

The Catalyst

December 1, 2000

Medical University of South Carolina

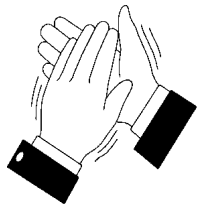
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you've got 'til it's gone.
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always do an inventory.
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doing the inventory.

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7 A provision of the
Employee Leave Transfer
Program allows university
employees who wish to
donate leave to the annual
and/or sick leave transfer
pools to do so before Dec.
31 of each calendar year.

College of Medicine

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MUSC

Curriculum of the Millennium

Health care disparities seminar postponed

A special statewide seminar, originally scheduled for Dec. 4, entitled Healthcare Inequity: the Nation and the State has been postponed.

The new date will be announced at a later time.

Sharing in the spirit of giving



MUSC students and staff joined in the holiday spirit of giving by participating in MUSC Gives Back Blood Drive held Nov. 29 and the College of Pharmacy's annual Christmas Giving Tree project.

Participants can pick up a "bear" gift tag suggesting gifts for children and teens sponsored by the Carolina Youth Development Center. Gifts must be returned in gift bags to the MUSC Gives Back office, room 438, Harper Student Center, by noon on Dec. 8.

People are also reminded to give the gift that saves lives. Currently, the South Carolina Region of the American Red Cross has low supplies of O-positive, O-negative, B-positive and B-negative blood.

Donations can be made at its new donor site located in room 273, Main Hospital, between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Call 792-0219 to schedule an appointment.

Also, the Red Cross will sponsor a bloodmobile visit in front of the MUSC horseshoe on Dec. 22.

Community Happenings

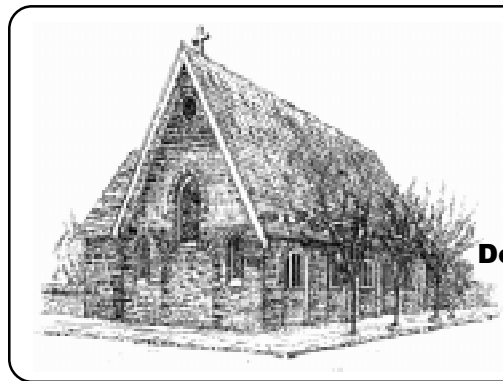
At a glance... December

2 A farmers market selling fresh vegetables, plants, foods and crafts of all types will be held from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Moultrie Middle School on Coleman Boulevard in Mount Pleasant. For information, call 884-8517.

3 The Charleston Symphony Orchestra (CSO) Gospel Christmas debuts the CSO Gospel Choir featuring full orchestra at 7 p.m. at the Gaillard Auditorium. The event will feature Vincent Danner, conductor of The Memphis Symphony, and Vivian Jones, choral director, with Rev. Randolph Miller. More than 80 voices will rock the house with a full program of traditional gospel, spirituals and holiday music. Tickets range from \$21 to \$5 for children. For group rates dial 723-7528 ext 103 or visit CSO's Website at <<http://www.charlestonsymphony.com/welcome.asp?ent=112100t>>.

9 The Charleston Farmers Market offers fresh Christmas greens, trees, wreaths and garlands from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Hutson Street, next to Marion Square. Also available will be baked breads, coffee, honey and other items that make perfect holiday gifts. For information, call 724-3705.

10 A Teddy Bear Tea will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. at Charleston Place Hotel Ballroom. The Teddy Bear Tea includes a fancy tea party, a visit from Santa, holiday entertainment, and seasonal decorations. Have your child's photograph taken with Santa Claus. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$15 for children. Proceeds benefit the Florence Crittenton Programs of South Carolina. For information call the Teddy Bear Tea Ticket Hotline at 886-3855.



**St. Luke's Chapel
presents
Noon Organ
Concerts**

Dec. 5 Raymond Ackerman

*Admission is free
Call 792-6775 for more information*

American Lung Association in need of equipment

The American Lung Association of South Carolina is in need of compressor-driven nebulizers, small machines that turn asthma medications into a mist which can be breathed in easily by young children.

The nebulizers will be part of the American Lung Association's Open

Airway for Schools program, a four-session program for children with asthma. After the program has been completed, the nebulizer will remain in the school.

Anyone having respiratory equipment to donate, call the American Lung Association at 556-8451.

Wando High School Choir, CSO to hold performance

In celebration of holiday classics, the Wando High School Choir and the Charleston Symphony Orchestra (CSO) will perform at 8 p.m. on Fri-

day, Dec. 15, at Charleston Southern's Lightsey Chapel. For information, call 554-6060 or visit <<http://www.charlestonsymphony.com>>.

Campus News

BROADCAST MESSAGES

The broadcast message system has been updated and can be found at <<http://www.musc.edu/broadcast>>. The Office of Public Relations is attempting to make the broadcast message system convenient for all of its users. If you have any suggestions or ideas that can make it better, e-mail broadcast@musc.edu.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

To assist MUSC's international students, employees and researchers, free "English as a Second Language" classes are being offered on campus on Monday and Thursday evenings. Register with International Programs and Services, Susan Brooks at 792-2623 or 792-7083.

HUMANITAS

MUSC employees, faculty and students who have written a poem, essay, or short story; taken a photograph; or other creative artistic endeavor that relates to the human spirit are encouraged to submit their efforts for publication in HUMANITAS. Poetry, photography, short stories and line art may be submitted to Dr. Carol Lancaster at 17 Ehrhardt Street, Suite 3. Submission deadline is Dec. 1.

NATIONAL MEDAL OF SCIENCE

Former professor of biomedical research, Ralph Hirschmann, Ph.D., is a recipient of the 2000 National Medal

of Science. The National Medal of Science was established by Congress in 1959 and is administered by the National Science Foundation. The medal will be conferred at a ceremony today, Dec. 1, at the National Building Museum.



Hirschmann

TOYS FOR TOTS

The Class of 2004 will hold its 4th Annual College of Medicine's Holiday Party benefiting Toys for Tots. The event will be held from 7 to 11 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 9, at the Charleston Visitor Center, 375 Meeting Street. Food and beverages will be provided. Admission is free with a donation of a new, unwrapped toy. Dress is coat and tie. For more information, contact Michael J. Rossi or Jason F. Arnold at 876-1549.

St. Luke's Chapel Memorial Service

4 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 5
St. Luke's Chapel

A memorial service will be held to honor those generous persons and their families whose participation has contributed to the education of students and the advancement of medical science.

