

HSC E-NEWS

Norman H. Edelman, M.D., Vice President, Health Sciences Center

MAY 2006--STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

This month, the 2006 classes in the Schools of Dental Medicine, Health Technology and Management, Nursing, and Social Welfare will graduate. They join our ranks during a period of much promise, but one that is still faced with human resource issues which paradoxically are being exacerbated by advances in medical science.



An area of great promise is stem cell research. It has great implications for many diseases that remain untreatable. It also has promise for their prevention. Therapeutic cloning is a science in its infancy having only begun in 1998 when the first human stem cell was cloned and cultured. Its eight years of progress has been rapid and significant. Today, the application of stem cell research in basic sciences helps us understand cell specialization. As new drugs and therapeutics evolve, stem cell research enables us to test a new emerging class of therapeutic agents. The area of regenerative medicine has opportunity for the use of stem cells as replacement therapy for diseased or damaged tissues. Looming in the future is the use of stem cells for tissue engineering to create functioning organs.

Thus, due to medical science, people are and will be living to older ages. That said, how will we, health professionals, be able to increase our numbers in order to meet the future demands of the public for health care? I know we will not be able to solve this problem just by turning out more physicians nor is this an optimal solution. The other health professions are and will be playing much greater roles in prevention and care, including a great expansion of independent practitioners in many of these professions. However, our educational system is not ready to train increased numbers of these professionals. Currently, we are at the limits of our human and fiscal resources. The solution is not simply a matter of accepting more students. Adequate resources, physical, fiscal, and scholarly, must be in place to allow us to prepare adequate numbers of students.

(Continued page 2)

A recently recognized pressing need is to train more faculty in the health professions. To this end, we at the Stony Brook Health Sciences Center are developing several new advanced degree programs.

Lastly, while we are focusing on our own progress, we must remember we do so for a broader purpose. We must:

- >Help insure that everyone in this country has access to quality care-now and in the future
- >Help our public health institutions remain strong at a time when they are most needed
- >Share in the vision for change, for without consensus nothing will happen

As these new graduates join our ranks, help them share with passion, commitment, and understanding the health care professions.



News From the Schools

School of Nursing

Dr. Lenora J. McClean, Dean of Stony Brook School of Nursing, Receives Prestigious Award



The American Academy of Nurse Practitioners has just announced the selection of **Dr. Lenora J. McClean** as the 2006 recipient of the New York State Award for Excellence as a Nurse Practitioner Advocate. This honor will be formally awarded at the Academy's 21st National Conference, June 20 - 25, 2006.

The Academy recognizes that the successful rise and utilization of nurse practitioners in primary health care delivery has been promoted and encouraged by many contributing individuals. The AANP State Award for Excellence as a Nurse Practitioner Advocate provides an opportunity to publicly recognize non-nurse practitioners who have made significant contributions to the status of health care delivery and the practice of nurse practitioners. Since 1973, Dean McClean has been the primary force behind the inception and development of nurse practitioner programs within and outside of the boundaries of Stony Brook. She has empowered faculty, students, and alumni to become all they are capable of being as clinicians, leaders, and innovators.

School of Health Technology and Management

In the spirit of community giving, three students were awarded prizes at the 2005-2006 Year of Community Giving Banner Contest Award Luncheon held on April 19, 2006 at the Charles B. Wang Center Chapel. A School of Health Technology and Management Student **Melissa Giarraputo, RPA-C** spoke about her work in *The Guatemala Project*. For the past six years, the Stony Brook Physician Assistant (PA) Program has sponsored an international fellowship to the rural community of Nueva Santa Rosa, Guatemala, in conjunction with the Glens Falls Medical Mission Foundation. This fellowship is awarded to two to three (Cont'd)

News From the Schools Continued

PA students in the clinical year of the program and is funded by program alumni, the PA Program, and the Dean of the School of Health Technology and Management. Fellows accompany a team of health providers on this medical mission which offers comprehensive health care services to campesinos from the local area for whom comprehensive services are ordinarily difficult to access or are not available.

In addition, others from the Health Sciences Center were celebrated for their contributions to the "Year of Community Giving Banner Contest." **Angela Ng, Class of 2007, Health Sciences** was a Banner Contest Winner with her entry, "Giving is offering someone what you have without a second thought." **Craig Lehman, Dean of the School of Health Technology and Management** accepted the Banner Award on behalf of "Anonymous" from his School. The winning entry was, "Giving is the personification of faith, hope, and charity." And lastly, **Carol Sliwkoski, Staff Assistant in ATEP, Adapted Aquatics, and ER Programs** was given Honorable Mention for her entry, "Giving is the helping hand that keeps hope alive."

