Family Honors Patriarch, Advances Emergency Care

- Facing the Big Issues, page 5
- Gift Helps Launch Cardiac Distress Initiative, page 2
- $7.7 Million Gift to Stritch, page 8
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Conceptual Rendering

In this Issue

2 Family Honors Patriarch, Advances Emergency Care
3 Gift Helps Launch Cardiac Distress Initiative
4 Nursing School Honors Alumni Achievements
5 Facing the Big Issues
7 Kelly Foundation Gift Honors A Very Personal Connection
8 Stritch Graduate Leaves School $7.7 Million Gift
9 Chicago Community Trust Grant Assists New Parents
10 Grant Brings Students’ Perspective to the Community
11 What a Difference a Gift Makes
12 Loyola Scientists Hit the Road to Educate Community
13 Sex Therapist’s Parting Legacy
14 Nichoff Alumna’s Endowment Offers a Hand Up
15 Charity Begins at Home for NICU Families
16 Twins Mean Life with Gusto
17 It’s All in the Family
18 News in Brief

Family Honors Patriarch, Advances Emergency Care

F rightened after being in an automobile accident with her 3-year-old daughter, Betty Williams will never forget the personal attention she received from the late John Keeley, MD, a surgeon in the Emergency Department at Loyola University Health System (Loyola).

“I was waiting to have glass removed from my forehead, worrying about my daughter, when Dr. Keeley walked into my room holding her. He said, ‘I just wanted to let you know your little girl was fine,’” she recalled. “Then he removed the glass from my forehead himself, instead of calling over a tech to do the job.”

This happened about 30 years ago, but it’s still a comforting thought to Ms. Williams, who has been a service coordinator in the Emergency Department for 31 years and worked under Dr. Keeley. She remembers Dr. Keeley as a very precise and patient man. “He loved the emergency room, he really did,” she said. “He was truly a teacher at heart, happy to explain medical terminology and all the procedures he performed to patients, their families and medical students.”

A recent $2 million gift from the Keeley family, in honor of their father and grandfather, will provide for renovations to the Emergency Department. The department will be renamed the “John L. Keeley, MD Emergency Department.”

“The gift really speaks to the work Dr. Keeley did in the Emergency Department and the impact he had on patient care and the education of students and residents,” said Kevin Keeley, one of Dr. Keeley’s grandsons. “Emergency rooms can be very scary places, but a modern and comfortable environment can help families through their difficult situation.”

“It’s enabling us to move forward on improvements to benefit our emergency patients and staff, creating a loving legacy to a man who was highly valued by the department.”

The gift also will be used to improve the staff work areas by making them more ergonomically functional with new chairs and adjusted counter heights. The Emergency Department waiting room also will be overhauled and moved to a more private area.

Dr. Cichon said the gift is greatly appreciated because the Emergency Department hasn’t undergone a renovation since the late 1980s. “The gift will assist us in creating a new Emergency Department that provides the best experience we can offer to our patients at a time that they are undergoing incredible worry and stress,” he said.

Dr. Keeley, a heart specialist and surgeon who passed away in 1992, was the chair of the Department of Medicine at Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine from 1958 to 1969. He continued to attend weekly Department of Surgery conferences and worked as an Emergency Room physician until 1982, when he was 78 years old.

“Just about all of us grandchildren, at one time or another, spent time in Loyola’s Emergency Room to get stitches or have a broken bone mended,” said Kevin Keeley, one of Dr. Keeley’s grandsons. “Emergency rooms can be very scary places, but a modern and comfortable environment can help families through their difficult situation.”

“Upgrading the Emergency Department will help improve the delivery of care and increase efficiency and work flow,” he added. “The Keeley family hopes our gift will help provide services to a greater number of people in the community. That would be the most fitting way to honor my grandfather’s lifetime of work and commitment to Loyola.”

For more information about supporting Emergency Services at Loyola University Health System, contact the Office of Development & External Affairs at development@lumc.edu or (708) 216-3201.
Gift Helps Launch Cardiac Distress Initiative

A person in cardiac arrest has the greatest chance of total recovery if he/she undergoes angioplasty within 90 minutes of arriving at the hospital, according to a task force of the American College of Cardiology and the American Heart Association. Cardiac patients arriving at the Loyola University Health System (Loyola) Emergency Department will receive angioplasty well within the recommended 90 minute window thanks to a $500,000 gift from Jim and Sally Dowdle to help fund the Heart Attack Response Team (HARRT) Initiative. The HARRT Initiative staffs a team of cardiologists, nurses and technicians in the Emergency Department 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The department’s efforts to reduce the time patients wait before they receive treatment start even before they arrive in the hospital. Emergency medical technicians and paramedics in ambulances with EKG machines will attach patients to the machines to get a head start on the diagnosis. “Since many of our patients arrive in ambulances after an average ride of six to seven minutes, we decided it would be most efficient to use that time for diagnostics,” said Mark Cichon, DO, director of Emergency Medical Services. “If the driver when she experienced a tightening in her chest, nausea, numbness in one arm and profuse sweating. Recognizing the signs of a heart attack, she took a detour from her job and headed to First Avenue. “I’m a longtime patient of Loyola and I knew if I could get there I’d be fine,” she said. She had gotten as far as 31st Street and First Avenue when she had to call 9-1-1. She was transported to Loyola and underwent an angioplasty within 42 minutes. “The nurses and doctors were all waiting for me and everything happened expeditiously,” she recalled. “I’m undergoing therapy now. I feel great and am able to enjoy my six children and 11 grandchildren.” Learn about opportunities to support cardiac care at Loyola University Health System by contacting the Office of Development & External Affairs at development@lumc.edu or (708) 216-3201.

