

Medicine

Chair: David Duggan, MD '79

- The Summer 2007 Alumni Journal, under "Department Notes" incorrectly listed **Robert Levine, MD**, under Family Medicine. He is a member of the Department of Medicine.
- After serving as chair of the Department of Medicine since 1992, **David Duggan, MD '79** has decided to step down. He will assume the role of associate vice president and associate dean for clinical outcomes and initiatives when the national search for a new chair is completed. Dr. Duggan joined the faculty in 1985. He and his wife, Lynn Cleary, MD, FACP, who is currently the senior associate dean for curriculum, live in Skaneateles with their three children: Abby, 18; Joe, 14; and Sam, 9.

Neurology

Chair: Jeremy Shefner, MD, PhD

- **Jeremy Shefner, MD, PhD**, was named to the Editorial Board of *Clinical Neurophysiology*. Dr. Shefner also received an ALS Association grant to develop clinical trials infrastructure for the ALS Association. He served as honorary chair for the CNY ALSA Chapter Walk to d'Feet ALS on August, 19, 2007, and was an invited speaker at Cold Spring Harbor Symposium on Drug Discovery, Clinical Trials and Biomarkers in ALS.
- **Deborah Bradshaw, MD '84**, Associate Professor of Neurology, was presented a Teaching Award by the neurology residents in June 2007.
- The Upstate Department of Neurology has announced four new faculty appointments:
 - Julius Gene Latorre, MD, HS '04**, as assistant professor of neurology and Director of Neurocritical Care Services within the Department of Neurology. Dr. Latorre received his Medical Degree from the University of the East - RMMMC in the Philippines. He graduated from the neurology residency program at Upstate Medical University, and subsequently completed a fellowship in EEG and Epilepsy at Upstate. Latorre was then accepted for further training in vascular neurology and neurocritical

care at the Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School. During this time, he also pursued a masters degree in public health at the Harvard School of Public Health. Latorre's clinical interests are in the area of acute stroke care and neurocritical care. His research interests combine his expertise in EEG and neurocritical care, as he is studying how long term EEG monitoring can improve outcomes in Intensive Care Units. Having Latorre at Upstate strengthens the comprehensive stroke program at University Hospital.

Yahia Lodi, MD, as associate professor of neurology and director of cerebrovascular services within the Department of Neurology. Dr. Lodi was a neurology resident at the Medical College of Wisconsin. He then completed a fellowship in neurocritical care and stroke at John Hopkins University. Lodi received additional training in neurovascular intervention at New Jersey Medical School and Wayne State University. He was the director of the Neurocritical Care Unit at Millard Filmore Hospital at SUNY Buffalo and also at the University Hospital of UMDNJ-NJ Medical School. Lodi has also served as director of stroke services at the St. Joseph Mercy Health System in Detroit, MI, and was director of endovascular neurointervention at Sparrow Hospital, affiliated with Michigan State University. Lodi's arrival to Upstate Medical University has allowed for the creation of a comprehensive endovascular intervention service, which can provide acute stroke intervention 24 hours, 7-days-per-week. Under his direction, a dedicated stroke team has been developed. In addition, Lodi brings expertise in neurocritical care, and is working with other neurocritical care specialists to establish a comprehensive service in this area as well. Lodi holds a joint appointment in the Department of Radiology.

Laura Simionescu, MD, HS '07, as assistant professor of neurology. Dr. Simionescu specializes in the evaluation and treatment of patients with neuromuscular diseases; she is also interested in patients with more general neurological problems. She was trained in physical medicine and rehabilitation in Romania. She



Robert M. Kellman, MD '77, HS '81



Jeremy Shefner, MD, PhD

completed neurology training at Upstate Medical University, and has remained here as a fellow in clinical neurophysiology and neuromuscular disease. Simionescu also completed a clinical trials fellowship and is particularly interested in clinical therapeutics. Her arrival at Upstate Medical University significantly expands our ability to expeditiously see patients with neuromuscular disease and related disorders.

