Jefferson Medical College Hosts Regional Conference on Cross-Cultural Medical Education and Practice

On Cross-Cultural Medical Education and Practice
Jefferson Medical College Hosts Regional Conference

Olearchuk, Don Lenox, Bill Hengeli and Ken Myerson. provided bathing caps and towels for the approximately 150 participants. Club President Mike

The event was sponsored by Dentyne Ice, which made a corporate gift of $5,000 toward the effort and Jefferson University Hospital through their annual plunge into the Atlantic Ocean on New Year's Day. The Atlantic City Polar Bear Club raised more than $7,000 for the Division of Urology at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital ICUs Named Among World's First

In This Issue: Jeff-at-Night Insert

Hospital ICUs Named To ‘100 Top’ Study
Thomas Jefferson University Hospital’s Intensive Care Units have been selected to the 100 Top Hospitals.” ICU Benchmarks for Success study by the Solucient Leadership Institute, formerly the HCIA-Sachs Institute.

The national ICU study identifies hospitals achieving high-quality care and superior financial results in perhaps the most clinically and economically demanding areas of health care intensive care units.

This honor adds to other recent ones from Solucient, placing the hospital in the nation’s top 100 for patient care, teaching, management and stroke care. To learn more, go to www.100TopHospitals.com

Children and teachers at Jefferson Child Care Center, Barringer Building, enjoy Pajama Day one of several events designed to keep the youngsters entertained during the winter when the weather is too cold to play outside, explains Center Director Kari Rose. Back row, second from left, is Anisha Jordan and Annete Phelps.

Jefferson Urology Hospital Introduces New Procedure to Treat Heart Disease
Doctors at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital have introduced a new procedure using a tiny radiation catheter to help reopen blocked coronary arteries.

The procedure, known as brachytherapy, offers hope for people with restenosis, a condition where scar tissue grows in coronary arteries previously opened by balloon angioplasty and stents.

The FDA (Federal Drug Administration) recently approved the procedure in part because of testing done at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital. Every year, an estimated 700,000 patients in the United States undergo balloon angioplasty - inflating a balloon at the tip of a catheter to widen a blocked coronary artery and thus improve blood flow. Tiny coils called stents are usually implanted into the artery to keep it propped open. However, in 20 to 30 percent of patients, scar-like plaque forms, causing restenosis within the stent.

*Restenosis inside a stent can be really frustrating," explains Michael F. Savage, M.D. a associate Professor of Medicine, Jefferson Medical College (JMC) and Director, Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory at the hospital. "We can reopen the blockage with balloons, lasers and rotabulators, but then the artery tends to close up again within six months. Once the brachytherapy procedure was approved, we began to use it to help our patients because it is dramatically effective in keeping the arteries open.”

With this new coronary procedure, Jefferson physicians are temporarily placing tiny radioactive "seeds" inside the coronary artery immediately after the angioplasty procedure and providing low-dose radiation therapy. All of the radiation remains in a catheter during the procedure, and does not touch the patient or the physician.

Among World’s First Jefferson University Hospital was among the first hospitals in the country to perform the procedure.

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Health System Sponsoring A.R.C.H.E.S. Symposium on Community Health March 12

Improving the health of communities is increasingly viewed as fundamental to the mission and values of health care and healthcare “systems.” In response to this growing concern, Jefferson Health System (JHS) is sponsoring the A.R.C.H.E.S. Gateway to Community Health, a free symposium to renew the connection between the health care delivery system and public health. The daylong event March 12 will take place at 201 Bluemont Life Sciences Building.

This symposium will allow hospital and health system administrators and board members, physicians, medical students, social workers, occupational and physical therapists, health educators, and representatives for schools, social service agencies, governmental officials, religious organizations and the public health community to discuss these issues.

The program will address various topics in community health, including current issues and trends at the international, national, and regional levels, identifying opportunities for health systems to improve the health of the region.

Employees Pitch in to Send Supplies to El Salvador Earthquake Area

Thanks in part to a coordinated effort by employees at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, victims of the massive earthquakes in El Salvador have received more than a ton of life-sustaining medical supplies in recent weeks.

The supplies were gathered, packed and shipped as part of the hospital’s participation in the volunteer program, “REMEDY in Philly,” which works within the hospital system to collect and put to use unused and surplus medical goods that otherwise would be discarded.

