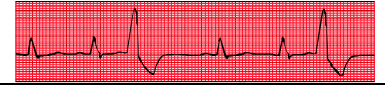


ALUMNI PULSE



*UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School
Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
July 2006*



Editorial Board

*Joel A. DeLisa, M.D., M.S.
Editor and Chair,
Dept. of PM&R*

Committee Members

*Michele Browne
Susan Garstang, M.D.
Debra Roney*

ηηηηη

*For information about the
Dept. of PM&R, you may visit
our website at:
www.umdj.edu/pmrweb*

REMINDER

*Please forward your e-mail
address to Michele Browne at
brownemi@umdj.edu in
order to receive future issues
electronically.*

Thank you.

Chair's Corner

Another academic year has come to a close with another class moving on after graduation. The department has welcomed our new class of residents and fellows who arrived on July 1, 2006.

We have completed another successful PM&R Board Review Course (number 18) with about 200 paying registrants plus another 30 non-paying attendees including residents, fellows and faculty. The course improves each year and the KMRREC Education Department does a great job of organizing and monitoring it.

This year's resident pool was once again very strong. We are proud of our Match results (page 6). We interviewed 90 candidates to fill 8 slots and went down to 19 on our Match list.

The negative coverage of UMDNJ in the media has continued, centering on various allegations of misconduct. The University currently has an interim President, and each of the three medical schools has an Interim Dean. Until permanent leaders have been appointed to these critical posts, it will be difficult for the school to recruit strong faculty and strong program leadership.

Dr. Susan Garstang is doing an outstanding job as our Residency Training Director. The PM&R Residency Review Committee and its parent, the ACGME, are significantly changing the training requirements to more objectively measure the six "general competencies." She is working hard to bring our department into compliance with these important standards.

The Department has just completed its internal review of my stewardship as a Chair of the department. This is the third review I have undergone during my 19 years at New Jersey Medical School. While each has been favorable, none of these reviews have resulted in any additional resources to the department. I am not optimistic that the trend will improve with this one, especially considering the apparently serious financial problems now facing the State of New Jersey and UMDNJ.

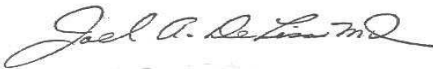
KMRREC's lease and its options at Kessler West will expire in 2010. The KMRREC Board had a planning meeting on June 19 devoted to selecting a permanent site, but a final decision has not been made. KMRREC currently occupies 23,000 square feet and has planned for 40,000 at its new location. This is a critical issue for the department's research mission as we have no designated research space on the Newark campus.

This year's Teacher of the Year was William F. Micheo, M.D., Chair and Program Director at the University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine. His topics were: "Current Concepts in Rehabilitation of Knee Injury," and "Sports Medicine Approach to Rehabilitation of Back Pain," "Rehabilitation of Shoulder Injury in Overhead Sports," and "Cervical Spine Injury in Sports."

The recipient of this year's Annual Teaching Award was Peter P. Yonclas, MD. Jeffrey Fossati, MD (residency '95) was the recipient of this year's Alumni Award, and Gary Chimes, M.D., Ph.D. received the Resident as Teacher Award. At our Wednesday morning lectures, there was also a presentation of a bronze plaque of Dr. Scott Nadler, which will be hung in the office suite in the Doctors Office Center in Newark where Scott worked. He is greatly missed. Unfortunately I was unable to attend this year's graduation activities due to a newly-torn Achilles' tendon, but I was there in spirit.

Please keep in touch as your news is what makes this publication interesting.

Sincerely,



Joel A. DeLisa, M.D., M.S.
Professor and Chair



Residency Program Director's Column

Greetings! Hope all of you are well.

My first year here as Program Director is drawing to an end; and I have finally experienced all of the events in a year of the residency. My focus this year has been on enhancing the residency program, both by being available for the residents and by adding elements to the program. One of the main things I've worked on is making the website more informative and user friendly. We've added a Residency Home Page, and the residents composed bios and shared pictures of themselves to add a personal touch to the website.

I remain the webmaster, and am always looking for content, so if you want more information on the website or have ideas for developing the alumni section, please let me know.

Another focus of this year has been to make sure we are in compliance with all RRC requirements. This has involved

implementing an on-line evaluation system ("MyEvaluations.com"), which allows residents and faculty to complete evaluations quickly, and allows confidential evaluations of faculty, rotations, and the program as a whole.

We are also ensuring strict compliance with the duty hours requirements which are now in force.

The OSCE was held on May 11th and 12th, and we now are having the residents participate in a nine-station OSCE (so those of you who remember going through six stations can sympathize with how much time and effort this takes on everyone's part). We made this change so that the results are reliable and valid, which allows me to make curricular changes to the program based on the results we obtained. The OSCE is still primarily used for program evaluation, but the results are also kept in the residents' portfolio, which is a folder of assessments to demonstrate ongoing professional development (as required by the RRC).

The Board Review Course went well again this year, and was interesting for me as it was my first time co- Coordinating a large national course such as this. The goal for next year will be to make sure those of you who are studying for the ABPM&R Maintenance of Certification (MOC) exam receive information about the Board Review Course, as the material covered will help you to prepare for your MOC exam.

Along those lines, as many of you are aware, the American Board of PMR has started the Maintenance of Certification (MOC) process, which includes tracking yearly CMEs and requiring most diplomates to recertify every ten years by taking a computerized MOC exam (very much like retaking Part I of the Boards). The MOC process also involves conducting Quality Improvement projects (see Dr. DeLisa's recent article in the blue journal as listed under "Faculty Publications"). In the future, the ABPMR plans to add more steps to the MOC process, which will require more physician involvement. The most important thing at this time is to make sure that you are diligently tracking your CME credits, and paying the yearly fee to the ABPM&R for the MOC program. Also, check when your certificate expires, and plan to take the MOC exam before that date. More information about the MOC process is available at www.abpmr.org.

