

HSC E-NEWS

Norman H. Edelman, M.D., Vice President, Health Sciences Center

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2006 - STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

On December 1-5, 2005 the 18th Annual "Counseling & Treating People of Color Conference: An International Perspective" co-founded by Dr. Frances L. Brisbane our Dean of the School of Social Welfare, Dr. C. Vincent Bakeman, President/CEO, Emeritus Human Resources Development Institute, Chicago, IL. and Dr. Terra Thomas, President/CEO, Human Resources Development Institute was held at the Fairmont Southampton Princess Hotel, Hamilton, Bermuda.



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Each year this international conference grows in interest as evidenced by its increasing attendance. This year, there were approximately 460 attendees. Known for the quality of its programming, the keynote speaker was the Honorable M. Jocelyn Elders, M.D., former Surgeon General in the Clinton Administration who addressed the issue of AIDS and Education. While the panelists were from different cultures, racial background and ages, they all had one main uniform focus: to broaden the understanding of health and wellness in the black community, no matter where you lived in the world.

Sessions included informational workshops on health, mental health, violence, and substance abuse. The mini-sessions were intimate and hands-on, so that participants could dialogue back and forth with not only the panelists, but with other participants in the group. They gained knowledge and support from the other participants. This knowledge helped them realize that they were not alone in providing services to minority communities. By networking, they could gain insight and perspective from other participants who were struggling and had positive testimonies about their communities. The feedback time in the mini-sessions opened the door to new friends and associates to contact to assist in providing moral support and technical support in their home communities.

Bermuda was a great place to host the conference. There was a large turnout from the different ministries in Bermuda, as well as significant presentations from the international community. Three post-conference sessions were held on "Fundraising," "Cultural Competence Training" and the "C. Vincent Bakeman Leadership Institute I & II" taught by specialists in these fields. Another component of the conference was the Coach Powell Youth Leadership Academy for youth ages 13-17 to help them become effective peer leaders and positive role models. The College/University Student Academy focuses on ages 18-21 taking the role as leaders and mentors. Once again, Dr. Brisbane and her team created an excellent conference. There was wide diversity in the topics and outstanding experts in attendance. Congratulations to all for a job well done.

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK



HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER



STUDY BY DAVID L. BROWN, M.D., CHIEF OF CARDIOLOGY AT STONY BROOK
PROVES SEXES RESPOND DIFFERENTLY TO ASPIRIN USE

New Study Published in JAMA says for Primary Events, Aspirin Offers
24% Reduction of Stroke in Women; 32% Reduction of Heart Attack in Men

(STONY BROOK, NY, January 12, 2006) - Taking aspirin can significantly reduce the risk of a woman having her first stroke, but it does not reduce the risk of stroke in men whatsoever, according to a study by David L. Brown, M.D., Chief of Cardiovascular Medicine and Co-Director of the Heart Center at Stony Brook University Hospital (pictured). The research findings, published in the January 18 issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA), also reveals that the risk of first time myocardial infarction (MI) is significantly reduced in men taking aspirin, but not in women." Although the benefits of aspirin therapy for reducing the risk of myocardial infarction, stroke and vascular death among men and women with pre-existing cardiovascular disease are well established," said Dr. Brown, "the role of aspirin in primary prevention is less clear. We looked at six trials spanning over 15 years, which included more than 95,000 healthy individuals to find out if aspirin works differently on the sexes. This study shows that it does."

In a new sex-specific meta-analysis of six different studies, Dr. Brown writes that depending on sex, aspirin therapy decreases the risk of a composite of cardiovascular events due to its effect on reducing the risk of MI in men and ischemic stroke in women. "This study will certainly help physicians more accurately describe the potential benefits of aspirin therapy to their patients," said Dr. Brown. "It also reinforces the need to clearly assess the bleeding risks when taking aspirin, and helps determine if the risks outweigh the benefits of aspirin for individuals with no family history or risk factors for cardiovascular disease."

Dr. Brown presented the research at the American Heart Association's Annual Meeting in Dallas, Texas in collaboration with investigators at Duke University, Durham, N.C. and Instituto di Ricerche Farmacologiche "Mario Negri," Milan, Italy.

Dr. Brown joined Stony Brook University Hospital in November, 2004. He brings a national reputation as a clinician, an innovator, a researcher and an educator. He formerly held leadership posts with the Albert Einstein College of Medicine and Beth Israel Medical Center in New York City. The distinguished Interventional cardiologist was recognized as one of the "Best Cardiologists" in New York by New York Magazine from 2002-2005. His research interest is in vascular disease and new ways for detecting blood vessels at risk for thrombosis.



