

The Catalyst

January 25, 2002

Medical University of South Carolina

Vol. 20, No. 19

INSIDE

3 While there remains no magic bullet to combat eating disorders the old standby weapons, information dissemination and raising awareness, still apply and are readily available.

7 Meet...Tammy

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MUSC Memorial Service

Noon
Jan. 31, St. Luke's Chapel



Tony Pirraglia

MUSC friends and coworkers are invited to attend a memorial service for liver transplant coordinator and Meducare flight nurse Tony Pirraglia.

A memorial fund has been established to benefit the Pirraglia family.

Mail donations to Anthony Pirraglia Memorial Fund, MUSC Transplant Center, 150 Ashley Ave., PO Box 250586, Charleston, SC 29425.

A memorial mass is being planned at St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church, North Charleston.

Surgery for Parkinson's disease available at MUSC

Parkinson's disease patient William Walters of Charlotte, N.C., can get out of bed and walk rather than slowly shuffle, and he can cut and eat his own food instead of depending on his wife's assistance.

The dramatic changes in his quality of life, which he describes as nothing short of miraculous, are thanks to a deep brain stimulation procedure done at MUSC.

MUSC has successfully done six deep brain stimulation implantations for Parkinson's Disease since Dec. 7 and is the only center in the state doing the procedure. The device used to stimulate the brain—Activa Parkinson's Control Therapy—was approved for treatment of the general symptoms of Parkinson's Disease by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration on Jan. 14, 2002. The system was approved for tremor control since 1997 and has been in very limited use for other symptoms of Parkinson's disease.

"This is a major advance in the treatment of Parkinson's Disease," said MUSC neurologist, Kenneth Bergmann, M.D. "The deep brain stimulation doesn't cure Parkinson's Disease, but treats the disabling symptoms of the disease with few side effects. For patients in advanced stages of Parkinson's the available medications alone are not adequate and frequently produce significant and unacceptable side effects."

In the late stages of the disease, when symptoms are at their worst, patients often experience random episodes of inability to move or involuntary motion as a side effect of Parkinson's medication. The uncontrollable shaking and flailing that rack their bodies can lead to avoidance of public situations and self-isolation. Eventually, the combination of symptoms and side effects can cause patients to become totally dependent on others for their care.

The procedure—bilateral subthalamic nucleus (STN) stimulation—improves tremor, slowness, stiffness and walking difficulty in Parkinson's disease patients. The therapy delivers carefully controlled pulses of electrical stimulation to precisely targeted areas deep within the brain which are involved with motor control.

Electrodes are surgically implanted in that area of the brain. Two insulated extension wires connect these elec-

See *Treatment* on page 3



Bill Walters with five-year-old son, Walt, and wife, Vicki.

Charlotte native all smiles following treatment

by Cindy Abole
Public Relations

Charlotte native William "Bill" Walters is smiling a lot these days.

For the first time in years, he's running and playing with his energetic five-year-old son, Walt. It's a joy this father has never known since being diagnosed with Parkinson's disease.

For almost a decade, Walters lived with the telltale symptoms that accompany Parkinson's—the tremors, rigidity and slowness in movement. Simple tasks like cutting food, buttoning a shirt and tying shoelaces became an extraordinary challenge. He eventually relied more on his wife, Vicki, in helping with many of his personal and daily activities.

An auto mechanic by trade, Walters eventually lost his job as the disease progressed, affecting his motor skills and work. The tremor in his fingers and hand became so uncontrollable that he couldn't hold tools or turn small screws and bolts.

He was finally diagnosed with the disease and referred to neurologist Ken Bergmann, M.D., for care. After Walters' medications were no longer effective, Bergmann and MUSC neurosurgeon Steve Takacs, M.D., together discussed the effects of deep brain stimulation

therapy as a method to control his tremors and other symptoms of the disease.

The surgery was successfully performed at MUSC on Jan. 4.

"My whole life feels changed," said Walters, his lips and whiskers curling in a wide smile. "For what my family and I went through, we know there is something greater watching over us. I don't take things for granted anymore."

After returning home a week after the procedure, even young Walt noticed an immediate change with his father. Gone was his rigidity and slow, shuffling steps. "Daddy walks just like we do," he proclaimed to his mother.

Asked if he made the right decision about submitting to the surgical procedure therapy, Walters acknowledges that he really had no choice.

"Everything fell into place for me," Walters said. "God led me down a certain road—a road my heart knew that we were going the right way."

"We're so grateful to Drs. Bergmann and Takacs for their kindness and patience," said Walters. "For us establishing that level of trust was half the battle in dealing with this disease. We're especially thankful to the staff of 7E for providing their utmost level of care during my recovery."

Community Happenings

At a glance... January

28 The Monday Night Concert Series continues at 8 p.m. at the College of Charleston Recital Hall. The concert will feature violinist Lee Chin Siow. Admission is free, however donations are accepted. For information, call 953-8228.

30 A free seminar entitled "Smart Women Finish Rich" will be held at noon and at 6 p.m. at 288 Meeting Street, fourth floor. Participants will learn how to achieve financial independence by mastering seven simple steps. For information, call Lynn Anne Christensen with Morgan Stanley at 973-3128.

31 Volunteers are needed for the Community Education and Outreach Committee for the Charleston affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. A "Train the Trainer" ses-

sion will be held at 6 p.m. to teach individuals how to tell others about breast health. The session will be held at the Center for Women, 531 Savannah Highway. For information, call 766-5459.

February

1 The South Carolina State University Jazz Ensemble will perform at 7 p.m. at Baruch Auditorium. The concert is sponsored by MUSC Office of Diversity. For information, call 792-2146.

12 The Mind Your Health seminar, "Eating Disorders 101: A crash course on ways to prevent and treat disordered eating," will begin at 6 p.m. at the MUSC Institute of Psychiatry Auditorium. Call 792-7340 for information or visit its Web site at <http://www.musc.edu/psychiatry/events.htm>

Whale of a Sale to be held Saturday, Feb. 2

The Junior League of Charleston will hold its annual Whale of a Sale, Charleston's largest garage sale, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 2 at the Charleston Area Convention Center, next to the North Charleston coliseum.



Items for sale include appliances, bikes, books, clothing, furniture, toys, linens and rugs. In addition, Lowcountry businesses donated large items like office equipment, furniture and computers to the cause.

The Junior League's goal is to raise more than \$100,000 from the Whale of a Sale this year. Net pro-

ceeds are returned to the greater Charleston community to support local projects, programs and community assistance grants sponsored by the Junior League.

Admission to the event is free. However, the convention center charges \$4 to park. For information, call 763-5284 or visit its Web site at <http://www.jlcharleston.org>.

You attend this event at your own risk and release the Junior League of Charleston Inc., and its members from any and all claims from attendance. All items are sold as is and without without warranties of any kind.

Grief Support Program to begin Feb. 5

Hospice of Charleston is sponsoring a six-week Grief Support Program for all adults who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

Participation in the Grief Support Program will help individuals work through their grief and begin the healing process.

The group will meet from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. each Tuesday beginning Feb. 5 through March 12 at Hospice of Charleston, 3896 Leeds Avenue. A pre-admission interview is required by Jan. 30.

For information on the support program, call 529-3100.

