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## Jefferson Alumni Bulletin – Volume 53, Number 4, September 2004

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# JEFFERSON

MEDICAL COLLEGE Alumni Bulletin  
of Thomas Jefferson University September 2004



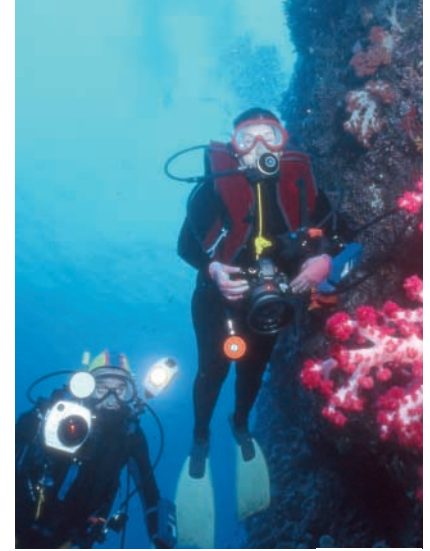
*The Class of 2008  
at the  
White Coat Ceremony*



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## Jefferson Medical College Alumni Bulletin

Volume 53, Number 4

September 2004

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**On the cover:** The Class of '08 arrives at Jefferson with no shortage of talent or experience. They are a select few: of the 7,617 who applied, 754 made the cut for an interview, and then were further whittled down to the 228 who have just arrived on campus. They come from 91 different colleges, and hail from 27 different states as well as 4 foreign countries. Their grade point average in college science courses was a healthy 3.5, while their scores on the Medical College Admissions Test (the national standardized test) averaged 10.07 in physical science, 10.45 in biological science, and 10.2 in verbal skills. More than 20 have relatives who attended Jefferson, while 12 are offspring of Jefferson faculty members. Fifty-four percent of those matriculating are female. Med. Media Serv. photo

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Design by Malcolm Clendenin

## Systems Based Practice and Practice Based Learning and Improvement: We Can Now Teach Our Students These Core Competencies in the Battle against Medical Errors

All of medicine is struggling with the facts put forth in the Institute of Medicine paired reports, *To Err is Human* and *Crossing the Quality Chasm*. While many initially challenged the numbers involved, there are few who would quibble with the realities that they portray: that in our complex, often chaotic world of increasingly interventional clinical practice in hospitals and offices, errors are made, and patients can be harmed. The fact that deaths may result from well meaning individuals who are trying to do the right thing, is upsetting enough for all of us. The feeling of inadequacy or helplessness in trying to modify a health care context that inhibits the kinds of behaviors that would improve delivery of safe care only adds to the frustration.

The first challenge we face is to agree that there is a problem. Whether it is 98,000 preventable deaths, or 49,000 or 196,000, is a point not worth arguing. Our Hippocratic tradition demands that even if it were 1 death per day, we must fix the problem. This is often difficult, because when you consider that there are over 700,000 physicians, these events may occur less than once every 7 or 8 years in a particular individual physician's experience. Moreover, many physicians do not see the impacts of their interventions, especially if they do not practice in the hospital.

The second challenge is to avoid the "blame game." To paraphrase Albert Einstein, there is a simple answer to a complex problem. It is almost invariably wrong. While it is true that incompetence may produce medical errors and death, the vast majority of medical errors result from the well meaning actions of competent individuals. Error rates are far lower than 1% in most studies. While perfection is our goal, we are, as the IOM has clearly stated, human. We must use our evaluation systems and licensing bodies to remove the incompetent, but that will not solve the problem.

We must reform our health care system. We must create unified computerized medical records and integrated information systems to provide the caregiver with both accurate patient information and the latest medical information at the point of care. We cannot wait, however, for those eventualities to solve the medical error crisis, or to enhance the quality and uniformity of our delivery to our patients. Our challenge is to learn to function and improve care within our own "Learning Microsystems of Care."

Microsystems are the lowest level of functional units of care,

such as the nurses, staff, and physicians of an ambulatory group practice, or the "liver transplant team" of nurses, hepatologists, transplant surgeons, anesthesiologists, critical care physicians, physical therapists, transplant coordinators, and others who interface with the liver transplant patient. Enhancements can be made by physicians and nurses, every day, at this level of the system.



The 2 ACGME and ABMS endorsed competencies provide guidance on how to function in our own, unique clinical care setting. Systems Based Practice demands that we be competent in our understanding and design of the clinical

Microsystem within which we practice. Practice Based Learning and Improvement demands of us that we continually evaluate our own practice, and continuously improve the care rendered to our patients through studious review of our clinical outcomes. Implicit in this design and improvement of our Microsystem of care is the concept of team. The team includes all individuals who have responsibility to provide care, or who have the ability to influence care in the Microsystem.

An essential dimension of highly effective teamwork in Microsystems is the recognition (and operationalization) of the principle that the person with the knowledge at any point in time essential to provide excellence in patient care becomes the leader of the team at that moment. Thus, the traditional view of the hierarchical leader as the most senior clinician is called into question.

Perhaps an example will clarify this point. The launching of aircraft from an aircraft carrier is a complex event. It literally involves hundreds of people, each with a prescribed set of tasks and a set responsibility. The captain of the ship is ultimately responsible for the safety and effectiveness of the operation. Yet the lowest ranking seaman on the deck of a launching carrier has the ability (and responsibility) to stop the launch of aircraft if he or she identifies an unsafe situation, such as a loose bolt on the carrier deck. A foreign object sucked into the intake port of a jet engine could result in an explosion that would jeopardize the pilot and the entire ship.

How often are junior physicians, nurses, pharmacists, nutritionists, medical students, or other care givers given that level of authority in our health care system?

*Let me reflect back on a clinical situation in my career that illustrates this point. Back when I served as a director of therapeutic apheresis, we performed therapeutic plasmapheresis on patients with myasthenia gravis in crisis. Removal of anti-acetylcholine antibodies in this setting accelerates recovery, and often may obviate the need for intubation and mechanical ventilation. This intervention is clearly an enhancement of quality, and has been demonstrated to save costs by preventing mechanical ventilation and shortening hospital stay.*

*Dick S. was a 72 year old man with myasthenia gravis whom I had known for many years. He presented with increasing bulbar and ventilatory weakness, and we were asked to initiate plasmapheresis. We were introducing new cell separating devices at that time, and we moved the machine to the critical care unit room to begin the procedure. Dick was well for the first 30 minutes of the procedure, but with approximately 2 liters of blood processed, he began to complain of chest pain. He developed pallor, and then became hypotensive. After about 90 seconds of scrutiny, we verified that he was receiving an RBC harvest rather than plasmapheresis. His RBCs were rapidly reinfused, and his pain was relieved, and vital signs returned to normal. He had no sequella from this event. Fortunately, this particular medical error did not result in patient injury or death.*

*After careful review of the event with the entire team, it became clear that 3 mistakes had occurred. First, the operator of the cell separator had made an assumption concerning a computer entry code, instructing the machine to perform the wrong procedure. Second, due to the cramped space in the critical care room, the machine was forced into the corner, and the RBC collection bag (which was to be empty in plasmapheresis) was on the side of the machine that faced the wall, preventing the observation early in the procedure that RBCs were being harvested. The 3rd mistake was that the nurse who was learning from the primary operator failed to correct the error in computer input, which she felt sure was an error but was uncomfortable about confronting. Finally, all this occurred with me in the room, the supposed captain of the ship, but without the knowledge to identify the problem until I saw the engorged RBC collection bag.*

*Our team did 2 very positive things after this episode. First, we sat as a team and analyzed what went wrong, and what we did correctly, in that episode. We learned many things. First, the machine should never be in a corner, and collection bags should be visible throughout all procedures (these machines are no longer in clinical use). This was a Microsystems*

*equipment-based procedural adaptation. Second, the computer codes were to be verified by a 2nd person knowledgeable in the performance of these procedures. This was a Microsystems personnel-based procedural adaptation. And 3rd, and perhaps most important, we learned that the person "lowest on the totem pole" had the knowledge required to prevent the episode. Both the nurses and I needed to actively empower each person on the team to speak up when he or she thought that an unsafe or incorrect intervention was about to take place.*

*The second positive thing we did was that I informed Dick S. about the error, and his response was predictable. First, he thanked me for being honest with him. Second, he hoped we would learn how to prevent that from ever happening again! Then he reiterated that he trusted me and members of the team.*

*To my knowledge, that error was never repeated during the subsequent 4 years of my tenure in that position. I take only a small portion of the credit, because the outstanding nursing staff and technicians who were my teammates were responsible for the lion's share of that success.*

*From a medical school perspective these behaviors, teamwork, and the ability to become a listener rather than always the leader of the team are skills that we must teach in order for our graduates to function effectively in increasingly complex Microsystems of Care. Everyone must learn how to recognize when others have greater knowledge in the solving of a particular problem (either system or clinical) in order to build more effective systems of care, and to continuously improve the quality of the care we provide. We must empower them to use that knowledge to eliminate errors. "Standard of Care" should not be our goal. Rather, a continual striving for excellence, through practice based learning and improvement, should be our aspiration. We must be better tomorrow than we were yesterday!*

*At Jefferson, we are launching educational efforts for both medical students and residents related to these concepts. Teamwork, listening as well as leadership skills, and empowering management styles will be essential for all, as we fulfill the IOM's goals of reducing error in everything that we do.*

Thomas J. Nasca '75  
Senior Vice President, Thomas Jefferson University  
Dean, Jefferson Medical College  
President, Jefferson University Physicians

## New Awards Recognize Contributions to Education and Mentoring

Dedicated teachers are the heart of a good medical school. Dean Thomas J. Nasca '75 has instituted 2 new awards to recognize members of the Jefferson faculty for outstanding contributions.

Faculty members are nominated for these awards by their department chairs, and then are peer-reviewed by the Educational Development Advisory Committee to the Office of Faculty Affairs. This year's winners, listed below, were honored at a reception hosted by Dr. Nasca at the Union League.

### *Dean's Citation for Contributions to Education at Jefferson Medical College*

Biochemistry/Molecular Pharmacology: Carol L. Beck PhD

Emergency Medicine: Paul Francis Kolecki '92, Kenneth J. Neuburger S'83

Family Medicine: Christine Jerpbak MD, Michael P. Rosenthal FP'84  
Medicine: Salvatore Mangione MD, John M. Spandorfer '89, Serge A. Jabbour END'99, Gregory C. Kane '87, John W. Caruso '91, Geno J. Merli '75, Katherine Worzala MD, Dale D. Berg MD, Jay Herman MD, Joseph A. DeSimone Jr. ID'99, Matthew DeCaro '80

Microbiology/Immunology: David Abraham PhD

Neurology: Joyce D. Liporace MD

Obstetrics/Gynecology: Thomas A. Klein MD

Ophthalmology: William E. Benson MD, Ralph C. Eagle Jr. MD

Pathology/Anatomy/Cell Biology: John Raymond Shea PhD, William D. Kocher '81

Pediatrics: J. Lindsey Lane PD'82

Physiology: Thomas M. Butler PhD

Psychiatry: Salman Akhtar MD, Henri Parens MD

Rehabilitation Medicine: Michael Saulino PM'97

Surgery: Philip J. Wolfson MD, John C. Kairys '88, Kris R. Kaulback S'00, Gerald A. Isenberg S'88

### *Dean's Citation for Faculty Mentoring*

Psychiatry: J. Jon Veloski MS

Neurology: Elliott L. Mancall MD

Family Medicine: Howard K. Rabinowitz MD, Christine A. Arenson '90

Emergency Medicine: Xin-Liang Ma MD PhD

Radiology: Ethan J. Halpern MD

Medicine: Scott A. Waldman MD PhD

Obstetrics-Gynecology: Jorge E. Tolosa MD

### *Dean Nasca, at front center, with the award winners*



## Woodrow Savacool '38 Is Honored at Commencement

J. Woodrow Savacool '38 of Lansdale, Pennsylvania was recognized at Jefferson's 180th annual commencement in June with an honorary degree of Doctor of Letters. Long interested in the history of medicine, Dr. Savacool worked alongside Frederick B. Wagner Jr. '41 in developing 3 books about Thomas Jefferson University's history: *Tradition and Heritage* (1989), *A Chronological History* (1992), and *Legend and Lore* (1995). The 3 volumes provide an expansive narrative and pictorial record.

