

Better Health Care, Education and Understanding – by Design

Non-traditional medical students becoming innovative, creative problem solvers.

Diversity at Jefferson — from the people who bring their talents to our expanding organization to the healthcare treatments and education curriculum we offer — continues to spur opportunities for innovation everywhere.



Bon Ku, MD, MPP, directs the IDeA Program at Jefferson.

One example of how we're using diverse techniques and fostering "out-of-the-box" approaches to healthcare challenges is our partnership with Princeton University via the Innovation & Design Application (IDeA) Program. Led by Bon Ku, MD, MPP, IDeA invites Princeton

University sophomores pursuing non-traditional pre-med majors or concentrations, such as architecture, engineering and computer science, to apply for early admission to Sidney Kimmel Medical College (SKMC) at Thomas Jefferson University.

Admitted IDeA students are not required to take the MCAT or the full pre-med course load, so they can focus on their areas of study at Princeton and develop outside experience that brings innovation to the IDeA Program.

"When we design hospitals, we should want to design the best and most beautiful building which happens to be a hospital, but instead, we design mediocre buildings," Dr. Ku said during an interview on Wharton Business Radio on SiriusXM.

"IDeA is the first design program for a medical school in the country," said Dr. Ku, who is also a professor of Emergency Medicine at Jefferson. "We take students during their first year of medical school, and we teach them design methodology. This involves empathy, rapid prototyping and iteration, and we teach them before they enter their pre-clinical years how to solve healthcare problems through design methodology — to really think outside the box and become creative problem solvers."

You can hear and see a transcript of the interview with Dr. Ku and Stephen, MD, MBA, President and CEO, TJU and Jefferson Health, by searching online for "The Medical Revolution You Haven't Heard About... Yet."

To learn more about the program, please visit Jefferson.edu.

Jefferson Welcomes Civil Rights Movement Champion Andrew Young

Powerful Insights on History, Diversity and Medicine



As a way to celebrate and promote understanding of the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Jefferson hosted the esteemed former US ambassador to the United Nations, Andrew Young, on January 27. Mr. Young sat down to speak with Dr. Klasko (pictured at right) for a "fireside chat" and audience Q&A. Also pictured: Peter Salam Beah, SKMC'18, who moderated the event. Photo: TJU Photo Services



TJU and Philadelphia University, located in the East Falls section of the city, have signed a Letter of Intent, with the ultimate goal of creating a comprehensive university with a unique model in professional education that will drive innovation in health, science, architecture, design, fashion, textiles, business and engineering.

Photo: Philadelphia University

In this issue:

2 SKMC Receives \$2 Million to Support Scholarships & Diversity Programs

3 Jefferson and Kennedy Health Sign Letter of Intent

4 Thanks to our MLK Jr. Day of Service Volunteers

Taking Neuroscience Research and Treatment to New Heights

In the latter half of 2015, Jefferson's Vickie and Jack Farber Institute for Neuroscience became the proud home to the Weinberg ALS Center, which combines excellence in basic research with a robust multidisciplinary treatment clinic. The clinic is supported by The ALS Association Greater Philadelphia Chapter — and its ultimate goal is finding a cure.

In more news from the Institute, Kimberly Strauss made a \$500,000 investment to support the creation of a new stem cell center. The gift is in memory of her late father, Robert Perry Strauss, who at one time was an executive for Pep Boys Auto Stores (a chain co-founded by his father in 1921). The Stem Cell Center will be led by Jefferson researcher and professor Lorraine Iacovitti, PhD, who seeks to discover new treatments for neurodegenerative diseases such as Parkinson's disease. Jefferson recently held a dedication ceremony and portrait unveiling at 901 Walnut Street to recognize Kimberly's commitment to advancing neuroscience research at Jefferson and to honor her father.



