The Dean's Newsletter: July 28, 2003

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The Near Final Talley: School of Medicine Class Entering 2003
Thanks to the efforts of Dr. Gabriel Garcia and the Admissions Committee, we are once again looking at an absolutely stellar incoming class of medical students who will be arriving in late August. Because of the many changes in the New Curriculum, orientation has been moved to the last week in August and classes will begin on September 2nd in order to permit more time for participation in the curriculum.

This year the Admissions Office received over 5,436 applications for 86 places. Of these, 195 were eventually offered admission. Although the class is not yet fully finalized, of those who will be entering this September, 54% are women and between 16-18% are underrepresented minorities. Although a number of students come from several schools [Stanford (14), Harvard (10), Berkeley (7), Other UC (8), Princeton (3), Yale (3), Brown (3), Duke (3), Univ. Arizona (3), MIT (2)], the remainder come from a wide diversity of colleges and universities. We look forward to meeting all of our new students later this summer.

Scholarly Concentration Aligns with UC-Berkeley
As you know, we will be initiating the New Stanford Curriculum with the arrival of our incoming class of medical students in early September. A key feature of the curriculum is the scholarly concentrations that will permit our students to pursue areas of interest and scholarship with depth, research and commitment throughout their medical school experience. Among the eight Scholarly Concentrations that will be offered this Fall is one in "Community Health and Public Service". As with the other Scholarly Concentrations, it is our hope and intention that selected students will have the opportunity to pursue an advanced degree in addition to the Doctor of Medicine degree. Accordingly, I am very pleased to inform you that on July 8th the School of Medicine completed a Memorandum of Understanding with the School of Public Health at the
University of California, Berkeley. This agreement will allow selected medical students to complete a dual-degree MD/MPH program at Stanford and Berkeley.

The goal of the program is to train medical students to be effective physician scholars and leaders via a multi-year cross-institutional collaboration in the field of public health. Beginning in fall of 2004, a select group of students enrolled in the Scholarly Concentration in Community Health and Public Service will have the opportunity to combine their community-based service and research with a formal curriculum in public health. The advantage of this program over a traditional one-year MPH curriculum is that it incorporates an in-depth, longitudinal and scholarly field project, spanning 2-3 years. In addition, some course work from Stanford can be applied toward the MPH degree requirements at Berkeley. The program will allow medical students to integrate and apply their public health training and perspective throughout their medical education.

I want to thank in particular Ann Banchoff, Associate Director of PriSMS, Neil Gesundheit, Associate Dean for Medical Education, Julie Parsonnet, Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education and Mary Lake Polan, Chair of Obstetrics & Gynecology, for their work and leadership in bringing this effort to fruition. Similar appreciation goes to faculty leaders at UC-Berkeley (Zak Sabry, Nap Hosang, John Caso and Tom Boyce) for making this collaboration possible. Dr. Stephen Shortell, Dean of the School of Public Health at UC Berkeley, and I are very enthusiastic about this new collaborative educational program and look forward to its positive impact on our students and the interactions between our schools and universities.

Planning for the Stanford Institute for Cardiovascular Medicine
At the Executive Committee meeting on Friday, July 18th, we heard an exciting presentation about the work underway on developing the Stanford Cardiovascular Institute. During the last several months a diverse multidisciplinary group of investigators and clinicians across the School and University have been working to develop the proposal for this new Institute. Dr. Judy Swain, Chair of the Department of Medicine, led the presentation but was joined by colleagues who have been working with her, including Drs. Dan Bernstein (Pediatrics), John Cooke (Medicine), Steve Fortmann (SCRDP), Mark Hlatky (Surgery), Daria Mochly-Rosen (Molecular Pharmacology), Dan Murphy (Pediatrics), Richard Popp (Medicine), Tom Quertermous (Medicine), Marlene Rabinovitch (Pediatrics), Bobby Robbins (CT Surgery), Charlie Taylor (Mechanical Engineering/Surgery), Alan Yeung (Medicine) and Paul Yock (Bioengineering). This group, together with their colleagues, has defined the mission of the Stanford Cardiovascular Institute as follows:

- To bring together scientists, engineers and clinicians in interdisciplinary programs to develop new knowledge, and the to translate this knowledge into new scientific insights, diagnostic methods, preventive strategies, and treatments for patients with cardiovascular disease.
- To educate future leaders in cardiovascular science and medicine through the development of new and innovative educational programs that are an integral part of the clinical and research programs.
The Organizing Committee proposes to achieve this mission through the integration of five centers:

1. The Stanford Cardiovascular Center (for adult patient care and clinical research of new devices and therapies) that will be led by Drs Bobby Robbins and Alan Yeung.
2. The Packard Cardiovascular Center (for pediatric care and clinical research) that will be led by Drs. Dan Bernstein, Frank Hanley and Dan Murphy.
3. The Center for Population Studies (which will focus on health outcomes, policy, epidemiology and prevention) and that will be led by Drs. Steve Fortmann, Alan Garber and Mark Hlatky.
4. The Laboratory Sciences Center (which will focus on fundamental as well as translational research) that will be led by Drs. Sam Gambhir, Daria Mochly-Rosen, Tom Quertermous and Marlene Rabinovitch.
5. The Cardiovascular Bioengineering Center that will be led by Drs. Norbert Pelc, Richard Popp, Charlie Taylor and Paul Yock.

