Retired Electrician Gets Charge From Donating Blood Platelets

Ohioan’s Quest to Donate in All 50 States Includes Day Trip to Hoxworth

By Katie Pence
katie.pence@uc.edu

Al Whitney, 72, pulled a black suit-case through the halls of UC Health University Hospital and across the UC Academic Health Center campus on April 20. He wore a suit jacket, the left lapel adorned with blood donation pins from across the U.S. like medals of honor, and a friendly smile. Both accessories gave a glimpse into the kind person Whitney strives to be.

“The suitcase told more,” he says. “I bring these puzzles and games along to each donation site to leave on the tables so that donors have something to occupy their time after giving blood,” he says, pointing to a stapled stack of word games and a wooden peg-type puzzle game. “We don’t want anyone leaving too soon and feeling ill.”

In addition, he pulls out a sample of a teddy bear that he’s given to recipients of his platelet donations and informational materials and CDs with ideas of ways to increase donations to share with blood bank managers.

Whitney, a retired electrician from Avon Lake, Ohio, has many good ideas concerning ways to encourage blood and platelet donation, and his latest one is impacting lives across the nation. In 2007, after an extensive track record of donating blood and platelets and managing hundreds of local blood drives in his hometown, Whitney created “Platelets Across America” and took his mission to the next level.

He’s currently traveling to all 50 states.

See PLATELETS page 2

Bacteria Study Shows How ‘Strep A’ Adapts to Survive

An international research team, led by Malak Kotb, PhD, chair of molecular genetics, biochemistry and microbiology, has detailed how the common bacterium Streptococcus pyogenes (Strep A), a bacterium often found in the throat or on the skin, can cause life-threatening infections. The team, led by Malak Kotb, PhD, chair of UC’s molecular genetics, biochemistry and microbiology department, analyzed the evolution over time of the community structure of Group A strep-tococci (also known as GAS or Strep A), a bacterium often found in the throat or on the skin. It can cause many human diseases, ranging from strep throat to debilitating and often deadly diseases of the heart, skin, kidney and brain. In the 1980s, hypervirulent strains of the Strep A bacteria emerged, including necrotizing fasciitis (commonly known as the flesh-eating disease), an invasive GAS that is an infection of the deeper layers of skin and subcutaneous tissue. About 9,000 to 11,500 cases of invasive GAS disease—in which bacteria get into parts of the body where bacteria usually are not found—occur each year in the United States, resulting in 1,000 to 1,800 deaths annually, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

In Greater Cincinnati, there have been several highly publicized cases associated with death or amputation. The research team’s findings appeared May 10, 2010, in PLoS ONE, an open-access online journal of peer-reviewed articles. “This is the first organized
PLATELETS: Man Travels Cross Country to Promote Donations

from page 1

states to donate platelets, raise awareness of the need for donors and educate people about the differences that blood and platelet donation can make in the lives of hundreds of patients. This passion started in 1965 when Whitney donated his first pint of blood.

“I walked out of the facility saying, ‘I can do more than this,’” he says.

With that simple thought, Whitney contacted the LifeShare Blood Center in Ehrria, Ohio, and asked about coordinating and running a blood drive every eight weeks at his local church.

“As a way to tie it all together, he decided to set a goal of collecting 2,000 units of blood. However, Whitney says shyly, ‘they didn’t match the goal exactly.’ “We collected 2,006 units,” he says with an ornery grin. “What a tough group.”

Whitney continued donating platelets on a regular basis, and in the fall of 2007, he had another epiphany. “I once again told myself, ‘I can do more than this,’” he says. “That’s when I came up with the idea to run a platelet drive every state, becoming a spokesperson to raise awareness of the need for whole blood and platelets.”

In the three years since, Whitney has donated over 650 units of platelets and five gallons of whole blood in 35 of the 50 states and continues to spread his message. During his April trip to Cincinnati, although he’s donated in Ohio many times before, he gave platelets at the downtown Hoxworth donation center in the Tri-State Building, 432 Walnut St., to help raise awareness in Greater Cincinnati.

“Donating whole blood and platelets is such a simple task,” he says. “You’re donating your time six hours a year to help 18 people. Not only do you affect the lives of the patients, but you also affect their families and friends—you’re affecting hundreds of people with one small gift. Simply put: Take the time to donate blood.

“If I can do it, you can do it.”

Donate Platelets, Blood This Summer

Blood supplies at Hoxworth Blood Center tend to be low during the summer months due to an increase of vacations (smaller donor pool), a decrease of students on campus and an increased use in supplies at hospitals due to injury during summer activities.