Fortunately for 56-year-old Joyce Moss, of Berwyn, little time was lost when she arrived at Loyola last November in the midst of a heart attack. Ms. Moss was on her way to work as a school bus driver when she experienced a tightening in her chest, nausea, numbness in one arm and profuse sweating. Recognizing the signs of a heart attack, she took a detour from her job and headed to First Avenue. “I’m a longtime patient of Loyola and I knew if I could get there I’d be fine,” she said. She had gotten as far as 31st Street and First Avenue when she had to call 9-1-1. She was transported to Loyola and underwent an angioplasty within 42 minutes. “The nurses and doctors were all waiting for me and everything happened expeditiously,” she recalled. “I’m undergoing therapy now. I feel great and am able to enjoy my six children and 11 grandchildren.”

In instituting the HARRT initiative, Loyola University Medical Center has become the first hospital in the western suburbs to take an aggressive pro-active position in advancing immediate care to patients in cardiac distress. Most hospitals do not have cardiac specialists on site during nights and weekends, meaning that precious time is lost when the team has to be called in from home.

Nursing School Honors Alumni Achievements

Loyola University Chicago Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing (Niehoff) held the school’s first Alumni Awards Luncheon February 7, at Klarchek Information Commons on the Lake Shore Campus. Mary Ann Noonan, BSN (’64) MSN (’79), FNP-BC received the Spirit of Ignatius Award and Mary Dowd Sheehan, BSN (’84), MSN (’92), MBA, received the Distinguished Alumni Award. Thomas Mackey, BSN (’74), PhD, FNP-BC, gave the keynote address to the 100+ alumni who gathered for the event. Dr. Mackey realized he had a vocation in health care while taking some time off after his freshman year at St. Xavier College in Cincinnati to work with a mission priest in Republic of the Congo, following years of military devastation in that country. As the only person with access to medical supplies in a remote and impoverished area, he became the area’s de facto nurse practitioner. “I delivered my first baby using the mission’s first-aid manual: I cut the cord and everything,” he recalls. Such trials-by-fire made it more than clear that he needed training to pursue this vocation, so he returned to the United States, where he attended Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing. A certified family nurse practitioner with 30 years experience in rural and urban health care, he is currently Professor of Clinical Nursing; Director of the Occupational Health for Nurses Program, and serves as Associate Dean for Practice at The University of Texas Health Science Center School of Nursing in Houston.

Mary Sheehan was drawn to Loyola University Chicago because of its strong reputation and Catholic ethos. She started her college career in 1964, she soon discovered she had a gift for teaching and became a nursing instructor first at a community hospital and then at Loyola, where she spent 21 years. She completed her master and Family Nurse Practitioner degrees along the way and kept her hand in practice through intermittent part-time positions and private duty nursing. While at Niehoff, Ms. Noonan started a program for Niehoff graduate nurse practitioner students to complete their final clinical course on the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation in South Dakota. Now technically retired — she is professor emeritus at Niehoff — Ms. Noonan works at Constance Morris House (a residential care and CEO of the not-for-profit Midwest Palliative & Hospice CareCenter in Glendale, Ms. Sheehan said “When I was a nurse, my caseload was 12 people — now it’s 1,200. It is a privilege to be a nurse and to lead an organization that provides the kind of care I believe in and expect for myself and for my family.” Ms. Noonan always, she said, had a desire to aid those in need. Early on, she felt that nursing was the best way to do it. She had a great role model in her mother, who returned to nursing school at 52 years of age, after raising six children. Her career has been an exciting journey, taking on diverse new roles as professional and service opportunities arose. Starting as a staff nurse at Edward J. Hines Department of Veterans Affairs Hospital in 1964, she soon discovered she had a gift for teaching and became a nursing instructor first at a community hospital and then at Loyola, where she spent 21 years. She completed her master and Family Nurse Practitioner degrees along the way and kept her hand in practice through intermittent part-time positions and private duty nursing. While at Niehoff, Ms. Noonan started a program for Niehoff graduate nurse practitioner students to complete their final clinical course on the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation in South Dakota. Now technically retired — she is professor emeritus at Niehoff — Ms. Noonan worked at Constance Morris House (a residential shelter for domestic violence victims) and is a volunteer nutrition and healthy living teacher at a Catholic grammar school. As for the future… “Who knows?” she says. While spending as much time with their grandchildren as they can, she and her husband, George, consider new adventures, “throwing around ideas like working in Guatemala or the Peace Corps.”

Jim and Sally Dowdle
Take the case of “imported” health-care workers. In a Stritch knowledge learned must lead to committed action. works to make concrete the Catholic, Jesuit principle that to discuss bioethical issues. At events like these, Neiswanger hosted a forum where people from around the country gathered net “importer” of health professionals. Neiswanger also recently system administrators, medical students and others. Neiswanger faculty member Kayhan Parsi, JD, PhD, gave a Grand Roundspresentation, “Migration of Health Care ProfessionalIssues of Ethics and Justice.” His talk was one of 12 typically scheduled in a year.

