

OUTLOOK

A Publication of The Foundation of UMDNJ, a New Jersey Health Foundation Affiliate

sanofi-aventis Funds Year Two of RESPIRA



Front row (l-r) Dr. Maria Soto-Greene, NJMS; Caty Forget, sanofi-aventis Paris; Elizabeth Ketterlinus, Foundation of UMDNJ

Back row (l-r) Inya Chehadé, Foundation of UMDNJ; Dr. Evelyn Montalvo Stanton, NJMS; Dr. George F. Heinrich, Foundation of UMDNJ; Dr. Barbara Suarez, RESPIRA; Ann Isom, sanofi-aventis

A gift of more than \$500,000 from sanofi-aventis for The Children's RESPIRA Education Program at New Jersey Medical School (NJMS) will provide for the continuation and expansion of medical and educational services in Spanish and English for Latino families with asthmatic children living in Essex, Hudson, Passaic and Union Counties.

RESPIRA, which means "breathe" in Spanish, is a bilingual education program that teaches children and parents about asthma triggers, symptoms and disease management. Each child enrolled in the program also receives an Asthma Action Plan to control his/her asthma.

"The prevalence of asthma in New Jersey is increasing at an alarming rate," explained Dr. Evelyn Montalvo Stanton, director of the program and assistant professor of pediatrics at NJMS. "Inner-city children are among the most affected, with the highest prevalence in Latino children, particularly those of Puerto Rican descent."

sanofi-aventis established the sanofi-aventis Pediatric Asthma Center at New Jersey Medical School in 2004 with a \$600,000 gift. As a response to evidence that there was a great need for a program tailored specifically for the Latino population, the Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey established the Children's RESPIRA Program in 2006 with a \$332,000 grant. This latest gift from sanofi-aventis allows the RESPIRA program to expand.

Dr. Stanley H. Weiss, professor of preventive medicine and community health at NJMS, who is conducting an evaluation of the program with his staff, found that while participating in the Children's RESPIRA Program, children's rates of hospital admissions for asthma decreased by 97%; their

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Correction:

Our apologies to Dr. Jeremiah Nieves, who was misidentified in our last issue. Dr. Nieves is a spinal cord injury fellow.

Reynolds Family Gives Third \$1 Million Gift to Spine Center

Timothy Reynolds and his family have donated a third gift of \$1 million to support the work of Dr. Robert Heary in his quest to find a cure for the thousands of individuals nationwide who suffer from severe spinal cord injuries.

While Dr. Heary saved Mr. Reynolds' life after a car accident seven years ago, the accident so badly crushed his spinal cord that Mr. Reynolds remains wheelchair-bound today.

To help Dr. Heary, the director of the Spine Center of New Jersey at New Jersey Medical School, and his colleagues find a cure for this debilitating injury, the Reynolds family donated an initial \$1 million to establish the Tim Reynolds Family Spinal Cord Injury Center in 2006. Since that time, they have given an additional \$2 million to the Center.

"Most people don't realize how many suffer from spinal cord injuries," Mr. Reynolds said. "In the U.S. alone there are approximately 250,000 of us. It's time we found a cure so that we could walk again."

As a result of the gifts from the Reynolds family, three full-time scientists have joined Dr. Heary's staff and the group has begun experiments to explore a surgically reproducible animal model for therapeutic intervention in chronic spinal cord injury. Other recent developments include the establishment of a collaborative agreement with the New Jersey Institute of Technology to provide nanoengineered bioscaffolds for use in experimental treatment protocols, discussions with the prestigious Burnham Institute in San Diego to collaborate on a stem cell project, and formation of an external scientific advisory panel with representatives from top spinal cord injury laboratories in the U.S. and Canada.

To support the Spine Center, contact Elizabeth Ketterlinus, vice president for development, at (973) 972-2486 or ketterel@umdnj.edu.

New York Giants and New Jersey Dental School Team Up

After treating teen athletes with mouth injuries suffered during sporting events, Rebecca Reed, DMD, and Rosa Chaviano-Moran, DMD, assistant professors at New Jersey Dental School (NJDS), realized there was a vital need to prevent these injuries.

