Welcome Class of 2008!

On a sparkling mid-summer morning, smiles of joy and optimism beamed across Scott Plaza as first-year Jefferson Medical College (JMC) students, family members and faculty participated in Opening Exercises and the traditional White Coat Ceremony for 228 members of the JMC Class of 2008. Students and faculty posed for the group photos following the program while Deepali Mude and Amira Bass typify the exuberance of the day.

Ceremony for 228 members of the Medical College (JMC) students, and the traditional White Coat partook in Opening Exercises.

Professionalism and the Jefferson Academic Affairs, JMC, delivered White Coat Legacy.” Clara A. Gibbon Building, where you can Jay S. Greenspan, MD, Professor of Pediatrics, Jefferson Medical College, and Neonatology in front of mom Amy, became a NICU
top the 2004 White Coat Keynote Address. James D. Plumb, MD, MPH, Clinical Associate Professor of Family Medicine, led the students in reading the Hippocratic Oath. Charles A. Pohl, MD, Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Career Counseling, JMC, whose office organizes the event, introduced all speakers.

Step Out September 19 For the ‘Big Walk for Little Feet’

All early signs point to the 2004 “Big Walk for Little Feet” being the biggest and best yet. 

Hugely successful in its first three years, the “Big Walk for Little Feet” is returning for a fourth year as a special feature of the 2004 Jefferson Hospital Philadelphia Distance Run – the 27th anniversary of the annual world-famed half-marathon run. 

This is the seventh straight year Jefferson Hospital will be the run’s title sponsor. 

The “Big Walk for Little Feet” is a fun way for all to take a giant step to help save babies’ lives. The three-mile walk will again raise funds to benefit Jefferson’s Labor and Delivery suite and the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), Transitional and Well-Baby Nurseries.

A Big Family Fun Walk 

The “Big Walk for Little Feet” on Sunday, September 19, is a fun walk for the entire family – parents, children and friends. So much fun that families keep coming back year after year. See photos.

The “Big Walk” begins at 8 a.m. at 12th and Market Streets, just after the last half-marathon runner takes off for the Distance Run. The Distance Run start time is also 8 a.m. and the starting line is at 9th and Market streets.

To form a Big Walk team of 5 or more members, call Phyllis Nangle in the Academic Affairs Development Office at 215-955-9536. Walkers and runners can register online at www.jeffersonhospital.org/ph.

On Wednesday, October 13, employees who celebrated five-year (5, 10, 15, etc.) service anniversaries, between July 1, 2003 and June 30, 2004, will be honored at “The Ballroom at the Ben” in the Benjamin Franklin Hotel. The event will include a reception from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., with presentation of gifts and entertainment.

Through various forums, including employee roundtables and the employee survey, Jeffersonians have clearly voiced the importance they place on being acknowledged for superior performance, individual acts of merit and loyal service. Jefferson administration shares the belief that such recognition is an integral part of workplace quality, and is therefore pleased to have this opportunity to acknowledge more than 914 employees who have recently celebrated a service anniversary. Included in the group are 163 employees marking 25 or more years of service to Jefferson. Invitations to all honorees will be distributed during the week of August 25.

For more information about the Service Recognition Celebration, call Randy McLaughlin in Human Resources at 215-503-8775.

University Health Services Rolling Out Flu Shot Awareness Drive

The University Health Services Department is rolling out in September a flu vaccine awareness program to encourage more employees to receive flu shots this year.

"Last year about 2,400 university and hospital employees received free influenza vaccine. We’d like to vaccinate as many as 6,000 this year to come closer to guidelines set by the Center for Disease Control," says Ellen O’Connor, MD, Medical Director, University Health Services.

The more ambitious goal has been set by Phyllis R. Flomenberg, MD, Infection Control Officer, who would like every healthcare worker to be vaccinated.

To achieve this, several communication channels will be used to reach employees and encourage more of them to receive their shots in a timely way at the Health Services Office.