Helen Barkan, MD, PhD, as assistant professor of neurology. Dr. Barkan specializes in evaluation and treatment of patients with epilepsy. She received her undergraduate medical training at Dartmouth Medical School, where she also completed a PhD in biomedical engineering from the Thayer School of Engineering at Dartmouth College. Subsequently, Barkan completed an EEG/Epilepsy fellowship at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. Her clinical interests span the entire range of patients with epilepsy, and she is especially interested in the evaluation and treatment of patients with intractable disease. Her expertise also includes pediatric patients with epilepsy. Barkan's arrival at Upstate Medical University significantly expands our ability to expeditiously see patients with epilepsy and related disorders.

Otolaryngology

Chair: Robert M. Kellman, MD '77, HS '81

- **Robert M. Kellman, MD**, recently became one of the first surgeons to complete all requirements for the American Board of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Maintenance of Certification. Dr. Kellman was awarded this at the American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery meeting held September 18-21, 2007, in Washington, D.C.

Psychiatry

Chair: Mantosh J. Dewan, MD, HS '79

- The Department of Psychiatry welcomes home one of the most recognized names in our field, **Ronald Pies, MD '78**, as Professor of Psychiatry. A graduate of both our medical school and psychiatry residency, Dr. Pies is a brilliant thinker whose writing extends from several highly regarded books in psychiatry, a book on the philosophical

foundations of the major religions, to a number of pieces in the medical humanities, including several books of poetry — truly a renaissance man! He is editor-in-chief of the *Psychiatric Times*, the psychiatric professional magazine with the largest circulation, and an authority in clinical psychopharmacology, with a single-authored best-selling text in general psychopharmacology and a multi-authored highly-acclaimed text in geriatric psychopharmacology.

- **Roger Greenberg, PhD**, received the 2007 President's Award for Excellence in Teaching.
- **Chaitanya Haldipur, MD**, received the 2007 Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching.
- **James Knoll, IV, MD**, received the Award for Outstanding Teaching in a Forensic Fellowship Program given by the American Association of Psychiatry and Law.
- **Ron Saletsky, PhD**, and the ENHANCE team received the "Light of Hope Award" from Onondaga CASA (court appointed special advocates) Center for Community Alternatives.
- **Paula Trief, PhD**, professor of psychiatry, was appointed senior associate dean for faculty affairs and faculty development. She also received the 2007 Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Faculty Service

- The Department of Psychiatry also listed several new grants received by its faculty: **Stephen Faraone, PhD**, received a prestigious GAIN award. Six common diseases from all areas of medicine were chosen for whole genome analysis. The Genetic Association Information Network (GAIN) is a unique public-private partnership involving the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and multiple private organizations and is funded through the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH). Dr. Faraone's award is for his "International Multi-Center Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder Genetics Project." (NIMH: Analysis of an ADHD Whole Genome Association Scan — \$157,000)

Wendy Kates, PhD, received a NIMH grant: Biomarkers for Psychosis in Velocardiofacial Syndrome — \$679,882.

Usha Satish, PhD, received a Josiah Macy Junior Foundation grant: Strategic Management Simulation In Graduate Medical Education — \$428,967 and the US EPA: Impact of CO2 on Human Decision Making and Productivity — \$287,267 (2007-2009).

Marina Worsley, PhD, received a NIMH grant: Genetics of Schizophrenia in Oceanic Palau — \$571,417

