The new designation will make VCU eligible for additional funding for research, to become one of only six newly created National Centers of Excellence in Women’s Health. There are now a total of 12 of these Centers in the United States: three are dedicated to women’s health. This recognition not only acknowledges the excellence of VCU’s research in the field, but also recognizes the role played by Dr. Richard Wenzel in the development and implementation of this initiative.

Dr. Kenneth Ellenbogen has accepted the position of vice chairman of the Division of Cardiology. This appointment is another step in the long series of successful endeavors towards academic excellence, and yet it is unique – the position is newly formed to focus on educational and research activities in Cardiology.

The new vice chair sees his assignment building on the excellent clinical base established by Dr. George Vetrovec, the chairman of the division. Dr. Ellenbogen said, “I am honored and look forward to having this opportunity to work with Dr. Vetrovec to further expand our education and research mission.”

Dr. Ellenbogen has been on the Internal Medicine faculty since 1986. A graduate of Princeton and Johns Hopkins, he has achieved international recognition as a leader in the field of electrophysiology. He has established the clinical cardiac electrophysiology laboratory which is an outstanding contribution to VCU, making it one of the premier academic facilities in the world. Dr. Ellenbogen has been a leader in the National Academy of Clinical Sciences and is a member of the American College of Cardiology. He is also a member of the American Heart Association and the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association.

Dr. Ellenbogen has been awarded grants from the National Institutes of Health and other foundations in support of his research in electrophysiology. He has also published over 200 papers in the field of electrophysiology. He is a member of the editorial board of the American Heart Journal and the Journal of Clinical Cardiology. He is a member of the American Heart Association and the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association.

Dr. Ellenbogen’s research is well-funded, and he is enormously productive in terms of academic excellence, said Dr. Richard Wenzel, chairman of the Department of Internal Medicine. “He will help move the Division from prominence to preeminence. With-out doubt, he brings prestige and honor to the Department as well as the University.”

“Dr. Ellenbogen is an outstanding member of our faculty and he’s clearly driven toward scientific publications. He is a highly sought-after lecturer around the world. He places a high priority on teaching at all levels while still able to maintain a high level of clinical activity and research. He is continually working on developing new laboratory protocols, and he has established the clinical cardiac electrophysiology laboratory which is an outstanding contribution to VCU, making it one of the premier academic facilities in the world. Dr. Ellenbogen’s research is well-funded, and he is enormously productive in terms of academic excellence.”

The new vice chair sees his assignment building on the excellent clinical base established by Dr. George Vetrovec, the chairman of the division. Dr. Ellenbogen said, “I am honored and look forward to having this opportunity to work with Dr. Vetrovec to further expand our education and research mission.”

Dr. Ellenbogen has been on the Internal Medicine faculty since 1986. A graduate of Princeton and Johns Hopkins, he has achieved international recognition as a leader in the field of electrophysiology. He has established the clinical cardiac electrophysiology laboratory which is an outstanding contribution to VCU, making it one of the premier academic facilities in the world. Dr. Vetrovec noted, “Dr. Ellenbogen is an incredible individual. He is extraordinarily clinically active, leads a highly successful section of Electrophysiology, and administratively has organized a significant multi-center referral system.”

Dr. Ellenbogen’s research is well-funded, and he is enormously productive in terms of scientific publications. He is a highly sought-after lecturer around the world. He places a high priority on teaching at all levels while still able to maintain a high level of clinical activity and research. “Dr. Ellenbogen is an outstanding member of our faculty and he’s clearly driven toward academic excellence,” said Dr. Richard Wenzel, chairman of the Department of Internal Medicine.

“The new vice chair sees his assignment building on the excellent clinical base established by Dr. George Vetrovec, the chairman of the division. Dr. Ellenbogen said, “I am honored and look forward to having this opportunity to work with Dr. Vetrovec to further expand our education and research mission.”

Dr. Ellenbogen has been on the Internal Medicine faculty since 1986. A graduate of Princeton and Johns Hopkins, he has achieved international recognition as a leader in the field of electrophysiology. He has established the clinical cardiac electrophysiology laboratory which is an outstanding contribution to VCU, making it one of the premier academic facilities in the world. Dr. Vetrovec noted, “Dr. Ellenbogen is an incredible individual. He is extraordinarily clinically active, leads a highly successful section of Electrophysiology, and administratively has organized a significant multi-center referral system.”

Dr. Ellenbogen’s research is well-funded, and he is enormously productive in terms of scientific publications. He is a highly sought-after lecturer around the world. He places a high priority on teaching at all levels while still able to maintain a high level of clinical activity and research.”
New Women's Center of Excellence at VCU (continued from page one)

Investigator is Dr. Susan Korstein from the Department of Psychiatry, assisted by Dr. Wendy Klein, Department of Internal Medicine. Dr. Klein, Director of Education for the VWH and now Senior Deputy Director of the Center, notes, “This designation validates that we are competitive with the best academic medical centers in the country when it comes to Women's Health. It recognizes the strength of our professional education in Women's Health, exemplified by the Women's Health residency track in Internal Medicine, as well as recognizing the integrated model for the delivery of clinical multidisciplinary services to women at the VCU Women's Health Center at Synter Point, which will be the focal point of the new VCU National Center of Excellence in Women's Health. Importantly, as a Center of Excellence, resources can be leveraged to help us promote a multi-disciplinary research agenda focused on women's health. This not only strengthens our ability to attract research dollars, but also will allow us to better address the health needs of ethnically, racially, and culturally diverse women.”

Dr. Richard Wenzel, chairman of the Department of Internal Medicine, said, “This is a tribute to the leadership in our Department by Dr. Wendy Klein and recognition of the efforts of our colleagues in Women’s Health.”