At the recent Robert Perry Strauss Memorial Lobby naming and portrait unveiling ceremony are Robert Rosenwasser, MD, Jewell L. Osterholm, MD, Professor and Chair of the Department of Neurological Surgery and President, Vickie and Jack Farber Institute for Neuroscience; Lorraine Iacovitti, PhD; Abdolmohamad Rostami, MD, PhD, Chair, Neurology; Irwin Levitan, PhD, Paul C. Brucker Professor and Chair, Department of Neuroscience; Michael J. Vergare, MD, Executive Vice President, Partnerships and Affiliations/Professor and Chair, Psychiatry; Dr. Klasko; and Kimberly Strauss. To learn more, visit the Philanthropy section of Jefferson.edu. Photo: TJU Photo Services



Jefferson recently celebrated the ribbon cutting for our new Brind-Marcus Center of Integrative Medicine in Villanova, which combines integrative, global and traditional health care to create a comprehensive plan for the patient's total body, mind and spiritual wellness. The Center is also home to the region's only PET-MRI. Pictured are Billi Marcus and Bernie Marcus, Brind-Marcus Center of Integrative Medicine benefactors; Ira Brind, Jefferson trustee and Chair, Myrna Brind Center of Integrative Medicine at Jefferson Advisory Board; Stacey Leigh Spector, JD, Partner, The Rudnick Spector Firm, and wife of Ira Brind; and Kathy Gallagher, Executive VP and Enterprise Chief Operating Officer, TJU and Jefferson Health. Photo: TJU Photo Services

SKMC Receives \$2 Million Gift to Support Scholarships and Diversity Programs



Thomas Jefferson University is the grateful recipient of a \$2 million gift from Nancy and Jim Baxter that will support our mission to promote and cultivate an inclusive environment that celebrates the diversity of our patients, families, students, workforce and the communities we serve. The gift will provide scholarships to underrepresented students in medicine and support diversity programs at the Sidney Kimmel Medical College. Pictured are Nancy and Jim Baxter and Dr. Klasko. Photo: Jefferson Office of Institutional Advancement

College of Nursing to Offer BSN Programs at Abington-Dixon Campus in Willow Grove

Jefferson College of Nursing is pleased to announce that it will also offer Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) programs at the Abington-Dixon campus in Willow Grove — pending approval by the Pennsylvania Board of Nursing.

By providing our BSN program at two locations, Jefferson will be able to accommodate a larger pool of students looking to earn their BSNs, especially those students in the northern suburbs of Philadelphia. Studies show that BSN-prepared registered nurses contribute to positive patient outcomes; the advanced degree also creates a variety of career paths for nurses — preparing them for jobs beyond the hospital walls, including careers in management, outpatient nursing, transitional care, community health and clinical instruction.

The BSN programs are slated to begin in fall of 2017, after the graduation of the Abington-Dixon School of Nursing's current students.

Patients Around the Globe Rely on Jefferson for Innovative Treatment

Thomas Jefferson University Hospitals is a member and part-owner of Philadelphia International Medicine (PIM). Working together, PIM and TJUH provide scheduling and administrative support, financial and billing services, concierge services, visas, interpretation services, family support and more for every international patient receiving Jefferson care.

If an international friend, relative or other international patient is seeking care, please contact Mary McMonigle at **215-955-8452** or email Mary.McMonigle@jefferson.edu.

Aria and Jefferson are proud to announce that we have signed a definitive agreement, following a unanimous vote from both boards of trustees.



[Read more on Jefferson.edu](#)

Beating Cancer, Again: Half-Match Stem Cell Transplant Provides Full Hope

Quinette Keys, 57, first learned that her health had taken a bad turn while she was doing a good deed. As an active service member in the US Army in 1992, Quinette attempted to make a blood donation to the Red Cross, a contribution she'd made countless times before. But this time, Quinette's donation was refused. She was advised to see a doctor to find out why.

Quinette was initially told that she had a simple case of anemia. It was not until almost a year later that she visited a hematologist and learned that she had been misdiagnosed. Quinette learned that she had multiple myeloma, a cancer formed by malignant plasma cells that cause mild to severe bone, calcium and kidney problems.

Chair and Professor of Jefferson's Department of Medical Oncology, and Clinical Deputy Director of the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson, Neal Flomenberg, MD, became Quinette's doctor in September 2001. He would later perform a successful stem cell replacement to address Quinette's multiple myeloma.

"When I got to Jefferson they had a team of doctors that were willing to work with me. And even on the unit, all of the nurses — the care and concern that they showed — it was just phenomenal to me," Quinette said.

Just when she thought she was in the clear, in 2007, she was diagnosed with leukemia. Dr. Flomenberg selected her as a favorable candidate for Jefferson's Blood and Marrow Transplant (BMT) Program. In the BMT program, patients can receive stem cell transplants from matched related donors, half-matched related donors or compatible unrelated donors. Dr. Flomenberg identified an eager and willing half-matched donor: Quinette's son, Kilyon Keys.

