Engaging Excellence initiative addresses institutional values

In the effort to become an employer of choice—and thus attract and retain the best employees—SUNY Upstate Medical University will become a values-driven organization, according to Wanda Thompson, PhD, senior associate vice president of operations.

Values are beliefs shared by an organization and determine, for example, how its customers and employees are treated. SUNY Upstate is beginning an exploration of its own values, using suggestions directly from employees.

“This is not to say we don’t have values, we do,” added Dr. Thompson. “But we need to examine and affirm them, and involve all employees in doing so.”

Through Feb. 15, employees may visit Values Rooms set up on campus [see page 8]. There, a poster will display suggestions and employees may reinforce a value or suggest one they would like to see counted. The suggested values were culled from last December’s leadership discussions and from six focus groups — encompassing employees, patients, students and volunteers — conducted by Holly Haines McCurdy and Barb Riggall of Organizational Training and Development.

“Identifying our values is evolving directly from suggestions made during the Engaging Excellence process,” said Deb Stehle, assistant vice president for strategic planning and management.

“Eventually, the values we identify will be used to measure performance, influence decision making, and essentially permeate our culture.”

The data gathered from the Values Rooms will be presented to SUNY Upstate’s Leadership Council in March and the affirmed values will be announced in early spring.

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Candidate representatives talk healthcare reform

Lorne Runge (right), MD, retired professor of rheumatology at SUNY Upstate Medical University, speaks about U.S. Sen. Barack Obama’s plans for healthcare reform during a presidential candidate campaign forum on healthcare, held on campus Jan. 29. Also participating in the forum (from left), are Irwin Redlener, MD, associate dean for public health preparedness at the Columbia University’s Mailman School of Public Health, who represented U.S. Sen. Hillary Clinton’s campaign; and Frank Murray, an advisor to St. Vincent’s Hospital in New York, who represented U.S. Sen. John McCain’s campaign. The forum was broadcast to the Clinical Campus in Binghamton. Invitations to participate in the forum were extended to the campaigns of the other presidential candidates.
Register for the Sixth Annual Father Daughter Valentine Ball for girls aged 3 years and up and their fathers or special men in their lives, to be held Feb. 12, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. in the Empire Room at the New York State Fairgrounds. Presented by Eastside Vineyard Church, proceeds will benefit pediatric services at the Golisano Children’s Hospital at University Hospital. Advanced registration is required. Phone reservations will not be accepted. Register at www.syracuse.com/gcc. For ticket prices or more information, call 682-8887.

Admissions Program Recruitment Days 2008, presented by the College of Graduate Studies to recruit doctoral candidates, will be held Feb. 28 and 29 and March 27 and 28. The first day of each session, to be held from 3:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., will offer prospective students overviews of the college’s departments of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Cell and Developmental Biology, Microbiology and Immunology, Neuroscience/Physiology and Pharmacology and end with dinner. Day two of each session, to be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., will include breakfast, individual laboratory visits with college faculty, lunch with students and a closing program with College of Graduate Studies program representatives. For more information, contact Daniel Tso, PhD, at 464-5531 or Sandi Tillotson, at 464-7655, tillottss@upstate.edu or visit 3118 Weiskotten Hall.

Lori Mosca, MD, MPH, PhD, will present a free, public lecture at Elizabeth Blackwell Day Feb. 20, from noon to 1 p.m. in the Ninth Floor Auditorium in Weiskotten Hall. Dr. Mosca will present “Always Consider the Alternative Hypothesis: Lessons Learned from a Physician-Scientist.” A question-and-answer session and reception will follow the lecture at 1 p.m. in the Doust Board Room in Weiskotten Hall. Dr. Mosca is director of Preventative Cardiology at New York-Presbyterian Hospital, professor of medicine at Columbia University Medical Center and founder and director of the Columbia Center for Heart Disease Prevention. She is the recipient of the Upstate Medical University Outstanding Young Alumni Award and the 2007 AMWA Women in Science Award. For more information about Elizabeth Blackwell Day, e-mail tibbensj@upstate.edu or brendera@upstate.edu.

Free smoking cessation classes will be held beginning Feb. 27, from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. in Cafe 750 in University Hospital. Classes will meet weekly and are part of a series. The dates are: Feb 27, March 5, 12, 14, 19, 26 and April 2. To register or for more information, Call Cindy Cary at 464-4426.

The Center for Spiritual Care will hold the following services on Ash Wednesday: Feb. 6: Mass and distribution of ashes, 8 a.m., Interfaith Chapel, University Hospital. Fr. Innocent is celebrant; Ecumenical Christian service of reflection and distribution of ashes led by staff chaplains, noon, Interfaith Chapel; distribution of ashes in the Interfaith Chapel, 4 p.m. Units and departments may call 464-4687 for floor visits and distribution of ashes in the Interfaith Chapel, 4 p.m. Units and departments may call 464-4687 for floor visits and distribution of ashes during the hours of 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Volunteers are needed for the Golisano Children’s Hospital Phonathon, to be held Feb. 13, 20, and 21. Dinner and training is from 5:30 to 6 p.m. Calling will take place, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Upstate Medical University Foundation office, located on the third floor of the C.A.B. R.S.V.P. to Robin Tetrault at 464-5748 or e-mail tetraultr@upstate.edu.