Listeners learned that 5,000 of the Philippine nurses who have left their country to practice in the United States are former doctors. Emigrating makes them part of a community that, in 2006, returned $1.3 billion to the Philippine economy in support of their families, while aiding the United States in its struggle with an unmet demand for nurses. Meanwhile, in a country already suffering from substandard health-care for the poor, hospitals and clinics in the Philippines close for lack of medical and nursing staff.

The lively question and answer period following Dr. Parsi’s presentation did not propose definitive solutions. The health-policy, social justice, economic policy and ethical questions this global migration raises are just too complex for quick answers. The goal was to educate students and professionals in a way that would empower them to be agents of change. In a similar forum during the 7th Annual Contemporary Catholic Health Care Ethics conference held last October at Stritch, the 150 participants were raising equally weighty issues. Topics ranged from “Jesus, Pope John Paul II, and Good Dying: Redeeming our Heritage” to “The Distinctiveness of Catholic Health Care: Fact or Fiction?” Participants included men and women from religious orders, nurses and doctors, academics and hospital-system board members.

Commenting on the benefits of conference discussions like these, presenter Michael Panicola, PhD, vice president, ethics, SSM Health Care of St. Louis, noted that “The conference helps prepare those within Catholic health care to carry out their mission. Because active members from the religious orders that founded many Catholic health-care institutions are dwindling, organizations increasingly look to lay leaders as primary mission-bearers, fulfilling the organization’s ethical commitments to patients, employees, vendors and the community.”

In addition to offering events such as the conference, Grand Rounds and sponsored talks — traditional ways in which academic institutes promote learning and institutional conversation — Neiswanger offers both on-campus and online courses.

On campus, the Honors Program in Bioethics & Professionalism is aimed at current Stritch medical students. Because people look to physicians for advice and perspective on issues within an increasingly complex health-care system, the program promotes systematic attention to bioethics issues, producing graduates who will be agents of positive change as they confront these questions.

Katie Wasson, PhD, MPH, director of Neiswanger’s honors program, cites direct-to-consumer (DTC) genetic testing, a relatively new field, as an arena in which many new ethical and health-policy questions arise. These new internet services give individuals access to a range of genetic tests, including ones for cancer, cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis or thrombophilia. Currently, only limited federal or state industry regulation exists, with many oversight gaps.

According to Dr. Wasson, it is unclear whether consumers receive a helpful context within which to consider test results and whether those results are scientifically reliable or clinically useful. From one perspective, DTC genetic tests enhance consumer autonomy. From another, the fact that this testing service is now widely available, unconnected to a health-care professional, “blows our standard model of informed consent right out of the water,” said Mark Kuczewski, PhD, the Fr. Michael I. English, SJ Professor of Medical Ethics and director of Neiswanger.

“Informed consent,” the communications process between physician and patient about treatment options that results in the patient’s authorization to undergo a specific medical intervention, is both an ethical obligation and a legal requirement. The process is a critical element in a patient’s ability to make an informed decision about a proposed course of treatment.

Whether an individual’s “right to know” should be limited in this arena, whether or to what degree the government should be involved, whether it is ethical to sell personal health information like a product to be bought or sold — these are questions ripe for discussion, and it is social developments like these where physician-leaders with strong bioethical training can offer valuable perspective to their organizations, the government and the public at large.

For those professionals out of school for some time, the Office of Development & External Affairs at development@lum.edu or please consider supporting the Neiswanger Institute. Contact the Office of Development & External Affairs at development@lum.edu or (708) 216-3201.

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The late Walter E. Neiswanger, MD, a 1952 Stritch graduate, made a $1.1 million gift to create the Neiswanger Institute for Bioethics & Health Policy. A noted pathologist and philanthropist, Dr. Neiswanger credited his parents with inculcating in him the importance of sharing with others, an activity he pursued with passion. His gift ensures that in all its programs and activities, the Neiswanger Institute for Bioethics & Health Policy can continue to raise the questions, do the research and train the health-care professionals who will put into practice the ideals of a Jesuit education to be “men and women for others.” If you are interested in helping to promote bioethics programs, please consider supporting the Neiswanger Institute. Contact the Office of Development & External Affairs at development@lum.edu or (708) 216-3201.
Mr. Donald Kelly, the retired president, chairman, and CEO of Envirodyne Industries of Oak Brook, Ill., also is a partner in D&J Kelly & Associates LP of Chicago. He is a former trustee of Notre Dame University, former director of the Museum of Science and Industry, and a former director of the Evans Scholars Foundation. “A huge White Sox fan,” according to his son, he is an all-around sports fan and keenly competitive golfer. He and Mrs. Kelly met at the insurance company where she had taken a job after attending college for a few years. She left that job when they were expecting their first child. The family’s close connection to Loyola began with a frightening medical emergency and has continued for more than 20 years. When one of her son Patrick’s daughters was just 4 years old, the child took a seemingly typical toddler spill at home. Everything seemed alright. But she awoke the next day disoriented and her parents rushed her to the local hospital, where she was intubated and evaluated. Subsequently, she was transferred to Loyola University Hospital, where doctors operated to correct a subdural hematoma. Today, she is a healthy college student.

