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# BUSM News & Notes: October 1983

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*Boston University*

# News & Notes

Boston University School of Medicine



October 1983  
Issue #69

## RIBBON-TYING HIGHLIGHTS CENTERS BUILDING DEDICATION, HUMPHREY AWARDS CELEBRATION

"The City of Boston and the Medical School have been partners in the delivery of medical services at Boston City Hospital since the turn of the century....Today, we celebrate an exceptional and concrete example of our cooperation," said Boston University President John R. Silber at the dedication of the new Centers for Advancement in Health and Medicine at the School of Medicine. Silber, along with Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis, Boston Mayor Kevin H. White, and Medical Center Director Richard H. Egdahl, M.D., were among the hundreds of people who attended the Oct. 3 festivities, which included the Centers dedication, the presentation of the 1983 Hubert H. Humphrey Cancer Research Center Awards, and a convocation honoring George W. Thorn, M.D.

"This ribbon-joining today has been a symbolic moment in the history and the future of this city," said White at the noontime dedication ceremony. White and Silber tied a ribbon joining the Centers building with the School of Medicine building at that ceremony. The Centers building, which was renovated from the former Boston City Hospital outpatient building, houses the Hubert H. Humphrey Cancer Research Center, and the Arthritis, Biochemistry, Dermatology and Pulmonary Centers.

"Today, we are here to celebrate not just the opening of a major new research facility, but also the remarkable growth of this School of Medicine," said Dean Sandson at the dedication luncheon. Also at the luncheon, Mayor White talked on "The City's Perspective," and Isaac Asimov, Ph.D., a professor of biochemistry, spoke on "Futuristic Medicine: A Look at the 21st Century."

At breakfast ceremonies, the Humphrey awards were presented to U.S. Rep. Joseph D. Early (D-Mass.), Elwood V. Jensen, Ph.D., director of the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research in Switzerland, and, in absentia, Henry S. Kaplan, M.D. the Maureen Lyles D'Ambrogio Professor of Radiology and director of the Cancer Biology Research Laboratory at Stanford University Medical Center, for their outstanding efforts in the fight against cancer.

"I can think of nothing that would have made Hubert Humphrey more pleased than to know that his memory was not perpetuated in stone or marble or bronze, but in the lives of people and in the enhancement of the lives of people," said breakfast guest speaker U.S. Sen. Mark O. Hatfield (R-Ore.), who plays a major role in supporting biomedical research. Gov. Dukakis also delivered remarks at the breakfast.



Thorn, a 1980 recipient of a Humphrey award, received an honorary Doctor of Science degree at the mid-morning convocation, held on the Talbot Green. A member of the BUSM Board of Visitors, Thorn is president of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute in Boston and is chairman of its Medical Advisory Committee.

"Through your work as a medical scientist, as a physician to the high and to the downtrodden, and as a teacher, administrator and laborer, you have enriched our times and surely left your mark for many generations to come," said the citation honoring Thorn read by Silber at the ceremony. Robed BUSM faculty members led an academic procession and the University-based Empire Brass Quintet played several selections at the convocation.

The day's events received much media attention, including an in-depth report on WCVB-TV (Ch. 5) "Evening News," coverage on WBZ-TV (Ch. 4) and WNEV-TV (Ch. 7) news shows, articles in the Boston Globe and USA Today, and stories distributed nationally by the Associated Press and United Press International news services.

BUMC-SPONSORED PROJECTS INCREASE BY 20 PERCENT IN '83 Medical Center-sponsored projects increased by more than 20 percent last year, according to a report by the University's Office of Sponsored Programs. The 1983 figure represents 67 percent of the total grant and contract amount awarded to Boston University in 1983. Included in the Medical Center figures are six Health Policy Institute grants totaling \$3,138,935.

1983 UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN UNDER WAY AT UNIVERSITY The goal for the University's 1983 United Way Campaign, which began Oct. 11 and will end Nov. 18, is \$77,000. All University employees who donate \$52 or more to this year's campaign are eligible for prize drawings ranging from theater tickets to a week-long vacation trip for two. Prizes will be drawn weekly throughout the campaign. Pledge cards are being sent to all School faculty and employees. The United Way supports 176 human-care agencies in eastern Massachusetts. Last year, the University raised \$86,700, surpassing the goal of \$67,000 set for that campaign and setting a record of giving for the University.

STUDY FINDS TWO DRUGS EFFECTIVE IN TUMOR TREATMENT Two common drugs, heparin and cortisone, administered simultaneously, have been found to inhibit angiogenesis, a process in which malignant tumors stimulate the growth of blood vessels, according to a study recently conducted by Christian C. Haudenschild, M.D., a professor of pathology at the Mallory Institute of Pathology, and a team of researchers from Children's Hospital Medical Center and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

"Heparin or a heparin fragment administered with cortisone inhibited angiogenesis, caused regression of large tumor masses, and prevented metastases," according to the report, published in the August 19 issue of Science and reported on in the Boston Globe. Heparin, a well-known blood thinning agent, and cortisone, a hormone produced in the adrenal gland, were given to mice to cut short the supply of nutrients to the tumor and to shrink the growing blood vessels.



