



CONFERENCES & MEETINGS

Medicine Grand Rounds is on hiatus for the summer.

FROM DIVISIONS

- The Health Sciences Library, the UNC Hospitals Drug Information Center and the School of Pharmacy have collaborated in providing online access to four key pharmacy products: NDA Pipeline, The Pink Sheet, The Tan Sheet, and Pharmaceutical Approvals Monthly. Visit www.hsl.unc.edu/news/fdcresources.cfm for more details.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Health Affairs Bookstore has announced a new service: free campus delivery to all departments. Details are available at www-s3.ais.unc.edu/HealthAffairs/jsp.

FROM THE CHAIR'S OFFICE

As you know, I feel strongly about the issue of good communication within the Department of Medicine. Efficiency studies and anecdotal evidence all stress how important it is at any workplace that communication should be valued, and approached in an effective way.

The weekly newsletter you're now reading is one important tool we have tried to use to foster communication within the Department of Medicine. While I don't think it's the most important such tool we have, it certainly has its advantages. Regular format and delivery mean that you know what to expect when the newsletter hits your inbox, and also when to expect it. The section you're reading now, "From the Chair's Office," provides a means of discussing important issues.

When we started sending out the department newsletter, Lee Berkowitz, Rosemary Simpson, Jack Zeng and I conceived it as way of keeping the whole department apprised of developments that might affect them, or be of interest to them.

Now, almost two and a half years later, I think it is timely to ask whether the newsletter is currently being used to its full potential. What I'd like to do now is ask all of you for your ideas about what to do with the newsletter. These can be general suggestions about issues, or even kinds of issues, that you want me to discuss in the newsletter, or they can be specific ideas about programs or events that you want to hear more about.

I hope you will send your ideas - I never cease to be amazed at the creativity of our department. We will definitely be continuing the newsletter, perhaps with implementation of ideas that will make it more useful to you.

News sometimes slows down a bit in our department during the summers. Also, Medicine Grand Rounds is on hiatus. Therefore, we plan to take a month off from sending out newsletters in August, as we did last year. Taking a month off also provides me with a breather - believe it or not, there are some weeks I don't have much to say! This is another good reason why I'm asking for your input. Frankly, I'd rather be writing about issues that you want to hear about.

Send your ideas (if you have any) to Jeremy Powell, who organizes the newsletter now. His email address is found at the bottom of each newsletter. We look forward to hearing from you.

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