DIRECTOR’S CORNER

OUTSTANDING:
1. Standing out among others of its kind; prominent.
2. Distinguished from others in excellence.
3. Having a quality that thrusts itself into attention.

Although all of you emit “shining” attributes daily, there are those of you who stand out among your peers and are brought to our attention once a year.

This past PA Week, we had an exceptional group of Outstanding Shining Stars to celebrate. The PA Week committee who reviewed all of the nominations were overwhelmed first, by the numbers of nominations received and second, by the compassion and emotions written into each nomination.

In this newsletter, I would like to share some of the words written to nominate our Shining Star recipients. I think you will find the words humbling, and inspiring. We have printed portions of the letters sent to the committee.

As you read these words, you can’t help but feel proud of the team work that is conveyed. Proud of the mutual respect for the physician/PA partners and also, proud of just how far PA practice has grown at the Cleveland Clinic.

There is also one other PA who was not selected this year as a “Shining Star”, yet I want to acknowledge her and her colleagues for the work they put into the nomination submitted. Her entire team, all of the physicians, nursing, and support services signed a petition to have her nominated. We have included this nomination in this edition of the newsletter to show the incredible support and caring the entire department has for this PA.

PA Week is an opportunity for me to say thank you to all of you. I hope you enjoy your PA sweats and I look forward to bigger and better events in the future.

Enjoy the reading. Carpe Diem.
Josanne

POINTS OF INTEREST

- **Physician Supervision Agreement Renewals** are due Dec. 31 (really Jan. 31, but don’t wait that long). Please talk with your administrators to insure that your physician’s supervision agreement will be renewed before the deadline.

- **The American Academy of PA’s** has a new look and will continue to re-vamp their website: [www.aapa.org](http://www.aapa.org)

- If you are still in need of your 15 hours of fiscal and ethical CME’s please go to the OAPA’s website for purchase: [www.ohiopa.com](http://www.ohiopa.com)
BONE MARROW TRANSPLANT PA’s:

JOE KOHUTH, SIHAM JAQOUD, SHANNON JARANCIK, VANESSA FARROW

...the Bone Marrow Transplant Program has utilized PAs for approximately 15 years to take care of our very ill inpatient population. Our current group has been together for approximately two years and continues the tradition of clinical excellence on the BMT floor. Our clinical outcomes are second to none in the United States, and even the world, and this is in no small part due to the excellence of our physician assistant team. Joe Kohuth, Shannon Jarancik, Vanessa Farrow, and Siham Jaouad are all excellent clinicians who “get it.” They care about our patients, they interact well with our patients, nursing staff, and our physicians, and are skilled clinically.

I am very proud of our Bone Marrow Transplant Program and I am very proud of our BMT PAs, and believe this is an appropriate time to recognize them for their excellence.”

Respectfully submitted,
Brian J. Bolwell, MD
Director, BMT Program
Chairman, Department of Hematologic Oncology & Blood Disorders

OUTSTANDING PA/PHYSICIAN TEAM

JENNIFER HARTMENT PA-C, DR. ROBERT FOX, DR. ALEX RAE-GRANT

“...They are a phenomenal team who truly place their patients first and put the Mission statement at CCF into practice daily. All 3 are actively involved in Research; and each excels in the specialized medical care of MS patients. They are committed to patient service; receiving top scores from their patients in Quality of Care, Provider Shows Concern, Thoroughness, Involves Patients in Care and Knowing Their Patients as a Person in the ODM quality data base. Each of these team members are actively involved in the development, implementation and monitoring of quality initiatives at the Mellen Center, working diligently to “Ensure that Cleveland Clinic quality underlies every decision”.

“... This team lives the cornerstones of the Cleveland Clinic; Quality, Innovation, Teamwork and Service.”

Richard A. Rudick, MD
Vice Chairman, Research and Development
Neurological Institute
OUTSTANDING PA SHINING STAR AWARDS

JOE KOHUTH
“...he has been our leader. He is an intelligent and caring individual. He has mentored our junior PAs successfully and educating them how to deal with an extremely ill patient population. His patients adore him. He interacts very well with all of the attending physicians on the Transplant Service. He also has a very good relationship with the inpatient nursing staff. His hard work, dedication and loyalty are a model for all Cleveland Clinic employees. He will always go the extra mile and cover for others when necessary. He is even keeled and easy to work with.”