"Ethics: Right vs. Right"

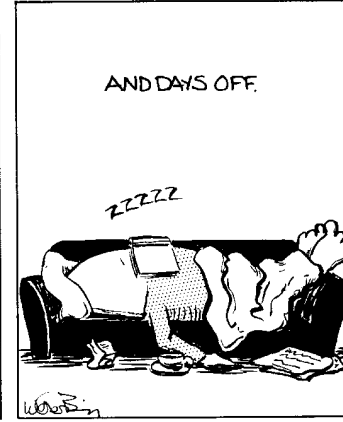
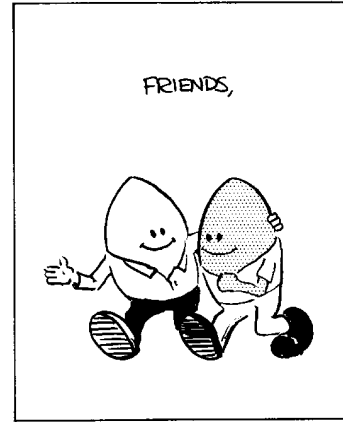
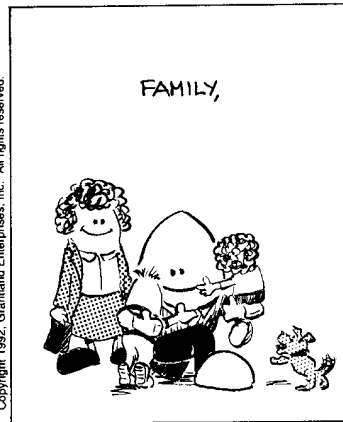
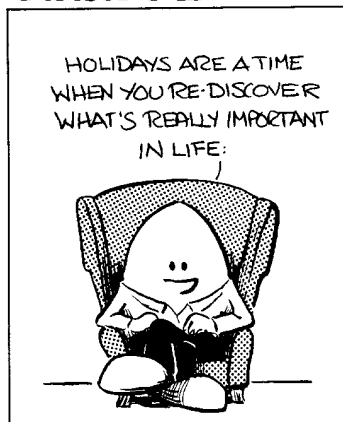
Instructor: David McNair of the McNair Group
8:30 a.m. - noon, Dec. 6
Room 103, Harborview Office Towers

Stress and other challenges can interfere with everyday decision-making in the workplace. In order to address the complexities of today's work-related situations, employers are recognizing the importance of providing a strong framework or guidelines to ethical decision-making.

The program, sponsored by the Department of Human Resources Management, will look at moral awareness and examines what drives human behavior. The fee is \$75 for MUSC, MUHA, and UMA employees.

For more information, call 792-3348. The registration form can also be found at <<http://www.musc.edu/hrm/training/index.html>>

GRANTBAND®



Letters to Dr. Greenberg

Since becoming president, I (we) have received many letters commending our faculty and staff for outstanding patient care. These letters, or excerpts from letters, from patients and their families provide ample evidence of their high regard for our clinical services. I am pleased to share some of them with you, and recognize those who are providing skilled and compassionate care.

Dear Dr. Greenberg,

Over the years I have had the opportunity to recommend MUSC to individuals that needed special attention and/or counsel. Each time I have been very proud of our "Hometown team" and the caring way that MUSC staff have responded.

In the last several months I have had two occasions of trying to help a cancer patient obtain expert counseling and possibly second opinions as to treatment. On both of these occasions I was fortunate to locate Ms. Cody Roest of Dr. Carolyn Reed's office.

This young lady was bright, cheerful and professional and suggested that I have the patient call her and she would try to assist in any manner available.

Our community is fortunate to have such a valuable medical asset and we should recognize that value at every opportunity.

Dear Dr. Greenberg,

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you and inform you of our grandfather's care as both an out and in patient. Our grandfather was brought to your hospital to see Dr. Tom Brothers. We were seeking a second opinion; he was a youthful 91-year-old with a vascular problem and an existing heart condition.

We want you to know that from our very first visit to Dr. Brothers' office, until he took his final breath, that all of your staff did all that they possibly could for our grandfather. Their kindness, care and concern for his comfort, as well as his well being were truly heartwarming.

Once again, we are very grateful to the staff of 9 East, who cared for our grandfather with so much kindness. We also want to express our thanks to Dr. Tom Brothers' staff, as well as to Dr. Assey's staff, who had also seen our grandfather concerning his heart condition.

Dear Dr. Lambert and Dr. Miller,

I would like to thank you for your professionalism,

attitude of excellence, and the quality of services you provided me. We are fortunate to have doctors of your caliber at the MUSC Department of Otolaryngology.

Dear Mr. Woodbury,

On behalf of the physicians and staff of Orthopaedic Specialists of Charleston please let me congratulate MUSC on being chosen by consumers as one of the top 122 hospitals in the country. This is truly an accomplishment. The recognition is proof MUSC places providing quality care ahead of anything else.

Once again, congratulations on your Consumer Choice Award.

Dear Ms. Nancy Miller,

I want to thank you for all of your courtesies in helping to arrange a stay in Charleston for my wife and I to meet with Dr. Turrisi. It is people such as you who make life genuinely more enjoyable.

Also, please express our appreciation to Dr. Turrisi and Eric, the intern. I especially liked the personal interest Dr. Turrisi took in us and the manner in which he discussed the "unknowns," as well as the possible results of chemotherapy and radiation. He truly is a world-class radiation oncologist.

Dear Dr. Rubano (Carolina Family Care),

I write to thank you for the marvelous care you and your staff gave to my father in the final years of his life while he was a resident at the Franke Home! Your compassion and sensitivity to his declining physical condition made the final years of his earthly life comfortable and secure, and for that I shall always be grateful.

Dear Dr. Creasman,

I want to thank you for taking the time to examine my case of carcinosarcoma and offer your expert opinion regarding further treatment. I shall always be grateful to you for your honest discussion of the options that lay before me.

I want you to know that of the three oncology units attached to three hospitals I visited for consultation, yours was by far the most humane and professional. The other institutions simply do not measure up to the quality of service that I received at the Hollings Cancer Center.

I also appreciated the fact that Hollings has two waiting rooms — one for those who want to listen to television, and one for those, like myself, who want to sustain a sense of quiet. For the latter, you have provided a waiting room

with no television and an aquarium.

Again, thank you for your counsel and kindness.

Dear Dr. Greenberg:

I felt it was also necessary to inform you about certain individuals who stood out above the rest in the care of my daughter.

Kim Walker and Julie Brown were the nurse practitioners who we primarily dealt with. Julie was on the resuscitation team. Kim was with my wife and I when we were told about my daughter's hemorrhage. She was very compassionate and supportive as she walked us through our options.

My daughter had both a primary and a co-primary care nurse. Her primary care nurse was Jen Powers. She was wonderful during the entire time that my daughter was in the hospital. Her spirit was an inspiration to me.

My daughter's co-primary was Eloise Coppler. Eloise was also on the resuscitation team. She volunteered to be her co-primary even after she knew about her hemorrhage. In addition, she came in on her own time to be with my family during my daughter's last hours. Her compassion didn't end with my daughter's death as was illustrated by her attendance at my daughter's services.

While the entire nursing staff was incredible, one additional nurse stands out, Stephanie Powers. Although she was not one of my daughter's primaries, she still had a bond with her and us after caring for her on several occasions. She joined us for a few minutes in the grieving room, while we waited for my daughter to pass away, and cried with us. It was difficult enough going through this experience. It would have been unbearable had your staff been indifferent.

Finally, I would like to thank your developmental team. Lynne Hadley and Kathy Chase not only helped my wife and I understand our experience in the NICU, they also provided information and support to help our other daughter understand what was happening to her sister.

My mother is a nurse and has worked in a Level III nursery in Las Vegas for most of my adult life. I know, through her, how difficult it is for a nurse to lose a patient. I don't understand how they can go to work every day after seeing so many children die but I will be forever grateful that they do.

It's important to me that they know their efforts are appreciated, even when the outcome isn't that a healthy baby goes home. Their compassion and professionalism will never be forgotten.

Applause program recognizes exceptional employees



The following employees received recognition through the Applause Program for going the extra mile to provide quality service, education, research and patient care. Each employee received an Applause certificate, an "I was applauded" button and was recognized by their respective departments.

