NewYork Weill Cornell Medical Center Alumni Council News

NewYork-Presbyterian

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NEW LEADERSHIP FOR THE CENTER ALUMNI COUNCIL: NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

n the Fall of 2012, the NewYork Weill Cornell Medical Center Alumni Council leadership was elected and I am honored to serve as the CAC President for the next two years. During my term as President, I plan to strengthen and promote our CAC programs to ensure that the many healthcare professionals at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center know about this organization and are encouraged to participate. We plan to expand communications with our members. As a first step, we ask that you share news of your achievements via email: center_alumni_ council@nyp.org. We would be delighted to include news of our members in a future edition of the CAC Newsletter. Now it is my pleasure to introduce the new officers of the CAC Board, who took on their roles at the end of November 2012.



President **Eugene J. Nowak, M.D.**

Assistant Attending Surgeon, NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital; Clinical Assistant Professor of Surgery, Weill Cornell Medical College

The Officers are:



Vice President
Thomas A. Caputo, M.D.

Attending Obstetrician and Gynecologist, NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital; Professor of Clinical Obstetrics and Gynecology, Weill Cornell Medical College



Secretary
Richard D. Granstein, M.D.

Dermatologist-in-Chief, NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital; George W. Hambrick, Jr. Professor of Dermatology and Chairman of the Department of Dermatology, Weill Cornell Medical College



Treasurer

Joseph T. Cooke, M.D. (reappointed to a second term)

Chief, Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, Chief Quality & Patient Safety Officer, NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center; Associate Attending Physician, NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital; Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine, Associate Professor of Clinical Public Health, Weill Cornell Medical College

The new Trustees are:

Lloyd B. Gayle, M.D. (reelected to a second term)

Associate Attending Surgeon (Plastic Surgery), NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital;

Clinical Associate Professor of Surgery (Plastic Surgery), Weill Cornell Medical College

O.Wayne Isom, M.D. (reelected to a second term) Cardiothoracic Surgeon-in-Chief, NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital; Chairman, Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery and The Terry Allen Kramer Professor of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Weill Cornell Medical College

Mary Moran, Ph.D. Clinical Psychologist, The Wexler Group

Jeffrey M. Perlman, M.B., Ch.B. (reelected to a second term) Attending Pediatrician, NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital; Director of the Division of Newborn Medicine, Professor of Pediatrics, Department of Pediatrics, Weill Cornell Medical College

Patricia Prufeta, M.S.H.A., R.N. (reelected to a second term) *Director, Surgical Nursing, NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center*

James P. Smith, M.D. (reelected to a second term)

Attending Physician, NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital; Clinical Professor of Medicine, Weill Cornell Medical College

Theodore I. Tyberg, M.D.

Associate Attending Physician, NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital; Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine, Weill Cornell Medical College

As collaboration with the Housestaff Quality Council continues to grow, we are delighted to welcome our new Housestaff Representative on the Board:

Heidi Charvet, M.D. – Chair, Housestaff Quality Council

Our Committees work diligently to develop and plan programs for the Center Alumni Council. I thank our Committee Chairs who have agreed to continue their service as leaders of the following Committees:

- Awards & Nominations Committee Vinod Malhotra, M.D.
- Fundraising Committee Mark W. Pasmantier, M.D.
- Membership Committee Thomas A. Caputo, M.D.

In This Issue

Page 2: ➤ Awards Dinner

➤ CAC Fall Event

Page 3: ➤ 2013-2014 Fundraising Initiative

➤ About Membership

Page 4: ➤ Upcoming Events:

- CAC Fall Event
- 2013 CAC Awards Dinner
- Outstanding Service Awards Nominations
- ➤ In Memoriam

2012 Center Alumni Council Awards Dinner

The Center Alumni Council hosted its annual Awards Dinner on November 15, 2012. Michael G. Stewart, M.D., M.P.H., Vice Dean of Weill Cornell Medical College and Philip J. Wilner, M.D., M.B.A., Vice President and Medical Director of Behavioral Health at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center, spoke on behalf of Laurie H. Glimcher, M.D., EfWbZVV S`V Egl S`W W@6VVS`Weill 5ad W*? W/[LS^5a^WVWS`V EfVhVV &Corwin, M.D.I 5Z[VX7] Wgf[hW AX/LW1 @W Kad BdWf kfVv(S`: aeb[fS~2

One of the highlights of the evening was the presentation of the 2012 Distinguished Achievement Award to Luke M. Kitahata, M.D., Ph.D., who travelled with his wife, Kathy Kitahata, from their home in Brevard, North Carolina for the event. Dr. Kitahata was honored for his extraordinary career and work as an anesthesiologist, pain physician and neuroscientist.



