

# NEWS

A Publication for the  
Faculty & Staff of the

University of Maryland

School of Medicine

## Message from the Dean: Improvements Planned for School of Medicine Website

With our bicentennial quickly approaching, more people will be going online to learn about the School of Medicine, making it even more important to present a consistent public image worthy of our stature as a premiere educational and biomedical research institution. Our current website has served us well, but we have outgrown it. A new, redesigned website will enable us to do our jobs more effectively and better serve our students, patients, study volunteers, donors and the community.

This summer, we will begin a systematic overhaul of the School of Medicine website (<http://medschool.umaryland.edu>). We will start by giving the homepage a fresh new look and streamlining the navigation to emphasize our missions of education, research, patient care and community service. At the same time, top-level pages will be re-designed to better serve our primary audiences, including prospective and current students, faculty and staff, patients, study volunteers and alumni.

After the new homepage is launched, we will focus on official School of Medicine websites. Official SOM websites represent departments, divisions, programs, organized research centers and offices of the dean. The redesign of official SOM sites will be phased in over several months, and will be overseen jointly by the Office of Public Affairs and Office of Information Services. A representative from one of those offices will contact you when it is time to begin the upgrade of your site.

As part of the redesign, all official School of Medicine websites (departments, divisions, programs, organized research centers and offices of the dean) will be required to adopt one of several design templates. The templates will allow us to upgrade websites as quickly as possible with limited resources, and maintain a consistent public image. The templates will also make our websites easier to use by providing more consistent site-wide navigation, the ability to conduct a site-wide search from any page, compatibility with future web browsers, PDAs and other wireless devices, and, ultimately, improved access for all.

The use of design templates will not be required for non-official websites, such as faculty or lab websites, but they will be available online to anyone wishing to use them.

As you can see, the improvements will be more than skin deep. The changes will also make it easier to find information, collaborate with colleagues and use online applications. In addition to an improved online calendar, a database of faculty research interests and publications is being developed, and a more powerful Google search engine will be deployed. An

interactive map will be added to help visitors find SOM buildings more easily.

To facilitate these improvements, all official School of Medicine websites must be hosted on School of Medicine web servers administered by the Office of Information Services. There will be no exceptions. Any necessary transfers will be done at the time of the site upgrade. (If you have any questions about whether your website is an "official SOM website," please contact Larry Roberts, director of web communications, at [lroberts@som.umaryland.edu](mailto:lroberts@som.umaryland.edu).)

The overhaul will require a renewed commitment on your part to improve the quality of the School of Medicine website. Content will have to be updated and kept up-to-date. (The Office of Public Affairs will provide assistance and guidance in the development of content and graphics, but it will be your responsibility to keep the sites current.) To make this as easy as possible, we will be providing content management software that will enable you to make changes to your website as easily as you make changes to a Microsoft Word document. An easy-to-use application will allow you to post special announcements or news stories on your home pages. Training in the use of this software will take place when your site is upgraded.

This is an exciting opportunity for all of us to present a more unified public presence. It is my hope that you will work with the Offices of Public Affairs and Information Services to showcase the fine teaching, research, patient care and community service at the University of Maryland School of Medicine.



Donald E. Wilson, MD, MACP  
Vice President for Medical Affairs, University of Maryland &  
Dean, School of Medicine

## Quick Studies

**Maureen M. Black, PhD**, professor, Departments of Medicine and Pediatrics, was invited to serve on the Institute of Medicine's committee to evaluate the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief that focuses on 15 developing countries in Africa, Asia, and the Caribbean. Dr. Black serves on the subcommittee that involves care programs, including vulnerable children and orphans.

**Toby C. Chai, MD**, associate professor, Department of Medicine, received the Society for Uroynamics & Female Urology's highest honor when he was presented with the 2005 Paul Zimskind Award for his continued excellence and leadership in the field of voiding dysfunction. The Society chooses one recipient each year, and only urologists with fewer than 11 years of training are eligible. Dr. Chai specializes in voiding problems in women and holds three grants from the National Institutes of Health studying both basic science and clinical treatment aspects of bladder function.

**Sandra Nix Harriman**, director, Corporate and Foundation Relations, Office of Development, was chosen by *The Daily Record* as one of Maryland's Top 100 Women for 2005. Established in 1996 by *The Daily Record*, this annual award program recognizes one hundred of Maryland's leading professional women who are making an impact on our state through their outstanding achievements.

**Anthony D. Harris, MD, MPH**, associate professor, Department of Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine, received a four-year \$850,000 R01 grant from the National Institutes of Health for his work entitled "Epidemiology of Imipenem-resistant P. Aeruginosa."

**Kamal Moudgil, MD, PhD**, associate professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, received a two-year \$148,500 R03 grant from the National Institutes of Health National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases for his work "Regulation of Autoimmunity Through Epitope Spreading."

**Mary-Claire Roghmann, MD, MS**, associate professor, Department of Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine, was senior author on an article titled "Risk of Mortality with a Bloodstream Infection is Higher in the Less Severely Ill at Admission" in the March 2005 issue of the *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine*. The study showed that less severely ill patients are at greater risk of dying from a bloodstream infection than more severely ill patients and has important implications for the distribution of infection control efforts inside and outside an Intensive Care Unit.

**Abdul M. Ruknudin, PhD**, assistant professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, was awarded an 18-month \$146,495 Intergovernmental Personnel Act agreement from the National Institutes of Health National Institute on Aging.

**Barney J. Stern, MD**, professor, Department of Neurology, published an article, "Comparison of Warfarin and Aspirin for Symptomatic Intracranial Arterial Stenosis," in the March 31, 2005, issue of *The New England Journal of Medicine*.

**Stefanie N. Vogel, PhD**, professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, was awarded a five-year \$3,265,000 competitive renewal grant from the National Institutes of Health National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases for her work entitled "Differentiative Signals for Macrophage Activation."

**William J. Weiner, MD**, professor and chair, Department of Neurology, published an article entitled, "Initial Treatment of Parkinson's Disease" in the *Archives of Neurology*, Volume 61, December 2004.



### 2nd Annual Fund for Medicine Gala

*University of Maryland, Baltimore President David J. Ramsay, DM, DPhil, Senator Paul Sarbanes, Dean Donald E. Wilson, MD, MACP, and Ed Notebaert, CEO of the University of Maryland Medical System, pose for a photo at the 2nd Annual Fund for Medicine Gala held on April 16 at the Visionary Arts Museum. Over 400 guests attended the event which raised \$315,000 in proceeds to benefit the School of Medicine, the Department of Surgery and the Department of Medicine's Get Fit Maryland walking program.*

**SOMNews** is produced by the University of Maryland School of Medicine Office of Public Affairs.

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**Submitting Information to SOMNews:** Do you have news or information you would like to see in SOMNews? If so, please e-mail your submission to Jennifer Litchman, Assistant Dean for Public Affairs, at [jlitchman@som.umaryland.edu](mailto:jlitchman@som.umaryland.edu).

# SOMNews



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SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

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Campus Mail