Respectfully submitted,
Brian J. Bolwell, MD
Director, BMT Program
Chairman, Department of Hematologic Oncology & Blood Disorders
Professor of Medicine, Lerner College of Medicine
Vice Chairman, Office of the Chief of Staff

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DALE TURLEY
“...been the backbone of the PA Team and his efforts in the new PA Triage program are already yielding significant patient benefits. Dale is underappreciated but his maturity, expertise and dedication to the Institute and Clinic certainly deserve recognition.” “...Dale has a degree of clinical and professional maturity that is of a degree we seldom see in a physician extender. He is bright, has an outstanding clinical acumen, and extremely hard-working. The physicians on our staff treat his assessments on an equal to that of other attending staff. He is calm under stress, and we all consider ourselves fortunate to have him at the Clinic.”

Jonathan Glauser, MD
Chairman, Emergency Services Institute

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RON OCHOA
“...He has taken on many responsibilities that go way beyond the typical job description of a PA. ...he has the knowledge close to a young academic professor and exemplifies the passion for patient care and education.” “Ron’s technical expertise allows me to consistently do complex cases without residents or fellows...rounding on weekends by himself to insure continuity of patient care as well as taking call on specific nights for me, fills the roll of the residents. ...I am fortunate to have a PA with Ron’s ability, this practice would never work without someone of his capability.”

Dr. Craig Zippe, M.D., Regional Urology
OUTSTANDING PA SHINING STAR AWARDS

JOHN RENKOSIK
“...Mr. Renkosik was recruited from an infectious disease practice in Texas to replace Elizabeth Bernardi, a fixture on the solid tumor oncology chemotherapy service for many years. John is a soft spoken professional who clearly puts patients first. He manages complex oncology patients along with an oncology faculty member and fellow, but is the primary care giver for these patients. This service presents a series of unique challenges as he has to juggle the “styles” of 15 faculty who rotate on this service, at the same time representing the sole face of continuity of care for the patients admitted to this service. He is highly thought of by the nurses and support staff on G710 and gets rave reviews from our faculty. His clinical judgment is always sound and he is clear a patient advocate. If the enduring memory of the patient experience on our chemotherapy service is John’s attention and thoughtfulness, the Clinic is in good hands...”

Robert Dreicer, M.D., FACP
Chairman Department of Solid Tumor Oncology
Derek Raghavan, M.D., Ph.D.
Chairman, Taussig Cancer Institute

Stephanie Mytrosevich
“...her service to the nursing staff and to the patients has been invaluable. She is always willing to see a patient experiencing a post op difficulty like shortness of breath, or chest pain and is clinically astute to order tests in an efficient manner. She is also available to fulfill any medication request or to help apply spica pressure dressings. Even though her workload is huge, she’s a friendly, kind and pleasant individual who fits right into the H70 staff...” “...She has been a great asset to the H70 team. She not only goes above and beyond for our patient population, but also does everything that she can for our nursing staff. At the drop of a hat, she will be able and ready to assist in any way. She consistently provides an invaluable service to our patients and staff by utilizing her clinical and critical thinking skills to produce the best quality outcomes. Even though so much is asked of her on a daily basis, she continuously provides optimal care for a list of close to 40 patients. There are numerous times when Stephanie is called in every direction for some type of assistance, yet she remains calm and collected and tackles each task through prioritization and organization.”

Jennifer Ridler, RN, BSN, CMSRN| Assistant Nurse Manager
Cindy Guzowski, RN, BSN, CMSRN
OUTSTANDING PA SHINING STAR AWARDS

Debbie Kangisser
“...She is truly dedicated to her work and demonstrates it through compassion toward patients, thorough documentation of their problems, and consistent and reliable care-planning. She stays until her work is done, never complains, and is always ready for another assignment or to help another co-worker in need. Exceptionally well-organized, she manages the service’s clinical and academic schedule and makes sure team-members know their assignments. She’s enthusiastic about learning, reads on her own, and gladly accepts constructive criticism. Most of all, Deb is friendly and humorous while remaining ever humble and unselfish....by providing exceptional clinical care, having unlimited energy, and being a generous and enthusiastic team-player.
I was thoroughly impressed with her attitude toward patients and co-workers
She is indeed a special person who I nominate without reservation for this special recognition. “

