157 soon-to-be Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine graduates who gathered, along with their family, friends, and faculty mentors, at Gino’s East of Chicago on March 18 to discover where they will complete their residency training. While these fourth-year medical students will earn their Doctor of Medicine degree in May, Match Day marked the beginning of the next phase of their lives.

For many Class of 2010 students, like Neel Naik from Carol Stream, Ill., who got his desired match in emergency medicine at New York University (NYU) School of Medicine, this event celebrated hopes and dreams that had finally, after a great deal of hard work, become a reality. Naik entered Feinberg through the Honors Program in Medical Education and has since been an outstanding contributor to the medical school community. He said that although he will miss having his family nearby, he cannot wait to get to New York City to enjoy everything the city has to offer.

“Toward the countdown,” Naik repeatedly shouted, adding that he looks forward to not only exploring the city’s unique restaurants, but also learning from the attending physicians he met during a brief rotation at NYU. Naik’s father Kirit was also present at the event to support his son and find out where he and his wife will be vacating over the next four years.

As Naik heads east, his classmate Tamika Smith from Miami, Fla., will move her family to the West Coast. Smith celebrated her residency match at University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) along with her husband Eric and daughter Bailey, who was born at Prentice Women’s Hospital during Smith’s medical school education. The elated couple, who met when Eric was Tamika’s teaching assistant at Feinberg, says the UCSF’s highly ranked medicine residency program and its location (near the ocean and Golden Gate Park) couldn’t be a better fit for their young family.

“We were leaving it up to fate,” Eric said. “But, I wasn’t worried, Tamika is so smart.”

Amanda Redig has spent the past seven years stationed in Chicago as a student in Feinberg’s Medical Scientist Training Program. Redig, who entered with the Class of 2007, is not only thrilled to be completing the program but is also eager to call Boston, Mass., home for the next four years. Redig was matched with her first-choice internal medicine residency at Brigham & Women’s Hospital.

“The depth of scholarship at Brigham & Women’s is astounding,” said Redig, who will be on a short-track toward specializing in hematology-oncology. “I am delighted to be a part of their program.”

While Neeta Lal, from California, and Nikolas Kazmers, from Michigan, also matched to their first choice at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis, their reactions were less joyous than their peers’ and instead displayed utter relief. That’s because Lal and Kazmers, who met and began dating while first-year students at Feinberg, feared they would be split up, even though they had linked their rank lists by participating in a couples match.

“We both had positive feedback from Barnes-Jewish, but you can never tell,” said Lal, who was matched in the neurology residency program, while her boyfriend will enter the school’s orthopedic surgery residency. “We knew we’d be thrilled to match anywhere together.”

John X. Thomas, Jr., PhD, senior associate dean for medical education in the Augusta Webster, MD, Office of Medical Education (AWOME), is proud of the of the rapport Feinberg has with residency program coordinators across the country; and as a faculty member, was thrilled to see many of the students he has taught be selected into the nation’s top residency programs.

“My colleagues and I spend a great deal of time mentoring these students throughout their undergraduate medical education, linking their rank lists by participating in a couples match. It’s amazing that these students were so interested in this program and the exciting things happening here at Northwestern.”

Now that the entire class has been placed in a residency program, Thomas and Sanguino say the countdown begins to graduation, another important day in the journey for these students to become practicing doctors.

Left: Tamika Smith, with husband Eric and daughter Bailey, matched in medicine at University of California, San Francisco.

Middle: Neel Naik celebrates his match in emergency medicine at New York University School of Medicine with his father.

Right: Anna Lakoma (left) and Sheila Goyal pose before opening their residency match letters.

To view more photos from this year’s Match Day event, visit WardRoundsOnline.com.
IBNAM Fosters Exchange Program with University of Gothenburg, Sweden

Scientists from the University of Gothenburg in Sweden recently delivered public talks at Northwestern University to introduce an important new exchange program to the University’s research community.

The two institutions signed an education and research exchange agreement in Sweden in December 2009 to foster collaborative relationships in biomedicine and translational research. Northwestern’s Institute for BioNanotechnology in Medicine (IBNAM) and Gothenburg’s medical school, known as the Sahlgrenska Academy, are the primary institutions in the exchange program. IBNAM’s research strengths are well matched to Sahlgrenska’s research interests in regenerative medicine, particularly the neural and orthopedic areas. The program, open to medical students, graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and faculty of both universities, will include exchanges of scientific materials and information and cooperation in organizing joint research activities and conferences. The student-exchange portion of the program will provide graduate students with research opportunities in the laboratories of Northwestern and the University of Gothenburg.

Two collaborative projects involving faculty and students soon will be under way: one will focus on a novel biomaterial for healing fractures in a model for osteoporosis. The other will test a stem cell approach to induce brain repair, and the other will test the ability of one’s ability to pay.

"The Sahlgrenska Academy has an innovative Center for Brain Repair and Rehabilitation, and Sahlgrenska researchers have been pioneers in osteointegration of bone implants," said Samuel I. Stupp, director of IBNAM. "They have received major grants to pursue research on biomaterials, nanotechnology, and stem cells."

Katie Costello

Increased Faculty Disclosures Provide More Transparency

Pharmaceutical, device, and biotechnology companies frequently collaborate with physicians and basic scientists within an academic medical center to help improve patient care and advance science. These relationships are important in establishing the effectiveness and safety of promising new therapies, achieving scientific breakthroughs, and collaborating with our peers. Many of us are engaged in these relationships and external activities of various kinds, and while they enhance our ability to pursue our clinical, educational, and research missions, such endeavors may also give rise to potential conflicts of interest. These potential conflicts have the ability to threaten the integrity of our mission in light of the modern health care environment, which places emphasis on transparency and disclosure.

May we have seen recent headlines, where physicians or faculty members have failed to disclose external relationships with, or consulting compensation received from, their research sponsors. Or, perhaps you have taken note of Iowa Senator Chuck Grassley’s interest in financial relationships within the health care industry, and in particular, among doctors who conduct research with funding provided by the National Institutes of Health. Senator Grassley has said, “Requiring disclosure is a common sense reform based on the public dollars and public trust at stake in medical training, medical research and the practice of medicine.”

To assure objectivity in research and patient care, and to ensure that our reputation and programs are not compromised, the Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine and its affiliates, Northwestern Medical Faculty Foundation and Northwestern Memorial Hospital, have adopted integrity and research missions to advance research and education and provide exceptional patient care.

We launched our joint application on April 1, 2009; the survey deadline was May 1, 2009. We were pleased that we achieved 100 percent completion within three weeks of the survey deadline — an unprecedented first for the three entities. Once all disclosures were received, we worked together to implement a new joint review process, whereby all disclosures were examined at three levels — by the division chief (when applicable), by the department chair, and by joint affiliate leadership. Disclosures related to research were forwarded to the Feinberg Conflict of Interest Committee for further review and consideration, and we implemented improvements in our conflict management plan tracking.

In December, we launched updated medical school faculty profiles, which included a new section to display external professional relationships by category. The two primary types are Industry Relationships and Academic/Other Professional Activities. Visit this web site to search our faculty profiles: http://fsmweb.northwestern.edu/faculty/index.cfm.

Voluntary disclosure places us at the forefront of a national movement toward greater transparency. In fact, we were sixth in the country to make this information publicly available. This new communication vehicle was established because we firmly believe that the clarity achieved by full disclosure is necessary both to inform the public about all our faculty’s professional activities and to maintain its trust that we are fulfilling our missions to advance research and education and provide exceptional patient care.

This year’s disclosure initiative was launched on April 1st with several enhancements, including an improved user experience, and a new survey partner, Children’s Memorial Hospital. As a result of this remarkable cooperation and our achievements this past year, Northwestern University, professional organizations, and other universities have expressed interest in adopting our tools and methods. We continue to fine-tune our joint processes and encourage you to contact the Office for Regulatory Affairs at fsm-compliance@northwestern.edu if you would like more information.

Robert M. Rosa, MD
Dean of Regulatory Affairs and Chief Compliance Officer

Northwestern Memorial HealthCare Finalizes Affiliation with Lake Forest Hospital

Lake Forest Hospital became a wholly owned entity of Northwestern Memorial HealthCare, the parent corporation of Northwestern University, on February 1, 2010. The 215-bed institution is now called Northwestern Lake Forest Hospital.

“We are very excited about what the future holds for patients now that this affiliation is final,” said Dean M. Harrison, president and chief executive officer, Northwestern Memorial HealthCare, in an NMH press release. “With all necessary approvals in place, we are positioned to move forward with developing plans to expand access to medical care, clinical trials, and a host of other healthcare services for patients in Lake and Cook counties and surrounding regions.

“Northwestern Memorial and Lake Forest hospitals had many similarities going into the affiliation agreement that will be enhanced,” added Harrison, “particularly due to Northwestern’s century-long ties to Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine.”

Additionally both hospitals share: a patient and family-centered culture; a commitment to clinical excellence and quality; an ongoing dedication to provide care regardless of one’s ability to pay.

“We are excited about the prospect of combining our strengths with an excellent institution such as Northwestern Memorial to expand access to medical care for patients in our region,” said Thomas J. McAlere, president, Lake Forest Hospital.