Coordinating the hospital’s effort with REMEDY in Philly are Patricia Wallace, Manager, Volunteer Services, and Ellis Reeder, Director of Supply Chain Optimization, Supply, Processing and Distribution (SPD). Other participants are the University of Pennsylvania and Children’s Hospital.

Supplies have also been sent to other countries in Central America and in Eastern Europe.

Says the coordinator of REMEDY in Philly, Ian Hoffman: “I thank everyone in SPD and the OR who have been so helpful to our efforts. REMEDY gives extra thanks to all who are making this extra effort with us.”

To participate in REMEDY, call Pat Wallace at 215-955-8370 or Ellis Reeder at 215-955-6680.

You Can Contribute to Earthquake Relief in India

The Jefferson Association of Indians (JAI) is raising funds for victims of the recent earthquake in India, which has claimed the lives of an estimated 50,000 people. These funds will help provide medical supplies, clean water and shoes, containers and water for the surviving victims of this devastating tragedy.

You can donate to: TJU India Earthquake Relief Fund, Barringer Building, 995 W. Firth St., Apt. #14, Philadelphia, PA 19107.

As of February 21, the fund had raised $6,000.

Call Rupal Mehta M.D. ‘04 or Mehta M.D. ‘03, 215-413-0890, or email rupal.mehta@jefferson.edu or rash@jefferson.edu.

“I feel so ‘pressed out.’ If the source of my stress were just one thing, I could make a change, but it is everything... just stuff piling up. I don’t know where to start.”

To learn strategies for coping, contact FirstCALL, Your Employee Assistance Program at 1-800-382-2377.

William Penn Foundation Expands Support for Jefferson Community Violence Prevention Partnership

The William Penn Foundation has awarded a new, three-year grant totaling $746,946 to the Violence Prevention Program at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital. This grant continues—and expands—the work of the Jefferson Community Violence Prevention Partnership, established in November 1997 through a collaborative grant of $244,000 to the Department of Emergency Medicine, led by Theodore A. Christopher, M.D., and the Department of Pastoral Care and Education, directed by Rev. Joseph Leggieri, PhD.

“We are honored to receive such a generous gift, which demonstrates the Foundation’s confidence in our program,” said Thomas A. Lewis, President and CEO of Thomas Jefferson University Hospital. “The hospital is committed to improving the health care of the communities it serves, and we are very grateful to have the William Penn Foundation as a partner in our violence prevention efforts.”

Developed in response to concerns about an increase in youth violence, the Violence Prevention Program identifies victims of violence and connects them with the existing network of community-based resources. The hospital’s partners in this effort are the United Communities Southeast Philadelphia (UCSP) and the Philadelphia Anti-Drug Anti-Violence Network (PAAAN).

New Grant Bolsters Community Impact

“We are greatly encouraged by the success of the program so far,” said Linda D. Watson, RN, M.S.N., CRNP, Primary Investigator. “Thanks to the interest and support of the William Penn Foundation, we have begun to make real inroads in our effort to disrupt the cycle of violence that has posed such a serious threat to the young people of our city. The new grant will allow us to expand our violence prevention program in the Southeast Philadelphia community and to reach more neighborhoods.”

Three Community Translational Counselors will be supported by the grant, and will be responsible for assessing and referring youths, collaborating with the PAAAN mentor, conducting home visits and providing information for continuous project evaluation. The Foundation designated Jefferson University Hospital to administer this new component of the program.

The increased funding also will help the hospital expand the violence prevention initiative to Methodist Hospital’s Emergency Department. The two facilities are working to exhibit at the 2nd Annual Community Violence Intervention Program in Philadelphia, Oct. 17.

Alzheimer’s Association Awards $240,000 Research Grant to Jefferson’s CHORD

The Alzheimer’s Association has awarded a three-year research grant of $339,994 to Thomas Jefferson University’s Community and Homecare Division (CHORD).

Laurie Gill, Ph.D. Funding will support research to evaluate the effectiveness of professionally led tele-support groups for family caregivers of persons afflicted with Alzheimer’s disease or a related disorder.

Says Laura N. Gillin, PhD, the study’s Principal Investigator and Director of CHORD: “There is a vital need to develop and test practical, low-cost and innovative interventions to assist families coping with the enormous consequences of providing care for this population.”

