UC College of Pharmacy Renamed

Local Alumnus Gives College $10 Million to Fund Scholarships, Support Research and Facilitate Campus Conversations

By Jamie Davis
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When James Winkle was 22, he found himself managing a small, independent pharmacy in Hamilton, Ohio. The experience led him to owning and operating his own pharmacy, and then to a successful career in investment planning. The foundation for his success, says Winkle, was UC’s College of Pharmacy. A 1958 graduate of the college, Winkle expressed his appreciation for the education he received at UC by pledging $10 million to the college from his estate or trust.

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Although Winkle made the donation in June 2005, at his request he was not publicly acknowledged for his support until now. On June 6, 2007, the College of Pharmacy officially changed its name to the James L. Winkle College of Pharmacy and its dean.

“Jim’s commitment is the largest ever given to the college, and it truly reflects his unselfish generosity and impressive belief in pharmacy education at UC,” says Daniel Acosta, PhD, College of Pharmacy dean. “The Winkle College of Pharmacy is a perfect example of how the UC Foundation helps grateful alumni and friends of UC fulfill their dreams,” says Mary Sue Chesseman, associate senior vice president for development and See PHARMACY page 3

Fidgety Fish Could Hold Weight-Loss Clues

By Dama Kimmon
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Your tap-happy colleague in the next cube over might be a real annoyance, but her compulsion to fidget could be keeping her slim. Scientists have shown that fidgetiness is connected to the amount of fidgeting—also called spontaneous physical activity or SPA—people do. But what makes one person move while the next person sits virtually motionless?

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The answer, say UC researchers, might come from an unlikely subject. A team of scientists, led by Jay Hove, PhD, is using a high-tech “treadmill” to study the spontaneous physical activity levels of zebrafish. By monitoring their movement and metabolic rates, he hopes to better understand how “fidgeting” affects caloric balance and which molecules may control that process.

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JUNE 2007

Environmental Health Chair Recognized Nationally

With Urologic Research Excellence Award

By Amanda Harper
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Shuk-mei Ho, PhD, professor and chair of UC’s environmental health department, recently became the second person to receive the Women in Urology Award for Excellence in Urologic Research. The award is presented jointly by the Society of Women in Urology and the Society of Basic Urologic Research.

Ho, who was unanimously chosen as the 2007 recipient, accepted the award at the annual meeting of the American Urologic Association in May 2007.

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Notable Physicians Receive College of Medicine’s Top Honor

2007 Ceremony Also Marks First Dean’s Community Service Awards

by Dama Kimmon

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The College of Medicine honored two of its distinguished alumni, Smitty Dake Award winners, on March 19, 2007, at the annual dinner and awards celebration named in honor of the college’s founder. Scott Pomeroy, MD, PhD, and Robert Smith, MD, received the medals—the college’s highest honors.

New for 2007 was the creation of an annual Dean’s Community Service Award. This award was created to honor those who have demonstrated remarkable service to the college through committee service, mentoring others to serve the institution, or continued involvement and support in university activities.

The first Dean’s Community Service awards went to George Rieveschl, PhD, and Oliver Waddell.

Daniel Drake Medals

Scott Pomeroy, MD, PhD

Pomeroy is the Bronner Crothers Professor of Neurology at Harvard Medical School. A native of Cincinnati, Pomeroy received his MD and PhD from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, and Pomeroys received his medical and PHD degrees at UC.

Trained in pediatrics at Children’s Hospital Boston and child neurology at Washington University in St. Louis, Pomeroy worked as a postdoctoral fellow with Dale Purves at Washington University. His research focused on an environmental assessment of the cell and where the organization demonstrated remarkable service to the college through committee service, mentoring others to serve the institution, or continued involvement and support in university activities.

The first Dean’s Community Service awards went to George Rieveschl, PhD, and Oliver Waddell.

Dean’s Community Service Awards

George Rieveschl, PhD

UC alumnus and engineering professor emeritus George Rieveschl, PhD, might be best known for inventing Benadryl—the world’s first effective antihista-
mimetic drug. This drug—commonly used to treat allergy symp-
toms such as hay fever, rashes and hives—celebrated its 60th anniver-
sary in 2006. But it is his less-publicized work that also qualified him for the inaugural Dean’s Community Service Award.

Rieveschl is a long-time sup-
portor of the College of Medicine—and the university as a whole. He was the founding chairman of the University Foundation Board of Trustees and continues to serve as such to this day. In 1972, he founded the Charles McMicken Society. Named in recognition of UC’s first major benefactor and of the society honors the university’s most important donors.

