Philadelphia Museum of Art, Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts to Buy *The Gross Clinic*

On December 21, 2006, Brian Harrison, Chairman of the Board of Thomas Jefferson University sent the following broadcast message to Jeffersonians:

“Today, in the presence of Philadelphia Mayor John Street, the Philadelphia Museum of Art (PMA) and the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts (PAFA) announced that they have agreed to buy Thomas Eakins’ *The Gross Clinic* from Thomas Jefferson University (TJU). We are very pleased that *The Gross Clinic* will remain in Philadelphia. It is fitting that this masterpiece join the great collections of the Philadelphia Museum of Art and the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, where it will be made accessible to millions of people. In addition to fulfilling our fiduciary responsibility, Jefferson gave the local cultural institutions the opportunity to keep the painting. We accomplished this through the unique provision negotiated with the University. Our Agreement of Sale with PMA and PAFA gave them an additional 30 days to continue the fundraising effort. We are especially grateful to the National Gallery of Art and the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art for allowing Philadelphia institutions to match the price of this painting and for the exceptional patience, understanding and public spirit they have demonstrated throughout this process.

TJU, in recognition of the generosity and foresight of Jefferson Medical College alumni, negotiated terms of the sale that permit the College to continue to use the likeness of the man himself, helping to educate world-renowned physicians and improve medical care for generations to come. We want to express our deepest appreciation to you, the Jefferson community, for the thoughtful input and support you have voiced throughout this period.

**UPDATE: University Board of Trustees Has Lent The Gross Clinic to the Philadelphia Museum of Art**

In response to a request from the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Board of Trustees of Thomas Jefferson University is delighted to lend Thomas Eakins’ painting, *The Gross Clinic*, to the Museum for display in January 2007.

“We are very pleased this masterpiece will remain in Philadelphia, and we are making this loan in support of the ongoing fundraising effort by the co-purchasers – the Philadelphia Museum of Art and the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts,” said University President Robert L. Barchi, MD, PhD. “It has been an honor for Jefferson to own this great painting, and it is now an honor to share it with the Philadelphia Museum of Art, in advance of the conclusion of the sale to help the fund raisers keep up the momentum of their campaign, which has galvanized Philadelphia and art lovers around the country.”

While *The Gross Clinic* is at the Museum, the Museum will graciously allow us to host receptions for our alumni, faculty, students and staff. The generosity and foresight of Jefferson Medical College alumni will be acknowledged, in perpetuity, when the painting is displayed, along with the special relationship of Jefferson to the painting. This will communicate to a wide audience the important role that Jefferson Medical College and its alumni have played in the furtherance of medical science and healing.

The University will receive a high-quality reproduction of *The Gross Clinic*, which will be displayed initially in our own Alumni Hall.

**Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson Named Melanoma Center of Excellence**

The Kimmel Cancer Center (KCC) at Jefferson has been recognized by The Melanoma Hope Network (MHN) as a Melanoma Center of Excellence (MCE). The KCC is one of the first 10 cancer centers to be designated as an MCE by the network. MHN has designated MCEs across the United States to recognize melanoma treatment centers and doctors, both academic and community-based, that offer exceptional care, knowledge and compassion to patients diagnosed with melanoma, the most dangerous form of skin cancer and also the major cause of death in adult eye tumors.

“Jefferson physicians strive to define the diagnostic and treatment programs that best serve individual melanoma patients’ needs,” says Michael J. Mastrangelo, MD, Director of the Melanoma Program in the Department of Medical Oncology at Jefferson Medical College and Thomas Jefferson University Hospital. “The focus is on immunohistology and immunotherapy.”

“The naming of the KCC as a Melanoma Center of Excellence reflects the long tradition of translational discovery by Drs. Mastrangelo and Takami Sato,” says KCC Director Richard Pestell, MD, PhD, Professor and Chair of Cancer Biology at JMC. “Their recent studies have directly impacted the lives of patients with melanoma. Those patients who have been successfully treated in Dr. Sato’s clinical trials are a living testimony to the success of his research, and the mission at Jefferson.”

MHN is a non-profit organization established to bring hope, education and direct personal support to patients diagnosed with melanoma.

Melanoma accounts for about 4 percent of cancer cases, but it causes most deaths among patients with skin cancer as well as adult patients with eye cancer. The number of new cases of melanoma in the United States is on the rise.