Campus News

BLOOD DRIVE

MUSC Gives Back will sponsor a blood drive from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 7 at the Harper Student Center Gym. For information, call 792-4094.

BLUE JEANS FOR BABIES

Jeans? That's right. March of Dimes Blue Jeans for Babies Day will be held Friday, Feb. 8, employees who buy a Blue Jeans for Babies button can wear their jeans, casual clothes—and sticker or buttons—to work. You can't beat the price of the stickers or buttons... and you can also help the March of Dimes beat birth defects and infant mortality. All proceeds will go towards MUSC Walk-America 2002. Buttons are \$5. For more information call Peggy Harrison-Jenkins at 792-3846.

BROADCAST MESSAGES SEARCH ENGINE

To access a specific broadcast message, go to Web site <http://www.musc.edu/broadcast>, press ctrl + f and then type in the subject requested.

HOLLINGS CANCER CENTER

Individuals wanting to observe the Hollings Cancer Center construction progress can go online at <http://danube.musc.edu/constructioncam/index.shtml>.

STUDENT PROGRAMS

Students interested in becoming a certified Red Cross Disaster Services' volunteer are invited to attend three consecutive courses required for certifica-

tion. The courses will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 2 in the Harper Student Center Auditorium. Students should register by Jan. 29. For information, call 792-2693.

SHADOWING DAY

MUSC employees are needed to participate in MUSC's Groundhog Shadowing Day Friday, Feb. 1. For information, call 792-2235.

WORD 97 LEVEL 1 SEMINAR

A Word 97 - Level I seminar will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Jan. 28 in room 704 Harborview Officer Tower. The workshop will build on the basics of keying, saving, and printing documents. Participants will become familiar with the various components of Word 97 screens and the creation, printing, and saving of simple no-frills documents. To register for this class visit <http://www.musc.edu/hrm/training/index.html>.

Are you a health care professional who would like to pursue a Master's Degree while continuing to work full-time?

MUSC is currently accepting applications for its web-based

Executive Master's in Health Administration Program

To learn more about the program, you are invited to attend an Information Session
Feb. 7
5:30 to 7 p.m.

Department of Health Administration and Policy
Room 408 Harborview Towers, 19 Hagood Avenue

Refreshments will be served. Visitor parking in front of Harborview Towers

RSVP to Carol Brown at 792-2118 or e-mail browncl@musc.edu.

Visit the Web site at <http://www.musc.edu/dhap>

Annual art/photo exhibit accepting submissions

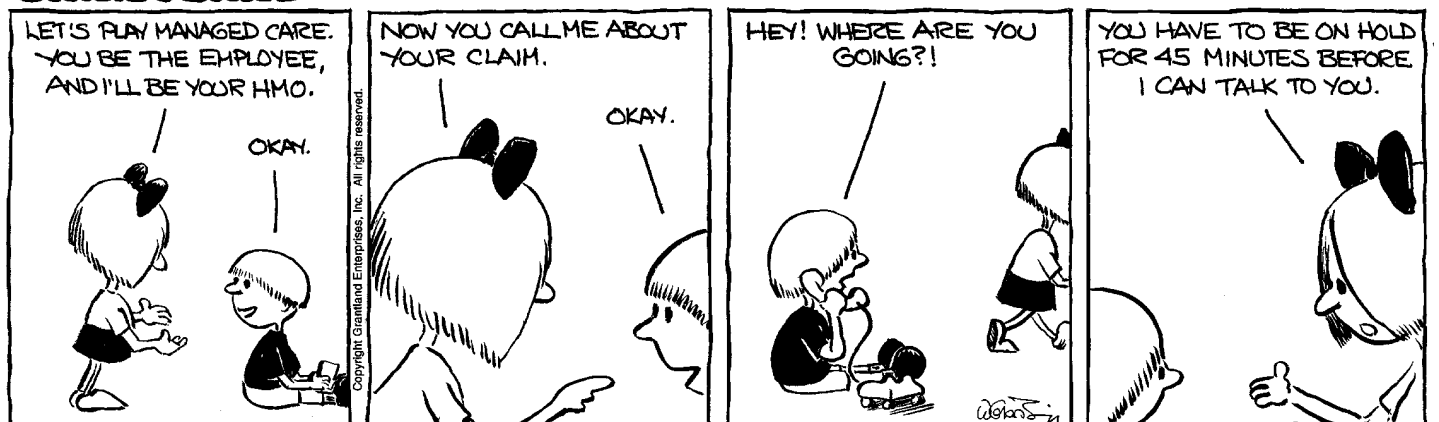
MUSC students, staff and faculty are invited to submit two pieces of artwork for the MUSC Art/Photo Exhibit.

Submissions can be brought to the Office of Student Programs between Feb.

11 and Feb. 22. All work will be on display from March 5 through April 30 in the Courtenay Gallery.

For information, call Student Programs at 792-2693.

GRANTLAND®



IOP seminar to address eating disorders

by Chris West
Public Relations

Since there are no easy solutions to combating eating disorders, information dissemination and raising awareness remain powerful tools.

For Carolyn Cochrane, Ph.D., R.N., the credo: "information is power" is critical where the topic of eating disorders is concerned. This attitude and drive has brought her to host the first of the 2002 Mind Your Health Seminar series as moderator of "Eating Disorders 101: A crash course on ways to prevent and treat disordered eating."

The popular community education series based in MUSC's Institute of Psychiatry has returned in 2002 with a different format, adding a moderator to each seminar who will provide an overview of the topic, an interactive discussion with a panel of experts from the local community followed by a question-and-answer segment.

"Since Feb. 10-16 is Eating Disorders Awareness Week, it was decided that this would be the most appropriate time to kick off the series," Cochrane said. "It's important because the seminar will give participants information they can take home with them and utilize."

The information will center around anorexia, bulimia and binge eating disorder (BED), their symptoms and effects of each on the body, prevention methods and treatment options.

"The seminar should serve as a great platform to generate awareness and shed some light on the subject," she said. "It is hard to wade through some of the misconceptions of eating disorders and often they are

underdiagnosed."

What Cochrane is referring to may lie in the numbers. According to The National Women's Study conducted on more than 3,000 women, 0.1 to 0.8 percent have anorexia, 2 to 3 percent have bulimia and another 1 percent have BED.

"While these numbers seem strikingly low, it doesn't account for symptoms of the disease without the full-blown illness nor unreported or misdiagnosed cases," Cochrane said. "They don't reflect those on a subclinical level." The women's study cited that 24 percent of the women studied admitted having disordered eating symptoms, yet were not diagnosed with the illness itself.

So who is really getting hit by these disorders? According to Cochrane, young women. "Girls are especially at risk when other precipitating and/or perpetuating factors increase their comorbidity, such as abuse, obsessive/compulsive disorder and other social factors such as poor body image, low self esteem or the pressure to succeed."

But in truth, disordered eating habits leave no sex or age group immune.

Due to the nature of these disorders the treatment model must be tailored to the individual patient. But

aside from the current standard of care, Cochrane admits there are no secret weapons to fight these potentially lethal disorders. "Food is the most important medicine now," she said. "But current and future research is where hope lies."

