Jefferson Introducing New Logos

As a step toward further unifying the identity of our campus, Thomas Jefferson University and Thomas Jefferson University Hospital have introduced new logos to be used on all institutional documents such as letterhead, business cards, publications, and advertising.

Two of the new logos are shown at left.

In order to use the new logos on other than letterhead, Jefferson departments must contact Catherine Wheeler in the University Counsel Office and request a permission form. When permission is granted by the Trademark Committee, Marketing and University Graphics will transmit the logo to the user department.

Employees can view the new logos and their uses by going to www.jeffgraphics.com

Jefferson College of Health Professions Holds 179th Commencement on May 14

Jefferson College of Health Professions, Thomas Jefferson University, will hold commencement exercises on Wednesday, May 14, 10:30 a.m., at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts in center city Philadelphia.

Honorary doctoral degrees will be awarded to Reverend Charles T.A. Flood, Rector of St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church, Philadelphia, and T. Franklin Williams, MD, Professor of Medicine Emeritus at the University of Rochester and Monroe County Hospital, NY. The Class of 2003 totals 298 graduates, including 285 bachelor of science degree recipients in the disciplines of nursing, occupational therapy, diagnostic imaging and laboratory sciences; five post-baccalaureate certificate recipients in laboratory sciences; and eight associate degree recipients. Also included in the totals are physical therapy students who will complete their combined BS-MS degree program during this summer.

Douglas MacMaster Jr., Esq., Chairman of the Board of Trustees, will present Rev. Flood for the Honorary Doctor of Medical Sciences. In addition to being Rector at St. Stephen’s, Rev. Flood also serves as Chaplain at the office of the Chief Medical Examiner in New York City.

Dr. Williams will also be presented for the Honorary Doctor of Medical Sciences by Laura Gitlin, PhD, Associate Director, Center for Collaborative Research and Professor in ICHP’s Department of Occupational Therapy. Dr. Williams has also served as Scientific Director of the American Federation for Aging Research. University President Paul C. Bruckler, MD, will confer the student degrees.

All members of the Jefferson community are invited to tour the newly dedicated facilities of the Farber Institute for Neurosciences on Monday, May 19, from 4 to 6 p.m.

The open house is being hosted by Samuel E. Gandy III, MD, PhD, Professor of Neurology and of Biochemistry and Molecular Pharmacology, Jefferson Medical College, and Director of Jefferson’s Farber Institute for Neurosciences.

The open house and tours for the Jefferson community follow dedication ceremonies of the facility from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. featuring honored guests Jack and Vickie Farber.

The dedication ceremony will also feature appearances and remarks by two well-known public advocates for Alzheimer’s disease research, Patti Davis, daughter of former President and Mrs. Ronald Reagan, and actor David Hyde Pierce of TV’s “Frasier.”

Barry W. Rovner, MD, to Direct Clinical Alzheimer’s Research Program at Jefferson’s Farber Institute

Barry W. Rovner, MD, has been named Director of the Division of Geriatric Psychiatry and Professor of Psychiatry and Human Behavior, Jefferson Medical College (JMC).

“Dr. Rovner’s expertise in the research and treatment of Alzheimer’s disease and dementia will strengthen the clinical research program at the Farber Institute, which we have recently inaugurated with our participation in the first clinical trial in North America aimed at the proteins that accumulate in the Alzheimer brains,” says Samuel E. Gandy III, MD, PhD. Professor of Neurology and of Biochemistry and Molecular Pharmacology, JMC, and Director of Jefferson’s Farber Institute for Neurosciences.

Under the guidance of Dr. Rovner, the Farber Institute in collaboration with Jefferson’s Geriatric Psychiatry Program provides Alzheimer’s evaluations that include comprehensive and individualized diagnostic services, therapeutic options to patients with various types of dementia and support and educational services to patients’ family members.

In addition to these clinical programs, the Farber Institute for Neurosciences is involved in a growing range of basic science research projects advancing fundamental knowledge on Alzheimer’s and other dementing disorders, while pursuing new treatment modalities.

Dr. Rovner has also recently been directing a clinical trial studying the link between depression and vision problems in the elderly.

Before coming to Jefferson, Dr. Rovner was Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and was actively involved in Alzheimer’s research.

You’re Invited! Tour Farber Institute for Neurosciences, May 19, 4 to 6 p.m.

All members of the Jefferson community are invited to tour the newly dedicated facilities of the Farber Institute for Neurosciences on Monday, May 19, from 4 to 6 p.m.

To take a tour, go to the Farber Institute on the fourth floor of the Jefferson Hospital for Neurosciences, on 9th Street between Walnut and Locust streets.

