



University of Miami Miller School of Medicine

OB/GYN Connection

Monthly News for Faculty and Staff— March 2008

2008 New Concepts Conference is a Big Success

The Department's annual conference, New Concepts in Obstetrics and Gynecology, received a record number of participants this year as more than 100 physicians, nurses and residents attended the event which took place February 21-23 at the Mayfair Hotel in Coconut Grove.

In the past, the average number of attendees ranged between 20 and 40, making this year's number of participants a great turnout. One of the factors that contributed to an increase in registered participants was the inclusion of nationally renowned speakers like Dr. Haywood Brown, Chair of the Department of OB/GYN at Duke University School of Medicine; Dr. Bruce R. Carr, Professor and Paul C. MacDonald Distinguished Chair in OB/GYN at University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center; Dr. Jeffrey M. Fowler, Director of the Division of Gynecology at Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center; and Dr. Paulo Naud, Assistant Professor of OB/GYN at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul in Brazil. The Department is grateful to guest faculty for taking the time out of their busy schedules to share their expertise and to help make our conference even more successful.

The Department is also excited about New Concepts 2008 because it was the first time the conference was broadcast to an international audience. With the help of the University of Miami's Institute for International Medicine, the conference was broadcast via the web to physicians in Costa Rica, Ecuador, and across the nation.

Webcast participants were able to view lectures free of cost if they tuned in live and could access archived lectures for a fee.



Dr. Matt Pearson speaks to a participant after his presentation.



1: The International Medicine Institute exhibited at the conference. 2: Dr. Jeffrey M. Fowler, Director, Division of Gynecology, Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center, and Dr. Joseph Lucci at the welcome reception. 3: Dr. Haywood Brown, OB/GYN Chair at Duke University, presented at the conference. 4: Over 100 people attended the conference. 5: Dr. Gene Burkett was Course Director for the conference. 6: Dr. Leo Twiggs and Dr. Steve Ory, voluntary faculty member who spoke at the conference.

In this Issue:

[News](#)

[Community](#)

[Presentations & Publications](#)

[Quoted](#)

[HR Corner](#)

[Employee Spotlight](#)

Events

► Sunday, March 30

Sponsored by the Southern Medical Association Alliance, National Doctor's Day honors physicians for all their contributions.

► Saturday, April 12

The Women's Health Center Team will be participating in a health fair in conjunction with the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America (Miami Dade Chapter). More details are TBA.

► April 25-27

Save the date for the William A. Little Society's annual meeting, The Palms Hotel, South Beach.

► Thursday, May 29

Resident Research Day will feature OB/GYN Chief Residents. Gordon Center Auditorium (first floor of the CRB); 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Opening remarks will be given by Dr. William Hoskins, Executive Director of Surgical Activities and Attending Surgeon at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.

► Friday, June 13

Save the date for the OB/GYN Resident Graduation. Time and place TBA.

Dr. Simmons to be Honored by Rape Treatment Center



Dr. Karen Simmons

The Roxcy Bolton Rape Treatment Center at Jackson Memorial Hospital will be hosting a tribute to Karen Simmons, MD, who has worked with the center for the past 14 years as Medical Director.

The event will also serve to bring public awareness to sexual assault, as participating organizations will have a chance to give a 5-10 minute presentation of the community services they provide.

Dr. Simmons will be honored on April 25th from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Jackson Memorial Hospital's Alamo Park.

Dr. Lucci is Joins UMMG Board

Congratulations to Joseph A. Lucci, MD, who was elected to serve as a voting member on the University of Miami Medical Group (UMMG) Board of Directors for fiscal year 08-09. He will be joining Dr. Leo Twiggs, who is already on the board, and colleagues Drs. George Attia, Samir Beydoun, and Carlos Medina who serve on UMMG's Leadership Council.

As a board member, some of his duties will

include collaborating with other members in providing strategic direction for UMMG, developing and approving policies, and providing oversight of the operations of the medical group through the managing director.

Additionally, members of the board assist the managing director in the establishment and implementation of uniform procedures for clinical practice including appointments, clinic scheduling, medical records, referral policies, internal and external communications, billing and collections, and practice management.

Department Welcomes Dr. Karen Nishida

In March, Karen Nishida, MD, joined the Department as an Assistant Professor in the Division of Gynecologic Oncology. She comes to Florida after two years at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, where she was assistant professor in the department of obstetrics and gynecology.

Dr. Nishida has a bachelor's degree in biology from Harvard University and received her doctor of medicine degree from the University of California's San Diego School of Medicine. She was a resident at the University of Southern California and a gynecologic oncology fellow at the University of Pennsylvania.

She will be seeing patients at Sylvester Comprehensive Center and at Jackson Memorial Hospital. Patients can call 305-243-2233 to make an appointment.

Dermatology Department Sponsors 5K Run

The Department of Dermatology and Cutaneous Surgery is sponsoring the Sun Smart 5K Run/Walk for Melanoma Awareness. This student-initiated event to raise funds and awareness for melanoma and skin cancer research and care at the University of Miami will take place Saturday, May 3 at Crandon Park in Key Biscayne.

If you are interesting in participating, you can register online at www.splitsecondtiming.com by April 25, 2008.



