More Than 40 Jefferson Physicians Make ‘Top Doctors’ List

Jefferson made a strong showing in this year’s “Top Doctors” issue of Philadelphia Magazine. Endovascular surgeon Paul DiMuzio, MD, was featured on the front cover and many physicians and specialty centers made the “Top” list.

Physicians in these areas of specialty were recognized: Adolescent Medicine, Allergy and Immunology, Cardiovascular Disease, Colon and Rectal Surgery, Dermatology, Diagnostic Radiology, Family Medicine, Gastroenterology, Geriatric Medicine, Geriatric Psychiatry, Gynecologic Oncology, Hand Surgery, Internal Medicine, Maternal and Fetal Medicine, Medical Oncology, Neurological Surgery, Neurology, Neuoradiology, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Ophthalmology, Orthopaedic Surgery, Otolaryngology, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Psychiatry, Radiation Oncology, Surgery, Thoracic Surgery, Urology, Vascular and Interventional Radiology and Vascular Surgery.

Jefferson centers noted as “Centers of Excellence” included those in the following categories: Aging, Alternative Medicine, Cancer, Diabetes, Epilepsy, Eyes, Gastroenterology, Hands, Headache, Heart, Kidney Disease, Lupus, Maternal/Fetal Medicine, Multiple Sclerosis, Neurology, Orthopedics, Osteoporosis, Scleroderma, Sleep Disorders, Stroke, Spinal Cord Injury, Smell and Taste, Trauma and Women’s Health.

To see a list of the Jefferson doctors and centers, and learn more about how the list is determined, visit www.phillymag.com.

Patients Teach Students in Health Mentors Program

The Jefferson Center for InterProfessional Education recently wrapped up its first year of the two-year Health Mentors Program that pairs a chronically ill patient with a team of students from various disciplines—a medical student, a nursing student and an occupational or physical therapy student. The goal of the mentoring program is to improve patient care by fostering interaction and respect across disciplines, as well as enhancing the students’ understanding of the needs and lifestyle challenges of patients living with chronic diseases.

Skip Voluntad, 77, one of the patient mentors who attended the wrap-up celebration this spring, expressed his enthusiasm for the program and was eager to convey one message especially. “Every doctor needs to make his/her patient feel special. I think all these young students really understand that and will make wonderful healthcare providers when they graduate.”

To participate in the program as a health mentor, call Reena Antony at 215-955-8601 or email her at reena.antony@jefferson.edu.

Jefferson Rallies for Stroke Awareness

On Delaware Valley Stroke Alert Day (May 6), Jefferson students and staff screened 350 people for stroke risk in a four-hour period and provided individual education sessions upon request. The following month, Jefferson sent a team of more than 40 participants (including staff members and stroke survivors) to the Strides for Stroke 5K run/walk. The annual fundraiser, which featured 1,200 participants and generated $70,000 this year, benefits the Delaware Valley Stroke Council, an organization that works to improve services for and treatments of stroke survivors and their families. Jefferson was the major hospital sponsor of the June 1 event.

VITAL SIGNS:
MAY 2008

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CNN’s Chief Medical Correspondent Sanjay Gupta, MD, came to Jefferson in May to interview Howard Weitz, MD. Dr. Weitz, who is Senator Arlen Specter’s cardiologist, met with Dr. Gupta to discuss the senator’s new book, “Never Give In: Battling Cancer in the Senate.”
Goldfarb, MD, Matt Donaldson, James Brennan, and Marshall Blume; and Melissa Downsbrough.

Tara Robinson. Standing (from left): Lori Bennett; Measey Foundation representatives Stanley professorships and funding for medical education programs. The annual luncheon honors the Since the 1980s, The Benjamin & Mary Siddons Measey Foundation has provided scholarships, and Maria Stanczaki of JCCI. For more information or to arrange open MRI for a patient at JCCI, call 215-503-4900. The imaging center is located on the ground floor of Walnut Towers, 850 Walnut Street. and Bore MRI (1.5T) and Extremity MRI (1.0T). Celebrating the occasion are Judi Kederis, Brian Shulli showcape its recent expansion, including the addition of two new high field open MRI units: Open Jefferson Center City Imaging hosted a Caribbean-themed open house event this spring to Heather and individuals with physical frailty. She was also in the process of improving the lives of caregivers of relatives with Alzheimer's disease, and individuals with physical frailty. She was also in the process of completing her PhD at Temple University's Department of Health Policy. Since the 1980s, The Benjamin & Mary Siddons Measey Foundation has provided scholarships, professorships and funding for medical education programs. The annual luncheon honors the foundation for its continuous support. Pictured are (extited from left): Alhara Gibbons, Gilbert Kim, Tara Robinson. Standing (from left): Lori Bennett; Measey Foundation representatives Stanley Goldfarb, MD, Matt Donaldson, James Brennan, and Marshall Blume; and Melissa Downsbrough.

