

update

MAY 14 THROUGH MAY 28, 2008

SUNY Upstate collaborates on national study linking PCBs and diabetes

High levels of PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) may be the newest risk factor for diabetes in men and women between the ages of 35 to 54 regardless of race, obesity, family history of diabetes, or gender, according to preliminary findings of a national study co-led by SUNY Upstate Medical University researchers Allen Silverstone, PhD, Ruth Weinstock, MD, PhD, and Paula Rosenbaum, PhD.

The findings also support the importance of regular diabetes screening for people in this population. Diabetes is a major risk factor for heart disease and stroke as well as eye, kidney and nerve damage, but these complications can be prevented or forestalled with proper care.

The SUNY Upstate researchers have been members of the Anniston Environmental Health Research Consortium, charged with conducting

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Photograph by William Mueller

Allen Silverstone, PhD, professor of microbiology and immunology at SUNY Upstate Medical University, holds a few of the serum samples provided by 774 participants of the Anniston Diabetes Study. The samples are stored in SUNY Upstate's Serum and Cellular Bank and had been tested for insulin and autoantibodies associated with diabetes. They are now being tested for thyroid and DNA autoantibodies.

WCNY-TV's George Kilpatrick to emcee Employee Recognition Day June 5

George Kilpatrick, director of community affairs for WCNY-TV, will emcee SUNY Upstate Medical University's Employee Recognition Day June 5, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Oncenter in downtown Syracuse. ERD honors SUNY Upstate employees who have achieved their five-year incremental milestone of service as of June 30, 2008.

Kilpatrick is host of the WCNY-TV daily talk show "Food For Thought with George Kilpatrick"; producer/host of the daily live midday television talk show, "Hour CNY"; producer/host of the award-winning series, "Access with George Kilpatrick"; and producer of WCNY's weekly public affairs program, "Central Issues". He is also producer and host of "The George Kilpatrick Show" and host of "Dr. On-

Call" on WSYR-570AM. His latest endeavor, "New Inspiration for the Nation" on WPHR-FM brings Kilpatrick's mission front and center as he talks with nationally recognized guests about success, motivation, and positive role models within the African American community. Kilpatrick serves as host, producer and creator of New Inspiration which celebrated its first anniversary last fall.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

May is Trauma Awareness Month. The SUNY Upstate community extends a thank you to its Trauma Services staff for its commitment to providing excellent patient care and community outreach. Trauma Services sells bicycle and ski helmets to help deter head traumas from bicycle and skiing accidents and offers the “Let’s Not Meet By Accident” program for high school students that illustrates the reality of drinking and driving. For more information or to schedule an appointment for “Let’s Not Meet By Accident”, call 464-4773. For information about the helmet program, visit www.upstate.edu/uh/surgery/trauma/bike.php or call 464-4773.

Applications are online and available for teens, 14 years and older, to volunteer in University Hospital. Departments that are interested in requesting a teen volunteer may call 464-6144 or 464-5180 for further details.

The Upstate Medical University Foundation is selling raffle tickets to benefit pediatric services at University Hospital. First prize is a 2008 Kawasaki Vulcan 900 Custom motorcycle. The second prize is two airline tickets to anywhere in the contiguous United States. Tickets are \$5 each or five for \$20 and are available in the pediatric office, fifth floor of University Hospital, the Foundation Office, 326 C.A.B., or at any CNY Kawasaki dealer.

Race for the Cure will be held May 17 at the New York State Fairgrounds. To register as part of SUNY Upstate’s team, visit www.komencny.org, select: Click Here to Register; Join an “Existing Team;” Team List Page; and Upstate Medical University. For information, e-mail sellj@upstate.edu or call 464-6276.

Motorcyclists are invited to participate in the 14th Annual Miracle Ride to benefit the Golisano Children’s Hospital May

18, at 11:30 a.m., beginning at the Spinning Wheel Restaurant, 7384 Thompson Road in North Syracuse. Riders will enjoy a new route this year that takes them from the restaurant through Onondaga and Madison counties. Registration is from 10 to 11:30 a.m. To register or for more information call 464-KIDS.

Safety-at-Work and Patient Safety Goal Fairs, required education for all SUNY Upstate staff, will be held May 21, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Fifth Floor Conference Room at University Health Care Center. The fairs include a poster presentation and testing for annual compliance.

SUNY Upstate President David R. Smith, MD, invites the SUNY Upstate community to the Share Our Values Kick Off May 21, at 2 p.m. in the Medical Alumni Auditorium at Weiskotten Hall. Earlier this year, more than 2,000 employees participated in identifying SUNY Upstate’s values that built on what was in place and now encompass the entire campus. The presentation, that will explore what these unified values will mean to SUNY Upstate, will also be live on Staff Ed TV, channel 62 and rebroadcast will be video number 500 on Staff Educational TV (SETV).

The SUNY Upstate Community is invited to a retirement reception to honor Kathleen J. Himes for 42 years of service May 29, from noon to 4 p.m. at the Department of Psychiatry, 713 Harrison St., in the department’s second floor Grand Rounds area. Himes has been administrative assistant to the chair of Psychiatry for the past 20 years and has held a variety of positions within the campus and at Hutchings Psychiatric Center.

The 2008 SUNY Upstate Telephone Directory and Resource Guide is available through Central Stores. To receive a copy, order from Central Stores using

catalog number 4270. There will be no general deliveries.

The Historical Collections Department in the Health Sciences Library has made available the manuscript history of SUNY Upstate Medical University, titled, *Chronological Calendar of Events of the College of Medicine at Syracuse, 1872 to 1968, with Some Later Additions.* The document is available as a single, searchable pdf file, and also as individual chapters (also searchable). To view the document, visit <http://www.upstate.edu/library/history/institution/ferg.php>. The document contains photographs, department chapters, a chronology of important events/landmarks in the history of the school, statistical information about the school’s enrollment and expenditures (through 1968), and chapters on deans and presidents, secretaries, administration, and the library. For information, contact Elise Calvi at calvie@upstate.edu or 4-4585.