To search the faculty profiles, visit http://fsmweb.northwestern.edu/faculty/index.cfm.
A Look at LatticeGrid — Finding New Collaborations Is Easier With Social Networking Tool Aimed at Researchers

LatticeGrid Capabilities Snap Shot:
1. Identify the network of collaborations that currently exist in a biomedical research organization.
2. Highlight the expertise and existing collaboration patterns for an individual in that organization.
3. Analyze changes in the pattern of collaboration for a given individual, virtual organizational unit, academic unit, or other organizational structure over time.
4. Facilitate the application of this information to the promotion and support of intra- and inter-institutional collaboration.

The NUCATS Biomedical Informatics Center (NUBIC) has launched a new online knowledge management system linking researchers from disparate disciplines. Building on the capabilities of existing social networking and knowledge management platforms, LatticeGrid assesses collaboration patterns using institutional and public data such as PubMed, eIRB, and pre-award and post-award systems. LatticeGrid integrates and visualizes this data around organizational constructs such as centers and departments to build models of collaboration patterns. LatticeGrid is interoperable with other collaboration tools such as the Harvard Catalyst system and the Cornell Vivo system. However, LatticeGrid is uniquely able to define collaboration teams “on the fly” and provides multiple ways to represent and graph physical and virtual relationships between investigators.

LatticeGrid models also enable evidence-based decisions about how best to manage and direct organizational change to maximize the effectiveness of translational science initiatives. Toward this effort, LatticeGrid enables biomedical research organizations to monitor and measure more effectively collaboration and funding patterns and assess the effect of organizational and policy change. Understanding how shifts in institutional structure and policy affect translational science patterns of collaboration and funding is of fundamental importance to biomedical research community and the goals of the NUCATS Institute. This knowledge provides a mechanism to evaluate the “return on investment” in team science efforts.


The LatticeGrid system is and will continue to be open source to allow sharing with other Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) institutions.

“Managing and tracking publications have always been a challenge for research universities,” Warren Kibbe, associate director of NUBIC, director of bioinformatics in the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center, research associate professor in the Center for Genetic Medicine. “The NUBIC team saw the potential for an open source solution in addressing this need, and LatticeGrid is the result. We’ve had great response from the biomedical research user community so far and plan enhancements as we incorporate their feedback and ideas into the application.”

Elizabeth Kollross

United States Senate, House Pass Resolutions Congratulating Feinberg on 150th Anniversary

The United States Senate and House of Representatives passed resolutions congratulating Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine on its sesquicentennial and its 150-year commitment to advancing science and improving health. In a statement addressed to President Barack Obama, U.S. Sen. Roland W. Burris (D-III.), on behalf of himself and U.S. Sen. Richard Durbin (D-III.), said that Feinberg has grown to become one of the most prominent medical schools in the nation, preparing the next generation of leaders, innovators, and researchers who will shape the course of health care in this country for generations to come.

The resolutions, also brought forth by Rep. Danny K. Davis (D-III.) and Rep. Judy Biggert (R-III.), recognize and commend Feinberg for its dedication to educating world-class physicians and scientists, sponsoring cutting-edge medical research, and providing highly specialized clinical care.

“We greatly appreciate the efforts of Senators Durbin and Burris, and Representatives Davis and Biggert to recognize the 152-year milestone in the history of Northwestern University’s medical school,” said J. Larry Jameson, MD, PhD, vice president for medical affairs and Lewis Landsberg Dean of Feinberg. “The medical school has trained thousands of physicians in each decade. These physicians have included pioneering researchers, master clinicians, and some of the best teachers in our discipline. We take great pride in their service to humanity.”

Jameson added that, moving forward, Feinberg will build on its history and use its position in the medical community to help shape the future of health care in the United States and beyond.

“Being able to assist in the Haiti relief effort with other medical centers across Chicago, for example, is what makes being involved in this field so rewarding,” Jameson said. “We look forward to the challenges to come in medical research and education over the next 150 years.”

Katie Costello

Physical Therapy and Human Movement Sciences Program Celebrates 2009 Graduation

The Northwestern University PT Alumni Association held a Class of 2009 Graduation Reception at Navy Pier on Friday, December 4, 2009. This reception was held before graduation on Saturday, December 5. Seventy graduates received their Doctor of Physical Therapy diploma during a ceremony on the Chicago campus.

The commencement speaker was Janet Beznar, PT, PhD, deputy executive director of the American Physical Therapy Association. The class speaker was Christopher Sherrell.

Clinical Education Awards were presented to Steven Churchill, Tiffany Crespin, and Nicole Tito.

Congratulations!

For more information about LatticeGrid, visit http://latticegrid.feinberg.northwestern.edu.
President Obama Honors Kibbe with Highest Award for Outstanding Young Scientists and Engineers

Melina Kibbe, MD, GME '03, associate professor of surgery at the Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, was honored at the White House as a recipient of the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE). PECASE is the highest honor given by the U.S. government to outstanding scientists and engineers who are in the early stages of their independent research careers.

Nine federal departments and agencies join together annually to nominate young scientists and engineers whose work is of benefit to the nominating agency’s mission. Kibbe, who was nominated by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), will receive funding for five years as part of this award.

Kibbe — also a vascular surgeon at Northwestern Memorial Hospital (NMH), co-chief of the vascular surgery service and director of the vascular laboratory at the Jesse Brown VA Medical Center, and a member of the Institute for BioNanotechnology in Medicine at the Robert H. Lurie Medical Research Center — is being honored for her innovative research in the field of nitric oxide vascular biology and the development of novel translational therapies for patients with vascular disease.

"Having my research recognized in this manner has been very rewarding not only for me, but also for all the members of my lab — past and present — as this achievement represents the hard work and dedication of a team of researchers and staff all working toward a common goal," Kibbe says. "Without these individuals, as well as the support of my partners, my division chief, NMH, and the VA, receiving an award like this would not be possible."

The awards are coordinated by the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy within the Executive Office of the President. Kibbe and all the other awardees were selected on the basis of two criteria: pursuit of innovative research at the frontiers of science and technology and a commitment to community service as demonstrated through scientific leadership, public education, or community outreach.

Kibbe’s research explores how to extend the effectiveness of vascular procedures such as balloon angioplasty and stenting, bypass grafting, and other vascular interventions with limited durability. The focus in the Kibbe Lab is to further the understanding of nitric oxide vascular biology in order to develop nitric oxide-based therapies to improve patient care.

Dr. Thomas Mustoe with his wife, Kathryn Hallicut, and children Anthony and Elisabeth.

Thomas A. Mustoe Honored with Endowed Professorship

In January, Thomas A. Mustoe, MD, was named as the Orion H. and Lucille W. Snuteville Professor of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. Mustoe joined Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine as professor and chief of the Division of Plastic Surgery in 1991.

Mustoe earned his medical degree from Harvard Medical School, where he continued his medical training as a research fellow in the laboratory of Bernard Fields, MD, working on the genetics of virus, and was awarded the Sosins Weiss award for his work in 1978. He completed his internship at Massachusetts General Hospital, residencies in surgery and plastic surgery at Brigham and Women’s Hospital, and a third residency in otolaryngology at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary.

Endowed professorships empower recipients to seek answers to provocative research questions and to better understand diseases to improve patient care. Dr. Mustoe will continue his research on mechanisms for impaired healing that result in chronic wounds and excessive healing that result in fibrosis and scarring.

The Orion H. and Lucille W. Snuteville Professorship of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery was established in 2009 through generous annuity and estate gifts from Lucille W. Snuteville, in memory of her husband Orion, MD ’39. He was professor emeritus and former chair of the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Department at the Dental School, and also served as director of the plastic surgery residency program.

Feinberg Faculty Receive Recognition

Maureen Smith, MS, CGC, has been awarded the 2009 Natalie Weissberger Paul National Achievement Award, the most distinguished honor within the National Society of Genetic Counselors (NSGC). The annual award recognizes one outstanding member who has served with exemplary national achievement and volunteer activities on behalf of NSGC and the profession.

Virginia Bishop, MD, MPH, assistant professor in the Department of Preventive Medicine, was named one of the Top 12 Doctors serving the Latino community by EXTRA, Chicago’s leading bi-lingual newspaper. The publication accepted nominations from hospitals, clinics, and community members for Latino doctors who go above and beyond to serve. Dr. Bishop was recognized for her efforts in starting a school-based health center at Roberto Clemente Academy High School nine years ago. In addition to providing free medical services, she works with the Academy’s Youth Empowering Strategies, a peer health education program that teaches health education, pregnancy and violence prevention, along with fitness and nutrition.

Stanford T. Shulman, MD, Virginia H. Rogers Professor of Pediatric Infectious Diseases, is a member of the Board of Directors of the World Society for Pediatric Infectious Disease. Effective January 1, Leon Platanias, MD, became president of the International Society for Interferon and Cytokine Research for two years.


Mark Eskandari, MD, has been a section editor for the “Journal of Vascular and Interventional Radiology” since 2008. Lewis Lundberg, MD, has been invited to give the Farr lecture at Yale Medical School on their research day in May. This important medical lecture will include career advice to students and a summary of his career in academic medicine.