As the academic year ends and graduation passes, the senior residents are preparing to go out into the world and put all their hard-earned knowledge and skills to good use. I have asked some of our more recent alumni for feedback on what you learned during residency, but I would greatly appreciate receiving your input on what we DIDN'T teach you that you

really needed to know. Please feel free to contact me by phone (973) 972-4478 or e-mail garstasv@umdnj.edu to give me your suggestions on how we can ensure that this residency program remains the best in the country!

Best wishes,

Susan V. Garstang, MD
Residency Program Director

NOTE: Dr. Garstang maintains an informal file on job openings around the country which she will share with individual alumni who are interested. She may be reached at garstasv@umdnj.edu.

Developments at UMDNJ

Since our last issue, there have been a number of important developments at UMDNJ involving allegations of misconduct. First, the University has executed a “[deferred prosecution agreement](#)” and a “[monitor agreement](#)” with the federal government in order to avoid criminal prosecution. These agreements are expected to remain in effect for two to three years. Judge Herbert Stern, UMDNJ’s federal “monitor,” has moved his office on-campus and has been granted wide discretion in identifying potential misconduct at the University. In carrying out his investigative duties he has been gathering documents such as contracts, policies, personal calendars and agreements, and has hired various consultants such as attorneys, accountants and forensic auditors to assist him. The first report from Judge Stern on his findings is available at [this link](#), and the appendices are available at [appendices](#). Secondly, several UMDNJ board members have resigned, many under pressure from Gov. Corzine, and the Governor has appointed several replacements, including new UMDNJ board chairman Robert J. Del Tufo, Esq.

Thirdly, UMDNJ President Petillo resigned in February, and Bruce C. Vladeck, Ph.D. was subsequently appointed as UMDNJ’s interim president. Dr. Vladeck is a nationally recognized health care expert who was previously a principal at Ernst & Young in New York City, where he directed the firm’s academic medical center service line. From 1993 to 1997, he served as administrator of the Health Care Financing Administration, where he directed the Medicare and Medicaid programs. Before joining HCFA, Dr. Vladeck was President of the United Hospital Fund of New York for ten years. He received his BA *magna cum laude* from Harvard, and an M.A. and Ph.D. in political science from Michigan. It is expected that the search for a permanent president of UMDNJ may require a year or longer. Fourth,

newly discovered billing irregularities at UMDNJ have brought the total amount of questionable revenues to approximately \$75 million. The latest revelations involve Medicaid charges on behalf of University Behavioral HealthCare, the university’s mental health division. Fifth, under pressure from the federal monitor, several senior executives and academic leaders at UMDNJ have either been dismissed or have resigned, including the Dean of UMDNJ’s School of Osteopathic Medicine, the Senior VP for Academic Affairs, a senior associate dean, several vice presidents and several financial executives. Many of these terminations have involved allegations of financial or ethical misconduct.

The University now has interim deans leading all three of its medical schools, an interim President and a variety of key administrative posts that have also been filled with temporary appointees. Meanwhile, the State of New Jersey has rolled out a new set of ethics guidelines for all State agencies that impose new limits on faculty and resident activities. In an attempt to comply with these new guidelines, our program has been forced to eliminate residents’ lunches provided by drug companies at the Wednesday didactics, due to the possible conflict of interest such meals are believed to engender. New forms have been developed requiring UMDNJ faculty to obtain written permission before they can serve on committees, write board exam questions, hold offices in professional organizations and perform similar activities for organizations outside of UMDNJ. Other new forms require approval before faculty may attend any meeting, conference, seminar, speaking engagement, symposium, training course, ground-breaking, ribbon-cutting, meal, open house, cocktail party, fundraiser, holiday party or social function. Caps have been placed on reimbursement for out-of-pocket faculty expenses, even for travel and dues that are paid with non-UMDNJ funds generated through the faculty practice. In some cases auditors have retroactively denied travel expenses incurred by faculty, if cheaper modes of transportation or accommodation were subsequently determined to have been available. These new restrictions have damaged morale on the part of our faculty and trainees, just as they have in other UMDNJ-based departments. The NJMS Dean and other deans have attempted to secure an “academic exemption” to these new regulations, many of which were developed by the State to regulate the casino industry, race tracks and similar State-supervised activities.

Meanwhile, construction activity continues unabated. A new 816-vehicle parking deck has opened at UMDNJ’s Newark campus, and the New Jersey Medical School/University Hospital Cancer Center is scheduled to open in August 2006. This is currently the largest

construction project on the Newark Campus. The facility will accommodate clinical and research space as well as a research lab expansion and a vivarium.

Self-Study Committee Reports on Dr. DeLisa's Stewardship

In accordance with New Jersey Medical School bylaws, a PM&R Self-Study Committee was formed in 2005 to evaluate Dr. DeLisa's stewardship over the past five years. Under the leadership of Dr. John Bach, Professor, this committee completed its assignment in May 2006 when it submitted three "deliverables" to the Dean's Office.

- Status report on recommendations from the previous external review in 2000
- Report of Self-Study Committee
- PM&R Department "database" (more than 1,500 pages)

At this point the Dean's Office may either assign an internal NJMS-wide committee to evaluate the PM&R Department, or it may schedule several external reviewers for a site visit, possibly during the fall. These external reviewers will then submit a separate report to the Dean. Hopefully these remaining phases of the stewardship review will be completed before the database becomes out-of-date, and hopefully this process will result in additional resources to the department.