**Colin L. Masters, MD, Konrad Beyreuther, PhD, Awarded Lennox K. Black International Prize for Excellence in Medicine**

The recipients of the Lennox K. Black International Prize for Excellence in Medicine were Colin L. Masters, MD, Laureate Professor in the Department of Pathology at The University of Melbourne, Australia, School of Medicine, and Konrad Beyreuther, PhD, Professor and Director of the Institute for Molecular Biology at the University of Heidelberg.

The two honorees’ achievements have provided a path to the current development of therapeutic strategies for Alzheimer’s and other neurodegenerative diseases.

The prize recognizes the importance of international communication in scientific discovery and the advance of medicine.
JeffNEWS

January 2007

Congratulations to Jefferson Physicians Listed in Castle Connolly’s 2006 6th Edition of America’s Top Doctors:

Cardiovascular Disease: Howard Weitz, MD
Gastroenterology: Anthony DiMarino, MD
Gynecologic Oncology: Norman Rosenblum, MD
Hand Surgery: Randall Culp, MD, and Lee Osternman, MD
Medical Oncology: Neal Florenborg, MD
Neurological Surgery: David Andrews, MD, and Robert Rosenwasser, MD
Neurosurgery: Rodney Bell, MD, Stephen Silbstein, MD, and Michael Spering, MD
Ophthalmology: Gary Brown, MD, Ralph Eagle, MD, Peter Savino, MD, Robert Sargent, MD, and Grant Stamaty, MD
Orthopaedics: Todd Albert, MD, William Hozack, MD, and Richard Rothman, MD

Silberstein, MD, and Michael Sperling, MD

Otolaryngology: William Keane, MD
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation: William Staab, MD
Psychiatry: Salman Aftab, MD, Mitchell Cohen, MD, Karl Doghmaji, MD, and Elizabeth Kuriel, MD
Radiation Oncology: Walter Currin, MD
Diagnostic Radiology: Alfred Kurtz, MD, and Vijay Rao, MD
Rheumatology: Raphael De Horatius, MD
Urology: Demetris Bagley, MD, and Leonid Gonemlia, MD
Vascular Surgery: Anthony Carabasi, MD

*Retired

Methodist's Michael Tropiano Honored as 2006 Faye Fulton Award Winner

The Rewards and Recognition Team of the Methodist Hospital Division has selected Michael Tropiano, Project Manager from Facilities Management, as the 2006 Faye Fulton Award winner. Mr. Tropiano is a long-time employee of the Jefferson Hospital family, having “retired” in 1995 after a very accomplished 28-year career at the Center City campus. In 1996, he began a second career at Methodist.

The award states “Mike’s pleasant manner, keen knowledge of Facilities Management and dedication to Methodist made him a wonderful choice for this award.”

George Rizzuto Named New Chief Financial Officer at Methodist Hospital

George Rizzuto has joined the Methodist Hospital Division as its newly appointed Chief Financial Officer (CFO), Neil Lubarsky, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, has announced.

Mr. Rizzuto is a Certified Public Accountant, comes to Methodist from Universal Health Services, where he was CFO of Central Montgomery Medical Center for the past three years.

Mr. Rizzuto’s background also includes eight years at PricewaterhouseCoopers where he specialized in the healthcare and insurance industries and seven years as Controller at Abington Memorial Hospital. He also has experience in the insurance industry and in the Tenet organization.

“This is a great background and we will benefit from the enthusiasm and perspective he brings to the organization,” said Mr. Lubarsky.

Lorraine Iacovitti, PhD, Earns International Outstanding Investigator Award

Lorraine Iacovitti, PhD, Associate Director and Laboratory Head of the Farber Institute of Neurosciences, has been named the inaugural recipient of the Outstanding Investigator Award from the Tilker Medical Research Foundation based in San Francisco, CA, and Honolulu, HI. The Tilker Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the exciting research Dr. Yeo and his colleagues are conducting.

Dr. Yeo’s primary interests and research focus on pancreatic cancer, hepatopancreaticobiliary surgery and alimentary tract surgery. His work has focused on the evaluation and management of patients with unusual pancreatic disorders and on complex alimentary tract diseases and surgical intervention in patients with pancreatic cancer or acute or chronic pancreatitis.