Winners of the Cover the Uninsured Week Fundraising Raffle are: Nathan Major (Grand Prize, Apple iPod Touch); Shelley LaMocchia, Larry Nasser Cameron and Elizabeth Moschiano (second place, \$50 gift certificates to Appethaizing and Dinosaur BBQ); McKalen Smith, John Cullen and David James (third place, spa packages to Relaxation Zone, Art of Massage and SpaZend); Adrienne Socci, Rick Lagace and Jenn Tibbens (fourth place, 10 minute chair massage at Art of Massage); Dr. Russell Durkovic (fifth place, Starbucks coffee and mug set); Andrea Hsue (sixth place, stethoscope and reflex hammers); Tim Wong, Svilen Mihaylou, Beverly Schaefer and Latoya Lawrence (seventh place, lunch at Appethaizing with SUNY Upstate President David R. Smith, MD). Due to the generosity of the SUNY Upstate community, the

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New nurse practitioner program focuses on family psychiatric mental health

SUNY Upstate Medical University will begin training nurses this fall to be certified as family psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners in a move that officials say will bring mental healthcare to regions of rural New York where it is nearly non-existent.

“As an academic medical center, SUNY Upstate Medical University must make it a priority to respond to the healthcare needs of the communities we serve,” said SUNY Upstate President David R. Smith, MD. “This new program provides New York with a solution that addresses directly the critical shortage of mental healthcare professionals throughout our region.”

Data from the Center for Health Workforce Studies (CHWS) at SUNY Albany shows that only 5 percent of all practicing nurse practitioners in New York state are specialized in psychiatric mental health. There are very few such certified nurse practitioners and in the 20-county Central New York region.

“The critical shortage of mental healthcare professionals in rural New York counties results in a lack of treatment, compounded by incorrect, incomplete or non-existent diagnosis of mental and behavioral health issues, especially for children,” said Elvira Szigeti, PhD, RN, dean of the College of Nursing, which will offer the new program.

The family psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner is the second most sought-after nurse practitioner specialty

in the state, Szigeti said. “These professionals are in demand because they bring to an underserved area skills that might not otherwise be available.”

A family psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner is able to provide children and adults with primary mental healthcare, including the diagnosis of mental illness, medication management and family and group therapy, as well as mental health promotion. They provide mental healthcare to families in a number of settings, including clinics, physician offices, shelters and other areas.

The need for physician extenders, especially in the area of mental health is highlighted by the shortage of psychiatrists throughout the region. In Cayuga, Chenango, Cortland, Fulton, Lewis, Herkimer, Madison, Schuyler and Tioga counties there are fewer than five psychiatrists per 100,000 people.

Compounding the problem is the growing incidence of mental illness, especially among children. The World Health Organization estimates by year 2020 that childhood psychiatric disorders will rise proportionately by more than 50 percent to become one of the five most common causes of morbidity, mortality and disability among children.

Under the new program, students will enroll in the College of Nursing and complete two years of study, leading to a master’s degree in nursing. The program will prepare graduates to



Elvira Szigeti

complete certification exams for psychiatric nurse practitioner administered by New York state and family psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner offered by the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

As part of their education, students will take part in supervised clinical rotations supported by SUNY Upstate’s Department of Psychiatry, Hutchings Psychiatric Center and area county health departments.

Approvals for the degree program have been granted by SUNY and the state Education Department. The first class will enroll this fall.

Campus Briefs—continued from page 2

SUNY Upstate Chapter of the American Medical Association raised more than \$2,000 to support the uninsured in downtown Syracuse.

The Franciscan Food Pantry at Assumption Church extends its thanks to the SUNY Upstate community for contributing \$353 in cash and approximately 500 cans of food items to its “Have a Heart, Give A Can” campaign earlier this year.

A special events photo gallery has been added to the Team Upstate Web site at [www.upstate.edu/teamupstate/click “photo gallery.”](http://www.upstate.edu/teamupstate/click-photo-gallery) New albums will be added throughout the year. Contact Medical Photography at 464-5877 to requests digital copies—include the file number. The SUNY Upstate community is encouraged to log community service hours, including walks, runs, rides, and other fundraisers, to the Team Upstate Web site, using the “special events/

fundraisers” category. First-time entrants will receive a free Team Upstate T-shirt. Employees may log on via the AIS Self Serve site, enter the Oracle username and password, and click on “Community Service” under the “My Information” menu. Students log on via Student ISIS Banner, under the “Personal Information” category. Click “Community Service,” then “Add Entry.”

2008 Friend in Deed department/employee appeal to begin June 1

Beginning June 1, Upstate Medical University Foundation will begin its 2008 Friend in Deed appeal to SUNY Upstate employees/departments through a direct mail campaign.

An appeal to past donors, including University Hospital's grateful patients, was mailed in February.

All proceeds raised through Friend in Deed directly benefit programs and services offered by University Hospital. These services primarily help to provide for the needs of University Hospital patients and their families. A portion of the proceeds supports research initiatives at SUNY Upstate.

In 2007, Friend in Deed provided more than \$90,000 in funding for staff and patient education initiatives and patient programs and services, such as the Upstate Cancer Advocacy Network (U-CAN), educational materials for stroke patients and their families, and clothing and other necessities for patients in need.

"Friend in Deed is an important financial resource for many clinical programs and patient services at University Hospital," said 2008 Friend in Deed Campaign Co-chair Daniel Pluff.

"A gift to Friend in Deed reaches beyond University Hospital by contributing to the overall health of our community," said Pluff, who also serves on the foundation's board of directors.

"Every year, funding requests exceed the amount raised, putting us in the difficult position of deciding which worthwhile endeavors to fund...or not," said 2008 Friend in Deed Campaign Co-chair David Feiglin, MD, professor and chair of SUNY Upstate's Department of Radiology. "We thank our donors for their past support and ask them to again consider making a contribution to this very important fund."