LET THE FACE LIFT BEGIN: STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL RESUMES \$300 MILLION PROJECT CONSTRUCTION

Major modernization efforts are most ambitious to date; patient and visitor access to change

Stony Brook University Hospital's Major Modernization Project (MMP) is in its fourth year of implementation. Phase I of the main component of the MMP - a 150,000 square foot expansion and renovation of the hospital lobby and surgical suite - began April 3. The hospital lobby and surgical suite will be built-out from their existing locations on Levels 5 and 4 respectively. Since the surgical suite is beneath the main entry's circular drive, significant excavation in front of the hospital will be required.

The new entrance and lobby will significantly enhance the size, amenities and appearance of the lobby and public waiting areas, including a covered walkway from the parking garage to the new hospital lobby. The newly expanded and renovated Surgical Suite will include 22 operating rooms and is designed to accommodate minimally invasive surgical equipment and emerging imaging-assisted procedures.

The expansion and renovation of the lobby and surgical suite, which includes considerable excavation, requires the closure of the main hospital traffic circle and the construction of a temporary entrance and temporary walkway/bridge. The traffic circle will close the week of April 24.

With the closing of the main hospital traffic circle, SBUH is alerting patients, visitors, employees and the entire community about important access modifications. Directional signage will support these measures en route to the hospital garage.

Important Information for Hospital Access

Patient and taxi drop-offs will be moved to newly designated space on the first level of the hospital parking garage, free of charge up to 15 minutes

A vehicular "No Standing Rule" will be in effect in front of the hospital entrance

Valet services are available for patient and visitor convenience

Employees utilizing the Hospital parking garage will continue to do so

Vendors will continue to use the hospital loading dock for all deliveries

Patient Discharge Area

On April 24, the patient discharge area will move to a brand new entrance and parking accommodations on level 2 of the Hospital. To access this new entrance and parking lot which is located off of East Loop Road/Health Sciences Drive, go west on to Loading Dock Road and make an immediate left into first parking lot. Follow signs for patient discharge area. Inside the hospital, take the main hospital elevator from any floor to hospital level 2. Make a left out of the elevator and your first left, continue to the end of the hallway to the new entrance and discharge area.

MARCH OF DIMES SELECTS STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL FOR NEW PREMATURE PROJECT

Families of Over 825 Premature Babies and Other Critically Ill Newborns to Benefit Each Year

Stony Brook University Hospital has been chosen as a site for March of Dimes NICU Family Support SM, Dr. Jennifer L. Howse, and President of the March of Dimes, announced today. This partnership, which provides information and comfort to families with premature and other critically ill infants being cared for in a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), is one of only 28 sites in the country and only the 2nd in New York State.

The number of babies born prematurely has increased dramatically over the last three decades, up nearly 31 percent. In 2003, over half a million newborns, or 12.5 percent of all babies born in the U.S., were born too soon. Over 28,000 were right here in New York State, representing 11.4 percent of babies born in the state (National Center for Health Statistics). During an average week in Suffolk County alone, 385 babies are born and 70 will be born preterm or low-birth weight. A significant number of those babies will suffer lifelong health problems as a result. "Preparing for a new baby is a time of great excitement," said Dr. Howse. "Families don't expect anything to go wrong, but nationally, 1 in 8 newborns wind up in a NICU because they are born too soon and too small. Premature birth is growing to crisis proportions and NICU Family Support SM aims to make the journey through newborn intensive care smoother and less traumatic for families."

NICU Family Support SM is an important component of the March of Dimes Prematurely Campaign, a nationwide effort to address the growing problem of premature birth, which is the leading cause of newborn death and a major cause of serious health problems that impacts families. It costs society billions of dollars every year. That is why the March of Dimes is also funding research into the causes of premature birth. "Despite advances in the diagnosis and treatment of preterm labor, women not only continue to deliver their babies early, but at an increasing rate," says **Dr. Gerald Quirk, Professor and Chair of Obstetrics and Medical Director of the Regional Perinatal Center at Stony Brook.**

According to **Dr. Janet Larson, Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Director of Neonatology at Stony Brook University Hospital**, more than half the time premature birth happens for unknown causes. "This national trend in the rate of preterm birth is alarming," says Dr. Larson. "Many of these babies come into the world with serious health problems as a result of their prematurity. Some die and those who survive may suffer lifelong consequences, such as cerebral palsy, mental retardation and blindness."