Prior to his historical researches, Dr. Savacool was an admired clinician and faculty member at Jefferson. His deep integrity was recognized by friends and colleagues who some years ago established the Savacool Prize in Medical Ethics, which is awarded each year to the senior medical student who best embodies a commitment to ethical values in practice.

*Kelly McGuigan '04 received this year's Alumni Prize, which is awarded at Class Day Exercises to the student who has achieved the highest cumulative average over the 4 years of medical school. Here she is congratulated by Dean Thomas J. Nasca '75.*



*Angela Kopack '04 at Commencement with her father Frank Kopack '54, who is celebrating his 50th reunion this year. The elder Dr. Kopack is a pediatrician from Annapolis, Maryland.*



## Vaccine for Alzheimer's Shows Promise in Animal Model

*A new vaccine for Alzheimer's disease created by researchers at Jefferson's Farber Institute for Neurosciences has shown promise in initial testing in primates. Vaccinating the animals with beta-amyloid, the sticky protein substance that builds up in the Alzheimer's brain and is thought to play a major role in destroying nerve cells and in cognitive and behavioral problems associated with the disease, resulted in a significant increase in plaque-clearing antibodies circulating in the bloodstream. Scientists led by Farber Institute Director Sam Gandy MD PhD announced their results in the journal Alzheimer Disease and Associated Disorders.*

*While a mouse model of Alzheimer's is well established, researchers have run into problems in developing a human vaccine. In earlier human trials, a small group of patients developed encephalitis, or brain inflammation, from an immune response gone awry. "It would be invaluable to have a better model of Alzheimer's that is closer physically and genetically to humans," says Dr. Gandy, who is a Professor of Neurology, and of Biochemistry and Molecular Pharmacology at Jefferson. Dr. Gandy is Vice Chair of the National Medical and Scientific Advisory Council of the Alzheimer's Association.*

*Dr. Gandy and his colleagues tested the vaccine in 4 aged rhesus monkeys. Two monkeys were given beta-amyloid; the other 2 were given a placebo. Aging nonhuman primates develop some plaque, though less than a person with Alzheimer's.*

*The vaccinated monkeys developed high levels of antibodies to beta-amyloid, while the circulating amyloid levels in the vaccinated monkeys increased 5- to 10-fold. Nearly all of this was bound to antibodies and cleared out. The 2 control monkeys vaccinated with a placebo had much lower circulating beta-amyloid levels.*

*"The amyloid in the brain seemed to be bound up to antibodies in the blood and cleared away," Dr. Gandy says. "We're clearly mimicking the biochemistry in the monkey that we have seen in mice. Vaccinating with amyloid brings an immune response that stimulates removal of amyloid from the body."*

*There was no evidence of inflammation in the monkey brains 6 months later—a key stumbling block in this area of research. Gandy notes that researchers in the late 1990s created a transgenic Alzheimer's mouse with human genes. They vaccinated the mice with beta-amyloid and found a dramatic clearing of the amyloid plaques. They also found they could prevent plaque formation if they began vaccinating before plaques formed, and could reduce plaque formation if the vaccine was given early in their development. In addition, the researchers found they could also take serum from vaccinated mice, put it in unvaccinated mice and stimulate clearance of plaques.*

*But in a subsequent clinical trial of 300 patients, 15 developed encephalitis, or inflammation of the brain, from an immune reaction in the brain. "The individuals developed antibodies that caused excessive brain inflammation in being drawn to the amyloid*

*continued on page 9*

## Gene Therapy Can Restore Function of Damaged Human Heart Cells in the Lab

Researchers at Jefferson Medical College and Duke University have used gene therapy to help damaged heart cells regain strength and beat normally again in the laboratory. The work takes the scientists one step closer to clinical trials in humans.

Walter Koch PhD, Director of the Center for Translational Medicine of the Department of Medicine at Jefferson, and his colleagues at Duke used a virus to carry a gene into the heart cells of individuals who had suffered from congestive heart failure. The gene introduced into these heart cells blocks the activity of an enzyme that is increased in failing human hearts and which contributes to the loss of the heart's contractile strength during the development of heart failure. When the activity of this enzyme is blocked by the gene therapy, the heart cells were able to contract at normal strength and their overall performance was improved.

Dr. Koch and his co-workers at Duke University Medical Center in Durham, NC, reported their findings in *Circulation*, a journal of the American Heart Association.

According to Dr. Koch, who is the W.W. Smith Professor of Medicine at Jefferson, researchers have known for some time that the beta-adrenergic receptor system fails to work properly in individuals with congestive heart failure. Such receptors “drive the heart – both by rate and force of contraction,” he says.

The researchers' target has been the beta-adrenergic kinase ( $\beta$ ARK1), an enzyme that is elevated in human heart failure. One of its functions is to turn off beta-adrenergic receptors. “In heart failure, beta adrenergic receptor density is decreased,  $\beta$ ARK is increased and both together cause dysfunctional beta receptor signaling,” Dr. Koch says. “A failing heart then has little capacity to respond to exercise, or stress, because there are fewer receptors and the remaining receptors are more or less turned off.

“We thought that inhibiting  $\beta$ ARK activity could increase signaling and increase function,” he explains. In the laboratory dish, the researchers infected heart cells from patients who underwent cardiac transplantation due to end-stage heart failure with an adenovirus that encoded both  $\beta$ ARKct – a peptide that can block  $\beta$ ARK – and a so-called “reporter gene” protein, which glows green. The latter provided a signal to the scientists that the inhibitor was indeed present in the heart cells. They then were able to use a video camera to actually measure how strongly the individual heart cells were beating. The virus used in this study is a version of the common cold virus that has been rendered noninfectious and serves to carry the therapeutic gene to the failing heart cells.

“We put the  $\beta$ ARKct into the cells, and failing human hearts become more like normal hearts, judging by their ability to contract and other functional properties,” Dr. Koch says. “This is the first work in actual human hearts to show efficacy of  $\beta$ ARKct as a potential therapy and more importantly, proves that the enzyme  $\beta$ ARK1 is a target for heart failure treatment.”

“This study is the last proof of concept,” he notes, noting that years of previous work in various animal models had enabled the research team to reach this point. “Now we are dealing with human cells from failing human hearts,” he says, noting that essentially these studies in human heart cells “confirm all we have done.”

Congestive heart failure affects nearly 5 million Americans, many of whom have poor long term prognoses, despite recent therapeutic advances. Dr. Koch hopes that such studies will move gene therapy forward as a viable option for heart failure patients. He notes that pre-clinical studies in “clinically relevant” large animal models are progressing, and should eventually lead to human trials using the  $\beta$ ARKct gene. [JMC](#)

## Biochemical Clues to How Cells Migrate in Embryos

Researchers at Jefferson Medical College and Jefferson's Kimmel Cancer Center are gaining a better understanding of the cues that help guide cells to the right places in developing embryos. Steven Farber PhD, Assistant Professor of Microbiology and Immunology, and his co-workers have found that statins, the group of anti-cholesterol drugs that includes the popular Lipitor, interfere with a biochemical pathway vital to the migration of germ cells in embryonic zebrafish. In all organisms, including humans, germ cells are stem cells that are destined to become either sperm or egg cells, and they must migrate from one place in the developing embryo to another before development can occur.

A better understanding of germ cell migration, and cell migration in general, may lead to insights into disease processes, including cancer. Cancer turns deadly when it spreads to other areas in the body. Dr. Farber and his co-workers reported their findings in the journal *Developmental Cell*.

“We have identified an enzyme in zebrafish—and there is a companion paper in the journal identifying the same pathway in fruit flies—showing that if you interfere with this enzyme, germ cells don't migrate correctly,” he says. “It's likely a general feature of all vertebrates, and not simply a fish-specific observation.”

In earlier work, Dr. Farber had studied the effects of statins on lipid metabolism in zebrafish embryos. Dr. Farber knew that researchers at New York University School of Medicine had found that a mutation in a gene for an enzyme, HMG-CoA Reductase, disrupted germ cell migration in fruit flies. In both the fruit fly and all vertebrate embryos, germ cells need to migrate through the developing embryo to their final destination, where they develop into sperm or egg cells. HMG-CoA Reductase also plays a central role in cholesterol synthesis in both humans and zebrafish.

Using a special technique developed by a colleague, they visualized the effect of Lipitor on germ cells. It “caused the cells to become lost”: the cells were unable to migrate to the correct place in the developing embryo. Dr. Farber's group found that HMG-CoA Reductase is important not just for fly germ cell migration, but also for a model vertebrate system such as the zebrafish. These data,



he says, suggest that this pathway is “a highly conserved feature” of animal development.

The researchers found that they could block the effects of Lipitor if they injected the zebrafish beforehand with mevalonate, which is what HMGCoA Reductase makes. They continued along the pathway, step by step, chemically knocking out enzymes and replacing them with their products to see if they could restore the normal pathway. They subsequently determined that blocking a particular enzyme, geranylgeranyl transferase I, which is further along the pathway from HMG-CoA Reductase and responsible for transferring a lipid to a target protein—a process called prenylation—resulted in abnormal germ cell migration.

The work may have larger implications. “It’s still preliminary, but we suspect that this pathway is a model for long range migration of cells in general,” he says. “We’ve identified a pathway, but not the particular protein that is modified. This is a protein that needs a lipid added in order to enable migrating cells to find their home.” He and his team currently are trying to identify this mystery protein.

It is also possible that this pathway is important in cancer metastasis. “It’s a commonly held view that many pathways common to cancer are in some regard a recapitulation of the pathways involved in early development,” says Dr. Farber. “A cancer cell growing out of control needs to metastasize to other areas to set up shop. We suspect this pathway is what enables a cancer cell to find a good place to grow a tumor. Targeting this pathway might be a logical anti-cancer treatment.” JMC

*The Alumni Bulletin will use this space to introduce readers to Jefferson’s junior faculty members (Instructor and Assistant Professor) who are doing and publishing significant basic, translational, or clinical research and deserve recognition. All whose stories will appear in this space were nominated for this recognition by their department chairperson.*

**Adam C. Zoga MD**, a 1994 graduate of Georgetown University School of Medicine, is Assistant Professor of Radiology, in the department's Musculoskeletal Section. He tells the *Alumni Bulletin* that, as a musculoskeletal radiologist, he also strives to be a functional member of the orthopaedic, rheumatology, emergency medicine and oncology teams at Jefferson. He is the principal investigator at Jefferson for the American College of Radiology Imaging Network protocol 6661, Radiofrequency Ablation of Osseous Metastases.

Dr. Zoga believes the collaborative and interdepartmental research opportunities now at Jefferson are unique. He presently is working with his colleagues to find an effective means of performing MRI studies while patients are in a functional or weight bearing position. He also functions in his department as Program Director of the Musculoskeletal Radiology Clinical Fellowship. He feels strongly that cultivating an effective relationship with other members of the Thomas Jefferson University Hospital healthcare team is essential for improving communication of the imaging findings.

To date, Dr. Adam Zoga is the author of 7 articles in peer reviewed journals and one book chapter. The Department of Radiology supported him in presenting 7 scientific papers at national and international meetings during the past academic year.

**Robin Casten PhD** is an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and is based in the Division of Geriatric Psychiatry. Her research focus is to understand and address the psychological consequences of chronic illness in the elderly, particularly those with an accompanying vision problem. Dr. Casten is part of a group headed by Barry Rovner '80, Professor of Psychiatry and Director of the Division of Geriatric Psychiatry who, already, have reported that age-related macular degeneration is a risk factor for depression in geriatric patients. In addition, the group found that patients with certain personality types are particularly vulnerable to developing clinical depression. For some time, this type of depression in older patients usually has been treated with anti-depression medications.

Dr. Casten presently is involved with a National Institutes of Health funded study to investigate whether a novel cognitive behavioral treatment approach called Problem Solving Treatment may help in preventing depression in older adult patients with age-related macular degeneration. To date, she has 5 publications in peer reviewed journals about the interrelationship between depression and age-related macular degeneration. Drs. Adam Zoga and Robin Casten bring scholarship, vision, and imagination to their Jefferson faculty appointments and the *Alumni Bulletin* congratulates them on their accomplishments.