Medical Center

Safety and Security; Digestive Disease Center; Transi-

tional Care Unit; Karen Ancrum, IOP; George Branham, Safety and Security; Margaret Brown, Respiratory Therapy; Cory Chapman, HOP; Janie Curnell, 10 E; Alethia Elliott, 7 A; Michael Green, Safety and Security; Paula Hardwick, 5 W; Stephanie Harmon, NNICU; Synovia Irving, HOP; Rodger Johnson, Admissions; Karen Johnson, 5 W; Rachel Knight, Main OR; Pat Malchiodi, Main OR; Gena Reeves, 7 E; Glenn Robinson, Safety and Security; Tess Santos, 8 E; Gary Stubblefield, Safety and Security; Irene Talarico, Access Center.

Medical University

Carol Creech, Parking Management; Christopher Ebeling, Public Safety; Norvela Fludd-Rice, Procurement; Joe Gorman, CCIT; Myra Haney, College of Medicine; Joseph Jenrette III, Radiation Oncology; Nancy H. Miller, Hollings Cancer Center; David Moses, CCIT / Healthcare Network Services; Naveen Pereira, Cardiology; Guy Riccio, Public Safety; Suzanne Robert, OB/GYN North Area Clinic; Roy Triplett, University Transportation; Nick Whichard, CCIT.

Library and Internet Schedule

Monday, Dec. 4

MicroMedex

Noon to 1 p.m.

Library, fourth floor, service desk

For reservations, call 792-2371

Tuesday, Dec. 5

PsycINFO

1 to 2 p.m.

Library, fourth floor, service desk

For reservations, call 792-2371

Wednesday, Dec. 6

CINAHL

1 to 2 p.m.

Library, fourth floor, Service Desk

For reservations, call 792-2371

Thursday, Dec. 7

Library Catalog and Journal

Holdings

Noon to 1 p.m.

Library, fourth floor, Service Desk

For reservations, call 792-2371

Friday, Dec. 8

Effective Use of the Internet

1 to 2 p.m.

Library, fourth floor, Service Desk

For reservations, call 792-2371

Asset mapping aid to health alliances

by Dick Peterson
Public Relations

You don't know what you've got 'til it's gone. Or, then again, you can always do an inventory. Marilyn Laken, Ph.D., is doing the inventory.

She's doing what every successful business does and few if any universities have ever tried. She's created an "asset map," an ongoing, living, growing inventory of MUSC assets with an eye to using them efficiently and effectively throughout South Carolina.

Laken is director of special initiatives at MUSC and a professor of nursing and medicine. Her project began with support from Healthy South Carolina Initiative and has since continued with assistance from departments and offices across campus.

"MUSC's assets are its people," Laken said. "That includes their expertise, contacts, credibility, students, alumni, programs, and special units such as institutes, centers and offices."

But it's not as if MUSC has been negligent. as far as she knows there's not another university in the country that has done what Laken is doing. She's applying basic business principles to the allocation of university resources.

Take those health screening vans, for example. MUSC has three of them. There's the Hollings Mobile Health Van, the Dental Health Van from the College of Dental Medicine, and Project Sugar's van. Add to that 11 other health-related vans rolling up and down South Carolina highways.

"These vans are not coordinated with each other," Laken said. And she has the map to prove it.

The vans seem to cluster in the Lowcountry and in some South Carolina counties, such as Richland and Horry, and in the Greenville-Spartanburg areas, for example, while others receive less attention. Furthermore, in view of South Carolina being hit by another hurricane, Laken discovered that these 14 vans were not connected to emergency preparedness services.

"Thanks to a letter from (MUSC President) Dr. Greenberg that included a copy of the map, the emergency preparedness services are now aware of



Laken



The Dental Health Van, right, the Hollings Mobile Health Van, and Project Sugar's van line up on the MUSC Horseshoe. These, coordinated with similar outreach projects throughout the state, would greatly benefit South Carolina residents by targeting resources where they are most needed.

this emergency resource," Laken said.

And then there's Healthy South Carolina Initiative, which has health projects statewide, other outreach projects sponsored by MUSC, and numerous other public and private institutions. "These add up to a tremendous resource for promoting health and wellness," Laken said.

"The problem," she said, "is that community-based organizations would like to collaborate their activities with MUSC, but they have no 'road map' of what MUSC is doing and where. And university faculty, students and administrators would like to collaborate with health-related organizations in the community, but there's nothing to show what resources and services are available county-by-county throughout the state."

"We all know there are many health problems in the state's 46 counties. What we need is a 'road map' to link the people, programs and assets. The challenge, with limited resources, is to share assets in ways that address local problems."

And there's another challenge, Laken points out. It's the challenge to break down that wall of intimidation that seems to exist between a university and the community that surrounds it. Whether it's deserved or not, communities view universities as ivory towers of learning that are somehow aloof from the workaday lives of people, Laken said.

"While MUSC should be held in high esteem, there's a downside. The people, and the state officials who represent them, are unaware of what MUSC has done for them lately," Laken said, "and they are less likely to support us. We really haven't translated that on the local level largely because we ourselves don't know all we're doing in South Carolina's 46 counties."

She said that MUSC fights a perception that it serves only the Lowcountry. "And while we talk about our education, patient care and research, we further isolate ourselves from the rest of South Carolina by not saying what we mean in particular to each of the 46 counties."

"This is not good for the state or us."

With the aid of the asset maps Laken is developing, MUSC can document needs and create community alliances that "help us become business partners with people around the state."

Laken said that deans and department heads will each get 46 asset maps—one for each county—list-

ing special initiatives, clinical outreach services, education opportunities, local students currently enrolled at MUSC, and MUSC alumni living in each county.

She expects that as the asset maps are circulated, more information about ways MUSC touches people will be forthcoming.

"We all know there are many health problems in the state's 46 counties. What we need is a 'road map' to link the people, programs and assets. The challenge, with limited resources, is to share assets in ways that address local problems."

—Dr. Marilyn Laken

Reindeer Run/Walk to benefit Children's Hospital

The Charitable Society of Charleston invites you to join in on the annual Piggly Wiggly 5K Reindeer Run/Walk at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 2 at East Bay Street (at Cumberland Street). Kick off your holiday spirit with a dash through historic downtown Charleston.

There will be awards for all age groups and prizes for the most imaginative seasonal costumes. Participants are encouraged to wear the traditional red and green colors to help celebrate the season.

The overall award for the top finisher for male and female will receive a \$100 gift certificate from The Extra Mile.

A \$18 pre-registration fee, for age 13 and above, will help support pediatric research and programs at MUSC Children's Hospital. Advance registration fee for children up to 12 years of age will be \$12. Registration fee on race day will be \$22.

Mail checks to CSC by Nov. 25, or drop off your registration in person at The Extra Mile by Nov. 30. Packet pickup and last minute registration will be held from 4 to 8 p.m. Dec. 1 at the MUSC Wellness Center. For information, call 792-1112.

Registration Form

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Birthday _____

Sex: (circle one) M F Age _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

Long Sleeve T-shirt (circle)

Youth (M) Youth (L) Adult (S) Adult (M) Adult (L) Adult (XL)

I hereby release all municipal agencies whose property and/or personnel are used and any other sponsors or individuals from responsibility for any injuries and/or damages I may suffer as a result of my participation in the reindeer run. I hereby confirm that I am in good condition and am able to safely complete this event. I understand that the entry fee is not refundable. As a participant I certify that all information provided in this form is accurate and complete.

Signature _____
(Parent Signature if under 18)

Make check payable to CSC. Mail to CSC—Reindeer Run, P.O. Box 21134, Charleston, SC 29413.

The Catalyst

The Catalyst is published every week for faculty, staff, and employees of the Medical University of South Carolina. The appearance of advertisements in this publication does not constitute an endorsement by MUSC or the State of South Carolina. MUSC is an equal opportunity m/f affirmative action employer.