Of this incident, her grandmother remarked “Loyola doctors saved her life. When that happens, you feel like you have a real connection.” And, now that her husband is a patient at Loyola’s Cardinal Bernardin Cancer Center, she said, “you really feel like you have a connection. We come here and we see what goes on — we know the care patients are getting and it makes a big difference.” Although their gifts to the health system (which have included support for the Transplant Immunology Lab and a cancer research endowment) are outside the realm of their foundation’s general giving focus — grammar and high school level education gifts — Dr. Galante bequeathed an estate gift of $7.7 million to his alma mater.

Medicine turned out to be a good fit for the younger Dr. Galante (he practiced until he was 71), who had intended to specialize in obstetrics/gynecology but chose radiology instead so that he could go into practice with his brother. “Dad never talked much about his work, but he was there six days a week,” said his son William, adding “Radiology was his hobby.” And when he wasn’t at work, he was reading medical journals, listening to cassettes, or going to seminars and conferences to keep up on the latest developments in the field. “He loved being a radiologist,” daughter-in-law Angela concurred, “and until the day he died he was up on current procedures and developments in the field.”

Like many young men of the period, Dr. Galante joined the war effort. Enlisting in the Naval Reserves in 1944, he served as a medical officer and surgeon in Washington D.C., China, Japan and California. Following his discharge in 1946 at the rank of lieutenant, he interned at St. Mary’s Mercy Hospital in Gary, Ind. and did his radiology residency in Louisville, Ky., at Nichols Veterans Administration Hospital.

Dr. Galante and his wife, Marion, settled in Westchester, Ill. and raised three children — William, Vincent Jr., and Anne — while he was on staff at Mother Cabrini and Holy Cross hospitals in Chicago. Later in his career, he earned a degree in and practiced nuclear medicine, becoming chief radiologist at Holy Cross Hospital.

A regular weekly bowler and, after he retired, a bridge player, he also loved beautiful cars, owning a Jaguar for awhile and two Corvettes in the early ’60s. After he retired, a bridge player, he also loved beautiful cars, owning a Jaguar for awhile and two Corvettes in the early ’60s. But his children agree that his greatest and enduring passion was medicine. William Galante recalled that “he always said ‘I was able to go to one of the best medical schools around.’ That’s why helping Stritch was key for him. He thought the world of Stritch.”

Dr. Galante’s tremendous generosity comes at an exciting time of growth and investment in the educational and research efforts for the medical school. Discussions are underway for how the gift can best benefit Stritch and the future of medicine at Loyola.
Chicago Community Trust
Grant Assists New Parents

S

hould my baby be crawling by now? When should
my toddler begin speaking in simple sentences? New
parents often have questions about their children’s
development. Providing parents with information and
support, as well as teaching them to recognize whether their
infants and toddlers are able to perform age-appropriate
tasks, is the focus of the Healthy Steps program.

The Healthy Steps program provides support and
anticipatory guidance to parents in child development
and common parenting issues such as instilling good
sleep habits, toilet training and providing discipline. The program
also helps provide guidelines outlining the age range when
infants and toddlers reach developmental milestones such as
rolling over, crawling and walking. Stritch residents who
perform well baby exams use these guidelines to assess the
development of their young patients.

Under the program’s expansion, 150 Loyola Outpatient
Center Healthy Steps program families with children aged
newborn to 3 years will be enrolled in Healthy Steps. Enrolled families
will receive additional support during well
child visits from child development specialists. The program
will include a home visit, assuring the children’s comfort
and allowing the residents to assess them in a natural
environment. The program also will include parenting
classes at the Loyola Outpatient Center at a time convenient
for participating parents.

Besides providing additional information and support for
participating families, the expanded program will provide
more opportunities for residents to work with patients
and hone their examining skills.

“Healthy Steps is a dual-purpose program that serves at-risk
families while providing valuable resident training,” said
Melanie Arvanitakis, MS, a Loyola University Health System
(Loyola) child development specialist. “We are grateful that
the Chicago Community Trust recognizes the value of the
program because we wouldn’t have been able to expand it
without the grant.”

Loyola patients who were born prematurely and at-risk
of developmental delays are eligible for participation in the
program, along with low-income families and those headed
by teenage parents.

The Chicago Community Trust has been in operation for 93
years, connecting the generosity of donors with the needs of
the community by making grants to organizations working
to improve life in metropolitan Chicago.

“The support of Healthy Steps was an excellent opportunity
for the Trust to continue to reap investment from our
ongoing strategic support for changing pediatric primary
care practice to better meet the needs of parents and
children,” said Diana N. Derige, program officer, the Chicago
Community Trust.

If you would like to support pediatric programs at
Loyola University Health System, contact the Office of
Development & External Affairs at development@lurmc.edu
or (780) 216-3201.  

Grant Brings Students’ Perspective to the Community

J

unior high students are the recipients of a second grant
from the Chicago Community Trust allowing them to share
their views of their community’s public health needs
through photographs.

The $10,000 grant has provided digital cameras and project sup-
port to students at the Proviso Area Exceptional Child Center in
Maywood, Ill., for the Maywood Past, Present and Future: Photo
Voice Project. The goal of the project is to have students take
photographs capturing both the community’s public health needs and
assets, according to the project’s principal investigator, Lena Hatchett, PhD, assistant professor, De-
partment of Preventive Medicine & Epidemiology, Loyola Univer-
sity Chicago Stritch School of
Medicine (Stritch).

