University Honors Doctors Farmer, Murray At 182nd Commencement

Jefferson’s 182nd Annual Commencement will be at 10:30 a.m., Friday, June 2, at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts. University President Robert L. Barchi, MD, PhD, will deliver the Convocation and confer all degrees.

Thomas J. Nasca, MD, FACP, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean, Jefferson Medical College (JMC), will present 19 Doctor of Philosophy degrees, 57 Master of Science degrees to students of the Jefferson College of Graduate Studies (JCGS).

Brian Harrison, Chair, Jefferson’s Board of Trustees, will deliver the Opening Proclamation and Reverend Deborah McKinley, the Invocation and Benediction. R. Anthony Carabasi III, MD, Professor of Surgery, will be Grand Marshal.

The University will award honorary Doctor of Science degrees to Paul E. Farmer, MD, PhD, Executive Vice President of Partners in Health, and to Joseph Edward Murray, ScD, MD, Professor of Surgery Emeritus, Harvard Medical School, a 1990 recipient of the Nobel Prize in Medicine for discoveries concerning the mechanisms of protein synthesis. Keynote Speaker will be Dr. Farmer, a medical anthropologist and a founding director of Partners in Health, an international charity organization that provides direct healthcare services and undertakes research and advocacy activities on behalf of those who are sick and living in poverty.

“Jefferson Medical College is honored to welcome Drs. Farmer and Murray and to have the opportunity to recognize them for their unique contributions to health care in this country,” said Dean Nasca.

See biosketches, Page 2.

New Garage, Pedestrian Bridge to Hospital Now Open

The new Interpark Garage located at 10th and Chestnut Streets opened on Monday, May 22. A pedestrian bridge linking the garage and the Gibson Building provides patients and employees with convenient access to the hospital.

Patients and visitors with validated parking tickets will receive Jefferson’s special discount. Restricted use employee discount tickets are available at the Commuter Services Office for $6 each. You must enter after 2 p.m. and exit before 9 a.m. Monday through Friday. Tickets are valid all day Saturday and Sunday.

Employees with parking stickers to the 10th and Chestnut valet parking lot may exchange them for the new garage tickets.

Jefferson thanks all employees for your support, cooperation and patience in anticipation of the opening of the new garage and pedestrian bridge.

Congratulations to 38 Jefferson Physicians Honored By Philadelphia Magazine’s ‘Top Doctors’ Issue

Jefferson physicians Barry W. Rovner, MD and Rodney D. Bell, MD were featured in the May issue for Alzheimer’s Disease and Stroke respectively, in the “12 Killer Diseases” feature that accompanied Philadelphia Magazine’s annual listing of “Top Docs” in 56 specialties.

Jefferson’s “Top Docs” are: (Listed alphabetically by specialty)

- John R. Cohn, MD Allergy and Immunology
- Howard Weitz, MD Cardiology
- Tatjana R. Humphreys, MD Dermatology
- Alfred B. Kurtz, MD Diagnostic Radiology
- Vijay M. Rao, MD Diagnostic Radiology
- Richard C. Wexler, MD Family Medicine
- Anthony J. DiMarino, Jr., MD Gastroenterology
- Barry W. Rovner, MD Geriatric Psychiatry
- Norman G. Rosenblum, MD Gynecologic Oncology
- Randall Culp, MD Hand Surgery
- A. Lee Ostertan, MD Hand Surgery
- Bradley Fenton, MD Internal Medicine
- Geno Merli, MD Internal Medicine
- Rita S. Axelson, MD Medical Oncology
-Neal Flomenberg, MD Medical Oncology
- David Andrews, MD Neurological Surgery
- Robert H. Rosenwasser, MD Neurological Surgery
- Rodney D. Bell, MD Neurology
- Stephen D. Silberstein, MD Neurology
- Michael R. Sperling, MD Neurology

Anerika Jordan and Jade Cooper show their delight while visiting Jefferson for the Department of Family and Community Medicine’s “Bring Your Child to Work Day.” Jefferson was recognized by U.S. News & World Report for having one of the top 25 Family Medicine programs at a medical school in the United States. A total of 18 children toured Nutrition and Dietetics, Center City Imaging, Surgicenter, Security, Maternity Ward, Cast Room, Pharmacy, Orthobab, Research Labs at Bluemle Life Sciences Building.