Dr. William Micheo Receives NJMS Teacher of the Year Award in PM&R

William F. Micheo, M.D., Director of Physical Medicine, Rehabilitation & Sports Health at the University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine, was presented with the 2006 PM&R Teacher of the Year Award on June 7, 2006. Dr. Micheo has served as director, team physician or co-director of the Puerto Rican Olympic Delegation at 11 international events, including all quadrennial Olympic competitions since 1992. Dr. Micheo was also recently elected to serve on the board of the ABPMR. In keeping with previous years, Dr. Micheo was the principal speaker at our graduation activities on June 6-7, 2006. Our department has been fortunate because for the past 19 consecutive years, our first-choice speakers have always accepted our invitations to come to NJ to teach our residents on our specific graduation dates.



The bronze plaque commemorating Dr. Scott Nadler is displayed to Dr. Nadler's family members at Kessler Institute on June 7, 2006. Pictured from left to right are: Louis Weiss, Robbie Weiss (in-laws), Sydni Nadler, Haley Nadler, Mrs. Jodi Nadler, Dr. John Bach, Judy Nadler and Al Nadler (parents). This plaque is being permanently mounted in the Doctor's Office Center at UMDNJ in Newark NJ, in the suite where Dr. Nadler maintained his outpatient musculoskeletal practice until December 2004.



Dr. John Bach, Vice Chair of PM&R, presents Mrs. Jodi Nadler with a framed image of the bronze plaque of Dr. Scott Nadler. The bronze plaque will be mounted in Dr. Nadler's former medical office in Newark.

Scott Nadler, D.O. Memorial Lecture

Through the efforts of Dr. DeLisa and Dr. Gerard Malanga, the Procter & Gamble Excellence in Clinical Practice lecture has been re-named the "Scott Nadler, DO, Memorial Lecture." Despite this name change, P&G has agreed to continue its funding support for these annual lectures. This year's speaker was Heidi Prather, D.O., Assistant Professor and Chief, PM&R Section, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Washington University School of Medicine who presented on February 21, 2006 on "Diagnosis and Management of Sacroiliac Joint Pain."

Winners of Annual Awards

Except for the first two winners who were selected ahead of time, the following individuals were announced at the annual graduation dinner for the Class of 2006 held at the Richfield Regency in Verona, NJ on June 7, 2006.

Award	Name of Winner for 2006
New Jersey Medical School National Teaching Award in PM&R	William Micheo, M.D.
Medical Student Award	Miguel Coba
Annual Teaching Award	Peter Yonclas, M.D.
Mentor Award	Elie Elovic, M.D.
Alumni Award	Jeffrey J. Fossati, M.D. (Residency '95)
Resident Research Award	James McLean, M.D.
Postdoctoral Fellow Research Award	Amanda O'Brien, Ph.D.
Resident as Teacher Award	Gary Chimes, M.D., Ph.D.

Learning is not attained by chance, it must be sought for with ardor and attended to with diligence.

Abigail Adams (1744-1818)

2006 Grads Finalize Career Choices

Career plans being pursued by our 2006 graduates are as follows:

Name	Career plans
Residents	
Charles Buttaci, DO, PT	Orthopedic Spine Specialists, York, PA (fellowship)
Gary Chimes, MD, PhD	Rehab Institute of Chicago (Sports/Spine fellowship)
Stephen Cohen, MD	Cooper PM&R Associates, Cooper Medical Center, Camden, NJ
James McLean, MD	Rehab Institute of Chicago (Acute pain fellowship)
Michael Mehnert, MD	UMDNJ-NJMS (Musculoskeletal Fellowship)
Casey O'Donnell, DO	Performance Spine/Sports Physicians, Pottstown, PA (Interventional Spine Fellowship)
Michael Romello, MD	LAGS Spine & Sports (CA) (Sports/spine fellowship)
Adam Schindelheim, MD	UMDNJ-NJMS (TBI Fellowship)
Kyle Stier, MD	Princeton Orthopedic Associates, Princeton, New Jersey
Akshat Shah, MD	UMDNJ-NJMS (SCI Fellowship)
Fellows	
Gary Galang, MD	Faculty Position at Kessler – Welkind
Joshua Levy, DO	Private Practice – Advanced Orthopaedics in South Florida

Vidya Sreenivasan, MD	Faculty position at University of Ottawa, Canada
Post-Docs	
Juan Carlos Arango, PhD	Faculty Position w/UMDNJ -NJMS, Dept. PM&R (KMRREC)
Amanda O'Brien, PhD	Faculty Position w/UMDNJ -NJMS, Dept. PM&R (KMRREC)

Chief Residents Appointed for 2006 -2007

The Graduate Medical Education Committee has announced the following appointments for academic year 2006-2007.

- **Kelly Heath, M.D.**, Administrative Chief Resident
- **Ariz Mehta, M.D.**, Academic Chief Resident

Incoming Residents for 2006

Steve Aydin, D.O.

Med Sch: UMDNJ-School of Osteopathic Med
PGY-1: Internship, Union Hosp, NJ

Gina Benaquista, D.O.

Med Sch: Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Med Sch
PGY-1: Internship, Frankford Hosp, PA

Jennifer Epperlein, D.O.

Med Sch: New York College of Osteopathic Med
PGY-1: Internship, Union Hosp, NJ

Maya Evans, M.D.

Med Sch: UMDNJ-New Jersey Med Sch
PGY-1: Transitional, Atlantic Health System-Overlook Hosp, NJ

Jonathan Kirschner, M.D.

Med Sch: SUNY Downstate College of Medicine
PGY-1: Internal Medicine, Kings County Hosp Ctr, NY

Chiawen Liang, M.D.

Med Sch: New York University School of Medicine
PGY-1: Preliminary Med, Winthrop Univ Hosp, NY

Arik Mizrachi, M.D.