TODD K. ROSENGART, M.D., APPOINTED CHIEF, CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY
AND CO-DIRECTOR OF THE HEART CENTER AT STONY BROOK
Long Island Native, a Nationally Renowned Surgeon, Will Help Lead Heart Center

(STONY BROOK, NY, January 12, 2006) - Todd K. Rosengart, M.D., F.A.C.S., F.A.C.C., a nationally-renowned heart surgeon and leader in surgical research, has been named Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery Stony Brook University Hospital. The appointment comes at a time when Stony Brook is further enhancing its major clinical programs and expanding access of its tertiary services to residents across Suffolk County.

Dr. Rosengart will serve as co-director of the hospital's Heart Center, and will further ensure the established quality of Stony Brook's cardiovascular care delivery system that provides integrated services throughout the continuum of care. He also is a Professor of Surgery and will work closely with his counterpart in cardiovascular medicine, David L. Brown, M.D., Chief of Cardiology and also co-director of the Heart Center.

Rosengart grew up in Long Beach and comes to Stony Brook from Northwestern University's School of Medicine in Chicago, where he was Professor of Surgery and Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery at its affiliated hospitals of Evanston Northwestern Healthcare.

Dr. Rosengart will have an active surgical practice. His clinical expertise includes surgery for all forms of adult heart disease, including high-risk states after acute myocardial infarctions and congestive heart failure, minimally invasive surgery, valve repair surgery, aneurysm surgery and thoracic vascular surgery.

Dr. Rosengart has special expertise in treating high-risk and complex adult heart disease. He has performed pioneering work applying novel strategies, including thoracoscopic "hybrid" bypass that avoids sternotomies (surgical incision through the sternum), "bloodless" surgery for patients wishing to avoid transfusions, and gene therapy, potentially providing a "biologic bypass" for patients with end-stage coronary disease.

His priority, Dr. Rosengart says is to provide the level of care that people in Suffolk County need, right in Suffolk County. "If we do our job well, there is no reason why anyone who needs heart treatment should leave Suffolk County."

Dr. Rosengart received his undergraduate degree at Northwestern University Honors Medical Program in 1979. He earned his medical degree from Northwestern University Honors Medical Program in 1983. He completed his residency training at New York University (NYU Medical Center; 1989), and his fellowship training in cardiothoracic surgery at New York Hospital (1991).

Dr. Rosengart is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and the American College of Cardiology, and he is a member of the Society of Thoracic Surgeons, the American Association of Thoracic Surgery, and the Executive Leadership Committee for the American Heart Association's Surgery and Anesthesia Council, among other professional societies and committees. He was selected for inclusion in Guide to America's Top Surgeons (2004), and for inclusion in the Castle Connolly Guide, America's Top Doctors (2003, 2004), and in Chicago Magazine's Best Doctors in Chicago for the past four years.

Dr. Rosengart has authored over 100 publications and serves on the editorial boards of the Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery and Journal of Cardiovascular and Renal Research. He also serves as a manuscript reviewer for journals such as the New England Journal of Medicine, Circulation, and the Annals of Thoracic Surgery.

Dr. Rosengart and his wife Debbie plan to live in Setauket. They have two sons; Michael, 15 and Eric, 12.

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOLS

The School of Nursing

The School of Nursing is in the midst of another interesting year. Applications for admission are on the increase and two important alliances developed this year which will enable the School to increase its enrollment. First, Dr. Lee Xippolitos has committed to providing clinical supervision for a group of 24 one-year baccalaureate students. Second, Vice President Maureen White at Long Island Jewish/North Shore University Hospital has committed to taking 20 senior students for clinical experience. These are mutually beneficial relationships as both hospitals will have a better chance of recruiting Stony Brook graduates at a much lower cost than general recruitment. University Hospital needs nurses to staff its expansion and LIJ/North Shore, with 14 hospitals and growing, employs 10,000 in total and must recruit more than 700 nurses each year to replace those who leave. This is good news for the shortage of nurses in the Southern Tier of New York State.

At the graduate level, interest in the distance learning opportunity continues to grow. Just as convenience and mobility are increasingly in demand in business, the demand is equally strong in education. We have a number of students in active military service and, interestingly, we have attracted the interest of embassy nurses. The nurse in the American embassy in Seoul recommended the program to the embassy nurse in Tokyo, who recommended the embassy nurse in Bhutan, and so on. The hurricanes of last season disrupted the lives of several of our students. Our faculty and students provided generous emotional and material support to them.

