Jefferson Continues to Grow – Locally and Globally

Developing International Healthcare Leaders through Agreement with St. George’s, University of London

Earlier this year, Jefferson embarked on a new transatlantic venture, bringing us ever closer to our goal of building on our optimistic future. The new agreement signed with St. George’s, University of London (SGUL) will not only enrich the educational experience of our medical students, but will position Jefferson as an incubator for the next generation of physicians who will be well prepared to shape the way health care is designed and delivered on an international stage.

About the Partnership

Our academic partnership enables SGUL students to complete two years of preparatory work in London (required before interacting with patients) and to then attend Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University (SKMC) for years three and four, working toward a Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery degree (MBBS is the equivalent of a doctor of medicine degree in North America). This “2+2” curriculum begins at Jefferson in July 2016 and we will initially enroll 12 SGUL students each year at SKMC. SGUL and Jefferson have also agreed to establish international elective rotations during the final clinical year of our undergraduate medical programs. These rotations will begin this May.

Population Health Joint Degree Program

Our two institutions are also discussing the creation of a joint degree program combining the MBBS with a master’s degree in population health, which will include significant course content in international population health under the auspices of the Jefferson School of Population Health.

About St. George’s

SGUL, founded in 1751 as St. George’s Hospital, is the United Kingdom’s only freestanding healthcare university with programs in medicine, nursing and a wide range of allied health professions, social and biomedical sciences.

Bringing Integrative Health to Our Western Suburban Neighbors—Thanks to Generous $14 Million Gift from Marcus Foundation

In February, Dr. Klasko announced that Jefferson received a $14 million grant from The Marcus Foundation, Inc., to establish Marcus Integrative Health at the Myrna Brind Center – Villanova. This site will be the first satellite location of the Myrna Brind Center of Integrative Medicine at Jefferson, and represents another important step in our implementation of Jefferson’s Blueprint for Strategic Action.

“We are delivering on our commitment to ‘Patients and Families First’ by creating patient/provider-friendly facilities and developing innovative patient engagement processes, opportunities and technologies,” said Stephen Klasko, MD, MBA, President and CEO, Thomas Jefferson University (TJU) and Jefferson Health System.

The Marcus Foundation focuses on Jewish causes, children, medical research, free enterprise and the community, and was created by Bernard Marcus, co-founder of The Home Depot, Inc.

Marcus Integrative Health at the Myrna Brind Center – Villanova will occupy 14,000+ square feet to accommodate an expanding number of our clinical experts, and will house laboratories with advanced diagnostic capabilities, a state-of-the-art infusion center and access to wellness programs and products. Jefferson’s services will include holistic primary care, an integrated approach to executive health, nutrient infusion programs, novel testing procedures, acupuncture and other complementary therapies. Daniel Monti, MD, Professor and Director of the Myrna Brind Center of Integrative Medicine at Jefferson, will also serve as the Director of the Center in Villanova. Our goal is to open the Marcus Integrative Health at the Myrna Brind Center – Villanova in the fall.
More Partnerships in Health: Increasing the Scope of Our Care and Education

Expanding Education: Bryn Athyn College

Jefferson and Bryn Athyn College (BAC) recently signed an agreement that allows BAC students to earn a BSN from Jefferson’s School of Nursing (JSN). The partnership enables us to build on our growing number of strategic alliances with leading institutions to help ensure an optimistic future.

“We are excited to be partners with Thomas Jefferson University’s School of Nursing in providing students with both a strong liberal arts foundation and excellent technical training,” said Allen Bedford, PhD, Bryn Athyn College Dean of Academics.

Applications are being accepted now for the Fall 2015 semester.

Founded in 1877, Bryn Athyn College is a private, coeducational liberal arts college offering associate, baccalaureate, and master’s degree programs.

Expanding Health Care in NJ with Inspira Health Network

A partnership with Inspira Health Network will provide a new level of specialty healthcare services to residents of South Jersey, and deliver on the “Seamless Clinical Enterprise” vector of Jefferson’s plan for growth—the Blueprint for Strategic Action.

