Clinical Skills Center Named For Dr. and Mrs. Robert D. Rector

On February 22, 2005, University President Robert L. Barchi MD, PhD formally dedicated the Dr. and Mrs. Robert D. Rector Clinical Skills Center at 833 Chestnut Street. Family and friends of Dr. and Mrs. Rector, faculty, students, and the center's standardized patients gathered to mark the occasion. Jefferson recently received a $10 million bequest from the estate of Dr. and Mrs. Rector (see accompanying story) in support of the Clinical Skills Center. Dr. Rector was a 1948 graduate of Jefferson Medical College (JMC).

JMC Dean Thomas Nasca, MD, expressed his appreciation for the Rectors' generous bequest. "The foresight and generosity of Dr. and Mrs. Rector will provide generations of Jefferson medical students with state-of-the-art clinical education and evaluation and permit Jefferson faculty to conduct research in clinical skills education," Dr. Nasca observed. "Jefferson will be a national leader in the continued production of outstanding clinicians, and in the identification of educational and evaluative tools in the education of tomorrow's physicians."

Simulating a Clinical Setting
The Clinical Skills Center, directed by Katherine Wozala, MD, offers key components of a Jefferson medical education. Students use computerized mannequins to become familiar with a variety of pulses, heartbeats, and murmurs, and practice life-saving techniques such as placement of an IV, central line, or breathing tube. Students learn to conduct an Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) in cooperation with standardized patients – actors who are trained to present a set of symptoms commonly seen in clinical settings.

“If we train them to be masterful clinical skills people, they will come back to that again and again throughout their careers. It’s the one common denominator in every physician,” says Dale Berg, MD, Director of the Clinical Skills Curriculum.

In the future Jefferson will train medical, nursing, and health professions students to work in teams in simulated emergency and operating rooms – just as they will in actual clinical settings. Beginning with groundbreaking in the fall of 2005, a new building will rise in the plaza between the Scott Building and Alumni Hall.

The Good Doctor
In the community of Chambersburg, PA, Bob Rector was known as “The Good Doctor.”

After graduating from Dickinson College and from Jefferson Medical College in 1948, Dr. Rector served his internship at the Philadelphia Naval Hospital. He completed residencies and fellowships at Good Samaritan Hospital, Cincinnati, OH, and the Veterans Administration Hospital in Saginaw, MI. He served aboard the U.S.S. Valley Forge as a general surgeon and was chief of surgery at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Saginaw, MI. In 1961, Dr. Rector joined the staff of Chambersburg Hospital, where he served with distinction for 40 years.

Dr. Rector’s lifelong commitment to the health of the citizens of the Chambersburg area was shared by his wife Dorothy, a registered nurse who devoted herself to running his one-man surgical practice for 40 years without outside help or even a computer. Dr. Rector would perform surgery on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. On Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, he would see patients in his office. It is estimated that he performed more than 40,000 surgical procedures during his career and often saw up to 60 patients each day in his office.

A Dedicated Team
“Dorothy was at his side in everything he did. She sacrificed a lot to promote his career,” says Jack Weber, a nephew. “The two of them dedicated their lives to the well-being of the community. In addition to managing her husband’s practice, she took care of day-to-day living so that he could concentrate on his patients.” Dr. Rector was greatly respected by his fellow physicians, who often called upon his skills when faced with a difficult surgery. Said one colleague, “I truly think that he was one of the most brilliant surgeons I have ever met.”

Congratulations S.T.A.R. Employees!

Thomas Jefferson University Hospitals honored 473 employees for displaying the S.T.A.R. characteristics of great customer service – Safety, Teamwork, Awareness and Respect. Astrology and astronomy again were theme elements.

See a Computer-Assisted Partial Knee Replacement – Live On Your Computer March 30

From the convenience of home, office or laptop computer, physicians and consumers can view a computer-assisted partial knee replacement while it happens and learn about the latest advances in this procedure.

The state-of-the-science procedure can be seen live Wednesday, March 30, at 4:30 p.m. by going to www.jeffersonhospital.org/webcast or www.discoveryhealth.com.

A replay version will be available beginning March 31.

Knee-surgery pioneer Richard H. Rothman, MD, PhD, will narrate as Physicians who wish to discuss a case or refer a patient to a Jefferson orthopedic surgeon, please call 215-955-0215.