To help meet this need, Hoxworth Blood Center is requestin g blood donations. To schedule an appointment at a neighborhood donation center, call (513) 451-0910 or (800) 830-1091, or visit hoxworth.org.

Clinical Trial for Gene Therapy Product Could Result in Improved Dialysis Access

By Katie Pence

katie.pence@uc.edu

A new gene therapy being studied at UC may help sustain dialysis access in patients, eliminating the need for multiple interventions and surgeries and improving their quality of life.

Timmy Lee, MD, a UC Health nephrologist, and Rino Munda, MD, a UC Health transplant surgeon, are leading a local branch of a national clinical trial looking at the gene therapy product Trinam to see if it prevents stenosis, or narrowing of the veins at the connection of the vein and dialysis graft, in hemodialysis patients.

“Trinam is a combination of a vascular endothelial growth factor gene—a protein produced by cells that stimulates blood vessels to dilate and prevents formation of blockages—packaged in an adenoviral vector, or virus, which delivers genetic material into cells,” says Lee, the lead investigator on the study. “We hope that this treatment will lead to more successful outcomes for dialysis patients.”

Hemodialysis is a technique in which a machine filters wastes out of a patient’s blood once the kidney fails, but requires access to the patient’s blood stream.

There are over 450,000 people undergoing hemodialysis in the United States.

Lee says there are two main types of permanent dialysis access: an arteriovenous fistula, which connects the artery and the vein directly, and an arteriovenous graft, which connects the artery and the vein using a plastic tube.

Unfortunately, grafts may only last between six and 12 months due to stenosis before requiring an intervention to keep it open.

As a result, hemodialysis patients often have repeated hospital admissions and surgeries in order to keep their dialysis access open.

“Using this treatment, Trinam will be delivered locally to the dialysis access areas of approximately 250 subjects using a biodegradable device made from collagen,” Lee says. “At the end of access graft surgery, the delivery device is fitted around the outside of the patient’s vein where it has been joined to the access graft and the adenovirus carrying the gene product is injected between the device and the blood vessel.”

“We believe that the genetic material in Trinam will stimulate the relaxation of the muscle and disburse the medications that will help keep the vein open and functioning.”

He adds that local delivery may be more effective than other medicines because it is applied directly to the site where the stenosis most commonly occurs.

“It immediately stimulates the appropriate regulators right at the site of the problem, avoiding side effects that may accompany the metabolism of other medicines in body,” he says.

“We hope that this therapy will improve the quality of care for patients undergoing dialysis and will prevent the morbidity and invasive procedures to keep dialysis access open.”

The study is being led as a partnership with UC’s division of nephrology and hypertension and the Cincinnati Dialysis Access Research Program. Lee reports no financial conflicts of interest with Ark Therapeutics, the maker of the brand Trinam. UC Printing

Academic Health Center Communications Services/D. Collins

University of Cincinnati Academic Health Center

JUNE 2010 Vol. 12, No. 6

Find us on:

Phone: (513) 558-4553
E-mail: healthnews@uc.edu
Facebook: facebook.com/UCHealthNews
Twitter: twitter.com/UCHealthNews
YouTube: youtube.com/UCHealthNews
Mall: Academic Health Center
       Findings
       University of Cincinnati
       PO Box 677550
       Cincinnati, OH 45267-0950

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 communications office and Robert Faust, assistant vice president. Its mission is to highlight current research, education and patient care news and happenings at the Academic Health Center. Findings is distributed to students, faculty, staff and community members.

Editor:
Bill Haffner

Nephrology:
Katy Cross, Keith Herrell, Dana Kirmser, Angela Koening, Melanie Wunder, Matt Budke, Eric Gillespie and Jim Connelly.
By Katy Cosse
katryn.cosse@uc.edu

As a second-year medical student, Nitin Ubhayakar already has quite the CV: one year participating in hospital-based research, two years as a counselor in UC Health University Hospital’s emergency department and now having his name in the pages of a major emergency medicine journal.

It’s the result of his time as a clinical study assistant (CSA) research fellow in UC’s emergency medicine department. Ubhayakar was the first fellow in the program, designed to expose students to research before they’re in medical school. He completed the fellowship after graduating with a master’s degree in physiology at UC.

“We created the CSA fellowship to expose students to the research experience to students applying to medical school,” says Christopher Lindell, PhD, director of research in emergency medicine. “It’s an opportunity for students to develop an understanding of the clinical practice of emergency medicine as well as the theory and practice of research, all while interacting with patients, clinical staff and faculty.”