“I believe adults have a lot of
misconceptions about what kids
think about their community,”
Dr. Hatchett said. “This project
will be instrumental in getting
adults and community leaders
to listen to children, while giving
youth a voice in the commu-
nity. I’m ecstatic that the Chi-
cago Community Trust took a
chance in funding this innova-
tive new project building youth
leadership and public health
advocacy skills.”

“The Trust looks to support new and collaborative best practices
that engage the community in improving health,” said Diana N.
Derige, program officer, the Chicago Community Trust.

“The Photo Voice strategy is a novel way to capture the youth
perspective on health using their cultural viewpoints, unique
skills and strengths to capture need and assets in the community.
Through this process young people can plan, think, create and
present their ideas and perceptions as equal partners in
community health.”

The program ran through the school year. Student response has
been positive. “The beauty of the project is that it’s designed by
the children, who work in a team with peer leaders,”
Dr. Hatchett said. “They take complete ownership of the project,
deciding which photos to take and how to categorize them.”

Students already have taken a variety of photos depicting the
Maywood community’s public health strengths and weaknesses.
For instance, several photos capture abandoned homes, stores
where people where shot during robberies and graffiti scrawled
on buildings. On the positive side, the students also took photos
of youth volunteers picking up trash and the places where they feel
safe, including schools, churches, parks and community centers.

The students will arrange the photos for formal exhibition in
locations around the community where local leaders, police
officers and the public can view them. In addition, Stritch student
Bhrandon Harris is assisting the young photographers in setting
up a web site to display their
photos online. “This is an excit-
ing opportunity for kids who
don’t have regular access to a
computer,” Dr. Hatchett said.

Dr. Hatchett is optimistic the
project will extend beyond the
current school year and has been
preparing teachers at the Proviso
Area Exceptional Child Center
to add it to the school’s regular
curriculum. “The teachers are
enthusiastic about the project
and report positive behavior
changes in students who par-
ticipated,” she said.

Stritch faculty and students
who have been involved in the
project also are excited about the opportunity it has provided to
work with the community. “It’s been mutually beneficial for the
junior high kids and the medical students to meet,” Dr. Hatchett
said. “It’s a small project but it helps our students at Stritch learn
more about the community they’re serving.”

From left, Monique Carpenter and Marissa Kessel, Proviso Area Exceptional Child Center students, look over
photographs they’ve taken for the Photo Voice Project.
What A Difference a Gift Makes

Loyola University Health System (Loyola) began 2009 with the announcement of four transformational gifts which will have a profound impact on the delivery of patient care and further the educational and research missions of the system. All four gifts are featured in this issue of Vision.

The Keeley Family Foundation, established by John L. Keeley Jr., president and chief investment officer of Chicago-based Keeley Asset Management Corp., and his wife, Barbara, made an outright gift of $2 million for the redesign of Loyola’s emergency department.

Loyola University Health System board member James Dowdle and his wife, Sally, have pledged $500,000 toward the cost of establishing the Heart Attack Rapid Response Team (HARRT) program, making Loyola the first hospital in Illinois to offer this service 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The Dowdles have supported other cardiac program initiatives at Loyola, with gifts totaling more than $2 million.

An extraordinary $7.7 million gift from the estate of Vincent Galante, MD, a 1943 graduate of the Stritch School of Medicine, will be used to advance educational and research activities at the medical school.

A $5 million gift from long-time Loyola University Health System supporter The Donald P. & Byrd M. Kelly Family Foundation will be used for oncology research and related programs.

Recent Events

An investiture ceremony was held for Charles S. Hemenway, MD, PhD, the Ronald McDonald House Charities® Endowed Professor in Pediatric Hematology and Oncology. Dr. Hemenway’s research focuses on understanding mechanisms and developing treatment approaches for a common infant leukemia, Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia. A professorial chair is the most prestigious honor that can be conferred upon a faculty member. We were proud to have representatives from the Ronald McDonald House Charities® attend this celebration and to be able to thank them for their generosity in supporting pediatric care at Loyola.

We held the last two installments of our Investigation & Impact research series in February and April. The Infections Diseases and “Superbugs” event featured groundbreaking research being conducted on the genetic makeup of bacteria and methods to cease or control the spread of infectious diseases. Attendees at How to Mend a Broken Heart learned about advances Loyola has achieved in cardiac care and cardiovascular research. I would like to thank Patty and Dan Walsh and Marge and Rolf Gunnar, MD, for hosting these two events. We will resume this series in the fall.

Campaign Progress

I am pleased to report that we finished our 2009 fiscal year (July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009) well ahead of our fundraising goal. In this economy, it is a testament to the exceptional generosity of Loyola’s friends and alumni who believe in the outstanding work that transpires on this campus.

The charts below show progress toward our campaign goals. I hope this progress is as inspiring to you as it is to me. Thank you for your continued support.