Jefferson Farmers Market Debuts

Located in front of the 925 Chestnut Street Building, the new Farmers Market comes to Jefferson each Thursday from noon until 5:30 p.m. Open to the public through the early fall, the market features locally grown, freshly picked fruits and vegetables, grass-fed beef, flowers, breads, French pastries and more. Both cash and FastPass are accepted. Shelley Chamberlain, RD, Assistant Director of Dining Services and Mary Grant, Assistant Director of Product Services, urge everyone to explore the Market each week, as selections will change according to the growing season.

Johnston’s Doris N. Grandon Center for Health Economics and Outcomes Research opened May 8, thanks to the funding from JMC alumnus Raymond C. Grandon (MD’45) and his wife, the Center’s namesake, who shares his passion for health policy education. Located in the Curtis Building, the Center provides new office space and learning facilities for the Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research Division of the Health Policy Department. “The additional space will allow our department to continue to grow and develop,” says David B. Nash, MD, MBA, the Dr. Raymond C. and Doris N. Grandon Professor and Chair, Department of Health Policy.

Since the 1980s, The Benjamin & Mary Siddons Measey Foundation has provided scholarships, professorships and funding for medical education programs. The annual luncheon honors the foundation for its continuous support. Pictured are (extited from left): Alhara Gibbons, Gilbert Kim, Tara Robinson. Standing (from left): Lori Bennett; Measey Foundation representatives Stanley Goldfarb, MD, Matt Donaldson, James Brennan, and Marshall Blume; and Melissa Downsbrough.

Jefferson Hospital President and CEO Tom Lewis (second from right) expresses his enthusiasm for locally grown produce. Also pictured on opening day are Shelley Chamberlain, Bob Pierson of Farm to City and Mary Grant.

Health Economics and Outcomes Research Gets New Home

Laura Pizzlo, PharmD, MPH, Doris Grandon, Michael Vergare, MD, Raymond Grandon (MD ’45) and David Nash, MD, MBA, at the May 8 Grandon Center ribbon cutting.

All smiles for Daniel Taub, MD, DDS, who was recently named 2007 Operation Smile Volunteer of the Year. He is pictured in Vietnam with children he treated and educated about dental care. The visit was one of his 11 Operation Smile dental missions to the southeastern Asian country. Dr. Taub is Associate Director, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at Jefferson Hospital, and Instructor of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at Jefferson Medical College. “Operation Smile has been an amazing part of my life,” says Dr. Taub. “I hope that we grow the dental program in other countries and continue its success.”

In Memoriam

Sandra “Sandy” Schinfeld, MPH

The Jefferson community is deeply saddened by the sudden death of Sandra “Sandy” Schinfeld, MPH. She tragically passed away on April 27 as a result of an automobile accident.

Sandy’s professional life was devoted to improving the quality of life of elderly persons and their families. She was a valued member of the Jefferson community for over 15 years, where she served as a project manager at the Jefferson Center for Applied Research on Aging and Health (CARAH). While at CARAH, Sandy was an important member of a research team and was committed to understanding and improving the lives of caregivers of relatives with Alzheimer’s disease, and individuals with physical frailty. She was also in the process of completing her PhD at Temple University’s Department of Public Health. Sandy's work at Temple focused on psychological adaptation to prostate cancer.

On June 4, a “Service of Dedication and Love for Sandy Schinfeld, MPH” was held at Jefferson Alumni Hall. Members of the Jefferson community joined Sandy's husband, Jay, and her colleagues from Temple University in a celebration of Sandy's scholarly life and achievements.
Rebecca Bixby, RN, BSN, of 7 North was named the 2008 regional winner of the Nursing Spectrum Excellence Award for Community Service at a gala held recently.

Edith Cafaro, RPH, turned 90 on June 16, making her the oldest active employee at Methodist Hospital Division of Thomas Jefferson University Hospitals. The former Director of Pharmacy is currently a pharmacist at Methodist, where she has worked since 1982. Her colleagues in Pharmacy held a celebration luncheon and gift presentation in her honor.

For only the third time ever, the National Baseball Hall of Fame has dedicated an exhibit to the collection of one person – Methodist Hospital radiologist Mark Cooper, MD, MBA. Entitled Home Games: A Century of Baseball Games from the Collection of Dr. Mark Cooper, it features more than 50 games from 1860 to 1960, and is on display through the end of the 2008 baseball season.