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Advertising and business office: Island Publication, P.O. Box 12110, Charleston, SC 29422 (843) 849-1778, FAX (843) 849-0214.

Research studies

Alcohol Problems Individuals 21 to 70 years of age having problems with alcohol may be eligible for a study of medications plus individual counseling. Call 792-2727.

Asthma Individuals at least 18 years old with mild to moderate asthma are needed. Call 792-3168 or 792-0373.

Baby Formula A nutritional study for a new baby formula is being held. Babies must be healthy, less than 15 days old and not more than 3 weeks premature. Baby does not have to be a patient at MUSC. Formula is provided for a 3-month study period. Monetary compensation and diapers given at all visits. Call 792-8778.

Bioflavonoid Healthy individuals, 20 to 40 years old, are needed for a study of the bioavailability of dietary flavonoids. Studies will be conducted in the General Clinical Research Center. Tracer doses of radiolabeled flavonoid will be administered. Compensation will be provided. Call Pat at 792-3258 or 792-3356.

Blood Pressure Healthy individuals age 21 to 49 either lean with normal blood pressure or overweight with high blood pressure needed for a 6-week GCRC outpatient study. Call 792-1715.

Cholesterol Center Seeking study patients, between the ages of 21 and 70, who have high triglycerides greater than 300, low HDL (less than 40), and normal LDL for a two-week study. Call 876-0600.

Congestive Heart Failure Several studies for patients with congestive heart failure. Call 953-6411.

Diabetes Outcome Progression Trial (ADOPT) is being conducted by SmithKline Beecham. The purpose of this research study is to compare the effects of three FDA approved medications on Type 2 Diabetes. To qualify for the study: You must be 30-75 years of age; Diagnosed with type 2 diabetes within the last two years; Never treated with an oral glucose lowering drug; Treated with diet and exercise only. For more information about taking part in this study or to register call 1-888-914-7400 or Web site <<http://www.newDiabetes.com>>.

Diabetes Three-day Inpatient Study Type 2 diabetes not using insulin, between 18 and 58 years of age. Call 792-8166.

Ear Infection Children, 3 months to 11 years old, who have an ear infection may qualify to participate. Call 792-8778.

Families African American families from the Sea Islands with two or more family members with sugar diabetes are needed for Project SuGAR. Call 792-5158.

Fussy Infants Babies, younger than two months of age, with excessive crying may be eligible for a free eight

week research program aimed to reduce infant crying and support parents. Call 792-7555.

Healthy Individuals People between 21-65 years of age are needed to serve as controls. Call 792-2727.

Healthy Adolescents Healthy adolescents between the ages of 14 and 19 are needed for a research study that involves one visit. Compensation will be provided. Call 792-5947.

Hearing Study Normal hearing individuals needed for an age-related hearing study. Individuals must be at least 60 years of age and in good health. Call 792-7977.

Hepatitis C Trial Individuals with biopsy-proven PCR positive chronic hepatitis C with 3 normal ALT (liver enzymes) values over the 6-12 months prior to enrollment, no abnormal ALTs and who have not been treated previously with Interferon therapy are eligible for a study. Patients and/or their insurance will be responsible for the cost of the study. Call 792-5120.

High Blood Pressure African American adults with high blood pressure are needed for a one day study of hypertension and physical activity. Call 792-9939.

High Normal Blood Pressure Volunteers 30 to 65 years old are needed for a four year study. Participants will receive health exams, blood tests, and ECGs. Call 792-1715 or 792-0311.

HIV Individuals, 18 years of age or older who are HIV-positive and have never had any prior HIV medications, are needed. Call 792-6173.

Kidney Disease Individuals, 18 to 49 years of age with kidney disease not on dialysis, needed for a 3-week study. If you do not smoke and do not have diabetes, you may qualify. Call Nina Romie at 792-9833 or e-mail romien@musc.edu.

Marital Enrichment Seeking married college/technical students, interns, or residents to participate in a short-term program to prevent marital distress and improve personal and marital growth. No fee. \$25 gift certificate upon completion. Call 577-5011 ext. 7133 or ext. 7140.

Medication—Resistance Depression Adults with depression which is inadequately responding to antidepressant medication are eligible for a study comparing Standard Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT) with the combination of one ECT followed by Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation. Call Dr. Mark Beale at 792-5700.

New Panic/PTSD Female victims of crime suffering from posttraumatic stress disorder and panic attacks are needed for a research study being conducted at the National Crime Victims Research and Treatment Center. Call 792-2945.

Postmenopausal Women 16-week Hormone Replacement Therapy seeking healthy women between 45 - 65 years of age with an intact uterus. Must be amenorrheic for at least six months. Must not have used any hormone replacement therapy within the last six months. Free medication, physical exam, mammogram and lab tests. Call 792-2867 or 792-9099.

Sarcoidosis Study Family genetic study to determine possible causes and risk factors for sarcoidosis. Call 792-7922 or 800-805-6614.

Women's Study Women at least 55 years old with high cholesterol, not on estrogen or medications for osteoporosis. Free one year study of cholesterol and osteoporosis. Call 876-0689 and leave a message.

PSYCHIATRY

Adolescents A study to compare smokers and adolescents with ADHD to controls. Adolescents between the age of 15 and 20 years old who fit one of three categories: ADHD, smoking or control, are needed. Participants will receive free psychiatric, medical and substance abuse assessments and be compensated. Call Mollie at 792-5807.

Adolescents and Alcohol Use A six week medication study for adolescents/young adults between the age of 12 and 20 wanting to seek treatment for alcohol use. Call 792-7288.

Adolescents and Alcohol Adolescents between the ages of 14 and 19 who use alcohol regularly are needed for a study which involves only one visit. Call 792-5947.

Adolescent Depression Adolescents, 12 to 18 years of age, with symptoms of depression (irritability, crying spells, poor sleep or appetite, declining grades) needed for study. Call Gretchen at 792-5213.

Alcohol/Cigarettes The Center for Drug and Alcohol Programs is conducting a two-session non-treatment research project investigating reactions to pictures and sounds. Participants must be 21-55 years old, drink at least 20 alcoholic drinks a week and be either a current smoker or a non-smoker. Also seeking healthy controls. Call Mindy at 792-6408.

Alzheimer's Research and Clinical Programs Individuals medically stable, have a caregiver and a primary care physician are needed for treatment of the following: Alzheimer's disease (early to late stages); early mild memory loss; sleep disturbance in Alzheimer's disease; hormone replacement in Alzheimer's disease; and behavioral disturbances. Call 740-1592.

Anger A 15-week study to assess the safety and efficacy of Depatoke in reducing symptoms of impulsive aggression is being conducted. Individuals who experience sudden temper outbursts, have a short fuse or get into frequent fights may qualify.

Available to individuals between 18 and 65 years of age at no cost. Call 792-1534.

Behavioral Therapy Adolescents age 12 to 18 with alcohol abuse/dependence with or without marijuana abuse/dependence needed. Parents should call Natalie Johnson at 876-5070.

Binge Eating and Cocaine Use Women 18 to 50 who binge eat, worry about their weight, and use cocaine are needed for a treatment study. Call 792-2727.

Crime Victims and Substance Abuse Individuals between the ages of 21 and 60 who have been crime victims as children or adults and use any amount of either alcohol or cocaine are needed for a two session study. Call 792-0762.

Depression Individuals who are 18 years of age and older and suffering from depression are needed. Call 792-5900.