And Cochrane should know. She is currently conducting a study that treats women with both an eating disorder and a substance abuse problem. This MUSC study, funded by a grant from the National Institutes of Health, treats 18-year-old-plus women who have been diagnosed with a binge eating type disorder and who use a stimulant to aid in weight loss. The study duration runs 11 weeks and is free to qualified participants.

The seminar will take place from 6 to 8 p.m. Feb. 12 in the Institute of Psychiatry Auditorium. A \$5 registration fee is required and includes parking, refreshments, a certificate of attendance and workshop materials. Participants are also able to submit questions prior to the seminar for the panel to specifically address and advanced registration is required.

For more information regarding the seminar or to register online visit its Web site at <http://www.musc.edu/psychiatry/events.htm> or call 792-7340 to have a registration brochure mailed.



"Food is the most important medicine now. But current and future research is where hope lies."
—Dr. Carolyn Cochrane

Temple invited to present at medical association

Jan Temple, Ph.D., College of Medicine Continuing Medical Education director of professional development, presented at an American Medical Association "Genome, CME and Performance Outcomes" planning meeting Dec. 11 in Chicago.

The goal of the program was to identify physician competency needs in translating genome research into clinical application. Temple was asked to present a MUSC/CME performance improvement outcome initiative in human research protection and serve as a CME representative to the AMA project.

Some 30 leaders in the fields of genome, CME and performance improvement were in attendance. Temple's presentation addressed a CME Outcomes project done in partnership with the Health and Human Services' Office of Human Research Protections and the MUSC Offices of Research Integrity and Research and Sponsored Programs.

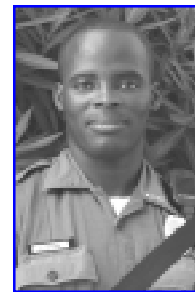


Temple

Brown is Public Safety's Employee of the Year

Public Safety Officer Ernest Brown was named by a committee as 2001 Public Safety Employee of the Year.

PSO Brown was awarded the department's Medal of Honor. The award was given for his courage as he lent assistance to a fellow officer on July 10.



Brown

Brown has been with Public Safety since 2000 and completed his South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy Training in 1999.

"Officer Brown showed that there can be no greater act of heroism, courage and gallantry than to risk your life for someone else," said Lt. Dorothy Simmons, chairperson of Public Safety's Employee of the Year committee.

As an Employee of the Year awardee, Brown will be presented a plaque, citation and ribbon bar to wear on his uniform.

Treatment

from page 1

trodes to two implanted pulse generators or batteries (similar to a cardiac pacemaker) placed under the skin just beneath the collar bone.

The electric stimulus delivered, just like doses of medication, can be changed in response to changes in the patient's condition. The deep brain stimulator is regarded as a form of medication and its settings are monitored by the patient's neurologist along with other drugs they are taking. MUSC neurosurgeon Steve Takacs, M.D., calls the procedure "electro-pharmacology."



Takacs

Takacs does the procedure in a different manner than most surgeons, using a technique he developed while at the University of Arizona. Deep brain

stimulation implantation is more commonly performed in a staged fashion with lead implantation on one side followed by generator implantation two to three weeks later," he explained. Then treatment of the other side is done in the same sequence.

"The reason for staging the implantation is that with the traditional targeting techniques, precise placement of one electrode may require between six and 12 hours with microelectrode mapping of the target."

Takacs' technique relies on an MRI-based imaging protocol, allowing visualization of the target with a minimum of mapping by microelectrode recording. "This radically reduces the length of surgery and allows us to complete all procedures in one operative session," said Takacs. "The number of needle penetrations of the brain is reduced to a minimum, and the patient only has to be fitted in a head frame once, enduring only one MRI imaging session as both targets are determined simultaneously.

The number of hospital admissions is reduced. More important, complications have been fewer with this method and clinical outcomes have been equivalent to that of other centers."

But Takacs said the surgical procedure is just one part of the treatment and cannot be done in a vacuum. He feels the procedure should only be done in a center like MUSC with a comprehensive movement disorders program providing multi-disciplinary care for patients with Parkinson's disease and other movement disorders. The patient who receives the deep brain stimulation surgery enters a long-term relationship with the medical team since constant monitoring is essential," he said.

Parkinson's disease affects an estimated one and a half million Americans. Its causes are unknown, but the symptoms stem from the degeneration of the brain cells that produce dopamine. Dopamine is a neurotransmitter that enables communication between the brain centers involved in motor control.

The Activa Therapy's electrical stimulation acts on these malfunctioning circuits in the brain.

"In early stages of Parkinson's Disease, medication therapy is very effective," explained Bergmann. "But our patients are very concerned about the future. They want to know whether they can get symptom relief when they get to the point where medical therapy is no longer effective. We can now reassure these patients that they can receive symptom relief down the road."



Bergmann

Another advantage of the procedure is that it is reversible. There is no destruction of brain tissue. Should a cure for the disease or a better method of symptom control be found in the future, the stimulation system can be removed.

MUSC goes to the 5th grade



Diagnostic Imaging manager Ray Manigault points to the subtle shading of an X-ray indicating an area that would interest a radiologist.

So, what do you want to be? You know, when you grow up.

MUSC has options, not all of them to be sure, but in health care, MUSC is in the business of helping people become health care professionals.

"It's time to start thinking about it right now," was the message 23 MUSC representatives from a wide variety of health care fields brought to seven Charleston County elementary schools Jan. 18.

Doctor and nurse, physician assistant and medical technician, dentist and lab technician, physiologist and physical therapist, radiologist and dietitian, pharmacist and clinical services manager and others visited school classrooms and introduced their career fields and answered student questions about what they do: "How long did you go to school?" "Is it hard?" "How much money do you make?"

Rapid-fire questions came one after another, and students heard answers that their teachers hope will encourage them to study hard and plan for a fu-

ture career.

And not necessarily a career in health care. MUSC also sent an engineer, law enforcement officer from Public Safety, a risk management expert, and a hospital admissions expert.

"By bringing this program to fifth graders, we are investing in MUSC's future," said President's Chief of Staff Sabra Slaughter, Ph.D. "And we want to plant the idea early." Slaughter said that by strengthening MUSC's partnership with the schools in the MUSC neighborhood, students can see the university and careers in health care as choices well within their reach.

"MUSC has been involved in a number of programs for older students, but this is the first time we've taken the message to elementary schools in District 20," said program coordinator Susan Carullo, Medical Center manager of employment compensation and employee relations. "The goal is to expose them to the many different careers and employment opportunities at MUSC."



Dr. Paul Bush, director of Pharmacy Services, describes pharmacy as a career choice.



Fifth graders at Mitchell Elementary School gather around Meducare operations coordinator Dave Pilkenton and flight nurse Pamela Burke to find out what it's like to transport patients by helicopter from accident scenes and other hospitals.

Nominations being accepted for HSF teaching awards

A call for nominations for the 2002 Health Sciences Foundation Teaching Excellence Awards has been sent to all MUSC faculty and students. The awards recognize members of the MUSC faculty who have made outstanding contributions to the university through teaching.

Awards may be given from the following categories:

The Catalyst

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Educator-Mentor: For teaching excellence in non-traditional roles with individuals or small groups, specifically those who teach, mentor, or serve as professional role models in clinical practice or research.