George E. Tesar, M.D.
Chairman, Department of Psychiatry & Psychology
Cleveland Clinic Neurological Institute

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Diane Szalkowski:
“...Diane is a consummate clinician. She is diligent, conscientious, hard-working, and reliable. She is insightful and thoughtful, with excellent clinical judgment that allows her to take appropriate initiative while appreciating the nuances of physician supervision. Her logical thinking and cognitive processing make her an invaluable member of a physician-PA team with multiple and varied demands.
It is our usual practice for Diane to initiate contact with all patients on the service, both primary and those for consultation. Due to Diane’s clinical acumen, we are able with great confidence to use Diane’s evaluations and impressions to guide our clinical decision-making. Diane was challenged with the task of frequent daily assignment to the chronic pain service, a service not well-appreciated in the past. She not only has approached the service with a positive attitude, she has maintained her positive outlook and implemented changes into the system which have allowed the service to flourish and to provide improved patient care. Diane is dedicated to the highest quality of medicine, and provides the service with a continuity of care never before available.
Ms. Szalkowski takes pride in her work, and gets along extremely well with every single pain physician with whom she works. She is a genuine team player and invaluable to the provision of chronic pain services to the hospital.
I consider myself lucky to work with Diane, and am pleased to have this opportunity to nominate her for outstanding PA of the year.

Beth H. Minzter, MD, MS
Staff, Department of Pain Management
Honorary Recognition for KATHLEEN HOGAN

This is a nomination for a PA from an entire department. I wanted the PA to be aware of the compassion extended to her from her colleagues.

The Respiratory Institute, Department of Pulmonary, Allergy & Critical Care Medicine
I wanted to update you on our PA student clinical rotations here:

CCF has a history of taking PA students from the Ohio schools. In the past few years we have developed contracts with over 23 PA programs from all over the U.S., including the 6 PA programs in Ohio.

We do not provide any housing for students, so those students coming from out of state, must find their own housing. (This has not been an issue).

Most of our students rotate through the following areas:
- Orthopedics
- Hematology/Oncology
- General surgery
- PAT
- Cardiology
- Emergency Medicine

We have had a few do the following:
- Psych
- CORS
- Peds
- Primary Care
- Internal medicine
- CT surgery

There is a need to increase our sites available to students. (This has also been identified by leadership here as a way for future recruitment of PA graduates and also identified by the accrediting bodies of the PA programs.

The clinical school year usually begins in June and runs through the following Aug. the rotations are 4 or 5 week sessions with Family medicine being a 12 week session.

The primary areas that are necessary for a student rotation are as follows:
- Primary Care
- Internal Medicine
- General Surgery
- Pediatrics
- Women’s health
- Emergency Medicine
- Geriatric Medicine
- Behavioral Medicine

The areas of electives are as follows:
- Primary care
- Surgery (usually involves any specialty)

As you can see, what we offer are mostly electives sites to our students. I would like to increase the core sites needed for our students.

I am beginning to schedule the 2009/2010 school year for our many PA programs. I would like to be able to offer a greater selection of sites.

If you would like to begin taking PA students on a regular basis, or would be able to take one student per semester, (what ever you can do), please let me know as soon as you can.

Thank you
!!! NEED TO KNOW !!!

CERTIFICATE TO PRESCRIBE (CTP)

All of you are now on the path for obtaining your Certificate to Prescribe. I appreciate your diligence.

If you have received your letter from the Ohio State Medical Board, stating you have obtained your provisional CTP number, you MUST send us a copy of this letter along with a delineation of privileges form signed by your supervising physician requesting the privilege of prescribing. We will then credential you to prescribe and obtain your EPIC security for you.

POLICIES FOR CERTIFICATE TO PRESCRIBE (CTP)

Please refer to the Authorized Prescribers policy on who may prescribe medications.

