Alumni Connection
A Legacy of Learning

Abu Dhabi
Construction Moves Forward

Over 600 Attend Cleveland Event to Learn More

Plans are on track for the completion of Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi (CCAD) in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in 2012.

The 360-bed multi-specialty hospital will be an unparalleled extension of the Cleveland Clinic model, and is being created as part of Mubadala Healthcare’s strategy to build a world-class integrated healthcare delivery network in the United Arab Emirates. It

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First Medical School Class Graduates

Many students match with their first-choice residency program

A milestone in Cleveland Clinic history was reached on Sunday, May 17, when 29 graduates of the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine (CCLCM) received an MD with Special Qualification in Biomedical Research.

CCLCM was established in 2002 with a gift from Al and Norma Lerner. It is a partnership between Cleveland Clinic and Case Western Reserve University offering a unique medical school experience focused on producing physician-investigators and scientists. The first class began in 2004; their program included a year of research to help prepare them for this important role in the future of healthcare.

Former U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher, MD, delivered the commencement address at the overall Case Western Reserve University commencement event. A smaller event was held at the InterContinental Hotel for CCLCM graduates the previous evening.

Match results delivered in March validated the success of CCLCM’s mission. Most students were placed in their first choice of training program.

“I feel like we hit a grand slam coming right out of the box,” says Kathleen Franco, MD, Associate Dean of Admissions and Students Affairs at the college. “Many of our students are going to the best training programs in the country.”

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Partner Medical School Gets Top Marks

*U.S. News & World Report*’s newest medical school rankings list Case Western Reserve University as No. 25 nationally in the research category, the top medical school in Ohio. The school’s status for turning out primary-care physicians rose, from No. 51 to No. 37. In 2002, Cleveland Clinic partnered with Case Western Reserve University to establish the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine (CCLCM). The five-year CCLCM curriculum is a distinct track of the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine with a specific mission to train physician-scientists and investigators.

The CCLCM students competed against other applicants with more “traditional” credentials, she says. CCLCM students do not receive grades but are promoted based on evidence presented in their portfolios. These portfolios provide documentation of their progress in nine areas of competency: research, medical knowledge, communication, professionalism, personal development, clinical skills, clinical reasoning, reflective practice and healthcare systems. Throughout the year, students combine their progress essays with additional evidence that demonstrates their development. At the end of the year, the Medical Student Promotions and Review Committee determines whether the evidence shows sufficient achievement for promotion to the next year.

“In the absence of grades, our students had to get through the interview and match process by demonstrating hard work, evidence from their portfolios if they wished, board exam scores and research. They demonstrated a broad spectrum of specialty interests, and the training directors were very impressed with the poise they demonstrated at their interviews,” Dr. Franco says.

“They were able to explain our programs and their personal strengths and interests well. They have made many presentations during their time here, and that has helped them to become quite articulate,” she continues, noting that some of the graduates have presented at national and international meetings.

“They are more like junior faculty than the traditional training-program applicant,” she says.

The success of the Class of 2009 validates the school’s unique, innovative model of medical education, says Executive Dean James B. Young, MD. “I am proud of our dedicated and highly skilled students, faculty and staff,” he says.

In May 2008, Cleveland Clinic announced the initiation of full-tuition scholarships for all students as a way of decreasing their debt burden upon graduation, freeing them to pursue their clinical and research interests without making compensation...
their top concern. Money from Cleveland Clinic’s General Operating Fund is being used to support that goal, and there is still a great need for philanthropy to replace that money.

“Donations to the medical school are being used to endow a fund to ensure that these scholarships are available in perpetuity,” explains Lois Sumegi, who is CCLCM’s representative with Institutional Relations and Development.

The Alumni Association Scholarship Fund is an important initiative toward that goal.

The Cleveland Clinic Alumni Association welcomed the graduates into the worldwide network of Cleveland Clinic-trained physicians and scientists at the Alumni Board of Directors dinner on April 3. Lilian Gonsalves, MD (P’81), President of the Cleveland Clinic Alumni Association, presented them with laptop computer cases engraved with the Alumni Association logo.

The Graduates and Their Matches

Christine Baran Warren
Dermatology at Yale-New Haven Hospital

Seetharam Chadalavada
Radiology-Diagnostic at Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania

Catherine Golski
Pediatrics at Children’s Hospital in Philadelphia

James Beckmann
Orthopaedic Surgery at University of Utah

Leonid Cherkassky
General Surgery at Rhode Island Hospital/Brown University

Julia Head
Obstetrics/Gynecology at Beth Israel Deaconess

Justin Bohrer
Obstetrics/Gynecology at University of Hawaii

Amir Durrani
Internal Medicine at Yale-New Haven Hospital

Beverly Jong
Anesthesiology at Cleveland Clinic

Marie-Luise Brennan, PhD
Internal Medicine at Stanford University

Sam Edwards
Internal Medicine at Beth Israel Deaconess

Michael Khair
Orthopaedic Surgery at Hospital for Special Surgery in New York

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The Graduates and Their Matches
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Carl Koch
Internal Medicine at University of Michigan

Patrick McKenzie
Urology at Wake Forest University School of Medicine

Alan Siu
Neurological Surgery at George Washington University

Alexandra Kovach
Pathology at Massachusetts General

Carl Peterson
Radiation Oncology at University of Rochester Program

Kevin Tan
Ophthalmology at University of California – San Diego

Jason Lappé
Internal Medicine at Duke University

Jonathan Riley
Neurological Surgery at Emory University

Amanda Tencza
Orthopaedic Surgery at University of California, San Francisco

Sara Pecorak Lappé
Pediatrics at Duke University

Jason Robertson
General Surgery at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis

Aaron Viny
Internal Medicine at NYP Hospital – Weill Cornell

Benjamin Larson
Urology at Cleveland Clinic

Renee Salas
Emergency Medicine at University of Cincinnati

Dawn Weise
Internal Medicine at Vanderbilt University

Sumit Sharma
Ophthalmology at Cleveland Clinic

Sherwin Yen
Internal Medicine at University of North Carolina Hospitals
Abu Dhabi

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will be located on Sowwah Island — the core of Abu Dhabi’s new Central Business District — neighboring luxury business hotels and Sowwah Square, a premium commercial real estate development featuring the new headquarters of the Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange.

Multiple bridges will provide access to the island from the mainland. Abu Dhabi is the capital of UAE and is the largest of the seven emirates. It is the second largest UAE city by population (Dubai is first), with about 1.5 million people living there.

Andrew Fishleder, MD (GL-1’79, LMED’82), Chief Executive Officer, assumed responsibility for the overall operations of CCAD on Jan. 1. As construction is underway, he is focusing on the implementation of the systems, procedures, guidelines and standards for the hospital as an extension of Cleveland Clinic’s model of medicine and clinical capabilities in the Middle East.

“I am truly honored to have the opportunity to lead Cleveland Clinic’s expansion in the Middle East and to partner with the dedicated leadership of Mubadala Healthcare,” he says.

Dr. Fishleder was instrumental in the development of Cleveland Clinic’s Education Institute, which he recently led as its Chairman. In addition, Dr. Fishleder served as Executive Dean of the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University. Beginning his medical career as a pathologist at Cleveland Clinic in 1978, he has held various leadership and executive positions and serves as a member of Cleveland Clinic’s Board of Governors and the institution’s Medical Executive Committee.

Robert R. Lorenz, MD (OTO’02), is Chief Medical Officer at CCAD. Most recently, he was Head of the Section of Head and Neck Surgery in Cleveland Clinic's Head and Neck Institute.

In February, more than 600 people attended Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi Night in Cleveland to learn more about the new facility. Most of the attendees were Cleveland Clinic employees, physicians, administrators, nurses and allied health professionals, with some guests traveling from as far away as Alabama, Florida, California and Brazil to attend.

