

PedsAlumni Connections

Volume 1, Issue 1

February 2009

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Re-Connecting

A message from Ed McCabe, M.D., Ph.D.
 Physician-In-Chief, Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA
 Mattel Endowed Executive Chair, Department of Pediatrics

Dear Alumnus,

My purpose in creating the UCLA Department of Pediatrics Alumni Association newsletter, *Connections*, is to continue to build the relationship that we once experienced whether in the classroom, clinic, or lab.

We have thousands of talented pediatricians who have trained at UCLA. Some have remained at the university, while others practice in Southern California, and many work around the United States and throughout the world.

As I think about the function of our Alumni Association, my hope is to engage you as an ongoing partner with the UCLA Department of Pediatrics by:

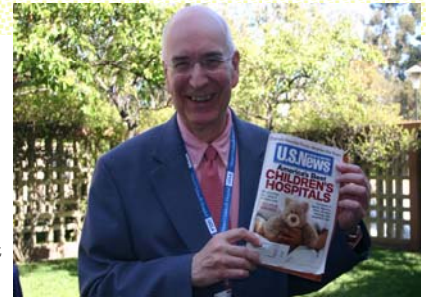
- ◆ Establishing communication links with and among alumni
- ◆ Creating a sense of community between graduates of the residency and fellows programs
- ◆ Advancing medical education, career growth, and net-

working opportunities

- ◆ Contributing to the ongoing growth, innovation, and excellence of the Department
- ◆ Cultivating an appreciation for the 58 year history of the Department of Pediatrics
- ◆ Conveying international collaboration opportunities by improving the connectivity among pediatric researchers & strengthening the pediatric research network worldwide.

While we may be miles apart, as our world becomes more technologically advanced there are a number of communication opportunities to link us—email, text messaging, cell phone and even old fashioned “snail mail”. While this issue is sent U.S. mail, it is also posted on our website at:
www.mattel.medsch.ucla.edu.

Soon future issues will be sent electronically so please send us your email address to:



Dr. McCabe with U.S. News & World Report 2008 edition of America's Best Children's Hospitals that ranks Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA among the top in the nation.

pedsalum@mednet.ucla.edu.

Ultimately, my hope is that as we build our relationships through the Alumni Association, we will begin an ongoing dialogue and create *connections* that will ultimately lead to improved health for children everywhere.

Sincerely,



New Faculty as of July 1, 2008

Noah Federman, M.D.
Hematology/Oncology

Brent Gordon, M.D.
Cardiology

Alan Ikeda, M.D.
Hematology/Oncology

Robert Kelly, M.D.
Critical Care

Jason Lerner, M.D.
Neurology

Joyce Matsutomo, M.D.
Neurology

Sean McGhee, M.D.
Allergy/Immunology

Delma Nieves, M.D.
Infectious Diseases

Jamie Powers, M.D.
Neonatology

Eileen Tsai, M.D.
Nephrology

Joshua Zaritsky, M.D.
Nephrology

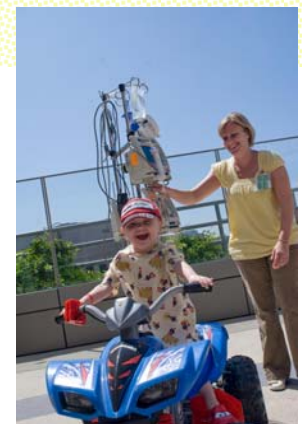
New Hospital Opens!

Open on June 29, 2008, the Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, home to the Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, optimizes healing through technology and design.

Bright and airy, patient rooms all feature windows that afford panoramic views and bring in an abundance of natural, healing light. All patient rooms are private and feature window

seats that convert to daybeds, allowing family members to room-in.

Each has the capability to convert into an intensive care unit (ICU) room to allow for the continuous care of a critically ill patient in one room. Many procedures can be performed in the rooms, instead of having to move patients. Continued page 2



UCLA NanoPediatrics Program Explores Nanotechnology in Diagnostics and Treatment

Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA has launched the UCLA NanoPediatrics Program, one of the world's first dedicated solely to nanomedicine and pediatric patients.

"Why develop a nanopediatrics program? Because children are not small adults," said Dr. Edward McCabe, physician-in-chief of Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA and founding director of the new program. "We know that drugs affect children — they metabolize, excrete and may even utilize, developmentally specific receptors — differently than adults. Unless children are included as a research priority for the

application of nanotechnology, then we will simply be applying approaches developed for adults. This flawed strategy will place children at risk, as opposed to a program in which children will be the focus from the outset."



Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA
NanoPediatrics Program

Projects currently underway at UCLA include the development and application of nanodiagnostic tools such as DNA-based newborn screening tests for genetic abnormalities, the development of a new generation of nanodevices for the treatment of children with genetic diseases and cancer, and

the investigation of the use of nanoparticles for diagnostic imaging both during pregnancy and after birth.

Created thanks to a generous \$1.8 million gift from the Mattel Children's Foundation, the program will support a nanopediatrics research core and pilot funding for projects that will potentially enable investigators to obtain grants from the National Institutes of Health.

The Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA NanoPediatrics Program will partner with the California NanoSystems Institute (CNSI) at UCLA, an integrated research center established in 2000 to encourage university collaboration with industry and enable the rapid commercialization of discoveries in nanosystems. For additional information, visit www.nanopediatrics.ucla.edu.

New Pediatric Inflammatory Bowel Disease Center at UCLA

Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA extends its top-notch expertise to provide the highest quality care to children with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD).

Doctors from UCLA's Division of Pediatric Gastroenterology care for hundreds of children, ages one through 18 with IBD. This condition comprises both Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, which exact an emotional, developmental, and physical toll on children and typically has its onset during adolescence, a particularly vulnerable time of life. By consolidating the care of pediatric patients with IBD in a multi-

disciplinary clinic established for their unique needs, UCLA's pediatric gastroenterology team takes care of the "whole" child.

The Pediatric IBD Center, directed by Dr. David Ziring, includes a multidisciplinary team of experts. In addition to providing state-of-the-art care to children throughout Southern California, the Center

will be training pediatric gastroenterology fellows, residents, and medical students.

It will participate in clinical trials that will increase knowledge about IBD and allow evaluation of new treatments for children with IBD.

For further information, please contact the UCLA Division of Pediatric Gastroenterology at (310) 206-6134.

Now, in one visit, children can be seen and evaluated not only by their IBD specialized pediatric gastroenterologist, but also by a nutritionist, social worker/psychologist, nurse, and research study coordinator who oversees clinical trials.

Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA Opens continued from page 1

The Mattel Children's Hospital features three age-appropriate playrooms for babies, small children, and teens. These kinds of child-friendly spaces offer comfort and support for the social and emotional needs of children and families in the hospital.

Finally, the separate entrance to children's hospital features a "welcome wall" that incorporates artwork and video screens. The video screens showcase stories of staff,



patients, and families to welcome and comfort visitors and to provide a less intimidating entrance for children.

For a virtual tour, visit www.uclahealth.org.

To learn more about Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, visit www.uclahealth.org/mattel.

Noteworthy: Awards and Recognition

James Yamazaki, M.D., received the 2008 Socially Responsible Medicine Award for his compassionate research on the effects of radiation on victims of nuclear weapons in Nagasaki and Hiroshima and his ongoing efforts to create a more peaceful world. The award was given by the Physicians for Social Responsibility, Los Angeles.

Sherin U. Devaskar, M.D., professor and executive vice chair in the department of pediatrics, has been selected by the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services to serve on the National Advisory Child Health and Human Development Council. In addition, she is currently the Vice President of the American Pediatric Society 2008-2009 and will serve as President in 2009-2010.

Tumaini Coker, M.D., MBA, clinical instructor, general pediatrics, is the recipient of a 2008 APA & AHRQ Young Investigator Award from the Academic Pediatric Association.

E. Richard Stiehm, M.D., professor of pediatrics in the division of allergy, immunology and rheumatology, was presented with the 2007 Abbott Laboratories Award in Clinical and Diagnostic Immunology at the annual meeting of the American Society for Microbiology (ASM).

Edward McCabe, M.D., Ph.D., has been elected president of the American Society of Human Genetics (ASHG). His term with ASHG will include serving as president-elect in 2008 and president in 2009, followed by two years on the board of directors.

Jennie Ching-I Tsao, M.D., associate professor of pediatrics in the Pediatric Pain Program, has been selected as one of six winners of the 2007-08 Mayday Pain & Society Fellowship.

Vedang Londhe, M.D., assistant professor of pediatrics in the division of neonatology, received the 2008 Ross Award in Research by a Young Investigator at the Western Society of Pediatric Research annual meeting.

James Cherry, M.D., professor and former infectious diseases division chief, has finished the 6th edition of his textbook written with Ralph Feigin, *Pediatric Infectious Diseases*. It is considered the definitive textbook on infectious disease.

Brigitte Gomperts, M.D., assistant professor in the department of pediatrics and member of the division of hematology/oncology, received the 2007 Ross Young Investigator Research Award.

The UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities has been selected as one of 22 new study centers for the National Children's Study, a nationwide project designed to assess the effects of environmental and genetic factors on children's health in the United States. The study center will manage local participant recruitment and data collection for the largest study of child health ever conducted in the United States.

