

O U T L O O K

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NJMS Alumnus Creates Chair

Frederick F. Buechel Sr., MD, has distinguished himself in a number of ways since he graduated from the UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School (NJMS) in 1972 and from the NJMS Orthopaedic Program in 1976. He is an award-winning inventor and surgeon. For the past 20 years he has traveled all over the world giving lectures and surgical demonstrations as a result of his co-invention of the New Jersey LCS Total Knee Replacement System. The New Jersey Inventors Hall of Fame named him and his engineering co-inventor Michael Pappas, PhD, "Inventors of the Year." And, they both received the Pride Award from *New Jersey Monthly* magazine.

*F.F. Buechel, M.D.
Orthopaedic Surgery*

Outlook: Winner of
a Bronze Award in the 2003
CASE District II Accolades
Award Program

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Outlook has won a Bronze Award in the CASE District II Accolades Awards program. CASE (Council for Advancement and Support of Education) is the professional organization for advancement professionals who work in communications, alumni relations and development. District II is comprised of Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Ontario, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and West Virginia.

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Now, there is one more distinction of which he can be proud. Dr. Buechel has given the largest single gift ever received from a graduate of any UMDNJ school —\$2 million to the New Jersey Medical School Department of Orthopaedics to create the Frederick E. Buechel, MD, Chair for Joint Replacement.

“I am proud to be of help to the NJMS Orthopaedic Program where I received my head-start in the field that I love. My wish is for the Buechel Chair holder to push the frontiers of human joint replacement research into practical, clinical applications,” said Dr. Buechel, currently a clinical professor of orthopaedic surgery at NJMS.

This endowment will also complement the development of a strong clinical program in total joint replacement at University Hospital, with a corresponding clinical and basic science research program.

The holder of the Buechel Chair will work with the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) to establish the Buechel-Pappas Biomechanical Engineering Liaison between the NJMS Orthopaedic Department and NJIT’s Departments of Biomedical Engineering and Mechanical Engineering to encourage scientific exchange and research collaborations between the two institutions.

This liaison further reinforces the importance Dr. Buechel places on the value of collaboration, for it was this same spirit of collaboration that led to the relationship between Dr. Buechel, an orthopaedic surgical resident at NJMS, and Dr. Pappas, his instructor from NJIT. The two joined forces when Dr. Buechel asked Dr. Pappas for help in constructing a prosthetic ankle. Since then, the two have garnered more than 100 patents for implants and instruments related to replacement ankles, hips, shoulders, knee and finger joints.

In addition to establishing the Buechel Chair, the endowment will also establish the Buechel-Pappas Award for Outstanding Biomedical Engineering Research, presented every other year to the surgeon-engineer team from the two schools that publishes the best collaborative biomechanical research. The endowment will allow for the establishment of a clinical research unit on the Newark campus to promote cutting edge longitudinal and clinical studies.

For more information about the Buechel Chair or about how you can support the New Jersey Medical School, contact Patrick Bower, vice president of development, at (973) 972-8761. ■

CELGENE SUPPORTS FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Recognizing the great need for highly skilled medical doctors with training in clinical research, Jerome Zeldis, MD, PhD, chief medical officer and vice president of medical affairs at Celgene Corporation, and Alice Gottlieb, MD, PhD, director of the Clinical Research Center (CRC) at UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School (RWJMS), have developed a cutting-edge research fellowship program for promising physicians.

This partnership, the first of its kind at the CRC, will allow RWJMS fellows to gain training in clinical research in inflammatory conditions and other diseases under the guidance of Celgene scientists and RWJMS physicians. Celgene Corporation has pledged to sponsor the Celgene Fellowship by funding the clinical investigator position for one year.

Dr. Gottlieb has spent the majority of her professional career treating and researching immunology and inflammatory diseases and disorders. Her own passion for research, coupled with a desperate need for clinical research into these conditions, prompted her to develop a research fellowship program for promising physicians.