The Supportive Older Women’s Network (SOWN), of Philadelphia, will be collaborating with CHORD on the project for critically needed family caregivers’ research.

Established in 1996 by the College of Health Professions (CHP), CHORD serves as a focal point for applied research involving the development and design of innovative community and home-based services for individuals with chronic or disabling conditions, and specifically the elderly and their caregivers.

Age 70 or Over?

If you’re a Philadelphia resident age 70 or older and have difficulty with everyday activities, you may be eligible to participate in Project A.B.E. (Alyancing Bette Living for Elders). Call 215-563-3030.

Dermatology Practices

Moved to 833 Chestnut St.

The Department of Dermatology and Cutaneous Biology announces that the Center City practices of Jefferson Dermatology Associates relocated from Walnut Towers to newly constructed offices at 833 Chestnut St., Suite 740, at 3rd and Walnut St. The telephone remains the same: 215-955-6680.

The research and administrative activities of the Department, including the Chairman’s Office, remain at Blumenthal Life Sciences Building, Suite 450, where the telephone remains 215-503-5785.

Jefferson Dermatology Associates recently has opened new practice locations in the New Patient Building at Cooper Hospital, 1101 N. Orange Center, 110 N. Orange Avenue, telephone 856-842-6450.

Both practice sites offer a range of general dermatologic diagnosis and treatment for adults and children, as well as cosmetic services.
Jeff
settlement may be spent on various receiving from tobacco companies specifically on how the $11 billion Y. Schwartz discuss healthcare hear Pennsylvania Senator Allyson Nearly 70 members of the Jefferson PA Sen. Allyson Schwartz Discuss Health Issues health-related causes. The bill next House since passed, 193-1, a bill about the coming year's health issues. The bill next House since passed, 193-1, a bill about the coming year's health issues.

ComplyLine Activity in 2000 ComplyLine, Inc. The company's confidential telephone service (available 24 hours a day, seven days a week) is in its third year of operation. This reporting mechanism is perhaps the most apparent evidence of Jeff's commitment to "Do the Right Thing." The primary purpose in establishing ComplyLine, Inc. was to provide our staff with an avenue for communicating concerns about the organization's compliance with government regulations. A secondary goal was to encourage employees to make us aware of issues related to conformance with our internal policies and procedures.

During the past year, the number of calls to ComplyLine, Inc. has been low, but we have anticipated that the company's confidence telephone service (available 24 hours a day, seven days a week) is in its third year of operation. This reporting mechanism is perhaps the most apparent evidence of Jeff's commitment to "Do the Right Thing." The primary purpose in establishing ComplyLine, Inc. was to provide our staff with an avenue for communicating concerns about the organization's compliance with government regulations. A secondary goal was to encourage employees to make us aware of issues related to conformance with our internal policies and procedures.

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BROWN BAG LUNCHEONS
Tuesday, March 13
6 to 7:30 p.m. in the basement of the school for staff, students and other members of the Jefferson community. (No lunch is served.)
- JeffersonCourse Treatment Program, Sam H. Goldson, M.D., Associate Professor of Radiation Oncology, vascular access and aortic aneurysms.
- JeffersonNursing Addiction Treatment Program, "Compensation issues that arise from hormone-related changes in menopausal women," by Dr. Margaret E. Gass, 215-955-2002. (For lunch reservations, call 215-955-1374. Telephone numbers do not answer; please call via Jefferson's main number.)

Wednesday, March 14
11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Radziwill Room of the main building.

Thursday, March 15
11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Radziwill Room of the main building.

Friday, March 16
11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Radziwill Room of the main building.

TUESDAY, MARCH 20
4 to 5 p.m. in the blueprint room of the main building.
- "Proving a Point: A Debate on the Use of Elder Abuse in Long-Term Care," by Edward M. Sydow, 215-955-1374.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21
11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Radziwill Room of the main building.

Thursday, March 22
11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Radziwill Room of the main building.

FRIDAY, MARCH 23
11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Radziwill Room of the main building.

MAY 2001
- JeffersonNursing Addiction Treatment Program, "Compensation issues that arise from hormone-related changes in menopausal women," by Dr. Margaret E. Gass, 215-955-2002. (For lunch reservations, call 215-955-1374. Telephone numbers do not answer; please call via Jefferson's main number.)

Wednesday, May 23
11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Radziwill Room of the main building.