UNC SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

Newsletter

October 4, 2004

CONFERENCES & MEETINGS

GRAND ROUNDS
Thursday, October 7, 2004, 7:30 AM
Clinic Auditorium

Chad T Lefteris
Hospital Administration

Organ Donation Breakthrough Collaborative

FROM DIVISIONS

- **William E. Whitehead**, Ph.D., Professor, Medicine, and **Douglas A. Drossman**, M.D., Professor Medicine and Psychiatry have been awarded a five-year NIH Grant on Mind-Body Interactions and Health. This grant will establish a Gastrointestinal Biopsychosocial Research Center focused on the causes and treatment of functional gastrointestinal (GI) disorders.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- CCBC Center Seminar. Monday, October 4, 4-5pm, G-202, MBRB. **The Endothelium as an Organ System**. William C. Aird, Assoc. Prof. Medicine and Chief, Division of Molecular and Vascular Medicine, Harvard Medical School and Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.
- New **UNC Roadmap website** www.med.unc.edu/roadmap
- Call for abstracts **Sixth Annual Women's Health Research Day** Wednesday, March 23, 2005. Details: www.cwhr.unc.edu

FROM THE CHAIR'S OFFICE

In the last two years, our department has sponsored bi-annual, one-day research symposia on various topics. We have focused these events on research themes under the rubric of "Frontiers in Medicine". The programs have been made up of speakers from other institutions, investigators within the department, and from schools on the UNC-CH campus. The first symposium topic was "Immunological Insights" held September, 2003, and the second, "Population Studies" held May, 2004. These symposia have several goals: 1) to foster new collaborations, 2) to highlight the research being done in the Department of Medicine, and 3) to shine the spotlight on exciting areas of research.

Our next symposium, which we have just begun to advertise, is going to be an exciting one. "Frontiers in Medicine-Genetics" will be co-sponsored jointly by the Department of Genetics and the Department of Medicine. This topic was suggested by our Research Advisory Committee as an area for growth in the department and an area that is very strong

institutionally. **Terry Magnuson, Jim Evans** and **Beverly Mitchell** have taken on the task to organize this symposium and already the program is well subscribed with attendees from all over the campus. So if you haven't signed up yet, please do, so that we can estimate attendance and make accommodations for as many as want to attend.

Below, I have listed the speakers and titles. I think you will agree with me that this will be an exciting and educational day for us all.

Genetic Analysis of Breast and Ovarian Cancer [KEYNOTE ADDRESS]. *Mary-Claire King*, Ph.D., Professor of Genome Sciences and Medicine (Medical Genetics) Affiliate Member of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, University of Washington School of Medicine

The Changing Landscape of Genetic Testing in Medicine: From Gucci to Walmart. *James Evans*, M.D., Ph.D., Associate Professor of Genetics and Medicine, SOM, UNC-Chapel Hill

DNA Variants on Chromosome 20 Increase Susceptibility to Type 2 Diabetes. *Karen Mohlke*, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Genetics, SOM, UNC-Chapel Hill

Gene Modifiers of Lung Disease in Cystic Fibrosis. *Michael R. Knowles*, M.D., Professor of Medicine, SOM, UNC-Chapel Hill

Molecular Genetics of Cerebral Cavernous Malformations: A Mendelian Stroke Disorder. *Doug Marchuk*, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology, Duke University

Cancer Susceptibility: From Single Genes to Genetic Networks. *David Threadgill*, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Genetics, SOM, UNC-Chapel Hill

Senescence, Cancer and Aging. *Norman E. Sharpless*, M.D., Assistant Professor of Medicine and Genetics, SOM, UNC-Chapel Hill

Molecular Genetic Approaches to Schizophrenia. *Patrick Sullivan*, MD, FRANZCP, Professor of Genetics and of Psychiatry, SOM, UNC-Chapel Hill

Leukocytes and Auto-Immunity - Gene Expression and Disease. *David A. Alcorta*, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Medicine, SOM, UNC-Chapel Hill

Computer Simulations of Complex Biological Systems [KEYNOTE ADDRESS]. *Oliver Smithies*, DPHIL, Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, SOM, UNC-Chapel Hill.

Full details, including RSVP form, can be found at medicine.med.unc.edu/res/sym2004.htm.

We also hope you will let us know if you have ideas for topics that will stimulate interest for future symposia. In regards to the genetics symposium, I will look forward to seeing you there.

Questions or submissions, contact Rosemary_Simpson@med.unc.edu