When it came to finding a research facility that had an interest in inflammatory diseases and wanted to support a fellowship, she did not have to look far, for Dr. Zeldis wanted to train medical doctors to become clinical researchers in pharmaceutical settings. Recognizing the synergies in their goals, Drs. Gottlieb and Zeldis, who is a volunteer faculty member in the division of clinical pharmacology at RWJMS and a member of Dr. Gottlieb's Advisory Board for the CRC, developed this unique fellowship.

"One of our goals is to expose doctors starting their



(l-r) Jerome Zeldis, MD, PhD, chief medical officer and vice president of medical affairs at Celgene Corporation; Celgene Fellow Cindy Kipnis, MD; Herbert Faleck, DO, vice president of clinical research and development at Celgene Corporation and Alice Gottlieb, MD, PhD, director of the Clinical Research Center at UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

medical careers to the research, investigative and developmental processes pharmaceutical companies encounter in discovering new drugs. It is only in the last decade that doctors are considering clinical research in the pharmaceutical environment as a career path, so hopefully this program will encourage more doctors to enter this exciting field. This experience will give doctors meaningful insight and appreciation into the challenges in drug development while demonstrating the rewards of potentially affecting the lives of millions with the discovery of novel treatments and

cures for debilitating diseases," said Dr. Zeldis.

"We are thrilled that Celgene is sponsoring this fellowship and are grateful for their generous support. There is an urgent need for highly skilled clinical researchers with medical backgrounds who investigate new treatment options and cures for inflammatory diseases and this program will help bridge that gap. This is a wonderful opportunity to work with Celgene's world-class researchers and we anticipate a mutually rewarding experience for everyone involved," said Dr. Gottlieb.

Cindy Kipnis, MD, a third-year RWJMS resident, has been selected as the first fellow for the program.

"I was honored to be selected for the Celgene Fellowship. Learning how to set up trials, test new drugs, obtain grants and support, and develop research skills will prove invaluable to me as I begin my medical career. I couldn't be more excited to begin this next phase of my education," said Dr. Kipnis.

For more information on how you can support fellowship programs at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, contact Inya Chehadé, director of development, at (732) 235-6432. ■

EDUCATION FUND HONORS NJMS PROFESSOR

To honor the memory of a man they loved dearly, Emily Shih, her family and friends have established an endowed education fund in the name of her late husband, Albert P. Shih, MD.

The *Albert P. Shih, MD, Education Fund*, which has received \$50,000 in contributions, will support and advance the education of residents, fellows and students in the Department of Anesthesiology at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-New Jersey Medical School (UMDNJ-NJMS). Proceeds from the fund will be used to instruct students in all aspects of anesthesiology; to purchase manikins, simulators and other equipment needed for hands-on teaching; to send residents or fellows to educational conferences; and to provide seed money for research projects.

The Shih family felt establishing the Fund was an appropriate way to honor Dr. Shih. “Throughout his career, Dr. Shih was always strongly committed to advancing the knowledge and education of the students and residents under his charge,” Mrs. Shih said.



Albert P. Shih, MD

“Our family felt that establishing this Fund would be the best way to preserve his legacy both as a physician and as an educator.”

Dr. Shih was an assistant professor in the Department of Anesthesiology at UMDNJ-NJMS. In appreciation of his outstanding services over 26 years, the Department recently created the *Dr. Albert P. Shih Humanitarian Award* in honor of his retirement. The award will be given annually to the senior resident who best

exemplifies “his unfailing primary dedication to patient care and selfless work ethic of congeniality and loyalty to his colleagues, residents, staff and institution.”

“We are sincerely grateful for the generosity of the family and friends of Dr. Shih in choosing to establish this Fund, which will further the educational mission of our University,” said Melissa Davidson, MD, acting chair of the Department of Anesthesiology.

Dr. Shih was appointed to the faculty at UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School in 1976, where he worked until his death in June 2002. ■

Foundation News

Lisa Crimmins has joined the Foundation of UMDNJ as Accounting Assistant. In her new position, Lisa will handle Accounts Payable and assist the Controller with other accounting functions. She was previously employed by Medtronic, Inc., a biomedical engineering corporation, most recently as the Accounting Coordinator for the East and Mid-Atlantic Regions. Ms. Crimmins can be reached at (732) 743-3297.