To contribute to Friend in Deed or for more information, visit www.upstate.edu/foundation/fid.php or call 315-464-4416.



2007 Friend in Deed Allocations

The following items, services and programs were supported by contributions to the Friend in Deed appeal in 2007.

- Pediatrics: Perk Up My Pillow pillowcases for pediatric inpatients; comfort items for patients and families who have an extended stay in the Pediatric Emergency Department, including meal vouchers, parking tickets, hotel room, comfort cart; dust mite pillowcases for asthmatic pediatric patients with limited funds; song writing and music making software programs for use by the pediatric music therapy program; replacement breast pump for the lactation room on Pediatrics 4A.
- Storage cabinet, laptop, sleeper chairs and a television with DVD for use by patients or patient families in palliative care.
- Continuum of Care: Funding for clothing, footwear, etc. upon discharge for patients who are in need; funding for Hospital Executive Council projects, including parental nutrition, dialysis-related long term care and bariatric care; funding to support Unique Barriers to Discharge program (medications, transportation, parking vouchers, etc).
- Construction/outfitting for an expanded intervention/consultation room at the Margaret L. Williams Developmental Evaluation Center.
- Purchase and installation of televisions for the 10 pre-op rooms for patients waiting for surgery.
- Upstate-Cancer Advocacy Network (U-CAN) to help provide for unmet needs of the cancer patient, including but not limited to: education, support, and provision of resources for cancer patients and their families in crisis or in immediate need, be it financial, emotional or spiritual.
- Adult Designated AIDS Center (DAC) Assistance Fund. Provide prescription assistance, meal tickets and other necessities for Adult DAC clinic.
- National Cancer Survivors' Day celebration.
- Educational materials for stroke patients and their families; funding for the Survivor of Stroke (SOS) Support Group Growth and Development Program, including assistance and healthy snack program.
- A counterbalance arm sling to support the arm and provide functional assistance and muscle re-education for use in the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation.
- Signs, brochures and pocket calendars to promote the newly combined Adult Medicine Services and educate patients on available services.
- Replace old television/DVD and television/VCR units for 8O and 8H.

Topping off ceremony marks near completion of VE's exterior work



Photograph by Deborah Rexine

SUNY Upstate Medical University held a topping off ceremony April 18 to commemorate the placement of one of the final beams in the vertical expansion/ Golisano Children's Hospital project. The topping off ceremony is a tradition at major construction sites. The final beam is usually decorated with a tree, and an American flag. The tradition dates back to 700 AD, when it was introduced by the Scandinavians as a way of bestowing good luck on a building's soon-to-be occupants.

The new six-story addition, includes patient care floors for cardiovascular, neurology and oncology services. The Golisano Children's Hospital will occupy the top two floors. Opening is set for 2009.

Honorary Degree nominees sought for 2009 SUNY Upstate commencement

SUNY Upstate Medical University is seeking nominees for honorary degree recipients for SUNY Upstate's 2009 Commencement. Honorees are typically awarded a Doctor of Science or Doctor of Humane Letters degree.

Honorees will be considered in three categories:

- candidates with a direct SUNY Upstate affiliation and who have made major contributions to SUNY Upstate;
- national leaders who have made major contributions to programs represented at SUNY Upstate.
- celebrities who have brought national attention to a major health-

related issue of importance to SUNY Upstate.

Nominations will be reviewed relative to SUNY eligibility criteria and all qualified nominees will be forwarded to SUNY Upstate's Honorary Degree committee for consideration.

Ineligible candidates include:

- persons who hold an honorary degree from any SUNY campus.
- current SUNY employees or members of teaching or administrative staff.
- individuals whose conferral could create a conflict of interest, for example members of SUNY Board of Trustees,

SUNY Council or other SUNY formal boards.

- current holders or candidates for New York state elective public office.

Nominations should include a brief statement of the nominee's contributions and relevance to SUNY Upstate and may be sent directly to Barbara Ames, Office of Research Affairs, 1258 Weiskotten Hall, telephone 464-4515, or amesb@upstate.edu.

Nominations will be accepted from SUNY Upstate faculty, staff and students through May 19.

Anniston Study—continued from page 1

the largest PCB health impact study on a highly exposed community in the U.S.—The Anniston Study.

The Anniston Study began in 2003 and is comprised of five separate investigations evaluating the effects of PCB and its link to diabetes, heart disease and neurocognitive/neurobehavioral behavior. The multi-million dollar Anniston Study is funded by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Centers for Disease Control.

Dr. Silverstone and other consortium members presented their findings April 1 at a town meeting in Anniston, Ala., centrally located between Atlanta, Ga., and Birmingham, Ala. Findings from other consortium studies showed a link between lower IQ scores in children whose parents were exposed to PCBs. Drs. Silverstone, Weinstock and Rosenbaum are preparing for publication three major papers on their findings.

According to Dr. Silverstone, who has been affiliated with the study since it began in 2003, SUNY Upstate co-led the Anniston Diabetes Study to evaluate a possible link between PCB exposure and the development of diabetes, metabolic syndrome and immune abnormalities.

“Residents of Anniston, Alabama, were selected for the study as this community is the site where, from the early 1929 to the early 1970s, PCBs were manufactured and where high levels of PCBs still exist in the environment,” said Dr. Silverstone, professor of microbiology and immunology and principal investigator of SUNY Upstate’s section of the study.

“Our findings indicate that levels of PCBs higher than the U.S. average were associated with a two- to four-fold greater prevalence of diabetes in Anniston men and women between the ages of 35 to 54 regardless of obesity, family history, gender, or race.”

The SUNY Upstate team worked in collaboration with investigators from the Syracuse VA Medical Center (Dr. Weinstock was the only Syracuse VA

collaborator), SUNY Buffalo, the University of California, the University of Alabama in Birmingham, Emory and the Jacksonville State University School of Nursing in Alabama. Together they conducted a standardized health survey and performed clinical and laboratory tests on randomly selected households and individuals in Anniston.