Dr. Cosgrove opened the program with an overview of Cleveland Clinic’s international activities, followed by a speech from Suhail Al Ansari, Associate Director of Mubadala Healthcare. Dr. Fishleder shared the organizational model and mission, vision, and values, as well as architectural plans, and introduced the leadership team. Dr. Lorenz then outlined the United Arab Emirates and Abu Dhabi healthcare environment, as well as CCAD’s service lines and care delivery model, and answered clinical questions.

Jerry Bosken, CCAD Chief Human Resources Officer, provided information about housing, education and transportation in Abu Dhabi for people who may be interested in career opportunities there.

The program was recorded, and a video is available online. To see it or to learn more about the plans for CCAD, including a video tour of what the location will look like when construction is complete, and to learn about exciting career opportunities there, go to www.clevelandclinic.org and click on the “Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi” link near the bottom of the page.

To learn more about the Abu Dhabi project, please visit www.clevelandclinic.org.
Cardiologist Takes Group to Honduras for Annual Mission

Russell E. Raymond, DO (IM’84, CARD’87), and his five siblings were raised by Salvation Army pastors who taught them to live the organization’s motto, “Heart to God, Hand to Man. “

Four of those children became physicians, and when they received a call asking them to travel to Honduras to help the Salvation Army in the wake of Hurricane Mitch in October 1998, they responded. It was the beginning of what has become an annual trip for the Raymond boys – Dr. Raymond, who is a Cleveland Clinic cardiologist, and three of his brothers, who are obstetricians in Columbus and Westerville, Ohio.

The trip’s entourage has swelled to about 35 people, with members including physicians, nurses, translators and other helpers. Cleveland Clinic staff members who go include Allison T. Vidimos, RPh, MD (D’89, DS’91), Chairman of the Department of Dermatology; John Lampe, MD, a Cleveland Clinic pediatrician in Solon; and Phil Cusumano, MD, an internist at the Chagrin Falls Family Health Center. Dr. Raymond’s son Chad E. Raymond, DO, a GL-2 Internal Medicine Resident at Cleveland Clinic, also goes.

They usually travel in the first week of February, and their schedule is coordinated through the Ruth Paz Foundation in San Pedro Sula. Sometimes, the group sees patients at the foundation’s location, but more often, they go out to mountainous areas that have been identified as needing medical care. Typically, they visit one village a day for six days. About 500 people are seen each day, for a total of about 3,000 per week.

Most patients are women and children, because men often are out working in agricultural areas. The most frequent presenting problems are skin infections, upper respiratory problems, gastrointestinal upset and parasitic infections.

“We care for whatever medical problems they are having as best we can,” Dr. Raymond explains. “When we identify major problems, we can arrange for them to be hospitalized or referred for ongoing care, and all patients leave with a supply of vitamins.”

Dr. Vidimos, who has gone on the trip for two years, sees many patients with dermatologic problems there and does minor surgeries, such as skin cancer removal.

“My 16-year-old daughter, who is a sophomore in high school, went this year, and I know it was a life-changing experience for her, as it has been for me,” she says. “We are both grateful for this opportunity to serve the underserved people of Honduras.”

The group is a faith-based mission that receives some funding from the Salvation Army’s national offices through an endowed grant created for mission work. Dr. Raymond has created a charitable foundation that further underwrites the mission’s costs. He says the investment of time and money returns many dividends in the form of appreciative patients.

“It is so wonderful to see smiles on their faces,” Dr. Raymond says.

Since several of the Raymond brothers’ children have followed their fathers into the medical field, Dr. Raymond, 55, hopes that generation eventually will take ownership of the cause. However, he doesn’t plan to give it up for a while. His long-term plan for retirement is to spend about two months each year doing medical work in Honduras.

To learn about volunteer medical opportunities through Cleveland Clinic, visit the Staff Volunteer Opportunities website at: http://portals.clevelandclinic.org/Default.aspx?alias=portals.clevelandclinic.org/staffvolunteeropportunities and consider listing your volunteer initiatives or joining one of those linked at this site.
Residents, Fellows Receive Free Job Search Counseling

Looking for that first job out of residency or fellowship training can be a stressful experience, especially because young physicians often are juggling many other responsibilities. The decisions they make at this time will affect the rest of their lives; yet, many do not even know where to start.

About three years ago, Cleveland Clinic CEO Toby Cosgrove, MD, decided that offering free job search guidance through the Office of Physician Recruitment would be a good way to provide a value-added service to these emerging professionals.

“It was something no other institution in the United States was offering,” says Cleveland Clinic Senior Physician Recruiter Lauren Forst. “It has really taken off.”

Since 2006, the office has directly assisted about 275 residents and fellows with their job search process.

Forst says the program provides real-world job search education and assistance at key points throughout their Cleveland Clinic training and keeps trainees informed about opportunities to stay within the Cleveland Clinic health system.

“We try to help them make the transition from training to permanent employment as easy and stress-free as possible,” she says. “Some are interested in staying here, but others need to relocate due to family or other concerns, and we understand that and try to be unbiased.”

The program provides five primary services: material distribution (articles, websites, etc), CV reviews and construction, department presentations, job search counseling and post-offer counseling.

The department is one of the larger in-house recruitment staffs in the country, with 11 recruiters serving the main campus, 15 family health centers, nine community hospitals, Cleveland Clinic Florida and Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi (see cover story). This program is run with Joey Klein, Physician Recruiter, and Joe Vitale, Senior Director, as well as Forst.

“We are actively engaged in the physician market, so the advice that we offer is current, relevant and unbiased,” she says. “We are not ‘headhunters,’ but rather seek to help our graduates become skilled and confident at managing their own search.”

Editor’s Note: If you have practice opportunities you would like to share with graduating residents and fellows, contact Sandy Stranscak, Director, Alumni Relations, at alumni@ccf.org.

The MyPractice Community Electronic Medical Record System

A Clear Choice for Physicians in Private Practice

In the national conversation that started almost immediately after the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act was signed into law on Feb. 17, it was clear that:

- The stimulus package included $140 billion for “comprehensive healthcare reform,” of which $19.2 billion would be used to promote national health information technology adoption and implementation
- Physicians who implement an electronic medical record (EMR) system that complies with federal “meaningful use” standards prior to 2011 will receive financial incentives in the form of additional Medicare or Medicaid reimbursements over five years
- Approximately 70 percent of those incentive payments will be delivered during the first two years, so physicians would be well-advised not to wait too long to begin comparing their EMR choices

While the details of “meaningful use” have yet to be fully finalized, it is clear that the true measure of an EMR system’s quality is its ability to support the workflow demands of a busy clinical practice.

The MyPractice Community EMR system (available to area physicians for three years) is a customized extension of the system used in all Cleveland Clinic facilities. We understand how important “meaningful use” is to the physician in private practice because it is important to us, as well. So, as you consider your EMR options, please include MyPractice Community in the conversation.

To learn more about MyPractice Community and “meaningful use,” please visit www.clevelandclinic.org/transform.

To speak to a MyPractice Community representative, please call 216.738.4617.
How to Make the Economy Work for You

It may seem like a contradiction, but sometimes the more you give, the more you receive in return. In this challenging economy, your best decision may be to make a charitable gift. You gain peace of mind knowing that your gift is being used for a charity that you and your family care about, and with the addition of some creative charitable giving tools, you can make your assets and the economy work to your advantage.

A Gift of Stock
You may be familiar with the strategy of giving appreciated stock and being able to deduct the full current market value without paying any capital gains tax. However, you may realize a double benefit by selling the stock first and giving the proceeds to Cleveland Clinic:

• If your stock has decreased in value, you can use the loss on the sale of the stock to offset other capital gains.
• Your cash gift, from the proceeds of the sale of the stock, would generate a tax-saving charitable income tax deduction.
• You are able to make a gift which has immediate impact to the area of your choice within Cleveland Clinic.
• Or, if you feel you could use extra income from the stock you are gifting, you could establish a charitable gift annuity (CGA).
• In addition to the benefits above, you and/or your spouse will be guaranteed a stream of income for life.
• It is risk-free – the CGA is backed by the assets of Cleveland Clinic.
• The CGA payout rate may be a higher alternative to low-rate CDs or other income-producing investments.