Educator-Lecturer: For teaching excellence in traditional didactic or classroom teaching.

Developing Teacher: For teaching excellence demonstrated by a junior faculty member in either of the above categories.

Any regular, full-time faculty member who holds an academic rank of instructor or higher in a college or department of MUSC, who has not been the recipient of this award within the previous three years is eligible for nomination. Faculty who are nominated in the Educator-Mentor or Educator-Lecturer categories must have taught at MUSC for three or more years.

Those nominated for the Developing Teacher category must have taught for a minimum of two years at MUSC, and no more than four years total at an insti-

tute of higher education.

Presented for the first time in 1995, these universitywide teaching awards were proposed as part of the university's Educational Strategic Plan. In addition to a commemorative medallion, each recipient will receive a cash award from the Health Sciences Foundation.

This year's deadline for nominations is 5 p.m. Feb. 28.

Nominees will be invited to submit supporting materials, and a committee of faculty and students representing MUSC's six colleges, Library Sciences and Informatics, and the Student Government Association

will review the nominations and select the recipients for this year's awards.

Forms may be obtained and submitted online at <http://www.itlab.musc.edu/nomination/>.

For information regarding the 2002 Health Sciences Foundation Teaching Excellence Awards, call Elizabeth Skipper at 792-2340.

Forms may be obtained by accessing the Web site at <http://www.itlab.musc.edu/nomination/>

Rumor Mill separates fact from fiction

Leased parking spaces

Rumor: According to a recent notice from Parking Management the parking garage at Harborview is full. I've heard that there are spaces being occupied by persons other than MUSC/MUHA/UMA/CFC, that is to say they are being leased by the private sector. Is this true? If so, are they charged the same as those who are employees of the aforementioned entities. Thanks.

Truth: There are approximately 20 openings in the Harborview Tower (HVT) Garage. Because this is so close to being full, the Office of Parking Management (OPM) had temporarily stopped selling HVT spaces. This was done so that customer loading patterns could settle out thus allowing OPM to determine exactly how many more spaces could be sold. There was never a notice announcing that spaces were not available. OPM expects to resume selling HVT spaces in January. There are no unaffiliated parking customers using any MUSC parking facilities anywhere in the system. Thank you for the opportunity to present the facts in response to this rumor.

Gas lines

Rumor: I've heard the gas lines will not be restored in the Basic Science Building. What's the story?

Truth: The rumor is not accurate. It is true that gas service has not yet been restored to the Basic Science Building, but it will be restored even though this may require some time. The fact is that we have been working toward restoring gas to the Basic Science Building since Dec. 11, 2001.

The problem started when the Children's Research Institute contractor repaired a gas line he breached and SCE&G inspected to verify that the repaired line would hold pressure. Although the known leak was repaired successfully, the system still would not hold pressure. As a result, SCE&G turned off the supply to the building until we could locate other leaks in the line and effect the repairs required for the line to hold pressure. The building system consists of a main line,

several risers off that main line, and several branches off each riser. We are in the process of purging the gas line within the building with Nitrogen gas so we can install isolation valves for each riser. Once that is done, we can systematically pressure test the main line, the risers and the branches separately, identify leaks, and effect the necessary repairs. This process will take several weeks and, in the meantime, we have supplied the researchers with portable alcohol burners and have portable propane burners on order which should arrive the first or second week of January 2002. The building engineer for the Basic Science Building has been working hard to keep the process moving and the building occupants informed of our repair efforts.

Pizzeria

Rumor: Is it true that there won't be any pizzeria in MUSC cafeteria?

Truth: The space currently housing the pizza shop is being renovated. When it re-opens, the pizzas will still be offered.



Weather

Rumor: How do I get the most timely and accurate information about university and authority closings due to weather conditions?

Truth: Dial 792-MUSC. There also will be a "Weather Emergency Information Board" posted on the MUSC Home Page.



Nursing

Rumor: The LPNs are now called CA/PCT and most are not pleased that they had their title stripped, why would agency nurses be paid more money than staff or HOP nurses when the LPNs can do the same for less pay and some have been here since the late 1980's.

Truth: We are well attuned to the concerns that have been raised. We will be reviewing the options and hope to announce a decision in the near future. We

want to acknowledge and thank the LPNs for the role they play in providing quality patient care at MUSC.

UMA funds

Rumor: I have heard recently that UMA is somewhere between \$40 million and \$85 million, (depending upon what rumor you hear), in the red this calendar year and all accounts have been frozen indefinitely.

Truth: The following response is from UMA: UMA finished this past fiscal year \$600,000 in the black and will do even better this year if current trends continue. UMA is experiencing a cash flow problem as many of its assets are not immediately liquid but it is quite solvent. We have restated individual departmental fund balances which previously did not reflect how much cash was available to be spent by each department.



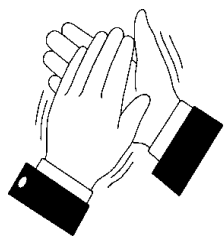
Each department will now receive a monthly statement indicating not only their total fund including investments, but also how much cash they have available to spend. This is not a foreign concept to any of us, as we all (usually) balance our checkbooks so that we don't over extend our cash reserves by bouncing checks. We don't attempt to spend the money invested in our homes, unless we sell, refinance, or list them as an asset when applying for a loan. This is precisely what the new leadership in UMA is attempting to do by balancing its cash accounts and requiring that each department only spend the cash it has in its account.

Burn Center

Rumor: There is talk about the Burn Unit at MUH closing? Wouldn't this hurt our state since it's the best around? Thanks.

Truth: At this time there are no plans to close the Burn Unit. In fact, we recently received approval to increase the number of staff to accommodate 10 patients in the Burn Unit. We recognize and appreciate the service that the Burn Unit staff provide, not only the Tri-County area but to the entire state of South Carolina.

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

Main OR; Environmental Services; 8 East; 9 PCU; Kim Bowen, 8D; Patty Burn, Authority Payroll; Virginia Chaplin, PICU; Dorothy Coley, Anesthesia; Donna Edwards, Outpatient Ambulatory Care; Myrtle Edwards Labor and Delivery; Arlene Esteves, 8 West; Michelle Fulton, 8D; Yvette Fulton, HOP; Myra Gadsden, Main OR; Adina Garner, Labor and Delivery; Fred Gipe,

IOP; Ian Guthrie, CT/PCICU; Dennis Hamlett, EKG; Amelia Hammersley, Outcomes Management; Lois Henry, Accounts Payable MUHA; Kristie Higdon, Labor and Delivery; Crisanta Jackson, 8 East; Valerie Jamison, 10 West; Rochelle Jones, EKG; Flora King, Hospital Payroll; Melissa LaRusso, 7C CH; Beau Mahanes, 10 East; Vernita Manigo-Bey, Labor and Delivery; Sid McMahan, CMH Information Management; Andrea Meaburn, 10 East; Jeff Middleton, Plant Maintenance; Deana Middleton, 10 West; Vickie Nash, Management Info Services; Jill Ray, 8D; Jackie Robinson, 7 East; Ray Seignious, Central Supply; Ashley Shaver, 7A CH; Jane Smith, Institutional Relations; Colleen Sullivan, 10 West; Vivian Sumpter, Ambulatory OR; and Agnes Washington, MICU.