“Of the 1,110 study participants who completed an administered health survey, 774 agreed to visit the study project office in Anniston to provide serum samples and physical measurements for clinical and research evaluations and measurements of PCBs,” said Dr. Silverstone.

The SUNY Upstate team developed a substantial part of the health evaluation questionnaire, protocols for office visits, reports to be sent to study participants and the system to notify participants whose levels of PCBs, blood pressure and other diabetes risk-associated factors were higher than normal. The questionnaires, coding of data and notification to participants were administered through the University of Alabama, Birmingham.

Serum samples provided by 774 of the study participants and stored in SUNY Upstate’s Serum and Cellular Bank were tested at SUNY Upstate for insulin and autoantibodies associated with diabetes. Dr. Silverstone said that the serum samples are being tested now for thyroid and DNA autoantibodies. Further tests are planned depending on funding.

Local clinical laboratories tested blood samples for glucose and lipids, and the CDC laboratories tested the serum samples for PCBs as well as lipid levels. The serums were coded to each participant’s health questionnaire and the levels of PCB compounds.

People of ages 20 to 93 were included in the study. Those with pre-diabetes were excluded from the statistical risk analyses and separate analyses also were performed for younger and older people to identify groups who might be at higher risk. The statistics used for analysis of the data were adjusted for known risk factors of diabetes such as age and family history

of diabetes.

The statistical analysis of the data was done primarily by Dr. Rosenbaum, in collaboration with CDC statisticians and Dr. Scott Bartell of the University of California—Irvine, who was the overall principal investigator of the study.

“In the analysis with all participants included, we did not see an effect of PCBs on diabetes after accounting for obesity, age, family history of diabetes and other risk factors,” said Dr. Silverstone.

“However, in the 35 to 54 year olds, even accounting for all the other risk factors, higher PCBs were found to be associated with having diabetes. Given the serious consequences of diabetes and the presence of high levels of PCBs, we are suggesting that all residents of Anniston take advantage of all methods to reduce their risk of diabetes and to detect and treat diabetes as aggressively as possible,” he said.

Dr. Silverstone added that the Anniston residents were also at high risk for heart disease and stroke as well as obesity, high blood pressure and abnormal levels of fats or lipids in the blood.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, PCBs are a group of chemicals that contain 209 individual compounds known as congeners with varying harmful effects.

While they are no longer produced or used in the United States, the major source of exposure to PCBs today is the redistribution of PCBs already present in soil, water and the food chain.

Before 1974 PCBs were used in capacitors, transformers, plasticizers, surface coatings, inks, adhesives, pesticide extenders, and carbonless duplicating paper. After 1974 use of PCBs was restricted to the production of capacitors and transformers. After 1979 PCBs were no longer used in the production of capacitors and transformers.

PCBs are a major contaminant in the Hudson River.

IN THE NEWS

Coverage of the **Anatomical Gift Memorial Service** was featured on WSYR-570AM and 9WSYR-TV and in the *Post-Standard*.



Shawky Badawy

Shawky Badawy, MD, responded to viewer questions about women's health issues on 9WSYR-TV's "Doctor on Call" segment.

Rajesh Dave, MD, was quoted in the *Binghamton Press and Sun Bulletin* regarding the renovation of "The Castle" on the Binghamton campus.



Elise Calvi

Elise Calvi was quoted in the *Post-Standard* regarding century-old photographs of SUNY Upstate on display in the Health Sciences Library.

James D'Agostino, MD, and **Robert Izqueirido, MD**, were quoted in the *Post-Standard* about the medical diagnosis of a student from the Syracuse City School District.

Susan Graham, Anthony Kurec, and **Gregory Threatte, MD**, were featured on WSTM-TV3's Uniquely Central New York segment regarding SUNY Upstate's contribution to editing and compiling textbooks that are used internationally by students who are training in the field of clinical laboratory medicine. **John Bernard Henry, MD**, was prominently featured in the segment.



John Bernard Henry

Dilip Kittur, MD, and **Paul Seale** were interviewed by WSTM-TV3, WTVH-TV5, 9WSYR-TV, News10Now, WSYR-570AM, WAER-FM88 and WRVO-FM regarding the average wait for a kidney in CNY—now four years, up from 18 months in 2000.



Dilip Kittur



Paul Seale

Archie McEvers, RN, was featured on WTVH-TV5 about the work of nurse practitioners. He also appeared in the *Parade Magazine*, representing nurse practitioners in a feature on occupations.

Leslie Kohman, MD, was quoted in the *Post-Standard* regarding the first grant award from the Michael Connolly Lung Cancer Endowment to SUNY Upstate researchers.



Leslie Kohman

John McCabe, MD, appeared on 9WSYR-TV's Bridge Street to discuss steps people should take before an emergency room visit and what to expect once they arrive.



John McCabe

Phillip Schaengold, Mary Ann Shaw, Burt Thomas and **Thomas Welch, MD**, were featured in the *Post-Standard* and appeared on WTVH-TV5, 9WSYR-TV, News10Now, WSYR-570AM and WAER-FM88 regarding the ceremony for the placement of the final beams in the vertical expansion.

James Knoll, MD, was featured on News10Now regarding teacher sex abuse.



James Knoll

David R. Smith, MD, was interviewed on WSYR-570AM's Jim Reith Show regarding the Kennedy Square development. An article about SUNY Upstate's plans for Kennedy Square also appeared in the *Post-Standard* and on WSTM-TV3, WTVH-TV5, 9WSYR-TV, NEWS10NOW, WSYR-570AM and WAER-FM88. Dr. Smith was also interviewed by WSYR-570AM, 9WSYR-TV and the *Post-Standard* about the state budget's impact on SUNY Upstate. The *Post-Standard* article also featured a front page photo of **Blair Calancie, PhD**, and graduate student **Miriam Donohue**.