Sponsors are needed for the 10th annual Mystery and Merlot fundraising event benefitting University Hospital through the grant funding programs of Advocates for Upstate Medical University and nursing programs and services. Sponsorship packages range from $500 to $5,000 and include many incentives, such as reserved seating and free advertising in the program booklet. Mystery and Merlot, to be held March 28 at the Convention Center on Oncenter, 800 S. State St., Syracuse, will be emceed by Ted and Amy, 93Q’s morning-drive personalities. Individual reservations are $60. For more information on sponsorship packages or the event, contact Jennifer Damiano at 464-5610 or damiannoj@upstate.edu.

Advocates for Upstate Medical University will accept applications for grant funding for the 2008-09 year, beginning Feb. 11 through March 14, at 4 p.m. The grants, up to $5,000 each, will be awarded to programs or services that improve patient care and satisfaction, support medical education and enhance community health. The Advocates have $75,000 available for funding. Applicants will be notified in early May and approved funds will be available June 1. Application materials are available by visiting www.upstate.edu/advocates, or by calling 464-5610. All SUNY Upstate departments are eligible to apply.

Registration is being accepted for SUNY Upstate’s On My Own Time art show. All forms of art will be accepted. Judging for participation in the Everson Museum’s communitywide art show, On My Own Time, will be held April 7 to May 21. For more information, contact Lori Lucarelli at lucarell@upstate.edu.

The “Have a Heart and Give a Can” drive, sponsored by Nursing Recruitment, Retention and Recognition, will accept donations to benefit the Food Pantry on North Salina Street in Syracuse. Feb. 13 continued on page 4
Karen Richards and Winthrop Thurlow join University Counsel as associates

Karen M. Richards, JD, and Winthrop H. Thurlow, JD, have joined the Office of University Counsel as associates. Richards serves as counsel for University Hospital, focusing on transactional matters. Thurlow is counsel for the campus. Richards and Thurlow join attorney Regina McGraw, JD, who will continue to serve as counsel for University Hospital, focusing on operational issues.

In addition to a broad legal background, Richards has experience in representing health care facilities, serving as legal counsel for St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Utica prior to joining SUNY Upstate. She was an attorney at Smith, Sovik, Kendrick & Sugnet, P.C. (2002-2006), a medical malpractice defense firm, where she defended hospitals, physicians and nurses in both state and federal courts; a litigator for the Office of the Corporation Counsel for the City of Syracuse (1999-2002); and an attorney at Bond, Schoeneck & King, LLP (1995-1999), where she practiced in the areas of contracts and real estate. Before becoming an attorney, Richards was the communications coordinator for the Village of Skaneateles (1975 to 1994) where she supervised a union-represented municipal emergency communications center and was a volunteer emergency medical technician. She received her Juris Doctor, magna cum laude, from the Syracuse University College of Law in 1995 and a bachelor’s degree in personnel and industrial relations and law and public policy, cum laude, from Syracuse University in 1984.

While at law school, Richards was admitted to the Justinian Honorary Law Society, was a member of the Moot Court Board and a member of the National Appellate Team. She is the recipient of the McKenzie Lewis Appellate Advocacy Competition and received the Order of the Barristers and the Order of the Coif, an honor bestowed on only five percent of the law school’s graduates. She has authored numerous legal articles and served as an adjunct professor at Syracuse University School of Management (1996-2004). She is a member of the American Health Lawyers Association, the New York State Bar Association, the Onondaga County Bar Association and serves on the Surrogate Decision-Making Committee, an alternative to court for obtaining informed consent for major medical treatment on behalf of mentally disabled persons.

Thurlow served with the New York State Office of the Attorney General as the assistant attorney general-in-charge of the Syracuse Regional Office from 1999 to 2007, directing the activities of the attorney general’s office in the Central New York, Eastern Finger Lakes and Western Adirondacks regions. In this position, he supervised a staff of 30 lawyers, legal professionals and investigators and gained considerable experience in management, budgeting, policy formulation and implementation, government relations and communications. Thurlow also has served as special counsel for Program and Policy and as counsel to the Industrial Exhibit Authority for the New York Department of Agriculture and Markets, where, among many responsibilities, he served as a liaison between the Governor’s Office and the agency. He was a partner (1996-1998) and associate (1991-1996) at Martin, Martin & Woodard, LLP; and as an associate for Hancock & Estabrook, LLP, (1987-1991). He received his Juris Doctor from Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, D.C. in 1987 and a bachelor’s degree, cum laude, graduating Phi Beta Kappa from Union College in 1984. Thurlow is a member of the Syracuse YMCA Housing Development Fund Corporation; Liberty Resources Inc., a non-profit, consumer driven organization that advocates and promotes independent living for persons with disabilities; and has held leadership positions for the Syracuse Planning Commission, Legal Services of Central New York, and the Syracuse-O.C. Planning Agency.

Unsolved civil rights murders is topic of Black History Month talk Feb. 13

Syracuse University professors Paula Johnson and Janis McDonald will present “Cold Cases: Seeking Justice for Unsolved Civil Right Murders” as part of SUNY Upstate Medical University’s Black History Month program Feb. 13, from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the Ninth Floor Auditorium in Weiskotten Hall. The presentation is free and open to the public.

SUNY Upstate is collaborating with Syracuse University and community agencies, including the Dunbar Association and the Syracuse City School District, to present a series of informational, educational and entertaining Black History Month activities in February, including a jazz cabaret with Barbara Morrison (Feb. 17) and a discussion about Carter G. Woodson’s book The Mis-Education of the Negro (Feb. 28).

