Dean Seaberg Reviews COMC Campus First 100 Days

Dr. David Seaberg, UT COMC Dean, and Dr. Steve Schwab, UT College of Medicine Executive Dean, met with Chattanooga faculty and staff on Friday, November 16th in the newly renovated Probasco Auditorium.

Dr. Schwab discussed a recent decision by the three Health Science Center College of Medicine Deans that any visiting medical student who wishes to do a required core clerkship rotation through any UT COM facility must have passed the USMLE Step 1 before entering the UT rotation. He also told the faculty and staff that the College of Medicine is completing plans to assure temporary housing to medical students who wish to do short-term rotations at UT campuses that are not their “home site”.

Dr. Seaberg updated the audience on several changes at the UT COMC and has summarized his “First 100 Days” as follows:

**Education**

- Hired Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
- Vascular Surgery Fellowship approved
- Continue to work on Emergency Medicine Residency approval
- Renovated medical student apartments
- Renovation plans developed for West Wing 6 conference room
- Renovated Probasco Auditorium
- Began Resident and Faculty Development Lecture Series
- Procured space for Human Patient Simulation Lab
- Initiated Department of Pediatrics Chairman search
- Developed Program Information Form for Hospice and Palliative Care Medicine Fellowship
- Formed Committee to develop Pharmaceutical/Medical Industry Policy
- Instituted Medical Student duty-hour policy
- Have begun discussions for Neurology Medical Student Clerkship rotation
- Begun web site re-design
- Hired consultant to begin preservation of rare library books

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First 100 Days--continued

Research

- Formed Office of Research
- Institutional Review Board
- Research Advisory Board
- Research Compliance
- Research Director
- Scientific Review Committee
- Grant Writer -- applicant identified
- Grant Manager -- applicant identified
- Statistical Consulting Service
- Federal DOD grant application submitted: Hyperbaric treatment of TBI
- $2.4M over five years

Fundraising/Foundation Support

- Case statements developed:
  Simulation Center
  Geriatrics Program
  Resident Education and Research fund
  Health Sciences Center

Community Service

- Presented at Community Mini-Medical School
- Arranged lectures at Kiwanis and Rotary Clubs
- Participated in Baroness Foundation meetings
- Instituted College-wide United Way campaign

Welcome

Dirk W. Kiner, MD joined the faculty of the UT College of Medicine Chattanooga at the beginning of November. He holds an appointment as Clinical Instructor in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery. Dr. Kiner is in practice with University Orthopaedics. He obtained his medical degree at Wayne State University School of Medicine. Dr. Kiner completed his residency in orthopaedic surgery in 2006 at the Henry Ford Health System in Detroit. He then completed a fellowship in orthopaedic trauma at Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte.

Lisa Cohen joined the UT COMC staff in the Dean’s Office of Business and Finance in November. She will be working with Jane Clay and Stacey Hendricks. Ms. Cohen was most recently employed as a legal secretary in the Litigation Section of Chambliss, Bahner and Stophel, a large local law firm. Although working in the legal field was certainly fast-paced, there were not many opportunities for new growth or challenge. Ms. Cohen tells us the “UT College of Medicine has met my expectations and exceeded them.” We’re happy to have her join us.
You are cordially invited to

**A Holiday Reception**

*Hosted by the UT College of Medicine Chattanooga*

**Monday, December 17th**
2:30 - 4:00 pm
*in the Medical Mall Atrium*

*Please join us as we say thank you and happy holidays to the employees of the Erlanger Health System and to the faculty, residents and staff of the UT College of Medicine Chattanooga*

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**Online Research Methods Courses Available Through UTC**

A service of web-casts devoted to advanced research and statistical methods is available to UT COMC faculty and staff. UTC is a host site for the 2007-2008 CARMA webcasts. These are virtual lectured on topics related to recent advancements in psychological and social science research methods and analysis techniques. All sessions are held in Holt Hall Room 349B0. If you would like additional information, please contact Christopher Cunningham, PhD, Industrial-Organizational and Occupational Health Psychology, 425-4265.