David R. Smith

Elvira Szigetti, PhD, RN, was quoted in the *Post-Standard* regarding SUNY Upstate's new family mentalhealth nurse practitioner program.

University Hospital's **OASIS** program and its director **Lauren Feiglin**, were featured in *55 PLUS*, the magazine for active adults in Upstate New York.

David Wolfe appeared on 9WSYR-TV's Bridge Street to discuss the link between the lack of sleep and obesity.



David Wolfe

Thomas Welch, MD, was featured among other experts in a series of reports on infanticide on News10Now.

APPOINTMENTS

John L. Murad Jr., a partner with the Syracuse law firm Hancock & Estabrook LLP, has been appointed by the governor's office to serve on the Upstate Medical University Council.



John L. Murad

The Upstate Medical University Council is an advisory board to SUNY Upstate President David R. Smith, MD.

Murad's legal expertise includes the defense of product liability, commercial and environmental litigation. He became a partner at Hancock & Estabrook in 1991; he joined the firm as an associate attorney in 1983, and has served on the firm's Executive Committee and as its Litigation Department chair.

Murad holds memberships in numerous law associations, most notably as fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers, the Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel and the International Association of Defense and Corporate Counsel. Murad was selected by his peers from Upstate New York for inclusion on the list of New York's "Super Lawyers" in the category of general litigation. The list is limited to the top five percent of practitioners in each category. He has been active in numerous community organizations, including the local chapter of the American Red Cross, serving as its board chair, and Onondaga County Historical Association.

Stuart M. Wright, CPA, has been appointed as chief financial officer for University Hospital.

Prior to University Hospital Wright served as financial director for National Government Services at WellPoint Inc., a national healthcare insurer since

January 2007. Prior to its acquisition by WellPoint, Stuart served as chief financial officer of Empire Blue Cross-Medicare Division from January 2001 to December 2006. He is a certified public accountant and holds a master's degree in business administration from the University of Rochester and a bachelor's degree in economics from Westminister College in New Wilmington, Pa.

Elizabeth A. Erwin (Beth) has been named director of Medical Staff Services at University Hospital. Erwin, who has served as SUNY Upstate's education and credentialing coordinator since May of 2003, graduated from Columbia College with a bachelor's degree in business administration and computer information systems.

She is a certified professional credentialing specialist by the National Association of Medical Staff Services and a member of the New York State Association Medical Staff Services.

PRESENTATIONS, AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Jeffrey Brunet (Physical Plant); Mary Nelson (Radiology); Lorenzo Rice (Physical Plant); and Paula Trief, PhD (Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences/Faculty Affairs and Faculty Development), were named by the YWCA of Syracuse and Onondaga County to its 2008 class of Academy of Diversity Achievers. The announcement was made at the YWCA Day of Commitment to Eliminate Racism Luncheon April 23 at the Nicholas J. Pirro Convention Center.

Mary Nelson (Radiology) received a *Post-Standard* Achievement Award for the Youth Day Barbecue that she started in Syracuse in 2002 that has fed thousands of Central New York school-children and provided them with school supplies. Nelson was also selected out of 10,000 nominees as one of five women honored on the "Mom's Dream Come True" segment of the May 9

"Live with Regis and Kelly" program. She also appeared on 9WSYR-TV's Bridge Street regarding her Youth Day Barbecue program.

Sara Grethlein, MD, (Medicine/Graduate Medical Education) and Rev. Terry Culbertson, **(Spiritual Care)**, presented "A Transforming Partnership: Chaplaincy and Medical Education" at the 2008 Annual Conference of the Association of Professional Chaplains meeting in Pittsburgh March 8 to 12. The presentation focused on the impact of the Practice of Medicine spirituality initiative involving chaplains as mentors with first year Medical students.

Robert L. Sunheimer, (College of Health Professions/Medical Technology) has accepted an invitation from the American Society for Clinical Pathology

(ASCP) to represent ASCP on a Blue Ribbon Panel for Issues of Clinical Laboratory Safety being convened by the Centers for Disease Control.

Ioana S Tolocica, MD, Sonia Narendra, MD, and Christine E. Fuller, MD, of the Department of Pathology presented a poster, titled "Tumor to Tumor Metastasis Causing Rapid Meningioma Enlargement" at the Experimental Biology 2008 meeting, held April 5 to 9 in San Diego.

Gustavo de la Roza, MD, (Pathology), presented "Fine Needle Aspiration of the Head and Neck: A Practical Perspective and Clinical Correlates" April 19 at the Annual Meeting of the Upper New York State Society of Cytology.

WORKSHOPS, CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIUMS

To register for workshops, visit www.upstate.edu/hr/training/form.shtml.

Call HealthConnections at 464-8668 or register via www.upstate.edu/healthLink for free HealthLink seminars.

May 19, 21, 27, June 2, 9. Noon to 1 p.m. and 6 to 7 p.m. HealthLink, ShoppingTown Mall, DeWitt.

“Quit Smoking for Good...and For Free!” (Part of a series.) Participants receive a personalized quit plan and will learn about nicotine-replacement therapy options, the New York State Smokers’ Quitline and maintenance and relapse prevention techniques.

May 14. 1 to 3 p.m. 205 Jacobsen Hall.

Workshop. “Understanding Compliance at University Hospital” for managers will focus on why the hospital has a compliance program, program details and methods of maintaining institutional compliance.

May 16. 9 to 11 a.m. 1328B University Hospital.

Workshop. “A Practical Approach to Practical Skills (PSFS): Introduction to Emotional Intelligence.” Emotional intelligence is important in effective supervision. This session will provide a brief overview of emotional intelligence.

May 19. 9 a.m. to noon. 1328B University Hospital.

Workshop. “Crucial Confrontations: Tools for Resolving Broken Promises, Violated Expectations, and Bad Behavior” will discuss ways to rapidly improve results and relationships.