Rieveschl’s personal financial support and leadership roles in these organizations, says one nomination letter, “has played a unique role in ensuring major ongoing financial support of the College of Medicine.”

In fact, the university’s endow-
ment—managed by the University Foundation—now exceeds $1.1 billion, with nearly half a billion of that specifically allocated to the College of Medicine.

Rieveschl recently made a major financial gift to UC in support of a new professorship in the depart-
ment of family medicine—a gift that helps fund a genomics research project in diabetes.

Oliver Waddell

Distinguished alumnus Oliver Waddell helped shape the College of Medicine and its many dedi-
cated physi-
cians and scientists looking for causes and treatments—and ultimately a cure—for multiple sclerosis.

In 1981, Waddell was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis—a disease for which there is no cure that causes progressive wasting of nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord. In 2002, Waddell made a $5 million gift to the University estab-
lishing the Waddell Center for Multiple Sclerosis—a specialized research and treatment center that is part of the Neuroscience Institute at UC and University Hospital.

Waddell had a vision when he gave the gift that created the Waddell Center. He wanted the center to promote what he called the “three C’s”—compe-
tiveness and compassion.

With the opening of the Waddell Center in 2004, the College of Medicine has since been able to recruit a multidisciplinary team of physicians and researchers, establish new laboratories and expand the clinical program in multiple sclerosis.

In 2007, the Waddell Center for Multiple Sclerosis became a certi-
fied member of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Waddell’s vision was that “Oliver Waddell’s gift will not only double and triple in value, but it is creating returns in hope and quality of life that are beyond measurement.”
College of Nursing Partners With Cincinnati Health Department to Expand School Wellness Program

By Jamie Davis
jamie.davis@uc.edu

During a recent visit to Harmony Community School, College of Nursing professor Elaine Miller gave an impromptu lesson on diabetes to a staff member.

She was there to discuss nutrition with students, but the education she and other College of Nursing faculty and students provides goes beyond just Harmony students.

The college has been working with students and their families at Harmony School on health issues ranging from weight loss and healthy eating to stress and diabetes care.

Now nursing faculty are partnering with the Cincinnati Health Department to expand their services to include a nurse practitioner who will conduct well-child assessments in addition to the educational sessions.

“The Cincinnati Health Department is reorganizing its focus to help more hands-on, community-based approaches to health care, especially for youth,” says health commissioner Noble Maseru, PhD.

“I think being a businessman in the health care business, especially for youth, is what I pursued,” laughs Winkle.

“Now nursing faculty are partnering with the Cincinnati Health Department to expand their services to include a nurse practitioner who will conduct well-child assessments in addition to the educational sessions.”

“We’re working together to achieve common goals of promoting health and helping children access health care,” says Miller.

“Many students in vulnerable populations, such as those at Harmony, are not regularly exposed to health professionals,” she says. “This program helps us increase their familiarity and comfort level with health care providers.”

Assistant Professor Robin Lee, who helped implement the college’s school health program at Harmony two years ago, says the middle and high school students and their parents are not the only ones benefiting from the experience.

“College of Nursing students are future health care providers, and this program allows them to interact cross-culturally and get hands-on experience,” she says.

Lee adds that middle and high school students generally relate better to the nursing students because there is often less of an age gap.

“The nurse practitioner in the program will also provide services to select Cincinnati public schools in addition to Harmony.”

“The idea is to start small and make sure we’re doing it before we implement the program into additional schools,” says Miller.

“Our long-term goal is to develop a sustainable program that empowers the school, students and their parents to be proactive about their health.”

College of Nursing

Plane Image

JWl3008535.jpg

Nurse Denise Gill-Roflow (center) talks to students from Harmony School about the importance of a healthful diet and balanced nutrition as part of a collaborative health initiative involving UC’s College of Nursing and the Cincinnati Health Department.

PHARMACY: College Renamed in Honor of $10 Million Donor, Alum

By Dama Kimmon
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Drug discovery is a multi-step process, with final products often taking more than 10 years to perfect.

Finding better and faster methods for identifying promising drug candidates is the goal of many in academia and industry. In 2006, for example, UC added a rapid screening method—a high-throughput screening system—to its drug discovery arsenal.

Now, the university and its partners have even more ammunition at their disposal.

Procter & Gamble (P&G) has provided full access and use of its chemical compound library to UC’s Genome Research Institute (GRI).

