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MedCenter News

BOSTON MEDICAL CENTER, BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOLS OF MEDICINE, PUBLIC HEALTH AND DENTAL MEDICINE

LOOKING BACK, LOOKING UP

Photographer Tom Kates directs a group of BMC staff for a photo to be included in the soon-to-be-released 2002 BMC Annual Report.



BUMC collaborates with community to fight HIV/AIDS

In a groundbreaking effort to fight HIV/AIDS in Boston's communities of color, BUMC researchers are joining prevention specialists at the Multicultural AIDS Coalition and members of the faith community through the Boston Ten Point Coalition, a group of churches dedicated to improving the lives of at-risk, inner-city youth.

The U.S. Office of Minority Health is supporting the initiative, known as Faith in You, with a \$450,000 three-year grant. The main goal of the project — one of the first of its kind in the nation — is to connect people to HIV counseling and testing and other HIV/AIDS services through the faith community.

Because many put off testing, nearly 30 percent of people with HIV learn they have the virus at the same time that they learn they have advanced to an AIDS diagnosis. The

initiative will evaluate different outreach and referral strategies to determine how best to eliminate barriers to parishioners and other community members accessing care, as well as faith community-based groups developing their capacity to deliver HIV programs.

"Tackling this problem as a community is the only way we can overcome it."

— Rev. Ray Hammond, MD

"Collaborative efforts such

as these, building on the strengths of each group, are central to combating all aspects of HIV/AIDS efficiently and successfully," said Paul Skolnik, MD, FACP, director of the Center for HIV/AIDS Care and Research at BUMC and professor of medicine at BUSM, who helped join BUMC doctors and scientists with the community groups for this project.

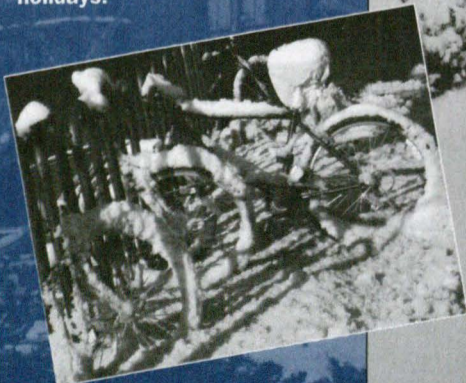
Data on HIV in Massachusetts reveal that as many as 22,000 people across the state are living with HIV or AIDS, and that African Americans and Latinos comprise a disproportionate share of them. Though only 13 percent of the state's population is African American or Latino, 52 percent of HIV/AIDS cases come from this group. The prevalence of the disease is 10 times that of whites for African Americans and eight times that of whites for Latinos. According to recent state data, there is a lack of access to care early in the disease, when new drugs offer the possibility of effective management.

"This disease is entrenching itself in the city's communities of color. We must do everything we can to stop it," said the Rev. Ray Hammond, MD, MA, president of the Boston

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WINTER LIGHT

The BUMC campus was transformed into a quiet winter wonderland, as snow generously covered benches and grounds during the holidays.



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Renovated building provides centralized access



Architectural details, 85 East Concord Street

BMC's renovation of 85 East Concord Street has been completed on schedule, and several hospital administrative offices have moved in to the eight-story structure.

The building renovation provides BMC staff, patients and visitors with centralized, easy-to-find access to many of the medical center's administrative services. Human Resources and Payroll now occupy the first and second floors, while Nursing Administration offices have been consolidated and relocated to the fourth floor.

Patient Financial Services, the administrative offices for BMC's Division of Obstetrics and Gynecology, and SPH's Finance Office are also scheduled to relocate to the building in February.

The building's new entrance will also serve as an entryway to 91 East Concord Street. The renovation, begun in the summer of 2001, also preserves a histori-

cally significant building on campus. Unique façade features of the original 1927 building, such as the arched windows, limestone lintels, and cornices, have been preserved, while the character of the grill-worked porches has been replicated with a non-load-bearing, glass curtain wall.

To eliminate possible confusion for patients and their families when they visit the BUMC campus, the buildings will now be known by their street addresses. The building formerly known as the Surgical Building will now be called 85 East Concord Street, and its neighbor, previously called the Maternity Building, will be referred to as 91 East Concord Street.

According to Elaine Ullian, BMC president and CEO, BMC's first building renovation is an exciting milestone for the medical center. "We are pleased to be able to offer our staff and patients more centralized, convenient access to our services," she said, "while at the same time, presenting an attractive, well-executed building design for the community."

Mini-Med School returns this spring

Mini-Med School returns to the BU Medical Campus this spring, with a 10-part series from March 11 to May 6 that introduces participants to the basic principles of medicine.

Now in its fourth year, BUSM's Mini-Med School program features informative lectures by medical school faculty and is open to anyone interested in learning more about the world of medicine, science and health. This year's topics include anatomy, sports medicine, pulmonary disease, vision, brain function, the cardiovascular system, infectious disease and psychiatry. In addition, BUSM faculty will discuss cutting-edge developments in medical research, such as new discoveries in genetics and treatments for cancer.

"The goal of Mini-Med School is to share knowledge about the field of medicine and science with interested non-medical professionals," said Mini-Med School Director Carl Franzblau, PhD, associate dean of Graduate Medical Sciences and chairman of the Department of Biochemistry at BUSM. "Participants will gain insight into the functions of their own bodies, medical and surgical treatments of disease, and the impact of biomedical research on society."