For a complete listing of Black History Month events visit www.upstate.edu/specialevents/php or call 464-5234.
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and 14, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the second floor lobby in University Hospital. Ambulatory areas will have RED collection boxes in their lobbies. The Food Pantry is a not-for-profit organization that works to eliminate hunger through food distribution, education and advocacy.

A survey regarding the C.A.B. recreational facilities is being conducted by the Office of College Union and Campus Activities. Members of the SUNY Upstate community, C.A.B. members and non-members, are invited to offer suggestions regarding the facilities by visiting http://www.zoomerang.com/survey.cgi?_p=WEB227BMPZATBW. The survey is part of President David R. Smith’s Engaging Excellence initiative.

The Pathway to Wellness Health Fair will be held March 19, from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in rooms 1328 B, 1403 and 1500 A in University Hospital. The fair will feature health information, disease prevention and screenings. Details will be provided in the next issue of Upstate Update.

A Weight Watchers at Work group is forming at University Health Center. Meeting dates and times will be announced at a later date. Individuals who are interested in participating and who work at SUNY Upstate’s 550 Harrison Center, 250 Harrison St., Madison Towers or East Genesee Street locations should contact Joanne Nosewicz at nosewicj@upstate.edu.

Submissions for the 22nd Annual Bruce Dearing Writing Award competition are being accepted by the Center for Bioethics and Humanities through March 17. The competition is open to all SUNY Upstate matriculated students, residents, employees and faculty. The subject matter is open. Categories include fiction, poetry, memoir and prose. Winners will be announced and awards awards will be presented April 23. Student winners will receive a monetary award; faculty/employee winners will receive gift certificates. All submissions receive consideration in the journal, The Healing Muse. Submissions will be accepted by Deirdre Neilen, PhD, Center for Bioethics and Humanities, 725 Irving Avenue, Suite 406, Syracuse, NY 13210.

The Health Sciences Library announces that the National Institutes of Health (NIH) voluntary Public Access Policy (NOT-OD-05-022) is now mandatory. All investigators who are funded by the NIH must submit or have submitted for them to the National Library of Medicine’s PubMed Central an electronic version of their final, peer-reviewed manuscripts upon acceptance for publication, to be made publicly available no later than 12 months after the official date of publication: Provided, That the NIH shall implement the public access policy in a manner consistent with copyright law. For details, visit http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-08-033.html.

University Hospital’s newest initiative—Just Say It Automated Directory Assistance—can be accessed by calling 4-9169 internally or 464-9169 from off campus. To use the service, speak the name or department to be contacted and the system will find the individual or department and offer to transfer the call. This new service saves time for callers and allows call center staff more time to assist external callers. An operator is always available by saying ‘operator’ to the automated directory assistant. Use the code line of 4-4444 for emergency codes which comes to the staff as a priority call. Contact Brian Saunders at 464-5562 with questions, concerns.

Eligible CSEA-represented New York State executive-branch employees may apply for two tuition benefits for courses taken between April 1, 2007, and March 31, 2008. Courses that began prior to April 1 are not eligible. Details can be found on the Web at http://www.nyscseapartnership.org. Contact Tracie Wildner at wildner@upstate.edu or 464-5463 with questions.

Nominations are being accepted for the 2008 President’s Awards through April 1, for the following categories: Advancement of Affirmative Action, Excellence in Library Science, Excellence in Professional Service, Excellence in Faculty Service, Excellence and Leadership in Research, Excellence in Clinical Research by a Young Investigator, Excellence in Teaching and Outstanding Voluntary Faculty. Awards will be presented at the Fall Faculty Convocation Sept. 17. Guidelines and nomination forms are available in the Office of the Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, 1010 Jacobsen Hall. For more information, call 464-4520 or e-mail bourkem@upstate.edu.

Nominations are being accepted for 2008 President’s Employee Recognition awards that honor outstanding SUNY Upstate employees and teams from the campus, University Hospital and shared services departments. Categories include Team of the Year, Contribution of the Year, Supervisor of the Year and Employee of the Year. Nomination forms will be mailed to all SUNY Upstate employees in early January and can be accessed on line. The deadline for submissions is March 17. Honorees will be recognized at a reception in May and at Employee Recognition Day in June. Committee co-chairs for the 2008 awards program are Barbara Ames and Diane Conklin. For more information, visit www.upstate. edu/president/awards.
Chuck Simpson has been named director of College Union and Campus Activities for the Division of Student Affairs. The announcement was made by Julie White, PhD, dean of student affairs. As director, Simpson will assume a broad range of responsibilities, including developing, implementing and supervising the university’s social, cultural, athletic and educational co-curricular activities; supervising the Campus Activities Building (C.A.B.), including staffing and the C.A.B. recreational facilities; and advising the Campus Activities Governing Board, the Undergraduate and Graduate Student Councils, approximately 65 student classes and organizations, and the university’s yearbook, The Auricle. He also coordinates and oversees the development and implementation of new student orientation programs, parents’ and family programs and the annual white coat ceremonies.

Simpson joined SUNY Upstate in 1986 as assistant director of campus activities. He received a bachelor’s degree in psychology from SUNY Geneseo in 1986 and a master’s degree in business administration from SUNY Oswego in May 2000. In addition to statewide involvement in professional organizations, he is involved actively in the National Association for Campus Activities (NACA), serving as an honorary trustee of the association’s Educational Foundation and as a recipient of the association’s prestigious Founder’s Award. He also holds memberships and is active in the Association of College Unions International (ACUI) and The National Intramural and Recreational Sports Association (NIRSA).