As a result, they developed The Mouthguard Protection Program and teamed up with the New York Giants to provide custom-made mouthguards for 200 inner city high school student athletes participating in a variety of sports.

The Giants Foundation donated \$15,000 for the program, which is coordinated by the NJDS Department of Community Health.

“The American Dental Association estimates that mouthguards prevent approximately 200,000 injuries each year in high school and collegiate football alone,” said Allison Stangeby of The Giants Foundation. “Because we believe the youth of today represent our community’s future, we are delighted to be able to support such a worthwhile program for high school students in Newark.”

To support New Jersey Dental School, contact Andrea West, director of development, at (973) 972-1039 or westan@umdnj.edu.



*(l-r) Alif McCray with
Dr. Rosa Chaviano-Moran*

sanofi-aventis Funds RESPIRA

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rates of emergency room visits for asthma decreased by 52%; and their rates of doctor office visits for asthma decreased by 56%, all compared to their rates the year before enrollment.

“We are extremely gratified to support the RESPIRA Program in its second year and to help it build on its success,” said Ann Isom, director, U.S. corporate giving at sanofi-aventis. “Statistics from the first year of the program are incredibly impressive in terms of the reduction in emergency room visits and an increase in averting the severity of asthma events for those families that participate in the program. We look forward to seeing continuing success as the program grows and expands. sanofi-aventis hopes to continue to support this program in the years to come.”

To support the RESPIRA program, contact Elizabeth Ketterlinus, vice president of development, at (973) 972-2486 or ketterel@umdnj.edu.

Dental Students Gain Access To Latest Technology

Nobel Biocare, a world leader in innovative aesthetic dentistry, has donated \$15,000 and a Forte Scanner and Procera software valued at more than \$70,000 that will expose New Jersey Dental School (NJDS) students to the newest state-of-the-art techniques in aesthetic dentistry.

The gift will be used to upgrade the laboratory facility that will house the equipment and to provide students with the training necessary to become familiar with this important technology.



(l-r) Joe McNicholas, regional sales manager, Nobel Biocare; Patti Williamson, dental solutions specialist, Nobel Biocare; Dr. Robert Flinton, Dr. Neil Park, Andrea West, director of development; Norman Russell, Procera special projects, Nobel Biocare

This gift to New Jersey Dental School is the latest investment by Nobel Biocare in support of dental education. To date the company has partnered with over 60 academic institutions around the globe to expand knowledge about dental implants, ceramic restorations and other advanced aesthetic tools.

“Nobel Biocare is pleased to support UMDNJ in its efforts to educate future dentists in the most precise, aesthetic and biologically compatible technology in dentistry,” said

Neil I. Park, DMD, director of university and institutional programs at Nobel Biocare North America. “Due to the efforts of Dean Feldman and Dr. Flinton, the school joins a very elite group of schools of dentistry that offer their students the opportunity to learn the newest, most highly researched and most effective treatments in the dental field.”

Using the Procera System, students will be exposed to the computerized scanning of molds or teeth that will then be sent to Nobel Biocare’s Mahwah facility where the superstructures are made. According to Robert Flinton, DDS, this new technology is ideal for patients requiring major reconstruction with implant restoration but can also be used to construct fixed partial dentures using zirconia or alumina copings on natural teeth.

“It is so important for our students to learn about these high-end technological procedures while they are in dental school so that they can better serve their patients once they begin to practice,” explained Dr. Flinton, professor and chair of the department of restorative dentistry at NJDS.

To support New Jersey Dental School, contact Andrea West, director of development, at (973) 972-1039 or westan@umdnj.edu.

Pharmaceutical Companies Support Research at CABM

The groundbreaking research done at The Center for Advanced Biotechnology and Medicine (CABM) is leading to innovative new diagnostic tests and treatments for patients with some of the most challenging diseases including AIDS and other infectious diseases, cancer, neurodegenerative disorders and autism. With a better understanding of the structure and life of a cell, we may find more and better treatments and even cures for some of these devastating illnesses.