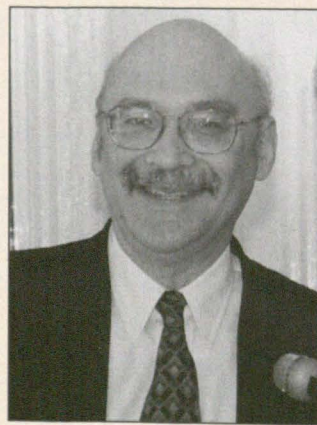
Lecture sessions will take place on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in Bakst Auditorium. One session, consisting of a hands-on laboratory investigation, will be held on a Wednesday at BUSM's CityLab. Tuition is \$125 and includes a comprehensive course notebook, as well as refreshments. A significant discount is available to BU and BMC employees.

BUSM is the first medical school in Boston to offer a Mini-Med School to the public and the first in the nation to offer a hands-on laboratory experience. To register for Mini-Med School or obtain more information, call 866-MED-MINI or e-mail psterlin@bu.edu.

SPH names new chairman of Maternal and Child Health

Milton Kotelchuck, PhD, MPH, professor and acting chairman of the Department of Maternal and Child Health at SPH, has been appointed chairman of the department.

The recipient of a doctorate in developmental psychology and a master's in maternal and child health from Harvard University, Kotelchuck began his public health career with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, where he served as director of the Division of Health Statistics and Research and later as assistant commissioner of Community Health Services. He also served as president of the Massachusetts Public Health Association. From 1988 to 1995, he served as chairman of the Department of Maternal and Child Health (MCH) at the School of Public Health, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



Milton Kotelchuck, PhD

Widely recognized for his accomplishments in maternal and child health, Kotelchuck has done substantial work on the evaluation of perinatal and children's health policies and programs at both the state and national levels. He developed the widely used Adequacy of Prenatal Care Utilization Index that measures whether or not women received an adequate number of prenatal care visits during their pregnancy.

Kotelchuck is editor-in-chief of the *Maternal and Child Health Journal* and has authored or co-authored more than 70 original publications. He has also been principal investigator for numerous externally funded research projects. In 2000, he received the first National MCH Epidemiology Award for Advancing Knowledge from the Coalition for Excellence in MCH Epidemiology.

"Having worked with Milt during the past 18 months in his role as acting chairman of Maternal and Child Health, I am convinced that he will be an outstanding chairman," said SPH Dean Robert Meenan, MD, MPH, MBA. "He brings a wide range of research interests, an outstanding work ethic, and an engaging personality to the position. He will work with current and new faculty to bring the department to an increasingly prominent position in the field."

To focus his energies on leading and managing the department, Kotelchuck will step down from the position of assistant dean for Doctoral Education at SPH.

"I am looking forward to working with Milt to further increase the effectiveness and reputation of our MCH department," added Meenan.

MID-YEAR CELEBRATIONS



SPH recently held a reception to honor and congratulate its students who received their diplomas in January.

At left, Maternal and Child Health grads (from left) Amanda Schmeil, Gwen Kresslar and Alice Richman gather at Talbot.



Above (from left), Alex White, Ryann Engle and Kim Henry celebrate their achievements in health services.



Annabelle Lim (right), a Social and Behavioral Sciences concentrator, chats with her roommate Susan Jun.

HOLIDAY CHEER



During the Christmas holiday season, numerous groups came to BMC to visit and cheer up patients in the Pediatrics Unit.

At left, U.S. Airways pilots bring a variety of gifts to children at BMC, while (inset) Boston Bruins defenseman Hal Gill, left, and forward Ivan Hnuni pay a visit to 2-year-old Pediatrics patient Princess Bouzi, after making the rounds from room to room.

BUMC proposes Level 4 Biosafety lab for Northeast

BUMC is placing the finishing touches on a proposal that, if accepted, would lead to the construction of a \$200 million federally funded Biosafety Level 4 laboratory in the BioSquare complex at the medical campus.

The proposal is in response to the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) request for proposals to build one or two research facilities in the United States to better understand and develop countermeasures against the rise of new infectious diseases, such as West Nile Virus and Ebola, as well as biological agents, such as anthrax and smallpox.

Presently, no Biosafety Level 4 laboratory — the most secure type of research facility — exists in the Northeast. The proposed National Center for Emerging Infectious Diseases and Biodefense would be operated under the supervision of the NIH and meet the most stringent security and safety guidelines. Only trained and screened personnel would have access to the laboratories.

"Boston University Medical Center is perfectly suited to lead the nation as the home of the National Center for Emerging Infectious Diseases and Biodefense," said Mark Klempner, MD, MPH, assistant provost for Research at BU Medical Campus, vice chair for Research in the Division of Medicine at BMC, and Conrad Wesselhoef Professor of Medicine at BUSM.

"The institution's strength in biomedical research combined with its urban health research focus and urban location, as well as its established partnerships with key researchers and research facilities throughout the country, make it an ideal location for such a facility."

According to Klempner, the center would also continue the institution's long tradition of training clinicians and scientists who would carry the nation's biodefense mission into the future. Additionally, as a designated first responder for biodefense and trauma, the proposed center would develop critical links with medical and public safety personnel helping to make Boston one of the best-prepared cities in the world in the event of a bioterrorist attack.

BUMC is among one of several institutions vying for the center. Others that have announced their intentions to apply include the University of California, Davis; the University of Illinois at Chicago; the University of Texas at Galveston; and the Wadsworth Center in Albany, N.Y. A decision on the proposals is expected in the fall.