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About the Farber Institute

In December 2001, the Farber Family Foundation, Inc. announced a gift of $10 million to Thomas Jefferson University to establish a new neurosciences research institute, one of the largest gifts the university has ever received. The Farber Institute is a multidisciplinary center initially focusing its efforts on basic and clinical research in Alzheimer’s disease, Parkinson’s disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) and other neurodegenerative disorders.
Volunteers Feted in May During Annual Recognition Week

Every day, Jefferson's 300 volunteers are engaged in visiting and assisting patients, coordinating activities in the Surgical Family Waiting Area, completing bulk mailings, running errands and making the hospital a friendlier and more efficient environment. On May 20, volunteers will gather for a special luncheon of celebration and good times to honor their generous contribution to Jefferson.

Be on the lookout for our volunteers during the week of May 19 and be sure to pass along your thanks and appreciation. Look for a special display outside of the Volunteer Services Office, 2180 Girton that week. For more information, contact Patricia A. Wallace, Program Director, Community Health, Pastoral Care and Volunteer Services, 215-955-6222.

Take a Health Trip This Spring!

With the ice and cold of the harsh winter behind us, now's the time to join your fellow Jeffersonians in the Tri-City Health and Fitness Challenge. During this 10-week program, from May 12 to July 14, you can increase your level of physical fitness and energy, boost your knowledge of nutrition and have fun doing it. Health trappers receive a passport of weekly activities, an optional pedometer and incentives and can participate in a variety of on-campus activities. Visit "Jae Veggies," Nevada, and "Snackermorning," California, and earn the Presidential Adult-Active Lifestyle Award. Take lanchtime walks through historic Philadelphia and meet new friends.

For beginners and seasoned "Phit-adelphians" alike, the program is sponsored by the Mayor's Office of Health and Fitness and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and coordinated by Jefferson's Department of Community Health. A nominal fee offsets the cost. Call 215-955-6222 to learn more and to sign up.

Radiation Oncology Initiating New Approach to Reduce Risk for Patients with Breast Cancer

The hospital's Department of Radiation Oncology has initiated a new approach to reducing the risk of radiation to affected patients with breast cancer. The department is employing a new device called the Active Breathing Coordinator (ABC).

"We expect that using this device during breast radiotherapy may decrease the volume of heart, lung, or liver receiving radiation. This approach is being conducted as part of an IRB approved trial. "The device allows for radiation delivery during the inspiratory phase of breathing. By expanding the chest wall, increased space is created between the chest wall and internal organs. This decreases the overall dose to these organs."

Thomas Jefferson University Hospital's Kimmel Cancer Center is one of only two hospitals in the country testing the effectiveness of the ABC on breast cancer patients.

For more information, contact Dr. Siddhu at 215-955-6701 or kaulis.siddhus@jefferson.edu.

Civic Foundation and霍克斯里奇史密斯基金会
Renew Support for University and Hospital Projects

Jefferson Medical College (JMC) and Thomas Jefferson University Hospital have initiated a new approach to reducing the risk of radiation to affected patients with breast cancer. The department is employing a new device called the Active Breathing Coordinator (ABC).

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Civic Foundation and霍克斯里奇史密斯基金会

Civic Foundation Grant: Advances JeffH.O.P.E. Initiatives

The Civic Foundation continues its longstanding philanthropy to JeffH.O.P.E. with a grant to support the innovative student-managed program, which provides medical care to the uninsured or otherwise underserved populations in Philadelphia. Some 700 Jefferson students and faculty members, under the auspices of the Department of Family Medicine, participate in this volunteer urban health initiative that includes five clinic sites, a patient advocacy project and a program for at-risk children. "JeffH.O.P.E. depends upon financial support from contributions," says Paul C. Brucker, MD, University President.

"This current Civic Foundation grant will assist in the purchase of medical and other essential supplies and help with transportation costs. The consistent partnership of Civic Foundation is an essential ingredient of the project’s success, and provides invaluable encouragement to both our volunteers and our patients.”

Stephen F. Weinstein, PhD, Chair, Medical Students’ Psychiatric and Human Behavior, Jefferson Medical College (JMC), and Director of JMC’s Division of Substance Abuse Programs. "Our programs have been very successful in providing care to children who need it and we are very grateful for the Civic Foundation’s support.”

JHS Hospice and Palliative Care Program
Adds Two New Staff Members

The Hospice and Palliative Care Program of The Home Care Network, a member of the Jefferson Health System (JHS), announces the addition of two new staff members.

Carol Bowman and Liz Hughes are the new coordinators for the Hospice Bereavement Program, which offers support to those who have experienced the recent loss of a loved one. The new members coordinate a full complement of bereavement services, such as personalized assessment and follow-up, referrals to community resources, monthly mailings, and bereavement support groups that focus on specialized areas of loss such as a men’s group, widow and widowers, and women grieving the loss of a parent. In addition, they organize and facilitate semiannual memorial services.

