

Expanding Our Healthcare Services and Training – Near and Far



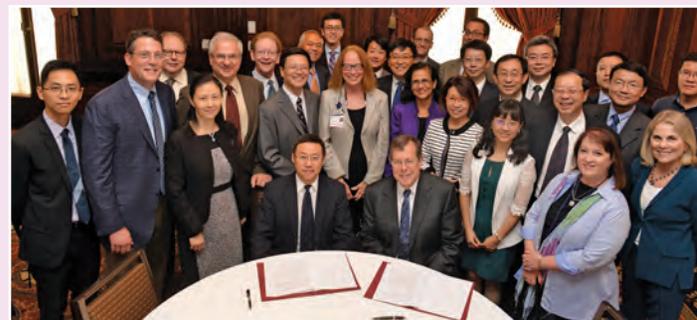
Pictured at the signing are Robert Truitt, Chair, Aria Health Board; Larry Merlis, EVP, Chief Operating Officer, Jefferson Health; Dr. Klasko, President and CEO, Thomas Jefferson University and Jefferson Health; Kathleen Kinslow, President and CEO of Aria Health; and Richard Hevner, Chair, Board of Thomas Jefferson University.

Aria Health and Jefferson Sign Letter of Intent

On October 6, Jefferson furthered its mission to reinvent health care and advance our progress on fulfilling the goals of our Blueprint for Strategic Action, with the signing of a Letter of Intent (LOI) with Aria Health. The LOI ensures that our discussions remain exclusive and will continue over the next several months. The goal during this period is to exchange greater detail about our respective institutions, concluding with the signing of a Definitive Agreement in 2016.

"It is clear that we share very similar cultures and are aligned regarding our thoughts about the future of health care and the commitment we have to our patients, employees and the communities we serve," said Stephen Klasko, MD, MBA, President and CEO, Thomas Jefferson University and Jefferson Health. "Jefferson and Aria Health are extremely excited about the tremendous opportunity we have together to improve the health of our communities and broaden our delivery of accessible and value-based care throughout the region."

Medical Students in China to Receive MD from Sidney Kimmel Medical College



Thomas Jefferson University signed an agreement with West China Hospital, Sichuan University/West China School of Medicine, cultivating an eight-year program for medical students. Qualified graduates will be granted both the Doctor of Medicine degree from Sichuan University and the MD degree from Sidney Kimmel Medical College. According to the agreement, outstanding eight-year clinical students chosen by West China School of Medicine will have the opportunity to complete the last two years of their training here.

Sidney Kimmel Medical College at TJU to Open New Campus in New Jersey

Under an agreement with Atlantic Health System (AHS), Sidney Kimmel Medical College at TJU will establish a clinical branch campus at AHS sites in Morristown and Summit, New Jersey, in 2016. Students recruited for the class of 2020 will be afforded the opportunity to complete their third and fourth years of clinical training at the new SKMC branch, named SKMC/TJU-AHS Branch Campus. Pictured below with Mark Tykocinski, MD, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, TJU, The Anthony F. and Gertrude M. DePalma Dean, Sidney Kimmel Medical College (right), are Jan Schwarz-Miller, MD, MPH, Vice President, Quality and Chief Medical Officer, Chief Research Officer and Chief Academic Officer, AHS, and Brian A. Gragnolati, FACHE, President and Chief Executive Officer, AHS.



Building on a Strong Foundation of Care: Asplundh Cancer Pavilion Opens in Willow Grove in 2017



The timing of the expansion and upgrade of Abington's cancer program coincides favorably with the recent merger with Jefferson. The new partnership will promote collaboration and ultimately, integration with the National Cancer Institute (NCI)-designated Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson, one of only 68 NCI-designated cancer centers in the US.

At the Asplundh Cancer Pavilion, patients will benefit from a full spectrum of cancer care, including: chemotherapy, increasingly using targeted therapies that have fewer side-effects; radiation therapy with highly advanced technology; and a dedicated oncology pharmacy.

Patients will also benefit from having immediately adjacent ancillary services, including: The Mary T. Sachs Breast Center; MRI, CT and PET scans; ultrasound, and an outpatient surgical center.

"Our goal is to provide patients with the simplest to the most complex and rare cancers with seamless access to cancer experts and advanced treatments, while we maintain the caring, close-to-home experience for which Abington is known," said Christopher Pezzi, MD, Director, Surgical Oncology, Abington-Jefferson Health.