The group outlined exciting proposals in education, research and patient care building on the extant research themes already underway at Stanford, including the:

- Genetics of cardiac and vascular diseases
- Cardiovascular and pulmonary development
- Vascular biology and disease
- Risk assessment, early diagnosis and prevention of cardiovascular disease
- Regenerative medicine and transplantation
- New diagnostics and therapies

The current depth of expertise in these areas at Stanford - in the School of Medicine and across the University - is already quite impressive. Of interest, the group also felt that to make the Institute exciting and meaningful, it should also have a "grand challenge" and the one they chose is to "eliminate heart failure as a leading cause of death and disability". This is based on the fact that heart failure is the final common pathway of all cardiac disease and represents a major public health problem, with an estimated 4.8M Americans affected. Moreover, the incidence appears to be increasing and is associated with a high mortality. Focusing on this problem also brings together the work of investigators and clinicians in all five centers and with a wide area of expertise and knowledge.

There was considerable enthusiasm for the work already done on the proposal and the recognition that this was still at a nascent stage of development. That said, the scope of the opportunity has really taken shape. During the next weeks we will work out the process for selecting a director for the Stanford Cardiovascular Institute and anticipate that with that, considerable additional progress will be made.

I want to offer my sincere appreciation to Dr. Swain and the many faculty who have worked on the proposal to date. It offers excellent evidence of opportunities for interdisciplinary education, research and patient care. Importantly, it is also building momentum from a faculty perspective - which, the end, will sustain this program most successfully.
Naturally I will be providing additional details and updates as they unfold in the months ahead.

**Summer: Budgets and Time**

While summer session is a time for reduced schedule and activities in many parts of the University, that is far from the case at the School of Medicine. In fact, summer is one of our busiest times in the Dean’s office, since we are reviewing and finalizing the budget for the next fiscal year that will begin on September 1st. That means many hours of meetings, volumes of data to review and the active participation of department chairs, DFA’s and numerous staff throughout the School. It is an enormously laborious process. I want to thank all the individuals who have worked so hard to assist in this process. Their tasks have been made more challenging because of the many difficulties with the IT systems re-engineering that are underway throughout the university.

Our budget tasks are made even more challenging because of the current fiscal climate. With the economy in a slump our endowment is down, which means considerably less revenue. Further, expenses for capital improvements, benefits and malpractice insurance are all increased, putting a strain on our fiscal situation. To get through this year and still support our important strategic initiatives, we have elected to spend down some of our reserves. However, that can only be viewed as a short term process and, unless things change in the next months, we will clearly need to further reduce expenses for the FY05 fiscal year.

Again, I want to thank all of our staff who have labored enormously to assist with the budget and planning process. We truly appreciate your efforts.

**Visiting the Clark Center**

The gates are down and the pathways are nearly clear. As July unfolds, the roads and pathways to the new Clark Center have an ever-increasing number of faculty and students entering from the Medical School as well as from the Schools of Engineering and Humanities & Sciences. Joining them are numerous visitors. There is much to admire in the new facility that epitomizes much of Stanford both now and in the future. Its open environment, which is flexible, utilitarian and novel, fosters change and interaction. Most importantly, the Clark Center symbolizes multidisciplinary research and education with faculty and students coming from four schools and 24 departments (ranging from Applied Physics to Surgery). It is truly a unique environment and worth a visit. The official dedication of the Clark Center will be October 24th.

**Official Stanford Emblems**

The University has recently issued official guidelines for the use of Stanford emblems that I have been asked to share with you. Here is the message:

The Design Guidelines ([http://www.stanford.edu/group/identity/](http://www.stanford.edu/group/identity/)) contain the new "look" for stationery and business cards that is adaptable for use by all members of the campus community. The new design is an attractive and elegant look. Although use of the new designs is voluntary, they have already been adopted by a number of groups
around campus for stationery, and you can see them on this year’s Budget Book and Annual Report.

The website also includes some very practical tools. There is downloadable artwork for the Block S and University seal appropriate for different media, including the web. We have a link to Color Copy, a local printer who will take online orders for business cards and stationery at very favorable prices if you use the new designs contained in the style guide (http://clients.myprintagent.com/stanford/). This is a quick and easy-to-use online tool that may help you reduce your program’s printing costs.

