Kicking the Habit: UC Researchers Test New ‘Stop-Smoking’ Vaccine

By Keith Herrell
keith.herrell@uc.edu

Many smokers want to end their habit but can’t seem to quit despite the availability of prescription and over-the-counter aids to smoking cessation such as pills, gum, patches, and lozenges.

Now, a vaccine designed to help people quit smoking and avoid relapses after they quit is being tested at the Tri-State Tobacco and Alcohol Research Center (Tri-TARC), which is affiliated with the psychiatry and behavioral neuroscience department at the UC College of Medicine, the Cincinnati Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center and University of Cincinnati Physicians.

“The idea of using immunotherapy for treating tobacco dependence is an exciting one, and we’re looking forward to Tri-TARC’s participation in this study,” says Robert Antinelli, MD, Tri-TARC’s director and a professor in the psychiatry and behavioral neuroscience department at U of C. The vaccine, called NicVAX (Nicotine Conjugate Vaccine) is being developed and manufactured by Nabi Biopharmaceuticals. This is a phase III clinical trial, the

Once-Troubled Teen Donates Kidney to Mentor

In Rare Coincidence, Young Man Offers Organ to Man He Hadn’t Met, Becoming More Than a Perfect Match

By Katy Cosse
kathryn.cosse@uc.edu

When describing his old self, Travis Durbin will just say that he wasn’t one of the good guys. Growing up, the North College Hill teenager dropped out of school and became involved in violent crowds. He says he was deceitful and had trouble with the law.

But getting prepped for surgery at UC Health University Hospital on the morning of April 15, he was about to become one of the good guys.

Durbin was donating a kidney to his new friend and mentor Volker Rieser, PhD. Though this time last year Rieser and Durbin had never met, they’ve now formed an unusual friendship around Travis’ decision.

Durbin learned about Rieser last summer after his stepfather, Rick Sayler, mentioned him at dinner. Rieser, one of Sayler’s clients in his financial advisory business, had requested that a notice be put in the next client newsletter about organ donation.

After a struggle with diabetes, a car accident that left him with a bruised kidney among other serious injuries and then two years on dialysis, Rieser was in desperate need of a donor. Unprompted, Durbin volunteered to be tested—and he was a perfect match. “He’s a miracle,” says Rieser.

Allied Health Sciences, Nursing Expand to Clermont Campus

By Katy Cosse & Angela Koenig
suehahn@brn.uc.edu

When UC begins offering classes at the newly expanded Clermont campus in fall 2010, nursing and physical therapy assisting programs will be among the initial course offerings.

UC Clermont College will occupy a portion of the building, housed in a former Ford plant in Batavia Township. The space also will hold UC East, including four-year programs from the colleges of nursing and allied health sciences. There will be shared class rooms, a clinical simulation lab and professional offices for faculty stationed there.

“It is gratifying to have such an expansive program in the works to offer a degree in social work at the new site. The expansion will not only allow students to start baccalaureate studies but will encourage our students to stay, she was sent home but began hallucinating.

See TUMOR page 2

Ride Cincinnati Slated for June 13

Ride Cincinnati, the annual cycling event benefiting local breast cancer research at UC, will be held Sunday, June 13, at Sawyer Point’s Yeatman’s Cove.

The event is dedicated to the life of Marlene Harris and all women who have been affected by breast cancer.

See CLERMONT page 4

FINDINGS

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AN INFORMATION RESOURCE FOR ACADEMIC HEALTH CENTER FACULTY, STAFF, STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS.
TUMOR: Harrowing Disorder Creates Life-Changing Experience

from page 1

Back at the hospital, doctors rec-
ommended to her parents that she be admitted to a psychiatric unit. The Givens, convinced that there must be a physical cause for the hallucinations, sought a second opinion and Eckols was transferred to University Hospital.

Eckols immediately underwent a number of tests, including one for anti-NMDA receptor encephalitis. The disorder was identified in 2007 by Joseph Dalmau, MD, PhD, a professor of neurology at the University of Pennsylvania.

In Eckols’ case, the teratoma—a tumor comprised of tissue—caused the body to develop antibodies against it. The antibodies attacked cells in her brain, resulting in the encephalitis and accompanying hallucinations.

Coincidentally, fourth-year neurology resident Christopher Kobet, MD, was at University Hospital, calling with a junior resident and helping admit patients. Kobet had developed an interest in anti-NMDA receptor encephalitis and had already seen two cases since the previous April.