Alexandra C. Spadola, MD, has joined the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology as assistant professor in the Division of Maternal and Fetal Medicine. Dr. Spadola will provide high risk obstetrical consultations at the Regional Perinatal Center, inpatient obstetrics at Crouse Hospital and is planning to offer chorionic villus sampling (CVS) in the coming months. CVS is a procedure performed during early pregnancy to screen for genetic defects in the fetus. Dr. Spadola’s clinical interests include fetal anomalies, diabetes mellitus in pregnancy, peripartum mood disorders and multiple gestations. Her research areas include placental methylation, maternal fetal cell transfer, peripartum mood disorders, and 3D/4D ultrasound evaluations.

Dr. Spadola received her medical degree from Mayo Medical School in Rochester, Minn., in 1999. Her residency in obstetrics and gynecology and fellowship in maternal and fetal medicine were completed at the Sloane Hospital for Women/New York Presbyterian Hospital, in 2003 and 2006, respectively. Most recently, Dr. Spadola served as an assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology in the Division of Maternal and Fetal Medicine at Columbia University Medical Center.

David Eck has been named manager of Clinical Engineering in the Department of Information, Management and Technology (IMT). Prior to SUNY Upstate, Eck, a licensed professional engineer, was a manager with EA Engineering, an engineering consulting company headquartered in Maryland.

Dominic A. Carone, PhD, named Psychologist of the Year by CNYPA

Dominic Carone, PhD, was named the 2007 Psychologist of the Year by the Central New York Psychological Association. The announcement was made by Jay M. Land, PhD, immediate past president of the association, at the association’s annual meeting Dec. 14.

Dr. Carone is assistant professor and coordinator of the Neuropsychological Assessment Program in the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. He also serves as a volunteer faculty member in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.

Dr. Carone was selected for the award for his efforts as chair of the association’s Legislative Committee and his activity on the state level in favor of compromise solutions to professional issues, most notably how a new Scope of Practice Law impacts the practice of neuropsychology.
Robert A. Levine, MD, gave an invited lecture titled “Biomarkers of Liver Fibrosis” for the 2008 FDA Visiting Professor Lecture Series Jan. 24 at the FDA White Oak Campus in Silver Spring, Md. The lecture, sponsored by the FDA Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER), and co-sponsored by the Offices of Translational Sciences and Training and Communications, was attended by CDER reviewers from all CDER clinical specialties and other staff physicians and scientists. Dr. Levine reviewed the status of such biomarkers and discussed recent research from the Gastrointestinal Research Laboratory, in press in the American Journal of Gastroenterology, 2008, regarding the diagnostic accuracy of Serum Hyaluronic Acid, FibroSpect II, and YKL 40 for discriminating fibrosis stages in Chronic Hepatitis C. The data show that serum hyaluronic acid is a reliable serum surrogate marker of liver fibrosis in distinguishing three clinically relevant stages of fibrosis. This serum marker is available for measurement at SUNY Upstate’s Clinical Pathology Laboratory. Dr. Levine is a consultant on the Advisors and Consultant staff of FDA CDER. He also attended an FDA lecture titled “Bioinformatic Identification of Novel Putative Photoreceptor Specific Cis-elements” that was published in the Oct. 22 issue of BMC Bioinformatics.

Carol Recker-Hughes, PT, MA, presented at the Consensus Conference on Clinical Education of the American Physical Therapy Association, held Dec. 13 to 15 in Alexandria, Va. The conference sought to develop consensus about standards in clinical education consistent with preparing the professional DPT graduate for entry into practice.

First-year medical student Kasandra Scales was invited to present her master’s thesis, “After the Rain,” at the 11th Annual International Association for the Study of Forced Migration Conference, held Jan. 6 to 10 in Cairo, Egypt. After the Rain was a project funded by the Arnold P. Gold Foundation that provided an alternative approach to support the mental health of the displaced population of Hurricane Katrina survivors.
Safeguards to enhance confidentiality and privacy of health information

Effective means of communication, information sharing and accuracy of information is vital to the provider/patient/family collaborative decision-making processes inherent to a Patient and Family Centered model.

The HIPAA Privacy Rule can greatly facilitate a patient and family centered model of care by giving patients greater rights and control of their health information and requiring the establishment of reasonable safeguards to enhance the confidentiality and privacy of their health information.

Above all, healthcare providers still maintain discretion to impose professional judgement and a “what’s best for the patient” approach when making decisions about patient information and the exercising of the patient’s rights.

Below are facts regarding HIPAA and building an effective patient and family centered care model.

Does a patient or their personal representative have the right to review the patient’s record?

Yes, although the medical record belongs to the provider, the information in the record belongs to the patient. A patient and their personal representative have the right to review the medical record and receive a copy consistent with University Hospital Administrative policy P-43 Patient Access to Protected Health Information.

Can a healthcare provider give a patient or their personal representative copies of test results and visit notes?

Yes, recognizing that many patients, especially those with a chronic illness an/or who are under the care of many providers, maintain their own records or are more comfortable having access to the specific test results a provider can, in the exercise of professional judgement, give a patient copies from the records of visit notes and test results.

What is the best way to address a patient’s or their personal representative’s concerns regarding what they perceive to be errors in the medical record?