Rosalind Ramsey-Goldman, MD, DrPH, Solovy Arthritis Research Society Professor, was appointed to a three-year term on the Board of Directors for the American College of Rheumatology. In July, she will become a co-editor for “Arthritis and Rheumatism.”

Linda Teplin, MD, professor of psychiatry and director of the Psychiatry Legal Health Care Program at Feinberg, has a new $90 million NIH grant to study how disproportionate incarceration of racial/ethnic minorities — especially African Americans — affects health disparities in the HIV/AIDS epidemic. “It’s the deprivations suffered while people are incarcerated that result in their risk-taking behavior when they are released into the community,” she said.

January was a busy month for Nathaniel Soper, MD. The chair of the Department of Surgery was named “Top Doctor” by Chicago magazine. In addition, the Loyd and Edith Davis Professor of Surgery began serving on the American College of Surgeons, Board of Governor’s Committee on Surgical Infections and Environmental Risks, and was named to the American Board of Surgery’s Gastrointestinal Advisor Council.

Sandy Weintrob, PhD, was recently selected as president-elect of the International Neuropsychology Society, the world’s largest organization of neuropsychologists. For her article, “Portraits of Persistence: Professional Development of Successful Directors of Clinical Education,” Alice Salzman, PT, EdD, assistant professor, received the Feitelson Journal Founder’s Award from the American Physical Therapy Association during the Combined Sections Meeting Conference in February.

James Surmicier, Jr., MD, PhD, Nathan Smith Davis Professor and chair in the Department of Physiology, has been elected fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He was elected by other members as part of the section on neuroscience and is among 531 newly selected fellows.

For his work in developing palliative care curricula for hospitalists and medical students, Eytan Szmulowicz, MD, received the 2010 Hastings Center Cunniff-Donnell Physician Award in the early career physician category.

Warren G. Tourtellotte, MD, PhD, associate professor of pathology, neurology and neuroscience at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, was recently appointed to associate director of the medical school’s Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP) — a premier biomedical research program that has trained more than 220 MD/PhD physician-scientists for careers in academic medicine, government, and the biotechnology-pharmaceutical industry.

The Association for Surgical Education has awarded Julia Corcoran, MD, assistant professor in the plastic surgery division, and MHPE clerkship director, the Outstanding Teacher Award. It is given annually to up to four individuals who are actively involved in surgical education and who are considered by their chair, peers, or resident/students to be outstanding teachers.
New Clue Why Autistic People Don’t Want Hugs

Why do many people with fragile X syndrome, a genetic defect that is the best-known cause of autism and inherited mental retardation, avoid hugs and physical touch?

New research has found in fragile X syndrome that there is delayed development of the sensory cortex, the part of the brain that responds to touch, according to a study from Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. This delay may trigger a domino effect and cause further problems with the correct wiring of the brain. Understanding how and when the function of the brain is affected in fragile X offers a target for a therapy to fix the incorrect development.

“There is a ‘critical period’ during development, when the brain is very plastic and is changing rapidly,” said Anisa Contractor, assistant professor of physiology at Feinberg and the lead investigator of the study. “All the elements of this rapid development have to be coordinated so that the brain becomes wired correctly and therefore functions properly.”

The study was published in the Feb. 11 issue of the journal Neuron.

Working with a mouse model of fragile X, Contractor found the development of the sensory cortex that interconnects neurons communi- cates with each other, was delayed in the sensory cortex.

“The critical period may provide a window during which therapeutic intervention can correct synaptic development and potentially reverse some of the symptoms of the disease,” Contractor said.

People with this syndrome have debilitating sensory as well as cognitive problems. “They have tactile defensiveness,” Contractor explained. “They don’t look in people’s eyes, they won’t hug their parents, and they are hypersensitive to touch and sound. All of this causes anxiety for family and friends as well as for the fragile X patients themselves. Now we have the first understanding of what goes wrong in the brain.”

The sensory overload in people with fragile X results in social withdrawal, hyperarousal and anxiety. It shows up early in infancy and progressively worsens throughout childhood.

Fragile X syndrome is caused by a gene mutation in the X chromosome that interferes in the production of a protein called fragile X mental retardation protein (FMRP). That protein directs the formation of other proteins that build synapses in the brain. People with fragile X are missing FMRP. It’s as if the forest is missing the brain’s key construction site. Fragile X is so named because the X chromosome appears broken or kinked.

Boys are more severely affected by fragile X because they have only one X chromosome. Girls who have two X chromosomes are less affected by the defect.

Feinberg Researchers Simplify Dangerously Confusing Warnings on Prescription Bottles

Replacing confusing language and icons on standard warnings labels for prescription medicine bottles is easier for patients to understand than the standard wording commonly used, according to a study from Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine.

Simple, concise language on warning labels of prescription medicine bottles is easier for patients to understand than the standard wording commonly used, according to the study. And the fewer words on a label, the more likely a patient will actually pay attention to them.

For the study, Northwestern researchers and colleagues worked with patients and nationally renowned graphic designers to simplify and redesign the confusing language and icons of standard warning labels. Many of them have been used for decades without any evidence to show patients comprehend them, or even if they are true.

“The study shows the value of a clear message,” said Michael Wolf, associate professor of medicine and learning sciences at Feinberg and lead author of the study. “A lot of the current warnings were phrased very abstractly and were confusing. For example, we changed ‘For external use only’ to ‘Use only on your skin.’ We moved from the intangible to the concise.”

Many of these label warnings are critical for patients to take their medications safely. Previous research by Wolf and colleagues found that more than half of adults misunderstand common standard drug warnings, putting them at risk for using the medicine incorrectly or even having a life-threatening event.

As a result of the new findings, Wolf and colleagues from Emory, Harvard and Louisiana State universities are working with the U.S. Pharmacopeia on a drug labeling task force to help overhaul the confusing drug labels.

The study also found that newly designed icons improved understanding for patients with low health literacy, a group at greatest risk for misinterpreting instructions and misusing medications. The paper was published in a recent issue of Archives of Internal Medicine.

The graphic designers worked with researchers and patients to capture their mental images of what each message means.

“A current and widely used icon of a pregnant woman resembles an olive,” Wolf said. “For most people that probably doesn’t convey pregnancy. The new design of a silhouette of a pregnant woman with a bump on her stomach was more easily recognizable to patients.”

New "Suicide" Molecule Halts Rheumatoid Arthritis

A researcher from Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine has invented a novel way to halt and even reverse rheumatoid arthritis. He developed an imitation of a suicide molecule that floats undetected into inactive cells responsible for the disease.

Whimsically referred to as “Casper the Ghost,” the stealthy molecule causes the immune cells to self-destruct.

The approach, tested on mice, doesn’t carry the health risks of current treatments.

“This new therapy stopped the disease cold in 75 percent of the mice,” reported Harris Perlman, PhD, the lead author and an associate professor of medicine at Feinberg.

“The best part was we didn’t see any toxicity. This has a lot of potential for creating an entirely new treatment for rheumatoid arthritis.”

The study was published in the February issue of Arthritis & Rheumatism.

Healthy immune cells are supposed to die after they attack an invading virus or bacteria. But in rheumatoid arthritis, the immune cells called macrophages live and go rogue. They proliferate in the blood, build up in the joints, and invade cartilage and bone. Currently, there is no effective, nontoxic way to stop them.

Perlman discovered that immune cells in rheumatoid arthritis are low in a critical molecule called Bim, whose job is to order the cells to self-destruct. To correct that shortage, Perlman developed an imitator of the molecule, called BH3 mimetic. When Harris injected his drug into mice with rheumatoid arthritis, it floated ghostlike into their macrophages and the misbehaving immune cells self destructed.

In his research, Perlman showed the molecule could prevent the development of rheumatoid arthritis as well as trigger a remission of existing disease. After the drug was injected in animals with the disease, joint swelling was reduced and bone destruction decreased.

Current treatments for rheumatoid arthritis include immunosuppressants and steroids. These are not always effective, however, and they are frequently accompanied by side effects. A newer class of therapy, which is sometimes used in combination with chemotherapy and steroids, is biologic response modifiers. These are antibodies or other proteins that reduce the inflammation produced by the hyperactive immune cells. These biologics don’t work for everyone, though, and can be associated with side effects, including the risk of infection.

Perlman said the next step is to develop nanotechnology for a more precise method of delivering the drug. His research was supported by the National Institute of Arthritis, Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases and the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease.

There are more Research Briefs on the web, visit WardRoundsOnline.com.

There are more Research Briefs on the web, visit WardRoundsOnline.com.
A Different Kind of MATCH DAY

Buddy Program pairs early-stage Alzheimer’s patients with medical students for mentoring and companionship

BY MICHELE M. WEBER

There are many friendly, smiling faces as eight medical students and three researchers are introduced to their senior “buddies” for the first time in October. Based on their interest profiles, students/researchers and senior partners were paired up by program leaders. At this special Match Day party, these new companions are breaking the ice. While some start off a little shy and tentative, soon the room is buzzing with conversation as they complete questionnaires together. The partners move in closer as they share their individual stories and, already, it is evident that bonds are forming.