VCU is in good company – other Centers of Excellence in Women’s Health include such schools as Harvard University, Brown University and University of California at San Francisco.

Dr. Laurie Lyckholm and the Staff of the Oncology Clinic received the following letter:

I cannot say that we met in the best of times but certainly our meeting was a blessing for me. For five years you not only guided my successful medical treatment but did so in such a way as to give new meaning to the word kindness.

Throughout, your smiles and helpfulness eased what would have otherwise been a rather frightening experience. You treated my wife and I as human beings, as friends that badly needed a bit of cheering as they got over a rough patch in life. For that kindness, we are in your debt.

As I sat waiting for my final appointment with Dr. Lyckholm, I witnessed a scene that, to me, exemplified your attitude toward your patients. Several of you came down the hall. One was carrying a cupcake with a lighted candle. You went into the room next door and began to sing Happy Birthday to the patient waiting there. For him or her, I am certain that it was a happy birthday.

Again, thank you, and please accept the enclosed check to help you help others who, in adversity, have the good luck to be sent your way.

Dr. George Vetvics received the following letter:

Then there was Jack’s experience. At 1:00 a.m. August 20th he woke me and said, “I feel strange.” He said he was having trouble getting his breath, and his chest felt “heavy, tight.” I shoved him into the car, ignoring his pleas of “I feel better, I don’t think anything is really wrong” and headed to MCV. He was seen immediately, got the full team of (quite, frequent) doses in the emergency room, and in less than 12 hours had Dr. Vetvics doing an angioplexy and inserting a stent. His minor chest pain and shortness of breath was because his right artery was 99% blocked! The nurses in Cardiac ICU were wonderful to him for the next 24 hours. One male nurse said he’d transferred from Southside Regional. Cardiac Care to MCV because MCV was so far superior in its ability to use its latest techniques. Jack was home 2-1/2 days after being admitted and keeping telling people what wonderful care he received at MCV. And from my standpoint, I was kept updated and informed throughout the entire “visit.”

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Dr. Steven Grant is one of the most prolific researchers in the Department of Internal Medicine. He has distinguished himself by generating new ideas and original approaches in his field of research in experimental leukemia therapy, which has gained world-wide recognition. Dr. Grant is a renowned authority on the biochemical modulation of antineoplastic chemotherapy. He is an expert on the biochemical signaling in normal and leukemic cells. Dr. Grant’s stature in the field is indicated by recent grants and his development of and leadership in NHI clinical trials rooted in his basic research. Dr. Grant and Dr. John Roberts and Paul Dent (co-investigators) just recently received a prestigious grant award from the V Foundation. The V Foundation extended invitations for translational research grant applications to all cancer centers within the U.S. and made only three awards. Dr. Grant’s research grant support is extremely impressive: he currently generates $1,434,578/year in total grant revenues.

Dr. Grant’s productivity has been exemplary; his numerous publications – over 200 to date – have been in highly respected peer-reviewed journals such as Cancer Research, Blood and Molecular Cell Biology. As Director of the Massey Cancer Bone Marrow Transplantation Research Laboratory and the leader of the Cancer Cell Biology Program, Dr. Grant has developed resources and services that have made his leadership a key component of the Massey Cancer Center’s success. He has a unique ability to coordinate efficient working relationships, and he has been successful in collaborations because of his willingness to share and to bring out the talent and potential of the people with whom he interacts. “He embodies the finest qualities of a scientist and academic physician,” said Dr. Richard Wenzel, the chairman of the department.

Dr. Steven Grant

Faculty Profile: Dr. Steven Grant

Carone, L., Moggs, S.C., Smith, R., Sarkadi, H., Dent, R., Grant, S., “Protein kinase C-dependent activation of the TNF receptor-mediated extrinsic cell death pathway is critical for the synergistic induction of apoptosis by bryostatin 1 and flavopiridol in human myeloid leukemia cell lines.” Molecular Cancer Therapeutics, 2003;2:83–90.


Leach, K.J., Qiao, L., Fang, Y., Gilfe, S., Hagen, M., Grant, S., “Protein kinase C-dependent activation of the extrinsic cell death pathway is critical for the synergistic induction of apoptosis by bryostatin 1 and flavopiridol in human myeloid leukemia cells (U937).” Molecular Cancer Therapeutics, 2003;2:83–90.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The following are the chief medical resident selections for 2005:

Katie Bai, MD
Betty Klein, MD
Jeff Kishinski, MD
Anne Ujije, MD

Dr. Susan Korstein, Department of Psychiatry, assisted by Dr. Wendy Klein, Department of Internal Medicine. Dr. Klein, Director of Education for the VWH and now Senior Deputy Director of the Center, notes, “This designation validates that we are competitive with the best academic medical centers in the country when it comes to Women’s Health. It recognizes the strength of our professional education in Women’s Health, exemplified by the Women’s Health residency track in Internal Medicine, as well as recognizing the integrated model for the delivery of clinical multidisciplinary services to women at the VCU Women’s Health Center at Synter Point, which will be the focal point of the new VCU National Center of Excellence in Women’s Health. Importantly, as a Center of Excellence, resources can be leveraged to help us promote a multi-disciplinary research agenda focused on women's health. This not only strengthens our ability to attract research dollars, but also will allow us to better address the health needs of ethnically, racially, and culturally diverse women.”

Dr. Richard Wenzel, chairman of the Department of Internal Medicine, said, “This is a tribute to the leadership in our Department by Dr. Wendy Klein and recognition of the efforts of our colleagues in Women’s Health.”

VCU is in good company – other Centers of Excellence in Women's Health include such schools as Harvard University, Brown University and University of California at San Francisco.

...
Faculty Publications (continued from page three)