*Alzheimer's Vaccine*, continued from page 7

*plaques and activating clearing from the brain—the inflammatory response was out of control,” says Dr. Gandy. “We’d like to dissociate the good part of the immune response from the bad part.”*

*He notes that a cellular response by T-cells—and not the antibodies—could have caused the encephalitis. “It might be possible to design a different vaccine or design synthetic antibodies to avoid the encephalitis problem,” he says.*

*Dr. Gandy and his team currently are working with the Yerkes National Primate Research Center at Emory University in Atlanta to develop a primate model of plaque formation. Such a model also provides a more “useful model of cognitive decline.”*

*While the model will provide a model for pathology and behavioral aspects of Alzheimer’s, he says, it may also be useful to examine any cases of encephalitis that might develop.*

*Researchers from Washington University in St. Louis, Harvard University, the University of Zurich, the Institute for Advanced Studies in Aging and Geriatric Medicine in Washington, DC, the University of Michigan, and the University of Toronto also collaborated on the work.*

## Rosenwasser Is Selected as Chair of Neurosurgery

Cerebrovascular surgeon Robert H. Rosenwasser MD has been named Chair of the Department of Neurosurgery. Previously he directed the Division of Cerebrovascular Neurosurgery and Neuroradiology. He succeeds William Buchheit MD, who is retiring. Dr. Buchheit was honored this past spring with the presentation of his portrait to Thomas Jefferson University.

Dr. Rosenwasser, who is the immediate past President of the Society of University Neurosurgeons, is world renowned for his surgical expertise in both preventing and treating life-threatening brain aneurysms. Dr. Rosenwasser does more such operations annually than any other surgeon in the country.

Dr. Rosenwasser has been fellowship program director for Neurovascular Surgery and Interventional Neuroradiology since 1995 and directed Interventional Neuroradiology at the Jefferson Hospital for Neuroscience.

Thomas Nasca '75, Dean of Jefferson Medical College, sees Dr. Rosenwasser's focus on education and training as particularly important for his new role. "Dr. Rosenwasser has been instrumental in providing the best training possible for neurovascular surgeons at Jefferson for nearly a decade," he says.

He most recently has helped pioneer the use of a soft, flexible stent made of a non-metallic polymer – the first of its kind in the world to be used for brain aneurysms that could not be readily treated surgically. This type of stent, called an intracranial stent, was developed specifically for blood vessels in the brain and for cerebral aneurysms.

He is Chairman-elect of the Cerebrovascular Surgery Section of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons.

He is author or co-author of 3 textbooks on vascular disease of the central nervous system and more than 200 publications or abstracts, and has lectured widely.

Jefferson University Hospital's Department of Neurosurgery has been at the forefront nationally in the past decade. It employs the most comprehensive approaches to cerebrovascular disease, cancer and the treatment and prevention of stroke, including microsurgery, endovascular embolization techniques for aneurysms and arteriovenous malformations (AVMs), and stereotactic radiosurgery for brain AVMs and tumors using the region's first Gamma Knife and dedicated linear accelerator. The program treats the largest volume of aneurysms, brain AVMs and carotid angioplasty and stenting for carotid and intracranial occlusive disease in the nation. [JMC](#)

## Rosenblum Named Director of Gynecologic Oncology

Norman G. Rosenblum '78 PhD'75 has been named Director of the Division of Gynecologic Oncology, in Jefferson's Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. He was formerly Chief of Gynecologic Oncology in the Department of Surgical Oncology at Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, and Chief of Gynecologic Oncology at the Main Line Health System Hospitals.

Louis Weinstein MD, Chair of Ob-Gyn at Jefferson, notes that Dr. Rosenblum "brings extensive experience in gynecologic oncology and is highly regarded by both patients and fellow staffers."

Dr. Rosenblum attended the Jefferson College of Graduate Studies, where he received his PhD in anatomy in 1975. He then earned a doctor of medicine degree in 1978 from Jefferson Medical College.

After completing a residency in obstetrics and gynecology at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in 1982, Dr. Rosenblum completed a fellowship in gynecologic oncology and



was awarded a fellowship grant sponsored by the American Cancer Society, at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, in 1984.

Dr. Rosenblum is a member of numerous organizations including the Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics, the International Gynecologic Cancer Society, and the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) Cervical Cancer Screening Panel.

He serves as a special reviewer for the journal *Obstetrics and Gynecology*, and is a manuscript reviewer for the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology* and *Gynecologic Oncology*. He has been published in numerous journals.

The Jefferson Center for Gynecologic Oncology specializes in the treatment of all gynecologic cancers. The center has a multidisciplinary approach that coordinates surgery, radiation therapy and chemotherapy as needed for individual patients. [JMC](#)

## Doctor to Hemingway and Hero of the French Resistance: A Jefferson Graduate

An American surgeon and his family risk their lives to save others in Nazi-occupied Paris: the typical life of a Jefferson graduate? Well yes, if you were Sumner Waldron Jackson '14, who with his wife and teenage son saved countless Allied fighters by hiding them at the American Hospital of Paris and at the Jacksons' nearby apartment. Their story is the subject of a new book that has already received critical acclaim: **Doctor to the Resistance** by Hal Vaughan, which will be formally released in October by Brassey's, headquartered in Washington, DC.

**Sumner Jackson '14** fought in the Battle of the Somme during the First World War, married a French nurse, and settled in Paris. There he treated the Lost Generation of expatriate writers and artists, becoming physician to Ernest Hemingway and Zelda Fitzgerald (wife of F. Scott).

During World War II, appalled by the injustices of the Nazi invaders, the Jacksons and their son joined the French Resistance. They hid and treated wounded Resistance fighters and downed Allied pilots who were being chased by the Nazi occupiers. The Jacksons smuggled maps and messages across borders, used the hospital as a cover for Resistance activities, photographed the German submarine base at Saint-Nazaire, and helped convey plans for the V-1 rocket to England. Just before the Americans liberated Paris, however, the family was betrayed to the Gestapo and deported to German concentration camps. The day before the war ended, tragedy struck.

*Doctor to the Resistance* is based on recently declassified records of the French Resistance, the U.S. National Archives, family letters and diaries, and the author's interviews with Dr. Jackson's son. Hal Vaughan recounts this remarkable story for the first time. The book will be widely available this fall.

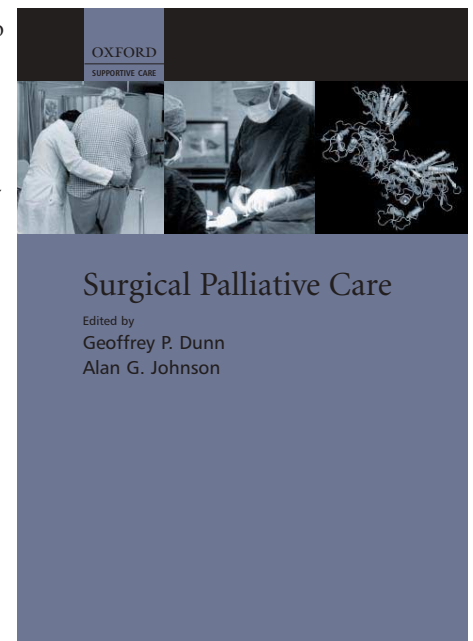
Thomas Childers, Professor of History at the University of Pennsylvania and author of *In the Shadows of War* and *Wings of Morning*, says that Vaughan's book is written "with elegance and insight ... It is a powerful, moving story, full of pathos, drama and humanity that leaves the reader awestruck at the unassuming valor of an extraordinary family."

**Lisa Marcucci '91** is the author of **Pathcards: Review Cards for Medical Students**. Newly published by Lippincott Williams and Wilkins, it is a set of 279 double sided cards for course and board review. Each flash card features one disease or 2 related ones, and many of the cards include photos or explanatory charts. For more information see [LWW.com/medstudent](http://LWW.com/medstudent).

**Geoffrey Dunn '79** is co-editor of **Surgical Palliative Care**, just published by Oxford University Press. Dr. Dunn is an attending surgeon at Hamot Medical Center and Medical Director at Great Lakes Hospice, Erie, Pennsylvania. The book, which he co-edited with Alan Johnson, a British academic surgeon, is about the application of palliative care principles in the practice of surgery. Dr. Dunn explains, "Surgery is often considered too invasive to be useful in palliation and clinicians instinctively turn to radiotherapy, chemotherapy, and other drugs. Surgery, with increasingly minimal access techniques, may be simpler and less invasive than other treatments and produces excellent palliation. Indeed, most types of surgery are not curative and the aim of this book is to alert all concerned with palliative care to the usefulness and appropriateness of a surgical option."

"The text is divided into 2 sections, the first dealing with general issues, varying from quality of life measurement to spirituality, and the second illustrating their application in different specialties of surgery ranging from neurosurgery to urology. The book ends with a challenge to surgeons to change their perspective from curative surgery, in terms of simply cure or failure, to improvement in quality of life and relief of symptoms."

More information is available at [www.oup.co.uk](http://www.oup.co.uk), under the medical books section.



## Jefferson Specialist Is Team Physician for the Olympic Gymnastics Teams Competing in Athens

The International Olympics Committee has named sports medicine specialist Robert W. Frederick MD, of the Rothman Institute at Jefferson, as head physician for the U.S. men's and women's artistic and women's rhythmic gymnastics teams competing in the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens, Greece.

Dr. Frederick, Assistant Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery, is one of a carefully selected group of physicians who will provide medical care to approximately 540 American athletes taking part in the games this August.

"This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," Dr. Frederick said. "These athletes have dedicated the last 4 years of their lives towards the goal of competing in Greece and bringing home the gold. Our goal as their physicians is to minimize the impact of any injury or illness on their achieving this life long dream.

"Our positions are entirely voluntary and will require a 4-week commitment in Greece ... away from our wives, children and of course our jobs at home," he said. In addition to the gymnastics teams, Dr. Frederick will provide medical services to the acrobatic and trampoline athletes, as well as to some of the smaller U.S. sports which do not have a physician dedicated to their participants. In all, there will be 40 personnel on the Olympics medical team, including physicians, physical therapists, and athletic trainers.

Dr. Frederick was selected because of his past experience in the Olympic Games. During the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta, he served as director of athlete care for gymnastics and cared for gymnasts including Kerry Strug, who, during the 1996 Olympics, won a gold medal for herself and her team, despite a severe ankle injury. Since the Atlanta games, he has been chosen as chief orthopaedic consultant for the U.S. Women's Artistic Gymnastics Team and was named head physician for the U.S. Women's Rhythmic Team. In 2001, he was director of care for the USA National Gymnastic Championships held in Philadelphia, in addition to providing medical and orthopaedic care at subsequent National Championships in other cities. This year he was selected as the head USOC Physician for the USA Gymnastic Olympic Trials in Anaheim, California.

Dr. Frederick and the other team physicians will be on site at 97 different venues around Athens during competitions, as well as at the Olympic Village, where the teams will be housed during the Games. "We're going to be going 24/7, no time for sightseeing," Dr. Frederick said of his work schedule.

In artistic gymnastics, men and women compete separately on different apparatus; the men compete in floor exercises, pommel horse, rings, vault, parallel bars and horizontal bar. Women compete in the vault, uneven bars, balance beam and floor exercises. Rhythmic gymnastics is performed exclusively by

women and is a combination of gymnastics and dance. The gymnasts perform choreographed movements with musical accompaniment using hand apparatus such as a rope, hoop, ball, clubs and a ribbon.

Dr. Frederick said common injuries among gymnasts include the less traumatic overuse injuries such as stress fractures, bursitis and tendonitis but also include more significant ligamentous tears (such as the knee anterior cruciate ligament) and joint dislocations such as the shoulder. "The gymnast exposes his or her body to incredible forces with every skill they perform. Even the slightest alteration in one of these skills (such as a back flip on the balance beam or a missed release move on the high bar) could lead to devastating injury and an end to their dream."

In addition to his work with gymnasts, Dr. Frederick is Assistant Team Physician to the Philadelphia Phillies, the Philadelphia Soul Arena Football team and St. Joseph's University. He also helps provide medical coverage for many of the elite track and field events and distance runs in Philadelphia.

A native of Westchester County, New York, Dr. Frederick came to Jefferson in 1999, after serving as director of Sports Medicine at Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta. He completed a clinical and research fellowship in arthroscopy and sports medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School.