Med Sch: Albany Medical College
PGY-1: Transitional, St. Barnabas Med Ctr, NJ

Joshua Reimer, M.D.

Med Sch: UMDNJ-New Jersey Med Sch
PGY-1: Transitional, Atlantic Health Systems, NJ

Michael Rhee, M.D.

Med Sch: New York Univ School of Medicine
PGY-1: Internal Medicine, Lenox Hill Hosp, NY

Elizabeth Varghese-Kroll, M.D.

Med Sch: Univ of Virginia School of Medicine
PGY-1: Internal Medicine, Virginia Commonwealth Univ Health System, VA

Incoming Fellows, July 2006

Christopher Castro, D.O. (Musculoskeletal/Pain Fellowship)

PGY-1: Mercy Suburban Hospital, PA

Residency: Sinai Hospital/Univ of Maryland, MD

Michael Mehnert, M.D. (Musculoskeletal/Pain Fellowship)

PGY-1: UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson University Hosp

Residency: UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School

Adam Schindelheim, M.D. (Traumatic Brain Injury)

PGY-1: Staten Island University Hospital, NY

Residency: UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School

Akshat Shah, M.D. (Spinal Cord Injury)

PGY-1: UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School

Residency: UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School

Heather Walker, M.D. (Spinal Cord Injury)

PGY-1: University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, PA

Residency: University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, PA

Jun Zhang, M.D. (Stroke)

PGY-1: Montefiore Medical Center, NY

Residency: Montefiore Medical Center, NY

Class of 2010 (Matched Spring 2006)

Name	Medical School
Neeti Bathia, M.D.	Joan & Sanford I Weill Medical College of Cornell University
Miguel Coba, M.D.	UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School
Margaret Donlon, M.D., MPH	University of Rochester School of Medicine & Dentistry
Brett Gerstman, M.D.	UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Richard Hoppe, M.D., M.S.	UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School
Stephanie Kemper, M.D.	Joan & Sanford I Weill Medical College of Cornell University
Janel Solano, M.D.	NY College of Osteopathic Med, NY Institute of Technology
James Wyss, M.D., PT	New York Medical College

Match Results

The 2006 Match went very well, with the eight slots within the class of 2010 being filled by going down to number 19 on our department's rank order list. Competing programs that were relatively popular among applicants whom we ranked among our top 30 candidates included Harvard/Spaulding, Northwestern/RIC, Jefferson and Michigan. Two residents who matched with our program trained at NJMS, two at Cornell, and one each at New York Medical College, New York Osteopathic, Robert Wood Johnson, and Rochester.

Resident Slots – Atlantic Health System

Due to financial constraints, the Atlantic Health System will be reducing the number of PM&R resident slots according to the following timetable:

	Morristown	Overlook	Mountainside
Current	2	1	1
Jul '06 – Jun '07	1	1	1
Jul '07 – Jun '08	1	1	0
Jul '08 – future	0	0	0

Beginning in July 2008, OB/GYN will be the only GME program within the Atlantic system that will be integrated with New Jersey Medical School. University Hospital in Newark has agreed to pick up one additional PM&R resident slot on an interim basis starting in July 2006, bringing the total number of slots at UH to five. On July 1, 2009, the number of slots funded by UH will revert back to four. It is anticipated that Kessler Institute will pick up one additional slot beginning in July 2007, bringing the number of slots funded by KIR to 11. By academic year 2009-2010 and continuing thereafter, the total number of residents in the PM&R residency program is expected to be reduced to 24.

Objective Structured Clinical Examination Benchmarks General Competencies

This year's "OSCE" was held on May 11-12th at UMDNJ in Newark. This year the OSCE consisted of nine stations, using the clinical skills facility at UMDNJ. In addition to the clinical simulation component, the exam included a 75-question written examination, a 60-question slide/videotape recognition examination and the evaluation of a scientific paper. Our "OSCE" is used to objectively evaluate our trainees in the six general competencies, a process that takes one half-day for each resident. Several other PM&R residency programs across the country have adopted various components from our program as they develop their own "OSCEs."

Residency Program Adopts Model

Resident-Faculty Compact

Early in 2006 the Association of American Medical Colleges released a proposed “[Compact Between Resident Physicians and Their Teachers](#).” This compact is intended to focus discussion between residents and faculty, to orient new residents, to identify exemplary as well as unacceptable behavior, and to serve as a component of resident and faculty evaluations. The document has been endorsed by both the AAPMR and the AAP, as well as by leading national organizations such as the AAMC and the ACGME. After careful evaluation, our GME Committee decided to adopt this compact into our residency policy manual.

Annual Board Review Course Draws 230

The 18th Annual Review Course in PM&R was held on April 20 – 28, 2006 at the Westminster Hotel in Livingston, NJ. As in prior years, this year’s course attracted attendees who were studying for Part I or Part II of the board exams, or were preparing for recertification. Under the co-directorship of Dr. Susan Garstang and Dr. Steven Kirshblum, 23 of our current faculty members lectured in this course, augmented with five distinguished guest faculty from other institutions. More than 230 physicians attended, of whom 200 were paying registrants. The course was jointly sponsored by the Kessler Medical Rehabilitation Research and Education Corporation and the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. Optional sessions were offered in prescription writing, mock oral exams and statistics for the boards. Attendees received up to 80 hours of Category I CME credit.

