Dr. Shaun Ruddy Retires

Dr. Shaun Ruddy retired as Elam Toone Professor of Internal Medicine and Chairman of the Division of Rheumatology, Immunology, and Allergy on May 11, 2000. The Department is fortunate, however, that he will still be working in the Division on a clinical basis in both the Ambulatory Care Center and Stony Point.

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Dr. George Vetrovec, Professor and Chairman of the Division of Cardiology, recently announced a new endowment to establish a named professorship in Cardiology. The new professorship in the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine is supported by the Virginia Commonwealth University Foundation. The Professorship was established by Mrs. Jeanette Lippman (who established the Eric Lippman professorship that Dr. Rakesh Kukreja now occupies). Mrs. Lippman was joined by a foundation that requested the establishment of a professorship in memory of her husband, Dr. Hermes Kontos, who was a professor of cardiology at the University of Washington. Mrs. Lippman was a strong supporter of the cardiology program at VCU, and the professorship was named in honor of her husband, Dr. Hermes Kontos, who was a professor of cardiology at VCU.

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Part of the endowment is designated as a research fund. "I'm honored and incredibly pleased to have this bestowed on me. Absolutely delighted," said Dr. Ellenbogen. "You show appreciation of the research portion which will allow me to dedicate more time to research."
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A brief history of the Division will help put Dr. Ruddy’s career in perspective. Dr. William Hinchliffe, former, the first full-time Chairman of the Department of Internal Medicine, asked Dr. Elam Toone to ... McGuire VAMC which is still considered one of the best in the country.

With Dr. Toone’s departure, the Chairman of the Department, Dr. Harold Fallon, needed to recruit for his replacement. Dr. Elam Toone then hired him as Associate Chairman of the Department of Medicine at the Hospital of Virginia. The program was subsequently expanded during World War II when he served as the 48th General Hospital at the U.S. Army in Mexico. The unit was composed primarily of MCV personnel. After the war, the program was expanded and came to include Interns. Dr. Ruddy was hired as an Associate Chairman of the Medical College of Virginia. He joined the faculty of the Harvard School of Medicine and rose to associate professor.

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