## Uitto Appointed to NIH Advisory Council

Jouni Uitto MD PhD, Chair of Dermatology and Cutaneous Biology, has been appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services to serve on the National Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases Advisory Council, through September 2007. This council provides advice to the Director of the National Institutes of Health on funding decisions and strategic initiatives. Dr. Uitto previously served on the Board of Scientific Counselors of the National Cancer Institute in a similar capacity.

## Boman Elected President of Hereditary Colorectal Cancer Group

Bruce Boman MD PhD has been elected President of the Collaborative Group of the Americas on Inherited Colorectal Cancer for the term 2003-2004. Established in 1995, the Collaborative Group aims to improve our understanding of inherited colorectal cancer and the clinical management of affected families through education, linkage to clinical trials, the integration of molecular and clinical research and the development of genetic registries.

Dr. Boman is Professor of Medicine and of Immunology and Microbiology, and Director of the Division of Genetic and Preventive Medicine at Jefferson. He directs the programs in hereditary cancer and gastrointestinal cancer at Jefferson's Kimmel Cancer Center (see also page 26).

## U.S. News Ranks Jefferson Number One in Philadelphia in Orthopaedics and Rehabilitation Medicine

*U.S. News and World Report* has once again ranked Thomas Jefferson University Hospital as the top hospital in Philadelphia for orthopaedics and rehabilitation medicine.

Moreover, the magazine ranked Jefferson Hospital as among the best in the nation not only in those specialties, but also in 7 more areas: digestive disorders; geriatrics; gynecology; cardiology and heart surgery; neurology/neurosurgery; ear, nose and throat; and urology.

Wills Eye Hospital, which serves as the Department of Ophthalmology for Thomas Jefferson University Hospital and Jefferson Medical College, again ranked as 3rd in the nation and first in Philadelphia for ophthalmology.

## Plumb Is Named Practitioner of the Year by the Philadelphia County Medical Society

James Plumb '74, Clinical Associate Professor of Family Medicine, and Associate Vice President for Community Service and Public Health at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, has been named Practitioner of the Year by the Philadelphia County Medical Society.

Dr. Plumb currently directs Jefferson's Office to Advance Population Health and the Center for Palliative Care.

He has visited the African nation of Uganda on numerous occasions to consult and work with Hospice Uganda, a grassroots program serving that nation's terminally ill. With only one doctor for every 18,000 people, most physicians reserve scarce resources for healthier patients. Doctors and nurses of Hospice Uganda try to take up that slack by making patients' last few months more humane and bearable.

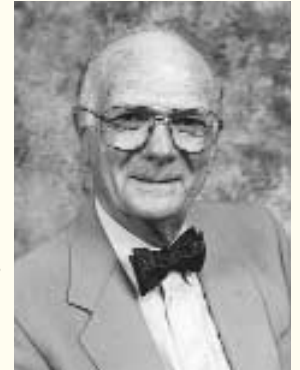
Originally invited by the Anglican Church of Uganda to consult about care for the dying, Dr. Plumb helped introduce pain management and communication techniques into the medical education system. He now helps raise funds for Hospice Uganda and helps bring other volunteer doctors and residents to Uganda. Exchange programs he created also bring 4th-year Jefferson Medical College students to Uganda for community health work. Dr. Plumb received a doctor of medicine degree from Jefferson in 1974. He also completed a residency in family medicine in 1977 at Jefferson, where he served as Chief Resident.

In 1982, Dr. Plumb returned to his hometown in central Pennsylvania to enter private practice. He decided to return to the world of academic medicine and rejoined the Jefferson faculty in the fall of 1990. In 2003, he completed a Master of Public Health degree at Johns Hopkins. [JMC](#)

## Henry Robert Liss '48: Giving Back

Henry Liss '48 can point to a distinguished career as a neurosurgeon and a lifetime of serving the community as direct results of the education he received at Jefferson Medical College. A Harvard graduate, Dr. Liss was able to attend medical school courtesy of the navy and the G.I. Bill. He had served as a hospital corpsman for the U.S. Navy before medical school and after his education was complete, returned to serve as a navy medical officer in charge of neurology, neurosurgery, and electroencephalography in Korea.

Dr. Liss was an intern at Philadelphia General Hospital and had a fellowship at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. He completed his residency at Columbia University, where he was a research fellow on a Combat Head Injury Project for the U.S. Navy.



Faculty appointments included Rutgers Medical School, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, and the Neurological Institute at Columbia University. Dr. Liss was appointed to the staff of Morristown Memorial, Raritan Valley, and Overlook Hospitals—all in New Jersey. He is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and of the American Board of Neurological Surgeons, as well as a Diplomat of the National Board of Medical Examiners.

Dr. Liss feels very strongly that he “wants to give something back.” To that end, Dr. Liss together with his wife Amy, established the Amy and Henry Liss Scholarship Fund, as well as planning for a substantial bequest to benefit the scholarship fund. In 2004, 5 scholarships totaling \$15,000 were awarded to Jefferson Medical College students from the Amy and Henry Liss Scholarship Fund.

In fact, Amy and Henry Liss have a lifetime commitment to giving something back. In addition to raising their 2 sons, Mrs. Liss has served on the board of the Williston Northampton School, Antioch University Board of Trustees, and the Ms. Foundation for Women and its Healthy Girls-Healthy Women initiative. Dr. Liss serves on the Board of the Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation, and has served on several state committees on spinal cord injury. Says Mrs. Liss, “If you are able to participate in the community and help others, you really should. It's so rewarding and exciting.”

When their 50th wedding anniversary neared, their son David suggested putting on a big anniversary party for them. Dr. and Mrs. Liss declined, saying that they would much rather have the money donated to their favorite cause – the Amy and Henry Liss Scholarship Fund. Jefferson soon received a generous check from their son David to add to the fund.

Henry and Amy Liss believe in living their lives with energy, a sense of humor, devotion to the things they believe are most important, and a willingness to share their resources in the service of others. Jefferson Medical College is fortunate to have their interest and support.

**2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL ALUMNI CME SYMPOSIUM**  
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**Course Director: Geno J. Merli '75**

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The fee covers educational materials, coffee break and lunch.

**Objectives:**

**At the conclusion of this course, participants should be able to:**

- Discuss current practice in relation to various specialties including CT surgery and ENT surgery.
- Compare and contrast different treatments on such topics as Carotid Stenosis, Congestive Heart Failure, Carotid Endarterectomy, and Peri Op.
- Review patient safety procedures and discuss new developments.

**Accreditation**

Jefferson Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University, as a member of the Consortium for Academic Continuing Medical Education, is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Jefferson Medical College designates this education activity for a maximum of 6.9 Category 1 credits towards the AMA Physician’s Recognition Award Each physician should only claim those credits that he/she actually spent in the activity.

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# Jefferson Urology Celebrates Its 100th Year with Centennial Symposium

**Friday, October 29th, 2004**, Workshop Day on the Jefferson campus

**Saturday, October 30th, 2004**, Lecture Day, followed by

Centennial Gala and Awards Ceremony at the

Sofitel Hotel, 17th and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia

Led by Leonard G. Gomella MD, the Godwin Professor and

Chairman of Urology

For further details, e-mail Denise.Tropea@Jefferson.edu

## Mark Your Calendar

**September 21**, Tuesday, in New York

Alumni reception at the meeting of the American Academy of

Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery

**October 12**, Tuesday, in New Orleans

Alumni reception at the meeting of the American College of

Surgeons

**October 18**, Monday, in San Francisco

Alumni reception at the meeting of the American College of

Emergency Physicians

**October 24**, Sunday, in Las Vegas

Alumni reception at the meeting of the American Society of

Anesthesiologists

**November 30**, Tuesday, in Chicago

Alumni reception at the meeting of the Radiological Society of

North America

**December 1**, Wednesday

Career Day for sophomore/junior students, Jefferson Alumni Hall

**December 3**, Friday, 8 PM

Jefferson Choir and Orchestra, 35th annual holiday concert,

featuring J. S. Bach's *Magnificat*. McClellan Hall, College Building,

1025 Walnut Street. Free and open to the public. For further

information call 215 790 5195

**December 9**, Thursday, 4 PM

Reh fuss Lecture, at Jefferson, to be given by R. Sanders

Williams MD, Dean of Duke University School of Medicine

**March 11**, Friday

Parents' Day for the sophomore class and their families

**June 1**, Wednesday

Senior party

**June 2**, Thursday

Graduation for the Class of '05

**October 7-8, 2005**

Alumni Weekend

# Alumni Weekend October 22-23

**October 22**, Friday, CME program (see facing page).

6:00 P.M., Alumni Banquet, The Union League of Philadelphia,

featuring the presentation of the Alumni Achievement Awards to

**James Heckman '69**, Editor-in-Chief and Chairman of the Board of

Editors, *The Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery* (see page 17); and

**Paul Weinberg '69**, Professor of Pediatrics at Children's Hospital of

Philadelphia and the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine,

and Director of the Cardiology Fellowship Program

**October 23**, Saturday morning, at Jefferson:

Clinic presentations, Women's Forum, luncheon, campus tours.

Saturday evening reunion parties:

J'44 at Jefferson Alumni Hall – Faculty Club

S'44 at Jefferson Alumni Hall – Eakins Lounge

Reunion classes from '49 through '99 will meet at the

Park Hyatt Bellevue – Grand Ballroom.

Clinic presenters on Saturday morning:

'49 George Voigt

'54 Andrew J. Zweifler

'59 Albert C. Price

'64 Joseph Lieberman

'69 Richard Insel

'74 Joseph R. Berger

'79 John S. O'Brien II

'84 Michael A. Kane

'89 John M. Spandorfer

'94 Jamie McElrath Schwartz

'99 to be announced

Postgraduate Alumni: Clara Callahan PD'82

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**PHILADELPHIA, PA 19107**

**215 503 7743**

**\*TJU ALUMNI CARD REQUIRED FOR ALL PURCHASES\***

**I. Robert Berger '36** died June 14, 2004. He was a Colonel in the U.S. Army Medical Corps for over 30 years and served as Chief, Out-Patient Services, Gorgas Hospital, Canal Zone. He is survived by his wife, Querida, and 2 daughters.

**Barclay M. Brandmiller '36** died June 19, 2004. He practiced pediatrics in Youngstown, OH, and taught medical students in the Western Reserve University School of Medicine system. In 1993 he was named Man of the Year by the YWCA of Youngstown, OH. He is survived by a son and a daughter.

**John C. Kelleher J'44** died August 18, 2003. His plastic surgery practice was in Toledo, OH. He was a Clinical Professor, Department of Surgery, Division of Plastic Surgery, Medical College of Ohio in Toledo. He was on staff at St. Vincent Hospital and Medical Center, Toledo where he directed the residency education program in plastic surgery. He was President, Lucas County Medical Society in 1974 and President of the American Association of Plastic Surgeons in 1986. He is survived by his wife, Rosemary, 6 sons and 3 daughters.

**Charles M. Suttles J'44** died November 28, 2003. He was an internist specializing in cardiology in Ashtabula, OH. He served as Chief of Medicine, Ashtabula General Hospital and practiced at the Ashtabula Clinic. He is survived by 4 daughters.

**Charles E. Miller '47** died November 23, 2003. A member of the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society, he was an attending family practice physician at the Hackettstown Community Hospital, Hackettstown, NJ. He is survived by his wife, Jacqueline, 2 sons

and a daughter. Son Robert is Jefferson '77.

**Glenn R. Leonard '51** died June 29, 2004. After a residency in general surgery, he practiced for a time in Denver, CO. He then took a residency in anesthesiology at the University of Colorado Medical Center and practiced anesthesiology in Denver, CO until retirement. He is survived by his wife, Virginia, 2 daughters and a son.

**Simon Piovanetti '51** died June 11, 2004. He was Director of Pediatrics, Ashford Presbyterian Hospital, San Juan, PR. He was a published pediatric author and founder of the yearly Pediatric Courses established to benefit Puerto Rican physicians. He also was Jefferson's State Vice President for Puerto Rico. He is survived by his wife, Provi, and daughter Yvette, also a pediatrician, who practiced with her father.

**Leonard E. Rosen '52** died February 18, 2004. He practiced family and industrial medicine in Ridgefield, NJ. He also served as a flight surgeon with the rank of Colonel in the Air Force Reserve. He is survived by his wife, Sybil, a son and a daughter.