The most important thing to remember is that the patient or their personal representative are partners in care with the healthcare provider and defensiveness regarding possible inaccuracies or errors serves no purpose other than to erode the trusting relationship. In some instances what is perceived as an error is simply a lack of understanding on the part of the patient regarding a notation or abbreviation. In some instances, however, there is inaccurate or incorrect information in the record. It is in the patient’s and provider’s best interest to identify these inaccuracies and correct them so that care and treatment is based on correct information. University Hospital Administrative policy P-40 Amendment of Protected Health Information provides guidance and outlines the process for making amendments to the medical record.

May a provider ‘cc’ a patient or their personal representative on dictated notes so they automatically get a copy?

Yes, this can very valuable for patients who see multiple providers frequently as it ensures ready availability of information and also ensures the patient has compiled a complete set of records when traveling or in case of natural disasters.

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Can a personal representative, family member, or friend be with the patient in areas in which there are discussions of other patients, such as in the surgical recovery room?

Yes, the chance that an individual at the patient’s bedside could over-hear information on other patients should not outweigh the therapeutic benefit of permitting them to be present. Again, the key is that reasonable safeguards must be implemented to minimize inadvertent disclosure of the patient’s or other patient’s information.

Questions regarding the University Hospital Patient and Family Centered Care Initiative can be directed to Leola Rodgers at 464-4237 or via e-mail at rodgerl@upstate.edu.

Contact the SUNY Upstate Medical University Institutional Privacy Officer, Cindy Nappa at 464-6135 or nappac@upstate.edu for questions related to HIPAA and patient privacy.
Daniel Jaeger, LFD, was interviewed by 9WSYR-TV and Barry Berg, PhD, was interviewed by WSYR-570AM and the Post-Standard about SUNY Upstate Medical University’s Anatomical Gift Program.

Robert Carhart, MD, was interviewed by News10Now about a recent clinical trial of the cholesterol lowering drug Zetia that showed minimal medical benefits. The interview also aired on Capital News 9 in Albany.

Leslie Kohman, MD, Linda Veit and Jennifer Rudes were quoted in the Syracuse New Times on the availability and benefit of clinical trials being offered at SUNY Upstate.

Robert Gregory, PhD, discussed issues related to substance abuse and rehabilitation as part of the cover story of the Syracuse New Times. He also was quoted in two Post-Standard articles regarding his research into self-harming behaviors.

A letter to the editor by David R. Smith, MD, regarding the Gov. Eliot Spitzer’s commitment to investing in higher education was featured in the Post-Standard. In Good Health ran a two-part feature on Dr. Smith that highlighted his SUNY Upstate Initiative and that looked back on his first year as president of SUNY Upstate.

An article in the October 2007 issue of Eye World Magazine titled “Restoring Cone Vision in Blind Mice” quoted Robert B. Barlow, PhD, and the work that he is doing with gene therapy to bring back vision to the light sensitive cones in the back of the retina.

LynnBeth Satterly, MD, was featured on WTVH-TV5 about her work establishing and running the Amaus free health clinic in downtown Syracuse.

Research by Steven Youngentob, PhD, regarding prenatal alcohol exposure was featured in The Arizona Daily Star, Alcoholism.about.com, and Kiddiecare News, a site from the United Kingdom devoted to providing information pertaining to newborns.

Terry Wagner and Neal Seidberg, MD, provided a progress report to 9WSYR-TV on University Hospital’s move to an electronic medical record system.

Matthew Scuderi, MD, was profiled in the Post-Standard about his role as a physician for the U.S. Ski Team.

Jennifer Moffat, PhD, was quoted in the Post-Standard on the nearly $200,000 stem cell research award the university received from the state and on SUNY Upstate’s $250,000 commitment to stem cell research.

Spencer Ferrin, MD, was interviewed by WSYR-570AM on how the change in temperature may affect health.

Engaging Excellence —continued from page 1

Values Rooms schedule and contacts

**Weiskotten Hall, Doust Board Room**
Champion: Cheryl Alger
Feb. 11 and 14: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**University Hospital, Second Floor Small Cafeteria**
Champion: Holly Haines McCurdy, Barb Riggall
Feb. 11, 12, 13, and 14: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Feb. 15: 9 a.m. to noon

**Widewaters, IMT, Finance**
Champions: Ann James, Sharon Franceschi
Feb. 6, 11, 12, 13, and 14: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**250 Harrison - Sixth Floor**
Champion: Zanette Howe
Feb. 11, 12, 13, and 14: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**UHCC, Fifth Floor Conference Room**
Champion: Tina Evans,

Teresa Burke
Feb. 13, 14, and 15: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Physician’s Office Building (POB) - Suite 401**
Champion: Erin Knowlton
Feb. 14 and 15: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**The Binghamton Campus Values Room**
is being conducted electronically.
To register for workshops, visit www.upstate.edu/hr/training/form.shtml
Free HealthLink seminars are open to all.
To register, call Health Connections at 464-8668 or register via www.upstate.edu/healthLink.
To register for workshops, visit www.upstate.edu/hr/training/form.shtml
Free HealthLink seminars are open to all.
To register, call Health Connections at 464-8668 or register via www.upstate.edu/healthLink.