There are many friendly, smiling faces as eight medical students and three researchers are introduced to their senior “buddies” for the first time in October. Based on their interest profiles, students/researchers and senior partners were paired up by program leaders. At this special Match Day party, these new companions are breaking the ice. While some start off a little shy and tentative, soon the room is buzzing with conversation as they complete questionnaires together. The partners move in closer as they share their individual stories and, already, it is evident that bonds are forming.

Now in its 13th year, the Buddy Program™ was designed to connect first-year medical students with patients from the Cognitive Neurology and Alzheimer’s Disease Center (CNADC) of Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine to provide mentoring and companionship. This year, three researchers from two Feinberg labs are also involved in the program. Patients are in the early stages of Alzheimer’s disease or other related cognitive disorders. Students learn about the program during the medical school’s Activities Fair and volunteer to spend time with a senior partner each month. To date, there have been 145 matches with patients whose ages have ranged from 38 to 93.

“We identify individuals with early-stage dementia who are able to understand the concept of the program, and who are willing to spend a minimum amount of time with the medical student each month,” says Darby Morhardt, MSW, LCSW, director of the Alzheimer Buddy Program. “The patient must also be free of any behavioral problems that would make it difficult to engage in social activities and must live within a defined geographic area because most medical students don’t have cars.”

The senior buddies understand that though they might not function as they once did, they have an opportunity to share their life experiences with younger people. “The patients all have a sense of pride that they are contributing to the education of a future doctor, and that’s a big deal,” explains Morhardt, director of education for CNADC. “I like to call the senior buddies my ‘faculty’ because they are contributing in a way that can be transformative to students.”

The first of its kind, the Northwestern Alzheimer Buddy Program was created in 1998 in response to a patient, a retired Northwestern physician, who wanted to share his knowledge and experience. Inspired by Dr. Marcel Mesulam, director of the CNADC, the program allows students and diagnosed individuals to get to know each other on a personal level. The ultimate goals are that the senior buddies experience enhanced self-esteem and quality of life through friendship and independence and students improve their understanding of, and attitudes about, aging and dementia.

“We want the Buddy Program to provide the opportunity for students to develop a relationship with someone who is experiencing cognitive changes,” Morhardt says. “This helps them understand how patients and their families adapt and cope. Whether or not students go into geriatric medicine, we hope this makes them more sensitive to older adults and to patients with memory problems.”

Before junior buddies are paired with a senior partner, they are interviewed and, once accepted into the program, they attend two mandatory educational sessions. Peter Glebus, MD, a neurology fellow, and Mary O’Hara, MA, LCSW, a social worker at CNADC, lay an important foundation by providing definitions and concepts, changes they may observe and appropriate responses, as well as how to encourage, comfort, and be respectful of their senior buddy.

During the school year, students commit to spend four hours each month socializing with their senior buddy and another hour in group progress meetings with program leaders. “This is an ongoing commitment, so we try to weed out those who are on the fence because we want it to be a successful experience for both buddies,” explains Morhardt. Depending on individual preferences, they attend movies and concerts, visit museums, explore the city, as well as enjoy talking and playing board games. After each outing, students write a summary with observations about the patient’s mood and behavior, and their own thoughts and feelings about the visit.

“We conduct pre- and post-tests so we can gauge how much students have learned through this experience,” adds Morhardt. “We find that the real change is seen through the student’s journal entries, where they can express what they are experiencing, observing, and feeling.”

BEAUTIFUL FRIENDSHIPS

So, why do busy medical students want to get involved in the program?

For first-year medical student Paul Bottone, the program provides an opportunity to learn more about Alzheimer’s disease while spending time with a senior adult. “The only grandparent I had in my life died when I was young, so I didn’t have the chance to form a close relationship with a senior as an adult,” explains the former Park Ranger from south of Boston. “Volunteering at a local nursing home in high school made me realize how enjoyable such interactions can be, and so I jumped at the chance to join the Buddy Program. Before I started, I hoped that my buddy and I would share interests. With Harriet, that’s definitely true! We both play the piano; Harriet actually used to be a piano teacher. We realized that while discussing classical music, which isn’t something my younger friends always want to do.”

Paul plans the activities and calls Harriet’s caretakers to work out schedules. The pair has gone on a number of outings, including concerts, the art museum, and the Joffrey Ballet. Harriet, who is from New York City, started in the Buddy Program two years ago and enjoyed the experience so much that she signed up again. This is not unusual; nearly one-third of this year’s senior buddies participated last year and some the year before.

For research assistant Ramez Hoveyda, who works with microbial cells in Dr. Changiz Geula’s laboratory in the CNADC, being involved in the Buddy Program is a

There are many friendly, smiling faces as eight medical students and three researchers are introduced to their senior “buddies” for the first time in October. Based on their interest profiles, students/researchers and senior partners were paired up by program leaders. At this special Match Day party, these new companions are breaking the ice. While some start off a little shy and tentative, soon the room is buzzing with conversation as they complete questionnaires together. The partners move in closer as they share their individual stories and, already, it is evident that bonds are forming.

Now in its 13th year, the Buddy Program™ was designed to connect first-year medical students with patients from the Cognitive Neurology and Alzheimer’s Disease Center (CNADC) of Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine to provide mentoring and companionship. This year, three researchers from two Feinberg labs are also involved in the program. Patients are in the early stages of Alzheimer’s disease or other related cognitive disorders. Students learn about the program during the medical school’s Activities Fair and volunteer to spend time with a senior partner each month. To date, there have been 145 matches with patients whose ages have ranged from 38 to 93.

“We identify individuals with early-stage dementia who are able to understand the concept of the program, and who are willing to spend a minimum amount of time with the medical student each month,” says Darby Morhardt, MSW, LCSW, director of the Alzheimer Buddy Program. “The patient must also be free of any behavioral problems that would make it difficult to engage in social activities and must live within a defined geographic area because most medical students don’t have cars.”

The senior buddies understand that though they might not function as they once did, they have an opportunity to share their life experiences with younger people. “The patients all have a sense of pride that they are contributing to the education of a future doctor, and that’s a big deal,” explains Morhardt, director of education for CNADC. “I like to call the senior buddies my ‘faculty’ because they are contributing in a way that can be transformative to students.”

The first of its kind, the Northwestern Alzheimer Buddy Program was created in 1998 in response to a patient, a retired Northwestern physician, who wanted to share his knowledge and experience. Inspired by Dr. Marcel Mesulam, director of the CNADC, the program allows students and diagnosed individuals to get to know each other on a personal level. The ultimate goals are that the senior buddies experience enhanced self-esteem and quality of life through friendship and independence and students improve their understanding of, and attitudes about, aging and dementia.

“We want the Buddy Program to provide the opportunity for students to develop a relationship with someone who is experiencing cognitive changes,” Morhardt says. “This helps them understand how patients and their families adapt and cope. Whether or not students go into geriatric medicine, we hope this makes them more sensitive to older adults and to patients with memory problems.”

Before junior buddies are paired with a senior partner, they are interviewed and, once accepted into the program, they attend two mandatory educational sessions. Peter Glebus, MD, a neurology fellow, and Mary O’Hara, MA, LCSW, a social worker at CNADC, lay an important foundation by providing definitions and concepts, changes they may observe and appropriate responses, as well as how to encourage, comfort, and be respectful of their senior buddy.

During the school year, students commit to spend four hours each month socializing with their senior buddy and another hour in group progress meetings with program leaders. “This is an ongoing commitment, so we try to weed out those who are on the fence because we want it to be a successful experience for both buddies,” explains Morhardt. Depending on individual preferences, they attend movies and concerts, visit museums, explore the city, as well as enjoy talking and playing board games. After each outing, students write a summary with observations about the patient’s mood and behavior, and their own thoughts and feelings about the visit.

“We conduct pre- and post-tests so we can gauge how much students have learned through this experience,” adds Morhardt. “We find that the real change is seen through the student’s journal entries, where they can express what they are experiencing, observing, and feeling.”

BEAUTIFUL FRIENDSHIPS

So, why do busy medical students want to get involved in the program?

For first-year medical student Paul Bottone, the program provides an opportunity to learn more about Alzheimer’s disease while spending time with a senior adult. “The only grandparent I had in my life died when I was young, so I didn’t have the chance to form a close relationship with a senior as an adult,” explains the former Park Ranger from south of Boston. “Volunteering at a local nursing home in high school made me realize how enjoyable such interactions can be, and so I jumped at the chance to join the Buddy Program. Before I started, I hoped that my buddy and I would share interests. With Harriet, that’s definitely true! We both play the piano; Harriet actually used to be a piano teacher. We realized that while discussing classical music, which isn’t something my younger friends always want to do.”

Paul plans the activities and calls Harriet’s caretakers to work out schedules. The pair has gone on a number of outings, including concerts, the art museum, and the Joffrey Ballet. Harriet, who is from New York City, started in the Buddy Program two years ago and enjoyed the experience so much that she signed up again. This is not unusual; nearly one-third of this year’s senior buddies participated last year and some the year before.