On Tuesday, October 5, Robert L. Barchi, MD, PhD, will be formally installed as Thomas Jefferson University’s fourth President in ceremonies to be held in Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Performing Arts Center, 260 S. Broad St. In a special broadcast email, Brian G. Harrison, Chair, University Board of Trustees, said, in part: “We take pleasure in inviting all members of the Jefferson community to attend. We hope that each department will organize a system of coverage that will allow those who wish to attend the ceremony to do so, while providing for the uninterrupted conduct of essential operations. Formal invitations to the ceremony will be sent shortly.”

Celebrating Our Employees with Service Recognition Program October 13

As part of Jefferson’s continuing efforts to recognize the contributions of our valued employees, an annual Service Recognition Celebration will be held this fall.

On Wednesday, October 13, employees who celebrated five-year (5, 10, 15, etc.) service anniversaries, between July 1, 2003 and June 30, 2004, will be honored at “The Ballroom at the Ben” in the Benjamin Franklin Hotel. The event will include a reception from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., with presentation of gifts and entertainment.

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For more information about the Service Recognition Celebration, call Randy McLaughlin in Human Resources at 215-503-8775.
Renato Baserga, MD, Named Interim Director Of Jefferson's Kimmel Cancer Center

Renato Baserga, MD, has been named Interim Director of the Kimmel Cancer Center of Thomas Jefferson University and Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, effective September 30, Thomas J. Nasca, MD, FACP, Dean, Jefferson Medical College (JMC), and Senior Vice President, Thomas Jefferson University, has announced.

Dr. Baserga is the Distinguished Professor of Microbiology and Immunology, JMC, and the Deputy Director of the Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson.

Dr. Baserga is an internationally recognized leader in research in basic mechanisms of cancer cell biology. He has most recently concentrated his research efforts in the understanding of the role of the Type 1 Insulin-Like Growth Factor and its signaling pathway. Results of these efforts have led to novel therapeutic approaches targeting this system for anti-cancer therapy.

Dr. Nasca made the announcement of “this important leadership role” to the University Board of Trustees and the wider Jefferson community “with great enthusiasm and pleasure.”

Scott D. Goldstein, MD, Named Director, Colon and Rectal Surgery

Colon and Rectal surgeon Scott D. Goldstein, MD, has been named Director of Colon and Rectal Surgery, Department of Surgery, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital.

Dr. Goldstein, who is also Assistant Professor of Surgery, Jefferson Medical College, has been at Jefferson for a decade. He had previously served as Director of Colon and Rectal Surgery at Pennsylvania Hospital.

Dr. Goldstein’s research interests include colorectal cancer, endoscopic gastrointestinal surgery and inflammatory bowel disease. The board-certified colorectal surgeon is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and a member of the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons, the Society of American Gastrointestinal Endoscopic Surgeons and the Pennsylvania Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons, for which he has served as President.

Dr. Goldstein has been listed in “The Best Doctors in America” since 1998. He is the author of numerous publications, chapters and editorial reviews.

Dr. Goldstein completed a residency in colon and rectal surgery at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-Rutgers Medical School and a surgical residency at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York City.

He earned a BS in biology in 1973 from the University of Pittsburgh, and his MD from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

University Presents Douglas J. MacMaster Jr., Esq, Portrait

Literally surrounded by family, Douglas J. MacMaster Jr., Esq., Attorney Chair of the University Board of Trustees, poses beside his portrait following its presentation in an emotional ceremony and tribute by Jefferson colleagues and friends.

Following opening remarks by Peter M. Mattson, Esq., Vice Chair, Board of Trustees, a longtime friend and business associate of Mr. MacMaster, Jerome Kellar, cited “wisdom, talent, and integrity” as lifelong traits. He described his “greatest talent” as “leadership” and praised his “ability to simplify the complex.” Mr. Kellar summed up by saying there is “a portrait of Mr. MacMaster that is carried in the hearts of all who knew him – that he is the finest of men.”

In accepting Mr. MacMaster’s portrait, the University President, Paul C. Bockstaele, MD, University President, called him “one of the most upbeat persons I know – and a good boss and a wonderful friend.”