Medication Studies for the treatment of children and adolescents age 6 to 17 are being conduct. Call 876-5070.

Individuals between 18 and 85 years of age with serious depression, for whom ECT has been recommended, are needed for a 5-month study. Call 792-5734.

General Anxiety Disorder Individuals, 18 years of age and older with persistent anxiety and worry, are needed for a medication study. Call 792-5900.

General Social Phobia Individuals who feel they are socially anxious about most things since childhood may be eligible to participate in the functional MRI studies. Call 792-5900.

Irritable Bowel Syndrome Individuals who experience frequent diarrhea, abdominal pain, bloating, cramping and irregular bowel movements are for a medication study needed. Call 792-5900.

Panic and Depression A medication study with a 9-month extension, ages 18 and older for patients with panic disorder and depression. Call 792-5900.

PTSD A 12-week research study that assess the efficacy of two active medications, Nefazodone and Sertraline, in the treatment of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is being conducted. Participants must be 18 years old or older. Call 792-1185.

Schizophrenia Individuals with diagnosis of schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder for a study. Call 792-5719.

Smoking Cessation Individuals 12 to 19 years old who have, or think they might have, ADHD and would like to quit smoking are needed. Participants will receive free assessments and be compensated. Call 792-5807.

GED student shines as oldest graduate

by Cindy Abole
Public Relations

Seventy-one and still learning, James Island resident Ernest Bailey has made learning a lifetime quest.

Bailey's desire to complete his education had eluded him—until now. After more than 55 years, Bailey has earned his GED certificate. Today, he's more sure of himself—and it shows when he walks with his shoulder squared and his chin up. He's thankful for many things but mostly for the weekly guidance from a handful of dedicated volunteers and co-students at MUSC's Adult Sickle Cell Clinic.

"I'm grateful to many people for their support," said Bailey, who diligently attended the clinic's GED preparation program on Tuesdays and Thursdays. "Throughout this time, I've received a lot of help and encouragement from so many gracious folks."

The program is co-sponsored by the clinic, the Disease Prevention and Control Access Network program and the Trident Literacy Association.

Bailey registered to take the GED test at Fort Dorchester High School. The test is not simple. It covers a wide range of basics from general math to pre-algebra, writing and grammar. Typically, the GED is administered during in an eight-hour period with five, 75-minute sections and appropriate breaks. But due to health problems,

Bailey was allowed to take the test in two parts—on two separate occasions—with a documented medical permission slip.

The pre-GED preparation and literacy program, which began at MUSC in 1997, has helped dozens of people achieve their own personal goals by helping them discover their full potential. The program continues to receive support from sponsors Dan Hoskins, director of Disease and Prevention and Control Access Network; Daniel Nixon, M.D., professor of medicine, Division of Hematology/Oncology and Dave Neff, administrator, Ambulatory Care Services.

"Everything for GED preparation is being accomplished right here," said Daphne Wright, Trident Literacy Association director.

"We wanted to show the community that everyone's welcome—Sickle Cell patients or anyone who wants to come," said Chris Y. Brunson, M.D., MUSC Adult Sickle Cell Clinic director. "The program provides education in a relaxed atmosphere."

In South Carolina, it's estimated that more than 80,000 to 100,000 Lowcountry residents struggle with low literacy skills. The biggest population with needs are individuals between the ages 25-44, with women edging men by a ratio of 2-to-1, according to Wright. MUSC's program supports anywhere from eight to 10 people who come



71-year-old Ernest Bailey proudly displays his GED diploma to Daphne Wright, left, and Dawn Hall of MUSC's Adult Sickle Cell Clinic.

from the clinic's patient base or who live nearby in downtown Charleston neighborhoods.

"We wanted to create a quiet, warm and safe place to learn," said Thelma Gaillard, adult sickle cell nurse and program coordinator. "Mr. Bailey has been a fine example of diligence, persistence and patience. He's helped to counsel the younger students, even when they are not receptive to learning. He has been a rock of support for many who continue in their learning journey."

"I've learned what is done here at MUSC is just as important as how the staff provides care for its patients in their outpatients services," said Bailey.

"Not only are people learning to read and improve their skills," Brunson said. "They're also gaining valuable self-esteem. As my patients improve their skills, they're able to learn more about their disease and can take a proactive role in their healthcare."

Not only is Bailey more confident in both his math and writing skills but he's learned to develop a passion for learning. He plans to use this newfound confidence as he begins to enter the job market. "It feels very good just to have the certificate under my belt," Bailey said.

"I'm a big advocate for learning at any age," Wright said. "Learning is natural for everyone. From the first week, I noticed a change in these students. They have more confidence now than ever. It's like watching a flower unveil its petals after its been nourished. It's a great transformation!"

"I wish more young people could stick with the program like Mr. Bailey has," Brunson said. "It shows that you're never too old. He's a great example among others."

"Everything for GED preparation is being accomplished right here (MUSC)."

—Daphne Wright

Dietary department values opportunities, learning

Miriam Mack-Talbert knows the value of a good education.

With only a ninth-grade education, she's been in the food service business for more than 20 years.

Last year, after Mack-Talbert joined MUSC as a lunch and dinner cook with dietetic services, she realized that she was ready for a change.

Mack-Talbert discovered the on-site GED preparation program which was being held at MUSC's Adult Sickle Cell Clinic. After submitting an evaluation with the Trident Literacy Association, she enrolled in the program which is located on the sixth floor of Rutledge Tower.

"I love cooking," said Mack-Talbert. "After so many years in the business, I wanted a career in management but was tired of having doors shut in my face. You can only go so far when you don't have a complete education. You're at a standstill. I

learned that the hard way."

Mack-Talbert attended classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays. She received help from Sickle Cell Clinic psycho social counselor Dawn Hall and Trident Literacy director Daphne Wright. She knew she needed help with her math skills. "I felt I was doing well with reading since I regularly read the local paper and other books once in a while."

Her efforts have been supported by dietetic manager Mike Tierney, Tracy Grant, Joann Howard and others. She is driven by her determination and constant support from her family, husband Gipson and children, Jacquar and Marquisa.

The experience has helped Mack-Talbert gain a new self-confidence. "I've spread the word to others about the benefits of this program," Mack said. "I tell them it's up to you to find the time that will change your life for the better."

After more studying and practice tests under her belt, she hopes to be able to follow other successful classmates and complete her GED sometime next year.



Mack-Talbert

MUSC sponsors scholarship luncheons

MUSC's Office of Development takes a personal approach to raising money for scholarships: It invites scholarship recipients and their benefactors to lunch.

The purpose of these "scholarship luncheons" is twofold, said Jim Fisher, vice president for development. First, it gives the students an opportunity to say thank-you to the people funding their scholarships.

"Of course, these students are already grateful for the opportunities they've been given," he explained. "But when they meet their benefactors—

people who, until that point, might have been complete strangers—I think they appreciate those opportunities on a whole new level. I'd like to think that it's something they will remember later in life, when they see a young person in need."

Fisher also said the luncheon helps people who give to scholarship funds see how their investments are being spent.

"It gives donors an opportunity to see first-hand the difference they are making in the lives of these students," Fisher said. "They truly enjoy meeting

these young people and learning more about them on a personal level. I think it reaffirms and strengthens their commitment to the scholarship program."

One of the more recent scholarship luncheons was held Oct. 27 at the Sebring Aimar House, where five students had an opportunity to meet benefactors Cecilia and Dr. Vincent Peng. Mrs. and Dr. Peng, who graduated from both the College of Pharmacy and the College of Medicine, have funded a scholarship for more than 10 years.