Dr. Kitahata retired from Yale University in 1997 after 33 years. During his tenure as Professor of Anesthesiology and Chairman of the Department, he expanded and enhanced its reputation for excellence in clinical, teaching and research activities. He also has a relationship with NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital, conducting his residency in Anesthesiology at New York Hospital/Cornell Medical Center (presently known as NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center). Dr. Kitahata's research has been fundamental in changing the practice of pain management in this country and around the world.

Additionally, 23 Distinguished Housestaff Awards were presented to a member of the housestaff in each department for all-around excellence and 10 new Medical Center Circle donors were honored. Medical Center Circle donors are CAC members who have



Newly inducted Medical Center Circle members, Holly S. Andersen, M.D., and Patricia D. Yarberry-Allen, M.D.

made a philanthropic commitment of \$25,000 or more to NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center. Currently there are 60 Medical Center Circle members who have lifetime membership in the Center Alumni Council, and have their names inscribed on the Medical Center Circle Donor Wall of Recognition located in the corridor that connects NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital and Weill Cornell Medical College.

CAC Fall Event:



Turning Facts Into Fiction: Real Science and the Thriller Novel Featuring Tess Gerritsen, M.D.

n October 17, 2012, the Center Alumni Council welcomed internationally bestselling author Tess Gerritsen, M.D. More than 75 members and guests attended the event to hear Dr. Gerritsen share her transition from a career in medicine



to one as a full-time novelist. Her wit, sense of humor and inspirational dialogue connected with and touched the hearts of audience members of all ages and backgrounds.

Dr. Gerritsen is a writer of romantic, medical thrillers and suspense novels. Her series of novels featuring homicide detective Jane Rizzoli and medical examiner Maura Isles inspired the TNT television series "Rizzoli & Isles" starring Angie Harmon and Sasha Alexander. Each guest received a copy of Dr. Gerritsen's most recent book *Last To Die* and during the cocktail reception which followed in Griffis Faculty Club, Dr. Gerritsen personally signed these books.



Dr. Tess Gerritsen signed books and chatted with guests during the Fall 2012 event.

2013-2014 Fundraising Initiative

ach year the Center Alumni Council takes on a fundraising project to support outstanding programs at the Medical Center. This year the CAC Board of Trustees encourages members to support two initiatives that help to enhance patient care at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center.

The Child Life Program at NewYork-Presbyterian is one of the oldest and best programs of its kind in the United States. The program helps ease the fears of children facing emergency visits, hospital stays and ambulatory surgeries/treat-

ments. It does so by offering support and guidance to pediatric patients, their parents and their siblings, as well as children who are dealing with a loved one being treated at the Hospital. The Program adds a vital sense of normalcy by providing therapeutic play with arts and crafts, writing, reading and recreational games in special playrooms at the Hospital. A music therapist augments the program with instrument playing to improve children's expressive communication and to facilitate patient rehabilitation goals through movement games. A weekly clown visit, pet therapy and Artist-in-Residence Program round out the family-friendly activities.



The Housestaff Quality Council (HQC) was created in 2008 to take the lead in efforts to improve the quality and safety of clinical care. The HQC comprises representation from each of the department's residency and fellowship programs, representatives from senior administration, and physician and nursing leaders. Some of the Council's goals include to decrease and/or minimize adverse events, assist in compliance with Hospital policies and procedures, and measure outcomes and determine best practices. A recent example of an HQC initiative was the Patient Safety Awareness Campaign, which focused on the potential for medical errors surrounding the potency and dosing of hydromorphone versus morphine. The HQC is currently working to address key items, including patient pain scores, improving communications regarding interdisciplinary consultations, clinical "triggers" for contacting attending staff about changes in patient status, and protecting confidential patient information in today's setting of increased use of electronic media.