May 20. 6:30 to 8 p.m. Liverpool Library, 310 Tulip St., Liverpool.

Support Group Meeting for Families with Children with Type 1 Diabetes. For more information, call 646-6335.

May 22. 6 to 7 p.m. Liverpool Library, 310 Tulip St., Liverpool.

HealthLink Seminar. “Sharing Your Wishes: Advanced Care Planning/Advanced Health Directives” will teach participants: how to start a conversation with your significant other/family about exploring and clarifying values, beliefs and goals; to choose a spokesperson (health care proxy) to

represent you should you lose the ability to speak for yourself; document wishes, periodically reviewing the wishes and expectations with your loved ones; complete a health care proxy; and discuss when to refer to physicians, attorneys and spiritual advisors.

May 28. 9 to 11 a.m. 205 Jacobsen Hall.

Workshop. “Press-Ganey Patient Satisfaction Measurement Overview” will provide an overview of how SUNY Upstate measures patient satisfaction and an online tool that allows end-users to review, analyze and create patient satisfaction reports.

JOIN US FOR THE **12TH** ANNUAL

Paige's Butterfly Run

Fighting Pediatric Cancer

Presented by
WAL★MART

and 

Saturday, June 7

**Federal Building Plaza
100 S. Clinton St., Syracuse**

5K Certified & Timed Run: 9 a.m.

Caterpillar Crawl: 9:45 a.m.

3K Fun Run/Walk: 10 a.m.



Paige was diagnosed and treated for leukemia at University Hospital in 1993. After her death, her family and friends established this event in her memory to help children in Central New York.

Proceeds benefit the Center for Children's Cancer and Blood Disorders at University Hospital and the Paige Yeomans Arnold Memorial Scholarships at C.W. Baker High School in Baldwinsville.

For more information, call 315-635-0099 or visit www.pbrun.org

Awards Ceremony begins at 10:40 a.m. Refreshments • Raffles • Children's Activities • Magician

PUBLICATIONS

Christopher W. Ryan, MD, (Clinical Campus Department of Family Medicine), published “Association Between Colonic Symptoms and Inattention/Hyperactivity in British Children” in *Child and Adolescent Mental Health*.

Jerrold Abraham, MD, (Pathology), Robert Kellman, MD, (Otolaryngology), and Kamal Khurana, MD, published “Calcium Pyrophosphate Dihydrate Deposition Disease (CPPD)/Pseudogout of the Temporomandibular Joint - FNA Findings and Microanalysis” was

published in the April 21 issue of *Cytojournal*. **Dr. Abraham and Charu Thakral, MD,** published “Tissue Distribution and Kinetics of Gadolinium and Nephrogenic Systemic Fibrosis” in the May issue of the *European Journal of Radiology*.

Wednesday, May 14

Anesthesiology Grand Rounds. 6:45 to 8 a.m. Medical Alumni Aud., Wsk. Hall.

Otolaryngology Grand Rounds. 7 to 8 a.m. 6500 University Hospital.

Surgery Morbidity/ Mortality Conference. 7 to 8 a.m. 2231 Wsk. Hall.

Neuroscience Grand Rounds. 8 a.m. 103 Wsk. Hall.

Surgery Grand Rounds. 8 to “Aortic Graft Infection: Still a Problem?” G. Patrick Clagett, MD, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. 9 a.m. 2231 Wsk. Hall.

Orthopedic Grand Rounds. 8 a.m. 6500 University Hospital.

Pediatric Grand Rounds. “Modification of Severe Destructive Behavior Displayed by Children with Autism.” Henry S. Roane, PhD, University of Nebraska Medical Center. 9:15 to 10:30 a.m. 6500 University Hospital.

Emergency Medicine Grand Rounds. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. 2231 Wsk. Hall.

Creative Writing Workshop. Noon to 1 p.m. Center for Bioethics and Humanities, Crouse Physician's Office Bldg., 725 Irving Ave.

• **Rev. Weez's Storytime.** Noon. Interfaith Chapel, University Hospital.

Workshop. “Understanding Compliance at University Hospital.” 1 to 3 p.m. 205 Jacobsen Hall.

Center for Children's Health Policy Seminar. “Over the Horizon in Medical Education: International Medicine Electives/Models for Physician Training.” David Reed, MD, Upstate Medical University. 3 to 4 p.m. 9299 Wsk. Hall.

Rudolf (Ruedi) Lienhard Retirement Reception. 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Atrium, Setnor Academic Bldg.

Reception for Multicultural Affairs and Community Outreach and Global Health Education Offices. 4 to 5:30 p.m. Atrium, Setnor Academic Bldg.

Annual Meeting of the Faculty Organization. 4 to 5 p.m. Med. Alumni Aud., Wsk. Hall.

Annual Meeting of the Medical College Assembly. 5 to 6 p.m. Medical Alumni Aud., Wsk. Hall.

Thursday, May 15
SUNY Upstate New Employee Orientation. 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. 3507 Setnor Academic Bldg.

60-Day Retention Program. 7:45 to 8:45 a.m. and 3:45 to 4:45 p.m. 118 University Hospital.

Medical Grand Rounds. 8:30 a.m. 1159 Wsk. Hall.

2008 Advocates for Upstate Medical University Annual Meeting and Luncheon. Business Meeting: 11:30 a.m. Luncheon: Noon to 1:30 p.m. Renaissance Syracuse Hotel, 701 E. Genesee St., Syracuse.

Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Grand Rounds. “Clinical Applications of Virtual Reality Technology.” Robbi Saletsky, PhD, Upstate Medical University. 12:30 to 2 p.m. PBS Bldg., 713 Harrison St., Syracuse.

WebCAIS/Vocera Class. 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. Classroom D, Institute for Human Performance.

Vascular Conference. 5 p.m. 8800 University Hospital.