1/18/08 Conditional Reasoning and Personality Measurement
Dr. Larry James, Georgia Institute of Technology

2/29/08 Measurement Invariance and Applied Research
Dr. Roger Millsap, Arizona State University

3/21/08 Three Lectures
Restriction of Range, Dr. Paul Sackett, University of Minnesota
Discontinuous Growth Models, Dr. Paul Bliese, Walter Reed Army Institute
Strategy and Research Methods Development, Dr. Don Bergh, University of Denver

4/18/08 Publishing Criteria for Qualitative Research
Dr. Michael Pratt, University of Illinois
**Publications and Presentations**


Schultz C. No Laughing Matter, True Tales from the First Year as a Residency Coordinator. Presented at the National Center for Evaluation of Residence Programs Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, NV.


**Congratulations**

The Department of Medicine has recently named the following new officers:

- Chief of Medicine: Robert Magill, MD
- Vice-Chief of Medicine: Roger DeVersa, MD
- Secretary to the Department: Lisa Staton, MD

Colleen Schmitt, MD has been admitted to the inaugural class of the Physician Leadership College, sponsored by the Tennessee Medical Association. The Physician Leadership College was created to provide TMA physician members with experience and training in the core aptitudes to excel in leadership positions within organized medicine, medical practice and business. The educational content includes collaboration, decision making, conflict resolution, leadership and communication, and legislative advocacy. Details regarding the College and nominations for next year’s class are available at www.medwire.org/leadershipcollege or by calling 800-659-1862.

Roger DeVersa, MD has been elected to serve on the Tennessee Chapter Council of Young Physicians. The Council of Young Physicians (TCYP) was established in 2005 by the American College of Physicians with the mission of enhancing professional development, fostering involvement within the College, and addressing the needs of young physicians members. The TCYP consists of two representatives from the west, middle, and east regions of the state.


The Department of Internal Medicine was very well represented at the regional meeting of the American College of Physicians. Mukta Panda, MD was a member of the scientific planning committee and was re-elected to the council. Excellent workshop presentations were delivered by Jon Cohen, MD and J. Boldt, MD. Internal medicine residents were well-represented at the 2007 Tennessee Chapter meeting of the ACP. Representing Internal Medicine in the poster and oral presentations were Drs. Kumar Gaurav, Sushma Bhat-Pa, Arsdeep Tindni, Aparna Chowdhury, Gautam Dutta, Brian Humble, and Dawn Meadows. Also UT COMC Internal Medicine Team won the Tennessee Chapter ACP jeopardy session and will compete in the national ACP to be held in Washington, DC in May 2008.
Note to PI

Revised CMS Clinical Trials Policy

The September 2007 issue of The COMmunicator described proposed changes in the Medicare Clinical Research Policy, including principal investigators’ self-certification. The final guidance released October 17, 2007 eliminated several of the proposed changes, including the self-certification.

What changes are being made to the Clinical Trial Policy by the final National Coverage Determination issued on October 17, 2007?

CMS is not eliminating any existing coverage, including coverage for items and services in certain clinical trials in two respects. 1) It permits payment for an investigational item, if the item is otherwise covered outside of a clinical trial. 2) An investigational item could also be covered if CMS makes a separate National Coverage Determination (NCD) using Coverage with Evidence Development. CMS will continue to cover items and services in some trials that did not meet the standards of the 2000 policy but have been paid by some contractors. Trials that are federally funded, such as by the NIH or FDA or other federal agency, are already deemed to qualify as those that could receive payments for Medicare participants.

[NOTE: Coverage decisions are being screened by local CMS contractors, like the Riverbend Government Benefits Administration. Further discussion will be held at the Coordinator Forum on 2/19/08 with Deborah Coke, Riverbend Administrator.]

Why are there no changes to the policy?

