

# NEWS

## 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Student Clinician's Ceremony Emphasizes Professionalism

**ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY EIGHT THIRD-YEAR STUDENTS REAFFIRMED THE MEANING OF PROFESSIONALISM AT THE STUDENT CLINICIAN'S CEREMONY HELD ON JULY 1.** The medical students received professionalism pins (pictured at right) to wear on their white coats as a constant reminder of their duty to their patients and the profession. The first annual Student Clinician's Ceremony was meant to emphasize humanism as students learn to interact with patients in their third year of medical school.

According to Jack Gladstein, MD, associate dean for Student Affairs, "This was White Coat Ceremony Part II. After two hard years in the classroom, these students are about to enter the real work of medicine, exploring fields such as pediatrics, surgery, internal medicine, OB, psychiatry and neurology. We wanted to give them something to think about as they enter the most exciting part of their medical school career."

Dean Wilson greeted the students with the reminder that "behind every disease is a patient, and you must pay attention to that patient." Frank M. Calia, MD, MACP, vice dean, in his welcome address reminded students that "medicine is about the care of the sick

and preventing disease. You must subordinate your needs to the needs of the patient."

Guest speaker Thomas P. O'Toole, MD, national program officer of the Open Society Institute Program on Medicine as a Profession, invited the group to embrace professionalism. He exhorted the students to act professionally while being attuned to the multicultural and multifaceted problems their patients face. "You are entering a brave new world of medicine, health, and healthcare," he said, "and you must think of all three in separate veins. You must have the need and the license to question where you are and what you are doing. Just because it has always been done one way, doesn't mean you must continue to do it the same way, especially if it's wrong."

The ceremony was followed by two days of clinical skills workshops and small group discussion on actual cases of professionalism. For more information on professionalism visit: <http://medschool.umaryland.edu/professionalism>.



This year the Maryland Psychiatric Research Center (MPRC) celebrates its 25th anniversary. A silver anniversary celebration will be held on Thursday, September 19th at 3:00 p.m. in Davidge Hall; a reception will follow. All are invited! Please RSVP to Toni at 410-402-6051. *The MPRC is a joint program of the University of Maryland School of Medicine and the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.*

## Reuben Mezrich Named Diagnostic Radiology Chair

**REUBEN MEZRICH MD, PHD**, has been named chair of the Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine. Dr. Mezrich comes to the University of Maryland School of Medicine from Harvard Medical School, where he was associate professor and director of technology at the Center for Innovative Minimally Invasive Therapy at Brigham & Women's Hospital. He also served as a senior lecturer at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science.

"My ultimate goal is to elevate the University of Maryland to world class status in radiology research," says Dr. Mezrich. "We are already strong clinically, but by using cutting edge computer technology, we can push computerized tomography, magnetic resonance imaging, and ultrasound imaging to a new level."

From 1996 to 1999, Dr. Mezrich was an attending radiologist and associate professor of radiology at the University of Pennsylvania. In addition to serving as chief of emergency radiology, Dr. Mezrich was the interim chairman of the department. Prior to that, he was professor of bioengineering at Rutgers University. He also worked at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital and St. Peter's Medical Center in New Jersey.

Dr. Mezrich received his BS, MS, and PhD in electrical engineering from the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn. As an electrical engineer at Johnson and Johnson, Dr. Mezrich developed ultrasound mammography systems for the detection of breast cancer. Dr. Mezrich received his MD from the University of Miami.

"As both a physician and engineer, Dr. Mezrich has a unique understanding of how innovative technology can be used to improve patient care," says Dean Wilson. "We are pleased to have a person of his caliber on the faculty."

Dr. Mezrich holds 25 patents and has authored over 75 papers.



## CVD Receives \$22 Million Grant from NIH

**THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH** has awarded a \$22 million research contract to the Center for Vaccine Development (CVD) to fund the Vaccine and Treatment and Evaluation Unit for the next five years. Under the contract—one of the largest in School of Medicine history—the CVD will continue to develop and test vaccines worldwide, and contribute to national biodefense initiatives.

"It is gratifying that our expertise is being utilized to the greatest degree possible, especially at such a difficult time in our country's history," says Myron M. Levine, MD, PhD, professor of medicine, pediatrics and microbiology & immunology, director of the CVD, and the grant's principal investigator. In addition, the NIH contract includes an option for an additional \$5.6 million for malaria vaccine clinical studies.

The contract, titled "Evaluation of Control Measures Against Diseases other than AIDS," will require CVD researchers to test a variety of vaccines, and develop the means to improve their effectiveness. The grant will fund challenge studies and ongoing research of vaccines to fight infections due to respiratory pathogens, streptococcus, and bacteria such as E.coli.

The contract will also support smallpox vaccine research at the University of Maryland. "Ultimately, we want to develop a more purified vaccine that is less likely to cause illness," says Robert Edelman, MD, professor of pediatrics, associate director for research at the CVD, and a lead investigator for the new NIH grant. "We want to determine if the potency of the vaccine can be adjusted for children and older people who may be more susceptible to side effects." Already this year, the CVD conducted historic research that determined that the current supply of smallpox vaccine can be diluted to stretch the existing supply.

Lead investigators for the grant also include Carol O. Tacket, MD, professor of medicine, and Karen L. Kotloff, MD, professor of pediatrics.

A Publication for the  
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Dean Wilson thanks Sylvan Frieman, MD, '53, (left photo) for serving two three-year terms as chair of the University of Maryland School of Medicine Board of Visitors. David Penn, senior vice president at Legg Mason, (right photo) is the new chair.