Jefferson will help Inspira expand several of its key programs by providing the clinical and research expertise normally only available in academic medical centers like Jefferson. We have agreed to work together to initially provide advanced care to patients in South Jersey in the following areas: Cancer Services, Neuroscience and Gastroenterology.

As part of the new affiliation, Inspira Health Network and Jefferson have also agreed to construct a new free-standing ambulatory care building in northeastern Gloucester County. The building will house a comprehensive cancer center that will be part of the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center Network and the building will also provide physician office space, allowing Inspira to provide a variety of specialty care to the local community.

Expanding Care for 470,000 in PA, DE, ME, NJ and WV

Geisinger Health Plan (GHP) and Thomas Jefferson University Hospital System have expanded their relationship and signed a new multi-year agreement. The new contract includes all Thomas Jefferson University Hospitals and Jefferson University Physicians, as well as more than 400 community providers.

Through this contract, Jefferson becomes an in-network, preferred provider under GHP, offering easier access for members.

“Thomas Jefferson University Hospitals is known for providing patients with excellent clinical and compassionate care,” said Steven R. Youso, GHP’s President and CEO. “This new contract provides our members access to one of the health systems most recognized for quality in Pennsylvania. We are happy our members will have Jefferson as a healthcare choice.”

The contract applies to all GHP coverage options, including Geisinger Gold, Geisinger Choice and Geisinger Health Options. Geisinger Health Plan has approximately 45,000 members in Southern Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

GHP has the #1-ranked Medicare and private health plans in Pennsylvania that are also ranked #10 and #12 in the nation respectively, according to the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) Medicare and Private Health Insurance Plan Rankings 2014–2015.

It Takes a Team: The Comprehensive Traumatic Injury Program at Jefferson

Jefferson’s commitment to Trauma is multidisciplinary and comprehensive, but it’s also very personal and fulfilled by some of the best and brightest specialists.

Our newly renamed Jefferson Comprehensive Traumatic Injury Program is committed 24/7 to providing rapid care in the most urgent situations.

At Jefferson, our patients can take comfort in knowing that our Comprehensive Traumatic Injury team will be involved in every step of care, from diagnosis to surgery and rehabilitation—all in an efficient and timely manner.

A Team Approach: Jefferson Comprehensive Traumatic Injury Program

Our program’s team of experts is highly skilled in various specialties, represented within the following services and programs at Jefferson: Anesthesiology, Comprehensive Concussion Center, Emergency Department at Jefferson, Hand Trauma (The Philadelphia Hand Center at Jefferson), JeffSTAT, Neurological Surgery, Orthopedic Trauma, Radiology, Rehabilitation Medicine, Spine Program, Wills Eye Emergency Department at Jefferson.

Our Comprehensive Traumatic Injury team also works in close collaboration with specialists in Neurology, Obstetrics, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Pediatric Surgery, and Urology.

Reasons Why Jefferson is a Leader in Trauma Care

• Greater than 60 percent transfer volume, with transfers from outside the Philadelphia region and the country
• One of 14 hospitals in the nation to have a Level I Trauma Center and a federally designated Regional Spinal Cord Injury Center, and the only one in the area
• An experienced staff that includes critical care-boarded traumatologists available 24/7 as well as trauma-certified nurse practitioners and physician assistants
• Home to the largest orthopedic surgery program in the Delaware Valley, with highly specialized orthopedic trauma and fracture care for potentially limb-threatening or life-altering injuries
• Hand trauma care from board-certified orthopedic surgeons at The Philadelphia Hand Center at Jefferson
• The Philadelphia region’s only hospital dedicated to neuroscience, with immediate access to some of the most experienced and renowned neurosurgeons for the treatment of traumatic brain injuries
• Access to one of only three emergency rooms in the country dedicated to emergency eye care through our partnership with Wills Eye Hospital
• A Comprehensive Rehabilitation Unit, accredited by the Commission on the Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) for Comprehensive Integrated Inpatient Rehabilitation and Stroke Specialty Program

Learn more about the Jefferson Comprehensive Traumatic Injury Program at www.jefferson.edu.
Jefferson Accelerator Zone: Moving Great Ideas, Research and Ventures Forward

Located in freshly renovated and redesigned space at 137 South 10th Street, the new Jefferson Accelerator Zone (JAZ) was created to serve as a connection hub for people inside and outside the Jefferson community to discuss innovations in health care.