"The major message from our findings is that it is now possible to make a tumor shrink with something directed against its supply of nutrients, not against the tumor itself, as in chemotherapy," said Haudenschild.

The researchers also discovered that increasing the amount of heparin led to more rapid tumor regression. "In the majority of animals treated with heparin plus cortisone, it was possible to achieve 'complete regression;' that is, tumors did not recur after treatment was discontinued," the report said.

UNIVERSITY'S HEALTH CARE  
CONFERENCE SET FOR NOVEMBER

The first Boston University Interdisciplinary Health Care Conference, to be held at the George Sherman Union on the Charles River Campus Nov. 5, will focus on issues dealing with health professionals in education, practice and administration. Topics will include current practice and education in interdisciplinary health care and the creation of a professional network.

The day-long conference is sponsored by Boston University Schools of Graduate Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing, Allied Health Professions, Public Health and Social Work, the Area Health Education Center, the Gerontology Center and the Health Policy Institute.

Faculty from BUSM and University Hospital scheduled to take part include Anna Bissonnette, R.N., M.S., associate director of Home Medical Service (HMS) of UH; Kenneth Bloem, assistant director of BUMC; Patricia Takach, R.N., nursing coordinator for HMS; Donald Korst, M.D., F.A.C.P., a professor of medicine; Kathy Kuhn, M.S.W., of HMS; John McCahan, M.D., associate dean for curriculum; Joseph M. Scavone Jr., Pharm. D., clinical research pharmacist in the Geriatric Section and the liaison between the Geriatric Section and the HMS; and Benjamin Siegel, M.D., an associate professor of pediatrics and director of Pediatric Medical Student Education.

BUSM STUDY: QUALITY OF LIFE  
IMPROVES AFTER BYPASS SURGERY

Patients with heart disease who undergo coronary artery bypass graft surgery (CABG) are likely to perceive a substantial improvement, not only in terms of symptomatic relief of pain, but in the quality of their lives as well, according to a BUSM study released in a recent issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association.

"By six months postoperatively, the great majority of patients appear to have experienced substantial medical benefits, relief of physical and related psychological symptoms, restored physical and social function, return to work and an enhanced quality of life," the researchers reported.

The study of 318 CABG patients is part of the BUSM Recovery Study, an ongoing longitudinal study of the course of recovery and rehabilitation after major cardiac surgery in a cohort of 539 patients. The study examined the patients' physical outcomes, psychoneurological function, role functions in the workplace and at home, economic changes, family and marital relationships, psychological states and general recovery issues.

In terms of subjective feelings--both physical and psychological--the improvements were impressive, the researchers reported. Postoperative scores



on mood scales (such as anxiety and depression) improved significantly and there was a shift towards feeling more vigorous upon awakening after a night's sleep. Levels of satisfaction regarding social life, family interactions, marriage and sexual function were quite similar before and after surgery.

Babette-Ann Stanton, Ph.D., an assistant research professor of medicine and psychiatry and acting chairman of the Department of Behavioral Epidemiology, and C. David Jenkins, Ph.D., former chairman of the Department of Behavioral Epidemiology and now with the University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, were principal investigators for the study. Other study researchers were: Michael D. Klein, M.D., an associate professor of medicine, and Judith A. Savageau, M.P.H., Roberta Aucoin, R.N., and Philip Denlinger, all of the Department of Behavioral Epidemiology.

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN ANNOUNCED  
FOR 1983-84 ACADEMIC YEAR

The Standing Committees of the Faculty were approved at the Executive Committee meeting in September. The chairmen of the Standing Committees are: Executive Committee of the Faculty, Faculty Appointments and Promotions Committee and the Space Committee--BUSM Dean John I. Sandson, M.D.; Admissions Committee and the Sub-Committee on Advanced Standing--John F. O'Connor, M.D., associate dean for admissions; Animal Care Committee--Frank LoGerfo, M.D., an associate professor of surgery; Committee on Committees and Curriculum Committee--John F. McCahan, M.D., associate dean for curriculum; and Honors and Awards Committee--Murray M. Freed, M.D., professor and chairman of the Department of Rehabilitation Medicine and director of the New England Regional Spinal Cord Injury Center at UH.

In addition, Scholarships and Loans Committee and Student Promotions Committee--William F. McNary, Jr., Ph.D., associate dean for student affairs; Radioisotope Committee--Belton A. Burrows, M.D., a research professor of medicine; Joint Admissions Committee for the Six-Year Program (School of Medicine/College of Liberal Arts)--Ernest H. Blaustein, Ph.D., associate dean of the CLA and coordinator of the Modular Medical Integrated Curriculum program, and Selwyn A. Broitman, Ph.D., professor of pathology and microbiology and assistant dean for admissions.

COLONNADE DOCTORS' RUN  
SET FOR NOVEMBER

The Sixth Annual Colonnade Doctors' Run, a 4.7-mile run open only to physicians, will be held Nov. 20 at 10 a.m. A benefit for the American Heart Association, the run will begin and end at the Colonnade Hotel, 120 Huntington Ave., Boston.

