



# GW Medicine Notes

A Monthly Publication of the GW Department of Medicine

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## Cy and Myrtle Katzen Cancer Center

On Wednesday, September 24<sup>th</sup> a celebration was held at the Katzen Art Center on the Campus of American University signifying the founding of the Katzen Cancer Center at GWU. After many years of dreaming and many months of planning and negotiating, the Center has become a reality with an amazingly generous 10 million dollar donation from the Katzens. **President Steven Knapp** accepted this gift on behalf of the University. Members of the Katzen family as well as University and MFA physicians and staff who worked so hard to establish this center were also present.

The Center is a cooperative venture combining the GW University Medical Center, the Medical Faculty Associates and the Katzen Foundation. Its mission will be to foster Research, Education and Clinical Care for patients with Cancer. Its organization structure has been modeled on the very successful Cheney Cardiovascular Center.

**Dr. Robert Siegel**, Professor of Medicine and the Director of the Division of Hematology/Oncology will be the first Director of the Katzen Cancer Center. The Board of Directors will have members from all three entities. Representing the University will be **Anne Hirshfield**, Associate VP for Research, **Steve Patierno, PhD**, Professor of Pharmacology, and **Norman Lee, PhD**, Professor of Pharmacology. Representing the Katzen Foundation will be **Drs. Jay and Harvey Katzen** and **Dr. Jonathan Reiner**, Professor of Medicine, Division of Cardiology, and the remaining two representatives from the MFA will be **Dr. Rachel Brem**, Professor of Radiology and Director of Breast Imaging, and **Dr. Nader Sadeghi**, Associate Professor of Surgery. **Dean Jim Scott** and **Dr. Alan Wasserman**, Professor and Chairman of Medicine, will serve as non-voting Board members.

## *From the Chairman*

In the year 2000, one of the major stories during the run for the presidency was the health of the vice president nominee, Richard Cheney. As was said then, in the face of much skepticism, he had a chronic cardiac condition that would not impede his ability to be vice president. Eight years later, the liberal pundits led by the "*New York Times*" were proven to be wrong, because no matter what you think of his performance he certainly was able to perform.

So why now, do we hear so little about the medical condition of the Presidential nominee John McCain? Why was the 3 hour release of his medical records so strictly controlled? Besides his chronic medical conditions of hypertension and hyperlipidemia (to name two) he has had multiple bouts with Malignant Melanoma (not skin cancer as his campaign tries to describe it). It is very likely that he wouldn't pass an insurance physical so it's a good thing he has mooched his health care benefits off of the taxpayers for the last 26 years. With having had stage IIA Melanoma and being disease free since 2002 he still has a 15% chance of a recurrence and a 10% chance of dying from this disease over the length of a first term in office.

This is what makes his selection of Sarah Palin as his running mate either evidence of a monumental lapse in judgment or the most dishonest and disgraceful choice since George Bush 41 declared Clarence Thomas to be the most qualified jurist for the Supreme Court. Even Dan Quayle, who gained the reputation of the least qualified V.P, had the experience of 2 terms in the House followed by 2 terms in the Senate. Of course quotes such as "I was recently on a tour of Latin America and the only regret I have was that I didn't study Latin harder in school so I could converse with those people," didn't enhance his standing. Spiro Agnew, a one term governor of Maryland, was poised and eloquent in speech with quotes such as; "If you have seen one city slum you have seen them all," or "some newspapers are fit only to line the bottom of bird cages." Remember that when Nixon began to look shaky in office, Agnew was taken down first. Thus we got President Gerald Ford and not President Agnew.

But Palin brings us to a new low and uncharted territory. Her interview with Katie Couric was unbelievable for her reckless naiveté and overall unpreparedness. When asked why being governor of Alaska gave her foreign policy experience she replied; "it's a nationally security issue. Putin, rears his head, comes into air space in the United States of America, where do they go, its Alaska." I dare you to watch this interview and try closing your mouth. If she wasn't potentially the Vice President to a 72 year old male with a history of Melanoma one would think this was a Saturday Night Live skit that was a riot. But it's real and frightening and comes from the man who wants us to believe he puts his country first.