If you do not need the loss from the stock to offset other capital gains, you could just gift the stock directly to Cleveland Clinic to establish the CGA.

Lock in Retirement Income
One of the biggest concerns for many of us has been the effect of the economy on our retirement-fund investments. Retirement plan fluctuations have made it more difficult to predict our exact level of retirement income. But what if you could use a strategy that combines charitable giving with retirement planning? A plan that would allow you to fulfill your charitable goals while locking in future retirement income?

A deferred, flexible CGA allows you to establish a charitable gift annuity now and choose a date sometime in the future to begin the income payments, such as the year you retire. The benefits would be the same as those of a regular CGA, with one exception. The longer you wait to turn on the income stream, the higher the payout rate and annual income available to you.

In either case, your income is guaranteed, regardless of the market. Your annuity payments are fully backed by the assets of Cleveland Clinic.

Convert a Losing CRT into a CGA
As a result of stock market losses in 2008, many charitable remainder trusts (CRT) that were established in prior years with a high payout rate have declined in value and may be in danger of exhaustion. One possible solution to rescuing the income stream would be to convert an existing CRT into a CGA.

The new CGA’s funding amount would be based on the present value of the anticipated future CRT payments. The annual payment from the CGA will be less than what you are currently receiving from the CRT, but the CGA payments are guaranteed to never decrease and are backed by the assets of Cleveland Clinic. You also would be entitled to a new charitable tax deduction.

Make Your IRA Reach its Maximum Potential
Consider naming Cleveland Clinic as a beneficiary of your IRA retirement plan. Did you know that 75 percent to 80 percent of a retirement plan account could be lost to federal, state and local estate and income taxes if it were to pass directly to children or grandchildren? All these taxes could be avoided if this asset were used to make a testamentary gift to charity. By naming Cleveland Clinic as the beneficiary of your IRA, the full 100 percent will be available to support our medical mission. Other assets are best left to family and loved ones.

If you wish to learn more about how you can make the economy work for you, please contact a member of our gift planning team at 216.444.1251. One of our gift-planning professionals would be happy to discuss with you, in confidence, a plan for your personal situation.
Brown. President Obama stated that he would like to adjust healthcare reform strategy session with more than a dozen organization to be replicated by President Barack Obama. On June 2, he mentioned Cleveland Clinic at a healthcare reform strategy session with more than a dozen Democratic U.S. Senators, including Ohio’s Sen. Sherrod Brown. President Obama stated that he would like to adjust the incentive structure to emulate places like the Mayo Clinic, which "are able to provide some of the best health care services in the country at half or sometimes even less of the costs than some of the other areas where the quality is not as good.” He added, “The Cleveland Clinic in Ohio, same thing: top-notch quality, lower costs.”

Later, Obama sent a letter to Sen. Edward Kennedy, Chair of the Senate HELP Committee, and Sen. Max Baucus, Chair of the Senate Finance Committee, the two committees with jurisdiction over healthcare and thus healthcare reform legislation. In the letter, he states, “At this historic juncture, we share the goal of quality, affordable healthcare for all Americans … That means promoting the best practices, not simply the most expensive. We should ask why places like the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota, the Cleveland Clinic in Ohio, and other institutes can offer the highest quality care at costs well below the national norm.”

The average number of days spent in the hospital by a Medicare patient in the last two years of life was 21.3 at Mayo and 23.9 at Cleveland Clinic. By comparison, the average number of days at the University of California, Los Angeles Medical Center was 31.3. Cleveland Clinic spent $1,307 a day on a patient; UCLA spent $1,871 a day.

Experts attribute some of that efficiency to Cleveland Clinic’s group practice model, which facilitates care coordination and a better continuum of care.

Cleveland Clinic has entered into a collaboration with MinuteClinic at several northeast Ohio CVS/pharmacy stores. Minute Clinics, which provide seven-day-a-week service for acute minor illnesses, now will have a direct link to one of the nation’s premier hospitals. By the end of 2009, the collaboration will include nine locations in northeast Ohio, each staffed by a MinuteClinic nurse practitioner with clinical consultation provided by a Cleveland Clinic Health System-appointed Medical Director. As part of the collaboration, Cleveland Clinic and MinuteClinic will fully integrate their electronic medical records (EMR) systems to streamline communication around all aspects of a patient’s care. Each Cleveland Clinic-affiliated MinuteClinic will have access (with patient consent) to a patient’s Cleveland Clinic MyChart EMR – which includes medical history, prescriptions, treatments and health maintenance information. At the patient’s request, MinuteClinic will share patient information with other Cleveland Clinic-affiliated locations. MinuteClinic is the only retail health care provider accredited by The Joint Commission.

Cleveland Clinic and the Lou Ruvo Brain Institute are partnering to create a highly specialized clinical center to advance the research, early detection and treatment of neurological diseases including Alzheimer’s, Huntington’s, Parkinson’s and Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) in Las Vegas, NV. The goal of the Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health, which began clinical activities July 1, is to prevent the disabling symptoms of chronic brain diseases and to prolong healthy, vital aging in people at risk for dementia or cognitive disorders.

The center, which is expected to be finished by January, will offer a patient-focused approach to care based on Cleveland Clinic’s institutes model. The $100 million facility, designed by Frank Gehry, will house clinical space, a diagnostic center, neuroimaging rooms, physician offices and laboratories devoted to clinical research.

“Cognitive disorders, such as Alzheimer’s disease, are becoming more prevalent as we all lead longer lives,” says Michael T. Modic, MD, FACR (GL-1’76, DR’78, NR’79), Chairman of Cleveland Clinic’s Neurological Institute. “New discoveries and emerging science tell us that cognitive disorders can be identified earlier than previously believed and potentially altered. Our hope is to bring together world-class clinicians and researchers to advance our understanding of cognitive disorders and provide the best care possible for people who suffer from them, as well as their caregivers.”

Randy Schiffer, MD, of Cleveland Clinic’s Center for Brain Health, is the center’s Medical Director. To learn more, visit http://my.clevelandclinic.org/brain_health/default.aspx.

A team of Cleveland Clinic urologists has performed the first completely transvaginal nephrectomy. Female patients who require the removal of a kidney now may be able to have the diseased organ extracted completely through the vagina, thanks to a new surgical procedure developed by Cleveland Clinic urologists. Jihad H. Kaouk, MD (U/LS’02),
Director of the Center for Laparoscopic and Robotic Surgery, and his team performed the first completely transvaginal nephrectomy on March 13. The procedure involved inserting a small, single-channel, 5-mm port in the belly button to inflate the abdomen with carbon dioxide and thread a small scope, which visually assisted with the placement of the vaginal port. Then, the surgical team made a single incision in the vaginal wall and placed a multi-channel port through which the entire surgery was performed. Once the vaginal port was in place, the abdominal port was removed. The kidney surgery took four hours following the insertion of the vaginal port, and the patient was discharged less than 24 hours after the procedure.

“This is a significant clinical step toward natural orifice transluminal endoscopic surgery (NOTES), which has been confined to the lab for more than six years,” says Dr. Kaouk. “This new approach makes minimally invasive surgery even less invasive and is an important step forward toward scarless procedures.”

Previously reported cases of transvaginal nephrectomy involved performing all aspects of the surgery through a multi-channel port in the belly button using the standard laparoscopic approach. In these cases, the vagina was the extraction point for the diseased organ. In the method developed by Dr. Kaouk and his team, the entire surgery is performed transvaginally.

The surgical team included Raymond R. Rackley, MD (U’95), Courtenay K. Moore, MD (UFPMRS’06), Wesley M. White, MD (GL-6, Urology/Robotic Urology Fellow), Raj Kumar Goel, MD (GL-8, Urology Clinical Scholar), Stacy A. Brethauer, MD (RES/LBS’06, S/ALB’07), Michael S. Ingber, MD (GL-7, Urology/Female Pelvic Medicine & Reconstructive Surgery Clinical Fellow), and Georges-Pascal Haber, MD (GL-8, Urology/Advanced Urological Laparoscopic Fellow).