The new designs are a very effective way to reflect the traditions and standards of excellence that are hallmarks of Stanford’s image across the great variety of programs included in our campus community. Although we are not asking that any current materials be destroyed, we ask that as you order new stationery and other program materials, you will consider how the new Stanford identity elements might be successfully incorporated into your individual program look.

Hospital Updates
A Joint School of Medicine/Stanford Hospital Leadership Council has been established to enhance interactions between the school and hospitals on clinical planning and operations related to SHC. The Leadership Council, which is comprised of clinical chairs and hospital leaders, will meet biweekly. The current membership includes Martha Marsh as chair along with Drs. Gary Glazer (Brook Jeffries while Dr. Glazer is on sabbatical) from Radiology, Tom Krummel from Surgery, Ron Pearl from Anesthesia, Bruce Reitz from Cardiothoracic Surgery, Gary Steinberg from Neurosurgery and Judy Swain from Medicine. Also participating will be Michael Calhoun, Nancy Lee, Mike Peterson and Jerry Shefrin from SHC along with Mike Hindery, Norm Rizk and Phil Pizzo from SoM.

At the Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital Board of Directors Meeting on Wednesday, July 23rd, Drs. Ken Cox and Bill Feaster gave an update on the plans for the Pediatric/Obstetric Faculty Practice Plan that will be jointly governed by the School of Medicine and LPCH. This plan has been under development for nearly two years but its current iteration represents an outstanding cooperative effort designed to improve collaboration, management and joint responsibility between the faculty and the hospital -- all to improve patient care and financial responsibility and accountability. It will become operational in the next months. I want to commend Drs. Cox and Feaster along with the numerous faculty and hospital leaders who worked to make this Faculty Practice Plan become a reality.

Events
Asian Community Luncheon: On Thursday July 17th, an Asian Community Luncheon was held in the Bing Dining room to bring together leaders from the business and medical communities. It was an opportunity to share some of the exciting things that are happening at Stanford Medical Center. The featured speaker for the event was Dr. Alan Yeung, Co-
Director of the Division of Cardiovascular Medicine in the Department of Medicine, who gave an excellent presentation about the exciting work unfolding in the Heart Center at Stanford Hospital & Clinics and its important relationships to the Stanford Institute for Cardiovascular Medicine (see above). The opportunities to develop important linkages between our research and patient care programs through "translational medicine" are particularly opportune at Stanford - and already well expressed in cardiovascular medicine.

15th Anniversary of Stanford’s BMT Program: On Saturday, July 26th, Stanford University Medical Center celebrated the 15th anniversary of the bone marrow transplant program. Attending this event were nearly 300 patients, each more than a year post transplantation and 1100 family members. This was not merely a celebration of the program but more importantly a celebration of courage, strength and life. [http://bmt.stanford.edu/]

Announcement - Initiation of Staff Seminars on the Respectful Workplace
As you may know, the School of Medicine has recently completed the inaugural series of briefings regarding the "Respectful Workplace" for all faculty and clinician educators. As we continue developing a more respectful workplace, other initiatives for faculty and clinician educators will be implemented. Meanwhile, under the direction of the Human Resources Group, the School is now embarking on presenting similar briefings for staff. These important briefings will review the School's Respectful Workplace policy, techniques to improve a respectful workplace culture, and current legal issues including sexual harassment in the academic workplace along with resources available to assist in addressing concerns that may arise.

A 90-minute pilot program for these Staff Briefings will begin with five departments in August. Following the pilot, the program will be rolled out in the Fall, and all School of Medicine staff will be asked to attend these briefings. The presenters will include:

- Cori Bossenberry - Director, Human Resources, School of Medicine
- Martha McKee - Ombudsperson, School of Medicine
- Judith Moss - Training/Organizational Development Specialist, Campus HR
- Norma Leavitt - Associate Director of Employee Relations, School of Medicine

More information concerning these briefings will be sent directly to Department Chairs and DFAs as the briefings are implemented for their departments.

Appointments and Promotions

- Ellen Jo Baron was promoted to Professor of Pathology at the Stanford University Medical Center, effective 7/1/2003.

- John Chan was appointed to Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Stanford University Medical Center, effective 7/1/2003.
- **Charles DeBattista** was promoted to Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Stanford University Medical Center, effective 6/1/2003.

- **Edith Sullivan** was promoted to Professor (Research) of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, effective 7/1/2003.

- **Andrew Zolopa** was promoted to Associate Professor of Medicine (Infectious Diseases and Geographical Medicine) at the Stanford University Medical Center, effective 7/1/2003.