

HSC

E-NEWS

OCTOBER 2002 ††STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER †

Norman H. Edelman, M.D., Vice President, HSC & Dean, School of Medicine

In the past, due to necessity, we have shown a willingness to sacrifice social spaces in favor of more "important" square footage. Budgets, of course, have played a part in setting priorities. Generally at Stony Brook, it is easier to fund a lab than a lounge. However, slowly implemented improvements to common space have transformed the Health Sciences Center into a stimulating and satisfying place to live, work, and play.

Because of the gradual metamorphosis over the past seven years, the overall physical changes might have gone unnoticed. However, taken in totality, in some ways, for the first time, they have helped to rekindle a new sense of intellectual and social community. The HSC Library has been enhanced in its redesign to improve access to information and better usage of space for multiple purposes. Technology upgrades now make it possible to rapidly retrieve information about our collections and access journals and magazines. The Coller Learning Center was made possible through the generosity of Barry and Bobbie Coller. Just visit the Library and Coller Center and watch their current usage wherein they have become a magnet for students, faculty, and staff alike. Utilize one of the newly renovated Lecture Halls, you begin to realize the difference in teaching. The computerized podiums, the acoustics, and furnishings, make it more comfortable for professors and students alike.



Norman H. Edelman, MD

Despite popular skepticism, the scaffolding is down and the exterior of the buildings are all resurfaced. The patios and common space below have been totally rehabilitated and replanted. Just recently, on a nice fall day, as I journeyed to west campus across the rear patio of the HSC, there were groups of employees eating lunch and pleasantly chatting, some students were sprawled on benches taking in the warmth of the sun, and a few faculty were in another corner totally engaged in conversation.

The latest improvement to the area we term the HSC Galleria has created flexible, aesthetically satisfying, and welcoming spaces that will encourage informal interactions that can lead to more convivial learning, inside and outside the classroom and laboratory. The re-opening festivities were held on October 17th. The information kiosks and wayfarer signs make it easier for visitors, as well as the Stony Brook community, to navigate our labyrinth buildings and facilities.

As we move toward further renovations, over the next few years, I intend to be guided by principles of maximizing communication, connectivity, flexibility, comfort, economy, and accessibility. Therefore, planning for HSC physical projects, continue to include attention to our shared spaces even as we make major efforts to renew our facilities devoted specifically to research.

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

**STONY
BROOK**
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

IN MEMORIAM

It is with great sadness that I announce the passing of Dr. Marvin Kushner, Founding Dean of the School of Medicine and first Chair of the Department of Pathology at Stony Brook. I invite you to read the tribute prepared by Dr. Fred Miller.



Marvin Kushner, the founding Dean of the School of Medicine, was one of the last of the renaissance doctors. A native of Brooklyn, he graduated Madison High School in a class which produced an unusual number of accomplished scientists. He went on to City College and NYU Medical School in the rush that propelled doctors into medical service for World War II. Marvin was a wonderful raconteur but he spoke little of his wartime experiences. One had to know that he served as a member of the War Crimes Commission and had the job of gathering forensic evidence at several of the concentration camps. He went back to NYU and served on the faculty rising to the rank of Professor and Director of Laboratories at Bellevue Hospital.

Dr. Kushner was enamored of lung disease. His research focused on chemical carcinogenesis, particularly on the deleterious effects of cigarette smoke. He was one of the first to employ inhalation chambers to mimic environmental exposure and had great interest in confounding factors such as oxides of sulfur inhaled with carcinogens. He had an ongoing interest in occupational and environmental medicine and concerned himself with such issues as the development of mesothelioma following asbestos exposure. He testified on many occasions regarding environmental carcinogenesis and was active in this area until his retirement. At the time, he not only carried out the practice of pathology but also served on the Chest Service making rounds with such eminent pneumonologists as J. Burns Amberson from Columbia University College of Physicians & Surgeons. He was a superb clinician. At that time, the Bellevue Hospital Center was jointly run by Cornell, Columbia and NYU and was certainly one of the finest teaching institutions in the United States.

