



CONFERENCES & MEETINGS

No Grand Rounds this week

Next Grand Rounds
Thursday, March 2, 2006, 12:00 Noon
Clinic Auditorium

FYI

- Muse Web provides all EKG tracings and reports online. Both unconfirmed and confirmed EKGs performed at UNC are available. A partially-completed Systems Access Request Form is available [here](#) for your convenience. Once a SARF is received by the Information Security Administration, you will receive an email providing access to Muse Web. The ISA can answer questions at 966-4444. Password resets and other information are the responsibility of the ISD Help Desk at 966-5647.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Third Annual Beach Ball hosted by [Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center](#) will be held on Sat., April 8 at University Mall in Chapel Hill. Last year 680 guests attended and the event raised over \$100,000 for cancer prevention, treatment and outreach programs. For more, contact Leslie Nelson, 966-5905.
- The 30th Annual Internal Medicine Conference, April 5-7, at the Friday Center. [Brochure](#) and [Registration](#) online.

FROM THE CHAIR'S OFFICE

I thought we'd continue with our review of the divisions, and this week I'd like to talk about General Medicine. General Medicine is one of our largest divisions in the department and works across the spectrum of the mission of the University. The division has grown in size and scope with the addition of new faculty members, and has retained its focus on research, teaching, and clinical work. There have been many exciting changes in the past several years and I'll highlight a few of them today - more in subsequent newsletters.

One of the goals of the division was to continue building on the tradition of outstanding research. Four faculty members, with strong research backgrounds, were recruited with resources provided by John Buse's recruitment package. Darren DeWalt, Carol Golin, Carmen Lewis, and Stacey Sheridan are all NIH funded (interestingly by three different institutes) as well. We are excited to have them as part of the division.

The division continues to be very involved in teaching, everything from undergraduate medical education through residency. Marco Aleman and other members of the division play major roles in teaching medical students clinical skills, Christopher Klipstein continues to receive rave reviews as

the Department's Clerkship Director, and many other faculty are very involved in teaching of our housestaff. Amy Weil received not only the Eugene S. Mayer Community Service Society Award, but also a Fulbright Scholarship to work on curricular development in Sri Lanka for a year.

On the clinical side, the biggest innovation in General Medicine this year is the addition of the hospitalist program. Pam Clanton serves as Medical Director and Mitchell Wilson as the Section Chief of Hospital Medicine. A number of faculty and non-physician providers have been recruited to staff a 24/7 faculty covered service, a teaching service and a consult service. The hospitalists continue to step in to facilitate clinical innovation throughout the hospital. These complex tasks include arranging for preadmission diversion to outpatient care to minimize the backlog of admissions, improving the outside transfer process, and working on various programs such as the Rapid Response Team.

Finally, in the outpatient setting, Michael Pignone has been named Section Chief for Ambulatory Medicine and will work with Tom Miller and Robb Malone to improve access to care, quality of care, and provider satisfaction. In addition, Michael will help to transition Urgent Care from its current hospital-based service, integrated with the Emergency Room, to an ACC-based service that will serve the needs of the community and the faculty of the department.

As a department, we are fortunate to have such a great group in General Medicine. As you can appreciate, they are involved in all our departmental missions, have been on the forefront of innovation, and continue to strive to improve our research, teaching, and delivery of clinical care for the future.

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