Recent gifts from local pharmaceutical giants totaling \$350,000 will help scientists at CABM continue their vital research on these and other life-threatening disorders. A portion of the gifts has established an endowment that will support research to sustain CABM for the future. Some of the CABM researchers whose work will benefit from this funding include:

- Professors **Peter Lobel** and **Ann Stock**, who are working on the genetic basis of neurodegenerative disorders including Batten disease and Niemann Pick disease, which strike pre-pubescent children. They have already isolated the mutant genes and identified the missing enzymes that cause these diseases so prospective parents with recessive genes can now get genetic counseling. Dr. Lobel hopes that by using gene therapy, enzyme replacement or other procedures we may one day be able to reverse these and similar diseases.
- Professor **Eileen White**, who is investigating apoptosis, or programmed cell death. In cancer, cells lose their natural capacity to block their own growth and die, which allows damaged cells to continue to replicate and become tumors. If one could decipher how to restore programmed cell death, one could potentially stop cancers from growing and spreading.
- Related studies are being done with inhibitors that could prevent the spread of infectious diseases. Professor **Gaetano (Guy) Montelione's** work has uncovered a new target for developing an anti-influenza drug and Professor **Eddy Arnold** has helped design new drugs that are effective against mutant HIV strains which have escaped most standard forms of treatment. Professor Arnold's group is also working on an HIV vaccine.

"These studies and others at CABM have great promise," said Dr. Aaron Shatkin, executive director of CABM. "But unfortunately, their potential is threatened by lower levels of federal funding for research, which is not keeping up with inflation. We are seeing that younger professionals are having trouble finding funding to initiate and sustain their research projects. That's why gifts like these are really important to our future and to the future of medicine."

For more information or to support CABM, contact Denise Gavala, vice president for development, at (973) 235-5109 or gavaladp@umdnj.edu.



Dr. Aaron Shatkin



Yankee Jorge Posada (r) makes a trade on Charity Day

Nick Garafolo with Football Hall of Famer Harry Carson



(l-r) Dr. June Hampson, vice president, Foundation of UMDNJ, with tennis champ John McEnroe and CARES Co-directors Dr. Martin Finkel and Dr. Esther Deblinger

The Day When Every Deal Counts

Imagine if all the brokers and the company for whom they work donated to charity **all** the commissions and revenue they earned on one specific day. Imagine the difference that would make around the world.

That's the way ICAP, a premier voice and electronic interdealer broker, makes its difference. Charity Day began in 1993 when firm leaders wanted to do something for charities on an innovative scale. Since that time, almost \$84 million has been raised for hundreds of charities around the world.

This year, the CARES (Child Abuse Research Education and Service) Institute at the School of Osteopathic Medicine was proud to be one of 22 charities in the U.S. designated to receive funding. Included also were the Clinton Foundation, MADD, the Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation and the Boys and Girls Clubs of America.

"We were so impressed with the idea that the CARES Institute is a national model for helping children who have been abused and neglected," explained Lisa Nelson, managing director, ICAP North America. "We were also unaware of the magnitude of this problem—that one in four girls and one in six boys are abused or neglected before the age of 18. We know our gift will help the CARES staff to advance its important work."

ICAP executives learned about the CARES Institute when Nick Garafolo, a member of the Dean's Development Council at the School of Osteopathic Medicine, told them about the wonderful work being done at CARES to help children who have experienced abuse and neglect. CARES co-directors Martin Finkel, DO and Esther Deblinger, PhD, were then invited to participate in Charity Day, when each gift recipient is asked to attend and bring a celebrity, if possible, to represent his or her organization. Director of Development Farah Stith recruited Giants football Hall of Famer Harry Carson to represent CARES and thrill the brokers on the floor when he signed autographs and posed for pictures.

"We are so thankful to Nick for introducing us to ICAP and to ICAP for recognizing the work that we do," said Dr. Finkel. "The concept of Charity Day is unique; we are proud to be included among its recipients."

To lend your support to the CARES Institute, contact Farah Stith, director of development, at (856) 566-5072 or stithfa@umdnj.edu.

Grant Funds Diabetes Project at University Hospital

After reviewing applications from around the world, the International Diabetes Federation (IDF) BRIDGES program has awarded a grant to The Foundation of UMDNJ for University Hospital to tailor interventions to improve outpatient care and access for people living with type 2 diabetes.