Bluesheet accessed through MUSC Web site

Information for the MUSC Bluesheet, a listing of clinical and scientific events, can now be submitted through the Web site.

To send the information, go to <<http://www.musc.edu/pr/bluesheet/add>>. When sending an event or seminar through the Web site, input the same username and password used to access your e-mail account.

For information call Kim Draughn, Office of Public Relations, at 792-4107.

Meet...Erik



Name: Erik Myhrer.

School: Second year, College of Medicine.

Undergraduate: Degree in Environmental Science from Chapel Hill.

Born: Quito, Ecuador.

Favorite movie: Usual Suspects.

Favorite book: Roots.

Favorite food: Lasagna.

Least favorite chore: Going shopping.

Favorite class: Pathology.

Accomplishment you are most proud of: Setting up a system for migrant workers to have access to the health care they need by helping them find Spanish speaking doctors.

What is your biggest challenge: Coming to terms with the dropping of the parallel curriculum.

Who is your inspiration? My 95-year-old grandfather, Miguel.

Country you want to explore: Southern Chile.

Describe a perfect day: My perfect day would involve some tennis or some hiking, then a good beer, followed by watching the sunset from the top of a mountain.

Something people don't know about you: I speak Norwegian—I've lived in Norway, Switzerland and Denmark.

Words of advice: I got mine from Mark Twain: "Teach others to fish!" That's why my goal is to teach others to help themselves,

MUSC HARPER STUDENT WELLNESS CENTER

Besides aerobic classes, the center provides many programs from running clinics to a senior's Stae Fit class. The 100,000 square-foot facility offers a variety of exercise and free-weight equipment, a seven-lane junior Olympic size swimming pool, racquetball and squash courts, a running track, tennis courts and a juice bar.

For information about the various programs or membership rates, call 792-6611.

RESEARCH GRANTS

PETER COTTON

Digestive Disease Center, Amendment of Synthetic Human Secretin Open-Label Clinical Use Protocol, \$5,835 from Chirhoclin Inc., September 2000 through February 2001.

GREGORY J. DOUCETTE

Marine Biomedical and Environmental Sciences, Pseudo-Nitzschia SPP and Domoic Acid are Present in Louisiana Coastal Waters—is an Outbreak of Amnesic Shellfish Poisoning Possible?, \$11,293 from Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium (LUMCON), February 2000 through January 2001.

BRENT M. EGAN

Cell and Molecular Pharmacology, Iosartan and Oxidative Stress in Obese Hypertensives with the Risk Factor Cluster, \$65,000 from Merck and Company, September 2000 through August 2001.

W. TIMOTHY GARVEY

Medicine, Markers and Mechanisms of Macrovascular Disease in IDDM (Supplement)—CORE A, \$25,721 from Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, June 2000 through June 2001.

Markers and Mechanisms of Macrovascular Disease in IDDM (Supplement)—Project 5, \$40,264 from Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, June 2000 through June 2001.

Markers and Mechanisms of Macrovascular Disease in IDDM (Supplement)—CORE C, \$40,025 from Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, June 2000 through June 2001.

PHILIP D. HALL

Pharmaceutical Sciences, A Phase I Study of DT-GM Fusion Protein (IND BB#8153) in Relapsed and Refractory Adult Acute Myeloid, \$8,100 from Wake Forest University, December 1999 through December 2000.

CAROLYN JENKINS

Nursing, Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health 2010, \$982,001 from Center for Disease Control, September 2000 through September 2001.

L. LYNDON KEY

Pediatrics, Impact of Simvastatin on MRI Lesions in Patients with Relapsing Remitting Multiple Sclerosis, \$1,000,000 from Merck and Company, August 2000 through July 2002.

R. BRUCE LYDIARD

Psychiatry, Paroxetine vs Placebo in Outpatients with IBS: A Double-Blind, Flexible Dose Study, \$5,000 from Smithkline Beecham Corporation, July 1998 through January 2001.

ARCH MAINOUS

Family Medicine, South Carolina Rural Health Access Program, \$8,723 from South Carolina Office of Rural Health, September 2000 through January 2001.

DAVID RIVERS

Environmental Biosciences Program, National Environmental Policy Commission, \$20,000 from Department of Labor, September 2000 through December 2001.

STEVEN A. SAHN

Medicine, A Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo Controlled, Phase III Study of the Safety and Efficacy of Subcutaneous Recombinant Interferon γ 1b (1FN- γ 1b) in Patients with Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis, \$159,830 from Intermune Pharmaceuticals Inc., May 2000 through December 2001.

PHILIP SAUL

Pediatrics, Path-1 Pediatric Use of Amlodipine in the Treatment of Hypertension, \$17,159 from Pfizer Inc., October 1999 through February 2001.

RICHARD M. SILVER

Medicine, Twelve Week Active-Comparator-Controlled Trial of Rofecoxib in JRA, \$50,396 from Merck and Company, October 2000 through October 2001.

ELIZABETH SLATE

Biometry and Epidemiology, Phase III Trial of Selenium and Prostate Cancer Prevention (Negative Biopsy), \$40,776 from University of Arizona, October 2000 through July 2001.

KERRY D. SOLOMON

Ophthalmology, Advanced Computer Controlled Microkeratome Clinical Acceptability Study, \$4,500 from Allergan, April 2000 through December 2000.

BARBARA TILLEY

Pharmacy Practice

DEBORAH CARSON (Co PI)

Pharmacy Practice, Understanding and Eliminating Minority Health Disparities—PROJECT 4, \$111,963 from Agency for Healthcare and Research Quality, October 2000 through August 2001.

KIT SIMPSON (Co-PI)

Pharmaceutical Sciences, Understanding and Eliminating Minority Health Disparities—PROJECT 2, \$147,219 from AHRQ, October 2000 through August 2001.

Leave transfer pool donations accepted

A provision of the Employee Leave Transfer Program, which began in January 1989, allows university employees who wish to donate leave to the annual and/or sick leave transfer pools to do so before Dec. 31 of each calendar year.

Employees who may lose annual and/or sick leave because they will exceed the authorized maximum leave carryover of 360 hours for annual leave and 1,440 hours for sick leave are encouraged to donate leave to the trans-

fer pools before this date. Faculty can donate sick leave only.

Employees who wish to donate leave are reminded that no more than one-half of the annual or sick leave accrued during the calendar year may be donated. Once leave has been transferred it cannot be restored or returned to the leave donor.

For more information, call the Human Resources Development/Performance Management Section at 792-2683.

College of Medicine

MUSC

Curriculum of the Millennium

VOL 2, NO 10, Nov. 2000

Don't miss this

Dec. 1

Deadline for proposal submission for AAMC Southern Group on Educational Affairs 2001 Meeting

Proposal submission materials for "Teaching, Learning and Knowing in 2001: An Odyssey for Outcomes" are now available. Workshops, presentations, poster and small-group discussion sessions are welcomed. The meeting will be held March 22 - 24, 2001, in Little Rock, Ark.

For submission information, call Dr. Amy Blue at 792-3409. 2001

Jan. 21 - 23

AAMC Curriculum Leaders Professional Development Conference Savannah, Ga.

For information, call Dr. Amy Blue at 792-3409.

Continuing Medical Education

The following conferences are sponsored by MUSC. All conferences are to be held in Charleston unless otherwise noted.