Kathy McGrath has joined the Foundation’s New Brunswick staff as Executive Assistant. Ms. McGrath worked for University Radiology Group for many years. She then left to work for Aon Risk Services, a commercial insurance company located in the World Trade Center. She was fortunate enough to leave that job one month prior to the attack on the Towers. Ms. McGrath can be reached at (732) 235-6305.

Gianna L. Cerrat has been named Program Administrator. In her new position, Gianna will be responsible for the coordination and implementation of various Foundation programs including alumni phonathons, mailings, special events and scholarships. Prior to joining the Foundation she was the Development Coordinator and Information and Referral Coordinator for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, North Florida Chapter. Ms. Cerrat, who is based in Somerset, can be reached at (732) 743-3261. ■

LOCAL FOUNDATION DONATES \$30,000 TO FUND CANCER RESEARCH

To continue the tradition of honoring their beloved friend, The Ruth Estrin Goldberg Memorial for Cancer Research (REGM) recently donated \$30,000 to fund prostate cancer research at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-New Jersey Medical School (UMDNJ-NJMS). The gift coincides with the institution's recent groundbreaking ceremony for a new \$100 million cancer center in Newark.

The Ruth Estrin Goldberg Memorial has long supported institutions committed to researching cures and developing novel treatments for cancer in honor of Mrs. Goldberg who lost her battle with cancer at the age of 28. Since their modest beginning in 1949, the organization has raised and donated more than \$2.5 million to many research institutions and hospitals in New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Connecticut. Membership in the REGM has grown to more than 400 women throughout northern New Jersey.

“We were very happy to give our donation to UMDNJ-NJMS to help find a treatment and cure for cancer. Our committee has been so impressed with the University and the work they do that we have named them two years in a row, something we don't normally do, so that really says something about our confidence in their research,” said Rhoda Goodman, research committee, REGM.

“The New Jersey Medical School is very grateful for this most generous gift from the Ruth Estrin Goldberg Memorial. We are very focused on turning our exciting cancer research into promising treatments and it is this type of support that will help us get there. Our institution is poised to be an important leader in discovering the latest advances in cancer treatment, prevention and detection while delivering leading edge cancer care to New Jersey residents,” said Russell Joffe, MD, dean of the UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School. ■



Members of the Ruth Estrin Goldberg Memorial for Cancer Research presented a check for \$30,000 to fund important cancer research at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey —New Jersey Medical School (UMDNJ-NJMS).

PFIZER DONATES \$10,000 TO SUPPORT PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAM

Pfizer Inc recently presented a \$10,000 unrestricted grant to support the Mini-Medical School program offered through the Public Medical Education Programs at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey - New Jersey Medical School (UMDNJ-NJMS).

The Mini-Medical School program educates community members about their own health and the latest findings in a variety of medical specialties.

“Pfizer is proud to sponsor programs that provide the community with reliable sources of health knowledge and treatment options which are necessary in today’s health care environment. The Mini-Medical School arms them with critical background and education so they can be effective partners with their health care providers to maintain maximum wellness,” said Karen M. Corr, PharmD, director, Regional Medical Research Specialist, Pfizer Inc.

If you are interested in supporting the Mini-Medical School program at New Jersey Medical School, contact Patrick Bower, vice president of development, at (973) 972-8761. ■



(l-r) Karen M. Corr, PharmD, director, Regional Medical Research Specialist, Pfizer Inc, presents a check for \$10,000 to Russell Joffe, MD, dean of the UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School and Jacob Jay Lindenthal, PhD, Dr. Ph, director, Office of Public Medical Education at UMDNJ.

CHI AIMS TO END CHILDHOOD DISEASE

Construction begins this month on the new \$72 million Child Health Institute of New Jersey (CHINJ), a state-of-the-art biomedical research facility to improve child health and the quality of life by discovering the causes of childhood diseases. The institute will house 150,000 square feet of research laboratories, a pediatric clinical research center, academic offices and outpatient facilities for children. There will also be public meeting spaces, including several large conference rooms, for community groups and advocacy programs related to children’s health. The building is scheduled for completion in 2005.

