



CONFERENCES & MEETINGS

Grand Rounds
Thursday, November 17, 2005, 12:00 Noon
Clinic Auditorium

Roy C. Orlando, MD
Chief of Gastroenterology
Tulane University

Pathogenesis of Reflex Esophagitis: With a Twist of Lemon

FROM DIVISIONS

- **Aneesa Das, MD**, Clinical Fellow in the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, won first prize in the case reports competition at Chest 2005 in Montreal. Her presentation was "C-Antineutrophil Cytoplasmic Antibody Vasculitis in a Patient with Primary Pulmonary Hypertension on Prostacyclin and Bosentan." Her mentor was Linda Paradowski.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- "[Complications of Diabetes Mellitus: Clinical Challenges and Research Advances](#)" will be presented as part of the Frontiers in Medicine symposium series on Wed., Nov. 30th. Registration and Breakfast 7:30 a.m., lectures 8:00 a.m. - 5:15 p.m. in MBRB-G202. Meals provided and reception follows symposium. RSVP to [Jill Cunnup](#) (966-2276 ext 222) by Nov. 22. For more information, contact Jill or [Ermine Hastings](#) (843-4913).

FROM THE CHAIR'S OFFICE

This week I'd like to talk about our Division of Rheumatology, Allergy and Immunology. Both the Division and the Thurston Arthritis Research Center have flourished under the leadership of Dhaval Patel who came to UNC to direct them in 2003. The already excellent faculty and strong programs have continued to grow in size and in national prominence.

The Division of Rheumatology, Allergy and Immunology has very successfully continued its missions in research, teaching, and patient care. Faculty members are at the heart of the reemergence of the Division. Successful recruitment efforts have more than doubled the number of researchers who collectively earned nearly \$5.6 M in 2003-2004, and published 32 journal articles and 2 books in 2004-2005. This year, the Thurston Arthritis Research Center established a Clinical Proteomics Facility for translational studies.

We've also been able to improve our training for residents and subspecialty fellows with the grant

and training program mentioned above. ACGME approved the Allergy/Immunology training program (in 2004 UNC was awarded the first Phoenix Award by the AAAAI to begin this type of program) and the Rheumatology T32 was renewed for five years.

Primarily an outpatient division, the faculty have made tremendous advances in patient care in the past several years. This includes the establishment of an infusion center for administration of the potent biological agents now becoming so useful in patients with rheumatologic and immunologic problems. The infusion clinic, now in its fourth year, will hopefully operate five full days per week in the future. The division's treatment areas are spread throughout the ACC and another goal for the next few years is to consolidate the practice into one module in the ACC. As a result in our improvements, the division was ranked (24) in U.S. News and World Report for the first time in its history.

We'll take off next week for the Thanksgiving Holiday and resume the newsletter the following week. I hope you all have a happy Thanksgiving and safe travels.

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