VITAL SIGNS: APR 2006

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Scores of well-wishers turned out to celebrate the appointment of Howard K. Rabinowitz, MD, as the Ellen M. and Dale W. Garber Professor of Family Medicine. A member of the Jefferson Family Medicine faculty for 30 years, a national leader in primary care and an international expert in increasing the supply of rural physicians, Dr. Rabinowitz is Director of the Physician Shortage Area Program (PSAP) at Jefferson Medical College (JMC). He is shown here with, from left, his wife Carol, daughter Elyse Hoffman and granddaughter Maya Hoffman.

Jefferson’s “Top Docs” are: (Listed alphabetically by specialty)

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- William J. Hozack, MD Orthopedic Surgery
- William M. Keane, MD Otolaryngology
- John H. Moore, MD Plastic Surgery
- Salman Akhtar, MD Psychiatry
- Mitchell J. Cohen, MD Psychiatry
- Karl Dohramji, MD Psychiatry
- Elisabeth J. Kunkel, MD Psychiatry
- Walter J. Curran, Jr., MD Radiation Oncology
- Mitchell Machay, MD Radiation Oncology
- Gregory Fossum, MD Reproductive Endocrinology
- Raphael J. DeHoratius, MD Rheumatology
- Murray J. Cohen, MD Surgery
- Gordon F. Schwartz, MD Surgery
- James T. Diehl, MD Thoracic Surgery
- Demetrius H. Bagley, Jr., MD Urology
- Leonard G. Gomella, MD Urology
- R. Anthony Carabasi, MD Vascular Surgery

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Save The Date! Sunday, September 17
For 2006 Jefferson Hospital Big Walk for Little Feet

Time: 8 a.m. sharp
Place: Eakins Oval
23rd St. and The Benjamin Franklin Parkway

The Big Walk for Little Feet is 6 years old now.
Can we count on your support again this year?

• 700 walkers joined us last year – let’s keep the momentum going!
• 30 Jefferson Team Captains volunteered and recruited walkers from all departments of Jefferson Hospital and University – and we are counting on their continued support this year!

Through the generous donations of Big Walk parents, friends and Jefferson employees over the past few years, big changes have happened to Jefferson’s Intensive Care Nursery rooms – all patient rooms are now renovated, including the parents’ lounge area. Funds raised this year will go to support a parents’ overnight guest room.

• Consider supporting the Big Walk through donations. We are asking our Big Walk families and Jefferson employees to help us raise funds for the Big Walk by approaching co-workers, communities, churches and schools to ask for donations. Look for the Big Walk donor booklets to be distributed June 30 in the Atrium.
• Jefferson’s Big Walk is a family event and all children in strollers are free. Join us for drinks and snacks after the walk in the Big Walk Tent featuring face painting, a special appearance of the Phillies Phanatic, family photos and much more!

Questions? Please contact: Office of Special Events, The Jefferson Foundation, 929 Chestnut St., Suite 110, Philadelphia, PA 19107, or call the Jefferson Events hotline at 215-955-5100 or email events@jefferson.edu

Kudos to Jefferson Nursing, Facilities and Environmental Services Staff

Hats off to the many Jefferson staff nurses who worked above and beyond to protect patients and babies from severe flooding caused by burst pipes on Saturday, May 13. Special recognition is due nurses in the Emergency Department, Rehabilitation Medicine, Delivery Room, Intensive Care Nursery, Transitional Nursery, 10 Pavilion and Pediatrics, as well as staff from Facilities Services and Environmental Services.

In addition to moving patients in beds and wheelchairs into drier areas, nurses dammed hallways, using everything and anything to divert water from patients’ rooms. Many staff had babies on each hip.

During the entire day, not one staff member complained; instead, all pulled together as a team, assessing, planning and executing their interventions to protect patients and hospital property.

In Memoriam
Bice Perussia, MD

The Jefferson community mourns the death April 26 of Bice Perussia, MD, Professor of Microbiology and Immunology, Jefferson Medical College, and member of the Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson. She died the day after her 56th birthday from complications of breast cancer.

A member of the Department of Microbiology and Immunology since 1981, Dr. Perussia previously was an Assistant and Associate Professor at the Wistar Institute.