The design of the new center includes features that will enhance healing for patients and reduce stress for them, their families and staff members as well. The two-story, 88,000 square-foot facility will have: large walls of windows for outdoor views and natural light; healing gardens and walking paths, café serving healthy food choices, resource area for families and patients, and community space for support groups and healing therapies including massage, reiki, acupuncture, nutritional counseling an image recovery center and more.



Jefferson honored a leader in surgery recently, with the unveiling of a portrait of Charles J. Yeo, MD, FACS, the Samuel D. Gross Professor and Chair, Department of Surgery. Through Dr. Yeo's direction, Jefferson continues to be the leader in the region in fighting the deadliest of cancers — pancreatic cancer. He is Co-Director of the Jefferson Pancreas, Biliary and Related Cancer Center and was instrumental in the formation of the Jefferson Pancreas Tumor Registry. Pictured with Dr. Yeo are Ernest L. (Gary) Rosato, MD, FACS; Mark Tykocinski, MD, the DePalma Dean of SKMC; Theresa Yeo, PhD, MPH, ACNP; and Herbert Cohn, MD Professor Emeritus and Vice Chair for Quality Emeritus.

Integrative Medicine at Jefferson Poised for Major Growth

Jefferson Receives \$2.5 Million Gift from City Developer Ron Caplan as New Brind-Marcus Center Opens in Villanova

Under the direction of Daniel A. Monti, MD, recently named the Ellen and Ron Caplan Director of the Myrna Brind Center of Integrative Medicine with a \$2.5 million endowed directorship from the Caplans, a new satellite location, the Brind-Marcus Center of Integrative Medicine in Villanova, opened in November. The new site builds upon the Center's established capabilities with some of the world's leading medical treatments and technologies — including the region's only PET-MRI scanner (one of only 30 in the world) — combined with leading-edge complementary therapies to prevent and treat chronic health problems. The Center's expert staff, comprised of Jefferson physicians, nurses, health coaches, and mind-body specialists, create comprehensive treatment plans designed for total body, mind and spiritual wellness.

The endowment behind the Ellen and Ron Caplan Directorship will be critical in advancing new research and education in integrative health by funding seed projects and supporting the development of new academic programs. In particular, the directorship will help Integrative Medicine at Jefferson broaden its scope of collaborations across the campus and leverage Jefferson's resources in a number of specialized areas of clinical care and research.

The Caplans' donation will be matched dollar for dollar by the Kimmel Match, a program designed to encourage philanthropy in medical education and made possible by the Sidney Kimmel Foundation's landmark \$110 million gift to Jefferson in June 2014. "My wife Ellen and I chose to make this gift because we believe in the importance of personalized medicine," said Ron Caplan. "The physicians at Jefferson treat the whole patient, providing a truly unique — and effective — kind of care."

Awards & Accreditations

- The Leapfrog Group, a national organization that rates hospitals on safety, awarded Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Center City top honors with an "A" in patient safety. Methodist Hospital continued to deliver excellent care, earning a "B."
- A research team at the Sidney Kimmel Medical College at TJU has been approved for a \$1 million funding award by the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) to study novel methods for identifying patient-important outcomes for use in research.
- The American Medical Association has selected Sidney Kimmel Medical College at TJU (SKMC) for the innovation-based Accelerating Change in Medical Education Consortium. SKMC will receive \$75K to build upon projects to significantly redesign medical education, ultimately helping to reshape how future physicians are trained and improve health outcomes.
- Jefferson was awarded the 2015-2017 *Movember Foundation-PCF Challenge Award* of \$1 million for four projects. Principal investigators for the projects are Adam Dicker, MD, PhD, Professor and Chair of Radiation and Oncology; Karen Knudsen, PhD, Director of the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center and Chair of Cancer Biology; and William Kevin Kelly, DO, Professor and Director, Solid Tumor Oncology, Medical Oncology.
- SKMC has been recognized for high-quality education with eight-year accreditation from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME).
- Jefferson College of Nursing has been named as a National League for Nursing Center of Excellence in Nursing Education for the period 2015-2019. The category for designation is *Creating Environments that Enhance Student Learning and Professional Development*.
- Jefferson Outpatient Cardiac Imaging has been awarded accreditation by the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission in the area of vascular testing.



The newly renovated Jefferson Alumni Hall has a new face to greet all who enter. The portrait of generous benefactor Sidney Kimmel now hangs in a place of honor in the lobby, presented at a recent ceremony. The Sidney Kimmel Foundation made history last year by giving our medical college \$110 million — the fifth largest gift ever to a US accredited medical college. Pictured with Mr. Kimmel (left) are portrait artist David Larned and Dr. Klasko. Photo: Karen Kirchhoff, Medical Media

Teamwork and Dedication at Jefferson Lead to Two Lifesaving Transplants Over Papal Weekend

After hundreds of hours of planning, dozens of portable showers, and several thousand meals and air mattresses later, Jefferson's preparation for the World Meeting of Families and Papal visit became history. Our heightened level of preparedness allowed our staff to be ready for anything — and that anything included becoming the site of two lifesaving transplants.

