

**Boston University**

**OpenBU**

<http://open.bu.edu>

---

BU Publications

MedCenter News

---

1999-03

# MedCenter News: March 1999

---

<https://hdl.handle.net/2144/22777>

*Downloaded from DSpace Repository, DSpace Institution's institutional repository*



# MedCenter News

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

## Our new look

*MedCenter News* recently published a Readership Survey seeking readers' opinions. Many respondents indicated that they often find it difficult to tell when a new issue of *MedCenter News* is on the stands. In response, we are instituting a color change on the masthead beginning with this issue. Each month, a different color masthead will help signify when a new issue has arrived. Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey and share your thoughts with us.

## Center opening attracts state, hospital leaders

**W**ith the opening of its new Breastfeeding Center, BMC is continuing to promote breastfeeding as an important part of a healthy start for newborns.

Lt. Gov. Jane Swift, and hospital leadership, including Manuel Ferris, chairman of the Board of Trustees at BMC; Elaine Ullian, president and CEO of BMC; and Bobbi Philipp, MD, medical director of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine at BMC and assistant professor of pediatrics at BUSM, joined patients and employ-



ees at a ribbon-cutting ceremony to open the center on Tuesday, Feb. 9.

"Women who are thinking about or have already chosen to breastfeed often

need some initial support in the hospital and once they get home," said Philipp. "We will now be able to provide the answers and support they need."

*From left, Peer Counselor Anitra Anderson and daughter; Bobbi Philipp, MD, medical director of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine at BMC; Lt. Gov. Jane Swift; and Manuel Ferris, chairman of the Board of Trustees at BMC, participate in the ceremonial ribbon-cutting in honor of the opening of the new Breastfeeding Center.*

Through the Breastfeeding Center, women will be able to attend breastfeeding classes, work with a lactation counselor, use the center's telephone support line, and have access to breastfeeding rooms and a variety of educational resources. The center

*continued on page 8*

**Boston**

SOME LIKE IT HOT!  
A LOVER'S GUIDE TO  
FIRESIDE DINING  
PAGE 100

**TOP DOCTORS**  
More Than  
200 of the Best  
Physicians  
in town  
(In the 8 Specialties You Need Most)

Plus  
**HOW BARNEY FRANK  
OUTFOXED THE GOP**  
"When Your Opponent  
is Committing Suicide,  
Get Out of His Way."

Kathy Z. Zetter  
Pediatrician  
Children's Hospital

BRANCH OFFICE  
BOSTON  
How a Once  
Unique City Lost  
Its Identity as a  
Powerful  
Corporate  
Capital

www.bostonmagazine.com

BMC physicians were well represented in Boston Magazine's February issue, which featured a special section on the city's top doctors. For a complete list of which BMC doctors were honored, see page 2.

## MedCAREERS provides online career counseling for students

**A** new computer-based career advising and planning program pioneered by Arthur Culbert, PhD, associate dean for Student Affairs at BUSM, is clicking into virtual reality.

MedCAREERS, a joint project of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) and the American Medical Association (AMA), will equip medical students with skills and information needed for lifetime career planning.

Training for the program is underway for students and faculty, and the MedCAREERS website is expected to be launched in June. Officials at the AMA and AAMC are hopeful that this electronic advising resource will prove useful to

students and faculty at BUSM and medical schools throughout the country. Suzanne Sarfaty, MD, associate dean for Student Affairs, has been appointed to implement MedCAREERS at the school.

How does it work? First-year medical students at BUSM and other participating schools will point their browsers at the MedCAREERS website, allowing them to conduct self-assessments and test their desires and inclinations against the real world. "These professional self-assessment tools provide

insight on who they are and what they want to be at this point in time," said Culbert, a scholar-in-residence at the AAMC.

"Over the course of their four years, medical students will complete modules on career exploration, decision-making, and implementation. MedCAREERS will give students a better understanding on how their interests and abilities match with the real world," said Culbert. "We're really putting them in touch with resources. We're not re-inventing the wheel, we're

*continued on page 5*

INSIDE

Study shows  
cigar smoking  
may lead  
to tooth loss  
Page 3

Four new  
surgeons  
join the staff  
at BUMC  
Page 3

Plans for new  
BMC building  
move  
forward  
Page 6



## Boston Magazine names top doctors

Recognized for their outstanding clinical and leadership abilities, numerous BMC physicians were recently listed in *Boston Magazine's* annual "Top Doctors" issue.

The magazine culled its list from *The Best Doctors in America*, published by the research firm of Woodward/White. The firm surveyed 28,000 doctors nationwide to find out which of their colleagues they admired most. Ballots were sent to physicians who made the list in the previous edition, and responses were weighted to account for factors such as bias of one physician toward a colleague in the same practice or hospital. The survey is the largest

peer-based evaluation in the medical profession.

The *Boston Magazine* list, which focused on eight specialties, includes the following BMC physicians:

**Dermatology**  
Barbara Gilchrist, MD  
Donald Grande, MD

**Geriatric Medicine**  
Patricia Barry, MD  
Gabriel Brandeis, MD

**Internal Medicine**  
Stephen Sweet, MD  
Charles Tift, MD

**Obstetrics and Gynecology**  
Phillip Stubblefield, MD

**Pediatrics**  
Howard Bauchner, MD  
John Palfrey, MD

**Psychiatry**  
Domenic Ciraulo, MD  
Donald Gair, MD

Douglas Hughes, MD  
Bessel Van der Kolk, MD

*The Best Doctors in America* also featured these BMC physicians:

**Addiction Medicine**  
Elizabeth Brown, MD  
Barry Zuckerman, MD

**Cardiovascular Disease**  
Jay Coffman, MD  
Ravin Davidoff, MD  
Alice Jacobs, MD  
Joseph Loscalzo, MD  
Kether Raby, MD  
Thomas Ryan, MD