**John M. Wapner '54** died June 18, 2004. He practiced ophthalmology in Allentown, PA. He was the attending ophthalmologist at Sacred Heart Hospital in Allentown for a number of years. He is survived by his wife, Aileen, a son and 3 daughters.

**Jack Lubin '59** died October 20, 2003. He practiced pathology in Miami Beach, FL. He served as President, South Florida Society of Pathology in 1978. He was an Associate Pathologist at Mount Sinai Medical Center in Miami. He also was an

Assistant Professor of Pathology, School of Medicine, University of Miami. He is survived by his wife, Dona, a son and a daughter.

**David S. Haskell '60** died July 10, 2004. He was the son of Benjamin Haskell '23. He practiced neurology and psychiatry in Boston. He was on staff at the Lemuel Shattuck Hospital and the Hospital of Boston University. He was an Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at Tufts and Boston University Schools of Medicine. He is survived by his wife, Susan, a son and a daughter.

**William A. Sugden '61** died July 10, 2004. He was a family physician and a senior partner of the Buckingham, PA Family Medicine practice. He held a hospital appointment at Doylestown Hospital, Doylestown, PA. He is survived

by his wife, Janet, and 3 daughters.

**Elliott R. Tressan '66** died March 27, 2004. He practiced psychiatry in Los Angeles where he served as Chief Psychiatrist at Four Acres Child Residential Center in Altadena, CA. He is survived by a daughter.

**Postgraduate Alumni**  
**Ronald S. Gottlieb CD'73**, Adjunct Associate Professor of Medicine at Jefferson, and a member of the staff at Graduate Hospital, Philadelphia, died July 18, 2004. Dr. Gottlieb had trained at Jefferson in internal medicine and cardiology. He is survived by a wife and 2 sons.

#### Faculty

**Florence M. Smith MD**, Honorary Clinical Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, died May 11, 2004. She was a resident of Mt. Holly Springs, PA.

#### LETTER

I was deeply saddened to learn about Dr. Benjamin (Bud) Bacharach's death in a past issue of the Jefferson Medical College Alumni Bulletin. Dr. Bacharach served as Dean of Admissions from 1983 to 1999. During that time I had the pleasure to get to know him.

I first met Dr. Bacharach while visiting my older brother Bill Gullivan '85 and had a chance to discuss with Dr. B the possibility of attending medical school at Jefferson. Dr. Bacharach and the admissions committee had accepted my brother as one of the first transfer students into a junior class at Jefferson. On my initial meeting with Dr. B, he was warm, funny and charismatic. He sat smoking his pipe and showed me his extensive collection of pacemakers. I felt I had known him for a lifetime. I knew this was the school for me. He told me to go to grad school, pick up my grades and apply to Jefferson. I took his advice and entered the class of 1990 despite the fact that I had been accepted to my father's alma mater elsewhere.

Throughout my 4 years I would stop in to see Dr. B and chat. He was so full of facts about Jefferson and its alumni and faculty that I felt like part of an extended family.

My youngest brother Ryan ('95) worked closely with Dr. B as the student liaison on the admissions committee. They developed a warm relationship because of all their meetings.

Dr. Bacharach was so much more than a surgeon, dean, alumnus, or Chairman of the President's Club. He was Jefferson Medical College and all that its traditions, teachings, and prestige embodied. To me he was the most influential individual in my medical education. Thanks Dr. Bacharach!

Elizabeth Gullivan Snedden '90



'51

**Joseph Flynn** of Orlando, FL has retired except for one day a week when he works at the Spine and Scoliosis Center in Orlando.

'52

**George Wolff** of Greensboro, NC has retired from practice and is teaching part time at the Moses Cone Family Practice Residency Program. He is enjoying teaching as well as the time off.

'54

**Ed Salisbury** of Twentynine Palms, CA is now retired, but lives close to the largest USMC Base for desert warfare training, after serving 31 years of active duty. "I certainly miss our medical school days and all the fraternity brothers who have gone ahead of us."

'55

**Edward Bradley** S.J. celebrated the 25th anniversary of his ordination in June. In addition to being trained as a cardiologist, Father Dr. Bradley lives on the Jefferson campus and has long served as an advisor to medical students.

**Herbert Cohn** has accepted the position of interim Chairman of Jefferson's Department of Surgery. He is the Anthony E. Narducci Professor of Surgery, and has served as Vice Chairman of the department for the past 20 years. He looks forward to greeting former Jefferson residents at the American College of Surgeons annual meeting in October.

**John Marchesani** of Cherry Hill, NJ retired his pediatric practice in January 2004 and will be part of the voluntary faculty at JMC this fall.

'58

**Vernon Bradley** of Altoona, PA is now fully retired from private

## Alumni Spotlight: Jim Heckman '69

James D. Heckman, son of orthopaedic surgeon James A. Heckman '42, graduated from Jefferson Medical College in 1969.

Favorably influenced both at home and at Jefferson toward orthopaedics, he completed a mixed medical –surgical internship at the University

of Virginia Hospital, in Charlottesville, in 1970, followed by a residency in orthopaedics at the same institution. After 2 years of active army service, he was awarded a traveling fellowship in trauma by the Orthopaedic Research and Education Fund. This fellowship served to further solidify his interest in the study and treatment of fractures and their complications and convinced him to pursue a career in academic orthopaedics with a focus on trauma care, and with a clinical and basic research interest in fracture healing and its complications and setbacks.

He then was invited to join the orthopaedics faculty at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio. Over the following years he served as Director of the Orthopaedic Residency Program, Chief of the Foot and Ankle Service of the University Hospital, and Team Physician within Sports Medicine Services, all at UT San Antonio.

Dr. Heckman's research focused on musculoskeletal trauma, fracture delayed union, and fracture nonunion. His research

funding while at the University of Texas, San Antonio was in excess of 1.2 million dollars. He was appointed Chairman of the Department of Orthopaedics, as well as full Professor, at the university in 1988 and served in that capacity until 1999.

Dr. Heckman soon became actively involved in the educational activities of the American Academy of Orthopaedic

Surgeons, particularly with the writing and editing of its textbooks and with the academy's Instructional Course Lectures, activities that led to his being named Chairman of the organization's Publication Committee. Soon thereafter he became Chairman of the academy's Council of Education.

Dr. Heckman explains that the tremendous advances being made in orthopaedics during the 1980s and 1990s required frequent updates in both knowledge and surgical skills for orthopaedic surgeons, and the Council of Education of the Academy was instrumental in providing educational resources for practicing orthopaedists in this country and abroad. His much appreciated efforts in this regard led to his being elected President of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons in 1998.

Heckman is the author of 54 clinical and research papers, and the author or coauthor of 21 textbooks on varied orthopaedic subjects. To date, he has served as a Visiting Professor 29 times and has

made 58 presentations at scientific meetings in this country and abroad.

In 1999 Dr. Heckman resigned from his position at the University of Texas Health Sciences Center in San Antonio to accept the position of Editor of the *Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery* and moved his family to Boston. The *Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery* is the most widely read orthopaedic journal in the world and just celebrated its 100th anniversary. Dr. Heckman explains that the opportunity to assume the challenges faced by print journalism in an era of information overload and electronic transformation was too good to pass up.

Under Dr. Heckman's editorial direction to date, the *Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery* has become more contemporary and increased its subscriber base. It now focuses on evidence-based orthopaedics, and has developed an extensive continuing medical education program.

In March 2004, Dr. Heckman received the Alfred R. Shands Jr. MD Award from the Orthopaedic Research Society. Heckman was recognized for his contributions to orthopaedics and the devotion of a significant portion of his professional life to furthering knowledge in the field of musculoskeletal disease.

Jim Heckman and his wife Susan live in Boston with their 2 children. Jefferson congratulates him on his distinguished career and thanks him for bringing distinction and honor to Jefferson Medical College.

*Dr. Heckman will be one of 2 recipients of this year's Alumni Achievement Award at Reunion Weekend (see page 15).*



medical practice and academic medicine.

'59

**Stuart Brown** of Hollywood, FL is "still practicing child neurology full time and still enjoying it!"

**David Harnish** of Ephrata, PA retired in January 2004. "Medical malpractice premiums are too high." He now is gardening and helping his grandchildren.

**Ramon Molina** of East Stroudsburg, PA ran the Boston Marathon at age 70 in April 2004! He is active in conservation with the Pocono Heritage Land Trust.

'66

**Franklyn Cook** of Carmichael, CA will celebrate his 10th year free of disease from lung cancer. He has spent 30 years practicing obstetrics and gynecology.

**Bob Lerman** attended the 11th International Symposium on Functional Medicine, which took place in Vancouver. It was "a very successful meeting" dealing with metabolic syndrome and diabetes. He was there as Director of Medical Education for the Institute for Functional Medicine located in Gig Harbor, WA. His full-time position is Medical Director of Metagenics, Inc. working at the Functional Medicine Research Center doing Institutional Review Board approved clinical studies involving nutraceuticals and medical foods.

**Harvey Sugerman** of Richmond, VA has recently retired as the David M. Hume Professor of Surgery at Virginia Commonwealth University. He is currently President of the American Society for Bariatric Surgery and Editor-in-Chief of the society's official journal: *Surgery for Obesity and Related Diseases*.

'67

**Robert Karp** is Senior Editor of "A Teacher's Guide to Pediatric Clinical Nutrition." The project is web-based and can be found at <http://www.downstate.edu/peds/pednutrition.html>. Jefferson faculty, **Sandy Hassink** and **Steven Bachrach**, pediatricians, are co-editors. Also available on the web is his "Epilogue to the Curriculum for Poor and Underserved Children" at [www.servingtheunderserved.org](http://www.servingtheunderserved.org). This is a survey of causes and consequences of poverty among children in the United States. Robert is Professor of Pediatrics at SUNY-Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn.

'68

**Nobel Thompson Jr.** of Villanova, PA has received the Magee/Woodruff Award from Bryn Mawr Hospital. This lifetime achievement award was given in recognition of his 25 years as Chief of Neuroradiology at the hospital.

'70

**W. Clark Lambert** of Montclair, NJ, Professor of Pathology and Medicine, UMDNJ, New Jersey Medical School has been named Director of the Mutogenesis and Cell Culture Laboratory, which will be moved to the UMDNJ in Newark, from the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology later this year. It will be operated at the UMDNJ under contract with the National Cancer Institute, NIH.

**Harvey Lefton** of Huntingdon Valley, PA has been elected President Elect of the Pennsylvania Society of Gastroenterology. He is Chief of Gastroenterology at Frankford Hospitals.

**Peter Pizzutillo** of Wynnewood, PA writes: "While practicing medicine remains a real challenge in Philadelphia, it has been a pleasure to serve the children of our community at St.

## Jennifer Chalfin Simmons '98 Completes Inaugural Fellowship of the Breast Health Institute

The Breast Health Institute, a Philadelphia-based research foundation, has established a multidisciplinary fellowship program in breast diseases, and Jennifer Chalfin Simmons '98 was selected as the first holder of this unique training program. The fellow rotates through 3 academic medical centers in Philadelphia, with Thomas Jefferson University Hospital serving as the hub for the fellowship. The year-long fellowship is granted to one person annually. Rotations include surgery, pathology and breast imaging at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, radiation oncology training at Drexel University College of Medicine/Hahnemann Hospital, and medical oncology at the University of Pennsylvania.

Prior to returning to the Philadelphia area for this fellowship, Jennifer had completed her surgical training at Albany Medical Center in New York.

The rationale for the new program is that the management of breast diseases requires a knowledge of several fields. Breast imaging, minimally invasive biopsy techniques, surgical pathology, radiation oncology, breast medical oncology, medical genetics, and surgery (including reconstructive techniques) are taught by the region's leading experts. The fellow is responsible for running a bi-weekly interdisciplinary breast conference, and is an integral part of the teaching program for residents and medical students at each institution. Additionally, the fellow is expected to prepare at least 2 manuscripts of clinical research during the course of the year suitable for publication in a peer-reviewed journal. The year's experience is designed to prepare the fellow for a subsequent appointment at an academic medical center or in the community practice of breast surgery.

Fellowship Director Gordon F. Schwartz MD says, "To our knowledge, this is the only one of the 20 or so training programs available in the USA that takes advantage of 3 separate academic medical centers and their particular strengths in different areas of breast disease, to enrich the learning experience."