“The newly acquired library—used by scientists trying to determine the right chemical structure or drug to target a specific disease—was developed by P&G over the last 10 years and recently transferred to UC—will now be used by scientists trying to identify potential ‘drug candidates.’”

“The idea is to start small and make sure what we’re doing is working before we implement the program into additional schools,” says Miller.

“Our long-term goal is to develop a sustainable program that empowers the school, students and their parents to be proactive about their health.”

PHARMACY: College Renamed in Honor of $10 Million Donor, Alum

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alumni affairs.

A modest man who still lives in the Hamilton house he grew up in, Winkle didn’t expect public recognition—he simply wanted to give back to the college.

“I work mostly behind the soda fountain,” laughs Winkle. “But pharmacy seemed like a good career, so that’s what I pursued.”

After graduating, Winkle worked at a Hamilton pharmacy, and when the owner died, he found himself handling day-to-day operations.

He ran the pharmacy for several years before opening his own store—Winkle Discount Drugs.

After seven years, Winkle sold his store to a chain pharmacy to pursue a career in investing.

“The idea of becoming an investment adviser was very appealing,” says Winkle, who has been in the field now more than 40 years.

Winkle says the pharmacy business taught him how to make decisions and correct them when necessary.

“I think being a businessman in pharmacy translated to being a good investment businessman, you have to learn to evaluate information and make decisions based on your investigation.”

Winkle says that without his pharmacy degree, he is unsure what career he would have pursued and is grateful for the direction it took him.

“The old saying that you should find something you like to do, and you’ll never work a day in your life—well, that’s certainly true in pharmacy.”

Winkle says he hopes his gift can help fund scholarships, attract quality faculty and support research.

“Jim’s gift to the College of Pharmacy means the difference between being a good college or a great college, because it allows us to increase our commitment to students, faculty development and program excellence,” says Acosta.

“The research expertise the College of Nursing has will help us develop evidence-based data and determine what works and what doesn’t,” he adds.

The college is in the process of hiring a nurse practitioner as part of this one-year pilot project that officially begins Sept. 1. The nurse practitioner will work with College of Nursing faculty, students and Harmony’s school nurse, Homer Phillips, to assess students’ health and help them access the health care system.

The practitioner will also aid the college with research related to data collected at Harmony, such as the height and weight of students, blood pressure, body mass index, and other measurements.

“The idea is to start small and make sure what we’re doing is working before we implement the program into additional schools,” says Miller.

“Our long-term goal is to develop a sustainable program that empowers the school, students and their parents to be proactive about their health.”

PHARMACY: College Renamed in Honor of $10 Million Donor, Alum
Lowering Body Temperature Could Aid Standard Stroke Treatment

By Jamie Davis
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UC scientists have developed a model that could help physicians combine current clot-busting medication with below-normal body temperatures (hypothermia) to improve the treatment of ischemic stroke patients.

Though it be the first thought of the temperature dependence of the standard, Food and Drug Admin-

istration-approved stroke medica-
tion—an enzyme called tissue plasminogen activator (tPA)—in human clots and plasma, the find-
gings could prove useful in predict-
ing the efficacy of tPA over a wide range of temperatures, the UC researchers say.

The work was reported in the May 2007 Physics in Medicine and Biology. It is already known that lowering a patient’s temperature reduces the metabolic activity of ischemic (clot-causing) cells, which in turn reduces cell damage and death.

George Shaw, MD, PhD, who led the UC team, says that while several research centers are studying the use of hypothermia treatment for both stroke and heart attacks, little is known about how effective tPA is in the lab or the human body at lower temperatures.

Using the Celsius scale, normal human body temperature is 37 degrees. Shaw and his team tested tPA, which like most enzymes is temperature dependent, to see how well it broke up clots at temperatures ranging from 30 to 39.3 degrees Celsius. The researchers used blood sam-

ples from 10 healthy donors to form 226 small clots, exposed the clots to fresh-frozen human plasma and tPA at various temperatures, then measured how much mass the clots lost.

Shaw says that while he and his colleagues fully expected to find that tPA is less effective at lower temperatures, their study enabled them to develop a model to explain the mechanism of how tPA gets into the clot and subsequently breaks it up.

“Around 33 degrees is what most folks would consider the target temperature in cooling for ther-
apeutic hypothermia,” Shaw says, “although there have been suggestions that 35 Celsius would be ideal as well.”