Medical University

Occupational Safety and Health Staff; Joe Avant, Occupational Safety and Health; Lisa Baron, Radiation

Oncology; Celina Campbell-Monteiro, Parking Management; Christine Carr*, Medicine; Michael Craig, Medicine; Gary Headden*, Anesthesia; Shanon Honney, Medicine; Jennette Kornahrens, GCRC; Carolyn Reed, Hollings Cancer Center; Jennie Rhodes, Public Safety; Jacob Robison, Surgery; Carol Sherman, Hematology/Oncology; John Sonfield, Surgery; and Charles Wallace, Anesthesia.

**Received more than one nomination*

UMA/Ambulatory Care

Pediatric Sickle Cell Unit—3rd Floor Rutledge Tower; John Butler, Transporter, Rutledge Tower; Julia Howell, OB/Gyn McClennan-Banks; Juanita Lockwood, Purchasing and Materials Support McClennan-Banks; Grant Miller, Women's Services Ambulatory Care; Stacey Prutting, Adult Primary Care; Patricia Roberts, Social Work Adult Primary Care McClennan-Banks; and Paul Underwood, Women's Services Ambulatory Care.

Faculty Senate meeting: tenure, committees

The Faculty Senate met Jan. 8 and was called to order by Anne O. Kilpatrick, DPA. The next meeting will be held at 7:45 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 5, room 107, Administration/Library Building.

Meeting Proceedings

Kilpatrick welcomed the senators. She thanked Subbi P. Mathur for organizing the Faculty Senate Retreat on Tenure and asked Mathur to present the highlights of the retreat.

Mathur summarized the highlights of the Faculty Senate Retreat held Dec. 12 under the title: "Let us pick up and go: Things learned at our recent retreat."

The highlights are as follows:

Our academic leadership, consisting of our president, provost and deans of all colleges, actively participated and were positive about faculty tenure as a mutually laudable accomplishment and commitment. But sentiments varied when it came to actual translation of the commitment into dollars. Debates arose about "tenured" base salary, emphasizing a crying need to resolve this basic issue.

One thing came out loud and clear—we need to make sure that the faculty tenure is given to the faculty member in recognition of his/her unique talents and contributions to MUSC and not linked to any one academic program or department since it appears that the academic leadership can cut off programs and cost the faculty their tenured positions. Review of Tenure Section in the Faculty Handbook by the Faculty Affairs Committee is vital.

We also need to make sure that the monetary guarantee is there for a tenured position and that the basic salary is commensurate with the faculty rank.

Review of Remuneration Policy by the Academic Affairs Committee

Richard Hernandez, chair of the Universitywide Contract Committee, presented the details on the faculty contract draft. Several of the statements in the draft were not satisfactory to the faculty senators present at the retreat. He had an administrative deadline of Feb. 1 by which the Faculty Senate has to approve this version. It was unanimously agreed that we cannot rush approving this important document without a further study of the implications and without consulting our legal counsel.

Mentoring and Guidance of Young Faculty

We should set up a Faculty Senate Tenure Workshop for young faculty to help them achieve their professional goals especially those related to securing a tenured position. This falls under the purview of the Faculty Affairs Committee.

Anne Kilpatrick charged the Faculty Affairs Committee (Chair: Subbi P. Mathur) with the task of working on faculty tenure and organizing a Faculty Tenure Workshop for younger faculty members. She charged the Academic Affairs Committee (Chair: Philippe Arnaud) with the task of working on Faculty Compensation Policies.

She announced the selection of Kit Simpson as the new chair for the Universitywide Gender Equity Committee. Incidentally, Kit Simpson was elected as the chair of the University Affairs Committee of the Faculty Senate.

She asked that the representatives from respective colleges make an effort to fill in the positions of the senators that are leaving MUSC during the elected term.

Rich Hernandez, chair of the MUSC Faculty Contract Review Committee (Paul Gold, Jennie Arial, Tara Halsey, Louis Leite, Sally Self, Terry O'Brien and John Bosso as members with Tom Higerd, ex officio.) reported on the Faculty Contract Committee happenings. He incorporated the revisions suggested by the Faculty Senate during the Faculty Senate Retreat and had meetings with the provost. He will make further

presentations to the Deans' Council. It was agreed that the Faculty Senate has to clarify the tenured versus non-tenured base salary issue. Suggestions from the floor supported the idea of having 50th percentile of national mean salaries of faculty members in their respective departments and colleges.

Art Services and Digital Imaging

Carlos Salinas presented his report on Art Services and Digital Imaging Department Review as the chairman of the Committee that did the review.

The following recommendations were made:

□ The Art Services and Digital Imaging Department provides services that extend to the entire university and provides professional quality services to the academic and research communities. It is a central academic and research service that should be recognized and supported as such.

□ Remove Art Services and Digital Imaging from Finance and Administration. Consider it as an educational enterprise and place it under the provost.

□ Subsidize at least 25 percent of the unit's operational funding to assure continuance of competitive prices from the department. The management of Art Services and Digital should take the steps necessary to cut other costs and enhance revenues to fully cover the withdrawal of shared services funds.

□ Conduct a comprehensive risk management review of the risks associated with the passage of research subject and patient information into the private sector that would result from closing this unit.

Post-tenure Review Document

The post-tenure review document, is a product of a Faculty Senate ad hoc committee effort (chair: Philip Privitera; members: Subbi Mathur and Jerry Webb, Tom Higerd ex-officio. This document was prepared in response to concerns from Commission for Higher Education that specifically asked for a reward system for successful faculty performance and in keeping with Good Practices document. The document was approved unanimously by the Faculty Senate in October 2001 and forwarded to the Deans' Council. The Deans' Council approved it, after two meetings with the subcommittee. The committee met with the provost and finalized the revisions. The entire document is on this website. The salient paragraph that contains the important revision on the reward system for superior performance is as follows:

"5. The College APT Committee shall, after completing their review, make a report to the department chair/director. The report, which shall be a permanent part of the faculty member's personnel file, will contain:

'An appraisal of the faculty member's performance and progress, including the perceived strengths and weaknesses. The performance shall be rated as superior, satisfactory or unsatisfactory. Any faculty member who receives a superior appraisal or satisfactory will be entitled to receive a permanent merit increase in base pay, in addition to any annual raise as determined by the dean of the faculty member's college, or chairman of the faculty member's department with approval of the dean. The merit increase will be awarded by the provost and will be funded for the first year by the Office of the Provost.'"

The Revised Post-Tenure Review document is on Faculty Senate Web site and was

Senators present

Basic Sciences: Philippe Arnaud (council member), Janice Lage, Lucille London (alternate), Sally Self and Eberhard Voit

Clinical Sciences: Connie Best, DeAnna Cheek, Gary Gilkerson, Barry Hainer, Subbi P. Mathur (secretary), Terry O'Brien, Mark Green, Dean Schuyler and Renan Uflacker

Dental Medicine: Peter Kobes, Luis Leite (council member), Stephen Malley and Carlos Salinas (alternate)

Health Professions: Richard Hernandez, Anne Kilpatrick (chair), and Andrea White (new appointee)

Library Science & Informatics: Jennie Arial, Mary P. Mauldin (council member and web master), and Nancy McKeehan

Nursing: Ramita Bonadonna, and Tara Hulsey
Pharmacy: John Bosso, Kit Simpson (council member), Joli Cerveny, and Katherine Chessman

unanimously approved by the Faculty Senate, after a presentation by Philip Privitera at this meeting.