South Pointe Hospital’s Osteopathic Residency Program has matched with four Internal Medicine residents who begin this summer. This, in addition to the four residents matched in 2008 and 2007, makes an Internal Medicine resident complement of 12 for the upcoming academic year. South Pointe’s Family Medicine matched for three residents, and all other existing programs successfully secured 100 percent of their funded positions in this year’s match. Congratulations to Brian Kessler, DO, Medical Director of GME, Nealie Houk, Director of GME, and to the entire medical staff.

Behavioral health services have been integrated across the health system to facilitate more effective patient management, ensure quality and drive operational

| APPOINTMENTS |

Laurence Kennedy, MD, FRCP, Professor and Chief of the Division of Endocrinology at the University of Florida, has been named Chair of the Department of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism. Dr. Kennedy attended medical school at the Queen's University in Northern Ireland and completed a research fellowship in the Division of Endocrinology at the University of Florida. Dr. Kennedy was elected as the inaugural Nordisk Irish Endocrine Society Lecturer, the highest accolade of the Irish Endocrine Society.

Damon Kralovic, DO, has been appointed Director of Critical Care Transport. His responsibilities include overseeing both the adult and pediatric Critical Care Transport programs and developing hospital transfer markets that will drive patient volume for the institution.

Brian Parker, MD, an anesthesiologist, has been appointed Medical Director of Clinical Operations. His responsibilities in this new role include overseeing Hospital Case Management, the regional hospital Transfer Center and Hospital Throughput.

James (Jamie) K. Stoller, MD, MS, has been appointed Chairman of the Education Institute. Dr. Stoller joined Cleveland Clinic in 1986 as a staff member in the department of Pulmonary, Allergy and Critical Care Medicine (currently the Respiratory Institute). A specialist in pulmonary/critical care medicine, he serves as Head of Respiratory Therapy. His interest in organizational development and education led to his involvement in creating the Cleveland Clinic Academy, where he serves as Executive Director of Physician Leadership. Dr. Stoller holds the Jean Wall Bennett Professorship of Medicine at Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University. He has a secondary appointment as Professor of Organizational Behavior in the Weatherhead School of Management of Case Western Reserve University, where he completed a Master of Science in Organizational Development and Analysis degree in 2001. Dr. Stoller graduated from Yale University School of Medicine in 1979 and obtained advanced fellowship training in pulmonary medicine at Yale-New Haven Hospital and the Brigham and Women’s Hospital and in critical care medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital.
improvements. Known as the Center for Behavioral Health, it is the first center in the health system to implement a unified operations and clinical structure across the enterprise, including the Cleveland Clinic Neurological Institute, regional hospitals and family health centers.

It will have a unified reporting structure under Joe Hahn, MD, Chief of Staff; Fred DeGrandis, President and CEO, Cleveland Clinic Regional Hospital; Michael T. Modic, MD (GL’1-76, DR’78, NR’79) Chairman, Cleveland Clinic Neurological Institute; and Dave Kilarski, President of South Pointe and Marymount hospitals. Donald Malone Jr., MD, will serve as Medical Director. Brian Tilow has been appointed Health System Senior Vice President of the Center.

Under the direction of the Neurological Institute, leaders from main campus and the regional hospitals collaborated on a strategic plan to relocate services to best meet the needs of patients and families. The first step began in 2005 when adult inpatient psychiatry was moved from main campus to Lutheran Hospital. Upcoming changes include relocating the Alcohol and Drug Recovery Center, which includes inpatient and outpatient treatment options, to South Pointe Hospital and moving the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Inpatient Unit to Fairview Hospital.

Tim Rindlisbacher, MD, Director of Sports Health, Cleveland Clinic Canada, has been chosen as the team physician for Team Canada for the 2009 Men’s Under-18 World Championship. He will serve as head of medical services for the national team. Team Canada serves as the main development league for the National Hockey League.

Joe G. Hollyfield, PhD, Director of Research at the Cole Eye Institute, will hold the Llura and Gordon Gund Endowed Chair in Ophthalmology Research. The Gund family has given $2 million to establish this chaired position, which will allow Dr. Hollyfield to expand research into retinal diseases that cause impaired vision and blindness. “Joe leads a sophisticated research group which is at the forefront of investigation of retinal disease,” says Daniel Martin, MD, Chairman of the Cole Eye Institute. “This gift will provide resources to expand our inquiry into causes and potential treatment options for eye conditions that cause vision loss and blindness.” Mr. Gund, who has been blind since 1970, is the chairman of Gund Investment Corp., the former majority owner of the Cleveland Cavaliers and a widely known philanthropist.

A 46-year-old firefighter with deep Cleveland Clinic roots has written The Engine 2 Diet, which details his 28-day plan to lower cholesterol and weight. Rip Esselstyn, who grew up in Pepper Pike, Ohio, but now lives in Austin, TX, is a former triathlete. His maternal great-grandfather, George Crile Sr., was a co-founder of Cleveland Clinic, and his maternal grandfather, George “Barney” Crile Jr., MD (S’37), is the father of the breast-saving partial mastectomy. His paternal grandfather, Caldwell Esselstyn Sr., was Lou Gehrig’s physician. His father, Caldwell B. Esselstyn Jr., MD (GL-1’62, S’66), was a Cleveland Clinic surgeon for 31 years and is now part of the Wellness Institute, where he preaches the benefits of a plant-based diet to prevent or reverse heart disease.

The Engine 2 Diet, which has spent time on the New York Times best-seller list since its February release, proffers similar advice: no processed/refined foods; no meat, dairy, eggs or fish; and no oils. Esselstyn wrote the book after helping a fellow firefighter lower his cholesterol through diet. Other firefighters followed suit; all dropped weight and lowered their cholesterol.

Cleveland Clinic has signed a “memorandum of understanding” with the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland to research, develop, and sell medical devices in Europe.

“The RCSI is networked into other parts of the world and that has implications into the global reach of Cleveland Clinic,” says Sean McEllin, a Vice President for Enterprise Ireland, a national economic development group that has 13 offices across Europe. Executives say there is no concrete financial contract; rather, they expect to collaborate on new companies that eventually will make money, particularly those that focus on general surgery, orthopedics and software technology. Together, the institutions will be able to run clinical trials for sales approval from both the European Union and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

“We can use their leverage, their experience and their network. That global reach comes back to benefit Cleveland,” says Chris Coburn, Director of Cleveland Clinic Innovations.

In return, RCSI, which is a medical school with undergraduate and post-graduate studies, created a business development center last year. It will reap the benefits of Cleveland Clinic’s expertise in developing start-up businesses. Cleveland Clinic Innovations already has spun off more than two dozen companies with technologies ranging from heart pumps to wireless patient monitors.

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Erick M. Remer, MD, Imaging Institute, has been named Chair of the Genitourinary Imaging Subcommittee of the Scientific Program Committee of the Radiological Society of North America for 2009-2011. The RSNA sponsors the largest medical meeting in the world, last year drawing more than 27,000 healthcare professionals from more than 100 countries.

Two Quantitative Health Science staff members received good news at this year’s Society of Clinical Trials (SCT) meeting. Gerry Beck, PhD, was elected to a multi-year term as a member of the SCT Board of Directors, and Jennifer Gassman, PhD, was named as a Fellow of the SCT, one of only 10 fellows named this year.

**RESEARCH ROUNDPUP**

New Center Focuses on Blood Vessel Growth in Tumors, Some Diseases

Cleveland Clinic's new Angiogenesis Research Center will bring a more coordinated focus to research on blood vessel growth in tumors as well as a range of diseases caused by inadequate blood supply.