Read the rest of Quinette's success story — visit the Philanthropy section of Jefferson.edu.



Quinette Keys, three-time cancer survivor, and her physician, Neal Flomenberg, MD, Chair and Professor of Jefferson's Department of Medical Oncology, and Clinical Deputy Director of the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson. Photo: TJU Photo Services

Jefferson and Kennedy Health Sign Letter of Intent

Signifying our shared commitment to transform health care and deliver value-based, high-quality care — when and where our patients need it most — the boards of Kennedy Health and Thomas Jefferson University unanimously approved the signing of a Letter of Intent on January 22.

Established in 1965, Kennedy Health serves the southern New Jersey community at its hospital campuses in Cherry Hill, Stratford and Washington Township, and at outpatient facilities throughout Camden and Gloucester counties. Pictured are Joseph Devine, FACHE, President & CEO of Kennedy Health; Dr. Klasko; Albert Smith, Chair, Kennedy Health Board of Directors; Richard Hevner, Chair of the TJU Board of Trustees; Larry Merlis, EVP, Chief Operating Officer, Jefferson Health; and John Durante, Chair, Kennedy University Hospital Board of Trustees.



Photo: Kennedy Health

Accomplishments

- Jefferson Hospital and Methodist Hospital are honored to be recipients of the 2016 *Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence™* from HealthGrades.
- Obesity has long been associated with increased risk of colorectal cancer, but the link has never been understood. Now, TJU researchers have revealed the biological connection and, in the process, have identified an approved drug that might prevent development of the cancer.
- In experimental models of lung cancer, Jefferson researchers showed that a combination of two drugs plus radiation could make a subset of treatment-resistant lung cancers susceptible to therapy.
- Researchers at Thomas Jefferson University have found the method they developed to image the prostate appears to be much better at detecting prostate cancer than any other test — radiographical, biopsy or blood — in use today.
- The Jefferson College of Nursing was awarded \$50,000 from the Jonas Center for Nursing and Veterans Health to support three Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Jonas Nurse Leader Scholars and one Donald Jonas Legacy Fund Scholar.
- Jefferson College of Nursing is now offering a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree in nurse anesthesia designed for students who have completed a Bachelor of Science degree. The program is the first of its kind in Philadelphia to receive approval from the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs. The College will admit the first class of 26 students in the fall of 2016.
- Jefferson continues to lead the charge in transforming health care, spearheading a new publication — *Healthcare Transformation* — a free, open-access "journalzine" available online.
- Jefferson College of Nursing (JCN) will mark its 125th anniversary in 2016 by celebrating its alumni achievements and rich history while advancing the future of nursing education excellence. Founded in 1891 as the Jefferson Hospital Training School for Nurses with an inaugural class of 13 students, JCN now enrolls more than 950 students per year in 20 programs for nurses at the bachelor's, master's and doctoral levels.

For news and research breakthroughs, please visit Jefferson.edu.



Thanks to all who supported Jefferson's 13th annual Jefferson Gala honoring Bernie and Billi Marcus (center and right) and Jefferson urologist Leonard Gomella, MD (left). The event drew more than 900 attendees and raised more than \$900,000 to further our research and education at Jefferson. Photo: Kelly and Massa Photography

New Home for Jefferson Geriatrics

Walnut Towers is now home to Jefferson Geriatrics. Patients have convenient access to the new office on the first floor at 834 Walnut Street, Suite 110, next to Citizen's Bank. Through its outpatient practice, Jefferson Geriatrics, the Division of Geriatric Medicine and Palliative Care, provides primary care and consultation services for adults aged 55 years and older.

For more information and appointments, please call **1-800-JEFF-NOW**.

Celebrating the Life and Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Andrew Young Speaks to the Jefferson Community: Powerful Insights on History, Diversity and Medicine



Photo: TJU Photo Services

Jefferson colleagues, students and members of the press gathered for a “fireside chat” and Q&A with Mr. Young and our President and CEO Stephen Klasko, MD, MBA, on January 27. The esteemed former US ambassador to the United Nations, now 84, is best known for his efforts in the civil rights movement, where he worked alongside Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. He also served as mayor of Atlanta and has since continued working to cultivate the next generation of leaders by passing on the lessons he’s learned in his life of remarkable service and accomplishment. In addition to diversity and medical education, he had powerful insights on many other subjects to impart during visit to our campus — on subjects such as growing up with racism; respect for women; how to use your head in difficult situations; AIDS research and more. He also provided insight into who Martin Luther King, Jr. was and who should play him in a movie (his answer: Eddie Murphy – apparently Dr. King was a jokester!). Watch the video playback on Jefferson.edu by selecting “Thomas Jefferson University” in the top navigation and scroll to “Leadership.” (The video is also available on YouTube, featuring a pre-interview by WURD-AM. Search “Andrew Young Fireside Chat.”)

