



OB/GYN Connection

Monthly News for Faculty

July 2007

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Ob/Gyn Department Gives Stellar Performance

With the Department of Ob/Gyn leading the way with the highest ratings in customer service, UMMG Cedars Clinics were awarded the 2007 Four Star Customer Service Award.

The award, presented by Professional Research Consultants, recognizes the clinics for scoring in the top 25% nationally for "excellent" responses in the category of Specialty Clinic Overall Quality of Care.

Professional Research Consultants based the results on their 2006 normative database statistics.

Events

► Friday, Oct. 12

A Town Hall Meeting entitled "Breast and Ovarian Cancer: Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment," will be held at Jackson Memorial Hospital's Diagnostic Treatment Center, room 259, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Breakfast and lunch will be served. Contact Aida Pazos at APazos@um-jmh.org to reserve a spot.

Department Graduates 2007 Chief Residents

The Department honored its 2007 Chief Residents with a graduation ceremony held at the Coconut Grove Ritz Carlton on Friday, June 15, 2007.

Dr. Victor Gonzalez-Quintero, Residency Program Director, was the master of ceremonies for the event, which he themed "Red Carpet." Complete with a D.J. who played music when speeches got too long, the presentation of the graduates had everyone laughing, although there were also some tearful moments.

After Dr. Gonzalez-Quintero's presentation, the residents presented a few awards of their own. The first went to Resident Coordinator Rebecca Cardenas, who planned the event. Next, Dr. Usha Verma was recognized for teaching excellence. Last, a "Dr. McDreamy" award was given to OB/GYN resident Dr. Luis Roca.

If you missed seeing pictures of the event, click [here](#).



Dr. Usha Verma was recognized by residents for teaching excellence during graduation.



Research

► Heavy Bleeding

► Cervical Dysplasia

New Website

Check out the Department's new website.

[Click Here](#)

GYN Resident Dr. Luis Roca makes his acceptance speech for the Dr. McDreamy Award.

News



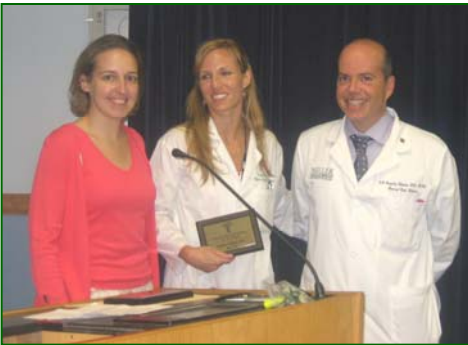
Dr. Takacs Completes Fellowship

The Department would like to officially welcome Dr. Peter Takacs, who completed his fellowship in Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery and will be joining the Division of Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery full-time. Dr. Takacs' specialties include pelvic reconstructive surgery, laparoscopic surgery and minimally invasive gynecology.

Senior Awards Banquet

The Miller School of Medicine held its annual Senior Awards Banquet on Thursday, May 10 at Parrot Jungle's Treetop Ballroom. Nine awards were presented during the ceremony, and four of these went to Wendy Quirino and Rachel Becker, who have chosen OB/GYN as their area of interest/specialty.

Resident Awards



Dr. Updike and Dr. Gonzalez-Quintero are pictured here with **Dr. Camille Hoffman**. She was the recipient of several awards including the American Association of Gynecologic Laparoscopists Award, John Ford Award and the Mary Jo O'Sullivan Award.

The Department would like to congratulate all its residents for their outstanding research work, presented during Chief Resident Research Day on Thursday, May 31. Many of our residents were recognized for their efforts.

Outstanding Chief Resident Awards went to **Drs. Jena Miller and Loren Smarkusky**.

Dr. Jonathan Bratter was the recipient of the 16th Annual William J. Le Maire Award.

Dr. Nathalie Dauphin-McKenzie received the first annual Ob/Gyn Medical Student Teaching Award.

Dr. Helena De Carvalho received the 30th annual Helen Lansman Award.

Dr. Dana Schey received the Society of Laparoscopic Surgeons Award.

Dr. Subha Sundaram, who was the recipient of the 8th annual William A. Little Award.

Wendy Quirino was the recipient of the **Jay Weiss Award** and the **Alan Teitler Award**. The Jay Weiss award recognizes the accomplishments of this talented young graduate in striving to raise the level of health equity at home and abroad by increasing access to quality health care. The Alan Teitler award is a memorial award established by the graduating class. The class voted for Wendy because they thought she exemplified constancy in unselfish service.

Rachel Becker was the recipient of the **UMMSM Medical Faculty Association Award** and the **UMMSM Medical Alumni Association Award**.

The Medical Faculty Association presents their award to a graduating senior who best demonstrates a caring and compassionate attitude toward others. The Alumni Association Award is presented to a student who demonstrates continued dedication to the School, makes constant efforts on behalf of their fellow students, and will be a principled representative of the medical profession.



Jerri joins the buffet line for her goodbye lunch.

Farewell to GYN Division Manager

The Department said goodbye to GYN Division Manager Jerri Rowe on June 7, 2007 during a farewell party hosted by administration.