Physicians may sign up at www.jeffersonhospital.org/webcast or www.discoveryhealth.com to determine whether you have this software or to download it.

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Community Health Specialist Receives Research Leadership Award for ACES Work

Chris Ann Smith, Community Health Specialist in the Philadelphia Department of Public Health, was honored at Thomas Jefferson University with the Community Health Research Leadership Award for her work on the steering committee of the ACES Project.

The goals of the ACES Project (Increasing Access to Clinical and Education Studies) are to increase cancer awareness and education among African Americans in the Philadelphia area and to increase participation of African Americans in cancer prevention and control studies.

University Choir and Orchestra Perform Free Spring Concert April 15

The Thomas Jefferson University Choir and Orchestra will perform their 35th Annual Spring Concert on Friday, April 15, at 8 p.m. It will be held at the Church of St. Luke and the Epiphany, 330 South 13th Street, and will feature a performance of W. A. Mozart’s Requiem.

Jose Martinez, MD, Portrait Presented to University

Ms. Lola Martinez and her husband, Jose Martinez, MD, Professor of Medicine and Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Pharmacology, Jefferson Medical College, and former Associate Director for Education, Cardeza Foundation for Hematologic Research and Division of Hematology, pose with Dr. Martinez’ portrait following its prestigious presentation to the University. Offering remarks before the presentation of the portrait by artist Dean L. Paules, ASPC, were: Arturo Hervada, MD, Scott Murphy, MD, Andres Ferber, MD, and Ms. Joan Murphy.

Radiology Resident Receives Prestigious GE Healthcare Grant Award

Candace Howard-Claudio, MD, PhD, Resident in the Department of Radiology, accepts the prestigious GE Healthcare/ESMRM Fellowship Grant award from Thomas Coogan, PhD, Director, Medical Diagnostics, GE Healthcare. Dr. Howard-Claudio received her MD/PhD degree in Molecular Genetics from Jefferson Medical College. She won the award in recognition of her paper “MRI Methods for Detection of Angiogenesis” to be published in Applied Radiology.

“We are proud of Dr. Howard-Claudio’s achievement. Nationwide, only one resident is selected for the fellowship award of $30,000, which is given by the journal, Applied Radiology, and GE Healthcare,” says Vijay Rao, MD, Professor and Chair of Radiology, at right. “We are delighted that Dr. Claudio has chosen to pursue her MRI fellowship with us under the guidance of Donald Mitchell, MD, Division Director of Body MRI,” adds Dr. Rao.

In Memoriam

E. Marshall Goldberg, MD

The Jefferson community mourns the death January 20 of E. Marshall Goldberg, MD, 74, of Center City, an endocrinologist, writer and Professor of Family Medicine, Jefferson Medical College. In 1995 Dr. Goldberg was named Teacher of the Year by medical residents and in 1998 he was appointed Professor of Creative Arts in the Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior.

One of Dr. Goldberg’s fictional works, “The Family Scalpel,” was set at Jefferson. During recovery from a debilitating stroke four years ago, he dictated “Mirthful Medicine,” a book of amusing anecdotes from his practice.

A native of North Adams, MA, Dr. Goldberg earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Rochester and his MD from Tufts University.

JeffNEWS

March 1, 2005

Annual Student Research Day and William Potter Lecture March 10

Thomas Jefferson University will host its annual Sigma Xi Student Research Day and William Potter Lecture on March 10. This year’s William Potter Lecturer will be Jefferson Medical College alumnus Joseph G. Sodroski, MD, JMC ’80, Professor of Pathology, Harvard Medical School, and Professor of Immunology and Infectious Diseases, Harvard School of Public Health. The title of Dr. Sodroski’s talk is, “TRIM5 alpha: Mediator of Innate Intraglular Immunity to Retro-viruses.” The lecture is at 4 p.m. in 101 Bluemle Life Sciences Building. JCGS and CHP graduate students, JMC students, and undergraduates from area colleges will present their research as posters. Members of Jefferson’s scientific community will judge the posters. All are invited to view the posters, attend the lecture, and join researchers at the reception following the lecture. For more information, call 215-503-0153 or visit www.jefferson.edu/jcgs/home

Jefferson Establishes Hereditary Cancer Registry

Since hereditary cancers account for up to 1 in 10 of all cancer diagnoses, Jefferson has established a Hereditary Cancer Registry. As many as 100,000 cancers each year may be due to an inherited genetic predisposition. So it is clear that a patient with a personal or family history of hereditary cancer has an increased risk for developing cancer compared to the average population.

