



## CONFERENCES & MEETINGS

**Grand Rounds**  
**Thursday, January 29, 12 Noon - 1 p.m.**  
**Clinic Auditorium**

### **Weight Loss Surgery**

**Wayne Overby, M.D.**  
Assistant Professor  
UNC Department of Surgery

## FYI

- The Medical Alumni Office will be offering grants to current full-time faculty of the School of Medicine and current residents/fellows of UNC Hospitals. The aim is to fund proposals exploring new areas of discovery that will promote excellence in education, research, or service. Awards amounts: up to \$8,000 for faculty, up to \$5,000 for Residents/Fellows. Application due Thursday, Feb. 19, 5 p.m. More information available [here](#).
- The Carolina Community Network to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities (CCN) encourages new investigators to apply for small-scale pilot research grants to address breast, prostate or colorectal cancer health disparities. Submission deadline, Friday, Feb. 6. Click [here](#) for more details.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Paula Miller, M.D.** has received a \$25,000 grant from the Alpha Phi Heart to Heart program to support cardiovascular health education to Orange County teachers via the UNC Cardiovascular Health Assessment in Teachers (CHAT) program. This program provides cardiovascular health assessments and education to teachers to improve their own health, and also encourages them to educate their students about cardiovascular risk and ways to reduce that risk.
- **Cam Patterson, M.D.**, published an [editorial](#) in the *Chapel Hill News* about the importance of animal models in medical research.
- **Richard Goldberg, M.D.**, was recently [consulted](#) by *CNN.com* regarding the form

- The Spring 2009 cycle of the [NC IDEA](#) grants program is open! With over \$1.2 million awarded to 32 companies in North Carolina since 2006, NC IDEA helps start-up companies by bridging the funding gap between government and private equity support. Firms interested in grants of up to \$50,000 are invited to submit an online pre-proposal application by Friday, January 30 at [ncidea.org](#). We have a new grants management system this year. If you have previously registered with NC IDEA as a grant applicant or just to receive updates on our programs please re-register with the new system. To register visit [www.ncideafunding.org](#).

of pancreatic cancer suffered by Steve Jobs.

- Community Service Day and Zollicoffer-Merrimon lecture on Feb. 20. Poster presentations by the Eugene S. Mayer Community Service Honor Society inductees from 12 to 1:30 p.m. in the Women's and Children's Hospital Lobby. Oral presentations by Mayer Society inductees from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in the Old Clinic Auditorium. Lecture by [Dr. Sandra Harris-Hooker, Ph.D.](#), from 4 - 5 p.m. in the Old Clinic Auditorium. Click [here](#) for more information and to add to your calendar.
- The 30th Annual UNC Gillings School of Public Health Minority Health Conference, "Our World, Our Community: Building Bridges for Health Equality," will be Friday, Feb. 27, at the Friday Center. The conference will include the 11th Annual William T. Small, Jr. Keynote Lecture, by Barbara Wallace, Ph.D., Professor of Health Education at Columbia University, which will be broadcast live via satellite and the Internet at 2-3:30 p.m. To register to attend or present in person, and for extensive information about the conference, click [here](#).
- The 20th Annual Challenges in Geriatric Practice Conference will be on Thursday, March 5 and Friday, March 6. The focus of the 20th Annual Conference is to provide practical information on the latest approaches to common clinical challenges in caring for older patients. Emphasis will be on an interdisciplinary approach to geriatric health care in cardiovascular disease, cognitive functioning, cancer and practical geriatrics. For more information,

click [here.](#)

#### FROM THE CHAIR'S OFFICE

In this week's column, Michelle Maclay, Public Communications Specialist for the NC TraCS Institute, gives us more details about that program:

The North Carolina Translational and Clinical Sciences (TraCS) Institute was established with a grant from the National Institutes of Health, the Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA), to transform translational and clinical research here at UNC and across the state of North Carolina.

The NC TraCS Institute's vision is to transform all activities relating to translational and clinical research by creating new programs and pathways that will further support researchers and make research easier to perform.

The NC TraCS Institute has three goals: to prepare and empower members of the academic community, health care providers, and citizens to participate in all aspects of the process of translating good ideas into health advances; to provide the advice and resources necessary to design and execute the best research projects; and to assure that the best discoveries and ideas evolving from the projects it supports rapidly become solutions to important health problems.

The NC TraCS Institute offers a variety of services and resources to support translational and clinical research. Areas where the TraCS Institute offers consultation services include, but are not limited to: biostatistics, clinical and community research ethics, community engagement, and grant proposal assistance. The Institute also includes Research Navigators – people who can help assess your needs in solving research problems. And, of course, the TraCS Institute offers access to novel research technologies through its Core Facilities.

Services and resources are available to NC TraCS Members. UNC investigators, trainees, investigational and research staff who conduct or participate in clinical and/or translational research are already NC TraCS members.

For more information about the NC TraCS Institute's services and resources, and to request access to those services, please visit the Institute's [website](#).

For general information and questions about the NC TraCS Institute, contact NC TraCS Central at [nctracs@unc.edu](mailto:nctracs@unc.edu) or 966-6022.

Questions or submissions, contact [sarah\\_perry@med.unc.edu](mailto:sarah_perry@med.unc.edu).