In August, faculty began their exploration of doctoral program opportunities that would be most suitable for Stony Brook. A Steering Committee was appointed. Maryjean Buhse and Marie Marino were named as chairs. In addition to attending meetings sponsored by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, the next step was a faculty retreat with Dr. Michael Carter, former dean at the University of Tennessee, as consultant and speaker. Additionally, Dr. Lawrence Martin gave a very informative presentation on doctoral education at Stony Brook. Two local deans, Dr. Craig Lehmann of the School of Health Technology and Management and Dr. Frances Brisbane of the School of Social Welfare, shared their experience and points of view with faculty. Before the close of the fall semester, the faculty voted to work toward a Doctorate in Nursing Practice in the near term and keep, as a goal, the PhD degree in the longer term. Work is continuing toward these goals.

Faculty efforts in grantsmanship have been rewarded. Peter Johnson and Lori Escallier received a HRSA award of over \$704,500 to increase the number of minority nurses and nurse practitioners working with mothers and children. Maryjean Buhse received a HRSA grant of \$47,000 to provide continuing education to nurses working in nursing homes. Kathleen Shurpin is in the third year of a \$526,000 award from New York State Workforce Retraining to upgrade the education of nurses working with the elderly. Corrine Jurgens is actively engaged in her Hartford Foundation funded post-doctoral program at the University of Pennsylvania and is developing a research program related to heart disease among the elderly. The Geriatric Education Center continues to be a valuable resource to faculty.

Faculty continue to receive recognition for outstanding contributions to both clinical practice and teaching. Bruce Zitkus was named one of the Nurses of the Year by Nursing Spectrum and Nurse Practitioner of the Year by the Long Island Nurse Practitioner Association.

In other developments, Associate Dean Ora James Bouey presided over the tenth annual graduation of surgical technologists, a program that is co-sponsored by University Hospital and the School of Nursing.

Patient Privacy, Incidental Disclosures, and Inappropriate Disclosures

When it comes to HIPAA, there is a lot of confusion about incidental disclosures which are permissible under HIPAA. By definition, incidental means "an unpredictable or minor accompaniment". HIPAA was never intended to stop customary communications and practices that involve treatment, payment or health care operations. It is for this reason that the federal government issues guidance allowing for incidental disclosures and uses of Protected Health Information (PHI) without violating HIPAA. These incidental uses and disclosures can only be conducted if reasonable safeguards are in place to protect a patient's privacy.

For example, consider a doctor giving a nurse detailed instructions for patient care. Even if the privacy curtain is pulled, someone may overhear. It is incidental and doesn't need to be documented. Speaking softly, in this instance, would be a safeguard to limit your incidental disclosure. Incidental disclosures require reasonable safeguards. When not involving treatment, you still must disclose only the minimum amount of information necessary. Other examples of reasonable safeguards include:

- Speaking quietly when discussing a patient's condition with family members in a waiting room or other public area
- Avoiding using patients' names in public hallways and elevators, and posting signs to remind employees to protect patient confidentiality
- Isolating or locking file cabinets or records rooms, or
- Providing additional security, such as passwords, on computers maintaining personal information.

Some disclosures are not incidental but are inappropriate uses and/or disclosures of PHI. It is important to identify an inappropriate disclosure as inappropriate and not incidental. A fax to an incorrect number, an email to the wrong person, an inappropriate verbal discussion, or PHI left in a hospital cafeteria, lecture hall or conference room may be inadvertent, but they are not incidental disclosures, they are inappropriate disclosures that require investigation, documentation, accounting, and, when appropriate, corrective actions, retraining, and remediation.

The following steps should be taken to prevent inappropriate disclosures:

- Confine patient discussions to patient care areas. This is a good baseline defense against inappropriate disclosures. If two employees go out to lunch, discussions involving patient healthcare is not appropriate. Not only is this a display of poor manners. It is inappropriate, especially in a hospital cafeteria. While generic references to a case are acceptable (although it is preferable to leave such discussions for patient care areas as well) specific patient references are prohibited. Leave patient discussions for areas in which patients receive care and your strongest privacy protections are in place.
- Create privacy at admitting/office reception stations. Admitting/reception stations are often inundated with patients checking-in to the immediate vicinity of personnel holding business-related discussions on the telephone. Do your best to keep patients separate, so that conversations that need to be private are not overheard.
- Take sight-lines into account. Keep PHI from being seen by passersby. Turn computer monitors to angles from which the public cannot view them. Turn files over on desks and put PHI in folders on your desk when PHI is uncovered.
- Use common sense on the phone. Take steps to avoid being overheard. If possible, close the door, speak at a reasonable volume, and avoid using a speakerphone when talking about patients over the telephone.