The UC researchers found, how-

ever, that at 33 degrees Celsius, clots exposed to tPA lose only 8.8 percent of their mass, compared with 12 percent at 37 degrees Celsius.

“So, very crudely,” Shaw says, “if you are administering therapeutic hypothermia and tPA at the same time, you might want a higher tPA dose and it is less effective at lower temperatures.”

Another consideration, however, Shaw explains, is the role of the blood plasma. According to the method, which tPA converts into plasmin, a so-
called proteolytic enzyme that actu-
ally breaks down the clotting and fibrous matrix.

“Without sufficient plasmino-
gen,” Shaw says, “more tPA won’t help, so if one wants to use hypothermia and tPA at the same time, something else might be need-
edsuch as the ‘tPA prodrug’.”

Shaw says the model of the tPA-
hypothermia interaction that his team has developed from the study may be useful in helping researchers predict the efficacy of tPA over a wide range of temperatures.

“Knowing the effectiveness of tPA at various temperatures could allow a physician to adjust tPA dos-
ing in a stroke patient if hypother-
mia is being induced as well,” says Shaw.

“There are multiple medications and treatments for heart attacks, but currently stroke therapies are still in their infancy. This study offers another potential option for treatment.”

Also collaborating on the study, which was funded by the Whitaker Foundation and the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, were UC researchers Ashima Dhamija, Nazli Bavana, Kevin Tognig, MD, and Chirity Holland, PhD.

FISH: High-Tech Treadmill Helps Researchers Understand Obesity

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fishbowl might offer scientists a clearer picture of how “fidgeting” affects caloric balance and which molecules may control that process.

Initial studies of the fish as an obesity model were promising, leading the National Institutes of Health to fund Hove and his col-

leagues for further research. The team will use that funding—about $430,000 spread over two years—to conduct further studies to estab-
lish the zebrafish as a viable study subject.

Using a modified version of the monitoring software used to track movement in rodents, the team will observe 1,000 fish, separating those considered to be highly active from their more sedentary counterparts.

They will continue tracking movement, and will also measure metabolic rates in still water when the fish are free to move around or stay put, and in a high-tech zebrafish “treadmill.” One of the major measures in this study will be body fat levels, which the inves-
tigators predict will differ between a “couch potato” fish and its fellow “fidgeters.”

The scientists will also compare the two fish groups when placed on high- or low-calorie diets, monitoring activity levels for each diet group to see if any of the fish fail to naturally increase activity in response to more calories.

Most important, says Hove, specific tissues from “couch potato” and “fidgeting” fish will be screened for differences in genes that are “turned on” or “turned off.” He and his colleagues hope to find a new drug target that may boost a fish—and perhaps some day a human—SPA.

“It has been clearly shown in humans that changes in SPA in the face of increased dietary calories are the single largest predictor of weight gain,” says Hove. “That’s why understanding the molecular pathways regulating SPA is so important as well.”

Collaborators on the grant include Karen Seta-Aust, PhD, department of genome science, and Randy Steely, PhD, and Matthias Tschopp, MD, both of the department of psychiatry and UC’s Obesity Research Center.

UROLOGY: Professor Gets National Award

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the Society of Women in Urology in Anaheim, Calif., on May 20.

“Although urology is a male-
dominated field, women have been per-
forming outstanding urological research for decades—and Shuk-
mi is right at the very front of those efforts,” said David Stern, MD, dean of UC’s College of Medicine. “This national recogni-
tion is overdue and very well deserved.”

The award was established in 2006 to honor leading female sci-

The Center for Environmental Health, will investi-
gate the immunogenetic factors of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) susceptibility. Dennis McGraw, PhD, Internal Medicine, will research epigenetic dysregulation of airway epithelial cell gene expression in the patho-
genesis of smoking-induced COPD.

Each year, the center provides seed grants to support new initia-
tives in basic research to attract investigators to research in envi-
ronmental health sciences.

Center for Environmental Genetics Awards Grants

The Center for Environmental Genetics at UC has named recipi-
ents of its Pilot Project Grant awards program. The center awarded a total of $85,000 for research grants for projects cen-
tered on the gene-environment interaction.

Charles Vorehes, MD, department of pediatrics, will study the genetic susceptibility to polychlo-
rinated biphenyl-induced devel-

opmental neurotoxicity. Krista Shuk-

mi, MD, PhD, psychology, will look at the interaction between catechol-0-methyltransferase genotype and nicotine exposure on neurocognition in young adults. Scott Weisselkamper, PhD, environmental health, will investi-
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Patient’s Own Platelets Appear to Hasten Skin Wound Healing

By Jamie Davis
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A UC researcher says treating skin wounds with a concentrated topical gel of the patient’s own blood platelets instead of with antibiotic ointment and dressings may result in faster healing.