Remember:

- If you DO NOT have a CTP, the medication order has to be a Verbal Order (see Verbal Order policy, CCF website).
- If you DO have a CTP, you must follow the PA formulary (see PA formulary, OSMB website).
- By law, a PA does not have prescriptive authority to write for any schedule II drugs, therefore, ALL schedule II drugs MUST be Verbal Orders whether you have a CTP or not.
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Would you consider giving 3 hours of your time once a month? The Free Clinic urgently seeks volunteer help from Physician Assistants. The time commitment is minimal, yet the impact is enormous!

GET INVOLVED!
What: Lorain and Elyria Free Clinics
When: Once a month (3 hours max)
Why: 30,000 uninsured in Lorain County
Where: 3323 Pearl Avenue, Lorain
        202 Chestnut Street, downtown Elyria
        200 West Lorain, Allen Medical Center, Oberlin
How: Call 44-277-7602 to offer your support!

MEDICAL LIABILITY INSURANCE PROVIDED AT NO CHARGE
All Professional Medical Volunteers are also Covered Under the Good Samaritan Law

If you know of other organizations who need volunteers or if you are volunteering please contact Tammela Jeffries so that we can share this information with other PA’s.

NEW HIRES

I would like to welcome Selena Rodebaugh our new PA RECRUITER!

Selena is dedicated to recruiting PA’s for CCF.

Please join us in welcoming the following PA’s to Cleveland Clinic:

Alicia Coleman, PA-C, Cardiothoracic Surgery
Athena Loughrin, PA-C, Plastic Surgery
Daniel Lozano, PA-C, Cardiothoracic Surgery
Misty Garcia, PA-C, Emergency Services
Jacob Sisko, PA-C, Colorectal Surgery
Karen Kerepsi, PA-C, Transplant
Joseph Yonke, PA-C, Infectious Disease
Mary Frings, PA-C, PACU
Susan Moyer, PA-C, Cardiothoracic Surgery
Michelle McGinty, PA-C, Vascular Surgery
Bonnie Baldwin, PA-C, VasculaSurgery
Shannon Young, PA-C, Throughput
Nancy Ivansek, PA-C, Infectious Disease
FUTURE EVENT
CCF PA Services Pharmacology CME Program
Fri., Nov. 7 & Sat., Nov. 8, 2008
Bunts Auditorium
15 hours of Pharmacology CME—This program has been reviewed and is approved for a maximum of 15 hours of AAPA Category I CME credit by the Physician Assistant Review Panel. Physician assistants should claim only those hours actually spent participating in the CME activity. This program was planned in accordance with AAPA’s CME Standards for Live Programs and for Commercial Support of Live Programs.

MISSION
To work with physicians to provide quality and accessible health care to our patients.
To continue our professional and personal development as Physician Assistants.
To increase awareness of the Physician Assistant profession at Cleveland Clinic.

PURPOSE
By disseminating information, increasing communication, and promoting educational activities for continual medical and professional opportunities, the Physician Assistants of Cleveland Clinic are committed to providing affordable and accessible quality health care to all patients.

http://intranet.ccf.org/physicianassistants/(under construction)

Our VISION is to offer the most professional and educational opportunities to Physician Assistants throughout the world!

JOB POSTINGS
For info contact Selena Rodebaugh, HR, 216-448-0406, misiakc@ccf.org or http://intranet.ccf.org/jobs/

MAIN CAMPUS
Cardiovascular Surgery (1)
Epilepsy Monitoring Unit (1)
Hematology/Oncology (1)
Hospital Medicine Administration (1)
Neurological Institute-APN/PA MGR (2)
Neurological Institute (2)
Pain Management Center (1)
Pulmonary-APN/PA MGR (2)
Pulmonary (1)
Transplant Center (1)
Vascular Surgery (1)

FAMILY HEALTH CENTERS & AMBULATORY SURGERY CENTERS
Lorain Ambulatory Surgery Center (1)
Lorain FHC - Internal Medicine (1)
Marymount ASC - Sports Health Center (1)

REGIONAL HOSPITALS
Hillcrest Hospital—CT Surgery (2)

CCF FLORIDA—WESTON
Cardiothoracic Surgery (1)
Orthopaedic Surgery (1)