All fellows participate in a research education program, which covers designing a clinical study, writing the protocol, and eventually analyzing, interpreting and drafting the results for publication.

“It’s truly a unique experience,” says Ubhayakar. “I was able to work one-on-one with nationally recognized faculty while doing something clinically relevant in the emergency department. Adding to that, the fellowship allowed me to attend the department’s grand rounds lectures so it was able to integrate everything related to what medicine’s all about.”

In his fellowship, Ubhayakar partnered with assistant professor Michael Lyons, MD, to design a new study within emergency medicine’s Early Intervention Program (EIP) for HIV-virgin patients. The University Hospital-based program is one of just a few in the nation to test first HIV-virgin patients for risk of transmission to department employees.

Ubhayakar looked to see if patients consenting to the HIV test were at more or less risk for the disease than patients who refused yet agreed to prevention counseling.

For 10 months, Ubhayakar participated in every aspect of the study, including serving as an EIP counselor, testing patients for HIV and providing risk reduction counseling. He liked the counseling so much, he continued with it through his first year of medical school.

“One of the things you do in medical school is practice patient interviews—and I’d already done that with real patients,” he says. The results of Ubhayakar’s study were published online March 26, 2010, in the American Journal of Emergency Medicine. They are expected to be published in the print edition this fall.

In the study, the research team found that there were no differences in risk of HIV between the patients who agreed to testing and those who did not.

“It tells us that new consent methods may be needed to promote testing among at-risk patients who decline to be tested,” says Ubhayakar.

“One of the main points that we found was that counseling and encouraging recognition of risk for those who declined testing doesn’t seem to do much in terms of changing patients’ minds to be tested. Only four out of 60 patients we talked with decided to get tested after counseling,” Ubhayakar presented his work at the 2008 National Summit on HIV Prevention, Diagnosis and Access to Care. He still remembers the experience as “surreal.”

“You’re exposing your work, not just to other medical students and doctors but to people who really matter in this field,” he says. “I think that was the most rewarding experience of the fellowship, sharing our work with those who can use it to improve their own clinical practice.”

Psychiatry Changes Name to Reflect Comprehensive Focus

By Keith Herrell
keith.herrell@uc.edu

Public perceptions change slowly, particularly when it comes to psychiatry. Despite rapid advances in the field over the past 20 years, many people continue to think of psychoanalysis with the smoking psychoanalysts with the starry-eyed therapist’s couch.

To better reflect reality, UC’s Psychiatry department has changed its name to the department of psychiatry and behavioral neuroscience.

“Those are two aspects of psychiatry that we think people don’t always understand, so we wanted to emphasize that in our name,” says Stephen Strakowski, MD, chair of the department. “Additionally, the field of psychiatry has moved in the United States from a classic psychoanalytic or psychodynamic model to a brain-based model.

“Those are two aspects of psychiatry that we think people don’t always understand, so we wanted to emphasize that in our name.”

Additionally, Strakowski says, a large portion of the basic neuroscience research groups at UC are now based in the department, as is the neuroscience training grant.

The department has a robust research program, with particular strength in the areas of bipolar disorder and substance use disorders. Psychiatry faculty conduct obesity research at the UC Metabolic Diseases Institute on the UC Reading campus. The Tri-State Tobacco and Alcohol and Alcohol Research Center, under the direction of Robert Anthenelli, MD, professor of psychiatry, is also located on the Reading campus.

In addition to his duties as department chair, Strakowski is director of the UC Center for Imaging Research, located on the E-Level of the Medical Sciences Building. The center has a comprehensive research program that studies the structure, function and chemistry of the body (particularly the brain) in normal subjects and in disease states. Its centerpiece is a 4.0 Tesla Varian Unity INOVA Whole Body MRI/MSRS system, which has been optimized for functional neuroimaging and spectroscopy.

“Psychonausis still has a role in mental health care, but it’s not the primary role anymore,” Strakowski says, “and certainly in an academic department it’s typically not a focus. So we have analysts in our department, but the academic focus is on neuroscience. Our continued trajectory is to become a brain-based department that thinks about the brain abnormalities and problems that cause mental illness.”

Strakowski sees the field of psychiatry moving increasingly toward imaging and treatments that are based in imaging and genetics rather than symptoms.

“Ideally, there will be an integration of imaging and genetics techniques so we can look at the genetic origins of the changes we see in the brains of people with mental illness,” he says. “This will change the way we think about disorders and ultimately allow treatments to become much more focused and effective.”