Committee and Job Assignments

Governance Committee: Francine R. Margolius (chair), Subbi P. Mathur, Nancy McKeehan, Janice Hundley, Joli Cerveny, Betsy Pilcher, Gail Pashek and Eberhard Voit

Faculty Affairs Committee: Subbi P. Mathur (chair), Philippe Arnaud, Dean Schuyler, Ramita Bonadonna, John Malley, Katherine Chessman, Peter Kobes, Joann Sullivan, Janice Lage, Richard Hernandez and Timothy Carter

Academic Affairs Committee: Philippe Arnaud (chair), Barry Hainer, Paul Gold, Jennie Arial, DeAnna Cheek, Joan Olson, Tara Hulsey, Gary Gilkeson and John Bosso

University Affairs Committee: Kit Simpson (chair): Mary P. Mauldin, Kit Simpson, Sally Self, Terry O'Brien, Janice Hundley, Luis Leite, Benjamin Saunders, Connie Best and Janice Lage

Faculty Senate Retreat Coordinator: Subbi P. Mathur
Webmaster: Mary P. Mauldin

Faculty Hand Book Revisions

Francine R. Margolius, Chair of the Governance Committee, is revising the Faculty Handbook with the help of the past senate chair Adrian Reuben, Walker Coleman and Melissa Foster. The senate voted to approve the recent version of the Faculty Handbook that incorporates all the previously approved policies. This handbook will then be forwarded to our legal counsel for their input.

Second Annual Charleston Connections Conference Innovations in Higher Education

Call for Proposals Regarding

The Scholarship of Teaching and Classroom Research Findings

Submit Online at

<http://www.musc.edu/connections>

Supported by: Charleston Southern University; MUSC; The Citadel; Trident Technical College; The College of Charleston; The Association for Applied Interactive Multimedia (AAIM); and Johnson & Wales University.

AccessFacultySenateat
<http://www.musc.edu/facsen/>

Meet...Tammy



Name: Tammy Miller, R.N.

Department: Ambulatory Care, Infectious Diseases.

How long at MUSC: 13 years.

Family: Husband, Tom; Daughters, Danielle (14), Morgan (9), a dog, Princess; and a cat, Midnight.

Favorite TV show: 7th Heaven. I watch it with my kids every week.

Favorite book: "Nobody Else Will Listen—A Girl's Conversations with God," by Marjorie Holmes.

Favorite room in your house: Den.

Favorite music: Easy listening.

Least favorite chore: Dusting.

Fondest childhood memory: Family vacations in the mountains.

Bad habit: Worrying.

Pet peeve: Tardiness.

Plans for the future: My husband wants me to retire early and help him run his Kettle Korn business.

Person you admire the most: My mother.

Hobbies, activities in your free time: Reading.

How do you stay fit? Running around the 7th floor of Rutledge Tower.

Biggest challenge: Not being able to delegate.

Your idea of a perfect vacation: A cruise with my family.

Most rewarding thing about your job: The camaraderie and teamwork among all of our staff; we are a "big happy family."

If you had a free day, what would you do: Go to the beach and read a book.

Personality trait you admire in others: Dependability.

Words of advice or favorite quote: "Don't put off until tomorrow what you can do today."

MUSC Presents The Fifteenth Annual Charity Ball



8 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

Saturday, Feb. 23

Charleston Convention Center

Black tie optional

Featuring live music by The Mighty Kicks. Open bar, heavy hors d'oeuvres. Silent auction to benefit local charities. Tickets are available in the Office of Student Programs.

Call 792-2693 for information.

*Sponsored by the College of Medicine
Student Council and
Medical Student Alumni Council*

Library and Internet Schedule Jan. 28 through Feb. 8

Tuesday, Jan. 29

Noon to 1 p.m.

Electronic Resources An overview of the Electronic Resources available from the MUSC Library.

Thursday, Jan. 31

Noon to 1 p.m.

Effective Use of the Internet A demonstration of the most effective ways to search the Internet. Hands on.

Friday, Feb. 1

Noon to 1 p.m.

Library Orientation A tour of the library and an overview of services offered.

Monday, Feb. 4

Noon to 1 p.m.

MicroMedex A demonstration of the computerized index to the biomedical journal literature covering 1966 to the present.

Tuesday, Feb. 5

1 to 2 p.m.

Searching Article Indexes: An Introduction A general introduction to search-

ing Article Indexes: MEDLINE, Current Contents, PsycINFO, CINAHL, HealthSTAR and CancerLIT.

Wednesday, Feb. 6

1 to 2 p.m.

CINAHL A demonstration of the literature of nursing and the allied health sciences covering 1982 to the present.

Thursday, Feb. 7

Noon to 1 p.m.

MEDLINE A demonstration of the computerized index to the biomedical journal literature covering 1966 to the present.

Friday, Feb. 8

Noon to 1 p.m.

Article Indexes: A demonstration of the more complicated techniques to enhance retrieval from Article Indexes. Attendees should be familiar with the basic searching techniques in Article Indexes.

Classes are held on the fourth floor of the MUSC Library. Call 792-2371.

Public Safety statistics for Jan. 11 - Jan. 17

The following incidents occurred between Jan. 11 through 17:

One arrest was made for assault and battery on an emergency medical service provider and public intoxication.

One arrest was also made for the following charges: driving left of center, no driver's license in possession, no registration in possession and no

proof of insurance.

Incidents which are still under investigation

☐ five cases of larceny

For information on these statistics or any other service of the Department of Public Safety, call Ann Dennis at 792-8614.



College of Medicine



Curriculum of the Millennium

VOL 4, NO 1, January 2002

Continuing
Medical Education

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

February
23, 2002

Liver Disease and Transplantation Symposium
Lightsey Conference Center

March
8 - 9

Pediatric Neurosurgery Update for Primary Care
Mills House Hotel

14 - 16

2nd Annual Office Practice of Primary Care
Mills House Hotel

14 - 17

AAMC SGEA Annual Meeting
Westin Francis Marion Hotel

25 - 27

OB/GYN Spring Symposium
Charleston Place Hotel

25 - 26

12th Charleston Pulmonary and Critical Care Symposium
Charleston Place Hotel

April

10 - 14

Society of Academic Continuing Medical Education Spring Meeting
Doubletree Guest Suites

25 - 27

Postgraduate Course in Surgery
Mills House Hotel

May

16 - 19

Ophthalmology Update
Kiawah Island Resort

23 - 25

New Drug Update
Embassy Suites Hotel Convention Center

24 - 27

Medicine in the Vocal Arts
Mills House Hotel

May 29 - June 1

ENT Magnolia Conference
Mills House Hotel

the MEDICAL

COM wants faculty makeup t

"There is only one justification for universities, as distinguished from trade schools. They must be centers of criticism."

—Robert Maynard Hutchins, 1899-1977,
chancellor, University of Chicago

MUSC's College of Medicine has been undergoing some self-criticism lately, and, with regard to diversity, has taken steps to change its current state.