## Quick Studies

**Thomas W. Abrams, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Anesthesiology and Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics, received a five-year \$297,000 grant from the NIH's National Institute of General Medical Sciences for the study of "Nonassociative and Associative Neuroplasticity."

**Brian M. Berman, MD**, professor, Department of Family Medicine, and director, Program in Complementary Medicine, was recently elected chair of the steering committee of the Consortium of Academic Health Centers for Integrative Medicine. The consortium, comprised of 12 academic health centers, was conceived as a forum for faculty and senior administration to gather to reflect mindfully and to share best practices regarding integrative medicine. The consortium focuses on research, education and patient care.

**Christopher T. Bever, Jr., MD**, associate professor, Department of Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics and professor, Department of Neurology, **James E. Goolsby**, graduate resident assistant, **Susan I. V. Judge, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Neurology, **Mervyn J. Monteiro, PhD**, assistant professor, Departments of Neurology and Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, recently published an article in *Molecular Pharmacology* titled "Determinants of Four-Aminopyridine Sensitivity in a Human Brain Kv1.4K+ Channel: Phenylalanine Substitutions in Leucine Heptad Repeat Region Stabilize Channel Closed State."

**Suhayl S. Dhib-Jalbut, MD**, professor, Departments of Neurology and Pathology, is a recipient of the First Quarter 2002 Wadsworth Grants for Multiple Sclerosis Research Awards. Dr. Dhib-Jalbut will receive \$100,000 annually for three years. The Wadsworth Foundation supports research in neuroscience, cell and molecular biology and immunology to advance basic science toward therapies and cures for multiple sclerosis.

**Matthew Ennis, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Anatomy & Neurobiology, received a five-year \$1,455,300 grant from the National Institute of Deafness and Communicative Disorders to study the role of "Metabotropic Glutamate Receptors in the Mammalian Olfactory Bulb."

**Douglas O. Frost, PhD**, professor, Department of Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics, presented a lecture entitled "Neuroplasticity in Health and Disease" for guests of the Siemens Foundation in Munich in May. Dr. Frost also presented six research seminars concerning his research on neurotrophins at institutes in Italy and Germany.

**Lisa M. Gallicchio**, PhD candidate, Department of Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine, is one of 10 PhD candidates nationwide to have won a Woodrow Wilson-Johnson & Johnson Dissertation Grant in women

and children's health. The grant is a one-time \$3,000 award to support dissertation travel and research. Projects selected for these grants emphasize practical outcomes and research.

**Barbara C. Hansen, PhD**, professor, Department of Physiology, won the American Society for Clinical Nutrition's E.V. McCollum Award for 2002. This award, sponsored by Novartis Nutrition, recognizes a clinical investigator who is perceived as a major creative force, actively generating new concepts in nutrition and personally seeing to the execution of studies testing the validity of these concepts.

**Trese Leinders-Zufall, PhD**, associate professor, and **Frank Zufall, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Anatomy & Neurobiology, are co-winners of the 2002 Takasago Award for excellence in research in olfaction. The award recognizes outstanding scientists who are emerging leaders in the field of olfaction.

**Dennis Narango, MA**, has been named assistant dean for development. He will devise, implement and guide the major gifts efforts for the upcoming Bicentennial Campaign and other campaigns, and manage the development officers. He came here from University of Maryland University College, where he was acting vice president. **Louisa A. Peartree, MBA**, has been promoted to assistant dean for administration in the Office of Resource Management. She is responsible for implementing and monitoring the School's mission-based management program.

**Amy Shuster, MS-II**, was awarded a \$2,400 grant from the Emergency Medicine Foundation (EMF) for use during the 2002-2003 academic year. The EMF grant was for summer research with **Robert E. Rosenthal, MD**, professor, Departments of Anesthesiology and Surgery, on "Cerebral Mechanisms of Ischemic Brain Injury." Amy also rotated through the University of Maryland Medical Center's emergency room.

**Carl A. Soderstrom, MD**, professor, Department of Surgery, was awarded a \$100,000 two-year grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for assessment of crash culpability relative to the use of alcohol and other drugs by injured drivers.

**Kimberly E. Walker, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Medical & Research Technology, and **Clarence E. Foster, III, MD, FACS**, assistant professor, Department of Surgery, received the 2002 Henry C. Welcome Fellowship Grant from the Maryland Higher Education Commission. The awards are made to new, tenure-track or tenured full-time minority faculty members, and provide each fellow with \$20,000 over a three-year period for research and education expenses.

**Paul J. Yarowsky, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics, will chair the 10th International Conference on Chromosome 21 and Down's Syndrome in Barcelona, Spain, this month.

The **Maryland Statewide Health Network** Eastern Shore Region received a \$19,999 award from the Susan B. Komen Cancer Foundation. **Claudia R. Baquet, MD, MPH**, associate dean for Policy and Planning, is principal investigator for the grant, which focuses on the community-based breast health education project "You Ought to Be in Pictures."

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# SOMNews

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND  
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Campus Mail

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:** The School of Medicine's Center for Infant & Child Loss will host its 12th Annual Verizon Wireless-SIDS Golf Invitational at Turf Valley Resort & Conference Center in Ellicott City, MD on Friday, October 4, 2002. Last year's tournament raised over \$100,000!

To register, call Alice Powell at 6-3091.

### FUNfact

Did you know that 62 percent of our 2002 graduates matched in primary care specialties, and that 59 percent matched to Baltimore-area hospitals?