Data gathered through the Registry on family history, medical history and lifestyle attitudes of this select group will gain important information on hereditary cancer. In addition, identifying similarities and nuances in individuals or families with hereditary cancer will assist healthcare providers in managing their care.

The new Registry, established by the Jefferson Hereditary Cancer Center, will help achieve those goals. “Information gathered by our Hereditary Cancer Registry can also be applied to screening and prevention guidelines,” says Bruce Bonan, MD, Director, Division of Genetic and Preventive Medicine. The Registry can also serve as an educational resource for patients and their families as well as healthcare providers. To learn more, call 215-955-1011.

European Society Honors Walter J. Curran Jr., MD

The Board of the European Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology (ESTRO) has awarded Walter J. Curran Jr., MD, Chair of Jefferson’s Radiation Oncology Department, the Society’s Honorary Membership at the ESTRO 23rd Annual Meeting in recognition of Dr. Curran’s important contribution to the practice of radiotherapy through the Radiation Therapy Oncology Group.

José Martinez, MD, Portrait Presented to University

Research Professor of Medicine, Professor of Pediatrics, Director, Cardeza Foundation and Division of Hematology, Vice President for Science Policy and Technology, and

Frederick Breitenfeld, PhD, University Trustee and Chair, Cardeza Advisory Board for the Board of Trustees, welcomed the gathering and closed the program.

Robert L. Barchi, MD, PhD, University President, accepted the portrait on behalf of the University. Steven E. McKenize, MD, PhD, Thomas Drake Martinez Cardeza Portrait on behalf of the University.
Young Girl Scouts Visit Jefferson, Earn Their ‘Nursing Badge’

“It helps to plant the seeds for a nursing career early in life.”

So thought Rae Conley, RN, MSN, Clinical Nurse Specialist, when she invited three Girl Scouts to visit Jefferson to earn their “Nursing Badge.”

The girls’ troop leader, Patti Mosser, discovered the badge on the Internet as developed by the Newark, DE, Chesapeake Bay Council. It allows the Girl Scout to explore, in realistic terms, a career in nursing.

At Jefferson, Ms. Conley reports, the girls ‘experienced a full curriculum learning about Florence Nightingale, the ANA and NLN, basic skills such as taking vital signs, infection control and handwashing. They visited the Cast Room, CT and MRI suites, and of course, everyone’s favorite, the newborn nursery.”

“A wonderful learning experience was had by all. The next time you see these girls, it may be at the hospital bedside in full bloom with ‘RN’ after their name.”

The three girls to watch for in the future are: Jamie Mosser, 13, Cadette Troupe 934, Jessica Rosario-Pugh, 13, Cadette Troupe 934, and Ashley Mosser, 11, Junior Troupe 3547.

Presidential Barchi Describes Goals for Jefferson’s Future with Students

University President Robert L. Barchi, MD, PhD, described his vision and goals for Jefferson’s future in an informal talk during an early evening gathering of TJU students. This was the sixth annual “Evening with the President” sponsored by the Thomas Jefferson University Activities Office.

JMC '07 Students Honor James A. Spath Jr., PhD

The Jefferson Medical College (JMC) Class of 2007 honored James A. Spath Jr., PhD, Professor of Physiology, JMC, on the occasion of his retirement from the Department of Physiology. The medical students, led by Nicole Hoff, organized the party that turned the Jeff Hall cafeteria into a festive site and attracted throngs of students.

Dr. Spath joined the Jefferson faculty in 1974 and was involved in research related to myocardial ischemia and shock. He coordinated the Medical Physiology course for many years, and devoted most of his energy to medical education.

Marion J. Siegman, PhD, Professor and Chair, Physiology, notes “This is the first instance of students organizing a celebration to recognize a faculty member’s retirement that I can remember – over a period of 38 years that I’ve been at Jefferson.”

From left in the photo with Dr. Spath are JMC ‘07 students Katie Schrack, Stephanie Cho and Nicole Hoff.