Last October, the Medical Educator profiled Deborah Deas, M.D., M.P.H., appointed as associate dean for admissions to assist in the recruitment of minority students. Her counterpart for faculty recruitment is Aljoeson Walker, MD. As associate dean for minority recruitment, Walker, M.D., will assist the university in the "identification and recruit-

ment and play a role in the retention" of minority faculty members.

"We want to mirror our community, which is South Carolina," Walker said. "The College of Medicine has over 700 full-time faculty, of which one-third are minorities. An example of a diversity issue is that thirty-two percent of South Carolinians are African-American, but there are only about 15 full-time faculty members who are African-American."

Having a more diverse faculty, Walker said, is a priority for the College of Medicine.

"Clearly, I think the dean's office, in its appointment of myself and others, has a strong interest in this area," he said. "It's a big part of the changes they want to see, and

Charleston site of SGEA annual meeting

The College of Medicine will play host to its sister institutions across the South in March during the 2002 SGEA Annual Meeting.

The Southern Group on Educational Affairs is comprised of medical schools in the Association of American Medical Colleges' (AAMC) Southern Division, which ranges from Texas and Oklahoma to West Virginia and to Puerto Rico. The meeting will be held March 14 - 17 at the Westin Francis Marion Hotel at the corner of King and Calhoun streets. This year's theme is "Promoting Lifelong Learning from Ideas to Results." Sessions will include undergraduate medical education, graduate medical education and continuing medical education.

Amy Blue, Ph.D., associate dean for curriculum and evaluation in the College of Medicine, said the four-day event would allow MUSC faculty to meet with their colleagues at other institutions and share information on their respective educational and research programs. Further, the \$220 registration fee would be waived for any MUSC faculty member who attends the meeting, although the March 15 dinner at the South Carolina Aquarium would still require payment.

Among the highlights of the meeting will be the poster and exhibit viewing March 14. Approximately 95 peer-reviewed and highly-rated submissions -- twice the number of last year--will be on display, Blue said. Several MUSC faculty members will be making presentations during the meeting, as well as one relocated faculty member, Linda Austin, M.D., host of National Public Radio's "What's On Your Mind?" program and director of medical media and staff psychiatrist at Eastern Maine Medical Center in Bangor, ME.

The downturn in national travel following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks is slowly returning to normal, and, Blue said, a good turnout is expected for the meeting. Below is an abbreviated outline of the meeting schedule:

Thursday, March 14*Preconference Workshops*

1. AAMC Curriculum Management & Information Tool (CurrMIT)
2. Campus tour of MUSC
3. Research/Preparing Manuscripts
4. Competencies Across the Continuum
5. Curriculum Design 101: "Ready, Aim, Fire!" —A Systematic Approach to Instruction
6. Poster Session I

Friday, March 15

Steering Committee Meeting
Conference Registration
Poster Session I (cont.)
Continental Breakfast
Welcome
Plenary Session: Lifelong Learners -- Are They Born or Can We Develop Them?
Concurrent Sessions
Promoting Professionalism in the Curriculum

The Professional Development of Student

What Can You Do to Create an Excellent Learning Environment

Small Group Discussion

How Can Peer Teaching and Mentoring Promote Proactive and Collaborative Learning and Professional Development Among Medical Students?

*Lunch Roundtables (various topics)**Concurrent Sessions*

Fostering Lifelong Learning Skills

Changing CME: Process Improvement in the Practice Setting

Improving Research Measurement Skills

Small Group Discussion

Operationalizing Lifelong Learning in the Curriculum

Concurrent Sessions

Innovations in Faculty Development

Funding: Be Careful For What You Ask—You Just Might Get It!

Practice-based Learning and Improvement Across the Continuum: What, When and How Shall We Teach It?

Small Group Discussion

Is the Act of Teaching A Scholarly Activity? If Not, What Else Is Needed?

*Dinner, South Carolina Aquarium***Saturday, March 16**

Poster Session II

Continental Breakfast

UME Section Meeting

CME/GME Section Meeting

Business Meeting

Concurrent Sessions

Current Trends in Undergraduate Medical Education

Accept, Revise, Reject: Reviewing Educational Research Manuscripts

Content Full Spirituality and Medicine—Teaching for Substantive Integration

Small Group Discussion

General Competencies—The Role of the GME Committee

Concurrent Sessions

Issues in Graduate Medical Education

Inpatient Teaching—Then and Now

Using Team Learning Principles to Enhance Interaction in Large Enrollment Classes

Small Group Discussion

Lifelong Learning and Professionalism in Medicine Students

Sunday, March 17

Poster Session II (cont.)

Breakfast

Roundtable Discussions

SIG Meetings

Plenary Session

Linda Austin, M.D. —Problem: Finding as a Stimulus for Lifelong Learning

Concurrent Sessions

Perspectives in Preclinical Education

Teaching Strategies That Develop Integrative Learning Skills

Small Group Discussions

Basic Science Educators and the AAMC

An Integrated Curriculum to Teach Lifelong Information Management Skills: Moving Beyond the Journal Club

EDUCATOR

o mirror that of community

they have empowered us to help make that happen."

No complete strategy has been determined, Walker said, but planning is well underway.

"A number of things have been batted about, among Dr. (Thad) Bell (associate dean for minority affairs), Dr. Deas, Dr. (Jerry) Reves (dean, College of Medicine and vice president for medical affairs) and others," he said. "We're working to come up with a forum and identify where the needs are. I think in the next few weeks we'll have a plan of attack."

A native of Durham, N.C., Walker earned his bachelor's degree at Morehouse College in Atlanta and his M.D. at East Carolina University in Greenville, N.C. Following his training at MUSC, where he was chief resident in Neurology, Walker joined the faculty in 1994.

Walker, who holds dual faculty appointments in neurology and ophthalmology, said he will have to perform some "fancy scheduling" in order to fit in his additional duties.

"I'll have to change how I may want to do some routine things," he said, "but it's manageable and it's worthwhile to do."

The current financial climate in which MUSC and other academic medical centers find themselves adds a degree of difficulty to this mission, Walker admitted, but the College of Medicine was undaunted in its pursuit of its goal.

"It could interfere with the process—the identification, recruiting and hiring," Walker added, "but if there's a will, there's a way."

Teaching Tips

Principles of Clinical Learning from Franklin Principles of Clinical Learning from Franklin Medico, PhD, Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education at MUSC.

(continued from last issue)

PRACTICE

An individual is more likely to learn when provided the chance to actively practice the skills or thought processes. These are two major areas of learning through practice:

Technical, Psychomotor Skills

Teaching tip –

TEACH SKILL STEP-BY-STEP, Provide feedback during first attempt

Clinical Thinking

Teaching tip –

PROBE FOR THOUGHT PROCESSES,

Ask problem-solving questions.

CLIMATE

An individual is more likely to learn and continue to learn in a supportive and positive learning climate. There are two aspects to creating a positive climate:

Personal Rapport

Teaching tip –

KNOW YOUR LEARNERS,

Establish mutual trust, support and respect.