For research assistant Ramez Hoveyda, who works with microbial cells in Dr. Changiz Geula’s laboratory in the CNADC, being involved in the Buddy Program is a
First step on his path to medical school. “I’ve always been someone who wants to develop relationships and help people; that’s why I was interested in the Buddy Program,” explains Ramez. “I wanted to expand my knowledge and be a positive force for a person with Alzheimer’s disease.”

Ramez was paired with Michael, a former building contractor with early-onset Alzheimer’s. “I had selected three or so possible buddies before Michael joined the program,” Ramez explains, “but then Darby showed me Michael’s profile and thought we’d be a good match. She was right! We’re both laid back and athletic. It feels like we’ve known each other for a long time. I didn’t expect us to hit it off so well.”

They call and e-mail one another to make plans about two times a month. The adventuresome research assistant has participated in Michael’s advanced karate class and a yoga class where temperatures reached 125 degrees.

“People in cell and molecular biology often don’t know how or have the opportunity to talk to lay people about their work,” explains Morhardt. “These lectures help them do that and, in the meantime, teach patients more about their disease. The scientists then get to know persons their research may one day benefit.”

“As the elderly increase in numbers in our society, there is a similar rise in the number of people afflicted with dementia,” she continues. “When coupled with longer life expectancy and increasing risk of AD, we can expect to see even greater numbers of people with dementia. Thus, there is a need for knowledgeable physicians and researchers with a sound understanding of clinically appropriate, and proper, dignified treatment for persons with dementia. Our hope is that the Buddy Program helps in that effort.”

The Northwestern Buddies Program was replicated by the Boston University School of Medicine three years ago. BU adopted much of the Northwestern infrastructure and organization, while developing some unique aspects of its own. Students can participate in the BU PAIRS (Partnering in Alzheimer’s Instruction Research Study) Program as an elective course. They also write a final essay in which they reflect upon what they have learned and how these lessons will impact their future as doctors.

“I thought replicating the Northwestern Buddy Program was a great opportunity for medical students at Boston University to get experiential learning they weren’t already receiving in the standard curriculum,” says Angela Jefferson, PhD, director, Education & Information Transfer Core, Boston University Alzheimer’s Disease Center. “It’s a great way to get them excited about learning about AD and other complex medical issues within a time commitment that’s not overwhelming.”

“Students love it because they get a lot out of the program without reading materials and taking exams,” Jefferson continues. “The program allows them to see how Alzheimer’s impacts the daily activities of the patient as well as witness the physical and emotional toll that it takes on the caregivers. They are struck by the level of optimism that exists in these patients, despite the cognitive changes they are experiencing.”

A NEW TWIST

Although the Northwestern Alzheimer’s Buddy Program has essentially remained the same in size and format since its inception, thanks to a training grant, a new dimension was added this year. In March, PhD students in cell and molecular biology, who wanted to have contact with patients but didn’t have time to commit to the Buddy Program, gave presentations to patients about learning and memory.
On a February weekend, professors from Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, McCormick, and Weinberg huddled together to examine branding tactics used in this year’s Super Bowl commercials. It seemed like a far cry from medicine and an unconventional faculty group, but they all have serious business together.

In their day-to-day tasks, these people might never have met. But here, this diverse group in the course Management Skills for Innovative University Leaders made perfect sense as they joined to learn business skills and form new relationships with other Northwestern schools and colleges. Some may have entered with doubts, but they soon realize business acumen is essential because operating clinical and research practices is becoming increasingly complex.

The Super Bowl critique was one of the many intense group discussions in the nine-day course for leadership faculty presented by the Kellogg School of Management. Participants repeatedly recall that the course was one of the most memorable in their careers because they learned sorely needed business skills through acclaimed teachers and form new relationships with other Northwestern schools and colleges. Some may have entered with doubts, but they soon realize business acumen is essential because operating clinical and research practices is becoming increasingly complex.

She knows her Feinberg students are running labs and dealing with employees, post-docs, students, patients, and other people on many levels.

“Many participants in this course need to be effective leaders for many people.” Vohra says. “This course is a big commitment because it’s taking time away from families, patients, and research. What’s gratifying is that they keep up with it.”

Top-notch evaluations are a big indicator that their teaching style and want to adapt it to their science courses.

“Restored my faith in humanity,” and “Can’t believe I actually enjoyed an accounting lecture.” While giving glowing marks, some students say they were eager for even more business examples related to a non-profit university setting.

Other feedback says that students enjoyed Kellogg’s teaching style and want to adapt it to their science courses.

While giving glowing marks, some students say they were eager for even more business examples related to a non-profit university setting.

The course began when Kellogg teamed with Johns Hopkins School of Medicine to create an executive education certificate program for Johns Hopkins faculty called Business for Scientists.

Realizing the program’s benefit to Northwestern, University Provost Daniel Linzer, McCormick Dean Julio Ottino, Feinberg Dean J. Larry Jameson, and Weinberg Dean Sarah Mangelsdorf restructured it to offer it to key NU faculty. More Northwestern schools are expected to join next year’s class.

Students in the course spend 11-hour days together, including classroom time and meals. This supports the One Northwestern goal to integrate talent, leadership, and investment between all NU schools and colleges across the Chicago and Evanston campuses and hospitals.

**BUSINESS BOOT CAMP**

The program provides a comprehensive, condensed version of key business topics, including: accounting, influence and persuasion, leadership strategies, decision-making, finance, conflict resolution, team building, business strategy, negotiating, marketing, crisis management, social responsibility, and intellectual property.

They even learn the science behind seating arrangements. Change management was introduced this year following major leadership changes at the university.

The Dean’s Office at Feinberg believes strongly in the leadership program to produce better leaders, and chooses
participants with input from internal departments. Deans, high-level leaders, and full professors were the first participants, but now the program includes junior faculty who also benefit tremendously from the instruction. With 78 graduates, Feinberg has sent the most faculty through the course.

So far, 122 faculty from throughout Northwestern have earned certification.

“We have faculty members who have taken on leadership roles, or are aspiring to it,” says William Lowe, MD, dean for faculty affairs. “Our goal is for this course to help them become more effective leaders.”

It takes an MD or PhD to become a faculty member, but medical school and the sciences don’t prepare professors for business problems. Yet they frequently grapple with them — from maintaining morale, planning budgets, searching for capital, and accounting for grants — to mention a few dilemmas.

Before the tennis ball exchange, class members discuss how the concepts they’ve learned can be applied to improve team dynamics at work.

NEVER A DULL CLASS
Faculty from different schools don’t always mix. However, course members collaborate and break down those invisible barriers. Exercises are deeply rooted in teamwork, and from there, rapport develops between participants from all NU schools.

The 15 Kellogg instructors hook their students with engaging conversation and interactive exercises that really push students to conquer new ground.

On the first day, Thomas Lys, the Eric L. Koller Chair in Accounting, sets the stage with a captivating discussion about accounting principles taught through modern-day examples. The class examined the 2008 financial statement of Northwestern Memorial Hospital. They also reviewed corporate financial statements of Enron and WorldCom as examples of fraudulent accounting practices.

J. Keith Murnighan, Kellogg’s Harold H. Hines Jr. Distinguished Professor of Risk Management, gives students an exercise that at first seems more suited to athletes. Groups of five to seven people stand in a circle. One person has a tennis ball. Following the rules, balls are exchanged between members. The number of tennis balls is gradually increased to six, and it starts to look like a juggling act. Then, Murnighan presses groups to do this exercise in half a second.

The lesson: mastering a network sequence makes the whole team operate efficiently. Everyone must buy into a common goal and come up with creative ideas to make the tennis ball exchange work. After the circus ends, minds start wondering as the class discusses how this concept can be applied to other types of team tasks back in the medical world.

During his session, Adam Galinsky, the Morris and Alice Kaplan Professor of Ethics and Decision in Management, sharpens skills by demonstrating appropriate decision-making methods and the subtle art of persuasion and influence. He tells students, “You would not rely on your intuition about who’s having an MI, and who is not. So don’t rely on your gut when you’re making other decisions. Rely on evidence.”

Galinsky also has professors examine persuasive tactics in excerpts from the 1957 classic film, “12 Angry Men,” starring Henry Fonda. The lone dissentier, Fonda leads the rest of the jury to reverse its guilty verdict in a seemingly open-and-shut murder trial.

The film examines how the jurors weld their prejudices and biases. Without any structure to its deliberations, the jury is pretty much a free-for-all. As professors watch the clip, they ponder how Fonda should intervene.

Galinsky says the basic lesson of the movie applies everywhere: “When we don’t exert authority and put these processes in place, bullies tend to dominate.”

“Full of pearls,” was how students described Harry Kramer, former Baxter International CEO and now clinical professor of marketing and strategy. The class was riveted for more than four hours listening to him talk about the social responsibility and deep personal commitment implicit in outstanding leaders.

“I don’t think I truly understood what it meant to be a leader before I heard his views and experiences,” says Terry Barrett, MD, chief of the division of gastroenterology. He completed the course last year and it changed the way he runs the whole GI unit. Visit WardRoundsOnline.com to read about how Dr. Barrett improved the GI department.