Christopher's Hospital for Children. The culture at 'St. Chris' remains one of caring coupled with clinical excellence as exemplified by my classmate, **Sarah Long '70**. Each day is an exciting challenge that keeps my practice stimulating and very gratifying."

**Charles Schleifer** of Bala Cynwyd, PA was recently made Chair of the Patient and Family Council of the National Kidney Foundation. Charles has been active at the local level of the National Kidney Foundation of

the Delaware Valley and was recently named President-elect of the local chapter. He is a nephrologist at Lankenau Hospital in Wynnewood where he also chairs the hospital medical ethics committee and the Main Line Hospital System Bioethics Committee.

'72

**Richard Bonanno** of Brightwaters, NY has been named 2004 Family Physician of the Year by the New York State Academy of Family Physicians. Dr. Bonanno is Medical Director

of Brentwood Family Health Center and Director of the Family Practice Residency Program at Southside Hospital. He is a past president of the NYSAFP and currently serves as president of the NYSAFP Foundation.

Dr. Bonanno's career was summarized by a colleague in a letter of support: "Dr. Bonanno has spent over 25 years in the practice of family medicine at the Brentwood Family Health Center. Brentwood has the largest Hispanic population on Long Island outside of New York City. The facility is operated by the Suffolk county Department of Health Services to provide health care for primarily the poor and many others who cannot obtain health care otherwise in the private sector. It sees over 50,000 patient visits per year. Dr. Bonanno serves as Medical Director and equally importantly maintains a full practice of patients, just as a classic 'private practice' family physician does. He sees prenatal, pediatric, adult and elderly patients. A significant number of his patients are poor, have no access to any other health care, are frequently in the United States 'illegally,' and all too frequently have complex medical/social/psychological problems. The utmost in skills, compassion and ingenuity is required to help these patients navigate our confusing health care system. Very frequently, when residents cannot or will not undertake the care of a complex and frustrating patient, Dr. Bonanno takes over his or her care."

Dr. Bonanno completed a rotating internship at Presbyterian-University of Pennsylvania Medical Center and a Family Practice Residency at Southside Hospital in Bay Shore, NY. He was Chief Resident while at Southside.

Among his many honors and awards are the Suffolk Network on Adolescent Pregnancy

Outstanding Public Servant Award in 1995, the NYSAFP Presidential Merit Award in 1986, 1988 and 1994, the Suffolk County Hospice Network Community Physician Award in 1999, and the Transitional Services of NY for Long Island Human Services Award in 2003.

He serves as a Clinical Associate Professor of Family Practice at SUNY-Stony Brook School of Medicine.

Dr. Bonanno and his wife, Norine, have 2 children, and became grandparents for the first time in 2003.

#### '74

**Richard Jaffe** of Richboro, PA continues on the clinical faculty in Jefferson's Department of Psychiatry. His son Brian is in the Class of '08.

#### '75

**Vance Good** is in his 27th year of practice of internal medicine and primary care in Troy, PA.

**Donald Myers**, after 21 years, retired from practice in Philadelphia in 2001 and has moved to the Virgin Islands. "When I got a look at how things were done in VI without a neurosurgeon, I decided to go back to work and bring neurosurgery to the USVI." His wife, Shelley and their 2 daughters all enjoy the island life very much, especially in the winter. Their home is in Christiansted.

**Randall Pitone** of Kingsport, TN is a full time psychiatrist in Rural Community Mental Health in Southwestern, Virginia.

#### '76

**Ira Brenner's** 3rd book, *Psychic Trauma: Dynamics, Symptoms, and Treatment*, was published recently. He is in a private psychiatric practice in Bala Cynwyd, PA.

#### '77

**Thomas McLaughlin** of Haddonfield, NJ is the Chief Medical Officer of the Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center in Pottsville, PA.

**Herbert Patrick** became Medical Director of the Mobile Intensive Care Nursing at Hahnemann University Hospital (part of Tenet Healthcare Corporation) in 2000. He has developed synergy research in critical care with Drexel University School of

Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems. He continues his outpatient practice of patients with sarcoidosis, and has created a Sarcoidosis Education and Research Foundation.

#### '78

**Harry Chaikin** of Brigantine, NJ felt honored to be listed as a "Top Doctor" in *Philadelphia Magazine's* May 2004 issue, and was pleased to see some classmates and many other Jeffersonians included too.

## Jeffrey Keenan '83 Launches National Embryo Donation Center

After he graduated from Jefferson in 1983, Dr. Keenan performed an internship in Pittsburgh followed by residency at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in obstetrics and gynecology. Thereafter, he completed a fellowship in reproductive endocrinology and infertility at Wayne State University/Hutzel Hospital in Detroit.

Since that time, he has been on staff at the University of Tennessee Medical Center-Knoxville as Assistant and now Associate Professor and Director of the Division of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility.

The National Embryo Donation Center is an entirely new concept, apparently the first of its kind in the world. The need for the NEDC stems from the fact that there are currently 400,000 human embryos in cryo-storage in the United States alone. Although a very small percentage of these have already been earmarked for donation to other couples, it is likely that approximately one-half of them will never be used by the genetic parents. In addition, there is a great need for a facilitator to match embryo donors with embryo recipients.

The NEDC will be run out of Dr. Keenan's office practice in Knoxville, TN known as the Southeastern Fertility Center. The NEDC is a cooperative project with Baptist Health Systems, Bethany Adoption Services and the Christian Medical Association in Bristol, TN.

The NEDC will facilitate the donation and placement of unused cryopreserved embryos. Both open and anonymous adoption concepts will be utilized. Prospective embryo donors will be able to choose the intended recipients. The recipients will undergo a home study to optimize their chance to become successful adoptive parents. Both parties will sign a consent form and legal contract, although this area of the law is currently nascent.

All embryo transfers will be performed at Baptist Hospital for Women in Knoxville. They expect a delivery rate of 20 to 25 percent per embryo transfer.

## Healing Spirit

John Dorsey '2000 has a mission: to practice psychiatry in a church-based setting in a depressed area.

*Adapted from an article by Bob Sylva, The Sacramento Bee, February 28, 2004*

John Dorsey, a fledgling psychiatrist, is a scientist of the mind who believes in the soul. Contrary to Freud, who held that religion is not a remedy for neurosis but a guilty suspect, Dorsey offers a more redeeming viewpoint: that a sense of hope improves well-being. That organized religion, particularly its faith community of like-minded adherents, can provide support, solace, even clarity to the mentally ill. That faith, spiritual faith, can help heal not just the ailing body but also the agitated mind. In recent years, in a medical discipline dedicated to fathoming the unknown, there has been a growing interest in psychiatry in the positive link between mental health and spiritual conviction.

Of the importance of keying spirituality in the overall psychiatric profile, Dorsey says, “God, or people’s sense of God, or spirituality, is a guiding force for everyone at some level. To neglect that (a patient’s faith or lack thereof) is to neglect our understanding of human beings.”

A 4th-year resident this spring at UC Davis Medical Center, Dorsey is trying something a little different, which Med Center psychiatric residents are allowed to do in their final year. They are free to pursue research projects or seek specialized training. So, Dorsey has opened up a counseling office, out in the community.

On a recent afternoon, bright and untroubled, the doctor is in. His office is reached by scaling a wooden staircase. A former storage room, it’s small and indistinct. Parishioners have painted and furnished the space with a donated sofa, a matching love seat, a hanging potted plant, and some inoffensive posters.

Dorsey, 30, is slouched on the couch. He wears khaki pants and a cotton shirt, both chronically wrinkled. He is unshaven, with thinning, mussed-up brown hair. He has dark brown eyes—watchful, tender—and a lush smile that seems to defeat fatigue and invite confidence.

St. Matthew’s is in a beleaguered suburban neighborhood afflicted with crime, poverty, neglect. Nearby are strips of low-rent apartment complexes that house a struggling immigrant community. Shopping carts are a familiar rattle around here. Accordingly, St. Matthew’s operates a wealth of social service programs—and now it has its own mental health clinic, which opened in early February.

“I see the full spectrum of adult psychiatry,” Dorsey says. “From people who have lost touch with reality to people who are having problems of intimacy.” He even takes indigent patient referrals from

the medical center. But mostly, he sees people from the neighborhood. “It’s important to have a clinic like this integrated into the community. This church is part of people’s lives. People walk through this neighborhood on a day-to-day basis. They see the sign about our clinic. It breaks down barriers.

“For me, it’s good to involve myself in the community,” Dorsey says. “To see where patients live. To see what their life is like. So I can empathize with them.”

Dorsey’s supervisor, Dr. Mark Servis, is an Associate Professor of Psychiatry at UC Davis. Like Dorsey, Servis believes in the healing protocol of spirituality. “It’s an area that is getting increased study and focus,” Servis says. “Spirituality plays a great part in the healing process. We see examples of it every day at the hospital.”

Psychiatry, too, Servis says, sees clinical value in spiritual tenets, in religious practice—whatever authentic religious beliefs are held by the particular individual. “Spirituality preserves hope and provides meaning to pain and suffering,” Servis says. “Patients who maintain hope do better. Patients who believe there is meaning in their suffering do better. It reduces the impact of psychic pain.”

Servis is intrigued by Dorsey’s church-based clinic. “It’s unique,” he says. “I have never had an intern who has pursued this type of approach before. I think psychiatry should form more partnerships like this with the community.”

Dorsey was born in affluent Newport Beach in Orange County, one of 7 brothers and sisters. Both of his parents are psychiatrists. He aspired to be a surgeon. But in the end he returned to his subconscious roots. “I wanted to understand what it meant to be human,” he says, adding, “Psychiatry is a blend of science and humanities.”

Asked what his more conventional-therapist parents think of his project, he smiles. “They were confused at first,” he says. “My father is active in his church, and my mother is Muslim. Both of them are gradually becoming more accepting.”

Beyond dialogue, Dorsey encourages his patients to get involved in the church’s banquet of social-service programs. Though he takes pains not to proselytize, he invites people to sample St. Matthew’s. “Every human being wants to feel connected to something,” Dorsey says. “A church community can be healing in itself.”

Dorsey is to continue in the clinic until June 2004, write up his results, and present a paper to the department. After that, his plan is to open a mental health clinic in a church setting in a depressed area of Orange County.

**William Ellien** of Belden, MS was appointed Section Chair for Behavioral Health at North Mississippi Medical Center in Tupelo. He continues his general practice of psychiatry and forensic psychiatry, as well as teaching and lecturing.

'80

**John Babb** has been in a private ophthalmology practice for 18 years. He lives with his wife Lareen and daughter in Watchung, NJ.

**James Sechler** is starting a heart failure clinic in the context of a 9-person private practice cardiology group in Parma, OH. He has recently participated in malpractice/liability reform rallies in Columbus. "As a totally new avocational undertaking in middle age, I am learning to play the bagpipes."

'81

**John P. Welch's** daughter, Elizabeth, is a member of the Class of '07 at Jefferson Medical College. His son, **John B. '99**, has joined John P.'s family medicine practice in Lebanon, PA.

'82

**Judd Moul** has been appointed Professor and Chief, Division of Urology, Department of Surgery at Duke University Medical Center. He will be leading an effort to direct a prostate cancer research program at Duke. He retired from the U.S. Army Medical Corps as of July 1, after 26 years of service. He spent the last 12 as founding Director of the Department of Defense Center for Prostate Disease Research.

'83

**Tom Meade** of Allentown, PA was elected President of Orthopaedic Associates of Allentown, a 20-person multispecialty group. His practice is limited to knee surgery, and is part of a national Anterior

Cruciate Ligament Reconstruction Research Team. He was also part of a U.S. Masters Swimming World Record in the 200-meter freestyle relay set at Rutgers University in December 2003.

**Fred Ruthardt** of Uniontown, PA continues in a private practice of gastroenterology in rural southwestern PA. He has just completed an ambulatory endoscopy center.

**Jack Sariego** is in practice on the Mississippi Gulf Coast and is Chief of Surgery and Director of Trauma at Ocean Springs Hospital. As a major in the Air Force Reserve, he was called to active duty in February, 2002, and spent 9 months deployed, most of that time in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He returned home in September 2002, but was called back to active duty in April 2003, and served another 2 months overseas in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Now home once again, he has resumed his practice and lives in Ocean Springs with his wife Lauren and 10-year old twins, Andy and Jessie.