To make a gift, please use the response insert and return envelope included with this newsletter, or make a check payable to *NYP Fund, Inc.* and send to: NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center, Center Alumni Council, 525 East 68th Street, Box 123, New York, New York, 10065. OR, call (646) 317-7418 for more information.

IF YOU KNOW A FRIEND WHO SHOULD BE A CAC MEMBER, PLEASE ENCOURAGE THEM TO JOIN

If you know of colleagues who wish to continue their connection with our Medical Center, please don't hesitate to give us their information.

If you are not a CAC member or have not renewed your membership this year, we invite you to join us.

Your annual membership dues help to fund and support our CAC programs and activities.

For membership information, please contact us at (646) 317-7418 or center_alumni_council@nyp.org

Upcoming Events

CENTER ALUMNI COUNCIL AND HOUSESTAFF QUALITY COUNCIL WELCOME RECEPTION

Thursday, July 18, 2013 • 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Harkness Courtyard • 1300 York Avenue

CENTER ALUMNI COUNCIL FALL EVENT FEATURING AMY HERMAN

Thursday, September 26, 2013 6:00 p.m. Presentation in Uris Auditorium 7:00 p.m. Reception in Griffis Faulty Club



Residents enjoy the 2012 Housestaff Quality Council Welcome Reception

Amy E. Herman, J.D., M.A., will present on The Art of Perception, which is unique among professional development courses for its dual objectives of enhancing observation and promoting effective articulation, both of which are critical to a wide variety of industries and fields of study. Participants learn to analyze, expand upon, and reconsider the skills necessary to perform their professional responsibilities.

Ms. Herman designed, developed and conducts all sessions of the The Art of Perception. While working at The Frick Collection, she instituted the program for medical students to improve their observation skills. After expanding the medical program to seven medical schools in New York, Ms. Herman adapted the program for law enforcement professionals across a wide range of agencies including the New York City Police Department, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Justice and the Secret Service. Before joining Thirteen/WNET.ORG as Director of Educational Development in 2007, Ms. Herman was the Head of Education at The Frick Collection for over ten years, where she oversaw all of the Collection's educational collaborations and community initiatives.

2013 CAC AWARDS DINNER

The 2013 Center Alumni Council Awards Dinner will take place on Tuesday, November 12, 2013. During the dinner we will recognize new Medical Center Circle donors and Distinguished Housestaff Award recipients. Additionally, we will present the CAC's biannual Outstanding Service Award to an individual who:

- is a current member of the faculty and/or staff at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital or Weill Cornell Medical College
- has provided exemplary service to NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center
- is a current CAC member

Outstanding Service Award Nominations

The CAC awards & Nominations Committee would like to give you an opportunity to nominate a candidate for this honor. Past recipients of the Outstanding Service Award are:

2005 - Ralph L. Nachman, M.D.

2007 - Joseph T. Cooke, M.D.

2009 - Roger W. Yurt, M.D.

2011 - Mark W. Pasmantier, M.D.

To make a nomination, submit your name and contact information along with the name(s), contact information and a brief biography of qualified candidates by: Email: center_alumni_council@nyp.org; Fax (212) 832-0139 or mail using the reply envelope that has been supplied.

Nominations must be received by Wednesday, June 15, 2013.

IN MEMORIAM

The Center Alumni Council would like to express sorrow at the passing of the following colleagues and friends:

Richard R. Bass, M.D., of Scottsdale, AZ; January 12, 2012; Pediatrics

Mark S. Brower, M.D., of New York City; December 26, 2012, Hematology

Jeffrey D. Fleigel, M.D., of Ocala, FL; October 17, 2012, Otolaryngology

Hortense M. Gandy-Carstensen, M.D., of Honolulu, HI; September 8, 2012; Internal Medicine

Antonio F. Govoni, M.D., of New York City; July 6, 2012; Radiology and Neuroradiology

Richard A. Isay, M.D., of New York City; June 28, 2012; Psychiatry **Joan E. Morgenthau, M.D.,** of New York City; October 1, 2012; Pediatrics

S. Francis Ryan, M.D., of Demarest, NJ; February 4, 2013; Obstetrics & Gynecology

Renee Solow, M.D., of New York City; April 16, 2012; Radiology

Sheldon H. Steinbach, M.D., of New York City; February 17, 2013, Anesthesiology