“I was walking down the hallway and I heard her vocalizations—she was making some very strange noises,” Kobet says of Eckols. “So I walked in to find out what was going on and talked with her mother and later the medicine rotator (physician). I realized this resembled some of the prior cases I’ve been involved in.”

The encephalitis test indeed came back positive, and Eckols’ physicians were convinced that the tumor was present even though it was not visible on any imaging study. (The “monster tumor” headline came from the fact that “teratoma” originates from the Greek word meaning monster, because teratomas can contain hair, teeth and other parts of the body.)

W. Edward Richards, MD, associate clinical professor at UC and director of gynecologic oncology and advanced pelvic surgery at the University, performed the surgery, as he did for the two previous cases Kobet was involved with. Using robotic technology that provides a 3-D view of the ovary, Richards was able to find and remove the tumor.

“I was pretty much convinced in the operating room that she was going to get better,” Richards says, “and in a matter of hours she started responding to questions that she hadn’t responded to or she had no idea of the answers to the day before.”

Doctors involved in her case agree with Eckols that it’s important to get the word out about this recently identified disorder so it won’t go undiagnosed.

In fact, Kobet entered a short film about Eckols’ story in the American Academy of Neurology’s Neuro Film Festival. A video of Kiera Eckols hallucinating and responding incoherently to questions has been viewed more than 12,000 times on YouTube. The film was entered into the American Academy of Neurology Foundation’s 2010 Neuro Film Festival to help raise awareness of the disorder at University Hospital, from admission for epilepsy monitoring for many of its partic-

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Academic Health Center Findings

FINDINGS. May 2010

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Findings is a publication of the University of Cincinnati Academic Health Center, published on the first Monday of every month by the public relations and communica-
tions office, Richard Paff, assistant vice president. Its mission is to highlight current research, education and patient care news and happening at the academic Health Center.

Findings is distributed to students, faculty, staff and community members.

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Academic Health Center Findings

Colleges of Nursing

By Angela Koenig

Karen Gresho, Keith Herrell, Alysha Behrman, Cincinnati Department of Veteran Affairs

Alysha Behrman, Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center

Alysha Bohrman, Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center

Mary Duennes, TriHealth

Julie Everett, Hamilton County Department of Developmental Disabilities Services

Cindy Stepanak, Caregivers Health Network

Angela Strader, Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center

Audricia Brooks, Cincinnati Department of Veteran Affairs

Lynne Eckstein, Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center

Cathy Frank, Cincinnati Health Department

Cheryl Hertle, Medtronic Diabetes

Patricia Hoerst, Christ Hospital

Susan Segal, Christ Hospital

Sherry Simpson, Cincinnati Health Department

For more information on the awards, visit nursing.uc.edu.

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**Concern Still Prevalent Among Users of Popular Anti-Clotting Medication**

**UC Docs Try to Reduce Public Fear That Drug’s Effectiveness Is Reduced**

By Katie Pence

In mid-March, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration added a warning label to the box of the anti-clotting drug Plavix, letting both patients and health professionals know that the drug can be less effective in people who cannot metabolize it correctly to make it active in the body.

Since then, UC Health cardiologists have seen many patients who are frightened by the warning, but patients say it only affects a small percentage of the population.

Plavix, the brand name for Clopidogrel, reduces the risk of heart attack, stroke and cardiovascular death in patients with cardiovascular disease by making platelets less likely to form blood clots. It does not have its anti-platelet effect until it is metabolized into its active form by the liver enzyme CYP3C9. It is marketed by Bristol-Myers Squibb and Sanofi-Aventis Pharmaceuticals.

“Without this important enzyme, patients will essentially be taking a placebo, with no effect on their cardiovascular health,” says Massoud Leesar, UC Health interventional cardiologist.

“We’re taking this new development seriously, but we want patients to know that it doesn’t apply to everyone and that the drug has been proven to be beneficial to many,” Leesar says.

According to reports, people of Chinese descent may have up to a 14 percent incidence of having impaired CYP3C9 enzyme activity. For blacks, it is about 1 in 25, and for Caucasians the incidence drops to 1 in 50.

Testing for the impairment can cost $500 or more; however, with this recent discovery, widespread testing could lower the cost.

For now, Leesar says patients and doctors are considering their choices, and patients should not stop taking their Plavix without advice from their physician.

Patients should consult their doctor if they have questions, but he urges the general population to continue to take the medication that was prescribed to them until further notice,” he says. “Otherwise, they could be putting themselves in harm’s way.”