**Gastroenterology**  
David Lichtenstein, MD

**Infectious Disease**  
Deborah Cotton, MD  
Donald Craven, MD  
Jon Fuller, MD

**Nephrology**  
David Salant, MD

**Neurology**  
Thomas Browne III, MD  
Robert Feldman, MD  
Carlos Kase, MD  
Flaviu Romanul, MD  
Philip Wolf, MD

**Neurology, Child**  
David Coulter, MD

**Orthopaedic Surgery**  
Thomas Einhorn, MD

**Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine**  
Helen Hollingsworth, MD  
Gordon Snider, MD

**Radiation Oncology**  
Thomas DeLaney, MD  
Anthony Zietman, MD

**Radiology**  
Joseph Ferrucci Jr., MD

**Rheumatology**  
Joseph Korn, MD

**Surgery**  
Robert Beazley, MD  
James Becker, MD  
James Menzoian, MD

**Surgical Oncology**  
Robert Beazley, MD  
James Becker, MD

**Urology**  
Richard Babayan, MD  
Irwin Goldstein, MD  
Robert Krane, MD  
Robert Oates, MD  
Mike Siroky, MD



## SPH leads screenings for Nevada Test Site workers

SPH researchers are spearheading a unique medical screening program for former construction workers of the Department of Energy's Nevada Test Site (NTS) in Nevada.

SPH, in collaboration with the University of California, San Francisco, and the Southern Nevada Building and Construction Trades Council, is offering the screening to people who worked at the NTS between 1951 and 1992 and were exposed to workplace hazards such as radiation, excessive noise, diesel exhaust and silica dust.

The free screenings include a work and medical history questionnaire, and a physical exam to identify, minimize and prevent the health impacts of occupational illness related to working at the NTS. The physical exam and laboratory tests consist of pulmonary function tests, chest X-rays, and hearing and blood exams designed to detect early stages of possible work-related illnesses.

"We are focusing on the

underground construction and re-entry workers who experienced intense exposures to occupational and environmental hazards while working at the NTS," said Lewis Pepper, MD, MPH, assistant professor of public health at SPH, and principal investigator of the program. "These workers, who worked under a veil of secrecy, made possible the United States' underground nuclear testing program."

Located 65 miles outside of Las Vegas, the NTS was the primary location for testing nuclear explosives in the United States up until 1992. At the peak of underground testing in the mid-1980s, as many as 15,000 workers were employed there, and approximately one-third of those employees were construction workers.

The first group of screenings took place in September and December and the next round is scheduled for March 5-7. Three other sessions are scheduled in 1999 for June, September and December, and the program will continue through 2001. ♦

## Surgeons bring talents to BUMC



R. Armour Forse, MD



Timothy Babineau, MD



Stephen Sentovich, MD



Peter Burke, MD

*"Their reputations as outstanding physicians, surgeons and academicians is well-known throughout the medical community ..."*

Building upon an already prestigious surgical staff, four surgeons, formerly of Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Harvard Medical School, have chosen to bring their talents to BUMC.

R. Armour Forse, MD, PhD; Timothy Babineau, MD; Stephen Sentovich, MD; and Peter Burke, MD; joined BMC effective March 1, 1999.

Paul Drew, vice president of Network Development at BMC, said the new surgeons bring a tremendous amount of skill and experience to the institution. "We are quite fortunate to be able to add such a talented group of doctors to our distinguished staff," he said.

Along with their hospital positions, all four surgeons will also hold academic titles at BUSM. "Their reputations as outstanding physicians, surgeons and academicians is well known throughout the medical community," said BUSM Dean Aram Chobanian, MD, provost of BU Medical Campus. "Their expertise will advance the academic mission of the school."

Forse received both his MD and PhD from McGill University in Montreal, and completed his internship and residency at Royal Victoria Hospital in Montreal — serving as chief resident in surgery. He was a research fellow and PhD candidate in experimental surgery

at McGill and a research fellow in surgical metabolism at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York. Forse was appointed associate professor of surgery at Harvard Medical School in 1992. He specializes in the surgical treatment of morbid obesity and gastrointestinal disorders and has an active basic research program in metabolism.

Babineau, who specializes in digestive disorders and minimally invasive surgery, received his MD from the University of Massachusetts. He completed his internship and residency in general surgery at the New England Deaconess Hospital, where he also served as a fellow in surgical nutrition and metabolism. Babineau became an assistant professor of surgery at Harvard Medical School in 1995 and served

on the active staff of New England Baptist Hospital. He also served as chief of Surgery at Vencor Hospital in Brighton.

Sentovich received his MD from the University of California, Los Angeles School of Medicine. He completed his internship and residency at the University of California Irvine Program in General Surgery, where he served as chief resident in surgery. Following a fellowship in colon and rectal surgery, Sentovich became an instructor in surgery at Harvard Medical School in 1994. He specializes in colon and rectal surgery and his major research interests include anorectal physiology, pelvic floor disorders and outcome/ quality of life issues.

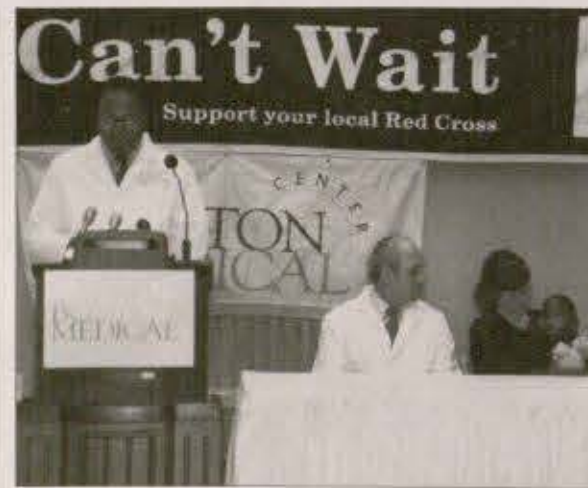
Burke received his MD from Tufts University School of Medicine and completed his internship and residency at the New England Deaconess Hospital, serving as chief resident in surgery. He became an assistant professor of surgery at Harvard Medical School in 1995 and specializes in trauma surgery and critical care. Burke's research interests include gene regulation and immunological responses to sepsis and injury.

