

# FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN

## NEWSLETTER August 2006

### Bill & Melinda Gates at the Faculty

Bill and Melinda Gates visited the South African TB Vaccine Initiative (SATVI) in the Institute of Infectious Diseases and Molecular Medicine (IIDMM) 10<sup>th</sup> July 2006. They were accompanied by Dr Tadataka Yamada, executive director of the BMGF's Global Health Programme; Dr Peter Small, senior programme officer for tuberculosis at the BMGF; and Dr Jerald Sadoff, President and CEO of the US-based Aeras Global Tuberculosis Vaccine Foundation. The purpose of the Gates visit was to hear first-hand what progress has been made in developing a new and more effective vaccine against TB. SATVI receives substantial funding from Aeras and Gates Foundation and is currently involved in a number of clinical and immunological studies that will inform TB vaccine development. In addition they have completed the first phase one study in Southern Africa with a new TB vaccine at their field site in Worcester. [GH]

Quite separately at the end of July, our Dean, Marian Jacobs, visited the Gates Foundation headquarters in Seattle. The purpose of the visit was to meet with the Foundation to discuss projects which could improve health care in Africa. Various organisations represented included COHRED, UNDP, AMREF, NEPAD, WHO-TBD. Interest was expressed on strategies for strengthening human resources for health in Africa, and the meeting resolved to explore some options, including network of African academic health science institutions and continued support for the African Academies of Science.

### New cardiac catheter laboratory for Groote Schuur Hospital



L-R: AM ["AO"] Okreglicki, Pierre Uys (MEC Health), KC Househam (Director, Health), DM Dent.

A most generous donation of R12m from the DG Murray Trust to Groote Schuur Hospital has significantly improved capacity for service delivery, training and research in the Cardiology Division at UCT. It has funded the installation of a new cardiac catheterisation laboratory and angiographic suite with facilities for advanced electrophysiological investigation and treatment.

Cardiac catheterisation and angiography are procedures central to the management of patients with a wide variety of heart diseases whether the diseases involve the heart valves, coronary arteries or heart muscle. Replacement of the obsolete equipment that was in the refurbished laboratory means that the capacity of the department in terms of patient numbers and throughput has been restored. The superb imaging capabilities of this new angiographic suite are essential for therapeutic interventions within the coronary arteries. Such interventions are central to the practice of modern cardiology and this acquisition ensures that the professional postgraduate training we offer is performed with the very best equipment currently available.

Cardiac electrophysiological treatment refers to the management of disturbances of the electrical activity of the heart. This is a rapidly emerging and growing area of cardiology. Minor abnormalities of the conducting system or electrical system of the heart may cause severe symptoms or in some cases be fatal. Modification of

the delicate electrical system within the heart by catheters introduced through the veins can provide dramatic relief of symptoms and sometimes be life-saving. Pin-point accuracy is essential and this system provides that using electrical impedance to map the position of the catheter within the heart. UCT / GSH is the only academic teaching hospital in South Africa providing a comprehensive electrophysiological service and training in electrophysiology. This donation and acquisition immeasurably enhances teaching, training and research capacity. In thanking the donors Professor Commerford acknowledged the roles of Dr Andrzej Okreglicki and Dr Mpiko Ntsekhe both in motivating for the donation and refurbishment and their role in teaching and training. PC.

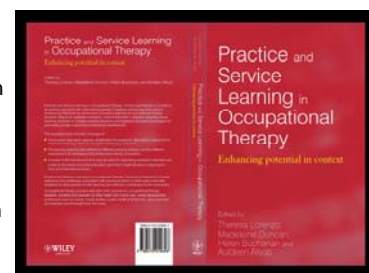
### People

**Raymond Abratt**, Professor of Radiation Oncology (pictured with his chief radiographer Liz Greef) was awarded the Annals of Oncology Prize for an article recognised as the best clinical trial published in Annals of Oncology in the period 2004-2005.

*Randomised phase III study of intravenous vinorelbine plus hormone therapy versus hormone therapy alone in hormone-refractory prostate cancer.* *Ann Oncol* 2004; 15: 1613 - 1621.]

**Theresa Lorenzo, Madeleine Duncan, Helen Buchanan with Auldeen Alsop** have published "Practice and Service Learning in Occupational Therapy: Enhancing Potential in Context" recently published (mid June).