From the very earliest of my encounters with Marv, I recognized that he was a person of great compassion. He lectured students on the course of tuberculosis and cancer and tried to instill in them the need for conveying hope. He not only talked, he did. His service employed many handicapped individuals and he was constantly solicitous of everyone's welfare.

He was an outstanding teacher as well as a human being. Many of the best students were enticed to become pathologists and the quality of residents on his service was indeed high. I do not know the percentage of pathology leadership positions that resulted from that training program but I have personally worked with a dozen or more.

Dr. Kushner came to Stony Brook in 1969 to become the first Chairman of Pathology in the new school founded by Edmund Pellegrino. At that time, the Department was just forming and Arthur Upton was the Dean of the School of Basic Health Sciences in which Pathology resided. By 1970 the first few faculty had assembled and they came in part from Brookhaven National Laboratories and from NYU. By 1973 Marvin Kushner became the Dean of the School of Medicine and was responsible for recruiting the first cadre of Chairpersons. Since the School began without a hospital of its own the initial attraction was research and that became the strength of the institution. By virtue of his integrity, stature as a scientist and unique personal warmth, Marv was able to attract many people who were sought after by more prestigious and much older schools.

From the early 70's until the 80's we were a faculty on wheels. I remember the many trips to Long Island Jewish Hospital, Nassau County Medical Center and most importantly the Northport Veterans Hospital where our clinical teaching was done. The final major project undertaken by Dr. Kushner was the opening of University Hospital. Dr. Pellegrino had deliberately delayed the construction for a number of years in keeping with a certain philosophy not germane here. Finally the construction began and Marvin presided over the opening and the initial staffing. I recall how proud he was of a picture of the first meeting of the Medical Board of University Hospital. He also celebrated the occasion by personally doing the first autopsy in that building. Throughout he remained an energetic teacher, a source of inspiration and a wonderful storyteller.

Yes, there were hard times and he had adversaries, particularly regarding the transition to third party medicine, as we know it now. Few ever argued about his consideration, kindness, breadth of intellect and spirit. Always with a smile, always ready to talk to you. He will be long remembered by those who had the joy of knowing him.

FIRST MICHAEL A. MAFFETONE AWARDS ANNOUNCED FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION AND HEALTHCARE

Eva Kraics and the Stony Brook Youth Orchestra have been named winners of the first Michael A. Maffetone Community Service Award, presented to outstanding employees of Stony Brook University Hospital, the Health Sciences Center, and the Long Island State Veterans Home for contributions to education, healthcare, human services, arts and culture, safety, diversity, and injury prevention. The winners each receive \$1,000 which is used to promote community service among employees. The award is named for the former CEO of Stony Brook University Hospital. The Stony Brook Youth Orchestra is a string ensemble group faculty-sponsored by the Asian-American Center Bridge at Stony Brook University. It is composed of Asian- American children who attend local junior and senior high schools. For the past 10 years, the orchestra has been under the direction of Suh-Yuh Wu of Old Field, a biostatistician and Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Preventive Medicine in the School of Medicine. The orchestra donates its time to perform at community centers and locations such as the Long Island State Veterans Home and the St. James Nursing Home.

HSC GALLERIA TAKES ON A NEW FACE

A ribbon cutting ceremony for the re-opening of the newly refurbished HSC Galleria on Level 3 was celebrated by faculty, students, and staff. The refurbishment of this public space is due to the shared financial support of the President's Faculty/Student Quality of Life Funds, the University Hospital and the Office of the Vice President, and through the efforts of many people working together to make this become a reality.