"I am excited to be working alongside my new colleagues," said James Becker, MD, surgeon-in-chief, BMC, and chief of Surgery, BUSM, who recruited the physicians. "Boston University Medical Center is an inviting place to work. Our long history of providing excellent care for all people regardless of financial status is attracting many of the country's most prestigious health care workers."

## Hematology service expands patient care beyond hospital walls

Providing comprehensive care to nearly 500 children and adolescents with blood diseases each year, the Pediatric Hematology Service at BMC has rapidly become one of the largest subspecialties within the Division of Pediatrics.

Under the leadership of Michael Osband, MD, director of the service and of the new Pain Free Pediatrics Program at BMC, as well as clinical professor of pediatrics at BUSM, the service treats infants through young adults suffering from sickle cell anemia, nutrition-related anemias, white blood cell disorders, coagulation defects, and other blood and autoimmune diseases. The multifaceted program also provides therapeutic and educational services, including genetic counseling to track blood disorder traits in families, telephone consultations, educational seminars for other hospital staff, and monthly newsletters for patients and health care providers. In addition, the Pediatric Hematology Service was the first in Massachusetts to offer transcranial Doppler ultrasound to predict which patients with sickle cell disease are at an increased risk for stroke.



At a news conference urging African-Americans to donate blood, George Askeu, MD, chief of Pediatric Inpatient Service at BMC, speaks to the media. He is joined by (from left) Michael Osband, MD, FAAP, director of the Pediatric Hematology Service at BMC; Cassie Ryan, RN, program coordinator; and patient Shakwai Shivers, 7.

"We do more than just treat the patient physically," said Cassie Ryan, RN, program coordinator for the service. "We provide opportunities that help families cope with their child's illness once they leave the hospital."

A vital part of the service is working with the community through outreach programs. Parents and children receive assistance through support groups like Parents as Partners and S.T.R.I.V.E., a tutoring and mentorship program for teens run by BMC's Project HEALTH. The service also sends a group of patients to a summer camp for children

with cancer and life-threatening blood diseases, and most recently began providing scholarships to its patients who choose to attend college.

Because more than half of its patients are being treated for sickle cell anemia, the service has recently kicked off the "Fight Sickle Cell Disease Blood Drive" campaign to encourage African-Americans to donate blood. Most sickle cell patients, the majority of whom are African-Americans, need blood transfusions at some point in their lifetime. The blood transfusions can alleviate complications such as acute pain, pneumonia, stroke and potentially life-threatening bacterial illnesses. According to Osband, urging African-Americans to donate blood increases the likelihood that the best genetically matched blood is used. "It's crucial for the African-American community to donate blood to help battle sickle cell disease," he said.

Looking ahead, Osband and his staff hope to extend their circle of care further into the community — establishing a help desk to educate patients, families and health care providers; reaching out to more patients through neighborhood health centers; and most importantly, increasing the number of blood donations. ♦

**Blood donations are encouraged. Donors must be at least 17 years old and weigh more than 110 pounds. For more information, call the Pediatric Hematology Service at 414-5777 or the American Red Cross at (800) 448-3543.**

## Save your smile, stomp the stogies

Although enjoying a stogie has become the latest Hollywood fad, researchers at SDM say actors should stomp out their cigars if they want to keep their million-dollar smiles.

Elizabeth Krall, PhD, associate professor in the Department of Health Policy and Health Services Research at SDM; and Raul Garcia, DMD, MMedSc, professor and chair of the Department of Health Policy and Health Services Research at SDM, recently published a study in the *Journal of the American Dental Association* stating that cigar and pipe smoking lead to an increased risk of tooth loss. While their earlier studies had shown similar findings resulting from smoking cigarettes, this is the first study demonstrating the effects of cigar and pipe smoking on tooth loss and oral bone loss.

"Smoking cigars is just as bad as smoking cigarettes when it comes to tooth loss and bone loss around the teeth," said Krall. According to Garcia, one of the hazards of cigar and pipe smoking is the misconception that it is a relatively safe habit.

"People often think cigars are safer than cigarettes. There's been a lack of information as to whether cigars are really that bad, given that you don't inhale. With the growing popularity of cigars among younger people, it was important to answer that question."

One significant outcome of their previous study is that stopping cigarette smoking will reduce the risk of tooth loss, although not to the level observed among people who have never smoked. "It's never too late to quit smoking cigarettes. I suspect the same would be true for cigars and pipes," Krall said. ♦



**Pap smears urged for women with HIV**

Because women with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) are at higher risk for precancerous and cancerous lesions of the cervix than non-HIV infected women, they are urged to receive regular and rigorous screenings for these conditions. In the past, there has been some disagreement about the most appropriate, cost-effective method of screening; however, a new study conducted by researchers at BUSM and Harvard University School of Public Health has shown that Pap smears provide a cost-effective way to screen for cervical cancer when compared to other methods, such as colposcopy.

Kenneth Freedberg, MD, MSc, associate professor of medicine and associate professor of epidemiology and biostatistics at BUSM, and physician in the department of Medicine at BMC, was the senior investigator of the study. According to Freedberg, the study provides clinicians with practical information regarding the most appropriate choice in screening tests for HIV-infected women. "We found that Pap smears were reasonable and cost-effective, even for women receiving the newer combination antiretroviral therapies."