Stephen Strakowski, MD, says that the psychiatry field has moved from a psychoanalytic model to one that focuses on the brain.

By Angela Koenig
angela.koenig@uc.edu

“Get involved!”

That’s the message Patricia Ghory, MD, sends to her 1980 College of Medicine classmates—and any other UC graduate who is not taking part in alumni activities—every chance she gets.

“I don’t think people realize how much fun it is,” says Ghory, citing two decades of alumni participation, most recently serving as president of the UC College of Medicine Alumni Association. Although her term ended in May (Joan Linhardt, MD, class of 1976, is the new president), Ghory’s sense of duty and Bearcat pride remain fierce—strong enough, in fact, to gift $50,000 in seed money to help establish the Class of 1980 Scholarship Fund.

“I wanted to jump-start this fund to entice and enable worthy students to choose Cincinnati. I feel it is time to give back. It is because of my four years at the College of Medicine that I am the successful doctor that I am today,” that means practicing alongside family at the Cincinnati Allergy and Asthma Center, founded by her father, Joseph Edward Ghory, MD, in 1960. While both her father and sister, Ann, graduated from Ohio State University, Ghory and her sister, Mary Jo (class of 1976), are UC grads. Ghory also had the honor of “hooding” her daughter, Amy Calzob, last month when Amy and her husband, Nick, graduated from UC as well. (Nick’s dad, Dan Calzob, is a 1981 College of Medicine graduate.)

“I’m relying my medical school years through my daughter and son-in-law,” Ghory says. “They have seen my enthusiasm during my years of involvement with the college alumni. It is my hope they may experience the same.”

Patricia Ghory, MD (center), pictured here with her daughter, Amy, and son-in-law, Nick, donated $50,000 to help create a scholarship fund.

Alumna Donates $50,000 to Start Scholarship Fund
**Chinese-Americans Can Face Barriers in Self-Managing Type 2 Diabetes**

By Angela Koenig
angela.koenig@uc.edu

Chinese-Americans with type 2 diabetes seem willing to take charge of their health but may face cultural barriers to self-management, says UC College of Nursing researcher Yin Xu, PhD.

“Chinese-Americans are really eager to learn, but they feel like they don’t have the resources,” says Xu, a UC assistant professor, who was progresses her preliminary research findings at the 2010 State of the Science Congress on Nursing Research in September.

Xu, who is Chinese-American, received a $10,000 grant from the Midwest Nursing Research Society in 2009 to study perceptions of self-management among Chinese-Americans with type 2 diabetes and their family members.

Type 2 diabetes is the most common form of diabetes and is more common in African-Americans, Latinos, Native Americans and Asian-Americans, native Hawaii-

ners and other Pacific Islanders, as well as the aged population. In type 2 diabetes, either the body does not produce enough insulin or the cells ignore the insulin. Insulin is neces-

sary for the body to be able to use glucose for energy.

What Xu found, through focus groups and individual interviews with 32 Chinese-Americans, was:

1. There was a lack of understanding the condition.

Most Chinese-Americans in the study indicated that they had never received any formal dia-

betes self-management educa-

tion program.

2. Chinese-Americans have limited access to culturally and linguis-

tically appropriate educational materials. Food lists, for exam-

ple, are geared toward foods commonly prepared in Western culture.

3. Chinese-Americans have a strong belief in using food ther-

apy as a first line of defense.

“Since type 2 diabetes is related to lifestyle and individuals’ cultural values and beliefs, influence their eating and lifestyle behaviors, it’s important to understand perspec-

tives of Chinese-Americans regarding diabetes self-management and factors that facilitate or hinder their self-management practices (to effectively design interventions),” says Xu.

One intervention, she says, would be to provide Chinese-

Americans with materials relevant to foods they commonly consume. Dietary strategies and assessments reflect Chinese dietary patterns, common Chinese foods, Chinese food preparation techniques and Chinese-style utensils to estimate serving size; however, the informa-

tion does not usually show up on the diet recommendation to people with diabetes.

“Since type 2 diabetes is related to lifestyle and individuals’ cultural values and beliefs, influence their eating and lifestyle behaviors, it’s

from page 1

problem does not usually show up on the diet recommendation to people with diabetes.

From a traditional Chinese medicine perspective, any med-

ications have toxicity effects to some extent. Chinese food ther-

apy is a practice of healing using natural foods instead of medi-

cations. For example, one partici-

pant read in a Chinese newspa-

er regarding the effects of mung bean soup on reducing blood pressure, and then she started to cook mung bean soup every day.