'86

**Jane Corson** of Maple Glen, PA is now an Assistant Professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine at Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center. She is enjoying living in rural Lancaster County.

**Robert Robles** and **Donna DiCenzo '85** are living in the San Francisco Bay Area with their 3 children. Robert is in private practice of hematology-oncology and Donna is in an obstetrics-gynecology practice with Kaiser Permanente.

**Patti Shuster** is living in Seattle with her husband, Eugene, and 2 children. She has a full time obstetrics-gynecology practice at

Highline Community Hospital and is Medical Director of the Highline Midwifery Clinical and Women's Health Services.

'88

**Diane Flynn** of DuPont, WA is Chair, Department of Family Practice at Madigan Army Medical Center. She recently completed a one-year deployment with the 47th Combat Support Hospital in Kuwait. She is married with 4 children.

'89

**Martha Carlough** of Durham, NC has returned stateside after 8 years of working in Kathmandu, Nepal, and has been appointed an Assistant Professor in the Department of Family Medicine at UNC/Chapel Hill.

'90

**Christine Arenson** has been appointed Director of the newly created Division of Geriatric Medicine in the Department of Family Medicine at Jefferson. She has spent her entire career in the department, including her internship and residency. She was Chief Resident in 1992-93 and a fellow in geriatrics for the following 2 years. Her first faculty appointment, as Clinical Assistant Professor of Family Medicine, followed. Dr. Arenson has been a member of the American Geriatric Society's Education Committee since 2003, a Board Member of the Delaware Valley Geriatric Society 1992-1993 and of the Philadelphia Corporation for Aging since 2001, and Medical Director of the Philadelphia Senior Center since 2000. She is Co-Chair of the Group on Geriatric Education of the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine since 2002. Dr. Arenson is author or co-author of numerous publications, and has been an investigator in studies awarded nearly \$2.8 million in grants since 1993.

**Douglas Kupas** and wife Natalie announce the birth of their son, Stefan Franklin, on April 7, 2004. Doug directs the emergency medicine residency program at Geisinger Medical Center in Danville, PA.

'91

**Joan Ringham Cohen**, husband, Benjamin, and 3 boys are living in Encino, CA. Aside from being a partner in cardiology at Kaiser Permanente, baseball, football, and soccer are occupying all their spare time.

**Mary Dougherty** of Sharon, PA is in her 10th year of practice in internal medicine with Hermitage Internal Medicine in Hermitage, PA. She is married to Scott Keay and they have one son.

**Nancyann Lerner** is an Assistant Professor in Anesthesiology at the University of Louisville and Site Director of Anesthesiology at the Louisville VA Medical Center. Her husband, Guy, is also an anesthesiologist. They reside with their 2 children in Louisville.

**Eric Rittenhouse** and wife, Stacy, of Center Valley, PA are celebrating the birth of a second set of twins: Jacob Eric and Madison Paige.

**Ashley Storey** and husband Anthony Camill live in Gibbsboro, NJ. Their first son, Jackson Ryan, was born in 2002. She is practicing anesthesia at Virtua in New Jersey.

'91

**Lynda Szczech**, Peter Cornwell and their son, Jack, announce the arrival of Lucy Elizabeth into their family on July 21, 2004. Lynda is on the faculty at Duke University Medical Center conducting research on the detection and treatment of kidney disease. They reside in Durham, NC.

**Denise Visco** and husband, Dave, reside in York, PA where Denise opened her solo ophthalmology practice, Eyes of York, in 1996. She opened York's first surgeon owned laser vision correction facility, Laser Eyes of York, in 2000 and will open an ambulatory surgical care center, Eyes of York Surgical Center, in early 2005. She is Medical Director of all 3 entities and

serves as a board member for the American Board of Eye Surgery. She also serves on the Advisory and Planning Committees for the American College of Eye Surgeons. Denise and Dave enjoy traveling, skiing and other sports with their 3 sons.

'92 **Orlando Cicilioni** of Apopka, FL and wife announce the birth of

their son, Orlando III. Orlando practices plastic and reconstructive surgery in Winter Park.

**Mary Khine** and husband Scott of Mendham, NJ welcomed their 2nd son into the world at the end of May. Mary is enjoying her work in a maternal-fetal medicine practice in Morristown.



**Randy B. Miller** is the incoming President of the Miami Society of Plastic Surgeons. He is certified in plastic surgery and also in otolaryngology-head and neck surgery, and is a voluntary clinical faculty member at the University of Miami Jackson Memorial Health System. Randy recently received the Best Plastic Surgery Practice Award from *Florida Medical Business* newspaper, which honored him at its dinner in May. Dr. Miller recently opened a new facility near downtown Miami.

**David Silver** has joined Jefferson's Division of Gynecologic Oncology, and been appointed Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology. He came to Jefferson after serving as Director of the Division of Gynecologic Oncology at Eastern Virginia Medical School in Norfolk. His research interests include ovarian and cervical cancers.

'93 **Emery Kim** of Harker Heights, TX and his wife are proud parents of a little girl, born March 9, 2004. He is Chief of Hand Surgery at Darnall Army Hospital, Fort Hood, TX, and has recently been promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

**Brian Moon** is a practicing anesthesiologist at Mercy Medical Center in Redding, CA. He resides in Redding with wife, Amy, son, William, and daughter, Andrea.

**Pam Atkinson Polise** and husband Bill are pleased to announce the birth of Katharine Elizabeth on June 21, 2004. Kate joins siblings, Grace and Billy. Pam is enjoying an extended maternity leave and Bill is a pilot for the Air Force Reserves and Delta Airlines. They live in Haddonfield, NJ.

**Peter Wu** is an Assistant Professor of Surgery at the University of Washington and surgical oncologist at the VA Puget Sound Health Care System. His laboratory studies cytokine gene therapy for GI malignancies. He and wife Lily live in Issaquah, WA with their 5-year-old daughter, Cameron, and 2-year-old son, Brandon.

'94 **John Duda** and **Lisa Medvetz** proudly announce the birth of their first child, Marley Anna Duda, on April 14, 2004. Lisa, whose specialty is general and laparoscopic surgery, is in private practice at Brandywine Hospital. John is Co-Director of the Parkinson's Disease Research, Education and Clinical Center at the Philadelphia VA Hospital. He is also Assistant Professor of Neurology at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. They reside in Malvern, PA.

**Daniel Rifkin** has moved back to Pennsylvania from Arkansas Children's Hospital where he was a pediatric pulmonologist. He is now an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and pediatric pulmonologist at Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center. He resides in Lancaster.

**Cary Rose** recently graduated from cardiology and electrophysiology fellowships "across town"

The AFLAC Cancer Center and Blood Disorders Service of Children's Healthcare of Atlanta has named **Bradley George '85** as its new Medical Director at Children's at Scottish Rite. The cancer center is one of the major childhood cancer, hematology, and blood and marrow

transplant programs in the country. It follows nearly 1,400 patients with sickle cell disease, hemophilia, and other bleeding disorders.



Dr. George is a pediatric oncologist specializing in clinical care and research for high risk solid tumors.

Children's Healthcare announced in a statement, "As a key member of the AFLAC Cancer Center Executive Committee, Dr. George's experience and expertise has been integral in the development of the expanded AFLAC Cancer Center Outpatient Center." Opened this past April, the new outpatient center has more than tripled in space, offering such services as a 16 bay infusion clinic and a state-of-the-art neuropsychology suite.

Dr. George also spearheaded the development of the AFLAC Cancer Center sarcoma strategy, including the creation of the sarcoma multidisciplinary clinic. The sarcoma clinic will enhance interdisciplinary management of these complex tumors and expanded clinical research.

Prior to joining Children's, Dr. George served as an Associate in Pediatric Hematology/Oncology at Geisinger Medical Center in Danville, Pennsylvania, and was a Clinical Assistant Professor at Jefferson Medical College, and Director of Pediatric Medical Student Education at Geisinger. Dr. George lends his expertise to many professional and scientific societies, including the American Society of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology and the Children's Oncology Group. He is a member of the Board of Directors for the Make A Wish Foundation of North Georgia and Alabama.

at Hahnemann Hospital. He and his wife, Stefanie, are pleased to announce the birth of their first child, Josie, in March 2003.

'95

**Nancy Beran** and **Samuel Beran GS'95** live in Mount Kisco, NY with their 2 children. Sam is practicing plastic surgery in White Plains and Nancy is practicing internal medicine in Thornwood.

'95

**Melissa Myers** and her partner Margaret of Tamworth, NH are thrilled to welcome their son, Benjamin Daniel, who they adopted at birth in June at a local hospital. Melissa is a psychiatrist at the local community mental health center, part of Northern New Hampshire Mental Health and Developmental Services. She writes, "I am constantly inspired and challenged by my work with patients of all ages, circumstances, and clinical needs, from mental health to developmental difficulties and brain injuries. We love living and working in a small rural community in the mountains." They also own 325 acres of forest in the White Mountains that they are managing for conservation. In her spare time, Melissa plays banjo and guitar with traditional musicians in the area, hikes, skis, and plays in a women's ice hockey league.

'96

After completing his internal medicine residency at UCLA in 2002 as well as a year as chief

## Can You Host a Student Interviewing in Your Area?

*Jefferson Medical College students are often housed by alumni while they are traveling to residency interviews, or when they undertake a clinical rotation in your area. Alumni find that this is a fun way to catch up on what's happening at Jeff, and to meet physicians-to-be who might well be practicing in their region after residency. If you can volunteer to host, please call 215 955 7750 or e-mail [jmc-alumni.office@jefferson.edu](mailto:jmc-alumni.office@jefferson.edu)*

resident there, **Joel Isackson** joined the faculty at the UC San Diego, Department of Medicine for 2 years. In August of 2003, he moved back to LA to start a private practice in internal medicine in Santa Monica.

'97

**Gregory Mucha** is currently a practicing endocrinologist in the Minneapolis area.

**Jeffrey Segal**, after finishing his fellowship in urogynecology and pelvic reconstructive surgery at Good Samaritan Hospital in Cincinnati, will be returning to Saint Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston, NJ, where he did his residency, to develop a division of urogynecology.

**Steven Silver** of Cherry Hill, NJ has completed his cardiology fellowship and has joined Cardiovascular Associates of the Delaware Valley as a noninvasive cardiologist. His offices are in Cherry Hill, Haddon Heights, and Elmer.

'98

**Michael Crutchlow** of Philadelphia is in an endocrinology fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania.

**Zeena Dorai** has finished her residency in neurosurgery at the University of Texas, Southwestern in Dallas and has started her fellowship in neurosurgical oncology at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston.

**Jennifer Price Goldstein** and **Craig Goldstein** are pleased to announce the birth of their 2nd son, Luke Philip, born September 2, 2003. Jennifer is currently an Assistant Professor of Medicine, and Associate Director of the Internal Medicine Program at Penn State Hershey Medical Center in Hershey. Craig is a hospitalist at York Hospital. They reside in Hummelstown, PA.

'99

**Charles Lee** married Melissa DiIanni in December 2003. He finished his internal medicine residency, and now is in his 2nd year of a pulmonary critical care fellowship with Brown University. They reside in Cranston, RI.

**Heather Maust** and **Lois Nesti '02** of Silver Spring, MD were married May 10, 2003 in West Point, NY. They met in medical school. Heather finished her residency and fellowship at Wills Eye Hospital and is joining a practice in Annapolis. Leon is a 3rd year orthopaedic resident at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, DC.

'00

**Richard Riedel** of Durham, NC completed his internal medicine

residency at Duke University Medical Center in June 2003. He entered the Hematology-Oncology Fellowship program at Duke and recently completed his first clinical year. He is now serving as Chief Resident in the Department of Internal Medicine.

'01

**Jenni Andrus** and Dan Ramshaw were married on May 22, 2004 in Savannah, GA. Jefferson friends that gathered for some southern hospitality included **Geoff Manton '00** and **Janelle Shield '02**. Jenni and Dan are living in the South End of Boston, where Jenni is in her 4th year of otolaryngology – head & neck surgery training at Boston University Medical Center.

Jefferson's Department of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery presented the 6th Annual Dr. Stephen F. Balshi Prize in Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery to **Lisa Grunebaum** in May. The title of her winning presentation was "Nerve Monitoring and Stimulation During Endoscopic Neck Surgery in the Pig." Numerous members of the Balshi family, which established the prize, are Jeffersonians.