The study concluded that cervical cancer screenings for HIV-infected women should consist of an annual Pap smear (after two consecutive negative Pap smears, occurring six months apart). This is consistent with the current recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

**Antibiotics may lower heart attack risk**

Christoph Meier, PhD, MSc, visiting researcher at BUMC and the Boston Collaborative Drug Surveillance Program, has recently concluded a large observational study based on 3,315 patients' medical records in the United Kingdom. The results of the study, published in the Feb. 3 issue of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, suggest there may be a relationship between antibiotics and a reduced risk for heart attacks.

"We're not suggesting that these findings mean antibiotics should be prescribed to patients to prevent heart attack," said Meier. "However, it does indirectly support the theory that certain chronic bacterial infections may play a role in the development of ischemic heart disease."

The study results determined that patients who had been treated with tetracycline or quinolones (synthetic broad-spectrum antibiotics) appeared to be at reduced risk. The risk reduction appeared

to be approximately 30 percent for those who took tetracycline, and 50 percent for those who took quinolones.

**Breast cancer not tied to light alcohol use**

For women who have a glass of wine with dinner each night, researchers have good news about light alcohol consumption — it is not associated with an increased risk for breast cancer. R. Curtis Ellison, MD, chief of the Section of Preventive Medicine and Epidemiology at BMC, and professor of medicine and public health at BUSM, was senior author of the paper, which was recently published in the *American Journal of Epidemiology*. According to Ellison, "While the rates of breast cancer in alcohol drinkers were actually slightly lower than those of non-drinkers, the differences were not statistically significant. In any case, this study provides additional evidence that light alcohol consumption does not increase the risk of breast cancer."

Of the approximately 5,000 women in the study, 287 developed breast cancer during follow up. In comparison with those who did not consume alcohol, women in none of the three drinking categories (up to 1/2 drink, 1/2 to 1-1/2 drinks and more than 1-1/2 drinks per day) showed an increased risk of breast cancer.

**Lifetime heart disease risk established**

In a paper published in the January issue of the British medical journal, *The Lancet*, BUSM researchers have been able to determine the lifetime risk for developing heart disease. At age 40, the lifetime risk is one in two for men, and one in three for women; by age 70, the risk is somewhat reduced, but is still considerable — one out of every three men and one out of every four women will develop heart disease during their remaining years.

Daniel Levy, MD, associate professor of medicine at BUSM, is the study's principal investigator. "When it comes to health, average isn't always good. The fact that the average 50-year-old woman is three times more likely to develop some form of heart disease than breast cancer has important implications for public health," he said. The study will help policy makers assess the risks and burdens for various diseases and help the public understand why preventing heart disease is so important. The study also has implications for older Americans, since there is still a significant risk for developing heart disease after age 70.

## Community workshops assist child-care providers

The crowded lecture hall was filled with the aroma of pizza, while moms and child care providers waited for the start of the program. "How many of you were spanked when you were young?" began Stephen Parker, MD, director of the Division of Behavioral and Developmental Pediatrics at BMC and professor of pediatrics at BUSM. Approximately three-quarters of the group raised their hands. His next question immediately followed: "How many of you have been told by parents that it is OK to spank their children when they are in your care?" This time, only a few raised their hands.

With those questions, the Community Evening Workshop — *Spanking: How Should We Deal With It?* began. Developed and run by the Boston Institute for Early Childhood Development (BIECD) at BMC, the workshop's first few questions and answers show how times — and caring for children — have changed.

Held Thursday, Feb. 4, the workshop was one in a series of seminars designed to create a forum for the discussion of issues faced by providers and families from the communities served by BMC. Barry Zuckerman, MD, chief of the Division of Pediatrics at BMC, professor and chairman of Pediatrics at BUSM, and founder of the institute, has made community-based training a fundamental part of the institute.

According to Holly Newman, director of BIECD, the workshops are led by a multidisciplinary group of experts from BUMC who present a case study and initiate a discussion. Those attending are encouraged to discuss their own cases as well. "Ultimately, the goal of this program and the institute is to ensure that children are receiving the best care possible," said Newman. "These workshops help train the people taking care of children in a variety of settings."

According to Zuckerman, between 80 and 100 people have been attending each of the workshops, demonstrating the need for such programs in the community that BMC serves. "By training the providers we are enhancing the capacity of individuals in the community to better help children and their parents. Judging by the turnout, we have tapped into a need that benefits many in the community."

The institute was created by the Division of Behavioral and Developmental Pediatrics at BMC, which has provided training and consultation to a variety of clinicians and other providers of care to young children for more than 15 years. The community workshops, which run monthly from October to June, cover a wide range of topics from meal-time behaviors to helping children cope with grief. The seminars run from 6 to 8 p.m. and pizza and drinks are provided. Some of the workshops are also conducted in Spanish.

Upcoming seminars include: Understanding Normal Sexuality in Toddlers and Pre-Schoolers, on Thursday, March 4, and When to Worry About Speech and Language Problems in Young Children, on Thursday, April 1. To reserve a spot at the next seminar, or for more information, please call 414-3826. ♦

... the workshop's first few questions and answers show how times — and caring for children — have changed.

## New software offers clinicians easy access to patient information

Designed to make clinicians' lives a little simpler, a new computer program called *ChartView*, will allow for easy access to inpatient and outpatient laboratory, pathology and radiology results.

The program is currently being piloted with just clinical lab results on 7 North in the Newton Pavilion, and radiology and pathology results are expected to be added in the near future. It is expected to be implemented throughout the institution during the next several months, and will be available from any PC on the hospital network and from physicians' homes and off-site offices. Boston HealthNet providers will also have access to the system from the neighborhood health centers.

Prior to *ChartView*, clinicians had to log-on to four different systems using different passwords and user names whenever they wanted to view a patient's lab, radiology and pathology results. "*ChartView* will allow you to log-on to one system and see all of these results. All that is needed is one password and one brief training session," said Meg Aranow, vice president for Information Technology and chief information officer at BMC.