Photodynamic therapy reduces signs of aging

Researchers at BUMC have found that exposing skin to a blue wavelength of light after application of a light sensitizer, a method that was FDA-approved two years ago for treating precancerous skin lesions, also shows promise for facial rejuvenation.

In a recent study of 18 patients, Dany Touma, MD, director of the Boston University Center for Cosmetic and Laser Surgery and assistant professor of dermatology at BUSM, and his colleagues found significant improvement in the signs of aging, including fine lines, sunspots and sallowness, or tired appearance of the skin. In addition, all of the precancerous actinic keratoses lesions had cleared at the one-month follow-up visit. "Among the many options now available using lasers and other light sources for facial skin rejuvenation, this technique offers a safe, less costly, exciting new approach and the added benefit of clearing the precancerous changes," said Touma.

The method involved an application of a chemical solution that is absorbed by the skin's surface cells and transformed into a potent light sensitizer over a short period of time. The irradiation with blue light leads to an oxidation reaction that eliminates the damaged top layers of the skin, including precancerous cells, and heals in five to seven days. The procedure, Touma added, is done in the office under physician supervision and is well tolerated.

Skin cream reduces signs of photodamage

BUSM researchers have found that the use of 0.1 percent tazarotene cream significantly reduces signs of photodamage to skin that is caused by repeated exposure to the sun's rays and ultraviolet radiation. Wrinkling, discoloration, roughness, small, visible blood vessels, and skin cancer are signs of photodamage.

Available by prescription, tazarotene was shown to reduce the signs of photodamage in a pivotal study where the cream was applied once daily to the face for 12 weeks.

The researchers, led by Tania Phillips, MD, professor of dermatology at BUSM, and dermatologist at BMC, recruited 563 patients with facial photodamage for a 24-week double-blind, randomized study. In the study, half of patients were randomly assigned to apply 0.1 percent tazarotene cream to the face once daily, and the other half to a nonmedicated placebo cream.

The results show that compared to a nonmedicated cream, the use of tazarotene after 24 weeks resulted in a significantly greater incidence of patients achieving treatment success (defined as a more than 50 percent overall improvement in skin appearance), with improvement in wrinkling, discoloration, roughness and pore size.

The study appeared in the November 2002 issue of *The Archives of Dermatology*.

Moderate drinking not linked to lung cancer

Light to moderate alcohol consumption does not increase the risk of lung cancer, according to a BUSM study examining more than 9,000 people over two generations.

Using data collected for the Framingham Heart Study, BUSM researchers found that people who consumed one or two alcoholic beverages per day had no greater chance of developing lung cancer than did nondrinkers. Researchers adjusted the data to account for the effects of smoking, known to be the major cause of lung cancer.

Lead author Luc Djoussé, MD, DSc, assistant professor of medicine at BUSM, said his group looked at health and survey data from 4,625 participants in the original Framingham study, plus 4,973 of the offspring study. They found 269 subjects with lung cancer who were then matched by age, gender and smoking history with subjects who did not have lung cancer. The researchers compared rates of lung cancer among drinking groups to reach their conclusion.

Only one category, people who had more than two drinks per day in the offspring study, exhibited an increased risk of lung cancer, with an incidence nearly double that of comparable nondrinkers. However, the number of people in this group was too small to draw a sound conclusion, said Djoussé.

The study appeared in the December 2002 issue of the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*.

Preventive medicine residency programs lack addiction training

According to a recent BUSM study, physicians in preventive medicine training are not optimally prepared to diagnose and treat alcohol, tobacco and other drug-abuse disorders.

Jeffrey Samet, MD, MPH, professor of medicine at BUSM, and professor of social and behavioral sciences at

SPH, and colleagues surveyed directors of residency programs in general preventive medicine/public health and found that few residents are required to participate in clinical alcohol, tobacco and other drug abuse training education. Data from the survey showed that while 78 percent of preventive medicine residency directors reported an interest in increasing alcohol, tobacco and other drug abuse education, 68 percent said it was not a high educational priority. Additionally, only 22 percent of programs required clinical training in alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, most commonly through smoking cessation clinics.

"Setting education standards, defining competencies, investing in faculty development and creating curriculum modules are important next steps toward better preparing preventive medicine physicians to treat alcohol, tobacco and other drug abuse," said Samet, chief of the section of General Internal Medicine and vice chair of Public Health in the Division of Medicine at BMC.

The study appeared in the January 2003 issue of the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*.

Study identifies SIDS risk factors among American Indians

A recent NIH-study of Northern Plains Indians found that mothers who received visits from public health nurses before and after giving birth were less likely to have their infants die from Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS).

The rate of SIDS among American Indians is the highest of any population group in the United States, and in 1999 was slightly more than double that of Caucasians, according to study co-author Mary McClain, RN, MS, project coordinator in the SIDS Center at BMC, and instructor of pediatric medicine at BUSM.

Data from the study revealed that infants in homes where a public health nurse had visited before or after birth were 80 percent less likely to die from SIDS than babies in homes that never had such visits. In addition, researchers discovered that any maternal alcohol use during the periconceptional period (three months before pregnancy or during the first trimester) was associated with a six-fold increased risk of SIDS, and that infants were more likely to die of SIDS if they wore two or more layers of clothing while they slept.

The study appeared in the Dec. 4, 2002, issue of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

Task force brings diversity training to medical campus

As part of its mission to promote cultural competence in medical education, the Diversity Curriculum Task Force at BUMC recently held a grant-supported faculty development seminar titled "Curriculum Development for Culturally Competent Care."