Physicians can choose a 2.6-mile run or the full 4.7-mile course. After the race, the first 150 registrants and their guests are invited to the Colonnade's Celebration Reception and Brunch. For more information, contact the American Heart Association at 449-5931.

SENGUPTA ATTENDS SCIENTIFIC  
SYMPOSIUM IN CHINA

Sisir K. Sengupta, Ph.D, an associate research professor in biochemistry and obstetrics and gynecology, recently participated in the first international scientific symposium on medicine held in the People's Republic of China.



Entitled "The Interaction of Traditional Chinese Medicine and Western Medicine," the symposium was sponsored by the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, Newport Pharmaceuticals International, Inc., and the Cancer Institute of the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences of the People's Republic.

Sengupta, who has been developing analogs for Actinomycin-D, an anti-cancer drug, met with Chinese, European and other American scientists to discuss and initiate a number of collaborative projects dealing with treatments of cancer. At the symposium, talks were presented on both traditional Chinese and Western cancer treatments. About 150 Chinese speakers, dignitaries and delegates participated in the symposium.

Sengupta also conducted a seminar at the Toyohashi University of Technology in Japan, entitled "Tetracyclic Quinoneimino Analogues of Actinomycin-D as Highly Active Antitumor Agents."

Sengupta is a co-author of "Tetracyclic Chromophoric Analogues of Actinomycin D: Synthesis, Structure Elucidation," which is scheduled to be published in the Journal of Medicinal Chemistry in December. He also is the author of "The Role of the Pentapeptide Lactones in Actinomycin D in Mechanisms of its Intracellular Bioactivation," scheduled for publication in the December issue of the Journal of Biomolecular Structure and Dynamics.

MOORE RECEIVES 1983  
LIVER FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP

James R.L. Moore, M.D., an associate in medicine, has received the 1983 American Liver Foundation Postdoctoral Research Fellowship. The award supplements his research at University Hospital. Under the supervision of J. Thomas LaMont, M.D., an associate professor of medicine and chief of the Section of Gastroenterology at UH, Moore is investigating the secretions of mucus during the formation of gallstones. These studies may someday enlighten the medical community to aid in the prevention and treatment of gallstones.

Moore received his medical degree and training at the Royal College of Surgeons and the Royal College of Physicians, both in Dublin, Ireland. The American Liver Foundation is the only national voluntary organization focusing attention on liver diseases.

BRIEFLY NOTED

R. Knight Steel, M.D., a professor of medicine and chief of the Geriatrics Section at BUMC, is scheduled to take part in the Fourth Annual New England Trustee Program at the Colonnade Hotel in Boston, Oct. 27-28. Steel will discuss "Prospective Payment: Limited Resources And An Aging Population".... Gary R. Epler, M.D., an assistant professor of medicine, will take part in the "Medical Determinations in Workers' Compensation" conference, sponsored by the American Society of Law and Medicine and the Illinois Institute for Continuing Legal Education, at the Ambassador West Hotel in Chicago, Oct. 24-25. Epler will conduct a session on workplace-related pulmonary diseases and disabilities ....William B. Patterson, M.D., an assistant professor of medicine, has been chosen to do consultation work in occupational medicine for the medical products group of Hewlett-Packard....Dharma R. Kodali, Ph.D., a research associate, recently received a certificate of recognition for an outstanding



paper presentation from the American Oil Chemists Society (AOCS) for his presentation of "Synthesis and Polymorphism of 3-acyl-sn-glycerols" at the AOCS Meeting in Chicago. Also, David Cistola, a M.D.-Ph.D. second-year student, received the AOCS Honored Student Award for his presentation of two papers entitled "Acid Soap: the Phase Behavior of Anhydrous and Hydrated 1:1 Potassium Hydrogen Dioleate" and "The Ionization and Phase Behavior of Fatty Acids in Water"....Donald M. Small, M.D., a professor of medicine and biochemistry and chief of the Biophysics Institute, recently gave the Hippocratic Oath Commencement Address to the 29th graduating class of the UCLA School of Medicine....Mary T. Walsh, Ph.D., a research associate, has been awarded a grant-in-aid from the Massachusetts Heart Association for her proposal entitled "The organization of apoB in low density lipoproteins and apoB lipid complexes"....Theodore H. Ingalls, M.D., a research professor, emeritus, recently spoke on "Epidemiology, Etiology and Prevention of Multiple Sclerosis" at the Seventh International Conference on Human Functioning in Wichita, Kan., sponsored by the Biomedical Synergistics Institute in Wichita. Ingalls also is director of the Epidemiology Study Center at Framingham Union Hospital....Marcelle M. Willock, M.D., a professor and chairman of the Department of Anesthesiology, recently was elected vice president of the Massachusetts Anesthesia Council on Education.

NEWS & NOTES is a monthly publication of the Office of Informational Services. If you have news of interest to the BUSM community, call editor Paul Vaskas, x5606 (247-5606), or write to him at the Office of Informational Services, DOB-600 (720 Harrison Ave., Boston, MA 02118). Marge Dwyer is managing editor.

## News & Notes

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