



**CONFERENCES & MEETINGS**

**GRAND ROUNDS**  
Thursday, December 9, 2004, 7:30 AM  
Clinic Auditorium

**Bartolome R. Celli, M.D.**  
Professor of Medicine, Tufts University School of Medicine  
Chief, Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, Caritas St. Elizabeth Medical College

**COPD: From Unjustified Nihilism to Evidence Based Optimism**

**FROM DIVISIONS**

- **Cam Patterson, M.D.**, Professor, Cardiology, and members of his laboratory have recently discovered novel pathways for preventing and reversing hypertrophy of the heart. These discoveries are being published in the Journal of Clinical Investigation, the Journal of Cell Biology, and the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **Mark your calendars!**
  - **Department of Medicine Faculty Retreat**-Clinical and Teaching Missions. Tuesday, January 18, 5-8pm, Clinical Auditorium.
  - **Department of Medicine Junior Faculty Symposium and Poster Session**. Friday, January 28, 2005, 1-6pm, MBRB.
- Excellence in Teaching Seminar Series. **Teaching Tips for Large Group Instruction**. Facilitators: Sandro Pinheiro, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Office of Educational Development, and Russell Harris, M.D., MPH, Associate Professor, Department of Medicine. December 8, 2004; 4-6pm, Old Clinic Auditorium. To register: [www.med.unc.edu/oed/eit/register1.htm](http://www.med.unc.edu/oed/eit/register1.htm) or contact Katherine at 843-9369.

**FROM THE CHAIR'S OFFICE**

Continuing along on our tour of the divisions, Infectious Diseases is next. As I reported to you when we last presented our divisional tour, I never cease to be amazed by the ID division, headed by Mike Cohen. Infectious diseases have been at the core of internal medicine since its inception. Over the past century, major innovations including the development of antibiotics, the advancements made in microbiologic-based diagnosis and treatment, and more recently, partial success in stemming the AIDS epidemic in the U.S., promise to hold at bay the

infectious plagues of our times. It never lasts, however, and I am convinced that infectious diseases will always be at the forefront of medicine during my life. Despite advances, the world-wide AIDS epidemic continues to grow. Issues such as hospital-acquired infections and antibiotic resistance are with us to stay. And concerns about bioterrorism are ever present.

Mike recently gave a presentation on the state of the division and his vision of the future. I wish you all could have heard it, but I'll try to hit the salient points here. We have a large ID division with 50 full-time faculty. Most are based here in Chapel Hill (although they travel the world in their work). In addition, we have a significant contingent of faculty in other countries, including: Malawi (**Mina Hosseinipour, Shannon Galvin**), DCR Johannesburg (**Stephen Kallins**) and Madagascar (**Kathleen Van Damme**). Other faculty spend the dominant portion of their time in Russian and China. All are important sites, but none more so than the new recently built clinic in Malawi. In another newsletter, I'll update you about this and other international activities being undertaken by members of our department.

Our ID division is highly collaborative and work with faculty in many departments, centers, and schools across UNC is ongoing. Many outcomes of these collaborations consist of programs spawned across a broad range of disciplines including clinical infectious disease, microbiology, epidemiology and public health. This faculty is involved in all the missions of the University. As you can imagine, this division has a very large patient base and sees patients in many clinics here in North Carolina and elsewhere. ID faculty is equally active in research, all kinds, and especially in the areas of HIV, STD and infectious diseases. The Division brings in more than \$10M in extramural funding annually. To name a few (I'm sure I'm leaving out important faculty and will name them in a subsequent newsletter) **Chris Elkins, Joe Eron, Marcia Hobbs, Bruce Israel, Andy Kaplan, Shannon Keenan, and David Weber** are all internationally renown investigators.

No discussion of infectious diseases in 2004 would be complete without consideration of programs to combat bioterrorism. Many of you may not know that Fred Sparling has become an international leader in this area, in addition to the many contributions he has made toward the treatment and prevention of sexually transmitted diseases. Fred was the key person in a large consortium that received the Region IV Southeast Regional Center of Excellence Center of Excellence in Emerging Infections and Biodefense.

Last, but not least, the ID division is actively involved in teaching...from undergraduates to medical and graduate students to postgraduate education. The division has 5 Federal training grants that cover this broad base of teaching activities.

I hope this brief overview provides you with a feel for the many activities of this outstanding division. Like all of our outstanding divisions, the division of Infectious Diseases has many leaders in all areas of our academic mission, and is continually looking towards the future.

Questions or submissions, contact [Rosemary\\_Simpson@med.unc.edu](mailto:Rosemary_Simpson@med.unc.edu)