Members of BUSM's Department of Medicine clinical faculty founded the task force to address the risk of health care disparities faced by diverse and disadvantaged patients.

"The medical training process – especially at a large urban medical center treating a multicultural population burdened by poverty and other social disadvantages – puts young, often sheltered doctors in contact with patients whose backgrounds differ radically from their own," said Sandra Gordon, MD, assistant professor of medicine at BUSM, and co-director of the task force.

"Task force members work together to identify what motivates residents to engage in the challenges and develop the skills to communicate effectively across differences of race, class and culture."

The seminar, which was aimed at medical preceptors developing diversity curriculum for residents and medical students at BUMC, was directed by Gordon, an attending physician in adult

primary care at BMC, along with Carol Mostow, LICSW, associate director of the Psychosocial Training Program at BMC.

According to Mostow, the seminar was designed to improve participants' teaching of diversity training and collegial and clinical interactions regarding race, culture and power. Role playing and critical incidents were used to give participants insight and increase their comfort dealing with the challenges of diversity training. Participants were also asked to sustain efforts and build more effective curriculum and working groups.

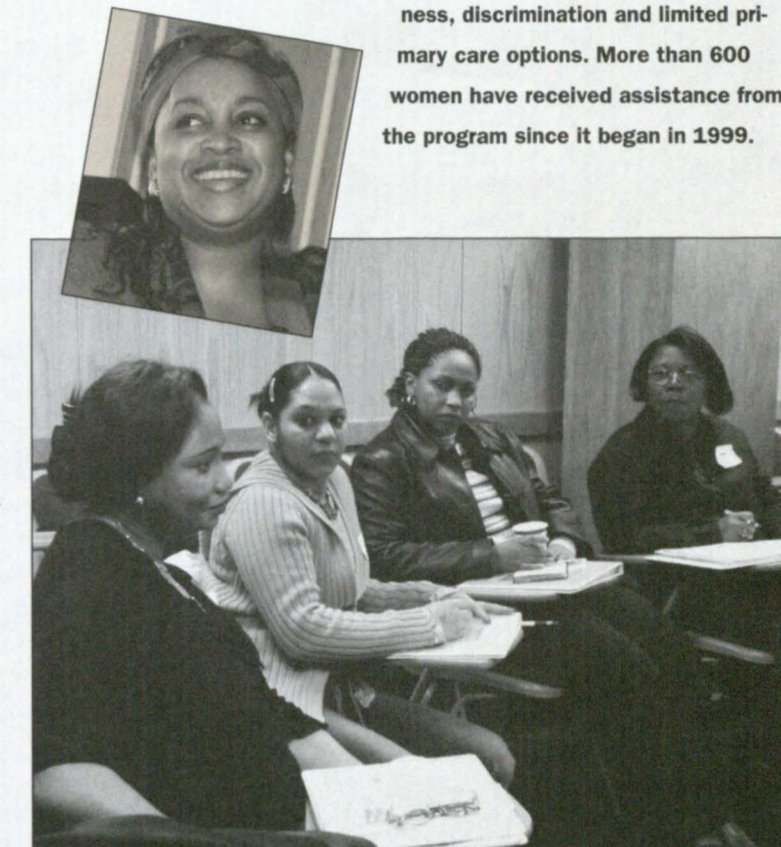
The featured speaker was Elaine Pinderhughes, MSW, professor emerita at Boston College Graduate School of Social Work, and author of *Understanding Race, Ethnicity and Power: the Key to Efficacy in Clinical Practice*. Participants were introduced to Pinderhughes' model of cultural awareness through her lecture, group exercises and discussion, as well as some theoretical models of racial/cultural identity formation.

The seminar was funded with grant support from the Kenneth B. Schwartz Center, a Boston-based non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the relationship between patients and caregivers.

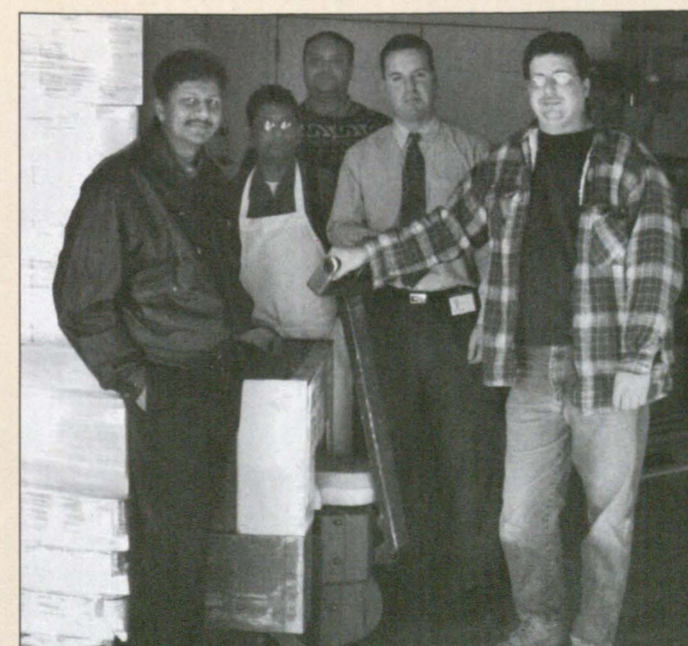
Sisterly support

Suzanne Winder (inset), coordinator of the Birth Sisters program at BMC, discusses how birth experiences differ among cultures during a recent training session for volunteers. Below, Birth Sisters volunteers, from left, Fatou Davis (Nigeria), Maria Monteiro (Cape Verde), Rabby Bah (Guinea), and Carmesuze Michaud (Haiti) discuss the need to recruit more volunteers from a variety of cultures to better meet the needs of the hospital's growing, culturally diverse patient population.