The center, which represents a comprehensive program to understand the basic mechanisms underlying blood vessel formation, is being directed by Tatiana Byzova, PhD (RES/JJ'99).

"Angiogenic therapy is a new direction in the treatment of cancer and peripheral vascular and heart disease. It’s crucial to continue developing new strategies that target blood vessel growth in tissues that normally do not have those vessels," she says.

The Center will serve as a bridge between Lerner Research Institute’s laboratory-based researchers and clinical investigators in several Cleveland Clinic Institutes who are involved in developing and clinically evaluating drugs designed to promote or inhibit blood vessel growth.

In the next several years, Dr. Byzova will organize a translational research program focused on angiogenesis and stem cells in cancer. Another long-term goal is to obtain leading-edge equipment that will be of general benefit to investigators throughout Cleveland Clinic.

"Our recently formed spin-off company, AngioQuest, also will serve as an additional resource to bring innovations from the Center to patient care," Dr. Byzova says.

Formed in 2007, AngioQuest develops and commercializes anti-angiogenic therapies for the treatment of eye diseases.

The Lerner Research Institute

The Lerner Research Institute offers partnership graduate programs with Cleveland State University, Case Western Reserve University and Kent State University. Many Lerner Research Institute Faculty also have adjunct and/or primary appointments at one or more of these institutions, making it possible to complete the research requirements for the PhD with a Lerner Research Institute advisor at Cleveland Clinic and graduate with a doctorate from one of these universities.

The Lerner Research Institute provides training and research education programs for more than 260 postdoctoral research fellows, more than 170 graduate students and more than 150 undergraduate research students.

For more news from the Lerner Research Institute, go to www.lerner.ccf.org/news/.
Selected Live CCF Continuing Medical Education Courses and other Educational Events

The Center for Continuing Education announces myCME: a free service that helps you organize your learning and allows you to keep an electronic file cabinet of CME credits from all providers.

Monthly Newsflash: Stay informed of all the available live and online CME opportunities by signing up to our monthly newsflash: www.clevelandclinicmeded.com/SignMeUp

October 2009
5-7 2009 Medical Innovation Summit: Improving the Prognosis: Cancer Cures Through Innovation Enter promotional code ALUMNI and receive $150 off the cost of registration. Pay only $649 before July 31.

January 2010
22-25 6th Annual Optimizing Minimally Invasive Gynecology Ritz Carlton Fort Lauderdale, FL

NOTE: All courses are at the spectacular state-of-the-art InterContinental Hotel & Conference Center on the Cleveland Clinic campus in Cleveland, OH, unless otherwise noted.

Center for Continuing Education

For current information on these, as well as CME medical publications and to register for free e-mail updates and more, visit: www.clevelandclinicmeded.com and for Cleveland Clinic in Florida sponsored CME see: www.ccf.org/florida/cme

The Cleveland Clinic Center for Continuing Education is responsible for one of the largest and most diverse CME programs anywhere in the United States. Check the webpage for the latest course announcement information.

February 2010
11-13 21st Annual International Colorectal Disease Symposium (ACDS 2010) Harbor Beach Marriott Fort Lauderdale, FL

Alumni are entitled to a substantial discount on CME sponsored by the Cleveland Clinic Center for Continuing Education, Cleveland, OH and by Continuing Medical Education of Cleveland Clinic in Florida.

Additional Contact Information:
Cleveland, OH: 216.448.0770; Toll-Free 800.238.6750; Fax 216.448.0782
Weston, FL: 954.659.5490; Toll-Free 866.293.7866; Fax 954.659.5491

Alumni Receptions: Alumni gatherings are planned for many major national medical meetings. Attendees and local alumni are invited. For more information, go to www.clevelandclinic.org/education/alumni or contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at alumni@ccf.org.

August 2009
16 Annual “Welcome to Cleveland” GOODTIME Dinner/Dance Cruise medical students, interns, residents, fellows, staff and alumni invited! Cleveland, OH Contact Alumni Relations for discount ticket information/availability; 216.444.2487 (toll-free, 800.444.3664) or alumni@ccf.org

October 2009
4-7 American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery TBA San Diego

12 American College of Surgeons 6-8 p.m. Chicago
17-20 American Academy of Pediatrics TBA Washington, DC
17-21 American Society of Anesthesiologists TBA New Orleans
23-28 American College of Gastroenterology TBA San Diego
24-27 American Academy of Ophthalmology TBA San Francisco
23-28 Infectious Diseases Society of America TBA Philadelphia
10/29-11/3 The Liver Meeting (American Association for the Study of Liver Disease) Boston

November 2009
12-14 North American Society for Pediatric GI, Hepatology & Nutrition TBA Gaylord National Resort on the Potomac National Harbor, MD

December 2009
4-8 American Epilepsy Society TBA Boston
John Bergfeld, MD (GL’65, S’67, ORS’70), who served as team doctor for the Cleveland Browns from 1976 to 2002 and currently is Director of Operating Rooms at Cleveland Clinic, received the Dino Lucarelli Lifetime Achievement Award from the Northeast Ohio Chapter of the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame on May 11. Dr. Bergfeld also served as team doctor for the Cleveland Browns and Cavaliers, Dr. Bergfeld recently was inducted into the American Orthopedic Society for Sports Medicine Hall of Fame.

Victor W. Fazio, MD (S’73, CRS’74), Chair, Cleveland Clinic Digestive Disease Institute, who holds the Rupert B. Turnbull, MD, Chair in Colorectal Surgery, has been named an honorary fellow of The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI), its highest award, for his contributions to the education of Irish surgeons. Dr. Fazio has mentored at least 10 Irish surgeons, several of whom have been able to return to Ireland to share their knowledge and experiences. RCSI is one of the foremost medical institutions and is a part of the National University of Ireland.

Craig R. Irish, MD (S’81, NS’86), Director of Cleveland Clinic’s Brain Tumor and Neuro-Oncology Center/Gamma Knife Center, has been named Associate Dean of Faculty Affairs for the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University.

Gordon R. Bell, MD (GL’78, ORS’82), Section Head of Spine Surgery in the Department of Orthopaedics and staff member in the Department of Neurology at Cleveland Clinic, has been named Director of the Center for Spine Health.

David A. Bitonte, DO, MBA, MPH (PM’87), has been appointed a Clinical Assistant Professor at Northeast Ohio University College of Medicine in the Department of Community Health Sciences. He is Public Health Medical Officer for the City of Akron Health Department.


John “Jack” A. Vanek, MD (DR’78), announces the publication of his full-length book of poems, Heart Murmurs. “Have no fear, non-poetry people. Think of these poems as really, really short stories,” he says. Dr. Vanek’s passion for creative writing took root during his undergraduate studies at Case Western Reserve University. He received his medical degree from the University of Rochester and after practicing medicine for a quarter century, began honing his writing to award-winning status. To see a sampling of his published prose, go to http://mysite.verizon.net/vanekj.
Jose R. Mendez, MD, FACP (GE’86), of Panama, was elected by the American College of Physicians to serve a four-year term as Governor for Central America and Panama. He is Professor of Gastroenterology at the University of Panama.

Richard M. Ransohoff, MD (N’84), Director of Cleveland Clinic’s Center for Neuroinflammation Research and a member of the Neurology and Melan Center Staff, is one of five researchers at Cleveland Clinic Lerner Research Institute who recently received grants totaling more than $3.7 million. Dr. Ransohoff was awarded $1.5 million over five years for “Chemokines in CNS Inflammation,” funded by the National Institute of Neurologic Disorders and Stroke/NIH.

