

CONFERENCES & MEETINGS

Grand Rounds
Thursday, December 13, 2007, 12:00 Noon - 1:00 p.m.
Clinic Auditorium

Amy B. Weil, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine and Social Medicine
Co-Director, Beacon Child and Family Program

M. Andrew Greganti, MD
Professor and Vice Chair
Department of Medicine

Morbidity and Mortality Conference:
Intimate Partner Violence - Cases, Questions, Answers

FYI

- The Food and Drug Administration Amendments Act of 2007 will impose new and expanded requirements for registration of certain clinical trials by Dec. 26, 2007. Please see this [memorandum](#) from AAMC President Darrell G. Kirch, M.D., for further details. Please contact your division administrator or research support personnel with additional questions.
- The 2008 NIH Director's Pioneer Award application process has opened. These awards are designed to support individual scientists of exceptional creativity who propose pioneering approaches to major challenges in biomedical and behavioral research. Awards will be for \$500,000 in direct costs each year for five years, plus applicable facilities and administrative costs to be determined at the time of award. Full announcement found [here](#). Applications due Wed., Jan. 16, 2008.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- This year's State Employees Combined Campaign has raised \$291,700 - its highest total ever. In addition, the deadline for contributions has been extended through the end of December. Thanks to all who have contributed. Those still interested may contact Bruce Wicks at bwicks@med.unc.edu.
- Reminder: This Thursday is the last Grand Rounds session of the year. We will resume on January 3, when Mike Cohen, MD, will give a lecture entitled, "The HIV Pandemic: Where Do We Go From Here?"
- This will also be our last newsletter of 2007; we will resume in the first week of January.

FROM THE CHAIR'S OFFICE

This week, I am very pleased to announce the appointment of our chief residents for 2008-2009. Jason Haag and Alan Cheng will be filling this vital role here at UNC, and Leslie Proctor will take over at WakeMed Hospital. Please join me in congratulating them on this honor, as well as thanking them for accepting this additional responsibility.

The position of chief resident is a vital one in an academic medical center and teaching hospital, such as ours. The "Chiefs" serve as an important link between the administration and housestaff, ensuring that policies translate into practice, and that, in turn, residents' concerns are expressed and taken into account when those policies are made. Chief residents have very important responsibilities at many levels in our system. They make and implement policy on one day and become immersed in the details of housestaff and hospital operations on another, navigating between their administrative roles and being hands-on physicians all at the same time. Our Chiefs also serve as mentors and even counselors to their fellow residents during challenging and stressful times.

Our current chief residents, John Vavalle, Willis Wu, and Lynne Fiscus, have fulfilled their roles with unwavering dedication, constant enthusiasm, and impressive organizational ability. In addition, they have each done so with a positive, warm, approachable attitude, thereby making everyone's job easier and more enjoyable. I would like to thank each of them for a job well done (now halfway through the year) – which I know will continue through the spring. I would also like to express how delighted I am that we have found three equally outstanding individuals to assume these important leadership roles when the time comes. Our department continues to attract not only the most skilled, intelligent individuals in the country, but people who are personable, hardworking, and dedicated to their academic community, and for that we should all be very grateful.

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