ENTREPRENEURS NEED BUSINESS SAVVY
Many faculty who run labs eventually face the possibility of commercializing their findings. The course helps to plant seeds for different NU disciplines to collaborate on NIH and NSF grants, and work in labs often includes translational research. But for start-ups to succeed, professors know they need to brush up their business skills.

Some take the course because they are interested in entrepreneurship.

Kellogg experts Mitchell Petersen, the Glen Vasel Professor of Finance, and Scott Stern, the Joseph and Carole Levy Professor, and Leigh Thompson, J. Jay Gerber Professor of Dispute Resolution & Organizations, explain topics such as business strategies for innovations, investing in R&D, understanding investors, negotiating productively, and related topics.

Understanding how financing companies work, the pressures they are under to bring devices and ideas to market, and the vernacular they use has helped faculty have more productive relationships with companies that could yield future funding.

“I am no longer a babe in the woods,” Dr. Licht says. “My familiarity now with the business process and capital allows me to talk to venture capitalists in a more intelligent way to try and reach agreement about moving forward.”

To raise the national prestige of the school, he recognized that he needed to step up public relations but initially had no idea how to conduct a campaign. Now that effort is underway. During the course he completed last year, he learned about three key areas that are helping the department form new relationships: marketing, teamwork, and creativity. His short-term goal is to build those relationships, and he and his colleagues started with Kellogg and NU’s School of Law. His long-term goal is forming research groups across disciplines.

“I needed to assess how we get from point A to point B, what resources we have, and what constraints. That kind of thinking came right out of these classes,” Goldberg says. And that kind of thinking stays with students.

Dean Lowe admits he carries a small cheat sheet in his wallet from Professor Thompson about how to have fruitful negotiations. Dr. Licht keeps his in his desk.

Several years after both took the course, they still refer to it over and over again.

“You can’t help it. This course becomes part of you,” Dr. Licht says.
Patient-reported outcomes research has the potential to add another powerful and reliable instrument to the clinical care and translational research toolbox, for the care of one individual to the treatment of populations. “The majority of clinicians use laboratory data all the time to diagnose and treat illness,” says Dr. Cella, internationally renowned for his expertise in outcome science and principal investigator of PROMIS (Patient Reported Outcomes Measurement Information System), a monumental National Institutes of Health (NIH) initiative to standardize patient self-assessments of health status such as pain, fatigue, anxiety, or depression. “Although we derive our data from patient responses to questions rather than from physical testing or a blood workup, for example, our goal of improving health is the same. With our work, we hope to create the mindset that these assessments can be applied in the practice of good clinical medicine like any other lab tests.”

Established in March 2009, the Department of Medical Social Sciences has the unique opportunity to meld social sciences and biomedical approaches in a medical school environment. This distinction makes it one of only a handful of such academic departments in the country, and it’s a leader in PRO research thanks to the pioneering work of Dr. Cella. Along with vice chair and director of informatics, Richard C. Gershon, PhD; and some 50 MSS faculty and staff members, who all were formerly with the Center on Outcomes Research and Education at Evanston Northwestern Healthcare, the new department encompasses much more than this particular but critical subset of outcome science. Its investigators also study health literacy, cross-cultural research, symptom monitoring, and novel technologies for assessment. Already spanning a variety of disciplines across the Chicago and Evanston campuses, the Department of Medical Social Sciences additionally will drive the “One Northwestern” initiative to increase the rate of innovative discoveries and progress in translational research across the University.

“MSS was designed, in part, to serve as a catalyst for ‘One Northwestern’ integration between Feinberg and the life sciences on the Evanston campus. Collectively, our research interests span six of the eight schools at the University, including medicine; education and social policy; speech and communication; engineering; arts and sciences; and business,” explains developmental psychologist Lauren S. Wakschlag, PhD, who joined the department in February as associate chair for scientific development and institutional collaboration to direct the unifying initiative. “We’ll be developing structures and processes that will make it easier for us to speak each other’s languages, engage in scientific discourse around intersecting questions, and promote innovative thinking outside of the narrow confines of our different areas of expertise.”

Preliminary plans call for “Food for Thought” meetings that encourage brainstorming sessions over works-in-progress; integrated training grants; and simple time on the street, talking to faculty members about creating momentum and realizing the value in leaving their buildings and/or campuses to reach out across disciplines. “We definitely believe in the importance of proximity,” remarks Dr. Wakschlag, who hopes to have an office on both campuses. “We plan to be neighbors, not visitors.”

When in Rome…

Heading a new department charged with bringing the purple and white closer together across two campuses seems more than fitting for NU alumnus Dr. Cella. Not only did he earn a bachelor’s degree in psychology from the University almost 34 years ago but also four of his seven siblings hold Northwestern degrees, including his oldest brother, John, a member of the medical school Class of 1976. A pre-med in college, Dr. Cella had planned to become a physician as well until he spent his junior year abroad in Rome—where for 12 months he answered to the Italian pronunciation of his surname and thought more deeply about his true calling in life.

“I spent a lot of time during that year reflecting and learning about the psychological aspects of culture and decided that I liked the workings of the mind better than the study of the physical body,” says this professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences. “So when I graduated...
from Northwesterners, I took a year off and worked at a half-way house for the chronically mentally ill in Chicago’s Uptown neighborhood.”

In 1980 Dr. Cella earned his master’s degree in clinical psychology at Loyola University of Chicago and then set off for a two-year internship at Weill Cornell Medical Center in New York. Although he had vied for a placement that would expose him to pediatric cases, this budding child psychologist ended up by the luck of the draw spending the second year of his internship at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. Despite the change in direction, he embraced the serendipity of his situation and began looking for a suitable research topic for his PhD dissertation. He discovered it in a growing area that owed its existence to advancements in the successful fight against cancer. He learned that the majority experienced debilitating fatigue long after chemotherapy which, at the time, was believed to eventually “wash out” of a person’s system. The fatigue, some argued, could be attributed to a whole host of other factors from advancing age to over-compensating at work after cancer treatment, according to Dr. Cella.

“Now we know that chemotherapy can leave long-term side effects, but 28 years ago, this wasn’t on anyone’s radar as an important area to study,” says this research professor in the Institute for Healthcare Studies and a member of the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center. “So, we put it on the radar.”

“The field of medicine, now more than ever, has come to the realization that some information about disease and treatment is best gathered by asking patients,” adds Dr. Cella, who successfully defended his thesis to earn his PhD degree in clinical psychology from Loyola in 1984. “However, we don’t just ask people how they are doing. We conduct assessments in very specific focused ways with good targeted questions that minimize the burden on the individual reporting the information, while maximizing the data we collect.”

Dr. Cella also directs Neuro-QOL. A project that standardizes the collecting of patient-reported outcomes about quality of life issues of neurological patients, Neuro-QOL addresses the issues of individuals with stroke, Parkinson’s disease, epilepsy, ALS, multiple sclerosis, and/or muscular dystrophy. Currently in the final year of a five-year contract with the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke, the Neuro-QOL project team will release this specialty-focused assessment tool in late summer 2010, according to Dr. Cella.

The medical school’s strategic vision guides the school in making an impact in all of its mission areas by measuring not only the number but also the quality of accomplishments. By creating a department focused on precise and relevant methods of health measurement, the school has extended its impact in myriad ways throughout the institution. Just barely a year old, the Department of Medical Social Sciences has already begun collaborations with several clinical departments ranging from surgery to medicine. In the area of dermatology, for example, Amy S. Paller, MD, GME ’83, Walter J. Hamlin Professor and chair of dermatology, reports that her department’s faculty members are working with NSS investigators on studies relating to cutaneous side effects of cancer medications and graft-versus-host disease. She intends to partner with Dr. Cella to incorporate in the PROMIS surveys questions about itching — an important symptom that affects the lives of patients with chronic skin diseases.

“In order for them to be effective, patient engagement and satisfaction with therapies are critical factors in dermatology, where we are dealing with diseases that are highly visible and life altering,” says Dr. Paller. “Our specialty benefits tremendously from the expertise of Dr. Cella’s group and the resources they provide to all of us at the medical school. It’s a real feather in Northwestern’s cap to have a department that’s focused on such important factors as patient outcomes and quality of life.”

Dr. David F. Cella, PhD
President's Message

Everyone has their story about meeting a famous or infamous patient. I was an M3 on medicine service at Wesley when Ray Kroc, the developer of McDonald’s, was admitted for a routine evaluation of his diabetes by Dr. Norbert Freinkel. In the 1970s, diabetes did not have capillary blood sugar machines at their disposal, so I was tasked with venipuncture four times daily and squiring Mr. Kroc to tests and evaluations. Toward the end of his stay, he asked, “So, why do you want to be a doctor?” I responded respectfully, explaining why I chose medicine over a career in business.

Little did I know that at age 46 I would find myself pursuing a management degree as part of my career path! Over the years, our modest multispecialty group practice had grown into an integrated delivery system. I recognized that doctors who want further focus on the importance of leadership outside the exam room. The intense national debate over health care reform has brought the need to develop their business skills sets or abetiate leadership of health care delivery to non-clinicians. My experience enabled me to manage our involvement in the CMS Physician Group Practice demonstration that has influenced some of the Congressional health reform proposals.

