

FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN

NEWSLETTER September 2006

ICGEB Centre for IIDMM



The International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB) and the Centre at UCT's Institute of Infectious Diseases and Molecular Medicine (IIDMM). This follows an on site visit to the IIDMM by the ICGEB technical committee, as well as the Minister For Science and Technology, Mosibudi Mangena, and Premier Rasool. Professor Vladimir Glison, who headed the ICGEB delegation indicated that they were extremely impressed by the organisation, infrastructure and research being implemented at the IIDMM. He felt that there was the possibility of carrying out good science in the Institute. This will be a major feather in the cap of the IIDMM, and of the Faculty.

including the university Research Committee.

Professor Hall's portfolio includes institutional planning and quality assurance as well as the co-ordination of appropriate processes to achieve university-wide transformation objectives. He is also responsible for HIV/AIDS policies in the university and for regional collaboration including the Cape Higher Education Consortium (CHEC). The director of Institutional Planning, the head of Internal Audit / Risk Management, the Transformation Office and the Discrimination & Harassment Office report to him. He represents the Executive on the university Audit Committee, the Building and Development Committee, and the Institutional Forum, of which he is the co-chair. Professor Hall holds a personal chair, and is affiliated to the Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship at the Graduate School of Business. He was formerly dean of the Centre for Higher Education Development at UCT, director of the Research Unit for the Study of the Archaeology of Cape Town, and director of the university's Multimedia Education Group.



Health Sciences Library

Collection Development is an important part of the Library function. If you know of any books which you think should be in our collection, please inform us at medref@curie.uct.ac.za. Interesting new books in our collection: New acquisitions are listed on our

Homepage at <http://www.lib.uct.ac.za/medical/SV>

Author: Greenhalgh, Trisha

Title: How to read a paper: the basics of evidence-based medicine

Publisher: Blackwell Publishing

Publ. Date: 2006 (Edition: 3RD)

Shelf No. M 808.066362 GREE



Author: Richardson, Ruth

Title: Vintage papers from the Lancet

Publisher: Elsevier/Lancet

Publ. Date: 2006

Shelf No. MH 610.941 VINT



Author: Kaplan, Jonathan

Title: Contact wounds: a war surgeon's education

Publisher: Picador Africa

Publ. Date: 2005

Shelf No. MH 617.092 KAPL

Clinical experience, inference and evidence: bathwater without a baby?

George Swingler

Professor of Paediatrics

INAUGURAL LECTURE

Wednesday 30 August 17h30 Student Learning Centre

RSVP: ems@ched.uct.ac.za

Solly Benatar

Our busy Professor has been: Paul B Beeson Visiting Professor in Medicine at Yale University School of Medicine. He was also awarded a Fellowship of Imperial College London for "

outstanding contributions to international medicine" Not only that, but he has been invited to serve for three years as the International member of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research's Standing Committee on Ethics—whose mandate is to identify for the Institutes' Governing Council high-level strategic advice on the emerging ethical, legal and socio-cultural dimensions of health and health research.



Duomo Baqwa

The second J Dumo Baqwa Memorial

Lecture was held on the 3rd August at Forrest Hill Residences. Professor Baqwa held the inaugural chair of primary health care, and was warden of Forrest Hill at the time of his sudden early death in 2001. Professor Nyameko Barney Pityana, Vice Chancellor and Principal of UNISA spoke about "Perspectives of leadership and silences of reason."



Heather Zar

The South African Department of Science and Technology (DST) has created recognition awards to celebrate Women in Science as a direct response to the vision encapsulated in the National Research and Development Strategy of ultimate improvement in the quality of life of South Africans. Heather Zar was a runner up in the category Distinguished Woman Scientist Award for her scientific contribution to the advancement of science and building the knowledge base within the natural sciences. Her research has focused on child lung health, particularly childhood pneumonia, HIV-associated lung disease, TB and asthma. Many of the findings have had implications for public health, with potential to improve child health.



Lyn Denny

The DST Award for Women in Science. Category: *Distinguished Scientist Award for the contribution to the improvement of the Quality of Life of Women* went to Lyn Denny. [Here shown with the Minister of Science & Technology] She has many



People

Deputy Vice Chancellors reappointed

Professors Cheryl de la Rey and Martin Hall were reappointed for a further five year term starting mid 2007. This followed a large majority Senate vote for each: Professor de la Rey (85, 7); Professor Hall (76, 14).

Professor de la Rey first joined the UCT Department of Psychology in 1995, following an eight-year scholarly stint at the University of Durban-Westville. She completed her Bachelor of Arts, honours and master's degrees at the University of Natal. She completed her PhD at UCT in 1999, her thesis covering the career narratives of women professors in South Africa. Professor De la Rey's portfolio includes

academic leadership and development of the university. She is also responsible for research, innovation and postgraduate affairs. The deans of the six faculties, the director of the Graduate School of Business and the dean of higher education development all report to her. She also has line responsibility for the Department of Research and Innovation and the Postgraduate Funding Office. In this respect, the directors of the Research Office, UCT Innovation and Postgraduate Funding Office also report to her. She chairs various Committees



What is the meaning of the word "Dean"?