December

1 - 3

3rd Annual Frontiers in Pediatrics

Doubletree Guest Suites Hotel

2001

March

19 - 21

OB/GYN Spring Symposium

Charleston Place Hotel

26 - 27

11th Charleston Pulmonary Update

Charleston Place Hotel

April

16 - 18

2nd Annual Issues in Women's Health

Charleston Place Hotel

Call the Office of Continuing Medical Education at 876-1925 for more information.

In next month's issue...

Due to a two-week hiatus in the publication of The Catalyst, the Medical Educator will resume publication at the end of January.

the MEDICAL

Faculty 'Improving Presentation

It's elementary. Teachers teach, and students learn. There's the lecture, the notes and the dreaded test.

College of Medicine faculty who took the Apple Tree Society's Faculty Development Interest Survey know it's not quite that elementary. In fact, as a result of the survey, faculty are participating in a Teach the Teachers Program that in November delivered what they requested. The topic: "Improving Presentation Skills."

"The response was great," said Amy Blue, Ph.D.

Blue, who is assistant dean for curriculum evaluation in the College of Medicine, said that the program pulls together the teaching skills of the college's faculty in a way that allows them to share what works best and solve common problems.

Blue, Frank Medio, Ph.D., the college's assistant dean for graduate medical education, and biochemistry and molecular biology professor Bill Stillway, Ph.D., are co-directors of MUSC's Apple Tree Society. The society is a universitywide group whose mission is to increase awareness of good teaching skills and scholarship in the area of teaching.

Medio, with physiology professor George Tempel, Ph.D., covered how principles of contemporary adult education can be used to improve classroom-based instruction, elements of effective lectures, how to increase "active participation" during large group presentations, and how to design lectures as "interactive" vehicles for learning.

"They loved it. It went really well," said Tempel, who bills himself as the program's 'Vanna White' to Medio, who hosts the show.

"I think we teachers need to learn



Abandoning the safety of the podium, Dr. Medio interacts with his audience in a way that allows them to learn together.

that the students we are getting are the products of an educational system that operates on the active involvement of the student with the lecturer-facilitator. We can work with somebody for 20 minutes and in that time, their mind is soaring ahead of where we were. We have to know how to bring them back to the learning process."

The secret, said Medio, is to make learning a "fun activity."

Harking to past learning experiences, Medio challenged the program participants to recall a teacher who effectively connected with subject matter and students. "What stood out? What did that teacher do?"

Tempel kept the list on a flip chart: Specific points, reinforced; relaxed atmosphere; surprise and change of pace; appropriate humor; animated, moved around; visual aids and props; interaction with the students; learn together.

Medio summed it up: "Design opportunities for the students to interact

with the information." And here's a concept: "People can learn from each other."

But watch out for the 10 common traps that produce poor lectures, he said.

"But there's only nine in the list!" came the objection.

"That's the 10th trap," Medio shot back. "Don't fall into the trap of making a mistake in your handout. It's distracting. You have two overriding guidelines: Maintain audience attention and avoid distracting them from what you have to say."

And who is the teacher and who is the learner here? Medio said that as adults everyone is both a teacher and a learner. The adult teaching model often referred to as "andragogy" is learner-centered, in contrast to

the child model, "pedagogy," which is teacher-centered. It recognizes each person as an individual whose educational needs can be determined and established together with the 'facilitator.' Instead of pumping factual knowledge, the facilitator's curriculum is centered on problem-solving skills and is characterized by interactive exchange of knowledge that can be put to immediate use.

"Why should I learn this?" Medio asked, putting the teacher in the learner's place. "That's a question every teacher should answer. That question forces the teacher to respond, 'What can I do to teach them what is relevant, practical and useful instead of just giving them a list of esoteric points?' In this mode, the learner is driving the teacher."

Also, the adult learner accumulates experience that becomes a resource for learning, and develops a readiness to learn in order to cope with real-life situations. The adult learner learns most effectively in task or problem-



Dr. Medio leads his adult learners into the topics, teaching them ways to improve their presentations while demonstrating those interactive techniques in the process. Dr. George "Vanna" Tempel records audience responses on a flip chart.

EDUCATOR

Skills'

red instruction, has a concept of responsible for personal decisions of being self-directing, and—most important—has an internal desire to improve and be successful.

Ultimately, the responsibility for learning lies with the learner, not the teacher," Medio said.

As the teacher as facilitator can enhance learning by making presentations more interactive and by learning to ask better questions and how to answer questions more effectively.

How you teach—the techniques you use—helps people acquire information, but it also develops their teaching skills, helps them learn professional behaviors and establishes in them self-directed, independent learning patterns.

It focuses on how to change learning habits and behavior," Medio said.

Medio ended the presentation with a "ridiculous approach" focused, interactive presentation. His aim, he said, was to debunk the idea that just because they have the knowledge base, they can teach. His point: Without knowing how to teach, teachers can't help learners learn.

Ten presentation traps — (minus one)

1—Talking too long: The normal attention span is from 10 to 20 minutes, so limit 'talk time' and focus on a single topic. Longer talks should be divided into separate presentations.

2—Creating information overload: Focus on three important 'take home' points to be learned and understood. Avoid focusing on the amount of information presented.

3—Failing to establish a common base: Create a sense of collegiality with the audience by using relevant examples from shared experiences. Present information in the context it will be used (i.e., clinical applications). Use common metaphors and analogies to promote understanding of principles and concepts that are difficult to visualize. Simplify complex information.

4—Distracting your audience from listening: Jargon words and phrases, and graphs

and charts that are difficult to read or interpret become obstacles to learning.

5—Failing to connect with individuals: Get to know people by name. This personalizes the encounter, but use first names only with permission.

6—Using humor that bombs: Better to avoid humor than to suffer the disastrous consequences of using it incorrectly. Leave humor to the experts. If you do use humor you are on safe grounds if you poke fun at yourself or your specialty.

7—Failing to highlight important points: State the objectives at the beginning, use transition statements from topic to topic, and summarize.

8—Asking unclear and confusing questions: Know why you are asking the question, match the question to the reason for asking it, ask one question at a time,

pause for a response, and respond to stimulate further discussion.

9—Upsetting, intimidating or belittling others: Convey respect by speaking in a pleasant tone, making eye contact, use open and friendly body posture, avoid offensive or derogatory words, avoid threatening looks and gestures, paraphrase comments to ensure understanding, listen attentively, and acknowledge feelings without making a judgment.



This is a class? Looks like chaos. No, it's what happens after Dr. Medio invites them to discuss answers to a question he asks. They learn from each other.

Sheer bulk of information forcing changes

has changed since the early 1900s, traditional medical education faces the next century with a technology-driven information revolution that promises to revolutionize the way medicine is practiced.

The revolution will come sooner for some medical schools than others, and some will embrace the changes more readily, but it will. Associate dean for student affairs Victor Del Bene, has only to reach for his Palm Pilot hand-held computer to demonstrate.

With a PDA in hand and with a touch of a few points on the credit-sized screen he retrieves all the latest drug information a physician could need.

Referring to his 1999 Physicians Desk Reference on the shelf, he said, "All that is in this." His point is not the wonders of technology. It's the sheer bulk of information that the traditional curriculum still attempts to cram into student skulls year after year.

It is plain to see—medical education has to move from its information-intensive, department-based curriculum to one that espouses a lifelong learning supported by information retrieval and medical knowledge that is comfortable crossing specialties.

What may become a modern-day Flexner Report, the Association of American Medical Colleges has published "The Education of Medical Students: Ten Stories of Curriculum Change," supported by the Milbank Memorial Fund. MUSC's College of Medicine story, written by Del Bene, is among the 10.