Adam Dicker, MD, PhD, has recently been selected for membership in the esteemed Harvey Society. Dr. Dicker is Professor and Interim Chair of the Department of Radiation Oncology at the Jefferson’s Kimmel Cancer Center.

Jefferson Medical College student Daniel Hayward was selected to participate in the American Society of Hematology’s Minority Medical Student Award Program. The program encourages minority medical students to pursue an interest in hematology research.

Renato Iozzo, MD, has received an Honorary Professorship in the Faculty of Life Sciences at the University of Manchester. The honor was given in recognition of his continuous and successful mentoring of 20 undergraduate students from the University of Manchester over the past decade. Dr. Iozzo is Professor of Pathology, Anatomy and Cell Biology at TJU.

Gerald Isenberg, MD, was elected president of the Association of Program Directors for Colon and Rectal Surgery. Dr. Isenberg is Associate Professor of Surgery at Jefferson Medical College.

Michael Neiman, CPHQ, has joined the Quality and Performance Excellence team as Senior Director of Accreditation and Compliance. Michael comes to Jefferson with many years experience in various quality management roles at the Philadelphia VA Medical Center, Wills Eye Hospital and Roxborough Memorial Hospital.

Kresge Foundation Awards $500,000 Grant to TJU

The Kresge Challenge required that the Jefferson Foundation raise an additional $2.6 million between June 21, 2007, and March 31, 2008, for construction of the Dorrance H. Hamilton Building, which will "contribute substantially to the campus and its surrounding neighborhood... and strategically enhance the University’s position as a center for teaching and care." As of March 31, Jefferson had received gifts and pledges of more than $2.7 million, exceeding the challenge and increasing the fundraising total for the Hamilton Building to more than $49 million.

Pictured receiving the check on behalf of Jefferson are Senior Vice President Phil Mazzara and University President Robert L. Barchi, MD, PhD.

Valerie Pracilio of the Department of Health Policy has been selected by the Health Research & Educational Trust to participate in its seventh class of Patient Safety Leadership Fellows.

Howard Rabinowitz, MD, received the prestigious Curtis Hames Research Award for his outstanding contributions to the development of family medicine research over the course of his career. He was recognized at the 41st Annual Society of Teachers of Family Medicine Spring Conference in Baltimore on May 3.

Marion B. Tuck, PhD, RN, David P. McQuaid and Brian Sweeten have earned the distinction of board certification in healthcare management as American College of Healthcare Executives Fellows.

Jefferson resident Sachit Verma, MD, won an Executive Council Award from the American Roentgen Ray Society for a research paper on the subject of fibroids. Other Jefferson research team members involved in the study included Diane Bergin, MD, Carin F. Gonzales, MD, Donald G. Mitchelli, MD, Anna S. Lev-Toaff, MD, and Laurence Parker, PhD.

Jefferson’s Kimmel Cancer Center, along with the newly established Jefferson Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine Center, presented the first Annual Symposium on Stem Cell Biology at Jefferson on June 11. The event drew notable speakers from around the country.

A multicenter study found that Chinese red yeast rice reduces repeat heart attacks/mortality rates.

Corresponding author David M. Capuzzi, MD, PhD, Director of the Cardiovascular Disease Prevention Program at Jefferson’s Myrna Brind Center of Integrative Medicine and Zonliang Lu, MD, PhD, reported their findings in the June 15 edition of the American Journal of Cardiology.

Jefferson received the 2007 Campaign Performance Award from the United Way in May. Employees of the Hospital, University and Methodist Hospital Division boosted contributions by over 26% last year, for a total of more than $106,000, and increased its number of donors. Out of 2,000 United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania workplace campaigns that ran in 2007, only 10 received the performance award.

Since 1994, neurological surgeon Robert Rosenwasser, MD, and his staff have treated more than 4,100 intracranial aneurysms, a milestone not experienced by most institutions. Dr. Rosenwasser personally conducted 3,000 of these procedures.

Researchers at the Jefferson Prostate Diagnostic Center and Jefferson’s Kimmel Cancer Center found that biopsies targeted to areas of increased blood flow in the prostate were twice as likely to be positive for cancer compared with conventional prostate biopsy techniques.

Thomas Jefferson University Hospital’s Orthopaedic Joint (Hip and Knee) Replacement Program has been awarded the Gold Seal of Approval and Disease-Specific Care Certification from the Joint Commission. Jefferson is the first hospital in Philadelphia to receive this designation. Jefferson also has this certification for its Stroke Program.