The Stony Brook University Hospital Regional Perinatal Center serving Suffolk County has a Level III NICU designed to provide comprehensive family-centered care for sick and premature infants. Incorporating NICU families into every level of the project, March of Dimes NICU Family Support SM will assist Stony Brook University Hospital staff members in addressing the needs of families throughout the hospitalization, during the transition home, and in the event of a newborn death. NICU Family Support SM also includes a professional development component to provide hospital NICU staff with support and educational opportunities. "Implementing this project provides a wonderful opportunity to work with graduate NICU parents and staff to develop programs specific to the needs of the families treated here," he added.

March of Dimes (cont'd)

The project will be led by a March of Dimes staff person who has professional NICU experience. An advisory committee made up of graduate NICU parents and NICU professionals will be involved in selecting activities and providing direct services to current NICU families. Each NICU family will receive a March of Dimes Parent Care Kit including informational books and materials to chart their baby's milestones. "Stony Brook University Hospital provides an outstanding setting for the program because of its reputation for excellence and the quality care it provides to babies," said Jeffrey Ravetz, Volunteer Board Chair for the Long Island Division of the March of Dimes.

Nationally, March of Dimes NICU Family Support SM receives multi-year funding from MedImmune, Inc. and Children's Medical Ventures/Respiroics. Additional support is provided by Dey, L. P. On a local level, financial support is being provided by Senator John J. Flanagan, Legislator Vivian Vilorio-Fisher, and Bank of America. Senator Flanagan and Legislator Vilorio-Fisher were on hand to offer their support and discuss how important this program is to the families of their constituents.

"Being the parent of a premature infant is very stressful and intimidating, especially for first-time parents," said Dr. Larson during a tour of the NICU at Stony Brook for attendees. "We are excited to have been chosen and welcome NICU Family Support SM and are looking forward to this collaborative effort because it will help strengthen the family-centered care we already provide. The March of Dimes is a national voluntary health agency whose mission is to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality. Founded in 1938, the March of Dimes funds programs of research, community services, education and advocacy to save babies and in 2003 launched a campaign to address the increasing rate of preterm birth.

For more information, visit the March of Dimes Web site at marchofdimes.com or its Spanish Web site at nacersano.org or call the local office at (516) 496-2100.

More News from the University Hospital

Smart Medicine
STONY BROOK
UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
Expert Care

National Cancer Survivor Day
A Celebration of Life

Carousel of Life
**National Cancer
Survivors Day**
Celebration



Sunday, June 11, 2006
11 am – 2 pm
at the
Ward Melville Heritage Organization
Education and Cultural Center,
Stony Brook

This year's event will be held at the Ward Melville Heritage Organization's Education and Cultural Center in Stony Brook. Called the "Carousel of Life," the celebration honors the lives of Long Island cancer survivors. Stony Brook physicians, staff, and the community at large will celebrate survivorship in a meaningful and fun setting, which will include entertainment, refreshments, and carnival games. For more information, call Stony Brook University Hospital's HealthConnect® at 631-444-4000.



Stony Brook University Cancer Center Opening August 2006

For the convenience and comfort of our patients, the Stony Brook University Cancer Center will provide outpatient medical, surgical and pediatric oncology services centrally located in a beautiful new facility. The facility will also house the Carol M. Baldwin Breast Care Center, a new Outpatient Imaging Center and pain management services.

Amenities at the Pavilion include cancer support services, a cancer clinical trials office, spacious and tranquil public areas and lobbies, as well as ample seating and parking accommodations.

For more information about our outpatient cancer services at the Stony Brook University Cancer Center, please call 631.444.4000.

Other News of Note

STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY'S SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WELFARE HOSTS FREE PROGRAM IN GERIATRIC CARE MINISTRY

Event May 8-10, 2006 Designed for Clergy and Religious Leaders

The School of Social Welfare is sponsoring a Geriatric Care Ministry and Education Certificate Program to help clergy of all faiths and other religious leaders improve the quality of life of older Americans. The program will be held **May 8-10, 2006** in Room 301 of the Charles B. Wang Center on the University's campus. Research studies conducted by the Center for Aging Policy Research at the School of Social Welfare have found that seniors, and those who help them, often seek help with age-related issues from their religious leaders. Older Americans make up the fastest growing segment of the population and face a wide range of social, health, financial, legal, and end-of-life decisions. The Geriatric Care Ministry program provides special training to help clergy understand many of these common age-related issues.