Holly L. Thacker MD, FACP, CCD (IM’89), Director of Cleveland Clinic’s Center for Specialized Women’s Health and Associate Professor of Surgery, Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine, recently published her second women’s health book, Cleveland Clinic Guide to Menopause (available at www.amazon.com or in bookstores). At the end of 2008, Cleveland Clinic was gifted with the National Speaking of Women’s Health, and Dr. Thacker serves as the Executive Director. She was honored by the American Medical Women’s Association (AMWA) and the Journal of Women’s Health with the “Lila Wails Women’s Health Award” in recognition of her lifetime achievements, accomplishments, motivation, mentorship, energy and enthusiasm for women’s health, education and research during the AMWA annual meeting and Women’s Health 2009: The 17th Annual Congress, held March 27 to 29 in Williamsburg, VA.

E. Murat Tuzcu, MD (CARD’88), of the Cleveland Clinic Department of Cardiovascular Medicine, Section of Intervention, who is Turkish, and Bruce W. Lytle, MD, Chairman of the Sydell and Arnold Miller Family Heart & Vascular Institute and holder of the Delos M. Cosgrove, MD, Chair in Heart Disease Research, led a team of Cleveland Clinic physicians who performed heart bypass surgery for Turkey’s Finance Minister Kemal Unakitan, 63. Unakitan, who was named 2008 Finance Minister of the Year by London Financial Times, is credited with improving Turkey’s economic performance and implementing reforms. Unakitan underwent an angiogram in Ankara, Turkey, on Feb. 1 after complaining of heart pain. On Feb. 10, he arrived in the United States and was admitted to Cleveland Clinic the following day.

Amir S. Dawoud, MD (AN’94, PM’94), was appointed to the anesthesiology staff at Cleveland Clinic in Florida. Previously, he served as Chairman of the Department of Anesthesia at University Hospitals Bedford Medical Center, Bedford, OH. Dr. Dawoud and his wife, Mariz, have two children, Amanda and Mirelle.

Amitabha Deb, PhD (RES/CB’99), writes that he is the Lab Head of Process Science at Novartis Biologics in Boston. He and his wife, Sumita Sinha, PhD (RES/CB’99), a National Institutes of Health fellow at Massachusetts General Hospital, live in Acton, MA, and have one child, Abhinop. Dr. Deb also is an expert on yoga for children. See www.teachindiaaproject.org/foga/Amitabha%20Deb.htm.

Raed A. Dweik, MD (PULMCC’96), of Cleveland Clinic’s Respiratory Institute, has been asked by the National Science Foundation to provide advice regarding the technology involved in human breath analysis.

Bradford C. Gelzayd, MD, FACP (GE’92), was awarded Fellowship to the American Gastroenterology Association in January. He practices with South Digestive Specialists in Scottsdale, AZ. He and his wife, Julie, have three children, Justin, Evan and Lauren.

Inderbir “Indy” S. Gill, MD (RES’90, U/RT’91), former Chairman of Urology and Director of the Center for Laparoscopic and Robotic Surgery at Cleveland Clinic, is Chairman of the Department of Urology in the Neck School of Medicine at University of Southern California. He also will direct its new Institute of Urology and serve as Associate Dean for Clinical Innovation. Dr. Gill will be charged with expanding the school’s urology residency program and creating the Institute of Urology to include advanced robotic and laparoscopic surgery, female and pediatric urology and kidney transplants.

Paul N. Grooff, MD (DR’97, MSR’98), has been appointed Chairman of Business Development in Cleveland Clinic’s Imaging Institute. Dr. Grooff, who completed a diagnostic radiology residency and musculoskeletal radiology fellowship at Cleveland Clinic, was appointed to the staff of the Section of Musculoskeletal Radiology in July 1998. He was recruited to the Department of e-Radiology in 2002, ultimately serving as Vice-chairman and becoming interim Chairman in September 2008. Parallel to this search process, Dr. Grooff also was involved with Business Development in creating a strategic assessment of the department, as well as creating a forward-looking organizational structure and plan, which contains an affirmation of the medical leadership/professional management approach.

Mary C. Maier, MD (PD’89, A’91), is a partner in Asthma Allergy Centers of Southwest Michigan, a single-specialty practice with 14 locations. Board-certified in pediatrics, as well as allergy and immunology, she writes, “Pedicstic asthma is my thing!” She has “three beautiful daughters,” Sasha, Olivia and Maya.

Imad M. Najm, MD (N’96, NHPY’97), Director of Cleveland Clinic’s Epilepsy Center, will be the first to hold the Joseph H. and Ellen B. Thomas Endowed Chair in Epilepsy. The new chair will support Dr. Najm’s work with the Epilepsy Center.


Bashir R. Sankari, MD (U/RT’90). See “Campus Clips,” page 11.

Sumita Sinha, PhD (RES/CB’99). See Amitabha Deb, PhD, 90s, above.

Mark J. Sterling, MD (GAEAE’97), became Director of Endoscopic Ultrasound at Lahey Clinic Medical Center in Burlington, MA, in October. Previously he was with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey for 11 years. He and his wife, Lisa, and daughters, Sarah, Amy, 7, and Jessica, 2, reside Continued on page 16
in nearby Wellesley, MA. He says he is “happy to be back in Boston where I did my GI fellowship before doing my Advanced Endoscopy fellowship at Cleveland Clinic.” He adds, “I still consider my training at Cleveland Clinic as having the greatest impact on my medical career.”

Mumtaz G. Tabbaa, MD (NT/S’95), presented his research on acute GIB and Barrett’s on June 3 at the annual meeting of Digestive Disease Week in Chicago. Dr. Tabbaa is Director of the Gastroenterology and the GI Lab at Natividad Medical Center in Salinas, CA.

Barbara Williams, MD, FACC (IM’97), is Director of the Women’s Cardiovascular Center at University Hospitals (Cleveland) Harrington-McLaughlin Heart & Vascular Institute. Board-certified in internal medicine and cardiology, she is practicing as part of the Markowitz, Rosenberg, Stein and Associates medical group in Mayfield Heights, OH. She also is a clinical instructor at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. Previously, she was with the Westside Heart Inc. in Parma, OH. She completed a cardiovascular disease fellowship at Yale University/New Haven Hospital, New Haven, CT, in 2000.

Aman Ali, MD (IM’05), completed a gastroenterology fellowship in June, having received endoscopy training under the renowned Gregory Haber, MD, Director of the Center of Advanced Therapeutic Endoscopy at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York. Dr. Ali won local and national GI Jeopardy competitions for Lenox Hill Hospital three years in a row. He will start a one-year interventional endoscopy fellowship at Massachusetts General Hospital and Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston in July. He writes that he is married to Amena, and has two children, son Amin, 6, and daughter, Armeen. 4. Dr. Ali welcomes “connections” with Boston-area alumni.

Pete (Sukhpreet) S. Batra, MD (OTO/NS’03), has accepted a position as Associate Professor of Otolaryngology and Co-director of the Skull Base Center at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas. He served on the staff of Cleveland Clinic’s Head & Neck Institute since August 2002.


Sricharan Chalikonda, MD (S’04, S/LDS’06), a Cleveland Clinic general surgeon, was surprised to learn that his name was invoked in the season finale of the popular ABC television show “Grey’s Anatomy” in May. In the episode, one doctor surprises another with a DaVinci Surgical System as he tries to convince her to remain a general surgeon instead of becoming a pediatric surgeon. “You know, Dr. Chalikonda at Cleveland Clinic is doing single-incision gallbladder removal through the belly button,” he says. “Why should Dr. Chalikonda have all the fun?” Dr. Chalikonda does indeed use a robot for many procedures, including single-port gallbladder removal. He was in surgery during the airing of the show, though, and didn’t learn of his “moment of fame” until the next morning.

Chi Chiung Grace Chen, MD (UG/PS’08), has joined the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center. Dr. Chen’s interests include pelvic floor disorders, pelvic organ prolapse, urinary and fecal incontinence, lower urinary tract symptoms and minimally invasive surgical techniques for gynecologic and urologic surgeries, including conventional laparoscopic surgery and robotic surgery. She also has an interest in international medicine and gynecological issues in developing countries. Most recently, she spent time in Bahir Dar, Ethiopia, where she operated on women with obstetric fistulas.