Jefferson Scientists Find Zinc May Help Prevent Esophageal, Oral Cancers

Cancer researchers at Jefferson Medical College (JMC) and the Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson have found that zinc treatment may help prevent esophageal and oral cancers in individuals at high risk.

Oral and esophageal cancers are associated with nutritional zinc deficiency, and a rise in the expression of the enzyme COX-2 is connected with these cancers.

Louise Fong, PhD, Assistant Professor of Microbiology and Immunology, JMC, and her co-workers have found that zinc given orally to zinc-deficient laboratory animals reverses the development of precancerous conditions in the esophagus and tongue and reverses the high expression of COX-2 there as well.

These findings suggest that zinc supplementation can help prevent esophageal or oral cancers, particularly in developing countries where zinc deficiency is a problem.

The researchers reported their findings in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute. Zinc in the diet comes mostly from red meat and seafood.

Epidemiological evidence shows the incidence of esophageal and oral cancers is rising in recent years. Up to 10 percent of Americans have a zinc-deficient diet, and as many as 13,000 Americans die from esophageal and oral cancers each year. As many as 2 billion individuals in developing countries are zinc-deficient.

Dr. Fong has been studying zinc deficiency and its connection to esophageal cancer for some 20 years.

2004-05 Monica Shandler Fellow Named

John Busillo, the Jefferson College of Graduate Studies (JCGS) Molecular Pharmacology and Structural Biology PhD Program, has been named the Monica Shandler Fellow for 2004-2005.

The Monica Shandler Fellowship is a cancer research fellowship in memory of Monica Shandler, PhD. It is awarded to the Kimmel Cancer Center PhD Program student who completes the first year of study with the highest academic performance as determined by the JCGS Grade Point Average. The fellowship carries with it a one-time $2,500 supplement to the JCGS stipend.

Clinical Skills Center Named For Dr. and Mrs. Robert D. Rector

For Dr. and Mrs. Robert D. Rector have ever met. Dr. Rector had that gift from God. You either have it or you don’t – and he just had it.”

The son of a minister, Dr. Rector grew up in a regimented household where rules were strictly enforced. As a physician, he resolved to never keep his patients waiting and to always go the extra mile to meet their needs. Dr. Rector’s no-nonsense approach appealed to patients, although his bedside manner could be gruff – especially if the individual was not following his instructions. Jack Weber says, “My aunt and uncle would be thrilled to know that everything they hoped for is going to take place at Jefferson as a result of their bequest. My uncle was very impressed with the education he received at Jefferson and wanted to make sure that today’s medical students had the same advantages.”

Hindson Award Nominations Accepted Until March 23

Nominations for the eighth annual Janet C. Hindson Award will be accepted until March 23. Presented by Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, the award is open to nurses who exemplify the caring and service to others that characterized Miss Janet C. Hindson’s life. The award winner will be presented during the Nurses’ Week 2005 celebration activities held May 9 to 13.

Pick up nomination guidelines in the Nursing Office, 1990 Gibbon. Letters of nomination should be sent to Mary Ann McGinley, RN, PhD, Senior Vice President for Patient Care, 2210 Gibbon. For more information, call 5-2210.

Seeking Teens with Bipolar Disorder

Thomas Jefferson University’s Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Division is seeking adolescent boys and girls from 12 to 17 years with Bipolar Disorder (BD) for a research study.

Also known as manic-depression, BD is a serious disease that causes extreme mood changes. It is one of the world’s 10 most disabling conditions and is a major risk factor for suicide.

Just a few of its signs are irritability, feeling sad, increased energy or constant fatigue, difficulty concentrating and substance abuse.

The study is being conducted with the University of Pittsburgh and is funded through a tobacco grant from the state. Modest compensation will be provided.

To learn more, call Ginger Biddle, RN, CRNP, at the study office at 215-503-2855.

Watch for Daffodils on ‘Daffodil Days’ – March 15

Daffodils for the 2005 American Cancer Society (ACS) Daffodil Days can be picked up on Tuesday, March 15, in the lobby of the Bluemle Life Sciences Building. Telephone calls will be placed or emails sent if there is any change.

For anyone who missed the deadline, a site sale will take place in the 11th Street Atrium (West) of the Gibbon Building on the same day and possibly the next.

Call Dorothy Wyszynski at 3-4685 or email D_Wyszynski@mail.jci.tju.edu for more information.