“UMDNJ Research” Devotes Entire Issue to PM&R

A special issue of the publication *UMDNJ Research* (Spring 2006) has been devoted to the PM&R Department. This issue describes research currently being carried out by our faculty in such areas as stroke, SCI, TBI, movement disorders and neuromuscular disease. Copies of this issue may be requested by e-mailing research@umdnj.edu or by accessing the link at <http://www.umdnj.edu/home2web/research/publications/spring06/index.htm>

New Medical School Is Under Development in Florham Park, NJ

Plans are underway for a new medical school to be located in Florham Park, NJ. The school, to be located in a 75,000

square foot building, will be operated by a private, not-for-profit Jewish organization and has been approved by the NJ

State Board of Medical Examiners. Known as the Touro University College of Medicine, the school expects to enroll about 40 students initially, and then build up to 100 students in each class. It is expected that many of the basic science faculty will be drawn from the Stevens Institute of Technology, while the clinical affiliations may be with the Saint Barnabas system, the Atlantic Health System or the Cathedral system. The next step in the development of this new school will be an application for provisional accreditation by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education. In its application, the school has pointed out that 56% of the residency slots in New Jersey have been filled with foreign medical graduates, a rate that is twice the national average. It is expected that this new school will compete with UMDNJ for access to high quality applicants, faculty, support staff, clinical affiliations and community support, among other things.

Curriculum Committee Targets PM&R Clerkship

The PM&R Department continues to operate a two-week clinical clerkship that is mandatory for all students at New Jersey Medical School. However, we are fighting to retain this mandatory clerkship in future years. This struggle is helped by the fact that Dr. Peter Yonclas, Assistant Professor of PM&R, has been selected to chair the NJMS Curriculum Committee, and in that capacity automatically serves as a member of the Academic Policies and Procedures Committee.

Two developments have occurred since our last issue. First, the “college system,” which was previously endorsed as the new framework for the NJMS curriculum and would have reorganized the entire curriculum into four or five new multidisciplinary groupings or “colleges,” has been overturned as too costly. Each college would have been expected to develop its own integrated curriculum, and so that model was expected to submerge the PM&R clerkship within other larger specialties. Secondly, the Dean’s Office has asked PM&R to incorporate aspects of complementary and alternative medicine into the PM&R clerkship, specifically addressing manual medicine and acupuncture. Our faculty feel there are potentially serious disadvantages posed by this initiative, but we are investigating the issue as requested by the Dean’s Office and will submit our recommendations. Meanwhile, the clerkship continues to offer broad exposure to our specialty and serves as an important feeder for the residency program.

Spinal Cord Injury Fellowship Receives PVA Grant

Dr. Steven Kirshblum, Professor and Director of the Spinal Cord Injury Medicine fellowship program, has received a \$50,000 one-year grant from the Paralyzed Veterans of America Research Foundation in support of the SCI fellowship. Dr. Susan Garstang assisted with the preparation of this grant. The PVA Foundation sponsors fellowships for postdoctoral scientists, clinicians, and engineers to encourage training and specialization in the field of spinal cord research. This grant will be used to offset the salary and benefits of one fellow beginning on July 1, 2006, and partially replaces funding that was previously received from the United Spinal Association. The remaining funds that will be needed to operate this fellowship for AY 2006-2007 are being arranged by Dr. Kirshblum.

Kessler and UMDNJ Expand Affiliation for Postdocs

Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation and UMDNJ have agreed to allow Ph.D. psychologists who are training as postdoctoral appointees within the PM&R Department to perform clinical rotations at Kessler under supervision by UMDNJ faculty. This change expands upon the previous affiliation, which was limited to residents, medical students and clinical fellows. This expanded affiliation will strengthen the recruitment of postdocs and support part-time clinical rotations for those trainees whose goals include this exposure.

MGMA Offers Free Patient Safety Tool

The Medical Group Management Association has released a “Physician Practice Patient Safety Assessment” tool that is intended to help medical practices evaluate the impact of their medical office systems on patient safety. This tool is in the form of a questionnaire that probes how various tasks are performed in each practice. Examples of the functions that are examined include screening for potential adverse drug interactions, prescription writing, follow-up on imaging studies, follow-up on requests for consultations, and follow-up on diagnostic testing orders. There are no right or wrong answers, but MGMA’s goal is to understand which functions within medical practices have the greatest potential for improving patient safety.

This questionnaire is accessible at <http://www4.mgma.com/survop/patientsafety.htm> and will be of interest to many of our alumni, regardless of their practice setting. (Any entries may be entered in “ID” and “Code” to access this tool.) Under a separate project, the American Board of Medical Specialties is working on a similar tool that is expected to be released by the end of

2006. Known as the “Patient Safety Education & Improvement Module,” that tool is expected to be available to physicians in all specialties to meet the standards for Part IV of Maintenance of Certification. The common goal of these Web-based tools is to enable physicians to learn about safety and apply this knowledge to care within their own practices.



FACULTY & ALUMNI NEWS



◆◆◆◆◆
Congratulations to **Brian Greenwald, M.D.** and his wife, Cheryl on the birth of their third child, a son, *Jack Isaac*. Little Jack was born on March 15, 2006 at 4:20 p.m. He weighed 8 lbs. 9 oz. and measured 21-1/4 ins. Little jack joins big sisters Rebecca and Molly.



Dr. Greenwald also shares that this month he received a \$20,000 grant from the General Clinical Research Center at Mount Sinai for a Young Investigator Award to study TBI and sleep disorders.

Congratulations to **Ronald Tolchin, M.D.** (Class of '93) who proudly shares with us that he has accepted a new position as Chief of PM&R at Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami, FL.

JenFu Cheng, M.D. proudly shares some of the enriching experiences of his sabbatical. To view photos, he invites you to visit his commercial photography website at www.jenfucheng.com. Dr. Cheng welcomes any feedback you may have as he expresses that it is still a work-in-progress. For anyone who is following the photo (portrait)-a-day project, it is still located at his p-base account at www.futography.net. The travel blog is still located at www.findingfu.com.