Jerri was GYN's first division manager and held that position for five years.

"We are happy that you are getting this great opportunity, but you will be greatly missed," said Ruth Srebrenik, Ob/Gyn Assistant Chair.

Jerri will be starting a new position at Baptist Hospital. Filling in for Jerri is Gina De Leon, who was named interim division manager.

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Project Brings Joy to Waiting Rooms

Volunteers brought joy to those at Jackson Memorial Hospital waiting rooms this summer by giving away books as part of a community service project.

The project, under the direction of Jonell Potter and Martha Twiggs, was organized by high school students Kathryn Potter, Elyana Twiggs, and friend Anne-Marie Sullivan. The girls solicited donations of gently used books from friends at the end of the school year, then visited the outpatient clinics at Jackson in June and July to distribute the books to children and families in the waiting rooms. Often children come along with their parents to doctor's appointments, or have appointments themselves, and have nothing to do during the long wait times. The donated books are displayed on a cart and the children are asked to select books which are given to them as gifts. The goal of the project is to encourage reading and enthusiasm for books and give these children something they can take home to read and share with friends and siblings.

"It is so fun to walk by the waiting rooms and see the kids sitting with books we gave them. They get so excited when they find out they can keep the book for free. The parents come over and thank us too," said Kathryn.



From left: Elyana Twiggs, Anne-Marie Sullivan and Kathryn Potter help a child select a book.

But children weren't the only ones to benefit from this project. Some adults also perused the book cart looking for a book to help pass the time.

Community

► **Dr. Victor Gonzalez-Quintero** is mentoring eight students through the **Pre-Health Internship Program**. Coordinated by the Miami-Dade Area Health Education Center, the program pairs up college students interested in the health field with working professionals. The students will be shadowing Dr. Gonzalez through the end of July.

► **Dr. Nathalie Dauphin-McKenzie** (recent OB/Gyn graduate) was recognized by **DOCS** (Department of Community Service), an organization run by Miller School students which coordinates health fairs and a weekly free clinic. Dr. Dauphin-McKenzie was an active participant in the events. In a letter to the Chair, Dr. Nathan Connell, the organization's executive director, said, "It is your trainee's commitment to community service which allows us to fulfill one of the key missions of this medical school—serving as a community partner."

► As part of National HIV Testing Day, the **Division of Research**, participated in an event for the Haitian community at the Notre Dame Catholic Church on June 29, 2007. OB/GYN staff **Jeanne Constant-Edma** and **Sherley Mathurin** participated in this event which offered free HIV testing and counseling.

Ice Cream Party



The department enjoyed ice cream and all the toppings on June 21, courtesy of the MFM Division. The event was a great way to celebrate the summer season.

It's a Girl!



Congratulations to **Susan Carter**, patient clinical associate. She gave birth on June 6, to a baby girl named **Jamir Shaniya Cook**.

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Quoted

- ▶ **Dr. Gene Burkett** was interviewed by **Comcast Newsmakers** on June 10 regarding Lybrel, a new contraceptive which suppresses the menstrual cycle. The interview will also run on **CNN**.
- ▶ **Dr. Victor Gonzalez-Quintero** was quoted in ***El Nuevo Herald on*** June 19 on a story examining the pros and cons of Cord Blood Registry.
- ▶ **Dr. Mary Jo O'Sullivan** was quoted by **NBC** on a story regarding the results of the WHI-CACS study. The interview ran the week of June 18, 2007.

Research

The following clinical trials are seeking patients:

▶ **Heavy Menstrual Bleeding**

Do you experience heavy menstrual bleeding on three to five days of your regular menstrual period? Does heavy menstrual bleeding keep you from your normal social and work activities? If you answered yes to these questions, you may qualify for a research study of an investigational drug for heavy menstrual bleeding. This investigational drug is not a hormone. You must be a generally healthy woman between ages 18 and 49, have regular menstrual cycles with heavy bleeding, and not have any other bleeding disorder.

Qualified participants will receive the study drug and study-related procedures at no cost. They will also receive compensation for time and travel. If you are a doctor who wants to refer patients, or if you are interested in participating in the study, contact **Jackie Rendon in the OB/GYN Division of Research at 786-367-7460 (cell), 305-272-0316 (pager)**.

▶ **Cervical Dysplasia Study**

The Department of ObGyn is testing experimental medications and therapies for the treatment of cervical dysplasia, a pre-cancerous condition that can lead to cancer if left untreated. Current treatments are surgical or invasive. This study is testing an investigational gene therapy to see if it safely and effectively treats HPV mediated cervical lesions as a result of dysplasia.

If you or someone you know is between 18 and 25 and has had an abnormal PAP test, you may be able to take part in this research study. Qualified participants will receive all study-related care and study therapy. **To find out more, call Liliana Rivas at 305-243-5832 or e-mail l.rivas@miami.edu.**

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If you have comments, or questions, or if you are having trouble viewing this e-mail,

Contact Jackie Taylor at jtaylor2@med.miami.edu or by phone at 305-585-5131.