Partner: The Campaign for the Future of Loyola

Progress to date at the health system

Facilities

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Progress</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hospital Expansion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inpatient Oncology Expansion</td>
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<td>Emergency Department Renovation</td>
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<td>School of Nursing Building &amp; Learning Bridge</td>
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Programs

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<tr>
<td>Research projects (various)</td>
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<td>Community Outreach</td>
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Facility and Student Support

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<td>Endowed SSDM &amp; MNSSN student scholarships</td>
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<td>Expendable SSDM &amp; MNSSN scholarship funds</td>
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Health Excellence Fund

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<td>$10,000,000</td>
<td>$2,415,651</td>
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Campaign Goal: $500 million

Current Gifts and Pledges: $320,264,519 (6/30/2009)

From investigating potential cures for tenacious infectious diseases to developing vaccines for ovarian cancer, scientists from Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine (Stritch) and Loyola University Chicago Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing (Niehoff) are looking for new ways to prevent and treat disease. They have been sharing the progress of their work through a series of informational events — titled Investigation & Impact — attended by friends and supporters of Loyola University Health System (Loyola). The series takes medical researchers “on the road” to highlight Loyola’s advances in health research.

Researchers presented their investigations at three events this year, detailing their findings in infectious disease, cardiac care, cancer and cardiac remodeling. Richard Kennedy, PhD, vice president for Health Sciences Research, Loyola, said the topics of the research events have been chosen to share the health system’s strengths with members of the community interested in learning more about Loyola’s contributions to medical research. “We selected research areas where we are currently strong and will continue to develop competitive, internationally known research programs,” he explained. “Other research strengths will be highlighted in the future.”

The speakers chosen to present their work at Investigation & Impact events represent the variety of treatment approaches and research foci that Loyola supports in its efforts to bring leading-edge knowledge to improving patients’ lives. For instance, at the first event, guests got an overview of some Loyola cancer research and clinical trials, including discussion of a trial for an ovarian cancer vaccine. In February, Loyola scientists focused on new knowledge and approaches to infectious disease and “superbugs,” like Clostridium difficile (“C. diff”) and Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA), both of which can pose significant challenges to patient recovery. Finally, at the April event, scientists discussed advances in cardiac research addressing both the treatment and prevention of heart failure.

“’It is important for members of our community to know that we contribute to the future of health care by creating new knowledge and improving prevention and treatment strategies,’” said Dr. Kennedy. “As an academic health center, we offer more than the treatment of disease. Loyola’s three primary missions are patient care; research and the generation of new prevention and treatment strategies; and the education of medical, nursing and graduate students. Enabling our researchers to educate our community members and friends is expanding our mission in a new way. The generosity of many of our dinner attendees has assisted us in proceeding with our investigations.”

To learn about supporting research at Loyola, contact Shawn Vogen, PhD, assistant dean of development, at svogen@lumc.edu or (708) 216-5642.
Aimer, from the University of California, Los Angeles, a professor in the Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurosciences, Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine (Stritch), retired at the end of June. Dr. Renshaw, the director of the Loyola University Health System (Loyola) Sex Clinic, isn’t planning to retire without leaving a bit of herself behind. She has pledged approximately $50,000 to the Department of Psychiatry that she would like used toward the treatment of patients. “This is money I’ve received from supporters over the years and I can’t think of a more enjoyable way to spend it,” she said. “I’ve always been dedicated to my patients and to the education of medical students learning to treat patients. I hope my gift will contribute to my legacy after I’ve retired.”

Dr. Renshaw joined Loyola as a resident in the Department of Psychiatry in 1965. “I was the first and only resident in the department,” she recalled. After completing her three-year residency, she joined the department staff. “I became a full-time faculty member the day after my residency ended,” she said.

A native of South Africa, Dr. Renshaw earned her medical degree at the University of Cape Town. She planned to start her career in her home country, until she fell in love with Bob Renshaw, PhD, a Detroit native she met while she was at Harvard University for training. “I was at a conference and we needed a projector, and he happened to be the only person who had one,” she recalled. “It was a pure accidental meeting.”

Dr. Bob Renshaw, who taught economics at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, is now retired, and the couple lives in Lombard, Ill. Although they never had any children together, Dr. Renshaw considers her students family. “I become a full-time faculty member the day after my residency ended,” she said.

Approximately 3,000 married couples have visited the clinic, where they are provided seven weeks of couples counseling by a multidisciplinary team of health care professionals, including specialists in psychiatry, psychology, gynecology, urology, family medicine, nursing and social work.

Dr. Renshaw happened upon her specialties of treating marital and sexual problems when she discovered it was a counseling need that was not being met. “I was meeting numerous couples with intimacy problems, and nobody was treating them, so I decided to do something about it,” she said. In addition to running the sex clinic, she wrote a book, “Seven Weeks to Better Sex.”

Dr. Renshaw said she has enjoyed her more than 40 years at Loyola University Health System and would not change anything about her experience. “The people I’ve worked with have been like family to me, and I’ve enjoyed helping my patients live more fulfilling lives,” she said.

After a well-deserved vacation to the Grand Canyon and some rest and relaxation, Dr. Renshaw warns Department of Psychiatry staff and medical students not to be surprised to see her back on the job. “I’ll probably miss my job so much I’ll return,” she predicted.