According to Aranow, while only a small number of people (approximately 50) have been trained on *ChartView*, she is already beginning to hear good things about the program. "Online results reporting is something that clinicians have been requesting for quite some time," she said. "Improving the availability of clinical data has

The screenshot shows the 'Sunrise Application Manager - ChartView' window. At the top, it displays 'Current User: GEISLER MARTY' and patient information: 'Test, A2 R MRN 711906 F 55yr DOB 03/03/1943'. Below this is a 'Legend' section with 'Critical Alert' and 'New Results' indicators. A 'Laboratory' tree view on the left shows categories like 'All Chemistry & Hematology', 'Chemistry', 'Hematology', and 'Radiology'. The main window displays a table of laboratory results for 'All Chemistry' with columns for test names and dates. A pop-up window shows details for 'Phosphorous 02/03/1998 15:36' with a value of 5.0 and units of MG/DL.

been identified as a high-priority service improvement for BMC — the *ChartView* system is an important contribution toward that goal."

Gregory Sanders, MD, chief resident in the Department of Medicine at BMC, one of the initial physicians trained on *ChartView*, agreed with Aranow. "It is extremely helpful," he said.

"This system allows us to have much of the patient information we need at our fingertips, and presented to us in a useful format."

Aranow said other new systems are expected to be tested in the next few months, including an online Emergency Department system and an online ambulatory record system. ♦

## MedCAREERS

*continued from page 1*

just putting all the spokes together."

As the student moves through their education — and even for the practicing physician interested in a career change — links from MedCAREERS to AMA-FREIDA (The "Green Book"), and professional society home pages, allow users to learn about work-force realities in various geographic locales and trends in various subspecialties.

"This is the first time all of this professional information is accessible to anyone. It's basically one-stop shopping for people interested in medical careers at any level," says Barbara Barzansky, PhD, director of the AMA's

department of Medical School Services, who represents the AMA on the MedCAREERS staff.

MedCAREERS' designers strongly endorse a financial planning module to provide critical dollars and cents information. "We recognize that debt management and financial planning are part of career planning," said Charles Terrell, associate dean for Student Affairs, director of the Office of Student Financial Management, and a member of the MedCAREERS Advisory Committee.

"In the past, medical schools ignored or were afraid to address these issues, but now the tools are built right in. For graduates, the program helps prepare for residency when loans kick in and salaries are low and it also provides

tools to plan the next 25 years."

Nelson Le '99, helped spearhead the effort to initiate the MedCAREERS project. While serving on the administrative board of the AAMC Organization of Student Representatives in 1995, he saw a glaring need for career counseling for medical students. "We compiled relevant information and then organized it into a document, which was circulated around the AAMC and other organizations involved with medical student education," he said. "From there, the initiative was started."

"Nelson's document played an important role," said Culbert, "in that it provided the AAMC with a medical student-oriented perspective on issues to address." ♦

## BMC Development Committee strives to increase fund raising

With its focus on increasing philanthropic donations, BMC has appointed 10 accomplished business leaders to the newly created Development Committee.

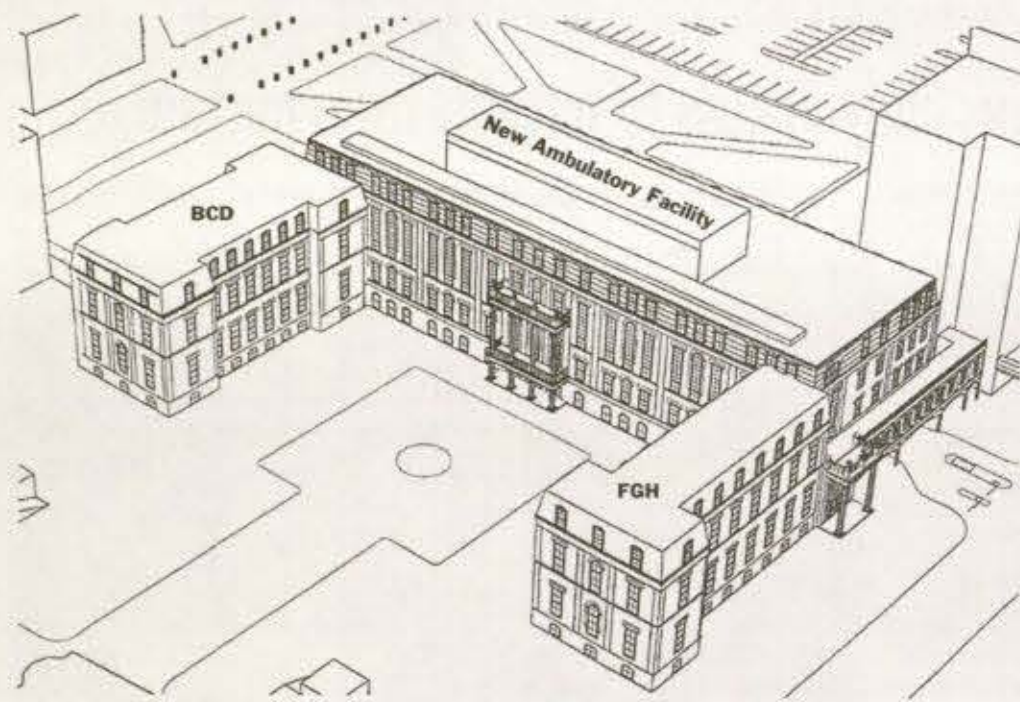
The committee will be responsible for expanding fund-raising and development efforts in the corporate, foundation and philanthropic communities on behalf of BMC and its many outstanding programs. The new members will also be charged with expanding the budding Corporate Partners Program, which pairs corporate sponsors with various BMC programs.

"Our distinguished committee will give us the opportunity to reach into board rooms and to senior level executives to cultivate funding for many BMC programs which are vital to our mission,"

said Norman Stein, vice president for Development at BMC.