BMC's Birth Sisters program serves pregnant women in the community who are at high risk of poor pregnancy outcomes due to a variety of barriers, including immigrant status, language, homelessness, discrimination and limited primary care options. More than 600 women have received assistance from the program since it began in 1999.



Tons of help



BMC employees, from left, Latchman Hiralall, manager, Preventive Food Pantry; Sewnarein Shiwbodh, kitchen storekeeper; Simon Tavares, coordinator, Preventive Food Pantry; and David Maffeo, assistant director of Food and Nutrition, welcome Ocean State Job Lot driver Richard Pimental (right), as he carts food, clothing and children's games into the hospital Receiving Area. The national discount retailer donated more than 20 tons of food and clothing essential for BMC's patients and Preventive Food Pantry.

"Drink, drive, lose"

James Jajuga, former secretary of Public Safety, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, speaks at a press conference held recently at BMC as part of a kick-off of the National Highway Traffic Safety Association's (NHTSA) "You Drink & Drive, You Lose" impaired driving enforcement campaign. Numerous city and law enforcement officials attended the conference. Speakers included Jeffrey Runge, MD, administrator, NHTSA; Ned Merrick, president-designate, Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association; and Jonathan Olshaker, MD (in lab coat), chief of Emergency Medicine at BMC.

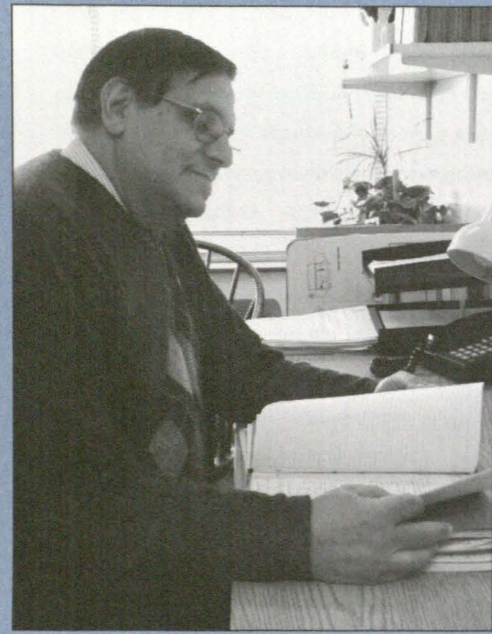


A traditional exchange

BUSM Dean Aram Chobanian, MD, provost of BU Medical Campus, recently hosted a luncheon for the Kaitz BUSM/Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School Exchange Program. The annual event honored the naming benefactors, Louis and Charlotte Kaitz, and recognized this year's exchange students from Jerusalem.

Luncheon participants are, from left, Leonard Gottlieb, MD, MPH, chairman of the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at BUSM, chief of the Division of Pathology at BMC, and director of the exchange program; Gil Yaron and Rachel Bardach, exchange students from the Hadassah Medical School; Chobanian; Charlotte Kaitz; and Edward Alexander, MD, professor of medicine and associate director of the exchange program. Louis Kaitz was unable to attend.

Educator honored for humanism in medicine



George Rosenthal, MD, reviews the file of one of his geriatric patients.

George Rosenthal, MD, clinical associate professor of internal medicine at BUSM, has been selected as a distinguished finalist for the 2002 Humanism in Medicine Award of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC).

Rosenthal was one of 53 honorees from across the nation nominated by the AAMC's Organization of Student Representatives. Selections were based on five defining characteristics of humanism in medical education: positive mentoring skills, community service, compassion and sensitivity, collaboration, and observance of professional ethics.

Rosenthal, who has served on the BUSM faculty for more than two decades, is also an attending physician in the Home Care Program of Boston University Geriatric Services at BMC.

"It is a high honor for any doctor to be singled out by his students as an exemplary professional and caring role model," said BUSM Dean Aram Chobanian, MD, provost of BU Medical Campus. "This award nomination is a tribute to Dr. Rosenthal's teaching skills and his mentoring of young physicians who, in turn, pass on their knowledge, values and methods to a new generation of physicians."

In nominating him, one of Rosenthal's students wrote, "He has a unique way of acknowledging students and making them feel like an integral part of the medical team. He is always patient and allows students to present without interruption, and then offers explanations and broadens their understanding of the patients and their illnesses."

The AAMC Humanism in Medicine Award honors medical school faculty members who exemplify humanism in medicine and exhibit the finest qualities in a teacher of healing. The annual award is sponsored by the AAMC through the support of the Pfizer Medical Humanities Initiative.

Nursing supervisor named YMCA Black Achiever

Jacqueline O'Shea, RN, patient care supervisor at BMC and medical center employee for 24 years, has been selected as a YMCA Black Achiever Award recipient for 2003. The Black Achievers program recognizes minority employees in and around the Greater Boston area, as well as regions served by 75 other YMCAs around the country. Recipients are selected for their career accomplishments and commitment to young people. O'Shea was honored at the 28th annual citywide Recognition Awards Gala on Jan. 30, along with several other award recipients nominated by their supervisors for the Boston area award.