Learning Environment

Teaching tip –

RECOGNIZE AND CAPITALIZE ON "TEACHABLE MOMENTS"

Clarity

An individual is more likely to learn when they have a clear understanding of the learning objectives and performance expectations. Two methods to enhance learning are:

Focus Attention of Learners

Teaching tip –

SHARE GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTATIONS,

Set mini-objectives

Limit Key Points During a Teaching Encounter

Teaching tip –

"LESS IS MORE,"

Highlight important points to improve comprehension

Feedback

An individual is more likely to learn if provided with "instructive" comments on what is done correctly and what can be done to correct errors. There are two general types:

Formative Feedback (Guiding)

Teaching tip --

FOCUS ON THE PERFORMANCE, NOT THE PERSON,

Comment often

MUSC Office of Graduate Medical Education
Announces

Residents, Fellows & Faculty Golf Tournament and Oyster Roast



9:00 AM
February 9, 2002
at
Coosaw Creek
Country Club

4210 Club Course Drive -- off Dorchester Road

Entry Fees:

\$40 Residents, Fellows, Spouse/Partner (out-of-pocket)

\$75 Residents, Fellows, Spouse/Partner (sponsored)

\$75 Faculty, Sponsors, Guests

Entry Deadline: February 7

Oyster Roast 1:00 PM
Coosaw Creek Clubhouse

All Residents, Fellows, Spouses/Partners,
Children & Guests Are Invited -- No Charge!!

Sign Up for the Tournament or Oyster Roast, call:
Sandra Murrow, 792-2575 or Angela Ybarra, 792-0761

The Medical Educator is produced by
the Office of Public Relations.

Currents

White House gives MUSC certificate of appreciation

MUSC received a certificate of appreciation from the White House for the manner in which it prepared for President George Bush's visit to The Citadel in December. MUSC is the medical site designated to serve the president in the event of a health situation.

Director of the White House Medical Unit Col. Richard J. Tubbs writes, "Members of the White House Medical Unit wish to express our genuine appreciation and commend you for your outstanding support during President Bush's visit to Charleston. Your professionalism reflects great credit upon yourself and is in keeping with the highest traditions of medical service. Thank you for a job well done."

Stuart Smith, vice president for Clinical Operations and executive director of the MUSC Medical Center, presented certificates to four individuals. "This is to commend MUSC for our outstanding support during the President's visit," Smith said.

Receiving certificates were: David Hutto, manager, Main Operating Room; Ellen Ruja, manager, Emergency Services and Peds ER; Margaret Young, manager, Surgical/Trauma/Neuro Intensive Care Unit; and Al Nesmith, director, Safety, Security and Volunteer Services.

OIG site visit expected in January

The federal Office of the Inspector General (OIG) of the Department of Health and Human Services will be on-site on Jan. 28-29, focusing on Medical Center and UMA issues.

According to Reece Smith, manager, Compliance, three areas will be visited - Hospital Patient Accounting, Revenue Systems and Audit and Medical Coding. Employee interviews will also be conducted and could include employees from any area.

Items to be reviewed will include the Compliance Policy, Code of Conduct, training and hotline. The OIG uses the UMA and Medical Center compliance programs as the structure for implementing various provisions of the agreement.

"Make sure you have up-to-date compliance posters on your units," Smith said.



Smith described the pending visit as similar to the validation survey conducted by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. She said

OIG officials suggested this is our opportunity to show the effectiveness of our compliance efforts over the past several years."

If you have questions, contact Smith at 792-6128.

Anthrax scare provokes procedure review

Following a false alarm from a woman who thought she had been infected by anthrax and showed up at the MUSC Emergency Room, MUSC hospital officials have tightened procedures for handling such situations. "One important message we need to get out is that members of the public who think they may have been exposed to anthrax or other deadly agents need to call 911,"

To Medical Center Employees:

The recent icy weather in the lowcountry gave us an opportunity to test our Emergency Weather Plan. I commend everyone on how well you responded.

Perhaps the most frustrating aspect of our recent experience was the difficulty in accurately predicting how badly our roads and bridges would be affected. In view of the uncertainties, we asked Medical Center employees to keep in touch with their supervisors, call 792-MUSC to check the status of operations and to listen to local radio and television.

Fortunately, the roads and bridges within the immediate Charleston area remained open and accessible. While there were some instances of employees having to arrive early or remain on the job a little longer, we did not have to call upon employees to remain around the clock.

We collected comments about things that could have been handled better and will be following up to make improvements. Among other things, we plan to enhance the training concerning the call-in system that can be used for directors to issue department-specific information. (This call-in system is accessed through the Health Connection 792-1414 line.)

Everyone is encouraged to read our policies related to Emergency Weather including: Staffing During Emergencies and Disasters, Policy A-42, Weather Emergency Plan, Policy A-64 and Human Resources Hazardous Weather and Emergencies Policy 13.

Thank you very much.

W. Stuart Smith
Vice President for Clinical Operations and
Executive Director, MUSC Medical Center

said Ellen Ruja, manager, Emergency Services. "The potential for harm to others is greatly increased by showing up in a hospital setting."

In addition, front-line employees are being re-educated to manage such situations more effectively, Ruja said. "Decontaminating the patient and limiting exposure to others is paramount."

Computer issues being resolved

The Center for Computing and Information Technology (CCIT) is working to resolve problems relating to computer shutdown and Windows 98 issues, according to Dave Moses of CCIT. He urges anyone with such problems to contact CCIT. "Maybe there are folks still out there experiencing problems who we don't know about. We have a fix for the shutdowns. We think it's resolved," he said.

Moses said Clinlan users would be upgrading to Windows 2000 in the near future and that new equipment is still being swapped in (Dell Gxa, Gxi and Gx1 models are being swapped for Gx150 and Gx240 models). As a word

of caution, Moses encourages computer users to back up any information stored on a local machine. "Don't make the local machine the only place your information exists. Back it up on the network," he said.

For more information, contact CCIT through the main phone number at 792-4175 or the Help Desk at 792-9700.

Policy updates

The FY 2001-2002 performance pay increases were effective the pay periods beginning Dec. 30, 2001, for biweekly-paid employees and Jan. 1, 2002, for monthly-paid employees. (Pay dates of Jan. 23 and Jan. 31, respectively.) This is in accordance with the FY 2001-2002 Performance Pay Plan that was adopted and previously communicated.

Employees who were unable to receive the full performance pay increase due to having base salaries at or near the pay band maximum will receive a lump-sum payment in their next regular paycheck (Jan. 23 - biweekly / Jan. 31 - monthly), according to Susan Carullo, manager, Employment, Compensation and Employee Relations.

Carullo also noted that the Americans with Disabilities Act, covered in MUSC policy 24, has been expanded regarding issues relating to complaints. The new policy language can be reviewed on-line.

New director named

Colleen Corish, R.N., who has served as program manager for Adult Oncology at Hollings Cancer Center (HCC), has been named as clinical services director of Oncology and Medical/Surgical Services at MUSC and HCC. Marilyn Schaffner, Clinical Services administrator, made the announcement to the Management Team.

Kim Gadsden, R.N., has been named interim manager for 10 East. She came to MUSC as a new graduate on 10 East five years ago. Recently, she has served as the senior charge RN for the unit "and has done an excellent job in that role," said Corish, who made the announcement.



Receiving certificates of appreciation from the White House are from left David Hutto, Ellen Ruja, Margaret Young and Al Nesmith.