Members of the committee include Chairman Arlene Fortunato, senior vice president and director of Public Affairs at Citizens Bank; Ted Bernard Cutler, president of GWV International Group; Paul La Camera, president and general manager of WCVB-TV, Channel 5; James Marcellino, Esq., of McDermott, Will and Emory; Sal Perisano, chairman of The Big Party; Kevin Phelan, executive vice president of Meredith and Grew Oncor International; Alan Solomont, CEO of Solomont Bailis Ventures; John Valentine, director of Entrepreneurial Management at the Health Policy Institute; A. Raymond Tye, chairman of United Liquors Ltd.; and Robert Walsh, president of R.F. Walsh Company. ♦





## Construction plan for new ambulatory care facility moves forward

**B**MC's plans for constructing a new ambulatory care facility, which will help maintain and improve the quality of care provided to patients for many years to come, are moving forward.

The new facility is the focus of a construction and renovation project, which will create new space, modernize existing facilities, and remove some of the unusable vacant buildings, which currently form a physical barrier in the middle of the BMC campus. The new construction is slated to begin in July 1999, with a projected completion date of March 2001.

The plan is progressive in its vision to bring together the entire medical campus and to integrate existing facilities with new construction. At the same time it is respectful of the neighborhood's past in re-establishing an important urban design relationship with the adjoining South End Landmark District. "Boston's South End has a rich and vibrant architectural history," said Elaine Ullian, president and chief executive officer at BMC. "We are working very closely with the local historical associations and preserva-

tion experts to retain the grandeur and architectural integrity of our neighborhood, while bringing its functionality into the 21st century."

The new, state-of-the-art ambulatory care facility will be constructed in the space between the BCD and FGH buildings. The address will be 800 Harrison Ave. It will provide much-needed additional space for ambulatory and critical care, the areas of largest growth at BMC. "We are very excited about this new facility," said Richard Moed, executive vice president and chief operating officer at BMC. "We see it as a 'signature' facility — one that will come to be recognized and associated with the exceptional quality of health care at Boston Medical Center."

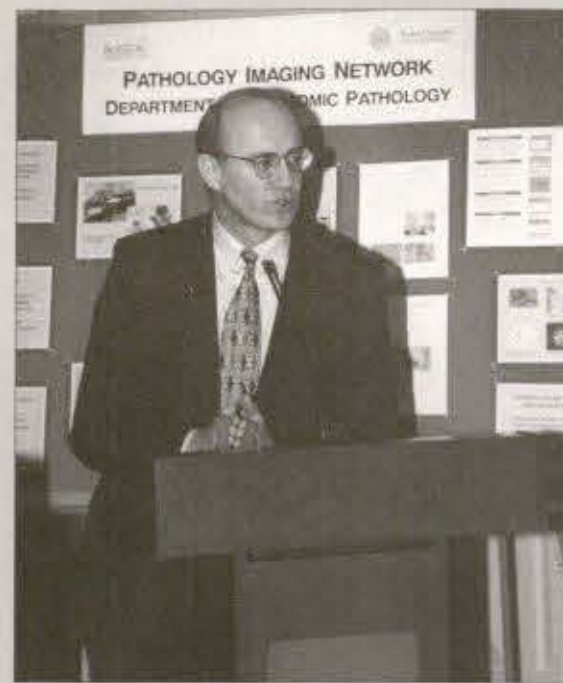
The project will begin with the demolition of the Administration Building at 818 Harrison Ave. BMC's needs, both immediate and future, are for clinical space, which the Administration Building cannot provide. "By razing the Administration Building, we are able to clear space for the construction of the new ambulatory facility, while also re-opening the important sight lines from

Worcester Square," said Moed.

Renovations to the BCD and FGH buildings also play important roles in the new plan. BCD has been vacant for 20 years and exterior stabilization and facade restoration work, along with various interior repairs are needed. It is envisioned that the space will be used for clinics and doctors' offices. The research, administrative and outpatient services currently housed in FGH will remain there after renovations are completed. Its rehabilitation plan includes exterior restoration and interior work, including the installation of new mechanical and electrical systems.

The proposal also calls for the demolition of the Thorndike, MRI and Sears buildings lining East Concord Street. With the removal of these buildings, the various small existing open spaces on each of the separate campuses will be combined to form a central unifying quadrangle. "The Thorndike, MRI and Sears buildings currently form a barrier between the East Newton and Harrison Avenue campuses," said Moed. "The demolition will create an open green space between the Newton Pavilion and the Harrison Pavilion."

The South End Landmark District Commission has requested that BMC further explore uses for the Surgical Building on East Concord Street. A proposal for the building will be presented to the commission in six months. ♦



## At the forefront

*As the first hospital in the Northeast region to obtain the Pathology Imaging Network, BMC is once again at the forefront of medical technology. The new system allows medical staff to instantly retrieve high-quality, digital pathology images from several computer terminals throughout the campus. In addition, the system allows images to be permanently archived. Michael O'Brien, MD, chief of Anatomic Pathology at BMC and professor of pathology, laboratory medicine and public health at BUSM, (above) recently hosted a presentation and reception to mark the inauguration of the system.*

*Leonard Gottlieb, MD, chief of the Division of Pathology at BMC and chairman of the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at BUSM, was also honored at the reception for his leadership and dedication to BUMC.*



### BMC is changing cellular telephone provider

BMC is changing its primary corporate cellular telephone service provider from Cellular One to Bell Atlantic Mobile (BAM). This change will affect all of the BMC Cellular One corporate accounts.

In addition to BAM's lower rates, all corporate users will receive a 4 percent discount on their monthly charges. All corporate users have 28 days to convert service — March 8, 1999 through April 2, 1999. Please contact BAM representative Edward Onessimo at 429-4901 to discuss conversion options.

If you are unsure whether your account is on the "Corporate Plan" or if you have questions, call 638-6890.