TRO PROGRAM AWARDS TOTAL \$3.8M TO STONY BROOK FACULTY

The Targeted Research Opportunity (TRO) Program, launched in 1997, was created both to attract support from philanthropic sources and to create a competitive research award program for Stony Brook faculty, targeting important new areas of research. In the intervening years, 95 individual TRO awards have been made to our faculty, following a rigorous review process that selects only the most competitive applications for funding. TRO areas of investment include research in breast and prostate cancer, neurological and cardiovascular diseases, and pilot grants in new technologies, such as DNA microarray, and small equipment acquisitions. Typically, a TRO award is composed of a core of support from a philanthropic source (such as The Carol M. Baldwin Breast Cancer Research Foundation), supplemented with funds from the Office of the Dean, School of Medicine, the Office of the Vice President for Research, and the awardee's department. The 2001 TRO awards totaled >\$600K (all funds). Since its inception, the TRO program has awarded nearly \$3.8M in support of our faculty from 17 departments, both to stimulate growth of new faculty projects as well as to provide a source of funds for testing novel strategies to fundamental problems in research.

Targeted Research Opportunities 2002 Winners

Catacosinos Cancer Scholar Award

Michael A. Frohman, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Dept of Pharmacology
"Novel Endonuclease Released from Mitochondria during Apoptosis"

Dean's Scholar Award

JoAnne Engebrecht, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Dept of Pharmacology
"Meiotic Replication in C.elegans"

Program-Project Pilot Award (3)

Jorge Benach, Ph.D.
Professor, Dept of Molecular Genetics & Microbiology
"Agents of Bioterrorism: Pathogenesis and Host Defense"

James P. Dilger, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Dept of Anesthesiology
"Interaction Between Opioids and General Anesthetics"

Stanley Zucker, M.D.
Professor, Dept of Medicine
"Prostate Cancer Progression: New Therapeutic Approaches"

Supplement for Mouse Knock-out Award

David McKinnon, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Dept of Physiology & Biophysics
"Mouse Model of Benign Familial Neonatal Convulsion"

Walk-for-Beauty Breast Cancer Research Award

Patrick Hearing, Ph.D.
Professor, Dept of Molecular Genetics & Microbiology
"Role of the Ubiquitin Ligase F Box Protein Skp2in Breast Cancer"

Carol M. Baldwin Breast Cancer Research Awards (5)

Janet Hearing, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Dept of Molecular Genetics & Microbiology
"Epstein-Barr Virus and Human Breast Cancer"

Wei Huang, Ph.D
Assistant Professor, Dept of Radiology
"Advanced MR Scanning Protocol for Improved Specificity in Detection of Breast Malignancy"

W. Todd Miller, Ph.D
Associate Professor, Dept of Physiology & Biophysics
"Regulation of the Breast Tumor Kinase BrK"

Styliani-Anna E. Tsirka, Ph.D
Assistant Professor, Dept of Pharmacology
"tPA and Breast Cancer: Molecular Mechanisms"

Gayle Vaday, Ph.D
Assistant Professor, Dept of Medicine
"Chemokine Regulation of Breast Cancer Metastasis"

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOLS

The **School of Health Technology and Management** recognized five alumni who have distinguished themselves in their chosen fields.

The Ninth Annual Distinguished Alumni Award Recipients are: Joseph Hock, MS, RRT - Cardiorespiratory Sciences Class of 1986 and Master of Science Class of 1992, Howard Makofsky, PT, DHSc, OCS - Physical Therapy Class of 1979 and Master of Science Class of 1992, Richard Thailer, RPA-C - Physician Assistant Class of 1980, Ronald McManus, MS, MT (ASCP) - Master of Science Class of 1994, Jeannie Eberhardt, MS, MT (ASCP), NCA-CLS - Medical Technology Class of 1994.

This year's **School of Medicine** medical student Jeopardy Team made it to the final four finals and then took third place. The two teams ahead were UCONN and NJ. We are very pleased at your participation knowing everyone had a fun day.



Dr. Lenora J. McClean, the Dean of the **School of Nursing** invites the Stony Brook School of Nursing Alumni and Friends of the School who are members of the staff of Stony Brook University Hospital to a Special Alumni Reception.