Friday, May 16
Your Ethnicity, Your Gift of Life Marrow Donor Drive. 6:30 to 10:30 a.m. Small Cafeteria, University Hospital.

SUNY Upstate New Employee Orientation. 7 a.m. to noon. 3507 Setnor Academic Bldg.

Obstetrics/Gynecology Grand

Rounds. 7:30 a.m. Marley Education Ctr.

Workshop. “A Practical Approach to Practical Skills: Introduction to Emotional Intelligence.” 9 to 11 a.m. 1328B University Hospital.

Commencement Picnic. Noon to 3 p.m. C.A.B.

• **Mass.** Noon. Interfaith Chapel, University Hospital.

Clinical Hands-on Practice Orientation (CHOP). Noon to 3:30 p.m. 3507 Setnor Academic Bldg.

Saturday, May 17

Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure. 9 a.m. New York State Fairgrounds, Syracuse.

College of Health Professions Awards Ceremony. 10 a.m. Carrier Theater, John Mulroy Civic Center, 421 Montgomery St., Syracuse.

College of Nursing Awards Ceremony. 12:30 p.m. Medical Alumni Aud., Wsk. Hall.

College of Medicine and College of Graduate Studies Awards Ceremony. 3 p.m. Carrier Theater, John Mulroy Civic Center, 421 Montgomery St., Syracuse.

• **Mass.** See 4 p.m. Interfaith Chapel, University Hospital.

Commencement Parents and Family Reception. 8:30 p.m. to midnight. Renaissance Syracuse Hotel, 701 E. Genesee St., Syracuse.

Sunday, May 18

14th Annual Miracle Ride. Registration: 10 to 11:30 p.m. Ride: 11:30 a.m. Spinning Wheel Restaurant, 7384 Thompson Rd., North Syracuse.

Commencement Brunch. 10 a.m. Lobby, Institute for Human Performance.

HealthLink on Air. 9 a.m. WYR-570AM.

• **Mass.** Noon. Interfaith Chapel, University

Hospital.

2008 SUNY Upstate Medical University Commencement. 1 p.m. John H. Mulroy Civic Center Crouse Hinds Theater, 411 Montgomery St., Syracuse.

Monday, May 19

Workshop. “Crucial Confrontations: Tools for Resolving Broken Promises, Violated Expectations and Bad Behavior.” 9 a.m. to noon. 1328B University Hospital.

HealthLink Seminar. “Quit Smoking for Good...and For Free.” (part of a series). Cynthia Cary, RRT, Upstate Medical University. Noon to 1 p.m. and 6 to 7 p.m. HealthLink, ShoppingTown Mall, DeWitt.

• **Mass.** Noon. Interfaith Chapel, University Hospital.

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Seminar. “V-ATPase Intra- and Inter- Atomic by Peptide Arrays and Mass Spectrometry.” Lee Parsons, Upstate Medical University. Noon. 2231 Wsk. Hall.

Yoga with Tony Riposo. 5 to 6:30 p.m. East Lounge, C.A.B.

Tuesday, May 20

Weight Watchers at Work. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. 118 University Hospital.

• **Weekly Prayer Service.** Noon. Interfaith Chapel, University Hospital.

Vocera. 1 to 3 p.m. Classroom C, Institute for Human Performance.

Spiritual Fitness. 3 p.m. 2N, PM & R Dayroom, University Hospital.

Infectious Diseases Conference. 4 p.m. 304 Crouse Physician's Office Building, Irving Avenue, Syracuse.

Support Group Meeting for Families with Children with Type I Diabetes. 6:30 to 8 p.m. Liverpool Library, 310 Tulip St., Liverpool.

Wednesday, May 21

Anesthesiology Grand Rounds. 6:45 to 8 a.m. Medical Alumni Aud., Wsk. Hall.

Otolaryngology Grand Rounds. 7 to 8 a.m. 6500 University Hospital.

WebCAIS/Groupwise Class (Licensed). 7:30 a.m. to noon. Classroom D, Institute for Human Performance.

Neuroscience Grand Rounds. “Pediatric Neuropathology.” Christine Fuller, MD, Upstate Medical University. 8 a.m. 103 Wsk. Hall.

Orthopedic Grand Rounds. 8 a.m. 6500 University Hospital.

Safety-at-Work and Patient Safety goal Fairs. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fifth Floor Conference Room, UHCC.

Pediatric Grand Rounds. “STI Screening for the Primary Care Practitioner.” Cynthia M. Holland-Hall, MD, MPH, Ohio State University College of Medicine and Public Health. 9:15 to 10:30 a.m. 6500 University Hospital.

HealthLink Seminar. “Quit Smoking for Good...and For Free.” See 5/19 listing.

• **Rev. Weez's Storytime.** See 5/14 listing.

Share Our Values Kick Off. 2 p.m. Medical Alumni Aud., Wsk. Hall.

Vocera. See 5/20 listing.

Spiritual Care Grand Rounds. See 5/14 listing.

Thursday, May 22

Nursing Services Orientation (NSO). 8 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. (PSC, monitor techs, psych therapy techs); 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (RN, LPN, GN, GPN, CT, UST). 1328B University Hospital.

Medical Grand Rounds. 8:30 a.m. 1159 Wsk. Hall.

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Gold Standard Awards nominations sought

Nominations are being accepted for SUNY Upstate Medical University's newly created Gold Standard Awards to honor and recognize members of the SUNY Upstate faculty members who have shown passion, commitment and vision for their work, whether it be in research, clinical service and/or teaching.

To nominate a colleague, submit a one-page letter that explains why the nominee represents the gold standard of teaching, research and/or clinical service. The nominee should be someone to be emulated and admired.

The awards will be presented at the Celebration of the Faculty, to be held June 17, from 4 to 6:30 p.m. in the Institute for Human Performance. The celebration will welcome new faculty and recognize those who have been promoted or received tenure.