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**UC Health recently partnered with the American Heart Association (AHA) and the Cincinnati Fire Department (CFD) to host a CPR training event for City of Cincinnati council members on April 14 at City Hall. The goal was to increase awareness of the importance of bystander CPR in Cincinnati.**

UC emergency medicine associate professor Donald Locasto, MD (bottom photo, left), led the training with Doug Martin and Lori Fovel, both of the AHA, and Michael Washington, of the CFD (top photo, far right), working with council members Jeff Berding and Laketa Cole.

Locasto, who also serves as CFD medical director, says the average performance rate of bystander CPR in cities that participate in a cardiac arrest registry is 25 percent.

A cardiac arrest victim in Cincinnati only gets bystander CPR 12.5 percent of the time, half the rate seen in other cities. Of the patients that received bystander CPR in Cincinnati, their survival rate was increased by almost 6 percent.
Many Gather to Celebrate ‘Sabin Sunday’

The University of Cincinnati and Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center—along with more than 120 guests—celebrated the anniversary of “Sabin Sunday” with an event April 23.

“Sabin Sunday,” Sunday, April 24, 1960, is noted as the historic date when more than 20,000 children in Hamilton County received the Sabin oral, live virus polio vaccine in its first public distribution in the United States. This day kicked off a series of vaccine distributions that within two weeks reached over 180,000 of the region’s children ages 3 months to 6 years.

Albert Sabir, MD, developed the vaccine while at Cincinnati Children’s. He created the vaccine while at the College of Medicine and a member of the research staff at Cincinnati Children’s Research Foundation.

During the event, College of Medicine Dean David Stern, MD, reflected on the impact of the vaccine on work the local community and the world. Joining Stern with commennts were Philip Russell, PhD, for-

Helena Sabir, widow of the late Albert Sabir, MD, traveled from Washington, DC, to attend the Sabin Sunday celebration.

m champion of the Sabin Vaccine Institute Board of Directors, Mark Dine, MD, a community pediatri-

clinician who distributed the Sabin vac-

2019, and David Bernsins, MD, a professor of pediatrics at UC and director of the infectious diseases division at Cincinnati Children’s.

Mardavij Hamadani stops to look at an iron lung that was on dis-

play at the event.

CLERMONT: Allied Health, Nursing Expand Offerings

From page 1

As UC signed a lease for approximately 81,000 square feet of space at the location.

“Under the leadership of Dr. Terri Thomas, we were pleased to relocate our physical therapy assistant program to the UC Clermont East Campus and are very enthusiastic about the opportu-

In the fall of 2010, UC signed a lease for approximately 81,000 square feet of space at the location.

The multi-tiered development deal cleared a final hurdle in March when the Batavia Township trustees unanimously approved zoning plans for UC to use an 18-acre portion of the 230-acre Ford site.

“We are proud to have UC up there,” says Trueter Archie Wilson. “I am pleased to say that UC East is going to become a reality,” says UC Clermont East Campus Interim Dean Robert “Mick” McLaughlin. “We plan on moving swiftly.”

Program Tracks Doctors’ Success in Delivering Care

Participating physicians get immediate access to the data so they can begin to use it to further improve care.

Participating practices have submitted their data, and AF4Q is now completing audits. Participating practices have 50 practices—took part.

Focus groups with physicians have also been held to continue to gain insight into how to sustain this work locally in a manner that will improve the overall quality of care in the community.

“I am pleased to say that UC Clermont East Campus is going to become a reality,”

Clermont East Campus and are very enthusiastic about the opportu-
ty to give these students and other students the opportunity to earn their bachelor’s degrees on the Clermont campus.”

The UC Clermont campus has experienced unprecedented growth in recent years, with 17 percent increase in enrollment this past year. Overall, enrollment has increased by 33 percent over the past three years.

Without that pop quiz from a teacher or the yearly evaluation from a boss, one may never know if they are truly learning or performing to their fullest potential. This idea can be applied to participating practices and the quality care they provide to their patients.

More than six months, Jeffrey Sussman, MD, chair of the Cincinnati Aligning Forces for Quality (AF4Q) Quality Measurement and Public Reporting Work-
group, says this initiative, support-
ed by the Health Improvement Collaborative (HIC) of Greater Cincinnati and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, is doing just that to improve health care in the Tristate.

The Health Improvement Collaborative is also the sponsor of the patient-centered medical home pilot which began last August under the leadership of Robert Graham, MD, professor of family and community medicine, and is continuing to develop as well.