University Launches New Neuroscience PhD Program

The University has established a new interdepartmental PhD Program in Neuroscience, James H. Keen, PhD, Dean, Jefferson College of Graduate Studies, has announced.

In making the announcement, Dr. Keen said the new program “brings together 25 participating faculty from nine of Jefferson’s basic science and clinical departments, many of whom are also members of the Farber Institute for Neuroscience. The Program will provide a strong unifying focus on campus for doctoral level training and research in fundamental molecular and cellular neuroscience, as well as translational research leading to therapies for related neurological disorders.”

Elisabeth Van Bockstaele, PhD, Associate Professor of Neurosurgery, will serve as the PhD Program’s inaugural Director. Dr. Van Bockstaele headed the interdepartmental faculty task force that developed the program proposal.

“I also wish to acknowledge the administrative and financial support of the new program by the Farber Institute for Neurosciences and its Director, Samuel Gandy, MD,” said Dr. Keen.

To learn more, contact Dr. Van Bockstaele at 215-503-1245 or elisabeth.vanbockstaele@jefferson.edu

Giving Something Back Through Scholarships

Henry Liss, MD, JMC ’48, is grateful for having received the opportunity to attend medical school courtesy of the Navy and G.J. Bill. “I wants to give something back.” To that end, Dr. Liss and his wife Amy have generously funded the Amy and Henry Liss Scholarship Fund, as well as providing annual support for Jefferson Medical College (JMC). Their will provides a substantial sum for the scholarship fund, as well.

In 2004, scholarships totaling $15,000 were awarded from the Amy and Henry Liss Scholarship Fund to five JMC students. In fact, Amy and Henry Liss have a lifetime commitment to giving something back. In addition to raising their two sons, Amy has served on the board of the Willow Northampton School, Antioch University Board of Trustees, and the Ms. Foundation for Women and its Healthy Girls-Healthy Women initiative. Dr. Liss serves on the board of the Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation, and has volunteered his time with several state committees on spinal cord injury. Says Mrs. Liss, “If you are able to participate in the community and help others, you really should. It’s so rewarding and exciting.”

When Dr. and Mrs. Liss recently celebrated 50 years of marriage, their son David suggested putting on a big anniversary party for them. They declined, saying that they would much rather have the money donated to their favorite cause – the Amy and Henry Liss Scholarship Fund. Jefferson soon received a generous check to add to the fund.

Henry and Amy Liss believe in living their lives with energy, a sense of humor, devotion to the things they believe are most important, and a willingness to share their resources in the service of others. Jefferson Medical College is fortunate to have their interest and support.
Honoring Dr. Brucker

To honor University President Paul C. Brucker, MD, board members, faculty, family and friends looked on with pride at Brian G. Harrison, Chair of Thomas Jefferson University’s Board of Trustees, cut the ribbon during the dedication ceremonies for the Paul C. Brucker, MD, Learning Center.

The upgraded and refurbished classrooms on the second floor of the College Building, made possible through a $540,000 anonymous donation, were named for Dr. Brucker in recognition of his 31 years of outstanding service to Jefferson, its patients and students.

In his remarks at the event, Dr. Brucker announced his plans to continue at Jefferson in a teaching capacity as President Emeritus, at 303 Curtis Building, telephone 215-955-2370.

In photo at top right, from left are: Mr. Harrison, Dr. Brucker and Thomas Nasca, MD, Dean, Jefferson Medical College and Senior Vice President for the University. In the inset photo, Mrs. Brucker (front left) dines with James B. Edmoun, PhD, Dean, Jefferson College of Health Professions.

In the photo to the right, at a Scott Plaza farewell reception in his honor, employees had a chance to meet and converse with Dr. Brucker over mid-day refreshments.

Robert W. Frederick, MD
Named Team Physician by U.S. Olympic Committee

The United States Olympic Committee named sports medicine specialist Robert W. Frederick, MD, of the Rothman Institute at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital as volunteer head physician for the United States men’s and women’s artistic and woman’s rhythmic gymnastics teams competing in the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens.

Dr. Frederick, Assistant Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery, Jefferson Medical College, was one of only eight physicians in the United States, and the only one from Pennsylvania, selected to provide medical care to about 540 American athletes taking part in the games in August.