A Tribute to Dr. King Through Service to Our Community



Thanks to the many Jefferson staff, students and family members who gave of their time and talents during Jefferson’s observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service on January 18 in Philadelphia. Our volunteers combined their efforts and enthusiasm at the Veteran’s Multi-Service Center to recycle computers, paint bathrooms and serve lunch to veterans. They also painted four classrooms, a counseling suite and a restroom and reorganized the library at Southwark Elementary School. Pictured are staff members Leslie Kinkler, Bridgett Battles and Hugh Lavery.

People

Congratulations to **Kara Anne Chromiak, RN**, Jefferson’s Methodist Hospital Medical & Surgical Floor, and **Susan Norton, RN, BSN**, Methodist Hospital Orthopedic Shoulder & Elbow Unit, for being named Top Nurses by *South Jersey Magazine*.

Robert J. Laskowski, MD, MBA, Professor of Clinical Medicine at Sidney Kimmel Medical College (SKMC) at Thomas Jefferson University, has been named the new chair of the Association of American Medical Colleges. A board-certified general internist with additional certification in geriatric medicine, Dr. Laskowski is also a senior fellow at the Jefferson College of Population Health at TJU.

Maryjane (MJ) Mulcahey, PhD, OTR/L, Professor, Department of Occupational Therapy in the Jefferson College of Health Professions, has been inducted as the President of the American Spinal Injury Association.

The Pathologist magazine has named **Stephen Peiper, MD**, to its 2015 Power List — a list that celebrates the exceptional achievements of those who have had an impact on the field and highlights the truly groundbreaking work of laboratory medicine and its intrinsic role in patient care and the molecular revolution. Dr. Peiper is the Peter A. Herbut Professor & Chair Department of Pathology, Anatomy & Cell Biology, SKMC, and Associate Director for Translational Research, Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson.

Charles Pollack, MA, MD, Professor of Emergency Medicine and Associate Provost for Innovation in Education, has been elected a Fellow of the European Society of Cardiology (FESC). Dr. Pollack is the first US emergency medicine physician so honored. He is currently focused on rolling out new initiatives from the Jefferson Institute of Emerging Health Professions.

Vijay M. Rao, MD, was named Chairperson of the Radiological Society of North America Board of Directors. In her role with the RSNA, Dr. Rao brings her expertise in health services and policy matters to bear in a shifting healthcare landscape of increasing complexity and declining reimbursements. Dr. Rao is the David C. Levin Professor and Chair of Radiology at SKMC.

Stephen Sigworth, MD, MSHA, has joined Jefferson as Associate Chief Medical Officer, Senior Vice President, Jefferson Physicians. Most recently, Dr. Sigworth was the Vice President and Chief Medical Officer at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas, as well as an associate professor in the Department of Medicine, section of General Internal Medicine.

Jefferson has appointed **Kathleen Squires, MD**, as Medical Director, Strategic Clinical Programs and Infectious Disease Population Health. Dr. Squires also serves as clinical lead to facilitate the development of a women’s health network at the Jefferson Center City campus.

Manish Thapar, MD, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, SKMC, has been appointed Medical Director of the Lourdes Liver Transplant Program. In collaboration with Jefferson, Dr. Thapar leads Lourdes’ team of medical specialists to give South Jersey residents better access to comprehensive, high-quality liver care. In addition to liver transplant, expanded hepatology services offered in connection with the collaboration include the inpatient care of those with acute and chronic advanced liver disease, cirrhosis, management of hepatitis B and C and the evaluation and treatment of liver masses.

JeffNews

Staff: Barbara Henderson, Senior Director of Communications and Managing Editor
Valerie DuPont, Editor
Domenico Padula, Designer

Article and photo ideas, contact.....Valerie.DuPont@Jefferson.edu or 215-955-7708

Communications Department, 833 Chestnut Street, Suite 1140, Philadelphia, PA 19107

Jefferson.edu/jeffnews • Fax: 215-503-2768