Graduation 2006



Residents 2006

Bottom Row (L to R): Michael Mehnert, MD; James McLean, MD; Michael Romello, MD; Charles Buttaci, DO; Akshat Shah, MD; Adam Schindelheim, MD
 Top Row (L to R): Casey O'Donnell, DO; Gary Chimes, MD, PhD; Kyle Stier, MD; Stephen Cohen, MD



Clinical Fellows 2006

Left to Right: Gary Galang, MD (Traumatic Brain Injury); Joshua Levy, DO (Musculoskeletal/Pain); Vidya Sreenivasan, MD (Spinal Cord Injury)



Postdoctoral Fellows 2006

Amanda O'Brien, PhD; Juan Carlos Arango, PhD



Presenting our Madonna of PM&R... Susan V. Garstang, M.D.



Faculty Publications

“Cortical and Subcortical Diseases: Do True Neuropsychological Differences Exist?” Juan Carlos Arango-Lasprilla, M.D., Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of PM&R, UMDNJ-NJMS; Jean Lengenfelder, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of PM&R, UMDNJ-NJMS; John DeLuca, Ph.D., Professor, Department of PM&R, UMDNJ-NJMS, et al. *Archives of Clinical Neuropsychology*, 21 (2006) 29-40.

“Funding for Rehabilitation Medicine: Building Research Capacity.” Joel A. DeLisa, M.D., M.S., Professor & Chair, Department of PM&R, UMDNJ-NJMS, Mitchell Rosenthal, Ph.D., Professor, Department of PM&R, UMDNJ-NJMS, *Am J Phys Med Rehabil*, 2005; 84:991-998.

“Management of Persistent Shoulder Pain: A Treatment Algorithm.” Todd P. Stitik, M.D., Professor, Department of PM&R, UMDNJ-NJMS, et al. *The American Journal of Orthopedics*, December 2005, Vol 34;12S:5-9.

“Managing Glenohumeral Joint Osteoarthritis.” Todd P. Stitik, M.D., Associate Professor of PM&R, UMDNJ-NJMS, et al. *J Musculoskel Med*. 2005;22:674-691.

“Response to “Research Culture, Environment, and Infrastructure.” Mitchell Rosenthal, Ph.D., Professor, Department of PM&R, UMDNJ-NJMS, *Am J Phys Med Rehabil*, 2005;84:988-990.

“The Relation Between Subjective and Objective Measures of Everyday Life Activities in Persons with Multiple Sclerosis.” John DeLuca, Ph.D., ABPP, et al. *Arch Phys Med Rehabil*, Vol 86, December 2005. **“A Follow-Up Study of Older Adults with Traumatic Brain Injury: Taking Into Account Decreasing Length of Stay.”** Mitchell Rosenthal, Ph.D., Professor of PM&R, UMDNJ, NJMS, et al. *Arch Phys Med Rehabil* 2006;87:57-62.

“Cortical and Subcortical Diseases: Do True Neuropsychological Differences Exist?” Juan Carlos Arango-Lasprilla, MD, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of PM&R, UMDNJ-NJMS; Jean Lengenfelder, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of PM&R, UMDNJ-NJMS; John DeLuca, PhD, Professor, Department of PM&R, UMDNJ-NJMS, et al. *Archives of Clinical Neuropsychology*, 21(2006) 29-40.

“Expiratory Flow Maneuvers in Patients with Neuromuscular Diseases.” John R. Bach, MD, Professor & Vice Chair, Department of PM&R, UMDNJ-NJMS. *Am J Phys Med Rehabil* 2006;85:105-111.

“The Relation Between Subjective and Objective Measures of Everyday Life Activities in Persons with Multiple Sclerosis.” John DeLuca, PhD, ABPP, Professor of PM&R, UMDNJ-NJMS, et al. *Arch Phys Med Rehabil* 2005;86-2303-8.

“Processing Speed Interacts with Working Memory Efficiency in Multiple Sclerosis.” John DeLuca, PhD, Professor of PM&R, Department of PM&R, UMDNJ-NJMS, et al. *Archives of Clinical Neuropsychology* 21 (2006) 229-238.

“Is PM&R Teetering on the Precipice of a Dark Age?” Bruce M. Gans, MD, Professor, Department of PM&R, UMDNJ-NJMS, *Arch Phys Med Rehabil*, 2006;87:315-6.

“Maintenance of Certification and Pay for Performance,” Joel A. DeLisa, MD, MS, Professor & Chair, Department of PM&R, UMDNJ-NJMS. *Am J Phys Med Rehabil* 2006;85:187-191.

“Physicians with Disabilities: Why Aren’t There More of Them?” Joel A DeLisa, MD, MS, Professor & Chair, Department of PM&R, UMDNJ-NJMS. *AAMC Reporter*, Vol 15, No. 5, February 2006.

Book

Gerard A. Malanga, MD, Associate Professor of PM&R, UMDNJ-NJMS and the late Scott F. Nadler, DO, Professor of PM&R, UMDNJ-NJMS (co-authors). **“Musculoskeletal Physical Examination – An Evidence-Based Approach.”** Elsevier/Mosby, 353 pages.

Letter to the Editor

“Fluoroscopic Guidance During Injections for Osteoarthritis,” Patrick M. Foye, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of PM&R, UMDNJ-NJMS; Todd P. Stitik, M.D. Associate Professor Department of PM&R, *Arch Phys Med Rehabil*, Vol. 87, March 2006, 446-447.

Other Faculty Information

Gerald Voelbel, Ph.D., Instructor, received word that his F-32 from NIH/National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke has been funded. The study is entitled “Functional Near Infrared Spectroscopy of Mild TBI” and the grant is for approximately \$100,000 over two years.