The national debate over health care reform has brought further focus on the importance of leadership outside the exam room. The Ward Rounds feature on page 18, “The Business of Medicine,” describes how the Kellogg School of Management encourages leadership development at Feinberg and throughout Northwestern. As a result, many Feinberg faculty have learned about the importance of using business acumen in managing their departments in more effective ways. I call this “smart medicine.”

All the best,

F. Douglas Carr
F. Douglas Carr, MD ’78, MMM
President, Alumni Association

Upcoming Changes in Ward Rounds Print Edition

In the current economic environment, it’s no surprise that cost cutting has impacted all of us in one form or another. This includes Ward Rounds magazine, which is currently created quarterly in print and online versions. Unfortunately, publications are costly endeavors. After decreasing printing fees by nearly 50 percent, as well as reducing design costs to save on each print issue, there are still significant costs to produce a quarterly print and online publication.

Looking at various options and deliberating about what would cause the least amount of disruption in our communications with alumni — we believe the best way we can continue to keep you well informed and save money is to decrease the number of print issues. Beginning in budget year 2011 (this starts September 1, 2010) we will print two issues of Ward Rounds magazine, while continuing to create four online issues. Even though we will be writing the same number of issues each year, we will save a significant amount on printing and mailing costs by relying more heavily on our online vehicle. This is the direction that many publications (newspapers and magazines alike) have chosen in order to continue to communicate in a more cost-effective manner.

Following the summer 2010 print and online issues, we will print a winter (January) and a summer (July) issue in 2011. However, in the online environment, we will continue to publish on a quarterly basis — starting with the fall 2010 issue in October and then following with January, April, July, and October publication dates in 2011.

We hope you understand that taking these measures are not easy or popular decisions. The fact is that we have been lucky to have chosen in order to continue to communicate in a more cost-effective manner.

The strategy worked and in 1993 the center successfully competed for NCI Core Grant funding.

ALUMNI NEWS

ALUMNI PROFILE

The Accidental Physician

Some people know from a very early age that they want to become a doctor. Steven T. Rosen, MD ’76, FACP, was not one of those people.

“I always envisioned myself being a sports writer,” he says.

In fact, Brooklyn-born Rosen applied to medical school on a lark. Both his roommate and his best friend were applying to Northwestern University medical school’s six-year honors program, and Rosen, who had done well in math and chemistry as a Northwestern undergrad, also decided to apply. He was accepted within days.

“I called my dad to let him know that I got in,” Dr. Rosen says. “He was a bit surprised because I had never mentioned anything about medical school before."

Medical school passed in a collection of good memories, both academic and social. (Rosen met his wife of 32 years, Candice, at a Halloween party his senior year.) Yet the idea of a career in medicine still hadn’t taken hold. It wasn’t until his residency, which he completed at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, that Rosen could envision himself as a physician.

“I enjoyed the academic component of medical school, but I was kind of wide-eyed about what medicine really was,” he explains. "In residency, we had a different level of responsibility toward the patient, more intense interactions. That was when I started to feel more comfortable that this was the right career for me."

During residency, Rosen was drawn to the field of hematology/oncology because of two experiences. First, he was impressed by the devotion and skill of two hematologists he had worked with, Drs. David Green and Hau Kwan. Second, a close friend had lost his leg to sarcoma. Deciding to pursue a specialty in hematology/oncology, Rosen applied for and was awarded a fellowship in medical oncology at the National Cancer Institute (NCI) in Bethesda, Maryland.

Dr. Rosen describes his time at NCI as “the most thrilling experience.” This was partly due to the fact that the NCI introduced him to a new role within medicine, that of the researcher-physician. Today, he feels thoroughly at home seeing patients and heading a lab that focuses on experimental therapeutics and hematologic malignancies.

Upcoming Changes in Ward Rounds Print Edition

The Accidental Physician

Some people know from a very early age that they want to become a doctor. Steven T. Rosen, MD ’76, FACP, was not one of those people.

“I always envisioned myself being a sports writer,” he says.

In fact, Brooklyn-born Rosen applied to medical school on a lark. Both his roommate and his best friend were applying to Northwestern University medical school’s six-year honors program, and Rosen, who had done well in math and chemistry as a Northwestern undergrad, also decided to apply. He was accepted within days.

“I called my dad to let him know that I got in,” Dr. Rosen says. “He was a bit surprised because I had never mentioned anything about medical school before.”

Medical school passed in a collection of good memories, both academic and social. (Rosen met his wife of 32 years, Candice, at a Halloween party his senior year.) Yet the idea of a career in medicine still hadn’t taken hold. It wasn’t until his residency, which he completed at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, that Rosen could envision himself as a physician.

“I enjoyed the academic component of medical school, but I was kind of wide-eyed about what medicine really was,” he explains. “In residency, we had a different level of responsibility toward the patient, more intense interactions. That was when I started to feel more comfortable that this was the right career for me.”

During residency, Rosen was drawn to the field of hematology/oncology because of two experiences. First, he was impressed by the devotion and skill of two hematologists he had worked with, Drs. David Green and Hau Kwan. Second, a close friend had lost his leg to sarcoma. Deciding to pursue a specialty in hematology/oncology, Rosen applied for and was awarded a fellowship in medical oncology at the National Cancer Institute (NCI) in Bethesda, Maryland.

Dr. Rosen describes his time at NCI as “the most thrilling experience.” This was partly due to the fact that the NCI introduced him to a new role within medicine, that of the researcher-physician. Today, he feels thoroughly at home seeing patients and heading a lab that focuses on experimental therapeutics and hematologic malignancies.

Above: Steven Rosen with daughters Melissa and Jennifer (standing) and his niece, Alexandra.

By the end of his fellowship at NCI, Rosen and his wife had welcomed two baby girls, Melissa and Jennifer, into the world. Candice, a native Chicagoan, wanted to return home to her family and friends. An opportunity was available in the Department of Medicine at Feinberg, and the Roseneses moved back to the Windy City in 1981. Once at the medical school, Dr. Rosen quickly moved from assistant to associate professor. In 1993, he was awarded an endowed professorship, the Genevieve Teuton Professor of Medicine—a post he still holds today.

Another big career milestone occurred before Rosen became an endowed professor. In 1989, he was hired as the director of the cancer center at Northwestern University. “I was the youngest cancer center director by probably a decade,” he says. “I had never balanced a checkbook before or had any formal experience; I led mostly by intuition and by surrounding myself with people I trusted and who had amazing skill sets.”

One of Rosen’s first charges as director was to regain the center’s NCI Core Grant funding. To accomplish this, Rosen says collaboration with other university departments—including engineering, chemistry, and biology—was key.

“I knew we wouldn’t succeed without reaching out to the Evanston campus,” he says. “For an NCI Core Grant, you need a critical mass of accomplished investigators. The Evanston faculty is composed of extremely talented, well-funded scientists that embraced the mission of the cancer center.”

The strategy worked and in 1993 the center successfully competed for NCI Core Grant funding.
During the past decade, the center has received SPORE grants in breast and prostate cancer, as well as Center for Nanotechnology Excellence (CENCE) and Physical Science of Oncology Center (PSOC) grants. The center has recruited high-quality researchers and has doubled its inpatient space. It is one of only 41 cancer centers in the nation to hold the “comprehensive” designation from NCI, and it is a founding member of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network, an exclusive alliance of 21 of the nation’s leading cancer centers.

While Rosen remains modest about the cancer center’s accomplishments, preferring to share the spotlight with his staff. “I do feel guilty that I get so much credit for the success of the cancer center, when in reality it’s the incredible people that I work with who have made the center a success,” he says. Rosen specifically mentions Timothy Volpe, associate director for administration at the cancer center, as critical to the center’s accomplishments.

In addition to the stars on his staff, Rosen’s position has given him the opportunity to meet luminaries in entertainment and politics, including Princess Diana and Presidents George Bush Sr. and Barack Obama. His closest celebrity relationship, though, is with actress Bonnie Hunt. A former oncology nurse, Hunt is married to-filter rounds online.com

The couple has developed a very close-knit family; in addition to their two eldest children (both Northwestern alums), the Rosens have twins — Nicholas and Natalie — who are now high school seniors. Rosen says he talks to or exchanges e-mails with each of his children on a daily basis.

“Everyone seems to tolerate me,” he jokes. “They know I adore them.”

As for his early dream of becoming a writer? Rosen hasn’t completely abandoned it. He has authored an anthology of poetry, “Stolen Moments: A Collection of Poetry,” and is now considering writing a play.

“This affinity for writing, Rosen says, has much in common with what attracts him to medicine. “It all relates to humanity — experience, fantasy, the meaning of existence,” he says. “Though I do get my greatest satisfaction from patient care.”

Devon McPhie
Progress Notes

1951
Northwestern has just begun its Physician Assistant program. In fact, the first class of 30 students will begin their studies in June. Ralph Chase, MD, who received the Service to Society Award from the Alumni Association in 2001, is proud that he started a PA program in Texas back in 1968. He did this while running a pediatric clinic for disadvantaged immigrants in San Angelo.