The project was one of 11 chosen from over 108 global applications and will receive \$65,000 for the two-year study.

“Uncontrolled diabetes can have a costly toll including loss of physical functioning and wellbeing,” said Melissa Scollan-Koliopoulos, EdD, APRN, assistant professor of graduate studies in the School of Nursing and the study’s principal investigator. “The most important goal of this study is to improve the health-related quality of life for University Hospital patients.”

The study’s co-principal investigator is David Bleich, MD, associate professor of medicine and director of the division of endocrinology at New Jersey Medical School, working with co-investigator Maya Raghuwanski, MD, associate professor in the division of endocrinology. Observing that many University Hospital patients never connected to the outpatient diabetes clinic, the research team wanted to see if using a diabetes care coordinator would reverse this gap in services by personalizing the transition from the hospital to the outpatient clinic.

As a result of the program, the hospital anticipates a reduction in emergency department visits and inpatient readmissions. It also hopes to improve health-related quality-of-life, health behaviors and metabolic control in patients with diabetes.

The International Diabetes Federation, which independently manages the BRIDGES program with an educational grant from Eli Lilly and Company, is committed to promoting diabetes care, prevention and a cure worldwide.

Linda Siminerio, PhD, chair of the BRIDGES Review Committee, said the Federation is committed to converting research findings into useful practices for the provision of quality care and services delivered by healthcare providers.

“The University Hospital in Newark is a great example of how science moves from a clinical setting into communities that need it,” said Dr. Siminerio. “People living with diabetes in Newark will benefit from care that reflects and meets the needs of the challenges in their lives.”

For more information, contact Kate McCulloch, director of development, at (973) 972-2484 or mccullca@umdnj.edu.

NJ Resident Leaves Legacy To Help Others

For more than ten years, Rae Sorkin Movshow of Millburn watched her husband suffer from the debilitating effects of Alzheimer's disease.

When Mrs. Movshow passed away in May 2006, she bequeathed more than \$220,000 to Project Cure's Alzheimer's Disease Fund, with the express wish that the money be used to support a northern New Jersey Alzheimer caregiver program. But no such program existed in Northern New Jersey.



(l-r) Monsignor William J. Linder, New Community Corporation; Dean David Gibson, School of Public Health; Elizabeth Ketterlinus, Foundation of UMDNJ; Dr. Adam Perlman and Michael Evers

That's when Michael Evers, a proponent of integrative and alternative medicine who was aware of Mrs. Movshow's request, brought the idea to Adam Perlman, MD, MPH, executive director of the Institute for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (ICAM) and chairperson for the department of primary care in the School of Health Related Professions.

Dr. Perlman was asked if he had an interest in developing a program for people with memory issues based on Mrs.

Movshow's bequest. He leapt at the chance.

He collaborated with New Community Corporation (NCC), Newark's largest nonprofit housing community, which shelters 7,000 low-income residents. Working with care coordinators at NCC, Dr. Perlman developed the Enhancing Memory & Wellness Program, designed to serve more than 1,600 senior residents in NCC's eight facilities.

"Our goal is twofold," said Dr. Perlman, "to train a core group of caregivers to better recognize signs of memory issues in the residents and to provide those residents with complementary therapies to improve their overall wellness."

Initially, the Enhancing Memory & Wellness Program explored the use of creative arts therapy. It has now expanded to include Tai Chi and Yoga, which have been shown to potentially improve cognitive function in older adults, according to Lynn Miller, JD, CHC, coordinator of the program.

As the program matures, Dr. Perlman hopes to introduce it across the nation by sharing his experience with his network of colleagues in the Consortium of Academic Health Centers for Integrative Medicine.

If you would like to support this or other ICAM programs, contact Kate McCulloch, director of development, at (973) 972-2484 or mccullca@umdnj.edu.

CARES Advisors Make a Difference

When a donor gives a gift as an endowment, he or she knows that funding for the programs or services about which he or she feels passionate will continue forever.