This ethnic group has a very positive outlook toward manag-

ing diabetes. The participants that it is important not to worry about the condition. Some of the participants in their 70s and 80s thought that their ages were considered advanced compared to the past in China. They were satisfied that they could live such a long life, and felt that it was unnecessary to be too con-

cerned about living longer and they shouldn’t be too tough on themselves.

“Since type 2 diabetes is related to lifestyle and individuals’ cultural values and beliefs, influence their eating and lifestyle behaviors, it’s

important to understand perspec-

...
Specialties Partner to Grow Skull Base Surgery Practice

Docs Employ New Methods for Surgically Removing Complex Brain Tumors

By Katy Cose
kathryn.cose@uc.edu

With a developing partnership between their departments, two UC surgeons are expanding the practice of skull base surgery.

For four years, Lee Zimmer, MD, PhD, assistant professor of otolaryngology–head and neck surgery, and Philip Theodospoulos, MD, associate professor of neurosurgery, have pursued new surgical methods to reach difficult tumors at the skull base via an endoscopic approach through the nasal cavity and sinuses.

Part of the drive for their work came from Zimmer’s training at the University of Pittsburgh endoscopic approach to skull base cancers. When he wanted to bring a pioneering new field to his work at UC, he decided to pursue it with a deliberate method.

Working with professors of neurosurgery John Tew, MD, and Mario Zuccarello, MD, Zimmer and Theodospoulos first worked on expanding the pituitary surgery program by offering a purely endoscopic approach. Now, the program has become the busiest pituitary program in the Midwest.

“We want to advance this field in a very stepwise, logical manner,” says Zimmer. “When you want to go outside of a safe area, you form a team with your neurosurgeons, and over time, increase the complexity of surgery. You decide to take on complex tumors of the skull base without forming a solid team and without a solid anatomical understanding.”

In their latest innovation, they removed a skull base cyst via a minimally invasive approach through the sphenoid sinus. Instead of the traditional approach, which requires large incisions behind the ear and dissection around the cochlea and carotid artery, Zimmer and Theodospoulos used endoscopic tools to access the tumor via the nasal cavity and sinuses. There, they were able to drain the cyst and create a drainage window into the sinus.

“From the standpoint of surgical complexity and post-op recovery, this is a much cleaner method of accessing these skull base cysts,” says Zimmer.

“There are a lot of different ways to use the procedure. What we’re trying to figure out is how many different ways can we access this region through the sinuses.”

To do so, they are utilizing a state-of-the-art skull base lab at UC, working to understand the endoscopic anatomy of the skull base and practice surgical approaches in cadavers before getting into the operating room. They’ve also shared their work with several neurosurgery and otolaryngology journals in the past two years.

“Where, in the past, people have said, ‘You can access the sinuses, but you can’t go through them,’” we’ve pretty much put that to rest,” says Zimmer. “You can go through the sinuses. You just need to understand the anatomy.”

To learn more, call the UC Neuroscience Institute at (866) 941-8264.

UC HEALTH LINE

Toning Shoes: Benefit or Gimmick?

By Katie Pence
katie.pence@uc.edu

The upbeat commercials that show women’s toned legs dancing around the house and walking along the beach may make one consider running out to purchase the shoes that assume responsibility for those athletic builds on the TV screen. These fitness shoes and sandals promise—simply by wearing them—to sculpt and mold problem areas.

But UC Health physicians say the promises may be a little steep.

“I believe that these shoes could strengthen muscles and improve posture, but they are not a miracle fitness breakthrough,” says Sarah Pritts, MD, of family and community medicine. “Other than studies from the manufacturing companies, there have been no reported studies showing that these shoes increase weight loss or calorie burn.”

Pritts says the idea behind the shoes—particularly those with rounded, or “rocker” soles, to help the foot “rock” forward—originated as a form of physical therapy for ankle injuries.

“They help increase strength in the muscles around the ankle,” she says. “Most of these shoes are meant to cause instability, which forces wearers to use their muscles to maintain balance. Some of these shoes recreate what it’s like to walk in sand—helping to work core muscles.”

She says that as long as individuals don’t have a gait/balance problem or an existing injury, these shoes are safe and could help in toning muscles.

However, she adds that just because one purchases these shoes does not mean he or she can cancel a gym membership.

“We know heart disease is a great core cardio program, but it’s no replacement for strength training,” she says. “Don’t think that you’re getting the whole fitness package by walking in these shoes.”