The word *Dean* comes from the Latin *decanus*, of 10, and described the overseer of 10 Roman foot soldiers. In medieval Europe the word became ecclesiastical, and St Augustine (430 AD) described the Dean overseeing ten monks, and in Cathedrals 10 canons. The word changed in some settings to become *deacon*, whose superior was an *archdeacon*. The first reference to a medical Dean was in 1271 in the Charter of the University of Paris: "*Magistro J. de Racheroles tunc existente decano facultatis medicine*". The duties of a Dean are described as being *decanal* duties.

The Dean supervises 11, not 10, Departments in this Faculty. This is clearly a major blunder which occurred in the late 1990's during faculty restructuring. Research outputs will have to be scrutinised, and decanal order and symmetry obtained by reduction. What do we call the place where the Dean works? In Britain the term "Deanery" is where the rural Deacon resides, and is evocative of hollyhocks and scones. To avoid this evocation, we should seek another word, and we reject (in all humility) "Ground Control", "Mission Central" or even "Bremner Revisited". "The Office of the Dean" has a certain resonance. A past Dean is described as a *Has Dean*, and a powerful Dean (sometimes with Deputy Vice-Chancellery aspirations) as a *Gunga Dean*. The measure of cultural difference between American and other Deans is typified by the American, Dean Martin, who is remembered for observing "You're not drunk if you can lie on the floor without holding on."

DD, a Deputy D.

research interests, the chief one of which is gynaecological oncology. Within this arena, her work on cervical cancer prevention has brought her international acclaim. Cervical cancer has an extremely high incidence amongst poor populations, and a high mortality due to limited access to health care resources, principally to cancer screening programs. Denny and her collaborators have set out to redress this inequity, and make this a preventable and curable disease. They sought to research low cost cervical screening methods in the community at risk, and to find an alternative to the high cost cervical cytology ("pap smear") techniques. To do this she has trained nursing sisters in visual inspection and colposcopy, with appropriate referral of abnormalities. Over a period of 10 years they have screened, in the suburb of Khayalitsha, over 15,000 women for cancer precursors, and sexually transmitted diseases. She has developed culturally appropriate educational materials for the community-based education of patients [including a photo-comic, a radio play, a video, a documentary, and regular community radio programs]. The facilities which she created have been extensively used by primary health care providers.

Rob Brown—Adjunct Professor



Robin Brown in Paediatric Surgery has been made an Adjunct Professor. This is in recognition of his extraordinary contribution to paediatric surgery, serving both in the private sector, and as a part time consultant at the Red Cross Children's Hospital. He has produced an undiminished and steady stream of important publications in the surgical literature. He has made almost annual presentations at international paediatric surgery meetings. He has offered unstinting and enthusiastic emergency consultation at any hour for the hospital

Raymond Abratt to head up a national chapter of the UICC

The UICC (Union Internationale Contra Cancrum) is the world body that supports many areas of research and treatment of cancer. One of their

best known is the TNM [tumour, node, metastasis] system of cancer staging which is constantly expanded and revised. Professor Abratt has been invited to form a South African UICC Committee, to allow a South African input into the field.

Cutting edge surgeons

The recipients of this year's Jeffery and Partners Travelling Fellowship were Drs Christos Apostolou (third from left) and Doug Stupart (fourth from left). In picture were (from left) Prof Del Kahn, Dr Aaron Ndluni, Dr Peter Jeffery and Dr Bob Baigrie.



Several UCT registrars have been fortunate to benefit from the Jeffery and Partners Travelling Fellowship,

established several years ago to allow senior surgery registrars to visit leading international surgical centres. The programme's aim is to expose candidates to expertise not readily available locally. It's a very competitive process and thanks to the generosity of the Jeffery practice, the Department of Surgery was able to choose two participants this year: Drs Christos Apostolou and Douglas Stupart. Stupart visited the Vrije Universiteit Medical Centre in Amsterdam, where he worked in the hepatogastroenterology unit. Apostolou visited the surgery department at the Royal Perth Hospital. He gained valuable exposure to complex hepatobiliary and gastrointestinal surgical problems. Stupart and Apostolou have returned to junior consultant positions in the colorectal and hepatobiliary units, respectively, in the Division of General Surgery at Groote Schuur Hospital.

"Women in Medicine"

Investec Private Bank invites you to an exclusive ladies brunch

Guest speakers: Maria Ramos & Ramphele Mamphela

Economic Market Overview by Jeremy Gardiner, Investec

Saturday 9th September, 10h45 for 11h00

Venue: The Auditorium 5th floor Investec Bank Ltd

36 Hans Strydom Ave, Foreshore

RSVP raquel.zuckerman@investec.co.za

Hippocrates (he should visit GSH?)

✕ To do nothing is also a good remedy.

✕ If we could give every individual the right amount of nourishment and exercise, not too little and not too much, we would have found the safest way to health.

✕ Whenever a doctor cannot do good, he must be kept from doing harm.

✕ Life is short, the art long, opportunity fleeting, experiment treacherous, judgment difficult.

✕ Natural forces within us are the true healers of disease

Department of apology

We hope that Jonathan Ipser in Psychiatry forgives us for incorrectly giving his first name in the August Newsletter. [typewriter gremlin strikes again]

Quiz

August: Volume 1, Number 1 of the SAMJ was published on 19 January, 1884. Only Saskia Vonk, acting Chief Librarian got the correct answer (but then, she should, should'n't she?)

September: Where are the words "disgraceful conduct" prominently displayed in the Faculty? Answers: dmdent@uctgsh1.uct.ac.za