Feb. 6. 6 to 7 p.m. HealthLink, ShoppingTown Mall, DeWitt.
HealthLink Seminar. “Whooping Cough: Is It On The Rise?” Whooping cough - known medically as pertussis - is a highly contagious respiratory tract infection. The seminar will cover aspects of this lung infection that is especially dangerous in infants, as well as efforts to prevent it in adults and teenagers.

Feb. 7. 6 to 7:30 p.m. HealthLink, ShoppingTown Mall, DeWitt.
HealthLink Seminar. “Managing Your Hospital Stay: Questions To Ask Before, During and After” can offer participants advise on how to shorten a hospital stay and hasten recovery by becoming familiar with the typical hospital course.

Feb. 11. 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. HealthLink, ShoppingTown Mall, DeWitt.
HealthLink Seminar. “Mindless Eating” will discuss ways to change eating patterns without dieting and what medical research says about why some people eat more than they need.

Feb. 12. 6 to 7 p.m. HealthLink, ShoppingTown Mall, DeWitt.
HealthLink Seminar. “Making The Transplant System Work For You” will examine the key issues that transplant candidates would consider, including when is a transplant appropriate, who receives the organs, what are the risks and the patient’s responsibilities.

Feb. 13. 9 to 10:30 a.m. 1328B University Hospital.
Workshop. “A Practical Approach to Practical Skills: Communication Influence and Impact” will discuss communication styles and ways to build trust and confidence in employees.

Feb. 13. 6 to 7 p.m. Liverpool Public Library, 310 Tulip St., Liverpool.
HealthLink Seminar. “Be A Smart Health Care Consumer” will discuss advertising about pharmaceutical drugs; discerning medical research and how to save money on healthcare.

Feb. 14. 9 to 11 a.m. 205 Jacobsen Hall.
Workshop. “Diversity Management in Healthcare” will explore the historical context for understanding diversity and look at the legal, moral, and business cases for valuing diversity in a healthcare environment. Best practices are identified and staff competencies are generated at the conclusion of the course. Administrators and nursing managers/leaders are required to attend one session.

Feb. 19. 1 to 3 p.m. 1328b University Hospital.

Feb. 25 and March 3, 10, 12, 17, 24, 31. 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. HealthLink, ShoppingTown Mall, DeWitt.
HealthLink Seminar. “Quit Smoking for Good...and Fro Free” will discuss nicotine-replacement therapy, maintenance and relapse prevention and the New York State Smoker’s Quitline. (Must attend all session.)

Feb. 26. 9 a.m. to noon. 1328b University Hospital.
Workshop. “Crucial Confrontations: Tools for Resolving Broken Promises, Violated Expectations, and Bad Behavior” will help participants learn to rapidly improve results and relationships.

Feb. 28. 9 a.m. to noon. 205 Jacobsen Hall.
Workshop. “Quality Management and Outcomes Measurement” will provide managers with a general overview of University Hospital’s Organizational Quality, Management and Improvement Plan and discuss the ways that University Hospital tracks and trends performance improvement in the areas of volume, clinical quality, customer satisfaction, and financial efficiency.

Feb. 29. 8:30 to 5 p.m. 2231 Weiskotten Hall.
Wednesday, Feb. 6  
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.

“Share Our Values” Display, including Suggestion Box. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
IMT, Finance, Widewaters.

• Ash Wednesday Mass and Distribution of Ashes. 8 a.m.  
Interfaith Chapel, University Hospital.

Neuroscience Grand Rounds.  
“Seizures in Pregnancy.” Robert Beach, MD, PhD, Upstate Medical University. 8 a.m.  
Marley Education Ctr.

Pediatrics Grand Rounds.  
“Anteror Encephalocele and Facial Clefting: Their Relationship and Management.” John Gerard Meara, MD, DMD, Harvard Medical School. 9:15 to 10:30 a.m.  
6500 University Hospital.

• Ecumenical Christian Service of Reflection and Distribution of Ashes. Noon.  
Interfaith Chapel, University Hospital.

• Distribution of Ashes for Ash Wednesday. 4 p.m.  
Interfaith Chapel, University Hospital.

Spiritual Care Grand Rounds.  
4 to 5:15 p.m.  
Medical Alumni Board Rm., Setnor Bldg.

Burn Survivors Support Group. 5 to 7 p.m.  
6551 University Hospital.

HealthLink Seminar.  
“Whooping Cough: Is It on the Rise?” Nicholas Bennett, MD, Upstate Medical University. 6 to 7 p.m.  
HealthLink, ShoppingTown Mall, DeWitt.

Thursday, Feb. 7  
SUNY Upstate New Employee Orientation. 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
East Lounge, C.A.B.

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

Center for Bioethics and Humanities Seminar.  

Psychiatry Grand Rounds.  
“Recent Advances in the Psychosocial Treatment of Mood Disorders.” Timothy Petersen, PhD, Harvard Medical School. 12:30 to 2 p.m.  
PBS Bldg., 713 Harrison St.

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

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

Black History Month Family Night and Puppet Show. 6 p.m.  
Auditorium, Dr. Martin L. King Magnet School, 416 E. Raynor Ave., Syracuse.

Medical Alumni Phonathon. Dinner: 6 p.m. Calling: 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
Binghamton Clinical Campus, Main Offices, 425 Robinson, Binghamton.

Family Night Puppet Show. 6 p.m.  
Dr. Martin Luther King School, 416 Raynor Ave., Syracuse. Black History Month Activity.

Free.