This WHURR publication is the second book produced by staff in the Occupational Therapy Division.



**Dan Stein, Jenny Ipser, S Seedat** have been awarded the Keith Warren Prize for 2006 for the best Cochrane Review in 2005/6 [*Pharmacotherapy for post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).* *The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2006, Issue 1. Art. No.: CD002795.pub2. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD002795.pub2] Jenny Ipser will be the recipient of the at the XIV Cochrane Colloquium to be held in Dublin, Ireland from 23-26 October, 2006, to receive the award certificate and a cheque for US\$ 1000.

### Clinical Trials: Scientific Basis and Good Clinical Practice

Saturday 09 September 2006 0900 - 1300

Wolfson Pavillion Lecture Theatre, UCT Faculty of Health Sciences,.

- #The Scientific Basis of Clinical Trials: *Raymond Abratt*
- #The Research Ethics Committee: *Tuviah Zabow*
- #New drug development: *Marc Blockman*
- #Documentation issues: *Lauren Hill*
- #Vulnerable populations: *Nat Khaole*
- #Good Clinical Practice & Audits: *Raymond Abratt*
- #Discussion Panel

UCT Conference Management Centre, Faculty of Health Sciences, Tel: 021 406 6733 / Fax: 021 448 6263 Email: sirmong@curie.uct.ac.za

### OT students & LEAP.

We learned last week from Sue Kidson's involvement that LEAP Science and Maths School is a partnership between disadvantaged communities where there is a need for better education, private donors and the Western Cape Education Department. The specific objective of the school is for each LEAP student to graduate with a university exemption. In order to achieve this, students are subjected to virtually double the normal tuition time. Final year occupational therapy students have also been involved with a curriculum to meet the needs of youth who are at risk of developmental delay and dysfunctional behaviour due to adverse social circumstances and/or emotional trauma. The students focussed on enabling and empower the learners to overcome the practical problems of living that arise as a result of societal conditions

### Dean's corner

In 2004, the Higher Education Quality Council conducted a review of the University, with a view to improving our compliance with the requirements of higher education policies. Following wide-ranging discussions since that time, each faculty across the university has now been asked to make discrete input into the plan to address areas identified through this process through the University Quality Improvement Plan – UNIQUIP.

The process for UNIQUIP coincides with our own strategy for developing plans in each of the major areas of our concern, namely service; teaching and learning; research; transformation; and management. Faculty Board meetings have provided one forum for raising discussion around each of these, and strategies and plans are in progress for each of the areas identified. In the coming month, a Faculty-wide meeting on research strategy will be convened, while the upcoming Faculty Board will focus on aspects of education, as a springboard to planned meetings on undergraduate curriculum review and education policy.

But there is more to our Faculty than planning. And one of the highlights of translating good intentions into real action this month is the Women's Day event on Tuesday 8 August. Convened to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the women's march in protest against the Pass Laws, it will also celebrate the contribution of women to the development of our nation. The panellists – men and women – will discuss the place of women in academic health sciences, and in pursuit of our commitment to gender equality, we look forward to active participation from all in our faculty.

through participation in valued occupations in their school, play or social environments. They also launched a programme in collaboration with parents in Langa, attended after hours groups for pupils with substance abuse problems and offered individual sessions to identified learners requiring assistance with learning or occupational adjustment concerns. An occupational Therapy post is now in the process of being created at LEAP and at other similar schools being opened elsewhere in the Province.

### Smoking Rules and Legislation



On 29 September 2000 a new regulation was gazetted by the Department of Health to protect the rights of all South Africans to BREATH CLEAN AIR. This was done to control smoking in public places

thereby ensuring a clean, healthy environment for activities of daily living, public events, travel and work. Public places are defined as any indoor or enclosed or semi-enclosed area which is open to the public or any part of the public, and includes a workplace as well as the area within five meters of any doorway or entrance to any public place, or workplace. For the Health Science Faculty to comply with this legislation we need to: Issue a Non Smoking Policy and communicate the policy to the staff and students Post signs informing employees and the public of the prohibitions on smoking. Post signs informing employees of all workplaces and any outdoor designated smoking areas in terms of the Act. **FINES for Non Compliance: Any person found guilty of smoking in a place where smoking is prohibited shall be liable to a fine of not less than R300 and not more than R500 for the first offence, and of not less than R500 and not more than R1000 for subsequent offences**