*Alan G. Wasserman, M.D.*

## Department of Medicine October 2008 Grand Rounds

Oct 2 **"The Mind of the Terrorist"**

**Jerrold M Post, MD**

Director, Political Psychology Program  
Professor of Psychiatry, Political Psychology & Intl. Affairs  
Elliott School of International Affairs  
The George Washington University

Oct 9 **Cancelled for Yom Kippur**

### **Personalized Medicine Lecture Series**

Oct 16 **"The Genetics of Dilated Cardiomyopathy:  
A Paradigm for Cardiovascular Genetic Medicine"**

**Ray E. Hershberger, MD**

Professor of Medicine and Associate Chief of Cardiology  
Director, Advanced Heart Failure Therapies Program  
Director, Translational Cardiovascular Genetic Medicine  
University of Miami Miller School of Medicine  
Miami, Florida

Oct 23 **"Erectile Dysfunction"**

**Michael S Irwig, MD**

Assistant Professor of Medicine  
Division of Endocrinology & Metabolism  
The George Washington University Medical Faculty Associates  
**Paul R. Shin, MD**  
Department of Urology  
The George Washington University Medical Faculty Associates

Oct 30 **Electrophysiology – Topic TBA**

**Michael R Gold, MD, PhD**

Michael E Assey Professor of Medicine, Director of Cardiology  
Associate Dean, Interdisciplinary Clinical Programs  
Medical University of South Carolina  
Charleston, South Carolina

The George Washington University Medical Center (GWUMC) is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to sponsor continuing medical education for physicians. GWUMC designates this continuing medical education activity on an hour-for-hour basis in Category I of the Physician's Recognition Award of the American Medical Association.

## Cardiology Grand Rounds

5:00 PM, GWU Hospital, Conference Room 6-116

Oct 1	M & M
Oct 8	Cancelled <b>Yom Kippur</b>
Oct 15	Ray Hershberger, M.D. Professor of Medicine/Cardiology University of Miami, School of Medicine <b>Heart Failure Genetics</b>
Oct 22	Karen Kuehl, MD Washington Hospital Center <b>Adult Congenital Heart Disease</b>
Oct 29	Michael Gold, MD, PhD Professor of Medicine/Director of Cardiology Medical University of South Carolina <b>EP Visiting Professor</b>

## The "Line-up" for October

ADMITTING RESIDENT (202) 715-6034 (CELL)  
PAGER ACCESS (202) 414-7777 or (800) MFA-5144  
or in-house (82)

<u>WHITE TEAM</u>	<u>(202) 715-6043</u>	<u>Beeper</u>
Cody Benthin		741-0350
Larry Busse		741-0434
Melissa Lausin		741-1591
<u>YELLOW TEAM</u>	<u>(202) 715-6041</u>	<u>Beeper</u>
Ashte Collins		106-0365
Peter Dowiatt		741-0090
Janie Caplan		741-0073
<u>GREEN TEAM</u>	<u>(202) 715-6040</u>	<u>Beeper</u>
David Ni		116-0336
Lauren Doliner		741-0081
Louis Joseph		741-2210
<u>RED TEAM</u>	<u>(202) 715-6039</u>	<u>Beeper</u>
Tanu Chandra		741-0330
Joseph Choi		741-0068
Ryan Kar		741-0130
<u>BLUE TEAM</u>	<u>(202) 715-6042</u>	<u>Beeper</u>
Jennifer Shea		741-0342
Elizabeth Gray		741-0431
Robert Gorney		741-0301
<u>SILVER TEAM</u>	<u>(202) 715-6062</u>	<u>Beeper</u>
Morgan Mullaney		741-0334
Hawaa Almansouri		741-0203
Khalid Khalaiwi		741-0514
<b>GOLD TEAM</b>		<b>(202) 715-6044</b>