Ravi K. Ghanta, MD (NT/S’03), writes, “I am proud to have trained under Arthur J. McCullough, Jr., MD (GL-1’75, IM’77), Chairman of Gastroenterology, who was my mentor. He taught me well and provided me with extensive guidance. For this, I am indebted to him and still consider him my professor.” Dr. Ghanta, who joined Digestive Disease Associates in Reading, PA, in 2006, and his wife, Sunita, have a daughter, Aleena.

Jihad H. Kaouk, MD (ULS’02), was appointed Director of the Center for Laparoscopic and Robotic Surgery at Cleveland Clinic, succeeding Inderbir S. Gill, MD (RES’90, U/RT’91), see 90s, page 15. Dr. Kaouk’s wife, Rula A. Hajj-Ali, MD (RH’01, IM’02), is a staff physician in Rheumatologic and Immunologic Diseases at Cleveland Clinic. The couple resides in Orange, OH. See also “Campus Clips,” page 10.

Isamu Kawase, MD (CARD/S’99, CARDPD’03), is Chief of Cardiovascular Surgery at Sonoda Hospital in Tokyo. Previously, he served as Chief of Cardiovascular Surgery at the Mie Heart Center in Mie, Japan. He and his wife, Seiko, have one child, Yuki.

Orfeas Liangos, MD (IM’01), and his wife, Agnieszka, welcomed their second child, daughter, Alexandra, in December. Dr. Liangos is a nephrologist and Assistant Professor of Medicine at Tufts University in Boston.

Continued from page 15

Big sister Anastasia Liangos, with her parents and baby sister, Alexandra.

Peter J. Mazzone, MD (IM’97, IM/C’98, PULMCC’01). See Tarek M. Mekhail, MD, below.

Tarek M. Mekhail, MD (AN’96, IMP’97, IM’99, H’002), Director of the lung cancer medical oncology program at Cleveland Clinic, has been working on a technology to detect lung cancer at an early stage based on breath analysis. “When you have cancer in the lung, we have found you have abnormal breath,” he says. Along with pulmonologist Peter J. Mazzone, MD (IM’97, IM/C’98, PULMCC’01), he has been testing cards with 36 colored spots in a breath analysis machine to pinpoint a specific color pattern or “footprint” of lung cancer. Dr. Mekhail, who says the “electronic nose” is not yet “ready for prime time,” reports that in preliminary studies, it has been right about 73 percent of the time.
Governors.

and Don Hatton, Chair of the ACP Board of Governors.

Dr. Williams with Erik Wallace, Chair of the ACP Board of Governors.

Claus S. Simpfendorfer, MD (DR’07, MSR’08), received the 2008 Corrine Farrell Award from the International Skeletal Society for best tumor-related paper published in Skeletal Radiology (2008 Sep;37(9):797-804) with Cleveland Clinic diagnostic radiologist Murali Sundaram, MD, and others. Dr. Simpfendorfer and his wife, Maja, and children, Luka and Anya, live in Portsmouth, OH.

Todd W. Stultz, DDS, MD (DR’01, NR’02), neuroradiologist with Cleveland Clinic, along with Laura Kessler, Section Head, Clinical Engineering, Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology, swam on a 200-meter freestyle relay team that broke the United States Masters Swimming record and a seven-year world record.

Alvin C. Wee, MD (U/RT’08). See “Campus Clips,” page 11.

Susan E. Williams, MD, MS, CCD, FACN, FACP (NT/S’07), was awarded one of the first 14 LEAD certificates from the American College of Physicians (ACP) at its annual meeting in April in Philadelphia. LEAD—Leadership Enhancement and Development—is a comprehensive program that combines education, mentorship and hands-on experience to assist physicians in achieving their leadership potential. During the national meeting, as a newly elected ACP fellow, she participated in the Convocation. Dr. Williams is Director of the Center for Nutrition and Metabolic Medicine at Greene Memorial Health Center in Xenia, OH.

Future Alumni

Raj Kumar Goel, MD (GL-8, Urology Clinical Scholar). See “Campus Clips,” page 10.

Georges-Pascal Haber, MD (GL-8, Urology/Advanced Urological Laparoscopic Fellow). See “Campus Clips,” page 10.


Former Staff

Firouz Daneshgari, MD, has been named Chairman of the Department of Urology at Case Western Reserve University’s Medical School and University Hospitals Case Medical Center. Dr. Daneshgari was Professor and Vice Chairman of the Department of Urology & Female Pelvic Surgery at Upstate Medical University in Syracuse, NY. Prior to that, he was Vice Chairman and Director of the Center for Research and Innovation at Cleveland Clinic’s Glickman Urological and Kidney Institute from September 2001 to March 2008.

Walter H. Kearney, MD, general surgeon at Cleveland Clinic Wooster from February 1998 to his retirement in September 2001, is serving as a guardian-ad-litem in Wayne County (OH) Juvenile Court. He serves as a guardian appointed to represent the best interests of a juvenile before the court.

Glenn D. Solomon, MD, FACP, has been appointed as Professor and Chair of the Department of Internal Medicine at the Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine in Dayton, OH. He will oversee a department of 80 full-time faculty and 297 volunteer faculty educating both generalists and sub-specialists in 11 divisions, currently training 148 residents and fellows. The department also conducts research, primarily in the fields of health services and education. During his tenure on Cleveland Clinic’s staff (1988 to 2002), he completed the Executive Program in Practice Management at Cleveland Clinic and Weatherhead School of Management at Case Western Reserve University. He arrived at Wright State in June 2008 after serving as Chairperson, Residency Program Director and Attending Physician in the Department of Medicine at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, IL. He also served as Professor of Medicine and Vice Chairman for the Department of Medicine at the Chicago Medical School of Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science.

In Memoriam

“Just watch what you’re doing right now; watch it carefully, attentively, and witness the amazing slowing down in the simple presence of attention.”

— Toni Packer

Kenneth L. Allen, MD (S’50), 88, of Hillsborough, CA, died Aug. 24, 2008. After surgical residency at San Francisco General Hospital (where he became the youngest chief resident in the history of the hospital), two years in the Naval Medical Service as a surgeon in Long Beach, CA, and two years at Cleveland Clinic, he maintained a surgical practice in San Mateo, CA, from 1950 to 1993. Dr. Allen received his medical degree in 1944 from Stanford University. He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa. Aside from his reputation for dexterity, he pioneered the use of routine intra-operative cholangiograms, helped establish the utility of mechanical retractors in the operating room and introduced surgical stapling devices. Dr. Allen enjoyed hiking and fishing, was a 50-year member of Peninsula Golf and Country Club and was a founding member of Spyglass Hill in Monterey, CA. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Mary Jean (nee Haynes); three sons, Robert Allen, MD, Bruce Allen, MD, and Christopher Allen; a brother and a sister.

John D. Anderson III, MD (IM’53), 83, of Wellsboro, PA, passed away Dec. 29, 2008. Born May 28, 1925, in Ford City, PA, Dr. Anderson enlisted in the U.S. Army shortly after high school graduation in 1943. He was sent to the European Theater, where he served as a private in the Ninth Infantry Division, 39th Regiment. He earned a Purple Heart and two Bronze Stars for his service. After the war, the GI Bill enabled him to attend Haverford College and the University of Pennsylvania Medical School. He completed his residency at Cleveland Clinic and established a private practice in Lansdug, PA. He later decided to complete a second residency, in anesthesiology in Philadelphia. During the 1960s, he practiced anesthesiology at Hahnemann Hospital.
in Philadelphia before accepting a position at Bryn Mawr Hospital, where he practiced from 1970 until his retirement in 1996. He is survived by his wife, Deborah; daughter, Kate Fisher (Russell); son, John Anderson IV (Mary), one grandson; sister, Alma Mehn, and brother, W. Robert Anderson.