Surgeon Adam Frank, MD, led the kidney-transplant surgeries for both 62-year-old Deborah Husmann, who had been on a transplant waiting list for more than four years, and a 32-year-old man.

Thanks to all our staff — including some colleagues who volunteered to work over the papal visit weekend — for their outstanding efforts to make these transplants happen: Karen G. O'Neill, RN, Transplant Coordinator; Nick Fotiadis (tissue-typing technician); OR team members Adam Frank, MD, Stephen Goldberg, MD, Maureen Murphy, RN, Elizabeth Tilly, RN, Debra Wilkes, RN, Kelly Curran, RN, Amanda Reardon, RN, Jessica Plakis, RN, Kara Olszewski, RN, Jeffery Mojica, MD, and Ahmad Safra, MD; and JeffSTAT team members Guy Barber, Christopher Reveron, EMT, Kale Etchberger, EMT, Eric Consorte, PHRN, and the JeffSTAT Transfer Center staff.

In the Spotlight

- Jefferson investigators have found a protein that helps control connections between neurons. The finding could eventually lead to better treatments for neurological diseases.
- Researchers at Jefferson have shown that half-matched donor recipients do just as well as full-match recipients to treat leukemia and lymphoma. This breakthrough could be a major advance for minorities and others without access to full-match donors. The study was published in the journal *Biology of Blood and Marrow Transplantation*.
- Jefferson scientists have found that one virus activates the immune system to continually feed sentinel cells into the mucous membranes where they could offer better and more immediate protection at the front lines, preventing disease before it occurs.
- TJU researchers have found that arteries contain higher numbers of circulating tumor cells than veins in uveal melanoma patients, raising a concern about the standard technique for using venous liquid biopsies to detect tumor cells in the blood.
- Jefferson College of Health Professions is now offering a post-graduate certificate in medical family therapy. The program is a unique collaboration between Jefferson's Department of Couple and Family Therapy and the Council for Relationships and emphasizes hands-on clinical experience.
- Only five percent of women deliver exactly on their due dates. Now, a new meta-analysis suggests that one routine screening test could help mothers narrow that window to seven days from the time of the test, in research published by Jefferson in *An International Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*.
- Abington & Jefferson have been named Pennsylvania "Donate Life" Hospital Challenge Winners. Abington was recognized as a Platinum-Level Achiever; Jefferson was a Gold-Level Achiever. Winners from among the region's hospitals were based on scorecard points, earned by hosting activities to inspire and increase donor awareness and designations within their hospital families.
- A Jefferson study found that patients with metastatic cancer may need stronger anti-coagulation therapy after bone lesion surgery. They also found that 66 percent of the patients who developed blood clots 90 days after surgery also had a primary cancer of the lung, suggesting the risk for venous thromboembolism is different depending on the primary cancer.

Of Note



Jefferson welcomes **Rose Ritts, MS, PhD**, as Executive Vice President, Innovation, Thomas Jefferson University and Jefferson Health. Most recently, Dr. Ritts was Executive Director for the Office of Licensing and Ventures at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. Dr. Ritts will lead Jefferson's Innovation pillar and will develop and execute a strategic plan that creates a culture of entrepreneurship within Jefferson.



Jeffrey Stevens, MS, joined Jefferson in the fall as Senior Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer, Thomas Jefferson University and Jefferson Health. Previously he was Chief Human Resources Officer at the University of Rochester Medical Center. Jeff will focus on moving forward many of Jefferson's HR initiatives that are aligned with our Blueprint for Strategic Action.

People

Robert L. Brent, MD, PhD, received the 2015 *Gustav O. Lienhard Award* for his decades of foundational research into environmental risk factors for birth defects and cancer, and for his career-long dedication to free, compassionate counseling for expectant mothers. He is Louis and Bess Stein Professor of Pediatrics, Sidney Kimmel College of Medicine, Thomas Jefferson University (SKMC), and Head of the Developmental Biology Laboratory, Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children.

Cristina Cavalieri, BSN, ESQ, was recently selected by the National Diversity Council as one of Pennsylvania's *Most Powerful and Influential Women*. She is the Senior Vice President and Chief Legal Officer at Jefferson.