"We are proud to welcome Carol and Liz to our team as we bring on the ‘V’ month of May, a month dedicated to celebrating the lives of those we have lost." For more information, call 215-955-6219.

In Memoriam

Catherine Liu lost her courageous battle with cancer on March 2, just three months before her scheduled Commencement with the Jefferson Medical College Class of 2003. Classmates, faculty, family and friends will remember Catherine for her kindness, compassion, and dedication to her family, her patients, and others who were touched by their care. In honor of Catherine and her family, the College is establishing a scholarship fund in her name. For more information, contact the JMC Office for Student Affairs, 215-955-6888.

JeffNews

May 1, 2007
Jefferson Researchers Awarded $150,000 NIH Grant to Support Oversight

The National Institutes of Health (NIH)/Division of Human Subjects Protection (DHSP) has awarded Jefferson Medical College (JMC), a $150,000 grant to support oversight of human subjects research. The grant permits Jefferson’s JMC, recipients of two pilot programs, to expand the campus-wide human trials database to include all clinical trials and the other to establish a full-time Quality Improvement (QI) program in DHSP to operate in conjunction with the continuing review process.

Jefferson researchers will implement:
- a campus-wide, real-time, internet-accessible measurement system for all clinical trials. This will track trial status, patient accrual, adverse events, faculty participation and other pertinent information from initial proposal through to conclusion.
- a full-time QI program that will permit DHSP to conduct routine, random, quality improvement site visits to investigators and respond to inquiries or complaints from regulatory agencies, sponsors or research subjects.
- a research subjects program winning the grant consists of:
  - Thomas J. Nasca, MD, FACP, JMC Dean, Principal Investigator.
  - George F. Kalf, PhD, CIP, Associate Director, Office of Scientific Affairs, JMC, and Director, DHSP.
  - Jack W. London, PhD, Director, Kimmel Cancer Centre (KCC) Shared Computer Facility.
  - Steven Mervis, MBA, Director, KCC Clinical Trials Support Office.

Dr. Kalf hopes that the award will “confirm the importance of human subjects protection and enable Jefferson researchers to take a more active role on prevention of harm to subjects and to a culture with less bias that embraces a collegial, constructive partnership between investigators/research coordinators and the DHSP.”

Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation Awards 3 Research Grants to Jeffersonians

Jefferson’s Kimmel Cancer Center (KCC) and Thomas Jefferson University Hospital have been awarded three research grants from the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. The awards were honored at a reception and kick-off for the Komen Philadelphia Race for the Cure, to be held on Mother’s Day, Sunday, May 11.

The grants and summaries of awards:
- Lora Rhodes, MSW, LSW, Coordinator, Advocacy and Survivorship Program, Kimmel Cancer Center, and Walter J. Cervino, MD, Clinical Director, KCC, and Chairman, Department of Radiation Oncology: “Facing Breast Cancer with Information and Support” ($23,741) – An education and networking program for women with breast cancer.
- Rickie Brown, Director of Community Health, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, and James D. Plamh, MD, Clinical Associate Professor of Family Medicine and Director, Center for Palliative Care: “Using Photo Novellas as an Educational Strategy to Bring Breast Health Education to Philadelphia’s Chinese Community” ($45,353) – A partnership project between Jefferson’s Community Health Department and Chinese and English Information Center to develop a bilingual (Chinese/English) pamphlet providing accurate health information about breast cancer, including risk factors screening follow-up guidelines.
- Sue Miller-Samuel, RN, MSN, APNG, Advanced Practice Nurse in Genetics, and Bruce M. Raman, MD, PhD, Director, Hereditary Cancer Program, and Director of Medical Oncology and Medical Genetics: “Who Is at Increased Risk for Breast Cancer?: Understanding Breast Cancer Risk, Breast Cancer Genetics, and Genetic Testing” ($34,876) – Community-based educational sessions featuring early detection, importance of appropriate screening and understanding of genetic risk assessment, genetics counseling, genetic counseling and testing.

ODAMA Hosts First Annual Open House for Underrepresented Pre-Medical Students

Committed to reaching out to underrepresented pre-medical students and their advisors, the Office of Diversity and Minority Affairs (ODAMA) of Jefferson Medical College (JMC) received an overwhelming response to its first annual Open House. More than 150 students visited Jefferson. A continued goal of ODAMA is to create a positive impact of the event.

Among undergraduates and universities represented were Bryn Mawr College, the University of Maryland-Eastern Shore, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Delaware and Rutgers, Delaware State, Lehigh, Widener and Drexel universities.

Malpractice Crisis Update: No Long-term Relief in Sight

The first three months of Governor Ed Rendell’s administration yielded little progress in resolving Pennsylvania’s ongoing medical malpractice insurance crisis.