The decision to make no changes at this time was based on a thorough review and consideration of comments from the public including confusion about legal authority of the policy. CMS is working to develop clearer standards for Medicare-covered trials and reviewing legislation to ensure that they are not imposing duplicative or inconsistent standards.

No existing coverage is being eliminated. Medicare will pay for an item or service under investigation if it would be covered outside of a clinical trial. Under the regs, it will NOT pay for items and services provided free of charge by the research sponsor or services provided solely to satisfy data collection needs.

Research Coordinator Forum Schedule

12/18/07 Meet the Dean: UT COMC Research
1/15/08 Third Party Payors & Clinical Trials
2/19/08 Riverbend Medicare Review
3/18/08 EHS/UT Research Compliance Billing Initiative
4/15/08 Stalking the Beast: Keeping up with Changing Regs
5/20/08 IRB News and Views
6/17/08 HIPAA/HIM Update

David Seaberg, MD
Rick Mathis, BCBST
Deborah Coke, CPC
Compliance Group
Sylvia Friedl, CIP
Stacey Hendricks, CIM
Rita Bowen, MA, RHIA
2008 Annual Research Week Deadlines (Revised 11/19/2007)

The 2008 Annual Research Week will be held April 21-25, 2008. Abstracts selected for poster judging and oral presentations will have posters displayed all week in the Erlanger Medical Mall Lobby. Research and case report posters will be judged in a Walking Poster Rounds in the morning on Friday, April 25. Oral presentations will be heard that afternoon in Probasco Auditorium. An awards dinner will be held that evening at the Hunter Museum of Art. Deadlines are as follows:

**Mon, 2/4/08:** Electronically submit a completed abstract form and a paper copy of the IRB Form H to the department chair/program director. Forms are available on the UT COMC website ([http://www.utcomchatt.org/Research/Research.asp?dpage=irb](http://www.utcomchatt.org/Research/Research.asp?dpage=irb)).

**Mon, 2/11/08:** Department electronically submits the approved Abstract Form and a paper copy of Form H (both denoting the Department Chair/Program Director’s approval/signature) to Stacey.Hendricks@erlanger.org. The IRB will then review the Form H (if not previously reviewed by the IRB).

**Wed, 2/27/08:** All abstract forms will be electronically submitted from the IRB office, given approval or exemption, to GME@erlanger.org.

**Fri, 2/29/08:** Blinded abstracts and score sheets will be distributed to the Scientific Review Committee for scoring.

**Mon, 3/10/08:** Scientific Review Committee members return scored abstract spreadsheet to the GME Office for tabulation.

**Wed, 3/12/08:** Scientific Review Committee meets at Noon to make final selections for posters and oral presentations (meeting may run until 2 PM).

**Thurs, 3/13/08:** Departments and presenters notified of the Selection Committee’s decisions.

**Mon, 3/17/08:** Poster presenters meet with John Stroud and Dr. Heath regarding poster guidelines and appointment scheduling with Mr. Stroud for poster design and printing.

**Mon, 3/17/08 through Mon, 3/24/08:** Presenters meet by appointment with Mr. Stroud to submit a PowerPoint file with all text and graphic images for layout of posters, proofing, etc. Note: The presenter must submit a Computer Graphics Request form ([http://www.utcomchatt.org/Docs/F-CGReq.pdf](http://www.utcomchatt.org/Docs/F-CGReq.pdf)) denoting the IRB exemption or approval # and signed by the program director or designee.

**Mon, 3/31/08:** Final proof approvals from authors/departments so printing can begin.

**Fri, 4/18/08:** All poster authors and/or residency staff or research coordinators will take their posters and presentation boards to the Medical Mall at 1:30 PM to assist Mr. Stroud, Research Office, and GME Office in setting up the poster displays.

**Mon, 4/21 through Fri, 4/25/08:** Posters on display in the Medical Mall.

**Fri, 4/25/08:** Poster rounds in the morning. Oral presentations in the afternoon. Awards dinner in the evening at the Hunter Museum of Art.