HIPAA policies, procedures and practices continue to evolve. Taking appropriate measures can limit the confusion, protect patient privacy and build patient trust. When in doubt seek guidance from your departmental managers or contact the privacy officials in your respective Stony Brook entity.

Other News of Note

Long Island Veterans Home

The Long Island State Veterans Home at Stony Brook University and the New York Islanders invite you to attend a special night, an opportunity to thank all Veterans, "America's Heroes", for their service and dedication in protecting our freedoms.

"A Salute to Veterans Night"

Saturday - March 25th, 2006

Game Time - 7PM

New York Islanders vs. Atlanta Thrashers

Tickets will be offered at a special discount ticket price of \$35 per ticket.

The event will include raffle prizes and special recognition ceremonies.

Proceeds from ticket sales will enhance programs, services and activities at the Long Island State Veterans Home to benefit our residents and those who care for them.

Tickets must be purchased through the Long Island State Veterans Home in order to receive the discounted price. To purchase tickets, please contact LISVH Community Relations at (631) 444-8615.

The Fifth Annual Long Island State Veterans Home Golf Classic will be held on September 21st, 2006 at the Great Rock Golf Club in Wading River. The full day event includes breakfast, scramble format golf, cocktail hour and dinner. Evening activities include a silent auction and raffle prizes. Proceeds from the event will enhance programs, services and activities at the Long Island State Veterans Home to benefit the residents and those who care for them. If you would like to participate in the event, sponsor, or donate an auction/raffle item, please call the Long Island State Veterans Home at 444-8615.

School Newsletters

Social Welfare

Phil Yankovich, MBA and Director of Advancement, HSC and University Hospital is pleased to announce that the first addition of the School of Social Welfare *e-In the Loop Newsletter* is live and on the web at <http://www.hsc.stonybrook.edu/sosw/>. In the left hand column of the home page click on the School of Social Welfare *e-In the Loop Newsletter* link and it will take you to the newsletter. Phil Yankovich will be in touch with each of Schools to schedule an appointment to meet to discuss a timeline to create an electronic newsletter for each of the Schools within the HSC. for further information email to: philip.yankovich@stonybrook.edu

Health Technology and Management

Effective February 1, 2006, **Professor Catherine Vetter** will officially assume the duties of Acting Director of the Cytotechnology Program in SHTM. She brings both clinical and teaching expertise to the job, and we wish her every success!

School of Medicine

The American College of Radiology has published the 50th textbook of its well known syllabus series for physician self education dating back to the 1970's. Ultrasound III which was published December 2005 was edited by Barbara Hertzberg MD of Duke, Michael Hill MD of George Washington University Hospital and **Harris L. Cohen MD**, the editor in chief of the American College of Radiology's Syllabus series and a member of Stony Brook School of Medicine's Department of Radiology.

Harris L. Cohen MD was chosen as one of 3 members of the Radiologic Society of North America's International Visiting Professor Program. Dr. Cohen of Stony Brook, Dr. Norbash, Chairman of Boston University School of Medicine's Department of Radiology and Dr. King Li, Chief of Molecular Imaging at the National Institute of Health, lectured at several venues in Chennai and Bangalore India during the first 2 weeks of January 2006.

Drs. Mohit Naik and **Amit Patel**, Radiology residents at Stony Brook and **Dr. Harris L. Cohen**, Professor of Radiology, coordinated the RSNA's Unknown Ultrasound Case of the Day program for the 2005 annual meeting held in December. The RSNA meeting is one of the world's largest health related meetings with an attendance of about 50,000 individuals.

Dr. Khaldoon el Dulaimy, a Radiology resident at Stony Brook and **Dr. Harris L. Cohen**, Professor of Radiology, Director of Body Imaging coordinated the Society of Radiologists in "Ultrasound (SRU) Unknown Case of the Day" program for the 2005 annual meeting held in October 2005

Special Olympics Healthy Athletes Health Professions Student Grant

Health professions students at the Bachelor, Master, Doctorate and Post-doctorate levels from accredited institutions or programs in the US or other countries in fields or disciplines of audiology, dentistry, pre-med, medicine, nursing, optometry, physical therapy, podiatry, public health, social work, law, public administration or other related health areas may be eligible to apply for up to \$3,500 a year in funding. The grants are to promote short-term, student-designated, student-led projects with a focus on the special Olympics Health Athletes programs as well as the health and well-being of all persons with intellectual disabilities. For applications and other information please go to: <http://www.specialolympics.org/studentgrants>. The deadline for summer awards is March 1, 2006. Other questions can be directed to Darcie Mersereau, Manager of Research and Evaluation at dmersereau@specialolympics.org or by phone at (202)715-3600.