### ITMA announces winner of newsletter contest

Steve Cioffari, manager of Organizational Development and Training in the Human Resources Department at BMC, was the winner of the Interinstitutional Transportation Management Association (ITMA) "Name the Newsletter" contest, for submitting the title *Shifting Gears*. Cioffari wins a one-year membership to AAA. The newsletter is now being developed, and will focus on the latest MBTA, carpooling, bicycling, and Central Artery news, as well as all the information needed to make your commute dependable, cost-effective, and environmentally friendly. For more information, please call 638-7473.

# CALENDAR

## March

### 12 Lunch-time Reading Workshops

In celebration of its 10th anniversary, Reach Out And Read will be holding lunch-time reading workshops over three days. Free boxed lunches will be served to those attending, while informative demonstrations by The Reading Railroad, a reading consulting company, will offer tips on how to raise children to become strong readers. Those attending will also receive a free children's book. The 30-minute workshops will be held in Conference Rooms B and C in the Harrison Pavilion at 11:45 a.m., and repeated at 12:45 p.m., on March 12, March 19, and March 26. To RSVP, call Christine Angell at (617) 268-1340.

### 15 Children and Health Care Week

From March 15-19, BMC is celebrating Children and Health Care Week. The week is designed to increase awareness of the special needs of children and families in health care settings. This year's theme is "Partners for Pediatric Pain Management." A variety of special events, in-service training sessions and related activities are planned. For more information, call Cathy Robinowitz, child life specialist, Child Life Department, at 414-4538.

### 18 Match Day

At noon, fourth-year BUSM students receive the results of a national computerized process that matches medical students with the teaching hospitals where they will complete postgraduate training in intern and residency programs.

### 28 ELAHP Benefit

From 4 to 7 p.m., the Elders Living at Home Program will host its second annual fund-raising reception for temporary emergency housing and housing advocacy for homeless individuals 60 years and older. Guest speakers will include Lawrence Motley, MD, executive medical director of Boston EMS Ambulance Services; Elma Lewis, founder of the Museum of the National Center of Afro-American Artists and the Elma Lewis School for Performing Arts; and Jim O'Connell, MD, president of Healthcare for the Homeless. The event, which will feature entertainment and a silent auction, will be held at the Gamble House in the Back Bay. Tickets are \$75. For more information, call (617) 247-6494.

Throughout March, Bread & Circus supermarket on Westland Avenue in Boston will be collecting \$1 and \$5 donations to benefit The Kids Fund. All money raised will go directly toward sending an inner-city child to summer camp.

## Religious Services

### March

### 25 Passover Celebration

Rabbi Paul Levenson will lead a special Passover celebration from noon to 1 p.m. in the Interfaith Chapel, on the second floor of the Newton Pavilion. The celebration will include songs and holiday food. The Passover holiday begins Wednesday evening, March 31, and ends Thursday evening, April 8. All staff, patients and their families are invited to attend.

### 28 Palm Sunday Mass

A Catholic Mass celebrating Palm Sunday will be held in the Interfaith Chapel, on the second floor of the Newton Pavilion, at 3:30 p.m.\*

### April

### 2 Good Friday Service

An Ecumenical Good Friday Service will be celebrated in the Interfaith Chapel, on the second floor of the Newton Pavilion, at noon.\*

### 2 The Last Seven Words

The Last Seven Words will be delivered by Boston-area clergy in the Interfaith Chapel, in the Harrison Pavilion, at 3:30 p.m.

### 4 Easter Sunday Service

An Ecumenical Easter Sunday Service will be held in the Interfaith Chapel, on the second floor of the Newton Pavilion, at 9 a.m.\* A service will also be held at 1 p.m. in the Interfaith Chapel in the Harrison Pavilion.

### 4 Catholic Mass

A Catholic Mass will be celebrated in the Interfaith Chapel, on the second floor of the Newton Pavilion, at noon.

\* Services may be viewed on the BMC Pastoral and Spiritual Care Channel (Channel 6).

## Hospital celebrates International Week

**H**elping celebrate the many diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds of BMC employees, the Department of Human Resources and the Employee Diversity Council will host International Week from March 22 through March 26.

During the week, employees will have the opportunity to participate in daily educa-

tional and celebratory activities, including a cultural forum, a multicultural art exhibit, and displays that will showcase medical traditions and technology from around the world. In conjunction with Food and Nutritional Services, different international menus will be offered each day in the cafeteria featuring foods representing the five continents. In addition, a reception will be held for all BMC employees at the end of the week.

Employees are encouraged to participate by sharing art, books and other symbols of their heritage. For more information, contact Barbara Catchings at 638-8564. ♦

## Save the Date for the BMC Gala

**C**elebrate three years of exceptional care without exception at "International Avenue," the third annual BMC Gala. The event will be held at the Boston Marriott Copley Place beginning at 6:30 p.m., Saturday, May 1, and will feature cuisine and entertainment from around the world. A silent auction will also be held. Dress for the evening is black-tie optional or cultural attire and tickets are \$175. For more information or to volunteer, call 638-8990 or e-mail [bmc.gala@bmc.org](mailto:bmc.gala@bmc.org).



# People

**Thomas Einhorn, MD**, professor and chairman of the Department of Orthopedic Surgery at BUSM and chief of the Department of Orthopedic Surgery at BMC, recently received the Elizabeth Winston Lanier Award at the 66th annual meeting of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons. Einhorn was honored for developing new strategies to treat broken bones that have not healed properly and for documenting the complex physiological process involved in the normal healing of fractures.

**Cathy Downey, RN, BSN**, a nurse in the Surgical Intensive Care Unit on 5 East in the Harrison Pavilion, recently completed the home study program from Wicks Education Inc., of Mechanicsburg, Pa. The comprehensive program focused on the study of wounds, ostomies and continence for all areas of medicine. A BMC employee of 13 years, Downey is the co-chairperson of the Skin Task Force and an active resource person for any wound management problems.