News from the Department of Surgery

Jefferson Surgery Chair’s Latest Book Considered Essential Medical Reference

Charles Yeo, MD, Samuel D. Gross Professor and Chair of Surgery at Jefferson Medical College, has authored the latest (sixth) edition of Shackelford’s Surgery of the Alimentary Tract, considered to be an essential reference for general surgeons, surgical residents and gastroenterologists, with a special focus on alimentary tract diseases.

Dr. Yeo, an editor-in-chief of the textbook’s sixth edition, has worked with the publisher, Elsevier, to not only expand the topics in this new edition, but has made the text more user-friendly, paring down the textbook from five volumes to two. Moreover, the book is now in full color, with expanded illustrations and diagrams. Additionally, the textbook now contains a CD-ROM of all the book’s illustrations.

This textbook has served for more than four decades as the leading clinically oriented, encyclopedic review of surgical diseases that concern the alimentary tract. The last (fifth) edition was said to be “an indispensable reference for the anatomy, physiology, biology, practice, and history of abdominal surgery...there is no comparable text that is as comprehensive and focused on the alimentary tract,” in a review in JAMA, the Journal of the American Medical Association.

Lorraine Iacovitti, PhD, Associate Director and Laboratory Head of the Farber Institute of Neurosciences, has been named the inaugural recipient of the Outstanding Investigator Award from the Tilker Medical Research Foundation based in San Francisco, CA, and Honolulu, HI. The Tilker Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the exciting research Dr. Yeo and his colleagues are conducting.

Donations will go toward Dr. Iacovitti’s funding to use human embryonic stem cells, including those that are not NIH-approved, to generate cells that develop exclusively for dopamine neurons.

Bonnie Kroll Melanoma Memorial Fund Meets Its Goal and Completes Its Promise

A promise made to their mother in 2001 motivated Kelly and Kathleen Kroll to create the Bonnie Kroll Melanoma Memorial Fund for melanoma research at Jefferson. When first diagnosed with eye melanoma, a cancer of the eye that can metastasize to the liver, Bonnie Kroll came to Jefferson for treatment. Here she met Michael J. Mastrangelo, MD, and Talalani Sato, MD.

“Bring us family great joy to honor our mother’s memory by helping Drs Mastrangelo and Sato,” says Kelly Kroll. “Our mother had an intense admiration for both their knowledge and compassion. This is our way of saying ‘thank you.’”

To raise awareness of melanoma and to provide financial support for the Eye Melanoma Research Program at the Kimmel Cancer Center (KCC) at Jefferson, the Kroll family initiated the memorial fund, with the first fundraiser event held September 2002. The family pledged to host five successive events to reach their goal $100,000 goal. This year, the fifth and final year, that goal became a reality.

This year's dinner dance, titled “No Person Is an Island,” featured Richard G. Pestell, MD, PhD, FRACP, KCC Director, as guest speaker. Dr. Pestell gave an update on the progress of the Eye Melanoma Research Program. More than 195 guests attended.

“Bonnie Kroll wears over her heart in honor of her mother continues to hold the symposium annually. This year, the Kroll family has hosted a symposium for patients with pancreatic and related cancer. Each year, more than 32,000 people are affected by pancreatic cancer nationwide. The 81 patients and family members in attendance received a comprehensive update on the innovative techniques for detection, prevention and treatment of these cancers, and were introduced to the exciting research Dr. Yeo and his team are conducting.”

Jefferson Hospital received the Delaware Valley Physician Award from the Tilker Medical Research Foundation. The award recognizes the commitment and leadership in research and development.

The Tilker Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the exciting research Dr. Yeo and his colleagues are conducting.

The $100,000 Tilker grant will provide Dr. Iacovitti with funding to use human embryonic stem cells, including those that are not NIH-approved, to generate cells that develop exclusively for dopamine neurons.

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‘Ladies of Port Richmond’ Again Raise Funds for Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson

A neighborhood group, “The Ladies of Port Richmond,” again has gone the extra mile to raise funds for the Kimmel Cancer Center (KCC) at Jefferson.

Their effort began two years ago at Mary Louise Letters’ kitchen table in her Port Richmond, Philadelphia home. She and her friend and neighbor, Lenore Czyzewski, were talking about the excellent care they received when treated for breast cancer at KCC.