The reception will be held Monday, November 4, 2002 in the Student Activities Center Building (SAC Center) on the West Campus. Please RSVP by October 28, 2002 at 631-444-3549.

The **School of Social Welfare** celebrated their Third Annual Alumni Recognition Event. Hon Kenneth LaValle, New York State Senator was awarded the Humanitarian Award. Six alumni were awarded Distinguished Alumni Awards: Gwendolyn M. Branch, MSW 1990; Maurice E. P. Coates, MSW 1983; Gerald R. Lucas, MSW 1973; Andrew M. Mattison, MSW 1973; Janice L. Rohlf MSW 1989, Carmen M. Vazquez, MSW 1981

Kudos

Michael R. Egnor, Associate Professor of Neurological Surgery and Assistant Professor of Pediatrics has developed a new protocol for patients who have had recurrent VP Shunt malfunctions. The procedure is a Spinal Shunt, which Dr. Egnor uses instead of, or in addition to, the VP shunt. For further information, please contact: New York Spine and Brain Surgery, PC, Department of Neurological Surgery at Stony Brook, Stony Brook New York 11794-8122 For appointments call 631-444-1210

Arthur Rosiello, Assistant Professor of Neurological Surgery, has introduced IDET to Stony Brook University Hospital. IDET, Intradiscal Electrothermal Therapy, is typically used for patients who have chronic lower back pain from lumbar degenerative disk disease that has not responded to conventional treatment. To learn more of this procedure, Dr. Rosiello can be reached at 444-1210 for consultation appointments.

Glenn Gaudette, Research Assistant Professor from the department of **Bio-medical Engineering**, has been awarded New York State's James D. Watson Investigator grant, which brings in approximately \$200K over several years. This grant is designed to support outstanding scientists and engineers who early in their careers show potential for leadership and discovery in the field of biotechnology. Glenn was cited for his work in developing functional blood vessels and was one of only two researchers from institutions within the State University of New York to be a grant award recipient.

Dorothy S. Lane, Professor, in the Department of **Preventive Medicine**, has been awarded the American Cancer Society 2002 Physician Training Award in Preventive Medicine

Marie Catherine Gelato, Professor in the department of **Medicine**, and **Program Director**, General Clinical Research Center at Stony Brook University, was one of 38 award-winning faculty members of the State University of New York honored at the second "Chancellor's Recognition Dinner honoring Research in Science, Engineering and Medicine. Her interest in the metabolic complications of HIV disease grew out of her work in Critical Care. Dr. Gelato's HIV research has been funded by the NIH for the last ten years. In 1996, she obtained funding from the NIH to establish a General Clinical Research Center at University Hospital at Stony Brook. She has made substantial contributions to the research community at Stony Brook. Dr. Gelato teaches, has a patient responsibility, is a member of an AIDS NIH study section and serves on the Advisory Board for all Endocrine and Metabolic drugs for the FDA.

Calendar of Events

† PLEASE SAVE THE DATE †

† October 24
Provost Lecture Series 12-:30pm
HSC, LH5,L3, Lecturer: Joan
Bru gge, Harvard Medical School
"Morphogenesis & Oncogenesis of
Mammary Epithelial Cells in 3D.

† November 14
C*A*S*H*
Faculty Fundraising Boot Camp
For info call 631-632-6108

† November 15
Understanding the Spectrum of Hor-
mones and Breast Cancer - An Edu-
cational Symposium. For infocall
.631-444-4316

† December 12
C*A*S*H*
Faculty Fundraising Boot Camp
For info call 631-632-6108

Q & A

Good communication is two way. Therefore, if you would like to comment, respond to any topics, or have news to share, please do so at HSC_VP@notes.cc.sunysb.edu. Suggestions for future topics are always welcome, as well. Please feel free to email this publication to others who might be interested in what is happening at the Health Sciences Center.

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