Pritts says people should only wear the shoes for short periods of time to start building up strength.

“These are not shoes you can wear in your everyday life, at least in the beginning,” she says. “I’d recommend starting with 15 minutes at a time and then build to 30 minutes into an hour. Eventually, you may be able to wear them as you would a regular pair of tennis shoes.”

She adds that women who wear heels should be extra careful when slipping on these shoes and taking a long walk.

“These shoes stretch your Achilles tendon,” she says. “When wearing high heels, the heel is always higher than the toe, shortening the range of motion of the tendon. These tennis shoes put your Achilles through a larger range of motion, which could lead to a tendon rupture or tear.

In any case, Pritts says to consult a physician or physical therapist if questions arise about the safety or benefits of these sorts of fitness shoes.

“There isn’t a quick fix for living a healthy lifestyle. Eat right and exercise at least 30 minutes a day and avoid overuse of alcohol and tobacco to help ensure the healthiest you.”

BACTERIA: UC Researchers Lead Study on Strep A Bug

From page 1

attempt to capture the dynamics of bacterial evolution in live species and to discover molecular events that are associated with stark changes in the demographics of the bacterial community as they sacrifice the majority of their members and select the fittest ones to survive host defenses,” says Kohl, who is also director of the Midwest Center for Emerging Infectious Diseases (M-CEID).

Researchers found that as dominant members of the population surrendered to host immune defenses, they were replaced by a hyperaggressive, mutant minority population that thrived and took over the abandoned community to become the new majority.

Using a mouse model, the team monitored evolutionary changes in the bacterial community as it faced different environmental factors and attempted to adapt to different host niches.

The data confirmed that the bacterial community is mixed and that under certain conditions different populations can take over the community.

“What we perceive as a single bacterial colony is in fact a mixture of subpopulations whose members play different roles to achieve virulence,” says study author Ramy Aziz, PhD, of Cairo University’s department of microbiology and immunology.

“The survivors, it turns out, have the final word.”

Authors call the study a first step toward exploring the sociomicrobiology of invasive Group A streptococci within a living organism. They plan to follow with single cell studies of bacteria associated with immune cells to further dissect the different roles played by members of the same bacterial community.

The study was supported by grants from the National Institutes of Health National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases; the United States Army Medical Research Activity; the Research and Development Office, Medical Research Service, Department of Veterans Affairs; and the National Health and Merit Research Council of Australia.

Cincinnati researchers on the team, in addition to Kohl, included Bruce Arowod, PhD, co-director of the Computational Medicine Center, a collaboration between Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center and the University of Cincinnati; and Rita Kansal, PhD, and Sarah Rowe, members of Kohl’s lab at UC.

Kohl has been chair of the molecular genetics, biochemistry and microbiology department since May 1, 2008, when she officially joined UC from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis.
Free Brain Tumor Conference Spotlights Treatment Options

By Cindy Starr

cstarrr@mayfieldclinic.com

The 2010 Midwest Regional Brain Tumor Conference, a free educational event for patients, caregivers and family members, will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Saturday, June 26, at the Tangeman University Center (TUC) on UC’s main campus. The conference, titled “Hope, Innovation, Progress, Support,” is presented by the Brain Tumor Center at the UC Neuroscience Institute, in partnership with the National Brain Tumor Society. A team of nationally recognized faculty members will provide patients, survivors and caregivers with the latest information about treatment and maximizing quality of life. Topics will include the origins of brain tumors, surgery and radiation therapy, the future of brain tumor treatment, nutrition and exercise and financial and emotional resources. Breakout session topics will focus on brain tumor types, including pituitary adenoma, acoustic neuroma, meningioma, glioma and metastasis.

Fifteen-minute physician consultant sessions will also be available. Patients wishing a consult should contact Tara Colgan-Stanifer at (513) 558-8649. All scans must be received before Wednesday, June 16, to allow time for preparation. Featured speakers and breakout session leaders include the following members of the UC faculty and the assistant executive director for maintenance of certification. 

UC Brain Tumor Center:

• John Breneman, MD, professor of radiation oncology and neurosurgery
• Jessica Guarnerchelli, MD, assistant professor of radiation oncology
• Christopher McPherson, MD, director of the division of surgical neuro-oncology
• Myles Rice, MD, chair of otolaryngology-head and neck surgery
• Ravi Samy, MD, assistant professor of otolaryngology-head and neck surgery
• John Tew, MD, clinical director of the UC Neuroscience Institute

• Philip Theodosopoulos, MD, director, division of skull base surgery
• Ronald Warnick, MD, director of the UC Brain Tumor Center
• Lizi Zimmer, MD, PhD, director, Endoscopic Cerebral Basal Tumor Center, division of sinus surgery
• Sandy Hembly, a local educator and brain tumor survivor, will speak about living with malignant glioma.
• The program director is McPherson.