Hospital ‘Noise Awareness Day’ Returns March 23

Thomas Jefferson University Hospital’s 4th Annual “Noise Awareness Day” will be held on Wednesday, March 23, in both the Atrium and Gibbon Building lobbies and the Jefferson Hospital for Neuroscience lobby at various times during the day.

Noise makes it difficult for our patients to rest and for employees to concentrate. In fact, noise can seriously impact our health by causing sleep disruption, increased stress, high blood pressure and fatigue. So remember, listen when Cap’n Quiet says “Shhh.”
BROWN BAG LUNCHES
Lebanese and Jewish food group for staff, students and other members of the Jefferson community. The meetings will be held every Tuesday at noon in 101 BLB, door 5 to 1 p.m., 1508 Pavilion. Contact John at JeffGail@123.com for more information.

CONFERENCE AND SEMINARS
Tuesday, March 1
• Radiology, Michael Dutka, MD, Second Year Resident. Radiology, TJUH, “Diagnostic and Potential of Balanced Fast Field Echo MRI of the Abdomen:” 5 to 6 p.m., 101 BLB.

Monday, March 7
• Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson, Charles Scott, PhD, Microbiology and Immunology, tjbchiral1@jumbonet.com, “The Epitope:” 5 to 6 p.m., 101 BLB.
• Radiology, Susan Sang, MD, Professor, Abraham, TJUH, “Troubleshooting Independent CT Findings That Predict Acute Appendicitis,” 5 to 6 p.m., 780L Main.

Thursday, March 10
• Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson, Vincent R. Puccio, MD, Assistant Professor in Radiology, University of Pennsylvania Medical School, “Biomarkers: Medicine That Knows What to Do Before You Go” 11 a.m. to noon, 1990 Gibbon.

LECTURE
Wednesday, March 2
• Radiation, Lisa Adipala, MD, Associate Professor of Radiology, University of Pennsylvania Medical School, “Imaging From Man to Molecules: How Will Radiology Advance in Radiation Oncology?” 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., 101 BLB.

GRAND ROUNDS
Wednesday, March 2
• Pediatrics, Jennifer Calvert, MD, MPH, Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Jefferson Health, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, “Neuroblastoma: An Incompatible Disease:” 5 to 6 p.m., 370 BLSB.
• Psychiatry and Human Behavior, Karl Dogruyol, MD, Professor, Director, Sleep Disorders Center, TJUH, “Snoring and Sleep Apnea:” 8 a.m. to 9 a.m., 202 BLSB.

Thursday, March 3
• Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson, Maria Kunkel, MD, Associate Professor in Hematology and Oncology, TJUH, “Establishing Competency and Commitment Issues:” 11 a.m. to noon, DePauw.

Thursday, March 10
• Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson, Edward S. Kim, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor, TJUH, “Erectile Dysfunction, Related to Prostate Cancer,” 5:30 to 7 p.m., 101 BLB.

Tuesday, March 22
• Pediatrics, Keith May, MD, Clinical Assistant Professor, Pediatrics, AMC, “Mumps:” 11 a.m. to noon, DePauw.

Friday, March 25
• Neurology, Stanley Fahn, MD, Professor, Movement Disorders, TJUH, “Movement Disorders,” 8 a.m. to 9 a.m., DePauw.

March 1
• Friday, March 30, 2005

Wednesday, March 2
• Pediatrics, Charles May, MD, Assistant Professor, Pediatrics, JMC, “Small Cell Lung Cancer:” 8 a.m. to 8:30 a.m., 139 JAH. Call 1-800-JEFF-NOW.

Thursday, March 3
• Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson, Tasaki Sato, MD, Medical Oncology, JMC, “Current Strategy for Treatment of Metastatic Melanoma:” 8 a.m., G-512 Lidove.

Thursday, March 10
• Pediatrics, Edward Haponik, MD, Clinical Assistant Professor, Pediatrics, AMC, “Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine,” 8 a.m., DePauw.

Friday, March 25
• Neurology, Stanley Fahn, MD, Professor, Movement Disorders, TJUH, “Movement Disorders,” 8 a.m. to 9 a.m., DePauw.

March 30
• The TJU Choir rehearsal, all willing voices are welcome, Tuesday, March 8, 11 a.m. to noon, Room 202.

March 31
• Thursday, March 3, 2005