In her current position, O'Shea is responsible for managing the hospital's nursing division during weekends and the night shift. "Few other positions have more of an impact on staff and patient care, and Jackie exhibits exemplary leadership when on duty," said Patricia Webb, vice president for Human Resources at BMC. "Jackie has clearly earned the respect of staff and physicians who work alongside her."

"As a patient advocate who assists in collaborating with families, physicians, and staff, Jackie is a strong, quiet leader who takes on extra responsibilities and always gets results," added Webb.

Upon accepting the award, O'Shea will perform a minimum of 40 hours of community service on behalf of youth.



Jacqueline O'Shea, RN

Hand washing reduces risk of infection

Researchers have found that nationwide, physicians' noncompliance with hand washing is a substantial problem in more than half of their contacts with patients. Therefore, as one of 12 steps in BMC's new initiative to prevent infection at the hospital, "Prevent Transmission" focuses on cleanliness in the work place.

BMC's PROTECT (Preventing Resistant Organisms Takes Exceptional Care and Teamwork) initiative, based on a nationwide program designed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), is aimed at acknowledging and eliminating the danger that hospital-acquired infections pose to patient care and safety.

Hand washing with soap and water, which for generations has been accepted as a necessary measure for personal hygiene, is considered the single most important measure for preventing the spread of infection in hospitals. Hands should be washed between contacts with patients, after contact with potentially infected material (blood, body fluids and patient-care items), and after removal of examination gloves. Although the CDC recommends hand washing with regular hand soap to be sufficient in most settings, there is evidence that supplementing routine hand washing may be helpful in reducing rates of infections and spread of antimicrobial-resistant bacteria.

"Studies have shown a poor compliance with, and poor quality of, hand washing by health care workers," said Carol Sulis, MD, associate professor of medicine at BUSM, and hospital epidemiologist and chair of the PROTECT Task Force at BMC. "As a measure to control cross-contamination, BMC and other workplace environments have supplemented regular antiseptic hand wash with alcohol-based hand rubs."

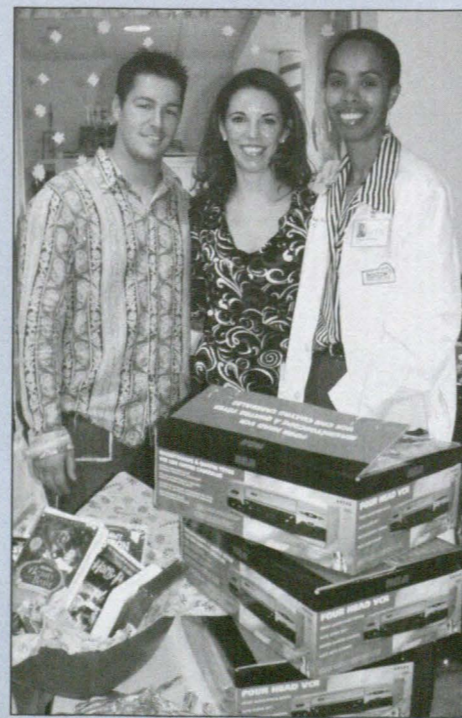
While the use of gloves has also been shown to reduce the spread of bacteria between patients and health care workers and among patients, Sulis warns that glove use is not a replacement for hand washing. Gowns and facemasks are other preventive measures in the hospital work place that provide further reduction of the spread of antimicrobial-resistant pathogens.

Other steps in the PROTECT initiative will be presented in future issues of *MedCenter News*.

For more information, call the BMC Epidemiology Unit at 617/414-4958, or visit <http://www.cdc.gov/drugresistance>.

THE SPIRIT OF GIVING

Through their Kindness for Kids foundation, Matt Brightman and his sister Lori Brightman, MD (BUSM '01), a skin oncology fellow at BMC, recently donated videos and VCR players for every room in the hospital's Inpatient Pediatric Unit, 4 East. The Brightmans created the foundation as a tribute to their late father Robert, whose example taught that the spirit of generosity during the holidays does not depend on financial wealth. Lauren Smith, MD (right), medical director of the Inpatient Pediatric Unit at BMC, and assistant professor of medicine at BUSM, accepted the gifts.



BUMC collaborates with community to fight HIV/AIDS

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Ten Point Coalition and pastor at Bethel AME Church. "Tackling this problem as a community is the only way we can overcome it."

"The research aspect of this initiative could prove extremely valuable to faith organizations and HIV/AIDS service providers both here and in other cities," said Seth Welles, PhD, associate professor of epidemiology at SPH, who directs the research project with the help of Phillip Braslins, MD, assistant professor of medicine in the section of Infectious Diseases at BUSM.

"Along with finding out why people put themselves at high risk of HIV infection, we need to know more about what prevents people from getting care, especially individuals who might have access to some of the traditional support mechanisms in the community," Welles added. "We want to learn how to help to break down barriers so that people don't wait too long to get care."

NIH follows BMC's lead in health care technology

BMC has established itself as a leader in hospital medical technology, thanks to the implementation of the Sunrise Clinical Manager physician order entry system. The hospital, which began its partnership with the information technology (IT) solutions company Eclipsys in 1998, remains one of few in the state to have installed physician order entry systems.

Eclipsys was recently selected by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to develop and implement the components of the clinical research information system that comprise the patient care aspects of clinical research. NIH, one of the world's foremost medical research centers, is the federal focal point for health research in the United States. In this multimillion dollar project, NIH will implement Sunrise Clinical Manager and its Knowledge-Based Orders and clinical documentation features to integrate patient care, clinical research, and management information systems for nearly 1,000 active clinical research protocols and thousands of users.