## Resident Lecture Series October 2008 Noon Conference

Oct 1	<b>GME Core Lecture Series</b>
Oct 2	<b>Medicine Grand Rounds</b>
Oct 3	<b>Chairman's Rounds</b>
Oct 6	<b>SALAR Luncheon</b>
Oct 7	<b>2008 ACC Guidelines for ICD Therapy</b>
Oct 8	<b>Sickle Cell Disease</b>
Oct 9	<b>Medicine Grand Rounds</b>
Oct 10	<b>Chairman's Rounds</b>
Oct 13	<b>"Adult Immunizations" - Dr. Brad Moore</b>
Oct 14	<b>"Anemia" - Dr. Sian Spurney</b>
Oct 15	<b>"Anaphylaxis" - Dr. Richard Nicklas</b>
Oct 16	<b>Medicine Grand Rounds</b>
Oct 17	<b>Chairman's Rounds</b>
Oct 20	<b>"Medical Care of the Pregnant Patient" - Dr. P. Sheena Khurana</b>
Oct 21	<b>Public Health Grand Rounds</b>
Oct 22	<b>"Glomerular Diseases" - TBA</b>
Oct 23	<b>Medicine Grand Rounds</b>
Oct 24	<b>Chairman's Rounds</b>
Oct 27	<b>"Care of Cancer Survivors" - Dr. Katalin Roth</b>
Oct 28	<b>Journal Club</b>
Oct 29	<b>Jeopardy!</b>
Oct 30	<b>Medicine Grand Rounds</b>
Oct 31	<b>Chairman's Rounds</b>

## Announcing the Chief Medical Residents for 2009-2010

Starting July 2009, **Dr. Ashte Collins** will be one of the chiefs at the GWU Hospital. A native of Washington, DC, Dr. Collins received his undergraduate degree from Xavier University of Louisiana and his medical degree from the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. Dr. Collins is a committed volunteer, participating in community service and health screenings, tutoring, and mentoring programs throughout college and medical school. He is known to be an excellent resident, always professional, with superb interpersonal skills, keen judgment, and a strong fund of knowledge.

**Dr. Vicki Britton** will also be a GWU Hospital chief. Dr. Britton is a Primary Care resident and graduate of the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Florida in Food Science and Human Nutrition. She has demonstrated leadership skills since medical school where she coordinated class events, directed health fairs and served as an Ambassador to the admissions office. Dr. Britton is known as an excellent resident who has a great rapport with patients and staff and is always professional. Dr. Britton speaks Spanish.

The final GWU Hospital chief resident will be **Dr. Mary Reyes**. Dr. Reyes completed her undergraduate degree at New Mexico State University in Albuquerque and then went to Boston University for medical school. Dr. Reyes worked as a nursing assistant during college and is an avid painter. Dr. Reyes is known for her patient and professional interactions with patients, her ability to remain calm under pressure, her resourcefulness and her organizational skills.

The VA Chief will be **Dr. Melissa Dawalt**. After receiving an undergraduate degree in Psychology from Miami University (Ohio), Dr. Dawalt went to Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in Israel, a collaborative program with Columbia University Medical Center in New York, for her medical degree. She then completed a Masters at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in 2006 before coming to GWU for her residency in the Primary Care Program. Melissa's love of travel included medical school rotations in New York, Ethiopia and at the Crow/Northern Cheyenne Indian Hospital in Crow, Montana. She is known for her great rapport with patients, superior medical knowledge and strong leadership and teaching skills.

**Dr. Dost Sarpel** will be the Chief Resident at Inova Fairfax Hospital starting in July 2009. Dr. Sarpel received his undergraduate degree in Biology from the State University of New York at Buffalo before receiving his medical degree from SUNY at Buffalo School of Medicine. As an undergraduate Dr. Sarpel studied in Turkey and Spain and he speaks Turkish. Dr. Sarpel has an interest in Sports Medicine and is known to be a smart, thoughtful and insightful team player who is always interested in making the right things happen for his patients.