The symposium is free to the public, but attendees are asked to register in advance by calling (513) 569-5354, e-mailing events@ncureuroscience.org or visiting cincinnatibraincancercenter.com/btc_registration. For directions to TUC, visit uc.edu.

By Angela Koenig

gkoenig@uc.edu

Gregory Rouan, MD, professor of clinical medicine and associate chair for education in the department of internal medicine, has been named a 2010 Courage to Teach Award winner by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). The ACGME is a private, non-profit organization that accredits all medical residency training programs. Its mission is to improve the quality of health care in the United States by ensuring and improving the quality of graduate medical education for physicians in training.

The Courage to Teach Award—named after Parker Palmer, PhD, who wrote “Courage to Teach” and other books on teaching and vocations—is presented annually to 10 other books on teaching and vocations—is presented annually to 10 individuals who are working in the fields of medical education and teaching. The award recognizes faculty members who demonstrate excellence in teaching, mentoring and leadership. The Courage to Teach Award is presented to an educator who has made a significant difference to the lives of his or her students.

By Melissa Norris

mnorris@uc.edu

The University of Cincinnati has received a $314,258 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to digitize the correspondence and photographs of Albert Sabin, MD, developer of the oral, live-virus polio vaccine and distinguished service professor at the UC College of Medicine and Children’s Hospital Research Foundation from 1939 to 1969. The primary source documents to be digitized include 35,000 letters totaling 50,000 pages of correspondence between Sabin and political, cultural, social and scientific leaders around the world. Also included will be 1,608 photographs documenting the events and activities worldwide that were part of Sabin’s crusade to eradicate polo.

“The impact of Sabin’s influence on biomedical research and global public health won’t be fully understood until scholars have a chance to mine his archives effectively,” said Stephen Marine, UC Libraries assistant dean of special collections and the project’s principal investigator.

By digitizing and publishing his papers on the Web and enhancing those documents with metadata, scholars worldwide will not only have instantaneous access to the materials but will also have tools—available for few other such collections—to explore names, subjects and themes.

Sabin’s wife, Heloisa, donated his papers, medals and other artifacts to UC upon his death in 1993. They reside in the Henry R. Winkler Center for the History of the Health Professions, located in the CARE/Crawley Building on the medical campus. The project will begin in July for completion in June 2013. For more information, call (513) 558-5120 or e-mail cchp@uc.edu.

Residency Leader Wins ‘Courage to Teach’ Award

By Melissa Norris

mnorris@uc.edu

The University of Cincinnati has received a $314,258 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to digitize the correspondence and photographs of Albert Sabin, MD, developer of the oral, live-virus polio vaccine and distinguished service professor at the UC College of Medicine and Children’s Hospital Research Foundation from 1939 to 1969. The primary source documents to be digitized include 35,000 letters totaling 50,000 pages of correspondence between Sabin and political, cultural, social and scientific leaders around the world. Also included will be 1,608 photographs documenting the events and activities worldwide that were part of Sabin’s crusade to eradicate polo.

“The impact of Sabin’s influence on biomedical research and global public health won’t be fully understood until scholars have a chance to mine his archives effectively,” said Stephen Marine, UC Libraries assistant dean of special collections and the project’s principal investigator.

By digitizing and publishing his papers on the Web and enhancing those documents with metadata, scholars worldwide will not only have instantaneous access to the materials but will also have tools—available for few other such collections—to explore names, subjects and themes.

Sabin’s wife, Heloisa, donated his papers, medals and other artifacts to UC upon his death in 1993. They reside in the Henry R. Winkler Center for the History of the Health Professions, located in the CARE/Crawley Building on the medical campus. The project will begin in July for completion in June 2013. For more information, call (513) 558-5120 or e-mail cchp@uc.edu.

By Angela Koenig

gkoenig@uc.edu

Gregory Rouan, MD, professor of clinical medicine and associate chair for education in the department of internal medicine, has been named a 2010 Courage to Teach Award winner by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). The ACGME is a private, non-profit organization that accredits all medical residency training programs. Its mission is to improve the quality of health care in the United States by ensuring and improving the quality of graduate medical education for physicians in training.