### Beyond the human genome project: implications for medicine in the 21st century.

Eric Lander  
MIT & Harvard  
6pm 3 August New Learning Centre  
rsvp  
Namly@afrirogenome.co.za

"Do not consider a thing as proof because you find it written in books: for just as a liar will deceive with his tongue, he will not be deterred from doing the same with his pen. There are fools who accept a thing as convincing proof because it is in writing." *Maimonides (1135-1204), also known by the Hebrew acronym Rambam (Rabbi Moses ben Maimon), was the foremost Jewish figure of the Middle Ages and through his writings became an internationally known physician in his own lifetime. Between 1187 and 1190, he wrote his celebrated Medical Aphorisms.*

### Kidz connected

ITCS has increased the bandwidth to the Institute of Child and Adolescent Health. Effectively it means the bandwidth from Main campus to Red Cross / ICH was increased from 256kbps to 22Mbps - about 100X



### Quiz for booktoken

**Quiz July:** No one identified Frankie Forman and Helen Brown (part of cartoon framed on wall of journal / Helen Brown section in the Library).

**Quiz August:** This is the first issue of the SAMJ. Year?

dmdent@uctgsh1.uct.ac.za



## Physiotherapy at the 2006 Isuzu Berg River Marathon

The Isuzu Berg River Marathon was held from 12-15 July 2006. This 242km race takes place between Paarl and Velddrift with the canoeists paddling about 60K a day. UCT's Division of Physiotherapy provided physio to the 160 paddlers: a hugely enthusiastic team of 40 undergraduate students worked in teams to provide ongoing support from early morning pre-paddle massage and strapping at 6:30am to post paddle patch up and recovery treatment late into the night.; they worked in tough conditions which included rain, mud and freezing cold but continued to smile and provide professional encouragement and support. They were accompanied by three MPhil Sports Physio students from the UCT/MRC Research Unit for Exercise Science and Sports Medicine and the UCT Division of Physiotherapy. The masters students were collecting data for their research which included injury epidemiology – blisters, tendonitis, dehydration, hypothermia and diarrhoea all included in the list. Nearly 100 competitors agreed to participate in the research and much interest and awareness was generated as a result. This paddler certainly appreciated their work and many others who shared the water with me expressed their appreciation of the students' work which was reflected by the extended applause and whistles of approval at prize giving in thanks for their work. Thanks must also go to Weleda, BSN Medical and Johnson & Johnson for their sponsorship. RP, Physio lecturer, paddler and finisher.



### Aphorisms & history

"Care more particularly for the individual patient than for the special features of the disease."

*William Osler 1849–1919, Canadian physician, renowned as a physician and as a medical historian, he was also the most brilliant and influential teacher of medicine in his day. He was professor at McGill (1875–84), the Univ. of Pennsylvania (1884–89), Johns Hopkins (1889–1904), and Oxford (from 1905). In 1911 he was knighted. He wrote The Principles and Practice of Medicine (1892)*

THE SOUTH AFRICAN  
**MEDICAL JOURNAL.**  
"FOUNDED 1858" "FOUNDED 1858" "FOUNDED 1858"  
B. G. LENNON & CO.,  
WHOLESALE CHEMISTS, DRUGGISTS,  
DRUGGISTS' SUNDRIES,  
Manufacturers of all Descriptions of Pharmaceutical Preparations.  
22 & 24, Main Street; 2 & 3, Chapel Lane; and 1, 2, 3 & 4, Thompson Street,  
PORT ELIZABETH.  
LONDON OFFICE: 41, Abchurch Lane, Abchurch Lane, Abchurch Lane.  
BRANCH OFFICE: 7, Victoria Street, EAST LONDON.  
**RIVETT & CO.,**  
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL CHEMISTS,  
8, EAST LONDON, CAPE TOWN.  
Special Agents for Messrs. ARNOLD & SONS, London.  
Articles specially selected for the following articles:  
Huxley's Mammals' Dissections, Van Nostrand's Lymph & Tubes, Travers, Arnold's and American's Celluloid, Pasteur's and Pasteur's (in glass vials), Sponges and Laminaria Testa, Medicinal Suppositories, Powders and Bougies (of all kinds), Mariani's Vinodine, Valerian, Tricupular Sewing Machine (Goldsmith, light, and standard) Spray Producers, Arnold's Electrostatic Batteries.