The studies presented in this report describe in some detail the changes occurring in the education of medical students in 10 medical schools and the dynamics of the curriculum reform

process at those schools," wrote Michael E. Whitcomb, M.D., senior vice president, Division of Medical Education at the AAMC.

In an AAMC survey of all U.S. medical schools, it has become evident that the 10 schools featured in the report are typical of a national trend toward "major changes in the structure and organization of the curriculum, adopting innovative pedagogical strategies for enhancing students' learning, improving the methods used to assess students' performance and focusing greater attention on the professional development of faculty as teachers and educators."

Unfortunately, Whitcomb finds that the majority of curriculum changes occur in the first two years, with little to no innovative change in the largely department-dominated years three and four.

"At MUSC over the past 10 years, we have moved much of our third- and fourth-year clinical training into outpatient and community settings," Del Bene said. "That's where the suitable patients are." He explained that most inpatients at MUSC are already diagnosed and undergoing specialty care, whereas the outpatient and community settings provide opportunities to develop skills for interacting with patients and diagnosing illnesses.

Of the decision to begin curriculum changes, Del Bene wrote in the report: "The entire medical landscape appeared to be changing and so were the needs and demands of the individual and society. The faculty was concerned about the public's devaluation of personal physicians. The faculty recognized the growing needs and demands for care of diverse populations (such as the elderly and under-insured). It saw a need for reemphasis on disease prevention and public health, for education about prac-

See **Information** on page 10

Graduate Medical Education

Core Curriculum Lecture Series
Dinner is provided at Thursday sessions; lunch is provided at Friday sessions.

December

1

11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Professionalism

Solomon Auditorium, Gazes Building

7

4 - 6 p.m.

Preparing Your 2000 Income Taxes

2 West Amphitheater

8

11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

CDs, IRAs, Loans and Mortgages

Room 601 Clinical Science Building Conference Room

14

4 - 6 p.m.

Evidence-Based Medicine

2 West Amphitheater

15

11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Evidence-Based Medicine

2 West Amphitheater

To register, call Angela Ybarra, 792-0761, or Ginger Blanchard, 792-9304.

Teaching Tips

From "Improving Your Presentation Skills: Tips to Avoid 9 Common Traps," by Franklin, J. Medio, Ph.D.

TRAP—DISTRACTING YOUR AUDIENCE FROM LISTENING

Be careful not to interfere with your audience's ability to listen. Two common ways to distract your audience are: 1) using "jargon" words and phrases and 2) presenting graphs or charts that are difficult to read and/or interpret. Define technical or complex terms in common language (i.e., "by this I mean..."). If a visual aid does not make a concept easier to understand, then you are better off not using it. Remember: Information presented visually and verbally is retained longer than information presented through only one modality but, too much visual information, like too many spoken words, can be confusing and an obstacle to learning.

TRAP—TALKING TOO LONG

Remember that the normal attention span is 10 to 20 minutes, no matter how entertaining you are or interesting your subject may be. It is a good practice to limit your "talk-time" accordingly and focus on one topic at a time. When you are scheduled to speak for 30 minutes or more, divide your talk into separate 15 to 20 minute presentations each covering one topic.

The Medical Educator is written by Dick Peterson, Public Relations



In participation of Pharmacy week, Kenesha Smith administers a blood pressure test to a patient. Students who participated were Beth Lindsey, Bridget Maner, Paige High and Kenesha

Smith. Participating Pharm.D. residents included John Lewin, Amy Vandenberg, Lyanne Irizzary, Rebecca Seamens, Amy Baker, Edina Hall, Pamela Mazyck, Alissa Segal and Sonia Mittal.

MUSC's Annual Holiday Lighting Ceremony

4 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 6
MUSC Horseshoe

All MUSC students, faculty and alumni are invited to the annual Holiday Lighting Ceremony.

In addition to the tree lighting, candles will be lit to recognize those who celebrate Hanukkah and Kwanzaa.



There will be a 90-member choir, a South Carolina Organ Procurement Association salute to those who donated organs with an ornament presentation and a special visitor will appear in a horse-drawn carriage.

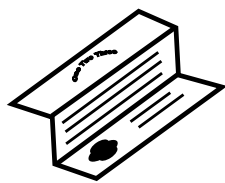
This event is presented by the MUSC Gives Back Student Volunteer Program, the MUSC Transplant Center and the South Carolina Donor Referral Network. MUSC Gives Back is also looking for student organizations to host children at the event. Call the Gives Back Office at 792-4094.

Employees receive AREA awards for exceptional performance

AREA (Accountability, Respect, Excellence Applause) awards were given to employees who have gone above and beyond their job description and have demonstrated actions exemplary to the mission, visions and values of the Medical University.

Employees received a \$50 gift certificate to either Citadel or Northwoods mall. The AREA award recipients are:

❑ **Christine Davidson**, Cardiology: Davidson tracked down medical records from another hospital to assist a potential patient. He had discovered a significant heart problem that required special attention prior to surgery.



The individual called Davidson, who quickly helped the patient schedule an appointment. Davidson provided the ultimate in customer service.

❑ **Geraldine Jones**, Parking Management: Jones handled more than 400 exiting customers from Parking Garage I during the power outage of July 25. She had to process these customers "by hand," having to compute validation amounts and two different cash-rates in her head, in an orderly manner. No easy task.

❑ **Cory King**, University Transportation: King took the time to help an older woman change a tire. At the time the temperature was about 120 degrees on a black top street. The task was not easy and the older woman did not know one bit of English.

Information

from page 9

ticing in a diverse multicultural and economic environment, and for a change from hospital-centered to outpatient- and community-based health care delivery. Managed care, emphasizing primary care physicians as gatekeepers, and the intrusion of market forces on the practice of medicine appeared to mandate a change in curriculum as well. Overall, the faculty concluded that the new curriculum should produce doctors with different capabilities and skills than those being learned at the present time."

Add to this the accelerated advances of biomedical science, it became evident "... that although not all of the information could be learned, funda-

mental principles should be imparted to the students, along with the skills to access information as the need arose in the clinical setting," Del Bene wrote.

"Medical education is not just four years. They can't get it in four years," he said. "They need to practice continuous, self-directed learning, and we need to stop thinking we can pour it all into their heads in four years. Instead we need to give them methods to educate themselves."

Looking at his Palm Pilot, Del Bene wonders aloud just how he's going to interest third-year students in using one in ways which would be integral to their curriculum.

For instance, "What would a student need on it?"

WomanKind offers free seminar

MUSC Family Medicine Center's holistic health resource for women, WomanKind, presents a free seminar from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, in the Harper Student Wellness Center Auditorium.

The seminar will explore mid-life health issues and expanding options in pursuit of wellness.

Guest speakers will be Shirley Worth Brodie, R.N., whose practice, Holistic Breast and Lymphatic Care, is located at To Your Health, a collaborative of integrative healers/practitioners in Charleston; and Patricia Thompson, M.D., of Beaufort, an obstetrician/gynecologist specializing in the prevention and treatment of osteoporosis.

Women who are perimenopausal or menopausal have many things to consider—hot flashes, breast cancer, heart disease, osteoporosis and sexuality, natural vs. synthetic hormones.

At WomanKind, individually designed treatment plans are targeted to each woman's needs and concerns, and include pharmacologic, herbal, nutritional and lifestyle management, as well as counseling and referral for complementary modalities of treatment.

The seminar and parking are free.

To register for the event, call MUSC Health Connection at 792-1414.