A poster submitted by Jefferson faculty/staff documenting attitudes of medical and nursing students toward care of patients with chronic illness won the prize for “Best Geriatric Education Poster” at the national meeting of the American Geriatric Society. The authors include Christine Arenson, MD; Cecilia Borden, EdD, RN; Susan Rattner, MSCE, MD; Sylvia K. Fields, EdD, RN; Shaun Franklin, MD; Emily Gavin and Jon Veloski, MS.

A team of researchers from Jefferson’s Kimmel Cancer Center and Ohio State University Medical Center found a gene signature profile for metastasis. The findings may represent a novel diagnostic tool in characterizing gene targets in metastatic cancer.

Scientists at the Center for Translational Medicine at Thomas Jefferson University have found that a protein that appears to have protective and perhaps healing effects for failing hearts also plays a similar role in high blood pressure. They found lower-than-normal levels of the protein S100A1 in cells that line blood vessel walls in animals with high blood pressure.

Jefferson Hospital is the leading center in the tri-state area for pancreatic surgery, according to recent data from hospital discharge databases and the Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council. Last year, our surgical team of Charles Yeo, MD, FACS, Eugene Kennedy, MD, Ernest (Gary) Rosato, MD, and others performed approximately 200 pancreatic resections.

Researchers at Jefferson’s Kimmel Cancer Center have shown that by blocking a signaling protein, they can prevent prostate cancer cells from metastatic dissemination. The work opens the door to future studies examining the protein as a target for therapies aimed at keeping prostate cancer at bay.

Paul F. Bray, MD, of the Division of Hematology at JMC and his co-authors reported a study that found a simple blood test may indicate whether post-menopausal hormone therapies present an elevated risk of a heart attack. The study, part of the Women’s Health Initiative (WHI), sponsored by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health, was conducted in 40 centers nationwide.

Scientists at Jefferson Medical College have received a five-year $11.6 million Program Project grant from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (a part of the National Institutes of Health) to study molecular mechanisms of cardiac injury that lead to heart failure and potential repair processes that occur in the adult failing heart. This project aims to find data that can be translated into novel therapeutic strategies to improve the failing heart.

The Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT) recently granted accreditation to Jefferson’s Department of Radiologic Sciences’ Medical Dosimetry program. It is one of only three baccalaureate programs recognized by JRCERT.
Food Network to Feature Jefferson Staff and Patients This Fall

An episode of Food Network’s “Dinner: Impossible,” filmed at Jefferson, will air in the fall. The show will be based on a May 13 dinner prepared by show host Michael Symon (second from right), his sous-chefs and former Jefferson patients pictured left to right: Andrea Gillespie, Marquita Cunningham and Gaetan Sgro. The crew served the four-course “thank-you” dinner to more than 230 nurses and doctors.

Jefferson Dermatology Offers Free Skin Cancer Screenings

In observance of National Melanoma/Skin Cancer Prevention Month, Jefferson Dermatology Associates provided free screenings over two days – May 28 and June 6. This year, 142 people scheduled screenings – twice the number seen last year. If you have a family history of skin cancer, are fair-skinned, sunburn easily or spend a lot of time outdoors, you should have an annual skin exam. To make an appointment, call 1-800-JEFF-NOW.

EVENT RECAPS

Celebration of Life Honors Cancer Survivors

More than 200 cancer survivors, family members and caregivers attended the annual Celebration of Life presented by Jefferson’s Kimmel Cancer Center on June 11. The event featured an art exhibit, poetry, music, speakers and the annual Celebration of Life presented by Jefferson’s Kimmel Cancer Center.

Join the TJU Choir

The choir is open to all members of the Jefferson community and their families and friends. Rehearsals resume on Wednesday, September 17 in Room 139 of Jefferson Alumni Hall. The group will meet every Wednesday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. through December 10 (except November 26) in preparation for a concert on December 12. Call 215-790-5195 for more information.

Donate Blood – You Could Win a $50 Gas Card

Help us fill our supply of blood this summer and we'll help you fill your tank. All those who donate blood in July and August will be entered into a weekly drawing for a $50 gas card. In addition, the Jefferson Blood Donor Center offers thank-you gifts to those who donate. Summer months often bring blood shortages so please consider donating today. Call 215-955-7791 weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. to schedule an appointment or stop in at 6203 Gilmore.

Blood Donors Needed

Blood Donor Center hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Please call 215-955-7791 to schedule an appointment if you are eligible and willing to give blood.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Thursday, September 18
• Thomas Jefferson University Hospitals, Board, 8 a.m., 101 BLSB

Ruth Stephens, Calendar Editor
Dennett Puckal, Design: JeffGraphics