The CARES (Child Abuse Research Education and Service) Institute at the School of Osteopathic Medicine is proud to have received its first two endowments of \$25,000 each from members of its Board of Advisors.

As a local business owner, Sherine O. Aly has made annual donations to the CARES Institute in honor of her clients. This year she and her husband Phillip Kunz (also a local business owner) chose to honor their own sons, Benjamin and Alexander, by supporting a novel program created by Esther Deblinger, PhD, CARES co-director, and Melissa Runyon, PhD, director of treatment services, that provides counseling to parents to teach them how to properly discipline their children without resorting to physical abuse.

“We are so impressed by the CARES cutting edge research and pioneering treatment programs that help stop the cycle of child abuse. Although the CARES Institute relies heavily on governmental support, significant funding needs to be provided by private donations to bring forth the caliber of programs that will impact the lives and generations of families to come. We are honored to support CARES in any way possible,” said Ms. Aly, president of BioCentric, Inc.

Ben Fleischner has supported the Institute for years, not only by providing financial support but also by serving on the CARES Advisory Board since it was established in April 2005. The most recent gift from Mr. Fleischner and his wife Jean came about as the result of a recent family tragedy when they decided to create an endowment in memory of Mrs. Fleischner’s nephew, Derek Duane Koncelik, who was tragically killed in a car accident last year.

“We chose to support the CARES program because our nephew came from such a loving and supportive family. While he did not get the chance to pass on his family values, it is our hope that in his memory other children will benefit from the same caring environment he had by providing support to programs that help men and women be better parents to their children,” said Mr. Fleischner, who is a partner at White, Fleischner and Fino.

If you would like to find out more about supporting programs at the CARES Institute, contact Farah Stith, director of development, at (856) 566-5072 or stithfa@umdnj.edu.



Foundation scholars and University participants at the scholar reception.

Society of Research Scholars Inducts Members

A grant of \$330,000 from the Program Committee of the Foundation of UMDNJ to the Graduate School of Biomedical Research (GSBS) led to the establishment of the Foundation of UMDNJ Society of Graduate Research Scholars for doctoral students at the school.

The honor, for students who have demonstrated excellence in undergraduate courses and research endeavors, was recently bestowed upon nine students, each of whom received a one-year stipend and an education allowance that will be used toward support of his or her research activities.

Temitayo Awoyomi, Aaron Carlson, Jason Cochran, Anna Maria Dulencin, Mario Giron, Olga Kravchuk, Eli Levin, Jessica Mann and Khanh Nguyen were honored as the inductees.

“This new initiative provides special recognition and incentive to some of our most promising young scholars as they begin their academic research careers,” noted Kathleen Scotto, PhD, vice president for research and interim dean of GSBS.

Kids Helping Kids



Briana Janice

Ten-year-old Briana Janice of Sicklerville, New Jersey, is a remarkable young girl. This past winter, she raised \$457 for the CARES (Child Abuse Research Education and Service) Institute at the School of Osteopathic Medicine by selling holiday cards that she created as a project in her after-school art class. The cards featured a hand-drawn ice cream cone with the ice cream in the shape of a snowman.

Briana came home with her project and asked if she could sell the cards and give the money to the CARES Institute so that kids who need counseling could get it, her mother explained.

Mr. and Mrs. Janice were proud to support the initiative. Briana sold her cards to friends, family members and fellow students and their families at the J.W. Lilley Elementary School in the Sicklerville area.

For her efforts, Briana received a Service Medal from Gloucester Township and a Martin Luther King, Jr. Award for Community Service from her school. Encouraged by the overwhelming support of her friends, family and community, Briana has pledged to continue her fundraising efforts through Briana Caring for Kids, an organization her parents are helping to create.

To find out more about CARES, or to donate, contact Farah Stith, director of development, at (856) 566-5072 or stithfa@umdnj.edu.