The group quickly grew to about 14 residents of Port Richmond and surrounding neighborhoods. "The Ladies" organized three large fundraisers, capped by their most successful event, “The Port Richmond Breast Cancer Walk,” resulting in $35,000 donated to KCC.

A year later, the group returned to Jefferson and presented a check for $40,000, to Richard G. Pestell, MD, PhD, Director of KCC and Professor and Chair, Department of Cancer Biology, and to Walter J. Curran Jr., MD, Director of Clinical Science, KCC, and Chair, Radiation Oncology.

Over the past two years, the KCC has supported the group members and their families by purchasing pink ribbon bracelets, pins, visors, scarves, chances and by attending the group’s fundraising events.

From left, Dr. Curran, Ms. Letters, Dr. Pestell

Spreading Patient Safety with Fast, Confidential Reporting Online

This month, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital is introducing the University HealthSystem Consortium (UHC) Patient Safety Net (PSN) Event Report system, which employees can access easily, promptly and confidentially to report anything that is inconsistent with routine hospital operations and can impact patient safety.

Examples of such “events” range from unsafe environmental conditions (such as slippery floors, loose handrails or anything else that may cause patient falls and injuries), to medication errors and misplaced or dirty instruments. Jefferson employees can access PSN on the Jefferson Hospital Intranet page – click on “Administration,” “Clinician” or “Employee,” then on “Event Reporting (PSN).” Hospital Risk Management is training managers and other key personnel, who, in turn, will show their staffs how to use the program. Or, employees can see for themselves at brief, “hands-on,” hunchtime demonstrations in late January at various locations (check the Jefferson Hospital Intranet home page and JEFFToday monitors for dates, times and places).

“The program’s easy to use and fast so that every employee can report events and managers can act promptly to improve patient safety,” says Margaret Slattery, RN, Patient Safety Officer, Jefferson Hospital.

More than 30 academic centers across the country are already using PSN, which was designed by UHC, an alliance representing nearly 90 percent of the nation’s non-profit academic medical centers. Jefferson Hospital and other members of the Jefferson Health System are the first Pennsylvania hospitals utilizing PSN.

Former U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno Offers Personal View of Parkinson’s Disease at Jefferson’s Lennox K. Black Symposium

Former U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno, who has been diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease, discussed her “personal perspective” on the neurological disease at a public session during the fourth Lennox K. Black International Prize for Excellence in Medicine symposium.

Ms. Reno’s talk was held on the first day of the two-day symposium, whose theme was the “Molecular Basis of Neurological Disease.” The former attorney general spoke at the Foerderer Auditorium.

The symposium is sponsored by Thomas Jefferson University. It made possible through the generous support of Mr. Lennox K. Black, Emeritus Trustee of the University with supplementary support from Forest Laboratories and Bristol-Myers Squibb.

Ms. Reno, the 78th attorney general of the United States and the first woman ever to serve as Attorney General, the nation’s top law-enforcement job, revealed in 1995 that she had Parkinson’s, an incurable degenerative illness.

Parkinson’s disease is a progressive neurodegenerative disorder that primarily affects the motor system, causing trembling, stiffness, difficulty in movement, and impaired balance. It currently affects nearly a million Americans, a number that will increase over the coming decades as the population ages.

Renovated, Expanded Wellness Center Sets Grand Opening, Jan. 22-26

The re-named Jefferson-Independence Blue Cross Wellness Center in the lower level of Jefferson Alumni Hall has been renovated and expanded to include 4,900 square feet of newly designed weight and cardiovascular training space and a new group exercise room.

This expansion, funded by a grant from Independence Blue Cross, upgrades the existing recreation facility while enabling Jefferson to expand its offering of wellness programming to students and all employees.

Goals for the new center

The new facility is designed to increase the number of students and employees who participate in regular physical activity through an expanded cardio and weight room space and an enhanced visual appeal. The Jefferson-Independence Blue Cross Wellness Center will also provide a more social environment for students and employees. By combining a pleasant social experience with the opportunity to improve healthy habits, the new facility hopes to foster a community of good health.

Grand Opening Week – January 22 to 26

The facility’s Grand Opening Week, from January 22 to 26, will be highlighted by giveaways each day.

The festivities kick-off at noon, Monday, January 22, with a dedication ceremony led by Thomas Jefferson University President Robert L. Barchi, MD, PhD, and Independence Blue Cross President and Chief Executive Officer Joseph A. Frick. Refreshments will be served afterward.