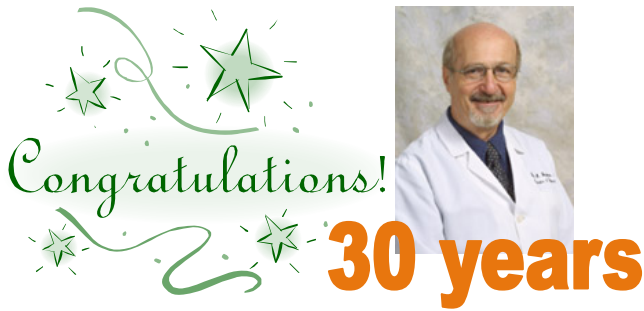
Congratulations



From left: Lunthita Duthely, and Drs. Leo Twiggs and Mary Jo O'Sullivan.

The Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry Steering Committee voted to recognize the major contributors of data to their research. One of the data contributors recognized was Lunthita Duthely, data manager for OB/GYN research.

The award was presented on Tuesday, February 26, during a luncheon held at the Clinical Research Building. Congratulations, Lunthita for the time and effort you spent collecting data for this important study!



Congratulations are in order to **Samir Beydoun, MD** who in 2008 celebrates 30 years of service to the University of Miami.

The Department thanks you for your commitment and hard work. We look forward to working with you for many more years to come.

OB/GYN Golf Victory



The OB/GYN golf team took the championship for a second year at a row at the Sixth Annual Senior Class Golf Tournament. The team was comprised of Drs. Leo Twiggs and Makbib Diro, medical student Michael Hoosien, and Dr. Nathalie McKenzie's husband, Adrian McKenzie.

The tournament was held on Sunday, March 9 at the Melreese International Links.

Community

Dr. Estes and Students to Lobby State Legislature

Christopher Estes, MD, MPH, will be taking a group of second year medical students to Tallahassee March 17-19 to lobby state legislatures to pass two bills.

One of these bills is the [Prevention First Act](#), which seeks to guarantee that rape victims have access to emergency contraception, increase access to contraceptives by legally stating that contraceptives do not cause abortions, and the bill will also require that all pharmacies must provide contraceptives to any patient with a prescription for them.

The second bill, [Healthy](#)

[Teens Act](#), will require that sexual education curricula taught in Florida public schools be complete and medically accurate. The bill advocates sex education that includes information on how to prevent pregnancy through contraceptives. This differs from current programs which emphasize abstinence as a way to prevent pregnancy and may not offer students information on other forms of pregnancy prevention.

If you are interested in lobbying your representative regarding these bills, click [here](#) for more information on how to effectively communicate with the appropriate person.

Cardenas Children Raise Funds for Charity

Rebecca Cardenas, residency program coordinator, would like to thank Makbib Diro, MD, Victor Gonzalez-Quintero, MD, MPH, Chief Residents Albert Triana, MD, and Gregory Guell, MD, and Kimberly Pacheco, Manager for the Maternal Fetal Medicine Division, for sponsoring her children Rachael and Jacob Cardenas, students at Westwood Christian School.

First grader Rachael and third grader Jacob participated in "Walk for Missionaries" on Saturday, February 23, an event held by the Missionaries of First Baptist Church of Westwood Lake to raise



Rachael and Jacob Cardenas.

funds in support of missionary work worldwide.

Together, the children walked 35 laps around a 58-yard soccer field—a total of 2,030 yards!

Rachael's class was able to collect \$1,100 in sponsorships for the walk and Jacob's class collected \$1,500. The school raised a total of \$30,436.

Presentations and Publications

- ▶ Along with Dean Pascal Goldschmidt, MD, Leo B. Twiggs, MD, presented a lecture at Girls' Night, hosted by the Forum on Women's Health. The March 5th event featured information on women and heart disease and on cervical cancer and HPV.
- ▶ Leo B. Twiggs, MD, will present, "The Evil Twins and Development of the Etiology of Genital Neoplasia: The True Story," on March 17 at the American Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology's annual meeting held at Disney's Contemporary Resort, Lake Buena Vista, FL.
- ▶ J. Matthew Pearson, MD, and Leo B. Twiggs, MD had their paper, "Association of Human Papillomavirus With Vulvar and Vaginal Intraepithelial Disease: Opportunities for Prevention," published in the March issue of Future Medicine's *Women's Health Journal*.

Quoted

- ▶ Matthew Pearson, MD, was quoted in a story on the use of surgical robots at University of Miami Hospital. The story will run in an upcoming issue of *Medicine*, the Miller School's magazine.

HR Corner

The Department extends a warm welcome to the following new hires:

- Beatriz Cosculluela, assistant manager in the Billing Division.
- Anastasia Godur has joined the Department full-time in the Division of Research where she is a program specialist.
- Carmen Hernandez, patient clinical associate in the Generalist Division's Jackson South site.
- Kajuana White, senior patient clinical assistant at OB/GYN practice sites.

Employee Spotlight

Name: *Brian Valdes*

Job title: *Sr. Staff Assistant*

If I could travel to any place in the world, *I'd go to Micronesia, which are several small and beautiful islands in the South Pacific. They are famous for scuba diving.*

What most people don't know about me is that *I like to D.J. for fun.*

Three words my friends would use to describe me are *fun, respectful, and loyal.*

What I like most about my job *are the people I work with.*



Brian Valdes

[Back to Page 1](#)