About one-third of primary care physicians in Greater Cincin-

nati, including UC internal and family medicine practices, are on board to track and evaluate how they are performing against select-
ed evidence-based diabetes mea-
sures," says Sussman, who is also the chair of the department of family and community medicine at UC.

“Our goal is to eventually have the participation of all primary care physicians in the region.”

Sussman says that so far, practices have been submitting patient data once annually. It is analyzed, and physician ratings are assigned based on an agreed-upon methodology.

Industrial Realty Group LLC finalized the acquisition of the for-
mier Ford plant in April, paving the way for U of Cincinnati students to take classes at UC Clermont East Campus in the fall of 2010.

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The UC Clermont campus has experienced unprecedented growth in recent years, with a 17 percent increase in enrollment this past year. Overall, enrollment has increased by 33 percent over the past three years.
By Katie Pence
katie.pence@uc.edu

Ice cream never tasted so good to Danyelle Brown, 38.

“I’m not much of a sweets person, but if you hand me a bowl of ice cream— it’s gone,” she laughs. The pleasure in eating this favorite treat is twofold for Brown because she was never able to eat what she wanted until eight months ago.

In fact, she wasn’t able to do much of anything because of the fatigue and pain she felt almost constantly.

Brown has had type 1 diabetes for 18 years, and in September 2009, after experiencing both gestative heart failure and kidney failure, she was referred to UC Health University Hospital.

The Trust, MD, UC Health transplant surgeon and surgical director of the pancreas transplant program, performed the surgery.

“It changed my life,” says Brown, a pediatric nurse, adding that she’s battled rejection and some other complications since, but overall, it’s been a great change.

“It had been so long since I felt ‘good’ that I didn’t know what ‘good’ was anymore. I’m now able to be a wife to my husband and a mother to my two sons. I’d go through it all again in a heartbeat, and I wouldn’t go anywhere other than University Hospital to do it.”

Brown’s nephrologist referred her to University Hospital—the only hospital in the region that offers pancreas transplants—because of its reputation. Brown has been driving all the way from Cincinnati to her Georgetown, Ky., home for follow-up care every week since her transplant.

“And I don’t mind it a bit,” she adds. “The nurses and physicians are wonderful. I told Dr. (Amit) Govil that they needed to adopt me.”

Amit Govil, MD, recently named medical director of the UC Health pancreas transplant program and assistant professor in the division of nephrology and hypertension at UC, says he is hoping to expand the local program further.

“We really have an asset,” says Govil. “The pancreas transplant program is growing, and we hope to attract more funds for research to examine ways to prevent and treat rejection.”

The pancreas is a small organ located behind the stomach that produces hormones, including insulin, which controls the amount of sugar in the blood. These juices are enzymes that help digest food in the small intestine.

Govil says individuals like Brown, with type 1 diabetes and kidney failure, benefit the most from kidney/pancreas transplants.

“There is a need for public awareness, especially to type 1 diabetics, regarding the benefits of pancreas transplant,” he says. “Most type 1 diabetics have never lived a normal life and have resigned themselves to the uncertainties of glycemic control and its complications.”

Govil, along with the UC Health transplant team, hopes to expand and strengthen the program with broader outreach efforts.

“Between the expertise that both UC Health transplant surgeons and nephrologists bring, the ongoing research and the renal transplant fellowship offered at the UC College of Medicine, this program has the potential to make great strides in the field of pancreas transplantation globally,” he says.

“We hope to create some very successful, promising medical treatments—and train physicians—that save and improve the lives of patients everywhere.”

Brown says the hope is alive and has been passed on to her.

“This transplant hasn’t been all about me,” she says. “I try to help others understand type 1 diabetes and cope with its effects as well as the promise transplantation brings. And in the meantime, I enjoy life to the fullest.”

Amit Govil, MD, medical director of the pancreas transplant program, is hoping to expand the program so that more patients, like Brown, can have the chance to lead normal lives when vital organs start to fail.

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UC Professor Leads Charge to Set FDA Standards on Salt in Food

Reducing Americans’ excessive sodium consumption requires establishing new federal standards for the amount of salt that food manufacturers, restaurants and food service companies can add to their products, says a new report by the Institute of Medicine and requested by the U.S. Congress.

Because the vast majority of people’s sodium intake comes from salt that companies put in prepared meals and processed foods, this regulatory strategy would make it easier for consumers to eat lower, healthier amounts of sodium, the committee said.