HealthLink Seminar.  
“Managing Your Hospital Stay: Questions To Ask Before, During and After.” Karen A. Gibbs, RNC, Meg Boynton, RN, Jennifer Kite, CSW, Upstate Medical University. 6 to 7:30 p.m.  
HealthLink, ShoppingTown Mall, DeWitt.

Friday, Feb. 8  
SUNY Upstate New Employee Orientation. 7 a.m. to noon.  
East Lounge, C.A.B.

Obstetrics/Gynecology Grand Rounds.  
“Future of Stem Cell Therapies.” Kenneth L. Barker, PhD, Upstate Medical University. 7:30 a.m. Marley Education Ctr.

Clinical Hands-on Practice Orientation (CHOP). Noon to 3:30 p.m. East Lounge, C.A.B.

• Mass. Noon. Interfaith Chapel, University Hospital.

Film. “American Gangster.”  
Rated R. 7:30 p.m. 103 Wsk. Hall. Admission: Free with SUNY Upstate ID; all others, $2.

Saturday, Feb. 9  
• Mass. 4 p.m. Interfaith Chapel, University Hospital.

Film. “American Gangster.”  
See 2/8 listing.

Sunday, Feb. 10  
HealthLink on Air. 9 to 10 a.m.  
WSYR-570AM.

• Mass. Noon. Interfaith Chapel, University Hospital.

Monday, Feb. 11  
“Share Our Values” Display, including Suggestion Box. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Doust Board Room, Wsk. Hall and Sixth Floor, 250 Harrison and IMT Finance, Widewaters; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (through next day), Second Floor Small Cafeteria, University Hospital.

• Mass. Noon. Interfaith Chapel, University Hospital.

Yoga with Tony Riposo. 5 to 6:15 p.m. East Lounge, C.A.B.

Medical Alumni Phonathon. Dinner: 6 p.m. Calling: 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
1510 Setnor Academic Bldg.

HealthLink Seminar.  
“Mindless Eating.” Lisa Kaufmann, MD, Upstate Medical University. 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.  
HealthLink, ShoppingTown Mall, DeWitt.

Tuesday, Feb. 12  
“Share Our Values” Display, including Suggestion Box. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Widewaters, IMT and Sixth Floor, 250 Harrison; 9 a.m. to 4 a.m. (through next day), Second Floor Small Cafeteria, University Hospital.

HealthLink Seminar.  
“Quit Smoking for Good…and For Free.” (part of a series.) Cynthia Cary, Upstate Medical University. Noon to 1 p.m. and 6 to 7 p.m.  
Sixth Floor Skydeck, Carousel Center.

Weight Watchers at Work.  
Weigh-in: 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Discussion: Noon to 12:30 p.m.  
3113 Wsk. Hall.

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

Vocera Class. 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. Michael Cynamon, MD, Upstate Medical University. 4 p.m.  
304 Crouse Physician’s Office Building, Irving Avenue, Syracuse.

Pilates Class. 5:15 to 6:15 p.m.  
Gymnasium, Institute for Human Performance.

Medical Alumni Phonathon. See 2/11 listing.

Sixth Annual Father Daughter Valentine Ball. 6:30 to 9 p.m. Empire Room, NYS Fairgrounds.

HealthLink Seminar.  
“Making the Transplant Work for You.” Amy L. Friedman, MD, Upstate Medical University. 6 to 7 p.m. HealthLink, ShoppingTown Mall, DeWitt.

Wednesday, Feb. 13  
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.

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

“Share Our Values” Display, including Suggestion Box. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Widewaters, IMT and Sixth Floor, 250 Harrison; 9 a.m. to 4 a.m. (through next day), Second Floor Small Cafeteria, University Hospital; 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Fifth Floor Conference Room, UHCC.

Neuroscience Grand Rounds.  
“Kennedy’s Disease.” Niangu Wang, MD, Upstate Medical University. 8 a.m.  
Sulzle Aud., Marley Education Ctr.

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

Surgery Grand Rounds.  
“Hyperbaric Medicine: Indications in Surgical Patients.” John McCabe, MD, Upstate Medical University. 8 to 9 a.m.  
2231 Wsk. Hall.

Workshop. “A Practical Approach to Practical Skills: Communication Influence and Impact.” 9 to 10 a.m.  
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10:30 a.m. 1328B University Hospital.

Pediatrics Grand Rounds. “Intraoperative MRI-guided Treatment of Pediatric Brain Tumors.” Walter A. Hall, MD, Upstate Medical University. 9:15 to 10:30 a.m. 6500 University Hospital.

Emergency Medicine Grand Rounds. 11 a.m. to noon. 2231 Wsk. Hall.

Black History Month Keynote Presentation. “Cold Cases: Seeking Justice for Unsolved Civil Rights Murders.” Paula C. Johnson and Janis McDonald, Syracuse University College of Law; SU law and communications students. Noon to 1:30 p.m. Ninth Floor Auditorium, Wsk. Hall. Free.

Creative Writing Workshop for Faculty and Staff. Noon to 1 p.m. Center for Bioethics and Humanities, Suite 406, Crouse Physician’s Office Bldg., 725 Irving Ave., Syracuse. Call 464-8451 or e-mail garden@upstate.edu for more information.

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

Spiritual Care Grand Rounds. “Why Are Babies Dying: Pregnancy, Birth and Death in America.” Sandy Lane, PhD, Upstate Medical University. 4 to 5:15 p.m. Medical Alumni Board Room, Senter Academic Bldg.