## Announcing Dr. April Barbour as Acting Director of General Internal Medicine

Dr. Wasserman takes pleasure in announcing the appointment of **Dr. April Barbour**, Assistant Professor and Director, Primary Care Residency Program, as the Interim Director of the Division of General Internal Medicine. Dr. Barbour takes on this responsibility as **Dr. Ryan Bosch**, Associate Professor, steps down after serving more than five years in this position.

Dr. Barbour joined the MFA Department of Medicine in 2003 and assumed Directorship of the Primary Care Residency Program in 2006. Dr. Barbour also has served on the Medical Center Faculty Senate since 2006 and has been the Director of the Coumadin Clinic since 2005.

Dr. Barbour received her medical degree from the Medical College of Virginia and did her internal medicine residency at Emory University. She then joined the faculty of the Emory University School of Medicine as an Assistant Professor. She was granted an MPH from Emory in 2002.

While at Emory Dr. Barbour served on the Claims and Risk Management Committee, the Credentials Committee, the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee and the Emory Clinic Operations Committee.

Dr. Bosch is leaving his full-time position with the MFA to pursue other opportunities, but will continue to see patients in the International Center for Executive Health.

## Chairman's Rounds

GWU Hospital Auditorium, 12:00 Noon

All Faculty Invited to Attend

Oct 3	<b>Dr. Elizabeth Riley &amp; Dr. Behnam Tehrani</b>
Oct 10	<b>Dr. Huy Nguyen &amp; Dr. Mary Reyes</b>
Oct 17	<b>Dr. Dipa Sheth &amp; Dr. Tom Withuhn</b>
Oct 24	<b>Dr. Frances Fua &amp; Dr. Matthew Tuck</b>
Oct 31	<b>Dr. Homan Wai &amp; Dr. Dost Sarpel</b>

## Rheumatology Academic Conference Schedule October 2008

8:00 - 9:00 am in MFA Conf. Room 1-401  
(Unless Otherwise Noted)  
*Questions? Call (202) 741-2488*

- Oct 1 **DC Rheumatism Society Conference**  
"Understanding Clinical Trials in Rheumatology:  
Basic Therapy for Rheumatoid Arthritis"  
**Dr. Yusuf Yazici**
- Oct 2 **Core Curriculum Conference**  
"EULAR Update"  
**Dr. Alan Matsumoto**
- Oct 2 **Didactic Session**  
GWU Hospital Ground Floor - 1:30 pm
- Oct 9 **Canceled for Yom Kippur**
- Oct 16 **City-Wide Rheumatology Grand Rounds**  
Note Time: 7:30 AM; Note Place: WRAH
- Oct 16 **Didactic Session**  
GWU Hospital Ground Floor - 1:30 pm
- Oct 23 **Journal Club: Dr. Moinuddin**
- Oct 23 **Didactic Session**  
GWU Hospital Ground Floor - 1:30 pm
- Oct 30 **Radiology Conference**

On Tuesday, September 16th a memorial service was held in the GWU Hospital Auditorium to celebrate the life of **Dr. Cheri Ann Camacho**. Dr. Camacho, a preliminary intern with us two years ago, was doing an Anesthesiology residency at the University of Pennsylvania. She died at home of unknown causes on September 4, 2008. Dr. Wasserman commented, "Cheri was an outstanding intern, reliable, compassionate and hard working." Our heartfelt condolences to Cheri's family.

### Annual MFA Faculty Meeting 10/30/08

The annual meeting of the Medical Faculty Associates will be held on October 30<sup>th</sup> at the Ritz Carlton Hotel. A reception and cocktail hour will begin at 5:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. at which time the business meeting will commence.

**President Steven Knapp** will address the clinical faculty for the first time since the start of his tenure and will hopefully have time to take questions. We have also invited **Mr. Marc Miller** from UHS to say a few words.

Presentations will review the state of the MFA, new ventures and challenges and also leave time for questions. New faculty from all departments will be introduced.

The meeting serves as both an informative session as well as an opportunity to meet and mingle. Please make every effort to attend!

*See you next month! The Editor*



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