“This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity,” Dr. Frederick says. “These athletes have dedicated the last four years of their lives towards the goal of competing in Greece and bringing home the gold. Our goal as their physicians is to minimize the impact of any injury or illness on their achieving this life-long dream.”

Day of Caring September 9 Kicks Off United Way Campaign

To kick off the 2004 United Way Campaign, Jefferson is planning to continue the tradition of participating in the United Way’s 13th Annual Day of Caring community project.

This United Way was held in support of the United Way agencies and get first hand experience at making a difference in our communities. You can see the gratitude in the faces of the people you help,” says Randy McLoughlin, Manager, Employee Relations and this year’s United Way Campaign Chair.

This year’s anticipated project will be at the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

To sign up, or for more information, contact Grace Hardeski, 215-955-3790.

This year’s anticipated project will be at the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Get your taste buds ready! The 9th annual “A Taste of the Neighborhood” restaurant expo sponsored by the University Activities Office will be held Tuesday, September 7, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Scott Plaza (rain location is Jefferson Alumni Hall Mezzanine). The always popular event affords employees, students, and volunteers a chance to sample discounted fare from area restaurants. Here are some scenes from last year’s event.

MS Public Health Leadership Program Begins Third Year

The Jefferson College of Graduate Studies (JCGS) Master of Science in Public Health (MSPH) Program is now beginning its third year.

“Initiated two years ago under the leadership of former Dean Jussi Saukkonen, MD, and Associate Dean Georgette Bauscher, EdD, the Program has made great strides and has proven to be quite popular,” says James H. Keen, Dean, JCGS.

The diversity of the program’s student population reflects how broad a field Public Health is, says Ms. Ravelle. “Students include physicians, allied health professionals, administrators and people from the pharmaceutical industry. And 38 percent have professional degrees: MD, PhD, MBA, DDS. Several work for government health departments and health policy offices.”

The program’s flexibility allows students to complete at their own pace within two to four years. It offers meaningful thesis research and clerkship programs with opportunities in the communities and abroad. To learn more, Jennifer.Ravelli@jefferson.edu or 215-955-0174.

Hold the Date! MSPH Open House September 22

Come to the Open House sponsored by the Master of Science Program in Public Health and learn how you can be part of this exciting new program. Meet faculty staff and other students at Eakins Lounge, Jefferson Alumni Hall, September 22 from 5 to 7 p.m.

Come to Jefferson Bookstore
Grand Opening Week, September 13 - 17

The Jefferson Medical and Health Science Bookstore is holding a Grand Opening Week, celebration at its new location, 1009 Chestnut St., the week of September 13 through 17. Each day will have a special theme, with Monday, September 13, the Grand Opening Kick-Off day. All employees are welcome. Call 215-955-7922 to visit www.jefferson.edu/bookstore.
Flu Shot Awareness Drive continued from page 3

“We anticipate no shortage of vaccine this year,” says Dr. O’Connor. The timetable calls for shots to be available from October through January. Flu season generally begins in December, and peaks in January. For the first time, it is planned to give flu shots at the Benefits Fair on October 26.

Meanwhile, employees should watch for printed flyers with paychecks and other messages similar to the United Way reminder that causes a stir every year. The goal is to protect both self and others. “Last year we had eight patients in the hospital with flu. By getting vaccinated, an employee protects both self and family, as well as coworkers and other patients,” says Dr. O’Connor.

Watch JeffNEWS for more announcements, or call 215-955-4883 for more information.

Blind Center open hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please call 215-771-7800 to schedule an appointment if you are eligible on a 5-day schedule.

September 26, 2004

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FORUM

Tuesdays, September 21


Tuesdays, September 28

“Health Policy – backwards II,” 8 a.m. to 9 a.m., Lecture Hall, duPont Hospital for Children, “Health Disparities in the Hispanic/Latino Community.” 215-955-3622.

Wednesdays, September 23


Thursdays, September 24


Thursdays, October 1


Wednesdays, November 4