For the short term, Governor Rendell pushed back the due date of the assessments physicians must pay to Pennsylvania’s Medical Care Availability and Reduction of Error (Mcare) Act from April 1 to July 1. The Mcare Fund assessment represents “a significant expense for internists and family physicians and a huge expense for high-risk subspecialty groups,” says Barbara G. Friedman, MD, President of the Thomas Jefferson University Hospital medical staff. So far, nothing has come of the governor’s proposed “forgiveness program” to eliminate the 2003 Mcare assessments for high-risk specialists and to cut them in half for all other doctors.

In preparing a report submitted around April 1, Gov. Rendell’s medical malpractice task force was split on the issue of limits, or caps, on malpractice lawsuit damages for pain and suffering, and, therefore, was unable to recommend that they be implemented.

The caps issue and other aspects of the malpractice insurance crisis are summarized in a future issue of Profile.

State Board of Medicine Strictly Enforcing Mcare Law

The State Board of Medicine in Pennsylvania has begun enforcement efforts related to the Medical Care Availability and Reduction of Error (Mcare) Act that was signed into law on March 20, 2002 by former Governor Mark S. Schweiker. The Mcare law has established certain obligations for all physicians licensed in Pennsylvania.

Among other requirements, Mcare includes a mandatory self-reporting obligation for physicians. Physicians self-report to the PA Board of Medicine within 60 days of the occurrence of any of the following:
- Receipt of service of a civil malpractice complaint
- Notice of a disciplinary action by another jurisdiction
- Any arrest
- Any convictions for criminal offenses
- Any arrests for criminal offenses such as homicide, assault, sexual offenses and controlled substance violations

Details of the reporting process will appear in a future issue of Profile. Jefferson University Physicians should direct questions to Lorraine Sacchetti at 215-593-8576 or Lorraine.Sacchetti@jeu.edu.

Volunteer physicians are required to self-report claims.
GRAND ROUNDS

Monday, May 18

Infectious Medicine: Howard H. White, MD. The Institute of Medicine of National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. “Evolving Pathogens: The Role of Evolutionary Biology in Infectious Disease.” 8 to 9 a.m., 101 BLSB. For more information, please call the Office of Continuing Medical Education at 215-955-6900 or visit jfcalendars.jefferson.edu/grandrounds.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Wednesday, May 20

Jeffrey Rock, Family Medicine. topic to be announced. 8 to 9 a.m., 101 BLSB.

Pediatricians, Christopher F. Genovese, MD. Philadelphia Children’s Hospital. “Pediatrics” 8 to 9 a.m., 101 BLSB. For more information, please contact Dr. Genovese at christopher_genovese@pennmedicine.upenn.edu.

Tuesday, May 26

Pediatrics, John A. Reilly, MD, Professor of Pediatrics and Neuroradiology, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. “Bone Marrow Transplantation: Molecular Targeted Therapy.” 8 to 9 a.m., 101 BLSB.

Pediatrics, Andrew E. Friedman, MD. Professor of Pediatrics and Director of Pediatric Critical Care Medicine at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. “Pediatric Intensive Care Unit: The Future of Technology.” 8 to 9 a.m., 101 BLSB.

Pediatrics. 4 to 7 p.m., 101 BLSB. For more information contact Dr. Peabody at 215-955-1139.

Surgery, Maria Ann B. Tejada, MD, Professor of Surgery at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital. “Kidney Transplantation.” 8 to 9 a.m., 101 BLSB.

Medical Ethics, Rose Marie P. A. Kenney, MD, PhD, Director of the JFK Medical Ethics Program. “From Necessity to Neutrality: The Ethics of Capital punishment.” 8 to 9 a.m., 101 BLSB. For more information, please contact Dr. Kenney at kenneyr@jefferson.edu.

Wednesday, May 27

Clinical Neurology, Robert B. Greenberg, MD, Professor of Neurology. “Tuberous Sclerosis: The Role of Genetics.” 8 to 9 a.m., 101 BLSB.

Clinical Neurology, Robert B. Greenberg, MD, Professor of Neurology. “Tuberous Sclerosis: The Role of Genetics.” 8 to 9 a.m., 101 BLSB.

Wednesday, May 28

Clinical Neurology, Robert B. Greenberg, MD, Professor of Neurology. “Tuberous Sclerosis: The Role of Genetics.” 8 to 9 a.m., 101 BLSB.

Medical Ethics, Rose Marie P. A. Kenney, MD, PhD, Director of the JFK Medical Ethics Program. “From Necessity to Neutrality: The Ethics of Capital punishment.” 8 to 9 a.m., 101 BLSB. For more information, please contact Dr. Kenney at kenneyr@jefferson.edu.