Upon completion of the 20 hours of training, a Certificate of Achievement in Geriatric Care Ministry will be awarded from the Center for Aging Policy Research, School of Social Welfare, and Stony Brook University. The event is free, but registration is required. To obtain a registration form, or to receive more information, please contact Mamie Gladden at (631) 444-3142 or mgladden@stonybrook.edu

“Certified Nursing Assistant Program” Begins May 15, 2006

The Long Island State Veterans Home in conjunction with the University Hospital Clinical Education Department will be conducting a six week Certified Nursing Assistant program starting on **May 15, 2006**. This is a great opportunity for anyone interested in entering into the rewarding field of nursing. There is a mandatory CNA Program Meeting for all interested applicants at the Long Island State Veterans Home in the East Pavilion Education Center on Monday, May 1, 2006 from 4-6 PM. Application processing, interviews and pretesting will be conducted at this meeting.

CNA Course Dates: May 15th through June 30th, 2006. Classes meet Monday - Friday, 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM. Long Island State Veterans Home East Pavilion Education Center. The Fee for the course is \$500 payable to Stony Brook University Hospital; Other fees: \$49.00 for textbook; \$114 for Nurses Aide State Exam. There is Free Parking!

Applications for employment will be accepted at course completion. An employee tuition incentive program is offered to newly hired Long Island State Veteran's Home Certified Nursing Assistants. When the CNA completes one year of employment at the Long Island State Veterans Home, the original CNA program fee will be refunded.

“The Fifth Annual Long Island State Veteran's Home Golf Classic”

The fifth annual Long Island State Veteran's Home Golf Classic will be held on **September 21, 2006** at the Great Rock Golf Club in Wading River. The full day event includes breakfast, scramble format golf, cocktail hour and dinner. Evening activities include a silent auction and raffle prizes. Proceeds from the event will enhance programs, services and activities at the Long Island State Veterans Home to benefit the residents and those who care for them. If you would like to participate in the event, sponsor, or donate an auction/raffle item, please call the Long Island State Veterans Home at 444-8615.

Graduation Dates 2006

Thursday *May 18, 2006*

2:00 pm Doctoral Graduation and Hooding Ceremony
Staller Center for the Arts, Main Stage
For Info: 632-6320

7:00 pm Baccalaureate Honors Convocation
Staller Center for the Arts, Main Stage
For Info: 632-6320

Friday *May 19, 2006*

8:00 am School of Nursing Convocation
Staller Center for the Arts, Main Stage
For Info: 444-3481

10:00 am University Commencement Ceremony
Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium
For Info: 632-6320

1:00 pm School of Health Technology and Management
Health Science Senior Convocation
Sports Complex, Pritchard Gym
For Info: 444-2251

3:00 pm School of Social Welfare Convocation
Staller Center for the Arts, Main Stage
For Info: 444-3141

4:30 pm School of Dental Medicine Convocation
Student Activities Center, Ballroom A
For Info: 632-3745

PLEASE SAVE THE DATES

Alumni Golf Classic

St. George's Golf & Country club, located next to Stony Brook University Campus, May 15, 2006, 11:00 AM. All proceeds to benefit student scholarships and alumni programs. For more information or to register, visit us on-line at:

[http:// www.stonybrookalumni.com](http://www.stonybrookalumni.com)
or call: (631) 632-6330.

Ethics Grand Rounds

How Financial Conflicts of Interest Endanger Our Profession

Wednesday May 31, 2006
12:00 Noon-1:30 p.m.
HSC Level 2, LH 4
Cookies provided
Call 631-444-4000 to register.

Jerome Kassirer, MD

Professor, Tufts University School of Medicine

Former editor of the New England Journal of Medicine

Author of "On the Take: How Medicine's Complicity with Big Business Can Endanger Your Health"

"Kids Health and Safety Expo"

Holiday Inn Express, Rte 347, Stony Brook
Wednesday, July 19, 10 AM - 4 PM
Free

Some Expo features include: Bicycle rodeo, grilling demonstrations, sun safety, and a show performed by Ronald McDonald.

Sponsored by SBUH
For Info: 631-444-5253

Good communication is two way!

Send your news and comments to: HSC_VP@notes.cc.sunysb.edu

Please feel free to email this publication to others who might be interested in what is happening at the Health Sciences Center.