"The gauntlet I've thrown down is I want Jefferson to be the first academic medical center where you can advance in your career based on entrepreneurism and innovation," said President and CEO Stephen Klasko, MD, MBA.

Every Thursday, Jefferson's new home for innovation and entrepreneurism features Open Office Hours, where staff, students, faculty, residents, fellows and alumni can meet with experts from venture capital, attorneys and serial entrepreneurs to receive counseling on their career, ideas or business planning. JAZ Open Office Hours are Thursdays from 4 to 6 p.m. at 137 South 10th Street.

"It has everything a traditional academic medical center does not have," said Dr. Klasko. "It's all open. It has walls you can write on. It is designed as a place for people to collaborate."

"Shark Tank"-like sessions are planned for the future, where people can present their ideas.

Visit JAZ online—or stop by the Open Office Hours on Thursdays. Have questions? Please email innovation@jefferson.edu.

Personalized, Multispecialty Care for Complex Cardiac Issues and Fatty Liver Disease

Nonalcoholic fatty liver disease affects up to 30 percent of adults and is the most common liver disease in western nations. It is estimated that by 2020, this form of liver disease will be the leading cause for liver transplant in the United States.

The Jefferson Fatty Liver Center offers hope for those affected, and is Philadelphia’s first adult center with a multidisciplinary approach to the disease, which is defined as a buildup of extra fat in the liver not due to excessive alcohol use. The Center provides excellent preventive care, management and treatment options, and features a team of specialists—hepatologists, endocrinologists, cardiologists, dietitians, bariatric surgeons, pathologists and radiologists—who work with patients and their primary care physicians to create a personalized treatment plan.

Learn more about the Jefferson Fatty Liver Center. For additional information, please contact the Center at 215-955-8900.

In the Spotlight

The Jefferson Breast Cancer Screening and Treatment Program at the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Thomas Jefferson University has joined 14 other leading academic medical centers in the nation’s premier prostate cancer clinical trials group—the Prostate Cancer Clinical Trials Consortium (PCCTC). The membership not only gives Jefferson patients access to groundbreaking clinical trials from across the country, but brings Jefferson’s research in prostate cancer to centers across the United States. This will help researchers to complete their studies faster, and bring much needed novel therapies to patients sooner.

A Jefferson mindfulness program improves mind-body health in the elderly. Researchers at the Myrna Brind Center of Integrative Medicine at Jefferson found. Participants in the study reported increased awareness and ability to be present in the moment, as well as greater self-compassion. The research showed that mindfulness-based stress reduction—a cost-effective group model—can help elders improve quality of life and well-being.

A multidisciplinary team at Thomas Jefferson University Hospitals implemented a successful transition-of-care program, Jefferson Facilitating Anticoagulation for Safer Transitions, or Jeff FAST, for patients presenting to the emergency room with acute, uncomplicated deep vein thrombosis (DVT). The team used evidence-based guidelines to determine which patients could be discharged safely and which should be admitted to the hospital. Patient education is integral to the success of the program, as is provider education—which will be enhanced with a Jeff FAST application for smartphones, currently in development. The app will provide just-in-time information so emergency room physicians can make the best and most informed decisions.

At the recent Radiological Society of North America’s 100th annual meeting in Chicago, the Department of Radiologic Sciences in Jefferson’s School of Health Professions received top honors as Best Radiologic Technologist Training Program. This award is part of an annual competition held by AuntMinnie, a comprehensive website for radiology professionals with more than 85,000 e-mail list subscribers. The awards, known as the “Minnies,” are the website’s effort to recognize the best and brightest in medical imaging.

Innovate at Jefferson Accelerator Zone

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Bringing More Jefferson Care to Our Neighbors in the Northeast

Jefferson at Smylie Times: Heart Care and Urgent Care Right in the Neighborhood

For our neighbors in northeast Philadelphia, seeing a Jefferson doctor is more convenient than ever. Patients can now receive comprehensive heart and vascular care without traveling to Jefferson’s Center City campus. The Jefferson Heart Institute’s Northeast office, formerly located at 9501 Roosevelt Boulevard, has moved to newly renovated space at the Smylie Times Building. At this new location, Jefferson cardiologists and vascular surgeons offer diagnosis, management, treatment and prevention of a variety of cardiovascular disorders including coronary heart disease, heart failure, peripheral vascular disease and deep vein thrombosis.