Ted Christopher, MD, was recently elected Vice President of the Pennsylvania Medical Society. He became president-elect this October and will assume presidency in October 2017. Board-certified in emergency medicine and internal medicine, Dr. Christopher serves as Professor at SKMC and Chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine.

Judy Daviau, DVM, DACLAM, received the 2014-15 TotalMRO *Veterinarian of the Year Award*. Dr. Daviau is Director of the Office of Animal Resources and the University Veterinarian at Jefferson.

Continues on page 4



During an extremely challenging event to plan for — with many unknowns, even up to a few days before the visit — our staff showed grace, patience and flexibility and rose to the challenge. “My sincerest thanks to the more 1,000 clinical staff members, our Emergency Management Team, Nutrition and Dietetics, EVS, Security, IS&T, Patient and Family Experience, and many more, for being an important part of this historic event,” said Jefferson Hospital President Richard Webster. Pictured with Mayor Michael Nutter (center) are some of the many Jefferson staff members on duty during Pope Francis’ visit to Philadelphia: PACU Staff Dwayne Bowse, CNA, Sharon Deluca RN, BSN, Michella Vasta, RN, and Kerasan LaMar, CNA. Photo: Rosemarie Mocerri, RN, 7 PACU



Abington Hospital received its second \$100,000 grant from the VNA Foundation of Greater North Penn in support of its Dental Care Access program, which offers high-quality and accessible dental care to low-income families in the region. Through the program, dental care is provided in the offices of 42 participating dentists from the Montgomery-Bucks Dental Society. Pictured are F. Lee Mangan, VNA Foundation board; Meg McGoldrick, President, Abington-Jefferson Health; dental program social worker Julie Paslowski; and Curt Deardorff, VNA Foundation.

People

Continued from page 3

“PHLDiversity: The Multicultural Affairs Congress,” a division of the Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau, has named **Joseph Hill**, Senior Vice President & Chief Diversity Officer, to its advisory board.

Allen Ho, MD, FACS, Director of Retina Research, Wills Eye Hospital and Professor of Ophthalmology at SKMC, and **Neva White, DNP, CRNP-BC, CDE**, Senior Health Educator at the TJUH’s Center for Urban Health, were presented with awards from the American Diabetes Association’s Philadelphia office. Dr. Ho was recognized as the *Distinguished Physician* recipient and Dr. White was recipient of *Distinguished Certified Diabetes Educator*.

Pascal Jabbour, MD, was recognized with the *2015 Wills Eye Award* for his use of intra-arterial chemotherapy to cure retinoblastoma (a hereditary malignant tumor of the retina) in babies. Dr. Jabbour is Chief of the Division of Neurovascular Surgery and Endovascular Neurosurgery at TJUH and an associate professor, Department of Neurological Surgery, SKMC.

Jefferson congratulates **Paul Mather, MD, FACC, FACP**, who was appointed to three professional organizations in leadership positions. He was named President-Elect of the American Heart Association Great Rivers Affiliate, to the Board of Directors (executive council) of the Heart Failure Society of America and the Incoming Chair for the American College of Cardiology (ACC) International Scientific Sessions. Dr. Mather is Lubert Family Professor of Cardiology, Director of Advanced Heart Failure and Transplant, Cardiology.

Janice Miller, DNP, CRNP, CDE, Jefferson College of Nursing, was invited by the Pennsylvania Secretary of Health to participate in the Healthcare Transformation Workgroup, one of five committees involved in Pennsylvania’s State Innovation Model Initiative design award from CMS. Dr. Miller is Assistant Professor/Coordinator, Adult Nurse Practitioner Program.

The first cross-campus appointment at the division level for the organization, **Rohinton J. Morris, MD, FACS**, has been named Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery and Professor of Surgery, SKMC. Dr. Morris will see patients and guide clinical operations on both Thomas Jefferson University Hospital and Abington Hospital campuses. He will also oversee the division’s academic and research missions.

Congratulations to orthopedic surgeon, **Michael Rivlin, MD**, who was awarded the *J. Leonard Goldner Pioneer Research Award* for research on neural scar inhibition. Dr. Rivlin is Assistant Professor of Orthopedic Surgery, SKMC.

Mathew L. Thakur, PhD, has been named a Distinguished Investigator of the Academy of Radiology Research. Dr. Thakur is Director, Laboratories of Radiopharmaceutical Research and Molecular Imaging, and Professor of Radiology and Radiation Oncology at TJU.

Michele Zawora, MD, has been named Chair of the Department of Physician Assistant Studies. She is also the Assistant Professor of Family and Community Medicine, Physician Assistant Studies, SKMC.

JeffNews

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