Donald Unger, MD, was featured in the Chicago Tribune in January for research he has conducted on knuckle cracking. Using himself as the test case, he cracked the knuckles of one hand two times daily. He has conducted on knuckle cracking.

1953
Not one to sit around and waste the medical training he received at Northwestern through Wesley, Children’s, Evanston, Michael Reese, Cook County, St. Lukes and Passavant hospitals, Simon Myint, MD, was volunteering in Ouramaminte, Haiti (just north of Port-au-Prince), when the earthquake hit. Being from California, Dr. Myint knew what was happening when the building began to shake. “I told my colleagues to get under the doors,” explains the 81-year-old surgeon. He had just finished his third operation of the day and was waiting for the next. “I thought we were the epicenter and estimated the quake at 6 on the Richter scale." As volunteers sponsored by the United First Methodist Church of Winchester, Tenn., Dr. Myint and other medical professionals pay their own way to visit Haiti one or two times a year to provide medical care. After leaving Haiti, he went on to rural Nepal where he is licensed to care for patients by the Nepal Medical Council. “In these very rural areas, patients' addresses are given as hours and days, according to how long it takes them to walk to the hospital. Patients usually see the local health provider who prescribes a ritual including prayer offerings. When they invariably arrive at the hospital, complications have already set in.”

Ferkels Host Accepted Students

Top: Los Angeles-based Feinberg alumni and students who were accepted to join the Feinberg Class of 2014 were invited to a reception at the Encino home of Richard Ferkel, MD ‘77, and his wife Michelle on January 21. Dean J. Larry Jameson provided an overview of the medical school’s vision and was delighted to visit with the alumni and student guests. Other alumni who entertained the accepted students in Encino included Eric J. Ferkel, MD ‘08, Brian Grossman, MD ‘90, GME ‘96, Richard Ferkel, MD ‘77, Dean J. Larry Jameson, and Michael Bahá, MD ‘02.

Left: Dr. Ferkel (left) and Dean Jameson are pictured with prospective student, Jenny Ka Yan Koo of the University of California, Los Angeles.

1955
After practicing pediatric medicine for 35 years in Appleton, Wisc., Charles Green, MD, and his wife moved to Bonita Springs, Fla., where they have lived for the past 10 years. “We spend a lot of time visiting our seven children and 14 grandchildren,” he writes. “During the past year, we also added a lovely great-grand-daughter. We will be celebrating our 55th wedding anniversary in August.”

1977
Kenneth Mayer, MD, a professor of medicine and community health at Brown University, recently co-edited “HIV Prevention: A Comprehensive Approach.”

1990
Steven Willey, MD, wrote Fitness Medicine and an accompanying web site www.FitnessMedicineMD.com to help people stay fit and achieve good health. He writes, “While most people have the best of intentions to keep New Year’s resolutions, what they often lack is an effective and medically sound plan to meet their goals.” Dr. Willey uses his experience as a physician and peer-reviewed researcher to provide exercise and meal plans, along with information about findings on fitness and health.

2002
Jonathan Piccini, MD, and Megan Cornwall Piccini, MD, along with their son Jonathan Jr., announced the birth of Anna Elizabeth in September 2009. Jonathan is completing a fellowship in electrophysiology at Duke University Medical Center and Megan is taking some time off to stay home with the children.

Burton Scholars Visit Their Patrons

Monica Bowen and Michael Burns (Class of 2012) visited Stanley Burton, MD ’38, and his wife Judy in Beverly Hills on January 21 to thank them for their commitment to scholarships and to update the Burtons on their lives as busy medical students. Dr. and Mrs. Burton have generously provided support to six medical students through the Burton Scholarship program. In 2004, Dr. Burton established the endowed Stanley Burton, MD, Scholarship Fund. He has also provided immediate-use gifts and has made a generous bequest commitment, all in the support of scholarships. As a medical student in the 1930s, Dr. Burton was honored to receive a Patton Scholarship for academic excellence.

Visiting Beirut

Left: Louis Fazen, III, MD ’65, (right) is pictured with his wife, Lynn Eckhart, MD, DPH, in Beirut on the campus of the Lebanese American University with Dr. Fuad Chemali, GME ’62.

Send items for Progress Notes to ward-rounds@northwestern.edu or to the street address on page 32.
Progress Notes

From Chicago to Arizona to Oklahoma

Jessica Keller, MD ’06, graduated from her pediatrics residency at the University of Arizona in June 2009. Board certified by the American Academy of Pediatrics, she is now working as a pediatric emergency physician and sees patients as an outpatient pediatrician in Tulsa, Okla. Jessica is pictured with her husband, Michael Keller, an assistant professor of mechanical engineering at the University of Tulsa.

In Memoriam

Walter C. Barnes, Jr., MD ’37, of St. Louis, Mo., died October 5, 2009.
Virginia A. Blythe, MD ’39, of Lexington, Ky., died December 24, 2009.
William J. FitzPatrick, BA ’42, MD ’43, of Northbrook, Ill., died November 20, 2009.
Andrea F. Gianaris, BSN ’82, of Northbrook, Ill., died November 20, 2009.
William J. FitzPatrick, BA ’42, MD ’43, of Northbrook, Ill., died December 24, 2009.

From Chicago to Arizona to Oklahoma

In Memoriam

Henry B. Larzelere, MD ’44, of Evanston, Ill., died December 22, 2009.
James Raymond Helbert, MD ’63, of Claire, Wis., died February 22, 2010.
Virginia A. Blythe, MD ’59, of St. Louis, Mo., died October 5, 2009.
George B. McClary, MD ’53, of Santa Rosa, Calif., died December 3, 2009.
William C. North, MA ’48, MD ’50, of Rolling Meadows, Ill., died November 29, 2009.
Don V. Smith, MD ’44, of South Bend, Ind., died December 15, 2009.


Pediatric Pearls: Infectious Disease / The Renaissance Hotel, 4520 W. Bryn Mawr, Chicago. For more information, call Children’s Memorial Hospital, 773/880-6772.

Pediatric Pearls: Sports Medicine / The DoubleTree Hotel, 1909 Spring Road, Oak Brook, Ill. For more information, call Children’s Memorial Hospital, 773/880-6772.

The Felix Rutledge Society Meeting / Robert H. Lurie Medical Research Center of Northwestern University, 333 East Superior St., Chicago. For more information, contact Amanda O’Rourke at 312/937-8533.

Items for Progress Notes may be sent to the Office of Communications, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, 420 East Superior Street, Chicago, IL 60611 or via e-mail to wardrounds@northwestern.edu. They may also be submitted online at www.wardroundsonline.com. Be sure to include the year the MD degree was received or the GME or Other Program was completed. Photo submissions also are welcome. Please note: Progress Notes appearing in the print edition of Ward ROUNDS may be posted on WardRoundsOnline.com and are password-protected.

Don’t miss us on these social media channels!

You can find links on the home page of the Feinberg School of Medicine web site.

Find out more about CME offerings at Northwestern! visit WardRoundsOnline.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 17–18, 2010

May 25, 2010
Pediatric Pearls: Infectious Disease / The Renaissance Hotel, 4520 W. Bryn Mawr, Chicago. For more information, call Children’s Memorial Hospital, 773/880-6772.

June 8, 2010
Pediatric Pearls: Sports Medicine / The DoubleTree Hotel, 1909 Spring Road, Oak Brook, Ill. For more information, call Children’s Memorial Hospital, 773/880-6772.

June 16–19, 2010
The Felix Rutledge Society Meeting / Robert H. Lurie Medical Research Center of Northwestern University, 333 East Superior St., Chicago. For more information, contact Amanda O’Rourke at 312/937-8533.

June 24–25, 2010
Management of Spasticity and other Hypertonic Motor Dysfunction / Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, 345 East Superior Street, Chicago. Course chair: Christina M. Marciniak, MD, and Stacy McCarty, MD. For more information, call Mary Eugene, Registrar – RIC Academy, 312/238-4251.

July 16–17, 2010
Update on Interdisciplinary Treatment Approaches for Chronic Pain Management: Improving Outcomes for All Stakeholders / Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, 345 East Superior Street, Chicago. Course co-chairs: David Chen, MD, Kimberly Eberhardt-Muir, MS, OTR/L, Diane Rowles, MS, ACNP, BC, CRRN, and Sally Taylor, PT. For more information, call 312-238-6042.

July 28–30, 2010
33rd Annual Spinal Cord Interdisciplinary Course - SCI Practice: Making Sense of a Complex Problem / Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, 345 East Superior Street, Chicago. Course co-chairs: David Chen, MD, Kimberly Eberhardt-Muir, MS, OTR/L, Diane Rowles, MS, ACNP, BC, CRRN, and Sally Taylor, PT. For more information, call 312-238-6042.

Visit WardRoundsOnline.com for more information on the 2009 Annual Report!

Take a peek online at…
the 2009 Annual Report!

...a collaborative communications effort between Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine and Northwestern Memorial Hospital.

Additional photography
Randy Belice – p. 1 (middle), pp. 4-5, pp. 18-21
Andrew Campbell – cover
Teresa Crawford – p. 1 (top), pp. 16, 17
Rahul Khare, MD – inside front cover
Carolyn Silva – p. 23