Dr. Perussia made many seminal contributions to the field of immunology and was an internationally recognized leader in the area of innate immunity. Author of more than 150 publications on innate immunity, she trained numerous PhD and MD/PhD students and postdoctoral fellows. Her extensive extramural activities included membership on the editorial boards of prestigious journals and on several National Institutes of Health study sections.

‘Robin Hood’ of Global Health Paul E. Farmer, MD, PhD
To Be Keynote Speaker at 2006 Jefferson Commencement

Paul E. Farmer, MD, PhD, Executive Vice President of Partners in Health, described by a Pulitzer Prize-winning author as “a man who would cure the world,” will be Keynote Speaker at the annual Commencement exercises for Jefferson Medical College and Jefferson College of Graduate Studies on June 2.

The University will award honorary Doctor of Science degrees to Dr. Farmer and to Joseph Edward Murray, ScD, MD (see article below).

A medical anthropologist, Dr. Farmer is a founding director of Partners in Health, an international charity organization that provides direct healthcare services and undertakes research and advocacy activities on behalf of those who are sick and living in poverty. He is known worldwide for his pioneering work in global health, focusing on diseases that disproportionately affect the poor.

Dr. Murray’s career has been devoted to medical surgery and in particular to plastic and reconstructive surgery, and he has been Chief Plastic Surgeon at two major Boston hospitals. He has not only been an active working and practical surgeon, but also a researcher and theoretician. He has thus engaged in debate, research and discussion at an international level, being constantly in the vanguard of new developments and techniques, never hesitating to adopt bold and innovative approaches.

Considered one of the pre-eminent experts in the field, Dr. Murray’s being awarded the Nobel Prize in Medicine in 1990 was a recognition of his many achievements in his field of specialization.

Joseph Edward Murray, ScD, MD, to Receive Honorary Degree at 2006 Jefferson Commencement

Joseph Edward Murray, ScD, MD, Professor of Surgery Emeritus, Harvard Medical School, is the 1990 recipient of the Nobel Prize in Medicine for discoveries concerning organ and cell transplantation.

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Salvatore Mangione, MD, Honored by Class of 2006 Portrait Presentation

The Class of 2006, Jefferson Medical College (JMC), honored Salvatore Mangione, MD, Associate Professor of Medicine, by selecting him for the Annual Senior Portrait Presentation.

Kathryn Trayes, JMC ’06, Chair of the Portrait Presentation Committee, provided opening and closing remarks. Joseph S. Goninella, MD, Distinguished Professor of Medicine, Director, Center for Research in Education and Health Care, and JMC Dean Emeritus, and Roberto Niclosa, MD, PhD, Professor of Pathology, University of Washington, and Director of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Seattle Veterans Administration Hospital, presented Dr. Mangione’s full biographical sketch.

Robert L. Barchi, MD, PhD, University President, accepted the portrait on behalf of the University Board of Trustees.

Thomas J. Nasca, MD, FACP, University Senior Vice President and Dean, JMC, accepted the portrait for the University Board of Trustees and JMC. He called the Senior Portrait Presentation “the highest honor that can be bestowed on a faculty member at Jefferson because it is from the students. Dr. Mangione is certainly well deserving of this honor.”

John P. Sullivan, Vice President for Administration, Retires After 24 Years Service

John P. Sullivan, Vice President for Administration, will retire after nearly 24 years of service to Jefferson, effective June 2. Robert L. Barchi, MD, PhD, President, TJU, has announced.

Mr. Sullivan came to Jefferson in 1982 as Manager of Direct and Indirect Compensation and in 1983 was promoted to Associate Vice President for Human Resources, serving in that position until 1997 when he became Vice President for Administrative Services.

Said Dr. Barchi, “During his years at Jefferson, John has made many contributions to Jefferson’s success and growth. His expertise in human resources and labor relations was a major asset and his leadership was instrumental in significant achievements in the effectiveness and scope of Administrative Services. John has become a recognized expert in union labor issues, and we will continue to seek his help as a consultant on union issues in the future.”

Murray, ScD, MD, President of Partners in Health, described by a Pulitzer Prize-winning author as “a man who would cure the world,” will be Keynote Speaker at the annual Commencement exercises for Jefferson Medical College and Jefferson College of Graduate Studies on June 2.