The Wellness Center will provide the following free services during the grand opening: health screenings and evaluations on Tuesday, January 23; 15-minute consultations with a personal trainer by appointment (call 3-5513) on Wednesday, January 24; seated chair massages by appointment (call 3-7743); meditation sessions and mini-yoga classes on Thursday, January 25; and healthy snacks on Friday, January 26.

Wellness Center memberships for Jefferson employees are $390 per year via payroll deduction ($15 per pay period), cash, check, VISA or MasterCard.

To join, visit the Activities Office, B67 Jeff Hall.

2006 Jefferson Employee Satisfaction Survey Results Received

Results have been received from the 2006 Employee Satisfaction Survey conducted among employees of Thomas Jefferson University (TJU), Thomas Jefferson University Hospital (TJUH) and Jefferson University Physicians (JUP). The survey was administered by Baird/Borling Associates of Chicago, Illinois. More than 3,200 employees among the three organizations responded to the survey, utilizing either mail or on-line options.

“We are appreciative that so many employees took the time to share their thoughts about Jefferson and how to make it an even better place to work,” said Brian P. Bowie, Associate Vice President for Human Resources.

Overall job satisfaction scores were very positive, and in fact surpassed national norms for comparable organizations by a significant margin.

In reviewing responses to the 40 questions which addressed specific workplace issues, the results revealed positive performance in creating a work environment where employees believe they have opportunities to learn and grow, workloads are reasonable, fair treatment is accorded, and a good overall benefits program is provided compared to similar organizations.

Employees also have a strong sense of pride in being associated with Jefferson, and believe senior leadership acts responsibly in its decisions.

Opportunities for improvement were indicated in several areas, including recognition and rewards for superior performance, providing greater opportunities for a voice in the organization, communications, accountability, and more effective and constructive performance evaluations.

Survey reports have been distributed to all department heads. Over the next few months managers will be conducting meetings with employees to share results for the entire organization (i.e., TJU, TJUH or JUP) as well as individual work groups. Employees will then be involved in identifying issues most important to them in improving the work environment and developing action plans to address those concerns.

Wear Your Jefferson ID.
It shows you belong.
Wednesday, January 17 • Psychiatry & Human Behavior, Amy Jackson, Division of Rehabilitation Medicine, duPont Hospital for Children. "Update on peritoneal dialysis," 11 a.m. to noon, DePaola.

Wednesday, January 17 • Psychiatry & Human Behavior, Medical Director, Narcotic Addiction Rehabilitation Services, duPont Hospital for Children. "The Turbo Patient," 11 a.m. to noon, DePaola.

Wednesday, January 17 • Psychiatry & Human Behavior, Dr. James W. L. Ogden, MD, Psychiatry, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Lecture and author will be presenting, "Phenomenal Depression in the Mildly Ill Patient," 8 to 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 BLSB.

Wednesday, January 17 • Surgery, Richard A. Zane, MD, Amin K. Farnia, MD, Medical Director, Polynesian Surgical Group, 12:05 to 12:15 noon, 217 Curtis.

Wednesday, January 17 • Surgery, Dr. Galab Z. Vassallo, Chief Medical Officer, duPont Hospital for Children, "New advances in the diagnosis and treatment of polyneuropathies, neuromuscular and peripheral vascular disease," 12:00 to 12:15 noon, DePaola.

Wednesday, January 17 • Surgery & Pathology, Dr. Ralph Vasquez, MD, Chief Medical Officer, American Red Cross Blood Services, Philadelphia, "Efficient patient care in the Shock Trauma Center," 11 a.m. to 12 noon, Methodist Hospital.

Thursday, January 18 • Jefferson Institute of Molecular Medicine, Dr. Joseph El-Deiry, MD, PhD, Abramson Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, "Signaling in the HTV-1 Oncogene," 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 BLSB.

Thursday, January 18 • Women's Health Center, Susan H. Rosen, MD, Jefferson Headache Center, "Managing Your Migraines," noon to 1 p.m., 1900 Gibbons. Call 1-800-JEFF-NOW.

Thursday, January 18 • Surgery, Dr. John D. Lankenau, MD, PhD, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, "Signaling in the HTV-1 Oncogene," 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 BLSB.

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