



**CONFERENCES & MEETINGS**

**Grand Rounds**  
**Thursday, June 17, 2004, 7:30 AM**  
**Clinic Auditorium**

**Robert Z. Orlowski, M.D. Ph.D.**  
Assistant Professor  
Division of Hematology/Oncology

**The Proteasome as a Target for Cancer Therapy**

**FROM DIVISIONS**

- Four members of the Department were elected to the UNC SOM Gamma Chapter of Alpha Omega Alpha. They are: Drs. **Brian Bramson, Venugopal Menon, Vipul Lakhani** and **Kevin Parks**.
- The GI Division has recruited Dr. **Sidney E. Levinson** as Clinical Professor of Medicine and director of the Meadowmont Endoscopy Center, effective January 1, 2005.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **Renewal Application for DEA Registration!** Faculty are exempt from paying this fee (see item 7) - send completed form to Chair's Office for signature.
- OED Excellence in Teaching Series, **Effective Clinical Teaching: The One-Minute Preceptor Model**. Facilitators: AnnaMarie Connolly, OB/GYN and Donna Harward, OED, Tuesday, June 22, 4-6pm, 238 MacNider. To register, <http://www.med.unc.edu/oed/>
- UNC Heart Center Grand Rounds, **Preoperative Evaluation of Non Cardiac Surgery**. Kim A. Eagle, MD, Clinical Director, Cardiovascular Center, University of Michigan Health System, June 16, 2004, 7:30am, 321 MacNider.

**FROM THE CHAIR'S OFFICE**

Last week, in planning for an upcoming retreat on the future of the UNC Health Care System (HCS) one person stressed the importance of resolving conflict within the HCS. This topic seemed unnecessary to me, given Dr. Roper's implementation of a much more integrated HCS and the projects that I have been involved in recently. However, on reflection, I realized that although the changes Dr. Roper has introduced are evident to me, they may not be so evident to all of you. So, I thought it was timely to discuss where things stand in Dr. Roper's integration and reorganization of the HCS, and how this may impact the Department of

Medicine.

On March 15, Dr. Roper began his tenure as Dean of the School of Medicine and CEO of the HCS. I have been fortunate to be part of the exciting changes that are underway. At least twice a week, and most weeks on a daily basis, a group that consists of Bill Roper, Bob Golden (Vice Dean for the School of Medicine), Gary Park (President of UNC Hospitals), Al Stewart (Chief Financial Officer for the HCS), Ernie Schoenfeld (Senior Advisor to the Dean) and I meet to discuss a wide array of issues of importance to the HCS, the School of Medicine and to the Institution. The structure Dr. Roper has put into place really does work. In a number of circumstances, the hospital and the practice plan and the physician group have developed solutions to problems in one or another area. Some are little things - simplifying the presentation of financial data, revamping various meetings to be more interactive, and responding to requests for resources promptly (even if we don't always have the desired answer). Other topics are more global - how can we optimize the "business" of medicine so we collect what we have earned efficiently and how can we make changes to enable us to deliver care in a more patient friendly and safe environment? Clinical issues are considered in light of what is best for the HCS, decisions are made and implemented.

There is a wonderful spirit of collaboration and collegiality that I have not witnessed here or at any of the academic medical centers where I've worked previously. What is most rewarding for me is that problems that previously required endless discussion have been resolved quickly. As you have undoubtedly heard, we also are looking at larger solutions - approaches to making the HCS more efficient and more effective so that we can better serve our patients in a more fulfilling environment. I am completely confident that these changes will benefit us all.

The "bottom line" of my column today is to emphasize that the physicians and the hospital are truly working together as a HCS, more so than anywhere else with which I am familiar. I know this because I am immersed in it every day. Given the comment that stimulated today's column, I realize that it will take time before all of you have an opportunity to experience this, and to appreciate the "commonness of mission" that is slowly working its way through all parts of the HCS. There are exciting times ahead.

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