Patrick M. Foye, M.D., Assistant Professor, has been named as national chair of a 2007 AAPMR publication on “Industrial Medicine and Acute Musculoskeletal Injuries.”

Todd P. Stitik, M.D., Associate Professor, was interviewed by

Linda Richards on "What Physiologists Do" for *Arthritis Today*, which appeared in that journal's December 2005 issue.

Dr. Stitik also served as an invited expert panel member at a conference on osteoarthritis sponsored by Sanofi-Aventis on January 14, 2006 in Miami, FL.

Dr. Stitik also served on an advisory panel sponsored by Pfizer, the "Celebrex Total Knee Arthroplasty Study Advisory Board," on January 6-7, 2006 in Orlando, FL.

Dr. Stitik was also invited by the AAPMR Board of Governors to serve on the Publications Task Force that will plan a new journal within PM&R for publication starting in 2009.

A review of the book *Fatigue as a Window to the Brain* by **John DeLuca, Ph.D.**, Professor (MIT Press, 2005) appeared in the January 30, 2006 issue of *JAMA*, volume 295;4 (January 25, 2006):444-445. A second review of this text appeared in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, 354;4 (January 26, 2006):427-

Joel A. DeLisa, M.D., M.S., Professor and Chair, was elected as Vice Chair of the American Board of Medical Specialties at the meeting of ABMS' Assembly on March 15, 2006. This appointment will be for a two-year term. ABMS is comprised of 24 medical specialty boards and is the pre-eminent organization overseeing physician certification in the United States

Patrick M. Foye, M.D., Assistant Professor and Director, Medical Student Clerkship, and **Peter Yonclas, M.D.**, Assistant Professor and Co-Director, Medical Student Clerkship, were nominated for Golden Apple Awards for their outstanding teaching by students at New Jersey Medical School.

Five members of the PM&R faculty presented posters or papers at the "12th International Ottawa Conference on Clinical Competence" in New York on May 20-24, 2006. Presenters included **Eric Altschuler, M.D., Ph.D.**, Instructor; **Joel A. DeLisa, M.D., M.S.**, Professor and Chair; **Elie Elovic, M.D.**, Associate Professor; **Susan Garstang, M.D.**, Assistant Professor; **Karen L. Kepler, D.O., Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor; **Sheela Jain, M.D.**, Professor. The biennial Ottawa Conference is the largest regularly held meeting on clinical competence and medical education. This conference was sponsored by the Clinical Competence Center of New York, SUNY Downstate College of Medicine and the Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

Juan Carlos Arango, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, has received the Colombian Psychological Society Excellence in Research Award for 2006. This award is presented biannually to the most outstanding Colombian researcher in the psychological

sciences

Presentations

Todd P. Stitik, MD, Associate Professor in the Department of PM&R, UMDNJ-NJMS, presented the following lectures at the American Academy of Pain Medicine 22nd Annual Meeting held on February 22-25, 2006: "Examination of the Cervical Spine" and "Examination of the Lumbar Spine."

Dr. Stitik and **Patrick M. Foye, M.D.**, Assistant Professor and Director, Medical Student Clerkship, lectured at a course on "Orthopaedics for the Primary Care Provider" held at NJMS on May 6, 2006. Dr. Stitik's presentation was entitled "Non-Surgical Management of Arthritis," and Dr. Foye's presentation was on "EMG and Nerve Conduction Studies of the Upper Extremity."

Charles Buttaci, DO, PT (PGY-4) presented on "A randomized double-blinded crossover trial of acromioclavicular (AC) joint intra-articular sodium hyaluronate (Hyalgan) for the treatment of chronic shoulder pain due to AC joint osteoarthritis" at the PM&R Resident Research Night held on March 15, 2006. Dr. Buttaci was mentored by Todd Stitik, M.D. **Gary Chimes, MD, PhD** (PGY-4) presented on "Teaching professionalism with the value conflict inventory" at the same event and was mentored by Susan Garstang, M.D.

Five residents presented at the annual meeting of the American College of Sports Medicine in Denver, CO from May 31 – June 3, 2006. Authors of posters included **Drs. Casey O'Donnell, Jim McLean, Chuck Buttaci, Gary Chimes and Ariz Mehta.**

John Bach, MD, Professor, Vice Chair and Director of the Center for Noninvasive Mechanical Ventilation Alternatives and Pulmonary Rehabilitation, talked about non-invasive technology that helps patients who cannot breathe on their own. This segment was aired on *The University Hospitals HealthLink Radio on WFDU (89.1 FM) at 8:30AM, Sunday, March 12, 2006.*

Trivia Exam on the PM&R Residency Program

The following questions were administered to the members of the residency classes of 2006, 2007 and 2008 in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the program's accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education.

The **first five alumni** who correctly answer at least 80% of the following questions will receive a free PM&R Department golf shirt. This offer expires on December 1, 2006, and the correct answers will be provided in the December issue.

Instructions: Please circle the letter of the correct answer and fax to (973) 972-5148 for scoring. Please remember to enter your name and contact information at the end of this quiz.