**Ira Rabin** and wife, Keren, proudly announce the birth of their first child, daughter Sarah Esther, born on March 11, 2003. Ira has just completed his internal medicine residency at UMDNJ Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and will practice general internal medicine with the Mid-Atlantic Permanente Group in Silver Spring, MD.

**Tara Weintraub-Brass** is pleased to announce the birth of her daughter, Susanna Leigh Brass. Susanna was born on April 3, 2004. She and husband Justin are living in New York where she is completing her residency in psychiatry at Mount Sinai Medical Center.

## To Submit Class Notes, Send to:

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# A World Away—Underwater

by Benjamin Kendall OBG'62 — photos by Virginia Joy Kendall

I descend. The pre-dive tensions fade. I have attained neutral buoyancy and have equalized the pressures on my eardrums. Cleared from my mind are the endless hours in cramped airplane seats and the anxious moments of Third World travel to get to our scuba diving destination. I am fully present and completely alive in this moment.

The distant blue-gray floor of the ocean becomes more distinct as it approaches. It will soon reveal its secrets.

I have done this 2000 times before. But each time is like the first, an adventure with unlimited potential. I am rarely disappointed.

Soaring, drifting weightlessly through this fantasy world is a constant high. Colors more vivid and varied than any spring garden dazzle my senses. Life forms as if from another universe abound. My wife with her still camera and I with my video camcorder try to capture these images.

Whenever possible we share our feelings, experiences and photography with eager audiences. But no image whether digital or film can capture the sensation of floating – no, soaring – 100 feet below the surface with a brightly colored wall of tropical soft and hard coral teeming with fish on one side of you, the limitless expanse of the open ocean on the other side and the bottomless depths below.

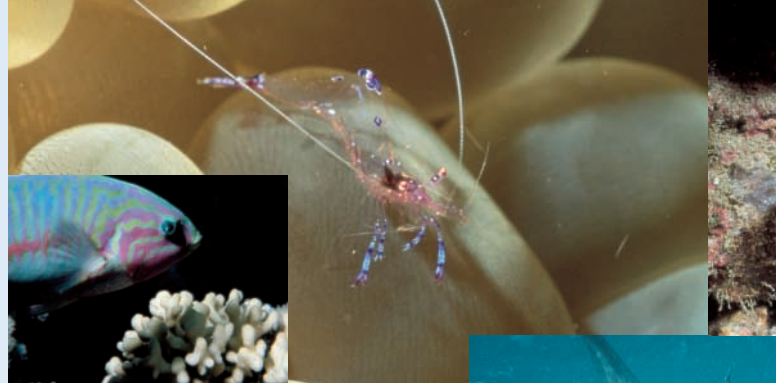
What was out of your range of vision a moment before now looms into view. As you peer into the dark blue beyond the reef, you may see things that your buddy 20 feet away is not yet able to see.

Luckily for my wife and me, our involvement with the marine environment does not end with tourist like activities. For the last 15 years we have been volunteer members of a research group headed by the renowned ichthyologist, Dr. Eugenie Clark, under the auspices of the University of Maryland Foundation. We and other seniors in her group have made significant contributions to her scientific and oft published work.

Should only people without lines, sags or wrinkles by permitted to don tanks? The answer is NO. If yes were the correct response my wife and I could never have hand-fed white tipped sharks or photographed shark feeding frenzies in the Coral Sea. Nor could we have peered into the gaping jaws of 40-foot-long whale sharks in the Indian Ocean. We would not have been able to gaze in amazement at the dancing manta rays of Yap, Micronesia, so close we could have touched them. We would not have been in the water with the schooling hammerhead sharks of the Galápagos and Cocos Islands. Nor would we have explored the sunken Japanese navy in Truk lagoon. We would not have made that night dive in Papua, New Guinea. We did all this after I had reached my 62nd birthday!

So once more a myth of the limitations of aging is exposed. If you want to experience undersea life firsthand, get written permission from your physician and call your local dive shop to sign up for scuba classes. Tell them I sent you.

*Dr. Kendall, who retired from his practice of obstetrics-gynecology in 2001, lives with his wife in Wynnewood, PA.*





**Postgraduate Alumni**

**Sucha Asbell RO'71** was honored with induction into the Maimonides Society of Albert Einstein Medical Center in Philadelphia.

**Arnold Bayer IM'73** served as Vice Chair of the 2003 Gordon Research Conference on Staphylococcal Diseases in Oxford, England in September 2003. The Gordon Research Conferences are among the premier basic science meetings in biologic and physical sciences, and are held every 2 years. Dr. Bayer will serve as Chair of the 2005 meeting to be held at Salve Regina, in Newport RI, in August of 2005. He is currently Professor of Medicine at the Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, and Associate Chief of Adult Infectious Diseases. He fondly remembers his days at TJUH and credits his Jefferson mentors as being instrumental in his career development at UCLA, including: **James Burke '66** in nephrology, **Jose Martinez HEM'69** in hematology and the late Joseph Rodgers '57 in internal medicine and infectious diseases. Dr. Bayer currently resides in Palos Verdes, CA with his wife and 2 children.

**Jack Lee IM'96** is practicing pulmonology, critical care, and sleep medicine in Somerset County, NJ.

**Deborah Witt FP'98** of Wilmington, DE, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Family Medicine at Jefferson, was inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society by the JMC Class of '04 in recognition for achievements in scholarship, medical education, research, and community service.

## Parks Will Direct Minority Affairs at Temple School of Medicine

The Temple University School of Medicine has appointed Donald Parks '79, a physician who has cared for North Philadelphia residents for more than 2 decades, to the post of Assistant Dean for Minority Affairs. In his new role, he will strengthen recruitment and retention of minority faculty, students and staff at the school; lead the school's efforts to give back to the community by improving health care for North Philadelphians; and direct the newly established Center for Minority Health Studies, one of only a few in the nation dedicated to the study and improvement of minority health. "We want to show our commitment to the North Philadelphia community and improve our understanding of disease prevalence, progression and treatment," said School of Medicine Dean John Daly MD.



Parks, who earned his bachelor's degree from Temple in 1973 and later came to Jefferson for his MD, has a long and close association with Temple. He currently serves on the boards at Temple's School of Medicine, Health System, and Children's Medical Center. He is also an Associate Professor of Medicine.

"Dr. Parks is a true leader," Daly said. "He is a compassionate, caring physician with a wonderful vision for health care in Philadelphia."

"The first step in improving minority health is attracting the best and brightest minority faculty, staff and students to Temple and keeping them here," Parks said. "It's important that we reflect the community we serve."

A recent study from Johns Hopkins University found that patients had better health care experiences when treated by a physician of the same race. Currently, Temple's medical school ranks among the top 10 in the nation in its percentage of underrepresented minority medical students.

Parks will also lead the school's continuing push to improve the health care of North Philadelphians. "We want our patients to have access to the best treatment available," Parks said. "And the best medical treatment results when patients can choose both from current therapies as well as investigational therapies. There's no way around the fact that testing new treatments is how we improve health care."

With multiple funded research programs that focus on minority health already under way and a strong tradition of community outreach and care, Temple is a prime setting for a minority health studies center. Parks will coordinate various minority health projects throughout the university by bringing together individuals from the schools of Medicine, Pharmacy, Health Professions, Dentistry and Podiatry, as well as from colleges and schools located on Temple University's main campus.



## Novel Gene Profile that May Identify Colon Stem Cells

Jefferson researchers have uncovered a novel pattern of gene expression in the stem cell-rich bottom of tiny “crypts” in the tissue lining the colon. By identifying these patterns, the team hopes to be able to identify mechanisms through which stem cells contribute to the development of colon cancer. “Having a genetic signature for the colonic stem cell will give us a tool to investigate the hypothesis that stem cell overpopulation is the key to colon cancer initiation,” says Bruce Boman MD PhD, Director of the Division of Genetic and Preventive Medicine, who led the work.

According to Dr. Boman, a form of inherited colon cancer, familial adenomatous polyposis, or FAP, may begin when processes that regulate adult stem cells in the colon go awry. To try to understand some of these processes, Dr. Boman and his team decided to first look at the genes expressed in normal colon crypts. The researchers examined sections of the top, middle and bottom of crypts, using microarray technology to analyze which genes are selectively expressed in each region. They were particularly interested in the genes expressed in the bottom of the crypt, where the stem cells reside.

“We’ve found some intriguing patterns of gene expression – patterns that suggest a unique genetic signature for stem cells,” says research technician Moreh Salunek. “We were looking at genes that were unique and up-regulated in the bottom of the crypt, and found that the majority were related to binding processes and catalytic enzymes.” Some were surprising, she says, such as STAMP1, a gene implicated as a marker for the progression of prostate cancer. They also found a gene called HOXD4, which is a developmental gene involved in the formation of the gut.

Stem cells in the normal colon produce daughter cells that proliferate and make their way to the crypt top, where they differentiate into specialized colon cells, says Dr. Boman. Colon cancer is marked by a change in the distribution pattern of proliferating daughter cells.

Next the researchers plan to use their novel gene profile to investigate cellular changes in colon cancer development. They also plan to use a different microarray to expand the number of genes they can examine.

## Zebrafish Model Helps Show that Effects of Ionizing, UV Radiation Differ during Development

Zebrafish may prove to be an invaluable animal model with which to screen the effects of radiation, Jefferson Medical College researchers have found. Adam Dicker MD PhD, Associate Professor of Radiation Oncology, Mary Frances McAleer MD’01 PhD, a resident in radiation oncology, and their co-workers compared the effects on zebrafish embryos of 2 types of radiation – ionizing radiation, which is the kind given to patients for cancer treatment, and ultraviolet radiation, which comes naturally from the sun.

The researchers exposed the embryos at different time points in

development to different doses of ionizing and UV radiation. “We found that the zebrafish were very sensitive to the mid-blastula transition, the point in development in which the embryo goes from relying on the maternal mRNA in the yolk sac to the embryo itself controlling development,” Dr. McAleer says.

Prior to this transition, the fish were extremely sensitive to ionizing radiation, she says. Yet when they were exposed to UV light, the younger embryos were unaffected. But later, after the transition period, the embryos show morphologic damage in their development when exposed to UV radiation.

“We saw something unique,” she says. “We hypothesize that this may be due to the gene expression of the embryos.” The researchers say that prior to the mid-blastula transition, cells are going through the cell growth cycle without regulation, rapidly dividing. At that point, the cell cycle becomes asynchronous, with certain cells dividing at the same time – which is when differentiation and “the crux of development” occurs.

They found that much of the damage from ionizing radiation is due to breaks in both strands of the cell’s double-stranded DNA. When the fish were exposed to UV light, the DNA formed “crosslinks” in which 2 thymine bases form on the same strand next to each other. The cell uses entirely different repair mechanisms to fix both types of damage.

The Jefferson team performed a microarray analysis to confirm their findings. They looked at normal embryos unexposed to radiation at different time points in their development, examining different groups of genes in normal embryos involved in various types of DNA repair, including base-excision repair, mismatch repair and double-strand break repair.

They found that prior to the mid-blastula transition, the enzymes required for mismatch and base repair are elevated. “Conversely, the double-strand break repair genes aren’t expressed until following that time point,” Dr. McAleer says. “This supported our observation that this is gene expression-based. The damage we saw early in the fish exposed to ionizing radiation is related to the absence of the double-strand break repair enzymes. There is a low level of repair genes in the later fish, which is when we see UV exposure sensitivity.”

In earlier work, Dr. Dicker used zebrafish to show that while radiation and some chemotherapeutic agents damage DNA, there were different time periods in development in which the zebrafish were sensitive to either radiation or the drugs. “In general, drugs targeted for specific enzymes are used in combination with chemotherapy agents,” he says. “We can use the zebrafish system to help us understand the mechanisms of how chemotherapy drugs work before we start adding them on.”

The zebrafish as a vertebrate model with which to study cancer has several advantages. The embryos are optically transparent, meaning researchers can watch organs develop. The fish are easy to manipulate and manage, and develop into adults in a short time. Most importantly, their genome is very similar to that of humans.

Next, the researchers plan to use zebrafish to help them test the effectiveness of various drugs in blunting the effects of radiation.