The Courage to Teach Award—named after Parker Palmer, PhD, who wrote “Courage to Teach” and other books on teaching and vocations—is presented annually to 10 other books on teaching and vocations—is presented annually to 10 individuals who are working in the fields of medical education and teaching. The award recognizes faculty members who demonstrate excellence in teaching, mentoring and leadership. The Courage to Teach Award is presented to an educator who has made a significant difference to the lives of his or her students.

By Melissa Norris

mnorris@uc.edu

The University of Cincinnati has received a $314,258 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to digitize the correspondence and photographs of Albert Sabin, MD, developer of the oral, live-virus polio vaccine and distinguished service professor at the UC College of Medicine and Children’s Hospital Research Foundation from 1939 to 1969. The primary source documents to be digitized include 35,000 letters totaling 50,000 pages of correspondence between Sabin and political, cultural, social and scientific leaders around the world. Also included will be 1,608 photographs documenting the events and activities worldwide that were part of Sabin’s crusade to eradicate polo.

“The impact of Sabin’s influence on biomedical research and global public health won’t be fully understood until scholars have a chance to mine his archives effectively,” said Stephen Marine, UC Libraries assistant dean of special collections and the project’s principal investigator.

By digitizing and publishing his papers on the Web and enhancing those documents with metadata, scholars worldwide will not only have instantaneous access to the materials but will also have tools—available for few other such collections—to explore names, subjects and themes.

Sabin’s wife, Heloisa, donated his papers, medals and other artifacts to UC upon his death in 1993. They reside in the Henry R. Winkler Center for the History of the Health Professions, located in the CARE/Crawley Building on the medical campus. The project will begin in July for completion in June 2013. For more information, call (513) 558-5120 or e-mail cchp@uc.edu.

Residency Leader Wins ‘Courage to Teach’ Award

By Melissa Norris

mnorris@uc.edu

The University of Cincinnati has received a $314,258 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to digitize the correspondence and photographs of Albert Sabin, MD, developer of the oral, live-virus polio vaccine and distinguished service professor at the UC College of Medicine and Children’s Hospital Research Foundation from 1939 to 1969. The primary source documents to be digitized include 35,000 letters totaling 50,000 pages of correspondence between Sabin and political, cultural, social and scientific leaders around the world. Also included will be 1,608 photographs documenting the events and activities worldwide that were part of Sabin’s crusade to eradicate polo.

“The impact of Sabin’s influence on biomedical research and global public health won’t be fully understood until scholars have a chance to mine his archives effectively,” said Stephen Marine, UC Libraries assistant dean of special collections and the project’s principal investigator.

By digitizing and publishing his papers on the Web and enhancing those documents with metadata, scholars worldwide will not only have instantaneous access to the materials but will also have tools—available for few other such collections—to explore names, subjects and themes.

Sabin’s wife, Heloisa, donated his papers, medals and other artifacts to UC upon his death in 1993. They reside in the Henry R. Winkler Center for the History of the Health Professions, located in the CARE/Crawley Building on the medical campus. The project will begin in July for completion in June 2013. For more information, call (513) 558-5120 or e-mail cchp@uc.edu.

Residency Leader Wins ‘Courage to Teach’ Award

By Melissa Norris

mnorris@uc.edu

The University of Cincinnati has received a $314,258 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to digitize the correspondence and photographs of Albert Sabin, MD, developer of the oral, live-virus polio vaccine and distinguished service professor at the UC College of Medicine and Children’s Hospital Research Foundation from 1893 to 1969. The primary source documents to be digitized include 35,000 letters totaling 50,000 pages of correspondence between Sabin and political, cultural, social and scientific leaders around the world. Also included will be 1,608 photographs documenting the events and activities worldwide that were part of Sabin’s crusade to eradicate polo.

“The impact of Sabin’s influence on biomedical research and global public health won’t be fully understood until scholars have a chance to mine his archives effectively,” said Stephen Marine, UC Libraries assistant dean of special collections and the project’s principal investigator.

By digitizing and publishing his papers on the Web and enhancing those documents with metadata, scholars worldwide will not only have instantaneous access to the materials but will also have tools—available for few other such collections—to explore names, subjects and themes.

Sabin’s wife, Heloisa, donated his papers, medals and other artifacts to UC upon his death in 1993. They reside in the Henry R. Winkler Center for the History of the Health Professions, located in the CARE/Crawley Building on the medical campus. The project will begin in July for completion in June 2013. For more information, call (513) 558-5120 or e-mail cchp@uc.edu.