The committee was chaired by Jane Henney, MD, professor of medicine at UC, and also served as commissioner of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) from 1998 until 2001.

It recommended that food companies gradually step down the maximum amount of salt that can be added to foods, beverages and meals through a series of incremental reductions. The goal is not to ban salt, but rather to bring the amount of sodium in the average American’s diet below levels associated with the risk of hypertension, heart disease and stroke, and to do so in a gradual way that will assure that food remains flavorful to the consumer, the committee said.

“ Few 40 years we have known about the relationship between sodium and the development of hypertension and other life-threatening diseases, but we have had virtually no success in cutting back the salt in our diets,” Henney says.

“This report outlines strategies that will enable all of us to effectivelier lower our sodium consump-

Organ Donors Honored at University Hospital Event

At the event, Karl and Cindy Weisenberger shared the story of their son, Kyle, whose organs and tissues were donated last fall. In addition, Cincinnati City Council Member Cecil Thomas presented a proclamation declaring April 9 “Organ Donation Day.”
College of Nursing Adds Doctoral Program

New Program Expected to Help Produce More Nurse Educators

By Angela Koenig
angelo.koenig@uc.edu

To help meet the growing demand for advanced practice nurses and nurse educators, the UC College of Nursing is in the final stage of approval to add a new doctoral degree—a Doctorate in Nursing Practice (DNP)—to the nursing program.

The ability to provide a doctoral degree that remains practice focused allows graduates to make a huge impact on health care delivery by providing the enhanced knowledge needed to improve nursing practice in increasingly complex leadership roles,” says Andrea Lindell, PhD, dean of the College of Nursing.

“This option,” adds, “provides even greater flexibility to the nursing role allowing us to attract and retain nurse leaders in the practice setting.

The focus nationwide is to prepare advanced practice nurses who are better grounded in science and functioning in leadership roles, says the new program’s development director, Robin Dennison, DNP, an associate professor in the college who earned her DNP at the University of Kentucky in 2005. There are only about 100 DNP programs in the country, she says, with her graduating class the first to receive this doctoral degree.

By establishing the program, the UC College of Nursing is committed with an effort among leaders in nursing education to provide nurses the opportunity for a clinical doctorate with a strong emphasis on evidence-based practice. With a DNP, Dennison says, graduates may choose to continue in their advanced practice role or assume roles such as faculty members, health policy nurses or nurse executives “where they would be better prepared to evaluate the current evidence and implement that evidence into practice.”

According to the most recent American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) reporting, almost two-thirds of the nursing school survey respondents pointed to faculty shortages as a reason for not accepting all qualified applicants into entry-level baccalaureate programs.

Additionally, nursing schools in the United States turned away 49,948 qualified applicants from baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs in 2008 due to an insufficient number of faculty, clinical sites, classroom space, clinical preceptors and budget constraints.

This lack of nurse educators is among many factors leading to an expected nursing shortage. While not a panacea, the DNP option provides one more facet to the complex solution.

“Before the DNP, nurses who desired a doctorate only had the option of earning the research-focused PhD. Now, a nurse can maintain their clinical focus through the DNP and use this advanced education to positively affect patient outcomes,” says Dennison.

“Therefore, we look forward to the significant impact graduates from this program will have in health care delivery and nursing education both locally and globally.”

Howxworth Blood Center Needs Blood Donations

Howxworth Blood Center continues to request blood and platelet donations as supplies deplete. The center has recently reported critically low levels of type O blood at two of its Tri-County and Western Hills hospitals, says Alecia Lipton, Hoxworth spokesperson. “We need donors in the Tristate to step forward for our patients,” says Lipton.

“We are asking eligible type O donors to make a donation at their earliest convenience in order to support patients at the 32-area hospitals we serve.”

Howxworth operates eight neighborhood donation centers in Anderson, Blue Ash, the UC Academic Health Center, Downtown, Ft. Mitchell, Mason, Toa Town and Western Hills. In times of shortages, walk-ins are always welcome.

Donors can call (513) 451-0910 or (800) 830-1001 to schedule an appointment or to request a blood donation in their local community. Donors may also be scheduled online at howxworth.org.

Faculty/Staff Campaign Kicks Off This Month

The UC faculty/staff fundraising campaign begins this month and runs through June 30, although all gifts made since July 1, 2009, count toward the campaign goal.

Like years past, the campaign—called “Proudly UC Cincinnati” capital campaign—places more emphasis on participation rather than a specific dollar amount. No amount is too big or small to donate. To donate online, go to proudlycincinnati.org, send a check, payable to the UC Foundation, to mail location 0046 or call (513) 556-6781 for a pledge card or to make a credit card gift.