"The NIH announcement has re-emphasized the value of our choice to partner with Eclipsys five years ago," said Meg Aranow, vice president of Information Technology Services and chief information officer at BMC. "Although a young company, Eclipsys had the best laid plans in place to support our needs and growth. We realized the value and the potential in its products, and are proud to have formed this partnership and to have contributed to the design of the company's products in its formative years."

"We decided early on that BMC would shoulder the necessary increased work to become a leader in clinical integration," said Aranow.

"BMC is at the forefront of electronic data entry and storage. With such a highly respected partner in Eclipsys, we look forward to challenging current processes and leading the health care industry in IT solutions."

February

12 Public Health Forum
SPH will present a public forum on health maintenance organizations featuring guest speaker Charlie Baker, president and CEO of Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Inc. Baker's presentation is titled "The Impact of an HMO in Receivership: Details of the Turnaround." The forum will take place from noon to 1 p.m. in Room 112 of BUSM's Instructional Building. For more information, call 617/638-5242.

19 Safety and Infection Control Training
Safety and Infection Control Training will be held for BMC employees in the Dowling Amphitheater from 7:30 to 9 a.m. and 3:30 to 5 p.m. Required by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, the sessions are developed by the Offices of Environmental Health and Safety, Hospital Epidemiology, and Organizational Development and Training. All hospital employees must undergo the training once every 12 months. For more information, call 617/638-8830.

March

5 Public Health Forum
SPH will present a public forum featuring Joel Tarr, PhD, professor of urban and environmental history and policy, Carnegie Mellon University, at noon in the Instructional Building. Tarr's presentation is titled "Pathways to a Pollution Mess: Critical Decisions in Pittsburgh's Water Supply and Wastewater Disposal." For more information, call 617/638-5242.

18 Safety and Infection Control Training
Safety and Infection Control Training will be held for BMC employees in Keefe Auditorium, Evans Building, from 7:30 to 9 a.m. and 3:30 to 5 p.m. For additional information, see listing (above) for Feb. 19, or call 617/638-8830.



Space to relax

BUSM Dean Aram Chobanian, MD, provost of BU Medical Campus, Phyllis Carr, MD, dean for Student Affairs at BUSM, and third-year BUSM student Julieta Holman, chair of the Student Committee on Medical Student Affairs, share a laugh at the recent ribbon-cutting of the new BUSM Student Lounge. Located in the school's Instructional Building, the lounge offers medical students a comfortable place to relax, with cushioned seating and a state-of-the-art media entertainment system.

BMC announces WE CARE awards recipients

BMC recently honored several employees and volunteers with WE CARE awards for January. The monthly WE CARE Individual Employee Awards honor employees who exceed required job standards and responsibilities and help further BMC's mission to provide exceptional care without exception. WE CARE awards for January 2003 were presented to **Helen Groggett**, team leader, Client Services, Information Technology Services; **Sheryl Lowden**, admissions liaison, Transitional Care Unit; **Claire Murphy**, senior human resources generalist, Human Resources; and **Angel Teixeira**, unit coordinator, 7 West.



Linda and Richard Brink

The WE CARE Volunteer Recognition for January was presented to **Richard and Linda Brink** for their dedicated efforts in coordinating the holiday gift giving of the US Airways Pilots for Kids program. For the past 10 years, the Londonderry, N.H. couple have solicited donations from US Airways pilots, purchased gifts, and with other Pilots for Kids, visited BMC to distribute gifts to Pediatrics patients. More than 200 Boston-based US Airways pilots are involved in the giving program, donating their money and time to hospitalized children.

The volunteer award is presented to persons who have volunteered at BMC for at least six months and show exceptional care toward others.

People

Daniel Alford, MD, MPH, clinical assistant professor of medicine at BUSM, and general internist at BMC, received the 2002 New Investigator/Educator Award from the Association for Medical Education and Research in Substance Abuse. The association presented the award to Alford for his significant contributions to substance abuse education.



Daniel Alford, MD, MPH

Raffi Der Sarkissian, MD, director of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at BMC, and assistant professor of otolaryngology – head and neck surgery at BUSM, was the guest of honor at the Fifth Summer Congress of the Russian Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons. Der Sarkissian's presentation was titled "Techniques of Allografting in Facial Reconstruction, Analysis and Correction of Difficult Nasal Deformities and Challenges in Revision Rhinoplasty." The congress, held in Rhodes, Greece, was attended by plastic surgeons from Moscow, St. Petersburg, Latvia, Moldavia, Siberia and the Ukraine.

Patricia Hughes, MSN, NP, risk manager at BMC, has been named president-elect of the Massachusetts chapter of the American Society for Healthcare Risk Management, an organization committed to advancing health care risk management through education and networking.



Patricia Hughes, MSN

Terence Keane, PhD, professor and vice chairman of Research in Psychiatry at BUSM, and director of the National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder at the VA Boston, delivered the William Beneditum University Lecture at West Virginia University in October. The focus of Keane's lecture was on psychological trauma secondary to the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, and methods to promote recovery and resilience among those affected. Since the attacks, Keane has also been serving as a consultant to the New York City Fire Department.