**Lillian Caldeira McMahon, MD**, program director of the Boston Comprehensive Sickle Cell Center at BMC and associate clinical professor in the departments of Medicine and Pediatrics at BUSM, recently received the Distinguished Community Award for Outstanding and Dedicated Service to Sickle Cell Patients and the Community from the Community Sickle Cell Support and Awareness Center of Boston.

**Robert Meenan, MD, MPH**, dean of SPH and associate dean for Public Health at BUSM, was appointed secretary of the Arthritis Foundation. In this role, Meenan will lead more than 600,000 volunteers and staff nationwide in the foundation's mission to support research to find the cure for and prevention of arthritis and to improve the quality of life for those affected by disease.

**Gail Wilkes, RN**, nurse practitioner at the Cancer Care Center at BMC, along with oncology nurse specialists at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and in private practice, co-authored the 1999 *Oncology Nursing Drug Handbook*. The 723-page book is published by Jones and Bartlett Publishers and was recently selected by the *American Journal of Nursing* as a Book Of The Year for Oncology Nursing.

#### Grants awarded

**Hortensia Amaro, PhD**, professor of social and behavioral sciences at SPH, director of the MOM's Project, and vice-chair of the Boston Public Health Coalition, recently received a grant from the Center for

Substance Abuse Prevention. The grant — which will contribute \$100,000 per year for three years — marks the first time that the center has funded training for SPH faculty in substance abuse prevention. The funds will go toward training both SPH faculty and Boston Public Health Commission staff, and will also help forge a close collaboration between the two groups. "We are training four professors on addictions treatment and prevention," said Amaro, "who will be able to offer new courses, and perhaps, a minor in the field."

Amaro also received funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Those funds will be used to form the Boston Consortium of Services for Families in Recovery. The consortium will consist of SPH faculty, BMC clinicians and Boston Public Health Commission staff, and is part of multisite study on women who are victims of violence.

**Yasuo Ido, MD, PhD**, research assistant professor at BUSM, recently received a \$100,000 grant from the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation International. The funds will go toward research of C-peptide, a protein that is secreted from the pancreas together with insulin. Since its discovery, C-peptide has been considered a waste product without any biological function. This study will explore the mechanisms by which C-peptide can prevent some chronic complications of diabetes and the optimal method for its administration. The goal of the research is to provide a basis for human clinical trials.

#### New Appointments

**Sarah Donegan, PharmD, BCOP**, has recently been appointed investigational drug coordinator in the Pharmacy Department at BMC. She comes to the hospital from the National Cancer Institute in Washington D.C., where she worked as clinical/research oncology pharmacist for seven years. In her new position, Donegan will be

responsible for coordinating and implementing investigational drug studies, assisting investigators with regulatory and protocol design issues, and educating and training staff on pertinent policies and issues. Donegan received a doctor of pharmacy degree from the University of Maryland and completed a residency in clinical pharmacy at Rhode Island Hospital.

**John Guarente, DMD**, was recently named chairperson of the Department of Diagnostic Sciences and Patient Services at SDM. He had been serving as the acting chairperson of the department since 1997, and is the first graduate of the school to go on to chair a department.

A faculty member at SDM since his graduation, Guarente is a member of the American Dental Association, the Massachusetts Dental Association, and the National Society of Dental Practitioners. He currently practices dentistry in Revere.



Robert Meenan, MD



John Guarente, DMD



## Honoring MLK Jr.

At the 12th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Celebration, Carole Copeland Thomas, a leadership consultant, diversity professional and author, spoke to BMC employees. Praising the hospital's diverse history, Copeland Thomas weaved in her own personal experiences, inspiring staff to continue on with BMC's mission of caring for all people.

## Breastfeeding Center opens its door

*continued from page one*

also sponsors Pumps for Peanuts, a program which assures every mother with an infant in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit access to a breast pump, and One Mother to Another, a peer counselor program for breastfeeding mothers.

Breastfeeding is a very healthy option for both mothers and infants. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months of life, and continued breastfeeding, with the addition of solid foods, through at least one year of age. These suggestions are based on research that indicates breastfed infants have fewer ear infections and episodes of diarrhea, better visual and cognitive development, and a decreased risk of developing diabetes. For premature and low-birthweight babies, who make up nearly 20 percent of the births at BMC, breastfeeding is even more vital, as it protects against potentially fatal infections and intestinal complications.

"Breastfeeding is beneficial for mothers as well as infants," said Philipp. "Not only does it help protect against breast and ovarian cancers, but it also enhances maternal self-esteem."

The mission of the Breast-

feeding Center lies beyond simply encouraging women to nurse their infants. One of the goals of the center is to establish BMC as the first World Health Organization-designated "Baby Friendly" hospital in Massachusetts. To earn the designation, which is held by only 18 hospitals in the nation, BMC must complete a lengthy qualification process, including the implementation of "10 Steps to Successful Breastfeeding." The hospital also has to undergo an in-depth phone interview and on-site assessment. The center is located on the fifth floor of the ACC. ♦

#### Institutional abbreviations

- BMC** – Boston Medical Center
- BU** – Boston University
- BU Medical Campus** – BU Schools of Medicine, Public Health and Dental Medicine
- BUMC** – Boston University Medical Center (includes BU Medical Campus and Boston Medical Center)
- BUSM** – BU School of Medicine
- SDM** – Goldman School of Dental Medicine
- SPH** – BU School of Public Health

#### MedCenter News

Corporate Communications  
Boston University Medical Center  
715 Albany Street (B-7)  
Boston, MA 02118  
617/638-8491 (phone)  
617/638-8044 (fax)

Editor: Stephen McGettrick  
Publications Manager  
E-mail: [stephen.mcgettrick@bmc.org](mailto:stephen.mcgettrick@bmc.org)  
Contributing writers: Maria Hecht  
Sara Omer