Supporting Scholarship and Research



Dr. Gilbert and Claudie Hayat established an endowed lectureship, the Joseph and Suzanne Seidemann Lecture in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, as a

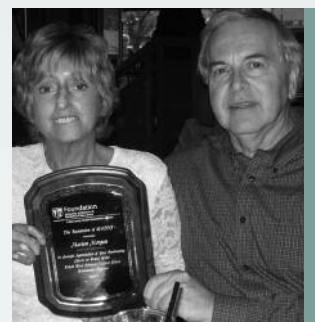
gesture of appreciation to Dr. David J. Riley of Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. The lecture series, named after Mrs. Hayat's late parents, is presented during Medical Grand Rounds, using the gift to pay the honorariums for the most distinguished national and international lecturers. Pictured during the inaugural lecture and plaque dedication ceremony are (l-r) Dr. John Kostis, chair of the department of medicine; Dr. Gilbert Hayat, daughter Laura Hayat, Claudie Hayat and Mrs. Hayat's sister, Danielle Chermia; Dr. David Riley and Dr. James Crappo, the first lecturer. Not pictured: daughter Clara Hayat.

The Columbian Foundation, a non-profit organization founded in 1941 by business and professional men of Italian descent, continued its tradition of supporting New Jersey Medical School students when they awarded a total of \$16,000 in scholarships.



(l-r) Two of the scholarship recipients, Andrew Toscano and Eugene Daniel Festa, joined Columbian Foundation members Joe D'Errico and Benjamin M. Del Vento, Esq., chairman of the Columbian Foundation Scholarship Committee, during the scholarship presentation. Not pictured: Scholarship recipients Charles William Concodora, Alison Mainardi and Shannon Scrudato.

The Foundation of UMDNJ presented **Marian Morgan and her husband John** with a plaque in appreciation of their outstanding efforts to raise funds for Scleroderma research at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. The couple has raised more than \$15,000 this year.

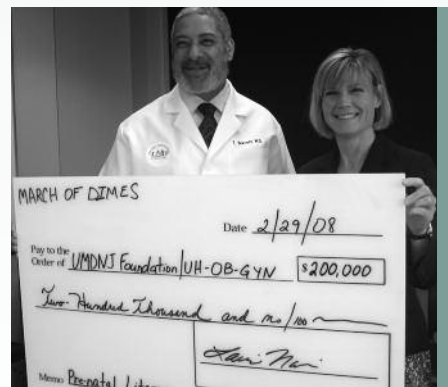


With a lead gift of \$7,500, **Johnston Communications Voice & Data** was the tournament sponsor of the most recent Southern New Jersey Golf Outing. Thanks to the generosity of sponsors, participants and contributors, more than \$32,000 was raised for the CARES (Child Abuse Research Education & Service) Institute to help children and their families overcome the trauma of abuse.

(l-r) Dr. Esther Deblinger, co-director CARES Institute; Phil Johnston, president, Johnston Communications Voice & Data; Steven Mullen, executive vice president, Johnston Communications Voice & Data; Bob Stephen, sales manager, Johnston Communications Voice & Data; and Dr. Martin Finkel, co-director CARES Institute.



The March of Dimes recently donated \$200,000 for three years to implement "The University Hospital OB/GYN Preterm/Prenatal Health Project" to enhance educational and support services for pregnant women. The program, which will serve Newark area patients, includes a Pre-Natal Health Literacy Program and a Pre-Natal Care Stress Reduction Program. Dr. Theodore Barrett, medical director, University OB/GYN Associates and Laurie Navin, director of programs services, March of Dimes-New Jersey Chapter, presented the check.



RPB Provides Ongoing Support for New Jersey Medical School

Research to Prevent Blindness in New York recently awarded a grant of \$110,000 to the Foundation of UMDNJ for The Institute of Ophthalmology and Visual Science at the New Jersey Medical School.

Marco A. Zarbin, MD, PhD, chair of the Institute of Ophthalmology and Visual Science, received the award that will be used to support research into the causes, treatment, and prevention of blinding diseases.

“To date, Research to Prevent Blindness (RPB) has awarded more than \$1,725,000 to the Institute of Ophthalmology and Visual Science,” said Dr. Zarbin. “We are sincerely appreciative of RPB’s ongoing commitment to helping us fight these devastating diseases.”

If you would like to support this program, contact Kate McCulloch, director of development, at (973) 972-2484 or mccullca@umdnj.edu.



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