Study leader David Hom, MD, now a UC otolaryngologist (ear, nose and throat specialist) and a facial plastic surgeon completed the work while he was on faculty of the University of Minnesota.

Hom and his team looked at how quickly skin wounds treated with a gel of their own platelets (autologous platelet gel or APG) compared with a control antibiotic ointment. It is believed to be one of the earliest preliminary studies comparing the effectiveness of APG on skin wounds in healthy humans.

Four male and four female volunteers aged 21–58 received five full-thickness skin punch wounds (4 mm diameter) on each thigh. APG was applied topically to the punch sites (one to two times) on the thigh and antibiotic ointment to the other, and the wounds were monitored for six months.

Over a 42-day period, the researchers found that skin wounds treated with APG had statistically significant increased wound closure compared with the antibiotic-treated sites.

On day 14, the researchers report in the May/June 2007 issue of Archives of Facial Plastic Surgery, the APG-treated sites had a closure rate of 73.9 percent, while the control, antibiotic-treated sites closed at 49.6 percent. By day 17, 81.1 percent of the APG-treated sites closed, compared with 57.2 percent of the antibiotic sites.

Clinical analysis of the APG-treated sites also showed increased growth factor levels, which are essential in wound healing. “Overall, some of the APG-treated wound sites healed two to three days faster,” says Hom.

“That’s a significant amount of time. This may be especially useful for patients who are prone to poor healing, such as those with diabetes. ‘Accelerating normal wound healing could also improve the quality of life for patients post-op,’” says Hom. “They may be able to leave the hospital sooner and get back to their regular routines more quickly.”

Hom says APG treatment on skin wounds may also help patients who typically heal poorly.

“APG continues to prove it speeds up skin wound healing in future studies, it could be beneficial to give it to patients during surgery as a preventive measure to reduce post-op healing complications,” Hom says.

Collaborators on the study include Bradley Linzie, MD, department of pathology, Minneapolis, and Trevor Huang, PhD, of Medtronic Inc., a medical technology company that funded the study and for which Hom serves as a consultant.

New Hepatitis C Drugs May Improve Patient Outcomes

By Katie Pence
katie.pence@uc.edu

The number of hepatitis C cases in the United States is rising, but existing drugs are leaving those who suffer from the illness with debilitating side effects.

“About 180 million people worldwide suffer from hepatitis C,” said Kenneth Sherman, MD, from UC’s division of digestive diseases. “About 20,000 to 25,000 of those are chronic cases in the Cincinnati metropolitan area.”

But Sherman said new clinical trials at UC may lead to drug discoveries that could provide better treatment with fewer side effects.

“There’s a great need for new drugs,” he said. “We know the genetic structure of hepatitis C, and many pharmaceutical companies are working to target different functions of the virus to enhance viral elimination.”

Sherman said the agents currently approved for hepatitis C treatment cause a variety of side effects, including fever and muscle aches as well as anemia, rash and nausea.

“Response rates for the typical hepatitis C patient are under 50 percent with the use of these drugs, which isn’t very high,” he added. Sherman said it’s hoped that a new generation of drugs will be more effective with fewer side effects.

Six clinical trials of hepatitis C medications are under way at UC, including drugs that inhibit the virus’s replicating capabilities, preventing it from invading a healthy liver.

“Developers are seeking ways to affect the virus’s life cycle,” Sherman said, adding that although most drugs being studied are oral, there’s also a therapeutic vaccine in the works. “These new drugs will hopefully be better tolerated and more effective,” he said. “In the early 1990s, we were able to kill the virus 5 to 6 percent of the time. Improved drug formulations have increased cure rates to approximately 50 percent in the United States.

“We’ve made huge advances in a relatively short time, but there’s still room for improvement.”

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“We’ve made huge advances in a relatively short time, but there’s still room for improvement.”

Smart Safety Precautions Help People Avoid Common Summer Burns

By Amanda Harper
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Now that the weather is getting warmer and more families are cooking outside, taking road trips and going camping, UC burn specialists want to remind people to be safe.

“Summer burn injuries involve the skin in less than a second under the grill. These tubes can stay hot for hours—sometimes even after the coals are extinguished. Charcoal can stay hot enough to burn the skin for 24 hours,” says Hom.

