Michael Edmond, MD, MPH, MPA, VCU Professor of Medicine, Epidemiology and Community Health, has accepted the position of Interim Chair of the Division of Infectious Diseases, following Dr. Gordon Archer's stepping down to be the Interim Associate Dean for Research.

A VCU faculty member and Health System Hospital Epidemiologist since 1995, Dr. Edmond has excelled as a clinician, researcher, educator and administrator. He served as the Director of the Internal Medicine Residency Program from 1995 until 2001, transforming the program and turning it into a top-30 residency. He has served as Associate Chair for Education since 1998. He is a recipient of many teaching awards, including Best Teacher Awards, the VCU Department of Medicine Five-Year Teaching Award and others.

Dr. Edmond is widely recognized in the field of infection control as attested by national and international presentations, his leadership of the national surveillance system for nosocomial bloodstream infections (SCOPE), and his scholarship. He has published 75 original research papers, 20 other manuscripts and over 100 abstracts. In 2003, the Institute of Medicine recognized his protocol for smallpox defense preparation as an exemplar for the nation.

An insightful clinician, he also has numerous service commitments. He has served on an extraordinary number of committees and has given countless media interviews, facilitating the public understanding of infectious diseases. His energy, commitment to excellence, creativity and independence of thought are what make him a true leader.

When asked to comment on his new role, Dr. Edmond stated, “My approach to all of my various responsibilities is the same. I am guided by five core values—accountability, absolute integrity, equity, transparency and an uncompromising quest for excellence. And I apply epidemiologic methods to everything I do.”

Dr. Richard Wenzel, chair of the Department of Internal Medicine, said, “Dr. Edmond is a highly organized, original thinker and tough-minded decision-maker. He is an outstanding academic physician.”
In Memory of Chris Tully

Dr. Christine Tully joined the MCV Campus Geriatrics Section in January 2002. Raised in Roanoke, speaking six languages and a proficient classical pianist, Chris chose to study medicine. She was educated in Italy, then trained at UVa Roanoke residency site. After her Geriatric fellowship at U. of Kentucky (1983–3), she was on the faculty there for 14 years, working on the famous “Nun” study plus conducting research on zinc and other micronutrients. She was then ACOs at South Carolinas VA Medical Center for four years.

At VCU, Chris made her mark early as the first director of our geriatric consult service and she started ongoing collaborations with anesthesiology, orthopedic surgery and geriatric psychiatry. She was a tireless patient advocate and a meticulous clinician known for working late into the evening when needed. She willingly shifted her role several times to help our group and was medical director at Lucy Corr Nursing Home in her final years. She also served on the State Medicaid Formulary Committee and the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) Home Care Professional and Technical Advisory Committee.

Chris was most notably a true scholar, constantly studying clinical and basic science literature, and informing her practice and her learners using her extensive knowledge. On March 15, 2005, Chris was ward attending. She and I were preparing for the May 2005 Geriatrics Society meeting. She went home in the early evening to pick up materials, planning to return later to the hospital, and she had a seizure at home. Advanced glioblastoma multiforme was diagnosed and Chris died on November 2, 2005. At her memorial, many nursing home staff, including many nurses aides, came and told her family how Chris had listened to them and taught them. We will all miss her presence.

Contributed by Peter Boling, MD
Chief, Division of General Medicine

Clinical Activities: Letters

Dr. Kenneth Ellenbogen received the following letter:

“Being back in regular sinus rhythm is the first step in reclaiming my life. I am extremely grateful to you and your team for your skill and professionalism relating to my ablation.

“From the first contact with your office, I felt that my needs were handled with efficiency and concern for me. Before the procedure, my questions were anticipated and answered with care. On the day of the ablation, everyone person who was involved displayed a sense of pride in the job at hand, concern for my best interests and willingness to help me be comfortable in any possible way. I was appreciative of them all – Eileen, Patty, Charly, Bonnie, Charle, Tracey, Dr. Pena. Of course it was your skill and expertise that really made my day and for that I am extremely grateful.

“...I have had to be hospitalized several times and I have never experienced the high quality of care that I had at MCV. I am definitely sold on MCV as the hospital of choice in Richmond.”

Spring 2006 Medical Grand Rounds

Jan. 12 TBA
William E. Boden, MD
Professor of Medicine
Director, Division of Cardiology
Medicine/Cardiology – Research and Academics
University of Connecticut

Jan. 19 “A Healer to Few”
Lori Sweeney, MD
Fellow, Division of Endocrinology
Department of Internal Medicine
VCU Medical Center

Jun. 26 “A 54-Year-Old Man with Rapidly Progressive Cellulitis”
Clinicopathologic Conference
Michael Scheld, MD
Professor of Medicine
Division of Infectious Diseases
UVA Medical Center

Feb. 2 “Teaching Falls and Gait Disorders”
Angela Gentili, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine
Division of Geriatrics
VA McGuire Medical Center
[To be held in George Ben Johnson Auditorium]

Feb. 9 “What Internists Should Know about Heart Failure Management”
Lynne Warner Stevenson, MD
Professor of Medicine
Division of Cardiology
Brigham & Women’s Hospital

Feb. 16 TBA
Karen DeSalvo, MD, MPH, MSc
C. Thorpe Ray Chair in Internal Medicine
Associate Professor
Chief, Section of General Internal Medicine and Geriatrics
Tulane University School of Medicine

Feb. 23 Clinicopathologic Conference
Internal Medicine/Radiology/Pathology
VCU Medical Center

Mar. 2 “Myelodysplastic Syndromes: Principles, Practice and Promise”
John McCary, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Division of Hematology/Oncology
VCU Medical Center

Mar. 9 TBA

Mar. 16 “Community Associated Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus”
Gordon Arch, MD
Professor of Medicine
Division of Infectious Diseases
Acting Associate Dean for Research
VCU Health System
[To be held in George Ben Johnson Auditorium]

Mar. 23 “Health Policy”
Stephani Woolhandler, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine
Harvard Medical School

Mar. 30 Clinicopathologic Conference
Chief Resident/IM Faculty
Internal Medicine/Radiology/Pathology
VCU Medical Center

Apr. 6 “Post Cards from Palliative Care”
Laurie Lynckholm, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine
Division of Hematology/Oncology and Palliative Care
VCU Medical Center

Apr. 13 Annual Charles Thomas Lecture
Organized by the Division of Rheumatology

Apr. 20 Clinicopathologic Conference
Chief Resident/IM Faculty
Internal Medicine/Radiology/Pathology
VCU Medical Center
[To be held in George Ben Johnson Auditorium]

Apr. 27 Annual Markham Award Lecture
Organized by the Division of General Internal Medicine

(continued on page four)
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