



CONFERENCES & MEETINGS

GRAND ROUNDS
Thursday, April 14, 2005, 7:30 AM
Clinic Auditorium

NO GRAND ROUND THIS WEEK

FROM DIVISIONS

- **Jonathan S. Serody**, MD, Associate Professor, Division of Hematology and Oncology and Microbiology and Immunology, was awarded one R01 and two R21s by NIH last month.
- **Sanjeev Shah**, MD, **Jamie Chang**, MD, and **May-Ling Mah**, MD, were elected into AOA for their outstanding role as positive mentors and model residents at UNC Hospitals

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **SOM Office for Research** provides assistance for large interdisciplinary collaboration grants. Karen Stone will help organize and edit proposals. For more, contact: karen_stone@med.unc.edu or call her at 966-9431.
- **Research Support Funding** On-Line Newsletter includes links to on and off-campus funding opportunities and also campus news. For April 2005, go to: <http://research.unc.edu/rs/>

FROM THE CHAIR'S OFFICE

This week, I wanted to talk about changes we'll be facing in the coming months. Change is always difficult and in the midst of all the changes in the UNC Health Care System, it is daunting to face changes in our own department.

You may know all of what I'll summarize here. However, I not only wanted to tell you about these changes but also take this opportunity to thank three outstanding individuals for their contributions to the department over the past several years.

Several weeks ago Magnus Ohman announced that he was going to resign as Chief of Cardiology. We were most fortunate to recruit Magnus from Duke, and I'm sure Duke feels equally fortunate to have recruited him back. During the nearly five years that Magnus led the Cardiology Division here, he established himself as a terrific clinician, investigator and spokesperson for cardiovascular diseases for UNC. As he summarized in his [letter to colleagues](#), Magnus brought us into a new era in cardiovascular disease diagnosis and treatment, he brought in exciting new faculty members, he developed many new programs and he accomplished the many goals that he set for himself in early 2001. As below, with Rosemary and Keith, we'll truly have to excel to maintain the trajectory he set in this area that is so important for our department, for the School of Medicine and for the Health

Care System.

Just last week, Rosemary Simpson told me that she will be leaving UNC at the end of April to move to Columbia University where she will work with our old colleague, David Brenner (now Chair of Medicine at Columbia) towards the development of collaborative research programs there. While they couldn't have chosen a better person, Rosemary will also be sorely missed here. Rosemary also came to UNC in 2001 and in short order established herself as a person who could make things happen, particularly in research initiatives, but also across the spectrum of activities in the Department of Medicine. I owe Rosemary a debt of gratitude for everything she has done - from organizing research symposia and junior faculty mentoring programs, to working with the division chiefs on their needs for research and office space, to being the glue that has held this newsletter together. I doubt there is a single person among you who does not know Rosemary and has not developed a true respect for her drive, organizational skills and the enthusiasm with which she took on all kinds of problems.

Last, but certainly not least, we are entering the final stages of hiring a replacement for Keith Gran who, as you know, will devote 100% of his energy to his role of Chief Operating Office for the P&A. Keith and I started at UNC at the same time, in the summer of 2000, and the financial and managerial talents that he brought here have made the difference between our Department's rosy outlook and the far less appealing scenarios at many major Departments of Medicine. For those of you who worked with Keith in his role as Assistant Chair for Administration, you know he brought the highest integrity, a wry sense of humor and a true sense of goodwill and optimism that made navigation of even the most turbulent waters seem not-so-bad. Not surprisingly, his impact at the P&A has been no less outstanding - during the last year, Keith has made major changes in the P&A which have been received very positively by the personnel there, by faculty members, by the department chairs and at the highest levels of the institution. We'll still all be working with Keith, albeit in a different role, and his replacement (to be named in the next month or so) will certainly have big shoes to fill.

I wanted to end with something meaningful, something that would reflect my, and all of our appreciation for the work Magnus, Rosemary and Keith have done here and for the future for all of us. Mark Twain seems to hit the nail on the head more often than not, so I looked at his quotations and selected this one.

"What is the most rigorous law of our being? Growth. No smallest atom of our moral, mental or physical structure can stand still a year – it must grow; nothing can prevent it." Mark Twain

There is no doubt that these outstanding individuals are irreplaceable. Those who replace Magnus, Rosemary and Keith can certainly not really replace them in our lives and in our hearts.

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