To safely cook grilled food,

• Prepare a fire circle out of rocks to ignite a fire or on hot coals. Keep clean by washing it daily with soap and water—antibiotics usually aren’t necessary for minor burns,” Bailey explains. He notes, however, that you should always seek immediate medical attention for deeper burns and any burn that involves the face, hands, feet, major joints or genital area.

The ABA estimates that more than 1 million Americans suffer burn injuries each year, resulting in about 45,000 hospitalizations and 2,700 deaths.

UC Health Line features timely health information for consumers.
By Amyda Harper

Several years ago, a number of UC scientists with diverse backgrounds in physics, chemistry, mathematics, computer science and bioinformatics came together to establish Cincinnati as a major player in an emerging field known as bioinformatics.

This relatively new field of science merges biology, computer science and information technology to predict, collect and organize data on how genes encode proteins to function in the body, and understand how that information might translate into new targets for drug development.

Three of the scientists leading these efforts, Jack Miller, PhD, Mario Medvedovic, PhD, and Alexey Porollo, PhD—are developing a series of expanded Web-based software applications and servers that scientists can use, free of charge, to extract and extrapolate the specific bioinformatic and functional genomic data they need for various research projects.

“Bioinformatics is about managing, but mostly analyzing, large amounts of data coming from many sources—such as sequencing, microarray gene expression studies and proteomic profiling,” explains Miller, associate professor of medicine and health, and a bioinformatics expert. “Our challenge is developing new ways for this data to be manipulat-
ed and then transformed into knowledge that will help individ-
ual researchers make sense of all the available information.

Part of these efforts involves developing public domain soft-
ware applications and Web-based servers that make these new methods available to the scientific community.

The problem, as Medvedovic explains, is that there are literally millions of papers that can give researchers important molecu-
lar clues for advancing their research. But there is also a great deal of random variation to sort through to get to that critical information.

“To make any kind of meaningful conclusion,” he explains, “you need to establish statistical models that will tell you something about the relationships between the different proteins or genes being studied while accounting for random fluctua-
tions in data.”

“We’re not only using the tools,” adds Porollo, research assistant professor, “we’re making them better and developing new methods for analyzing the data. A growing base of users, and cross-
linking by major proteomic resources, such as the Protein Data Bank and various prediction meta-

servers, are evidence of the com-

petitiveness of our tools.”

One advanced computer server UC bioinformatics experts are continuing to improve is POLYVIEW, a system of capabilities for visualizing and analyzing the three-dimensional structure of proteins, shown here.

“Many scientists want to help those who are studying, say protein folding, and others who are studying, say protein expression patterns, being studied by them,” says Medvedovic, “and we’re excited about making it avail-
able to the scientific community.

Both POLYVIEW and SPIDER were made possible by grants from the National Institutes of Health and the Ohio Board of Regents and support from UC’s environmental health department and the Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Research Foundation. The interdisciplinary effort involves faculty and students from UC’s departments of environmental health, engineering, computer science and biomedical engineering and pediatrics.

The team estimates that at least 10,000 researchers from 60 coun-
tries have used their bioinformatics servers, and more than 150,000 information queries have been sub-
mitted since 2004.

For more information on these bioinformatics tools, visit http://
folding.cchmc.org/servers.html.

Melding of Minds Results in Sophisticated ‘Proteomics’ Analysis Methods and Tools

By Katie Pence

Jim Hulett, 62, said he’s been able to do more yard work this season than he has in six months or more.

“I’m feeling optimistic,” said Hulett, a West Chester resident who recently participated in a stem-cell clinical trial run by UC’s cardiovascular diseases division. “I keep a chair handy, just in case I need to rest. I feel stronger at this point, but I don’t know what to expect.

“I do know that I feel strong enough to do the kinds of things I wouldn’t have otherwise.”

Hulett is one of 150 patients expected to receive treatment in the multi-center trial. On April 1, in one of the first studies of its kind, physicians chemically extracted stem cells from his bone marrow and injected them directly into areas of his heart that lack sufficient blood flow.

New York, MD, said the trial is designed to identify alterna-
tive therapies for patients who have persistent heart symptoms despite conventional therapy.

Hulett was a perfect candidate. He’s had 10 angiograms over the last five years, seven stents and triple-bypass surgery following a series of heart attacks. Despite all of those procedures, plus a handful of medications each day, he has con-
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