1. What is the official name for our PM&R residency program?
 - a. Kirshblum's Kids at the Kessler Korral
 - b. UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School Program in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
 - c. Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation Program in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
 - d. Residency Program in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Kessler/UMDNJ
2. At which facility was this residency program initially based?
 - a. The College of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey
 - b. Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation
 - c. Veterans Administration (East Orange)
 - d. Martland Hospital (Newark)
3. Which two faculty members were named valedictorians of their high school and college classes, respectively?
 - a. Dr. Kirshblum/Dr. Adler
 - b. Dr. Fantasia/Dr. Benevento
 - c. Dr. Bach/Dr. Stitik
 - d. Dr. Malhotra/Dr. Fellus
4. When was our PM&R residency program first accredited?
 - a. April 18, 1775
 - b. December 7, 1941
 - c. September 19, 1955
 - d. September 21, 1958
5. How many residents in all classes underwent training in our program during academic year 1986 -1987?
 - a. 7
 - b. 10
 - c. 14
 - d. 18
6. Following the site inspection of this program by the Residency Review Committee in September 1986, which one of the following items was NOT listed as a formal deficiency?
 - a. Faculty teaching and scholarly involvement are inadequate
 - b. There is inadequate formal education in the program
 - c. There is an inadequate formal system for evaluating residents and faculty
 - d. Resident duty hours are excessive
7. What year was the cardiac rehabilitation program established at the VA-East Orange facility, and who was its first program director?
 - a. 1969, Dr. Alan Weigand
 - b. 1973, Dr. Angeles Flores
 - c. 1977, Dr. Arthur Cytryn
 - d. 1981, Dr. Melvin Goldberg
8. Which two residents were invited to present papers at the annual meeting of the NJ Society of PM&R on February 8, 1992?
 - a. Dr. Ronald Tolchin and Dr. Wing Chau
 - b. Dr. Lisa Krivickas and Dr. Kevin O'Connor
 - c. Dr. Kathleen Francis and Dr. Gerard Francisco
 - d. Dr. Irving Haber and Dr. John Chae

9. Who was the first resident to graduate from this residency program?
 - a. Luba Stefaniwsky, M.D.
 - b. Seymour Pedinoff, D.O.
 - c. Michael Sutula, D.O.
 - d. Joseph Pedicini, M.D.
10. Where was our department's first Annual Review Course in PM&R held?
 - a. Tara Sheraton, Parsippany, NJ
 - b. Ramada Hotel, East Hanover, NJ
 - c. Kessler Conference Center, West Orange, NJ
 - d. Wilshire Grand Hotel, West Orange, NJ
11. What year was the Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation founded?
 - a. 1892
 - b. 1938
 - c. 1948
 - d. 1950
12. What was the total bed capacity of the VA -Lyons facility at its historical zenith?
 - a. 662 beds
 - b. 800 beds
 - c. 900 beds
 - d. 1170 beds
13. In what year was Dr. Joel DeLisa's first professional article published?
 - a. 1978
 - b. 1979
 - c. 1980
 - d. 1981
14. Which faculty member won our department's first Annual Teaching Award in 1988?
 - a. Dr. Steven Kirshblum
 - b. Dr. Angeles Flores
 - c. Dr. Richard Katz
 - d. Dr. Martin Diamond
15. Who was the first winner of the New Jersey Medical School National Teaching Award in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation in 1988?
 - a. Barbara deLateur, M.D.
 - b. George Kraft, M.D.
 - c. Frederic Kottke, M.D., Ph.D.
 - d. Justus Lehmann, M.D.
16. Who was this residency training program's first director?
 - a. Dr. Luba Stefaniwsky
 - b. Dr. Charles Brooke
 - c. Dr. Richard Sullivan
 - d. Dr. Gary Clark
17. How many graduates from this program have won the Elkins Award?
 - a. 2
 - b. 3
 - c. 4
 - d. 5
18. How many annual board review courses has our department sponsored?
 - a. 12
 - b. 15
 - c. 18
 - d. 20
19. Which of the following "rising stars" is not a graduate of this residency program?
 - a. Leighton Chan, M.D., M.P.H., M.S.
 - b. John Chae, M.D., M.E.
 - c. William Bockenek, M.D.
 - d. Andrea Cheville, M.D.
 - e. Lisa Krivickas, M.D.
20. How many of our residents obtained Ph.D.s concurrently with their residency training?
 - a. 0
 - b. 1
 - c. 2
 - d. 3

21. What is the length of time applicable to our residency program's current accreditation term from the ACGME – RRC?
- 5 years
 - 4 years
 - 3 years
 - 2 years
22. Since 1989, how many of our alumni who have taken Part I of the certifying board exam in their year of graduation have failed on their first attempt?
- 0
 - 1
 - 2
 - 3
23. Dr. Henry H. Kessler was board certified in which of the following specialties?
- Internal medicine
 - Neurology
 - Orthopaedic surgery
 - Physiatry
24. Dr. John Bach does NOT collect which of the following?
- Coins
 - Stamps
 - Wines
 - Grandfather clocks
25. Approximately how many physiatrists are currently board certified by ABPMR?
- 6,500 – 6,999
 - 7,000 – 7,499
 - 7,500 – 7,999
 - 8,000 and over

Name _____
 Year of Graduation _____
 Telephone _____
 E-Mail _____

Please fax your completed questionnaire to Debra Roney at (973) 972-5148 for scoring. You will be contacted for your shirt size if you are one of the first five alumni to score 80% or higher.



ATTENTION ALUMNI!!

PLEASE FILL OUT THIS SHEET TO LET YOUR FELLOW ALUMNI KNOW WHAT YOU ARE DOING. IF THERE HAVE BEEN ANY RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN YOUR JOB OR PERSONAL LIVES, WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

MARRIAGE/BIRTH OF CHILDREN

JOB

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

AWARDS

PUBLICATIONS

RESEARCH PROJECTS

OTHER INFORMATION/NEWS

PLEASE RETURN SHEETS TO:

**MICHELE BROWNE, RESIDENCY PROGRAM ASSISTANT
 UMDNJ-NJMS, DEPT. OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE &
 REHABILITATION
 ADMC 1, SUITE 101, 30 BERGEN STREET, P.O. Box 1709
 NEWARK, NJ 07101-1709
 E-mail: brownemi@umdnj.edu
 Telephone Number (973) 972-3606, OR**

Fax to (973) 972-5148