Nearly half of the money needed to pay for the project has been secured, with \$16.6 million coming from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and another \$6.6 million from Johnson & Johnson. Federal grants amount to \$8 million. The state of New Jersey has contributed about \$3.7 million to the project.

“The remainder of the money needed will come from private donors, foundations and corporations that want to help move this project forward,” said Roger Fine, chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Foundation of UMDNJ. “There are naming opportunities available for any person or organization that would like to be recognized in support of this exciting project.”

For more information about how you can support the Child Health Institute of New Jersey, call Lisa S. Katz, director of development, at (732) 235-9531. ■

PATIENTS ACCESS QUALITY MEDICAL CARE WITHOUT LEAVING HOME

While the concept of receiving medical care at home is not new, it is unique in today's health care environment. Fortunately, there are doctors in South Jersey who not only support the idea but who have made home care visits an integral part of their practices, making it possible for hundreds of homebound people to obtain the medical attention they require.

Manette Fine, DO, assistant clinical professor at the Center for Aging at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-School of Osteopathic Medicine (UMDNJ-SOM) in Stratford, is one doctor making house calls to geriatric patients in the Camden County area through the Center's House Calls Program. John Bertagnolli, DO, a full-time assistant professor in the Family Medicine Department at UMDNJ-SOM with a practice in Hammonton, has been making visits to homebound people in his community and surrounding rural areas in Atlantic County for the last 12 years.

The House Calls Program was developed in 1986 as a community service to elderly South Jersey residents who could not leave their homes. Initially, most patients had undergone surgeries or had hospital stays for conditions that necessitated follow-up care. But over the years, the program has grown to include geriatric patients suffering from debilitating chronic illnesses such as dementia, strokes, multiple sclerosis, diabetes, amputations and severe arthritis. Today, the House Calls Program, which is covered by Medicare, provides more than 50 home visits per month.

"There are barriers that keep the elderly from visiting doctors: immobility, lack of physical assistance, lack of transportation or severe illness. As the population ages, this will become more of an issue. My goal is to provide these

patients with the best possible care so they can regain their health and enjoy a better quality of life," said Dr. Fine.

The House Calls Program has been supported in part by the S.C. Holman Foundation, based in Pennsauken, which recently made a generous five-year pledge to support the program and the William G. Rohrer Charitable Foundation in Camden County that has been a staunch contributor for many years.

Home visit services strongly rely on financial support outside traditional funding channels like insurance because doctors' time, equipment and other support services are not factored into costs when determining reimbursement rates.

As part of his practice, Dr. Bertagnolli regularly provides home

visits to more than 140 patients ranging from children to the elderly who suffer from conditions like cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, Alzheimer's disease and paralysis. In addition to medical care, Dr. Bertagnolli also helps patients coordinate in-home X-ray and lab services, visiting nurse care, Meals on Wheels, and clergy visits.

"I enjoy visiting my patients in their homes because it allows me to spend more quality time with them. I see the family dynamics and can better assess what sort of treatment and care patients require. My visits also give the primary caregivers an opportunity to ask questions, to express their fears and uncertainties and to learn how they can make their loved ones as comfortable as possible. What I do is very rewarding and there is no better feeling than when you see your patients improving and looking happy," said Dr. Bertagnolli.

If you are interested in supporting home visit programs or finding out more about them, contact June Hampson, PhD, associate vice president of development, at (856) 566-6300. ■



Dr. Manette Fine with Theresa Terranova of Hadden Heights



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MUSICAL MOMENTS FOR MS

This year's "Musical Moments for MS" gala provided an additional \$1.1 million toward our goal of helping researchers at the Neurological Institute of New Jersey at UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School to understand, and ultimately cure, multiple sclerosis. Proceeds from the prior three concerts have established two endowed professorships in multiple sclerosis research.

The gala starred diva Gladys Knight and was hosted by Emmy-award winning television anchor Steve Adubato. Here, co-chairs of the event Murray and Lee Kushner of Livingston are shown with Gladys Knight and the Kushner family. ■

OUTLOOK

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