Kudos

Stony Brook University Hospital named **Lauren Sheprow** director of media relations. She had been director of public relations at Mather Memorial Hospital in Port Jefferson. Prior to that, Sheprow was director of marketing and director of public relations for the Nasdaq-100 Open in Miami.

The Actor/Director Michael Knowles is currently making a documentary on the debilitating neurological disorder, Rett Syndrome. On Wednesday, Jan 4, he began filming in **Gail Mandel's** lab. He interviewed Gail and her group about their recent work having important implications for understanding Rett Syndrome. Gail has recently become active in Rett Syndrome research. She is co-Chair of the upcoming **7th Annual Rett Syndrome Symposium**, together with **Huda Zoghbi**, who discovered that mutations in the MECP2 gene is responsible for Rett Syndrome. The meeting is sponsored by the Rett Syndrome Research Foundation, the world's largest private supporter of research on Rett Syndrome. On Jan 4, Gail highlighted the value of our Center as an interactive, multi-disciplinary group. I trust you will join me in wishing her the best.

30 years of research into saliva chemistry has resulted in Stony Brook University's School of Dental Medicine's new complex, "**CaviStat**." This complex can be incorporated into confections making it possible to market candy, chewing gum and other treats often associated with promoting cavities as "cavity-fighting" treats. CaviStat was developed, clinically tested and patented by researchers in the Department of Oral Biology and Pathology and was proven significantly more effective than fluoride in fighting cavities in a two-year toothpaste study involving 726 patients, according to a recently published study in the quarterly *Journal of Clinical Dentistry*. **Dr. Israel Kleinberg**, founding Chair of the Department of Oral Biology and Pathology was the lead researcher.

Dr. Lorne Golub, Department of Oral Biology and Pathology, was recently informed that a research grant from the NIH (Nat. Heart Lung and Blood Inst.) entitled "Modified Tetracycline Effect on Sepsis - Induced Mortality" will be funded for two years. Golub is a co-investigator together with his medical collaborators in the Departments. of Surgery at the SUNY Upstate Medical School in Syracuse, NY and the University of Texas Medical. School. The Principal Investigator on this STTR, industrial/university grant is Collagenex Pharmaceuticals, Inc. which licensed the patents on chemically-modified tetracycline-3 (CMT-3 or Inclinide R), developed in Golub's lab with his team of Drs. McNamara, Ramamurthy, and Lee, as a proteinase (MMPs & elastase) - inhibitor drug. The objective is to test the efficacy of CMT-3 in clinically-relevant animal models of an often-fatal disease, acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS).

Stony Brook University Hospital conducted their annual **Survey of the SBU Community** to better understand how people perceive their services. The Research Associates, a New York City-based marketing research firm designed and conducted the study. The Research Associates will share your overall impressions and collective recommendations with the hospital staff. To access the survey go to:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=373721478367>

Distinguished Alumni Award Photo Album

Now Online at: http://www.stonybrookalumni.com/cgi-any/photoalbum.dll/genfill?t=PhotoAlbum_Detail.htm&primarygroup=&id=15&bid=

Good communication is two way! Send your news and comments to HSC_VP@notes.cc.sunysb.edu. Please feel free to email this publication to others who might be interested in what is happening at the Health Sciences Center.

Calendar of Events

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE

Chocolate!
January 30, 2006
"Sweet Dreams"

Watermill Caterers, Smithtown New York
VIP Reception & Chocolate Tasting
Event

Support the Matt and Debra Cody Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities at Stony Brook University. For Reservations contact HealthConnect at 631.444.4000

February 3, 2006
"Give Kids a Smile Day"

School of Dental Medicine and Central Islip School District

For Information Contact HealthConnect @ 631.444.4000

March is National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

To Enroll in the "At Risk for Colon Cancer Pilot Study" contact HealthConnect at 631.444.4000.

March 9, 2006, 6-9 p.m.,
Villa Lombardi's, Holbrook, NY,
Tickets \$60--"Little Miracles"

Dinner and Fashion show to celebrate "**Little Miracles**." Children who have survived cancer and are the stars of the show as they model fashions along with their families and staff from Stony Brook University Hospital. Funds support the sunrise fund for pediatric oncology programs at the hos-pital and the new Ambulatory Care Pavilion.

January is National Volunteer Blood Donor Month--Blood Supply at Critically Low Level

To donate or to find out more, call Health-Connect at 631.444.4000

Stony Brook Day
in Albany
February 28, 2006

Take the Ride. Show Your Pride Register online at www.stonybrook.edu/albany or contact Pat CrusoE-mail: Patricia.Cruso@stonybrook.edu Phone: (631) 632-4309

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