UC Obesity Researcher to Receive Top Awards

Matthew Tschöp, MD, professor in the endocrinology, diabetes and metabolism division, will receive the Andre Mayer Award from the International Association for the Study of Obesity at the 2010 International Congress on Obesity meeting July 11-15 in Stockholm.

The award is given every four years to one scientist worldwide for outstanding research in the field of obesity.

In addition, Tschöp has been selected by the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) of the National Institutes of Health to receive the NIDDK 60th Anniversary Early Career Investigator Scholar Award for 2010.

Twelve scientists whose work exemplifies excellence in medical research funded or supported by the NIDDK were selected for this honor and the award was set as the recipient for the field of obesity research.

Tschöp leads a laboratory at UC’s Metabolic Diseases Institute and investigates novel pathways participating in cross talk between the central nervous system and peripheral organs in the control of nutrient metabolism.

Honors Day Winners Announced, Event May 23

David Fischer, chief of general surgery, has been selected for the fourth consecutive time to receive the Golden Apple teaching award during the College of Medicine’s Honors Day Program to be held at 1 p.m. Sunday, May 23, at Music Hall.

LeAnn Coberly, MD, internal medicine, and Thomas DeHoop, MD, obstetrics and gynecology, will be awarded Silver Apples. In addition, Michael Donaworth and Jonathan Hassel will both be presented with the 2010 alumni awards.

This year’s speaker and university commencement representative is Jared Bentley.

All winners were selected by the fourth-year class. For more information, contact ivaDean Lair at ivadean.lair@uc.edu or (513) 558-5577.

Humanism in Medicine Awards Presented

Two UC Health University Hospital associates received this year’s Humanism in Medicine Awards, which honor non-physician staff members who exemplify humanism in their daily work.

Clarae Blackmon, housekeeper in the neurology unit, and Theresa Lester, health unit coordinator in the emergency department, will both receive a certificate and $100 from grant monies from the Arnold P. Gold Foundation, which sponsors the awards program.

Reunion Weekend Date Set for Health Colleges

The four health colleges—all aid health sciences, medicine, nursing and pharmacy—will welcome alumni back to campus during the 2010 Reunion Weekend, slated for May 14-15. Each college will hold its own activities and events. For more information, visit each college’s respective website:

All Health Sciences: cahs.uc.edu
Medicine: med.uc.edu
Nursing: nursing.uc.edu
Pharmacy: pharmacy.uc.edu.

College of Pharmacy
Hooding Ceremony June 4

The James L. Winkle College of Pharmacy will hold its 2010 hooding and recognition ceremony at 7:30 p.m. Friday, June 4, at the Aronoff Center for the Arts.

Eighty-seven full-time and six non-traditional PhD students are on track to graduate next month. In addition, eight graduate students are working towards master’s degrees—seven in drug development and one in distance learning, cosmetics science.

Two doctoral students are also expected to receive their degrees in June.

11th Annual PReALeE Conference
The College of Allied Health Sciences 2010 PReALeE (Presentations of Research and Innovative/ Scholarly Endeavor) Conference will be held from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Friday, May 21, in both French East and West buildings at the University Hospital.

PRaISE is an undergraduate and graduate student research symposium which celebrates student accomplishments in research and recognizes their faculty advisors.

The event will feature an address by UC President Gregory Williams, PhD, followed by oral and poster presentations, an alumni awards ceremony and a keynote address.

For more information, visit cahs.uc.edu.

Nursing Professor Wins Health Champion Award

Jean Anthony, PhD, assistant professor in the College of Nursing, has received the 2010 Health Champion Award from the Center for Closing the Health Gap in Greater Cincinnati.

The annual award recognizes medical and health professionals for their dedication and commitment to serving the underserved members of the Cincinnati community.

Anthony has a special interest in the self-advocacy of health care decision-making among elderly African-Americans, recognizing and managing depression, and the role of black clergy in the community of congregate elderly with mental health problems.

Read more about Anthony at nursing.uc.edu.

Announcements

Two UC scholars were named to the 2010 Academic Health Center Communications Services/D. Collins Outstanding Early Career Investigators List: Matthew Tschöp, PhD, professor in the endocrinology, diabetes and metabolism division, and Jonathan Hassel, health unit coordinator in the emergency department. The list celebrates an early career investigator who exemplifies excellence in medical research.