For more information about giving a gift to the Department of Psychiatry, contact the Office of Development & External Affairs at development@lumc.edu or (708) 216-3201.
Hearfelt letters pour into the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) at Loyola University Medical Center. Accompanied by photos of cherished children, the letters relate the challenges overcome by premature and sick infants who spent the first days, weeks or months of their lives in the NICU. Many letter writers include gifts to help support the work in NICU, their children’s first home.

One proud family, who has since moved to Florida, relates the career plans of twin brothers who graduated from high school last spring: one wants to work with computers and the other wants to be a chef. “When they were laying in the NICU, I never dreamed or thought I would see them discharge.”

The Hoffman family, of Bridgeview, recently wrote to the NICU staff updating them on Matt’s progress. He volunteered at a local hospital and has participated in the Special Olympics, winning gold medals for the 50-meter dash and basketball. “Thank you for working double shifts, changing diapers, inserting tubes, giving medicine and loving our son,” the family wrote. “Our lives have been richly blessed because you were there when we needed help.”

Dr. Muraskas explained, “We’re so grateful for the generosity of our NICU families. Their support has helped us maintain the excellence we have enjoyed ever since we started this program 30 years ago,” he said. “The best gift is the knowledge that so many of our NICU graduates are thriving.”

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Gifts from NICU families also have gone toward education costs for physicians training to be neonatologists. “We’ve had 95 percent of our fellows pass their boards on first attempt, which is incredible,” Dr. Muraskas said. “Having the most qualified doctors is important for the survival of our NICU infants.”

For more information on making a gift to Loyola’s NICU, contact the Office of Development & External Affairs at development@lumc.edu or (708) 216-3201.

Twins Mean Life with Gusto

Carol Wolniakowski recalls undergoing an ultrasound in 2004 to view the twin boys she was carrying. “The ultrasound technicians told me, ‘We’ve never seen babies this active in our lives: good luck lady!’ she recalled with a laugh.

True to the ultrasound technicians’ predictions, today Matthew and Jeffrey Birnbaum are lively, fun-loving 4-year-olds. “They are normal, extremely active boys driving me nuts,” their mother said, with affection.

Matthew was not growing as well as Jeffrey. At one point I was told to be prepared to lose him and that we would be lucky to have one baby survive,” she recalled.

When she went into premature labor at 27 weeks, physicians were able to hold off the delivery for another week and administer steroids to help the babies’ lungs develop. “During that week, I’m so grateful that one of my physicians, Jonathan Muraskas, MD, visited me in the intensive care unit and gave me a pep talk that it would be O.K. if our babies were born early,” Ms. Wolniakowski said. “I always felt confident in the care our boys received in the NICU and knew they were in the best place they could be. That’s why I’m so happy to contribute to the NICU and help other families whose babies are born too soon.”

Matt Hoffman, 21, spent time in the NICU in 1987. Born 16 weeks early, he contracted necrotizing enterocolitis three times, as well as suffering a brain hemorrhage and rickets.

Sara Harrison, 11 years old

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Charity Begins at Home for NICU Families

Sara Harrison, 11 days old

The Schuster family of Western Springs sent a newspaper clipping detailing 15-year-old Dan’s success in a state high school tennis tournament and the Harrison family of Lake in the Hills sent a photo of 10-year-old Sara competing in her first horseback riding competition.

The letters and gifts are a part of the perks that make the CARE program so rewarding, according to Jonathan Muraskas, MD, professor of neonatal-perinatal medicine/obstetrics & gynecology at Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine.

The CARE program includes gifts to help support the work in NICU, their children’s first home.

“It’s heartwarming to receive letters and gifts from NICU families,” Dr. Muraskas said. “But the best gift is the knowledge that so many of our NICU graduates are thriving.”

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It’s All in the Family

YEARS OF MEDICINE AT LOYOLA

Medicine is a Lee family tradition, and they intend to keep passing it along. Family members have recently established the Lee, Miller and Weedon Family Medical Student Endowed Scholarship Fund at Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine (Stritch) to help alleviate the financial burdens facing many medical students today.

According to Edward Lee, who graduated from Stritch in 1948, his family’s connection to medicine goes back at least as far as his paternal grandfather, who practiced Chinese medicine in Guang Dong (Canton) Province, China in the late 19th and early 20th century. Edward and David’s father, who emigrated to the United States at 19 years of age, made his living as a merchant, but Edward and his brother, David (Stritch ’57), both became physicians and two of their sisters married physicians. They are just the beginning of a long association with Stritch and with Loyola University Chicago Marcella School of Nursing, illustrated by the family tree below.

When Edward suggested the family pool their resources and do something bigger? Karen Lee Miller credited her family tree below. When Edward suggested the family pool their resources and create a scholarship for medical students at Stritch, family members were enthusiastic about the idea. “We were all making annual gifts anyway,” he said. “Why not get together and do something bigger?” Karen Lee Miller credited her Uncle Edward and cousin Randall with doing most of the groundwork to establish the fund, but added “Our family appreciates the education Stritch provides. We support its nurturing atmosphere and its ability to train well-rounded physicians who work well as part of a team and can communicate well with their patients.” After their daughter, Kathryn, graduated from Stritch in ‘05, Mrs. Miller and her husband, Robert (Stritch ’74), are now encouraging their son to consider the school.

The Lee, Miller and Weedon Family Medical Student Endowed Scholarship Fund will be used to provide full or partial scholarship assistance to full-time medical students with preference given to second-year students with financial need and will be renewable provided the student remains in good academic standing.