Vocera Class. See 2/12 listing.

Golisano Children’s Hospital Phonathon. Dinner: 5:30 to 6 p.m. Calling: 6 to 8 p.m. Upstate Medical University Foundation, Third Floor, C.A.B.

HealthLink Seminar. “Be a Smart Healthcare Consumer.” Trisha Torrey, Upstate Medical University. 6 to 7 p.m. Liverpool Public Library, 310 Tulip St.

Liverpool, NY.

Thursday, Feb. 14

ATLS Class: Refresher Course. 7:30 a.m. 550 E. Genesee St., Syracuse.

“Share Our Values” Display, including Suggestion Box. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Doust Board Room, Wsk. Hall. IMT Finance at Widewater and Sixth Floor at 250 Harrison St.; 9 a.m. to 4 a.m. (through next day), Second Floor Small Cafeteria, University Hospital and Suite 401 Crouse Physician’s Office Bldg.; and 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Fifth Floor Conference Room, UHCC.

Nursing Service Orientation. 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.

Workshop. “Diversity Management in Healthcare.” 9 to 11 a.m. 205 Jacobsen Hall.

Psychiatry Meeting for Full-time Faculty. Noon to 2 p.m. PBS Bldg., 713 Harrison St.

Vocera Class. See 2/12 listing.

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

Friday, Feb. 15

ATLS Class: Instructor Course. 7:30 a.m. 550 E. Genesee St., Syracuse.

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

Obstetrics/Gynecology Grand Rounds. “Vitamin D Deficiency.” Arnold Moses, MD, Upstate Medical University. 7:30 a.m. Marley Education Ctr.

“Share Our Values” Display, including Suggestion Box. 9 a.m. to noon, Cafe 750, University Hospital; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Suite 401, Crouse Physician’s office Bldg.; 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fifth Floor Conference Room, UHCC.

• Mass. See 2/8 listing.

Film. “Enchanted.” Rated PG. 7:30 p.m. 103 Wsk. Hall. Admission: Free with SUNY Upstate ID; all others, $2.

Saturday, Feb. 16

• Mass. See 2/9 listing.

Sunday, Feb. 17

Healthlink on Air. See 2/10 listing.

• Mass. See 2/10 listing.

Film. “Enchanted.” Rated PG. 2 p.m. 103 Wsk. Hall. Admission: Free with SUNY Upstate ID; all others, $2.

Jazz Cabaret with Barbara Morrison. 4 p.m. Schine Student Center, Syracuse University. $5 admission available at Schine Box Office. Black History Month activity.

Monday, Feb. 18

• Mass. See 2/11 listing.

Yoga with Tony Roposo. See 2/11 listing.

Tuesday, Feb. 19

Weight Watchers at Work. See 2/12 listing.

• Weekly Prayer Service. See 2/12 listing.

Workshop. “A Practical Approach to Practical Skills: Conflict Resolution and Problem Solving.” 1 to 3 p.m. 1328B University Hospital.

Spiritual Fitness. See 2/12 listing.

Infectious Diseases Conference. Shelley Gilroy, MD, Upstate Medical University. 4 p.m. 304 Crouse Physician’s Office Building, Irving Avenue, Syracuse.

Pilates Class. See 2/12 listing.

HealthLink Seminar. “Getting the Most Out of Your Exercise Program.” Dale Avers, PT, DPT, Upstate Medical University. 6 to 7:30 p.m. HealthLink, Shopping Town Mall, DeWitt.

Wednesday, Feb. 20

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

Otology-Neurotology 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. Padma Veerapaneni, MD, Upstate Medical University. 8 a.m. Sulze Aud., Marley Education Ctr.

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


• Rev. Weez’s Storytime. See 2/6 listing.

Golisano Children’s Hospital Phonathon. See 2/13 listing.

Friday, Feb. 22

SUNY Upstate New Employee Orientation. 7 a.m. to Noon. East Lounge, C.A.B.

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


• Mass. See 2/8 listing.

Comedy Hour with Victor Varnado. 5:30 p.m. Lobby, C.A.B. $3 admission, ages 18 and older only. Black History Month activity.

Saturday, Feb. 23

• Mass. See 2/9 listing.

Sunday, Feb. 24

HealthLink on Air. See 2/10 listing.

• Mass. See 2/10 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/edc om/upstatemag.
National personalities support VCFS center

Robert Shprintzen, PhD, (center), director of SUNY Upstate Medical University’s International Center for VCFS (Velo-Cardio-Facial-Syndrome), and Quinn Bradlee join Alexandra Oppenheimer at a reception to benefit the center, held in December in New York City. Quinn is the son of former Washington Post Executive Editor Ben Bradlee and journalist and author Sally Quinn. Alexandra is the daughter of New York State Sen. Suzi Oppenheimer and Martin J. Oppenheimer, senior partner at Proskauer Rose Law Firm. The reception, hosted by the Oppenheimer family, was attended by national personalities from the worlds of publishing, the arts and the media, including David Remmick, editor of The New Yorker, and ABC News Chief David Westin. VCFS, the most common and serious genetic syndrome after Down’s syndrome, was identified by Dr. Shprintzen in 1978. A gala to benefit the center, held in June in Washington, D.C., raised $250,000. In addition to directing the International Center for VCFS, Dr. Shprintzen is professor of otolaryngology and communication sciences and director of the Communication Disorder Unit at SUNY Upstate.