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Neal Flomenberg, MD, Receives Top Award From Leukemia and Lymphoma Society

Dr. Flomenberg is recognized for his contributions to the care of patients with hematologic malignancies and those undergoing marrow or stem cell transplant.

"The program’s philosophy is that we should continue to improve and try to be innovative," says Dr. Flomenberg. "We’re not simply here to practice state-of-the-art medicine, but here to help define the state-of-the-art in our field."

Dramatic Changes in Decade

Bone marrow transplantation has changed dramatically in the past decade with the use of peripheral blood stem cells instead of bone marrow. In addition, while overall success rates for bone marrow transplant today are only a modest improvement over a decade ago, many more high-risk individuals are eligible today for transplant.

In Cancer Remission for 10 Years, He Asks Others to Celebrate His Gift of Life

Chris Dezzi chose to celebrate his 10 years in remission from cancer in a very special way.

In a letter to friends and relatives, he wrote, "I have tried not to waste the past 10 years. These years have been a gift, for which I am most grateful. I have never taken for granted that I was spared during my battle with cancer."

His letter then invited his friends and relatives to make a gift of their own to the Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson (KCC) – "10 for Ten" or one dollar for each year of Mr. Dezzi’s remission.

Mr. Dezzi asked that the donations go to support KCC’s "Navigating the New Normal" program, which he has found personally meaningful and helpful. Originally supported by a grant from the Lance Armstrong Foundation, the program offers one-on-one peer support, web-based discussion boards, quarterly seminars that address the unique needs of young cancer survivors and other support programs for survivors ages 18 to 40.

Diagnosed with Hodgkin’s Lymphoma in September 1994, Mr. Dezzi battled for two years with surgeries, hospital stays, radiation or autologous transplants.

In making the award, the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society said, "Dr. Flomenberg is recognized for his contributions to the care of patients with hematologic malignancies and those undergoing marrow or stem cell transplant."

Dr. Flomenberg, who is also Professor of Medicine at JMC, and a 1976 JMC graduate, has been involved in more than 1,500 transplants in adults and children in his career. In 2003, he was named the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society’s "Man of the Year" for Eastern Pennsylvania.

9. Caring and Innovative Clinician"

"Dr. Flomenberg has been a great asset to both the Philadelphia community and to our patients at Jefferson," says Arthur Feldman, MD, PhD, Magee Professor and Chair of the Department of Medicine, JMC. "He is a caring, concerned and innovative clinician who has pushed forward the field of bone marrow transplantation."

"The Kimmel Cancer Center and Jefferson are proud of Dr. Neal Flomenberg and the compassionate care he has provided day and night for his patients at Jefferson for so many years," says Richard G. Pestell, MD, PhD, Director of KCC and Professor and Chair of Cancer Biology at JMC.

The program’s philosophy is that we should continue to improve and try to be innovative," says Dr. Flomenberg. "We’re not simply here to practice state-of-the-art medicine, but here to help define the state-of-the-art in our field."

Integrative Medicine Course Reaches into Community to Help Teach Healthy Nutrition

A course teaching the importance of healthy nutrition reaches into the neighborhood near Jefferson to add practical insights and information for its first-year Jefferson Medical College (JMC) students.

Joel S. Edman, DSc, FACN, Director of the Integrative Nutrition Program, Jefferson Myrna Brind Center of Integrative Medicine, teaches the three-session course titled "Optimum Nutrition for Medical Students."

The course’s middle session takes the students on a tour and cooking class at Whole Foods Natural Market at 10th and South Sts. to show in practical terms where specific foods recommended in the first session can be bought and how some should be cooked.

Dr. Edman describes the course as helping students “gain a core understanding of healthy eating patterns associated with prevention of cancer, heart disease and stroke — necessary for your own health and the health of your future patients.”
Friday, June 23

- Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson, Research in Progress, noon, 407 JAH.
- Pediatrics, Karol Kahlenberg, MD, PhD, Director, Maternal Addiction Treatment Education and Research, Clinical Associate Professor, Pediatrics, “New Approaches for Treating Opioid Dependent Pregnant Women,” 8 a.m., Monday, June 26.
- Psychiatry and Human Behavior, Sydney White, MD, Assistant Professor, Psychiatry, “Understanding New Trends in Public Health: A Public Health of HIV/AIDS in Yunnan Province, China,” 11 a.m., DePamula.