Said Edward of his family’s commitment to Stritch: “It is a Jesuit institution that taught us to be ethical, transparent and honest in all our dealing with patients. That has been invaluable”. For more information about 100 years of medical students, visit www.stritch.luc.edu/alumni.com.

News in Brief

$2 Million Federal Grant Funds Burn & Shock/Trauma Research

Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine’s (Stritch) Burn & Shock Trauma Institute received $2 million in federal grants from the U.S. Department of Defense to further research beneficial to the military. The grant money will be used to purchase equipment and expand the current scope and capabilities of the Institute’s research initiatives. Investigators at the center are currently researching treatments for infections, the use of blood substitutes, treatments for hypovolemic shock (shock caused by a decrease in the volume of circulating blood), immune response and wound healing.

State Pledges $2 Million to Help Build Nursing School

The State of Illinois pledged $2 million to Loyola University Health System (Loyola) to assist with costs in building a nursing school on the Maywood campus. The Loyola University Chicago Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing (Niehoff) will be built alongside Stritch, allowing medical and nursing students to learn and work in a collaborative environment, as well as to share resources. “A state commitment today will have a lasting impact during a critical time of our nation’s history,” said Karen Alexander, senior vice president, Development & External Affairs, Loyola. “They believe helping Loyola construct this facility will increase the growth of a new generation of highly trained nurses in Illinois.”

Niehoff Alumna Named President of Loyola University Hospital

Sharon O’Keeffe, RN, MSN, has been named president of Loyola University Hospital. Ms. O’Keeffe comes to Loyola from Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis, where she has served as chief operating officer since July 2002. A Chicago native, Ms. O’Keeffe began her career as a critical care nurse at Loyola in 1974 and earned a master’s degree in nursing from Niehoff. “I am excited to return to the organization that shaped my academic and early professional years,” she said. Ms. O’Keeffe has had significant experience in operations management; improvement in financial performance; achievement of quality, safety and patient satisfaction goals; support of the academic environment; and appreciation of mission objectives. “Her professional abilities and personal attributes, combined with her high level of energy and expertise, make her a tremendous addition to our organization,” said Paul K. Whelton, MB, MD, MSc, president and CEO of Loyola.

Study: Chaotic Clinic Environment Leads to Health Care Disparities

The environment of health care clinics may play a large part in the poor health outcomes that minorities experience from chronic conditions such as high blood pressure and diabetes, according to a study published in the Archives of Internal Medicine. Anita Varkey, MD, assistant professor, Department of Medicine, Stritch, and her fellow researchers compared 96 primary care clinics, including 27 that had at least 30 percent minority patients and 69 that had less than 30 percent. They found that the clinics with larger proportions of minority patients were four times more likely to have a chaotic work environment, and their physicians were half as likely to report job satisfaction. “When you have limited access to medical supplies, referral specialists and examination rooms, coupled with a more complex patient mix, you can start to see the challenges involved with providing high quality primary care,” Dr. Varkey wrote. The study authors indicated that strategies to improve patient care at these clinics should target measures to reduce physician burnout, clinic chaos and work control measures.

Catheter Ablation Superior to Medication for Atrial Fibrillation

Treating abnormal heart tissue with radiofrequency energy is a dramatically more effective way of treating common heart rhythm disorders than using medication, according to a major international study in which Loyola researchers were involved. The study included 159 patients at 19 cardiovascular centers. Lead researcher David Wilber, MD, George M. Eisenberg Professor of Cardiovascular Sciences and director of the Cardiovascular Institute at Stritch, presented study results at the American Heart Association’s 2008 Scientific Sessions last fall. One year after undergoing catheter ablation treatment, 75 percent of patients with irregular heartbeat, called atrial fibrillation, were free of symptoms. However, only 21 percent of those treated with medication were symptom-free. In the ablation procedure, an electrophysiologist destroys small areas of heart tissue that are responsible for the erratic electrical signals. A catheter is guided through blood vessels to the heart. The tip of the catheter delivers radiofrequency energy that heats and destroys the selected tissue.

Study Links Soda Pop Habit to Early Kidney Disease

Women who drink two or more cans of soda pop daily have nearly twice the risk of developing early kidney disease, according to a study published in the Public Library of Science’s journal, PLoS ONE. Researchers from Stritch and the University of North Carolina examined data from more than 9,000 U.S. adults participating in a national health and nutrition survey that involved urine samples and a questionnaire about dietary habits. Women who reported drinking two or more soft drinks in the previous 24 hours were 1.86 times more likely to have albuminuria in their urine, a marker for early kidney damage. Albuminuria is an excess amount of a protein called albumin. Healthy kidneys filter out albumin, so an excess amount can be a sign of damage. Researchers did not find the same risk in men, or people who drink diet soda pop. They concluded that additional studies are needed to determine whether the elevated risk of kidney disease is due to high fructose corn syrup in soft drinks, an overall excess intake of sugar, lifestyle factors or other causes.
Save the Date
Friday, Nov. 20, 2009
The Hilton Chicago

Loyola University Chicago
Stritch School of Medicine
Annual Award Dinner

Honoring
His Eminence Francis Cardinal George, OMI
Gerard V. Aranha, MD
2009 Stritch Junior Service League