Jefferson Urgent Care is also now open at the Smylie Times Building, providing quick, convenient patient access to Jefferson physicians. Jefferson Urgent Care is open seven days a week from 8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Walk-ins are welcome and services include lab, X-ray, injury treatments, illness visits, physical exams, and vaccinations.

Jefferson at Smylie Times is located at 2607 Rhawn Street, near the intersection of Rhawn and Roosevelt Boulevard. For heart-care appointments, please call 1-800-JEFF-NOW.

Jefferson Angioplasty Center

Thomas Jefferson University and Hospitals is proud to announce the opening of the Jefferson Angioplasty Center, the outpatient practice for Jefferson’s interventional cardiologists.

The newly opened Center’s recognized experts provide consultations to physicians and second opinions to patients with complex cardiac issues including coronary heart diseases, structural heart disease and valvular heart diseases.

“While many patients come to Jefferson for routine care, Jefferson’s interventional program is an ideal regional referral center for patients deemed high risk, inoperable or in need of a second opinion,” said Michael Savage, MD, the Ralph J. Roberts Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine and the Director of the Jefferson Angioplasty Center.

“We are a ready resource for physicians and their patients who may be considering heart surgery or other treatment options,” said Dr. Savage.

The Jefferson Angioplasty Center, which offers imaging that includes echocardiograms and ultrasounds, also features a nurse practitioner who streamlines the consultation process and helps patients navigate through pre-visit preparations.

The Jefferson Angioplasty Center is in the same space with the Vascular Center (in the Gibbon Building, 111 South 11th Street, Suite 6210, Philadelphia), allowing for streamlined consultations and convenience for the patient—as the two specialties often see the same patients. To make an appointment with the specialists at Jefferson Angioplasty Center, please call 1-800-JEFF-NOW.

People

NASA honored Jefferson Neurologist George Brainard, PhD, with the prestigious Johnson Space Center Director’s Innovation Award. He and fellow team members won the award for developing a new circadian rhythm countermeasure—the flexible Space Station Lighting Assembly—for the International Space Station. The new technology that opens the door for changes in lighting on earth may improve the health and well-being of everyday citizens. Dr. Brainard is Professor of Neurology and Director of the Light Research Program at Thomas Jefferson University.

Frances Gilman, DHSc, RT(R)(CT)(MR)(CV), was named first runner-up for Most Effective Radiologic Technologist Educator at the recent annual meeting of the Radiological Society of North America. Dr. Gilman is Chair of JSHP Jefferson School of Health Professions Radiologic Sciences and associate professor at TJU.

In February Jefferson proudly strengthened its ongoing commitment to diversity, welcoming our new Chief Diversity Officer, Joseph Hill. He joined us from Froedtert Health—clinical arm of the Medical College of Wisconsin—where he was Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer. The appointment of Joseph will ensure that we sustain and build upon our work of creating a culture of excellence through diversity and inclusion.

ESPN Films put the spotlight on cardiologist Reggie Ho, MD, and Jefferson recently with a film documenting Dr. Ho’s legendary performance as a kicker on the 1988 Notre Dame football team (he helped the team eventually win the National Championship). Dr. Ho is a board-certified cardiologist specializing in electrophysiology and is Clinical Assistant Professor of Cardiology at the Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University.

Mary Lou Manning, PhD, CRNP, CIC, FAAN, will serve as the 2015 president of the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC). A nationally recognized infection prevention expert, Dr. Manning is Director of the Doctor of Nursing Practice Program and an associate professor at the Jefferson School of Nursing.

The dean of Sidney Kimmel Medical College at TJU—Mark Tykocinski, MD—has been named a Fellow by the National Academy of Inventors. Dr. Tykocinski is also Provost, Thomas Jefferson University and EVP, Academic Affairs. He will be inducted by the NAI in March.