Daniel King, PhD, and **Lynda King, PhD**, both research professors in the Department of Psychiatry at BUSM, and staff members of the National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder at the VA Boston, received the Robert Laufer, PhD, Award for Outstanding Scientific Achievement of the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies. The Kings, whose work has focused on promoting a more comprehensive understanding of the nature of psychological trauma, were also cited for their methodological and measurement skills that have advanced the

field. The awards were presented at the society's annual meeting, held in November in Baltimore.

Jack Twomey, RN, BSN, Emergency Department at BMC, and **Debbie Doherty**, physician's assistant, Cardiothoracic Service at BMC, were deployed by the International Medical Surgical Response Team to Guam for two weeks in December to provide disaster care for island residents after super typhoon Pongsana. The typhoon impacted the Pacific island on Dec. 8 with 200 m.p.h. winds. Doherty, an EMT paramedic, was attached

to a disaster medical assistance team set up in the village of Agat, treating 150 patients a day. Twomey, who is deputy commander of the International Medical Surgical Response Team-East, coordinated nursing and respiratory therapy support at Guam Memorial Hospital.

New Appointments

Eugene Declercq, PhD, MBA, MS, professor of maternal and child health at SPH, has been appointed assistant dean for Doctoral Education at SPH. He will also serve as chairman of SPH's Doctoral

Program Committee. In his new roles, Declercq will oversee the implementation of the school's new DrPH degree program and coordinate doctoral program affairs. As he assumes these responsibilities, Declercq will relinquish his appointment as associate chairman of the Department of Maternal and Child Health at SPH.

Declercq, who joined the SPH Maternal and Child Health faculty in 1996, specializes in the development and analysis

of maternal and infant health policies. He is the president of the Association of Teachers of Maternal and Child Health and serves on the board of Lamaze International. Declercq received his master's and doctoral degrees in political science from Florida State University, and his MBA from the University of Massachusetts.

Kathleen Murray, RN, has been named clinical risk manager at BMC. She has more than 20 years of experience as a registered nurse in medical/surgery and oncology and, in her new position, will be based in BMC's Office of the General Counsel. Before coming to BMC, Murray was a senior risk management specialist at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and associate director of Risk Management at Lahey Clinic Medical



Eugene Declercq, PhD, MBA

Center. She also serves as treasurer of the Massachusetts chapter of the American Society for Healthcare Risk Management.

Manesh Samtani, MBA, has been appointed director of Financial Reporting and Analysis at BMC. Previously, he was a manager at Accenture, a management consulting firm in Wellesley, and senior associate at William M. Mercer Inc., Boston. Samtani received a master's in business administration, finance and investments from George Washington University.

George Waters, MD (BUSM '94), has been appointed clinical assistant professor of medicine in the section of Cardiology at BUSM. Following a year as chief medical resident in Internal Medicine at BMC, Waters has been a fellow in Cardiovascular Medicine at the medical school.

Awards

Santo Cataudella, DMD, MS, professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery at SDM, has been honored with the Daniel M. Laskin Award for an Outstanding Predoctoral Educator by the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS). The award recognizes an outstanding predoctoral educator in oral and maxillofacial surgery who is actively involved in research, encourages his students to pursue research, provides exceptional patient care, and exemplifies the highest ethical and moral ideals of a professional. Cataudella, who joined the SDM faculty in 1988, has received

numerous teaching honors and is active in many professional associations and committees at SDM. The award was presented at the AAOMS annual meeting, held this fall in Chicago.

Anita King, director for Research Administration at SPH, is the recipient of the first Dzidra J. Knecht Staff Award for Distinguished Service. The award, consisting of a silver bowl and a \$1,000

prize, was presented to King at a recent holiday gathering for her sustained and outstanding contributions to the administrative functioning of the school. The award is named in honor of Knecht, the school's first associate dean for



Kathleen Murray, RN

Administration, who spent 30 years working for BU, and the last 20 for SPH.

Salamatu Mambula, PhD, research associate in infectious diseases at BUSM, and **Jennifer Schlezinger, PhD**, postdoctoral researcher in environmental health at SPH, are members of a vanpool group that recently received the 2002 Vanpool Achievement Award of Caravan for Commuters, a Massachusetts

statewide commuter services organization. Their vanpool, which travels each day to Boston from Sagamore/Kingston, was recognized for its recruiting efforts

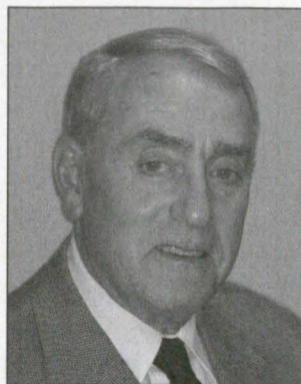
over the past year to make vanpooling an effective and attractive commute alternative. Mambula and Schlezinger also participate in time-travel studies of the Boston Southeast Expressway's High Occupancy Vehicle Lane, which help state agencies monitor the lane's efficiency.

Ana Karina Mascarenhas, DrPH, MPH, associate professor of health policy and health services research

and director of the Dental Public Health Program at SDM, has been named a Leadership Institute Fellow by the American Dental Education Association (ADEA). The ADEA Leadership Institute is a yearlong program designed to develop the nation's most promising dental faculty to become future leaders in dental and higher education. As a leadership fellow, Mascarenhas will conduct a scholarly project that focuses on solving a critical, contemporary issue facing dental education. She will also analyze government policies on dental education and oral health treatment, research and education.



Ana Mascarenhas, DrPH



Santo Cataudella, DMD, MS

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