Charles L. Baird Jr., MD (CD'62), 77, died Aug. 30, 2008, at his home following a long battle with melanoma. Born Aug. 7, 1931, he graduated from the University of Richmond and went to the Medical College of Virginia (MCV), where he graduated in 1957. He stayed on at MCV for a year of internship and an internal medicine residency. He then went to Cleveland Clinic for a cardiovascular fellowship with F. Mason Sones Jr., MD. Dr. Baird spent two years in the Army after his Cleveland Clinic training, bringing coronary arteriography to Letterman Hospital in San Francisco. He next went to Durham, NC, where he was Director of Medical Education at Watts Hospital. He then went to the Department of Cardiology at MCV, where he was instrumental in starting the Coronary Intensive Care Unit. In 1972, Dr. Baird set up the Virginia Heart Institute, the first free-standing outpatient cardiac catheterization lab in the United States. Survivors include Jane Biery Baird, his wife of 46 years whom he met on a blind date while he was training at Cleveland Clinic; four children, Paul Lewis Baird, Elizabeth Baird Kazazian, Anne Crawford Baird and Todd Biery Baird; three grandchildren; and son-in-law Haig Hagop Kazazian III and daughter-in-law Laura Eileen Baird. Contributions may be made to the C. Biery Fund for Cardiovascular Research at Cleveland Clinic, 9500 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44195.

Dr. Duhigg was a founding member and President of Catholic Ministry of Health Care, Cleveland, and was Director of Neurology at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York City and Massachusetts General in Boston. Dr. Shafer was predeceased by his wife, Carole, and their two children, Paul Lewis Baird, Elizabeth Baird Kazazian, and his sister, Barbara H. Emerick of Hobe Sound, FL. Memorials can be made to the Brookville YMCA, 125 Main St., Brookville, PA 15825, or the Hospice of Palm Beach County, 5300 East Ave, West Palm Beach, FL 33407.

Magnus O. Magnusson, MD (H'81), 77, died May 6, 2009. He was diagnosed with vascular dementia in 2002. Born Nov. 28, 1931, in Iceland, he was on the Cleveland Clinic Hypertension/Nephrology staff from 1969 until his retirement in 1995. He and his wife, Carole, moved in late 2008 from their retirement home in South Port, ME, where they enjoyed sailing and boating, to the Brandywine region near Philadelphia, PA, to be near family. Other survivors include his five children, John, Ottar, Thorey, Christine and Lisa.

Armando F. Samonte, MD (AN'71, CF'75), 71, passed away April 13, 2009. Born April 17, 1937, he was a staff anesthesiologist at Cleveland Clinic from 1975 until his retirement in 1999. He is survived by his wife, Karen L. Samonte; four children, Andy (Liz), Kristine Martin (Todd), Karla Wilson (Jimmy) and Kerri; and five grandchildren. Memorial donations may be made to Cleveland Clinic Neurological Institute at www.clevelandclinic.org.

William H. Shafer, MD, 80, of Rocky River (formerly of Chagrin Falls), OH, passed away April 20, 2009. Dr. Shafer came to Cleveland Clinic in 1959 and chaired the Department of Internal Medicine for 18 years; he also led an employees’ treatment center during his 42 years with Cleveland Clinic and helped found the Geauga County Free Clinic. He was born in Springfield, OH, on April 30, 1928, and attended Oberlin College and the University of Cincinnati Medical School, from which he graduated in 1953. He served in the U.S. Army, achieving the rank of captain. He did his residency work at Cornell Medical Center in New York City and Massachusetts General in Boston. Dr. Shafer was predeceased by son Douglas. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Ann D. (nee Smillie); children, Laurie Ann (Jim) Rokakis and Christina Shafer; and five grandchildren.
Richard “Steinie” M. Steinhilber, MD, 87, Emeritus Chairman, Department of Psychiatry and Psychology, passed away April 1, 2009. Born April 3, 1921, he joined the Cleveland Clinic Dec. 1, 1971, and retired Dec. 31, 1986. He succeeded A. Dixon Weatherhead, MD, as chairman (see below obituary). Dr. Steinhilber is survived by his wife, Elinor M.; sons, Steven and Jeffrey R. (Diane); and grandchildren.

Donald L. Vogel, MD, 71, member of Cleveland Clinic’s Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology from March 18, 1996, to June 30, 2005, died March 22, 2009. Dr. Vogel is survived by his wife of 49 years, Mary A. (nee Ewan) Vogel; five children, Cynthia Vogel, Louis Vogel, Michael (Kelly) Vogel, Valerie (John) McDowell and Gretchen Chinchar; 16 grandchildren; and a brother and a sister. The family would appreciate memorial contributions to Hospice of the Western Reserve, 300 E. 185 St., Cleveland, OH 44119, or the Cleveland Clinic Taussig Cancer Center, 2010 E. 90th St., Cleveland, OH 44195.

A. Dixon Weatherhead, MD, 87, of Kirtland, OH, passed away April 19, 2009, from complications of Alzheimer’s disease. He was the first chairman of the Department of Psychiatry at Cleveland Clinic, and retired in 1985 after 27 years of service. He then became an Emeritus Consultant. Dr. Weatherhead was born July 29, 1921, in Madras, India, to the Rev. Leslie and Evelyn Weatherhead. He trained at University of London and completed his psychiatric training in the U.S. During his retirement, he volunteered at Cleveland Clinic and the Holden Arboretum. He was a member of the Men’s Garden Club of Cleveland and an enthusiastic birder. He is survived by his wife, retired staff internist Virginia N. Weatherhead, MD (FSIM’82); daughters, Len (John) Carpenter and Ann Weatherhead; three grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. The family suggests donations to Cleveland Clinic.

Stephen “Steve” J. Zella, DO (P’02), 39, a psychiatrist from Nassau Bay, TX, was reported missing on Feb. 20, 2009, after a driver on a nearby road saw a kayaker in distress on Clear Lake in Galveston County. After an extensive six-day search, Dr. Zella’s body, trapped under debris near a bridge, was found by a search diver. Dr. Zella’s wife, Rhonda, said that her family believes Steve is in heaven and that if she can continue to care for their children as Steve and she so often discussed and planned, that Steve would have the “best of both worlds.” In addition to Rhonda, Dr. Zella is survived by daughter, Remington, 11, and son, Maxwell, 8. Memorial gifts designated for the education of Remington and Maxwell may be mailed to Attn: Teller Dept., JSC Federal Credit Union, P.O. Box 58346, Houston, TX 77258-0346.

Please Keep in Contact

Cleveland Clinic Alumni Relations wants to stay on top of significant changes in your life. Have you moved? Taken on a teaching position? Received an academic promotion or professional recognition of some sort? Decided to retire? Have an interesting hobby or avocation you’d like to share? Your former Cleveland Clinic colleagues really want to know what you are up to. Please take a few moments to complete this coupon so that we can keep them informed via “Contacts” (starting on page 14 of this issue) or e-mail alumni@ccf.org.

NAME

PHONE

ADDRESS:  q HOME  q OFFICE

CITY, STATE, ZIP

E-MAIL ADDRESS
September Alumni Reunion Cancelled

Dear Alumni,

The Alumni Association Board of Directors met in Cleveland April 3-4 and discussed the difficult realities surrounding our planned Alumni New Concepts in Health Care Delivery CME and Then and Now Alumni Reunion, scheduled for Sept. 25–26.

After thoughtful and deliberate dialogue, it was decided that, due to issues of funding, travel/attendance and competing programming, we would cancel the 2009 Alumni Reunion and CME. We will re-evaluate circumstances, including economic concerns, in early 2010.

We hope that you understand the necessity of this decision to cancel the exceptional program we had planned, and we apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you.

We encourage you to attend any of our other outstanding live and/or online CME programs offered at a discount to our alumni. Please visit www.ccfcme.org for more information. We also would love to hear from alumni who will be on campus for any reason at any time. We hope that you will consider attending future alumni events, on or off-campus.

Sincerely yours,

Lilian Gonsalves, MD (P‘81)
President, Cleveland Clinic Alumni Association