Send nominations by June 2 to Paula M. Trief, PhD, via inter-departmental mail at 1162 Wsk. Hall, or by e-mail, triefp@upstate.edu. A committee will select the award recipients.

Upstate Update

Issue:

June 11 to 25

Deadline:

May 30

Calendar—continued from page 10

Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Grand Rounds.

“Major Depression After Breast Cancer: A Psycho-Oncology Case Report and Review of Psychotherapy Clinical Trials.” Nanette Dowling, MD, Upstate Medical University. “Questioning the Paradigm: The Story of Science and Psychiatry in the Twentieth Century.” Salvatore Argiro, MD, Upstate Medical University. 12:30 to 2 p.m. PBS Bldg., 713 Harrison St., Syracuse.

Vocera. See 5/20 listing.

Vascular Conference. 5 p.m. 8800 University Hospital.

HealthLink Seminar. “Sharing Your Wishes: Advanced Care Planning/Advanced Health Directives.” Mark Buttiglieri, Upstate Medical University. 6 to 7 p.m. Liverpool Library, 310 Tulip St., Liverpool.

Friday, May 23

Obstetrics/Gynecology Grand Rounds. 7:30 a.m. Marley Education Ctr.

WebCAIS/Groupwise Class (unlicensed). 7:30 a.m. to noon. Classroom D, Institute for Human Performance.

• **Mass.** See 5/16 listing.

Saturday, May 24

• **Mass.** See 5/17 listing.

Sunday, May 25

HealthLink on Air. See 5/18 listing.

• **Mass.** See 5/18 listing.

Monday, May 26

• **Mass.** See 5/19 listing.

Tuesday, May 27

Weight Watchers at Work. See 5/20 listing.

Faculty Development Seminar. “Teaching Diagnostic Reasoning.” Michael Vertino, MD, Upstate Medical University. Noon to 1:30 p.m. 318 Health Sciences Library.

• **Weekly Prayer Service.** See 5/20 listing.

HealthLink Seminar. “Quit Smoking for Good...and For Free.” See 5/19 listing.

Spiritual Fitness. See 5/20 listing.

Infectious Diseases Conference. Scott Riddell, MD, Upstate Medical University. 4 p.m. 304 Crouse Physician's Office Building, Irving Avenue, Syracuse.

Wednesday, May 28

Anesthesiology Grand Rounds. 6:45 to 8 a.m. Medical Alumni Aud., Wsk. Hall.

Otolaryngology Grand Rounds. 7 to 8 a.m. 6500 University Hospital.

Neuroscience Grand Rounds. 8 a.m. 103 Wsk. Hall.

Orthopedic Grand Rounds. 8 a.m. 6500 University Hospital.

Workshop. “Press-Ganey Patient Satisfaction Measurement Overview.” 9 to 11 a.m. 205 Jacobsen Hall.

Pediatric Grand Rounds. “Healthcare in the Information Age: A Case Series of Pseudoscience and Snake Oil.” Nicholas

Bennett, MB BChir, PhD, Upstate Medical University. 9:15 to 10:30 a.m. 6500 University Hospital.

• **Rev. Weez's Storytime.** See 5/14 listing.

Spiritual Care Grand Rounds. See 5/14 listing.

Thursday, May 29

SUNY Upstate New Employee Orientation. 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. 3507 Setnor Academic Bldg.

Medical Grand Rounds. 8:30 a.m. 1159 Wsk. Hall.

Kathleen J. Himes Retirement Reception. Noon to 4 p.m. Grand Rounds area, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Bldg., 713 Harrison St.

WebCAIS/Vocera Class. See 5/15 listing.

Vascular Conference. 5 p.m. 8800 University Hospital.

Cardiac Device Support Group Meeting. Presentation by William Darko, PharmD, Upstate Medical University. 5 to 7 p.m. Oasis/HealthLink,

ShoppingTown Mall, DeWitt.

Friday, May 30

SUNY Upstate New Employee Orientation. 7 a.m. to noon. 3507 Setnor Academic Bldg.

Obstetrics/Gynecology Grand Rounds. 7:30 a.m. Marley Education Ctr.

Clinical Hands-on Practice Orientation (CHOP). See 5/16 listing.

• **Mass.** See 5/16 listing.

Saturday, May 31

• **Mass.** See 5/17 listing.

Sunday, June 1

HealthLink on Air. See 5/18 listing.

• **Mass.** See 5/18 listing.

• Broadcast live from the Chapel on in-house Channel 40.

Watch “Upstate Magazine” on Staff Ed TV channel 62 or by visiting <http://www.upstate.edu/edcom/upstatemag>.



Photograph by Susan Keester

Fifth-grader Ahmari Armstrong, with, from left, her father, Dwayne; Susan Stearns, PhD, assistant dean of student affairs; Uzo Unobagha, assistant principal at Dr. King Magnet School; and Nicholas Nacca, second-year medical student, at the science fair.

Partnership encourages an appreciation of science and medicine

Fifth-grade students at Dr. King Magnet School—with support and encouragement from medical students at SUNY Upstate Medical University—unlocked the mysteries of science during a science fair April 3 at Dr. King Magnet School in Syracuse.

More than 30 medical students and fifth-graders have been working together in a mentoring partnership since January on a variety of science experiments.

Teachers say the experience has energized the study of science and excited the fifth-graders about scientific discovery.

Medical student Asalim Thabet said she hopes the experience will help show students how relevant science is to everyday life. “We’d also like to encourage them to have an appreciation of science, perhaps one that would even lead to a career in science or medicine,” she said.



This symbol represents **Engaging Excellence**, an initiative to challenge and encourage our employees to create the best workplace possible.

Employees: To make address changes (i.e., building and/or room number), visit <http://selfserve.upstate.edu>

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Upstate Update is published by the Public and Media Relations Department at SUNY Upstate Medical University, Syracuse, NY. To submit news or calendar items, contact editor Doretta Royer, Fourth Floor, 250 Harrison Street, 464-4833; e-mail: royerd.

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