Radiology

Chair: David Feiglin, MD

- The Division of Interventional Radiology, under the leadership of **Frank Vogel, MD**, has continued to expand clinical services including uterine artery embolization, radiofrequency ablation of bone and liver tumors, and chemoembolization of primary and metastatic liver tumors. On the research front, we are entering into clinical research protocols comparing thrombolytic infusion versus ultrasound enhanced thrombolytic infusion for treatment of acute, severe pulmonary embolism.
- The Section of Chest Imaging, under the leadership of **Ernest Scalzetti, MD '86**, with the help of the **E. Robert Heitzman, MD '51**, Endowed Professorship in Radiology Research, is pursuing several projects related to diagnosis and treatment of lung cancer. One focus is on CT-guided procedures, where Dr. Scalzetti is taking advantage of the ability to obtain core samples of tumors during needle biopsy to extend radiologic-pathologic correlation to a smaller spatial scale. In addition, Scalzetti is following approximately 20 patients who have been treated at University Hospital over the past six years for clinical stage 1 non-small cell lung cancer using radiofrequency ablation (RFA). The three longest survivors have made it beyond five years without evidence of recurrent lung cancer, indicating that RFA can be curative. Another focus is on multi-center clinical trials sponsored by the Cancer and Leukemia Group B (CALGB). A national organization that is supported by the National Cancer Institute, CALGB recently formed an Imaging Committee, of which Dr. Scalzetti is a member. This committee advises on image-related issues in its clinical trials. Currently, Scalzetti is a co-chair of a

randomized multicenter study evaluating standard lobectomy versus sublobar resection in patients who have peripheral stage 1 non-small cell lung cancer. One goal of the trial is to evaluate the pre-operative CT scans and annual follow-up CT scans, providing information about early stage lung cancers and the use of CT in post-surgical surveillance.

- Within the Division of Radiological Physics, **Nikolaus M. Szevenyi, PhD**, provides instruction and support for MRI teaching and research. His research interests are in functional imaging, diffusion tensor imaging, image processing, and MRI safety. He has grants from Bard and Synthes for studying the MRI compatibility of various biomedical devices.
- Within the Division of Nuclear Medicine, **Andrzej Krol, PhD**, has developed advanced acquisition protocols and tomographic reconstruction especially for brain and cardiac imaging as well as the use of dynamic PET/CT breast imaging and dynamic MR mammography. Additional research interests have included Ultrafast laser-based x-ray sources for breast cancer imaging as well as in the sphere of small animal imaging brain deformation quantification between mutant and normal mice utilizing a dedicated in vivo micro-CT scanner.

Surgery

Chair: Paul Cunningham, MD

- **Mutaz B. Habal, MD, HS '64**, writes he enjoyed his four years in Syracuse and his learning experience.

Robert Shaw Wilkinson, Jr., MD, HS '62

Many students, faculty, and residents who worked with former Department of Medicine Chair Richard Lyons, MD, in the late fifties and early sixties will remember Robert Shaw Wilkinson, Jr., MD, HS '62, who was a resident, research fellow, and assistant instructor in medicine at Upstate.

Dr. Wilkinson was recently named Professor Emeritus of Clinical Medicine at New York University, an honor conferred at commencement exercises in May 2007, following an illustrious teaching career at Georgetown and George Washington university medical schools and nearly 44 years of internal medicine private practice.

A 1955 graduate of New York University School of Medicine, Wilkinson was also awarded the school's Leadership Award in September 2006. In his acceptance remarks, he reflected on his Upstate beginnings. "When I was completing my residency in 1962, Dr. Richard Lyons, the Chairman of the Department of Medicine at the Upstate Medical Center in Syracuse, warned me that it was five years to obsolescence unless I found a way to keep up with the advances in medicine. In retrospect, that was a major understatement. Who could have predicted or imagined the remarkable changes that were to occur in medicine during the next four decades?" Wilkinson said.

Wilkinson received numerous other prestigious awards during his career. Most notably, he was the recipient of

the American College of Physicians District of Columbia Chapter Laureate Award, the Distinguished Achievement Award from the Washington, DC, affiliate of the American Heart Association, and was named a Master of the American College of Physicians in 2004. He also served as medical advisor for the World Bank and International Monetary Fund.

Joseph P. Whalen, MD '59, former dean of the Upstate College of Medicine, recalls Wilkinson as an "outstanding physician who greatly added to my training during my medical student and house staff years at Upstate."

Years later, they became re-associated when Wilkinson became Dr. Whalen's brother's physician in Washington, DC. "I observed Bob as he practiced medicine of the highest caliber, treating patients from college presidents to the indigent," says Whalen.

Wilkinson's career achievements give testimony to his ability to keep up and remain a lifelong learner, as well as to give back, in service and leadership. We all wish him well.

—David Duggan, MD '79