Meet Virginia Barrow, M.D., Director, UCLA Pediatric Residency Program

Dr. Virginia Barrow began her responsibilities as Director of the Pediatric Residency Program in 2007. She came to UCLA from Chicago's Cook County Hospital where she was Associate Residency Program Director. After studying microbiology at Texas A&M University, she attended medical school at University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio. Following her residency, Dr. Barrow studied health professions education at the University of Illinois Chicago College of Medicine. She was the Associate Clerkship Director at Rush University.

Dr. Barrow chose UCLA because of the opportunity to focus on education, curricular development and

research. As residency program director, she coordinates and develops educational programs for 87 pediatric residents and 16 medicine/pediatric residents at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, Santa Monica Hospital UCLA, Olive View Los Angeles County Medical Center, Cedars Sinai and multiple community sites. In addition, she ensures the curriculum is both innovative and in compliance with regulations.

Dr. Barrow describes the UCLA/Bruin environment as being "at the forefront of medicine, education, research, sports, etc. I am amazed by all of the resources found on this one campus."



Connecting learners with the best mentors so that they achieve their professional goals is both rewarding and challenging, says Dr. Barrow.

Announcements: Fellowship Loan Assistance and Comfort Care Program

Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA board member Ray Scherr and his wife Janet have generously endowed an innovative program to address a critical need in academic pediatrics: to attract talented residents into entering a fellowship program in spite of loan debt incurred as a result of medical school and to retain current fellows.

Each candidate must exhibit documented loans and is chosen based on merit from a selection committee. The unique aspect of this program is the repayment structure which has incentives for remaining in academic pediatrics.

The newly launched **Children's Comfort Care Program (CCCP)** at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA is dedicated to the improved treatment of a child's pain and palliative care. Working within the healthcare environment and reaching out to the community, the CCCP hopes to promote awareness, improve quality of care, and support research for girls and boys with serious illnesses.

Members from the CCCP's Parent Advisory Board pictured from left to right: Kimberly Steele, Marco Flores Jr., Marco Flores Sr., Jennifer Bamieh, Patricia Benson, Cathie Ferre, and Dr. Elana Evan, Program



Director, Facilitator. Not present: Frances Flores (Board Member), Marla Knoll, LCSW (Board Co-Facilitator).

PEDSALUMNI CONNECTIONS IS PUBLISHED BY THE MATTEL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL UCLA
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<http://www.mattel.medsch.ucla.edu>

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- Tell us news about yourself.
- Send us your comments and suggestions.
- Share your opinions.
- Snail mail us at PedsAlumni Connections, Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA, Communications Office, 10833 Le Conte Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1752

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pedsalum@mednet.ucla.edu

UCLA Health System

Transitional Care Program for Adolescents & Young Adults with Congenital Heart Disease

UCLA Assists Teens Transitioning Into Adulthood

What happens to children with heart disease when they grow up? This question is a growing concern with patients, parents, and the pediatric community.

To provide some answers, UCLA's Division of Pediatric Cardiology has combined their expertise with that of the Ahmanson/Adult Congenital Heart Disease Center to create the UCLA Transitional Care Program for Adolescents & Young Adults with Congenital Heart Disease.

The program provides a wide range of activities and services to assist the teen with congenital heart disease and their family to transition to adult medical care. Youth between the ages of 12 -18 who were born with congenital heart disease, their parents, and their siblings can participate.

Both pediatric and adult cardiologists, as well as adolescent medicine and adolescent gynecology specialists will be part of this top-notch health care team. Some of the important services they will provide include:

- ◆ Comprehensive consultation, diagnostic, and medical and surgical management
- ◆ Transitional care planning to adult congenital heart disease programs
- ◆ Adolescent gynecology, contraception counseling and management
- ◆ Career and vocational counseling
- ◆ Educational forums and classes for parents and teens

For more information, contact Clinical Nurse Specialist Mary Canobbio, RN, MN, FAAN at telephone 310-825-3091; email mcanobbio@mednet.ucla.edu.

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★ **Come Visit Us at the PAS Conference** ★
★ **May 2—4, 2009** ★

★ Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA will once again be at this year's PAS conference in Baltimore. ★

★ **Drop by our booth #230 in the Exhibit Hall.** ★

★ And, please attend our alumni reception on **Saturday, May 2 from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m.** at the Renaissance Harborplace Hotel in the Maryland D room. ★

★ Last year's gathering was a huge hit. Visit old friends and hear about current activities and plans for the future. ★

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MCH/UCLA 2009 PEDIATRIC BOARD REVIEW COURSE

Over 244 pediatricians from across the nation attended the 13th Annual Pediatric Board Review Course in September 2008. The upcoming 2009 course is planned for September 8—13. For more information email: pedsalum@mednet.ucla.edu.