- Surgery, Eric Dasoudi, MD, Director and Colon and Rectal Cancer, Mayo Clinic, “Laparoscopic Colon Resection Workshop: For the Surgeon and Generalist,” 7 a.m., 605 College.
- Medicine, Mark Fisher, MD, Joan Hoffman-Hasin, MD, and Kim, MD, “Chief Resident Grand Rounds,” noon, DePamula.

Friday, June 24

- Neurosurgery, Charles Hodge, MD, SUNY Upstate, “Our Journey Through Trauma, Safeguards and Interventions,” 7 a.m., DePalma.
- Wednesday, June 14
- Health Policy, David Levitin, MD, Professor, Radiology, IBC, “The Recent Rapid Rise in Utilization of Diagnostic Imaging: What Are the Causes and What Are Health Plans Doing About It?” 7 a.m., 407 JAH.

SYMPOSUM

Monday, June 19
- Jefferson College of the Health Sciences and the University of Delaware, in cooperation with the Medical Society of Delaware and the 29th Annual Eastern Shore Symposium, “Reaching Out, DePalma.” 3:00 p.m. (ongoing through June 23).

for registration and/or information visit: http://jeffline.jefferson.edu/jfeffe or call 1-888-JEFF-CME.

LECTURE

Wednesday, June 14
- Jefferson Pulmonary Associates, Stanley Goldenberg, MD, Professor, Radiology and Medicine, and Director, Nuclear Medicine, NY Presbyterian-Weill Cornell Medical Center, “PETCT in Lung Cancer,” 7:30 a.m. breakfast, 6th fl., 840 Walnut.

GRAND ROUNDS

Thursday, June 15
- Medicine, Paul Mark, MD, Director, Colon and Rectal Cancer, Thomas Jefferson University, “Mesothelioma,” 7 a.m., DePamula.
- Methodist Hospital, Medical Grand Rounds, Karen Gelmon, MD, Chair, Breast Tumor Group, British Columbia Cancer Agency, “Clinical Trials of Immunotherapy in Medicine, University of British Columbia, Vancouver,” Breast Cancer,” noon, Morgan-Conn Center Conference Room, Methodist Hospital.

Friday, June 2

- Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson, Craig Thompson, PhD, Director, Research Institute, t/b/a, 8 a.m., 218 Curits.

- Family and Community Medicine, Town Meeting, 4 p.m., 407 JAH.
- Pediatrics, Karol Kahlenberg, MD, PhD, Director, Maternal Addiction Treatment Education and Research, Clinical Associate Professor, Pediatrics, “New Approaches for Treating Opioid Dependent Pregnant Women,” 8 a.m., Monday, June 26.

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- Medicine, Mark Fisher, MD, Joan Hoffman-Hasin, MD, and Kim, MD, “Chief Resident Grand Rounds,” noon, DePamula.
- Wednesday, June 14
- Jefferson Pulmonary Associates, Stanley Goldenberg, MD, Professor, Radiology and Medicine, and Director, Nuclear Medicine, NY Presbyterian-Weill Cornell Medical Center, “PETCT in Lung Cancer,” 7:30 a.m. breakfast, 6th fl., 840 Walnut.

GRAND ROUNDS

Thursday, June 15
- Medicine, Paul Mark, MD, Director, Colon and Rectal Cancer, Thomas Jefferson University, “Mesothelioma,” 7 a.m., DePamula.
- Methodist Hospital, Medical Grand Rounds, Karen Gelmon, MD, Chair, Breast Tumor Group, British Columbia Cancer Agency, “Clinical Trials of Immunotherapy in Medicine, University of British Columbia, Vancouver,” Breast Cancer,” noon, Morgan-Conn Center Conference Room, Methodist Hospital.

Friday, June 2

- Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson, Craig Thompson, PhD, Director, Research Institute, t/b/a, 8 a.m., 218 Curits.

- Family and Community Medicine, Town Meeting, 4 p.m., 407 JAH.
- Pediatrics, Karol Kahlenberg, MD, PhD, Director, Maternal Addiction Treatment Education and Research, Clinical Associate Professor, Pediatrics, “New Approaches for Treating Opioid Dependent Pregnant Women,” 8 a.m., Monday, June 26.