UPCOMING RFA MEETING

“John Locke:
Physician, Philosopher, Political Theorist”

Gordon Schochet, PhD
Professor Emeritus, Rutgers University

Friday, February 18, 2011; 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Dean’s Conference Room, Piscataway

John Locke (1632-1704), one of our most respected and influential philosophers and political theorists, was an Oxford-trained physician. His life-long interests in philosophy, especially questions of knowledge and certainty, and politics, especially the necessary reach of state power and religious toleration, were deeply rooted in his medical studies. Medicine was the means by which he entered public political life (as physician to the Earl of Shaftesbury); and it also provided the principal foundation for his empiricism, his near-obsession with details, and his preoccupations with change and growth.

All current and retired faculty and staff are welcome to attend. Lunch will be available, and contributions for the lunch may be made at the meeting. Please RSVP John Lenard (732-235-4784 or lenard@umdnj.edu) by Monday, February 14 if you plan to attend and wish to reserve a lunch.

Prior to the talk, a brief business meeting will be held.

Table of Contents
Talk by Dr. Sandra Moss.................................................................page 2
Business Meeting..............................................................................page 2
Retired Faculty Association Office....................................................page 3
Establishment of a RWJMS Faculty Council by David Riley, MD.......page 3
Update on New RJWMS Curriculum by Siobhan Corbett, MD...........page 4
A Proposal to Merge RWJMS, RU, and SPH.......................................page 5
Scholarship Gala for Alumni and Friends of RWJMS.........................page 6
News from Afar....................................................................................page 7
In Memoriam.......................................................................................page 9
RFA Membership and Membership Application.................................page 10
December 9, 2010 Meeting of the RFA
“Irregular-bred Pretenders to Medicine”

Sandra Moss, MD, MA (History of Medicine), presented a lively talk on medicine as practiced in New Jersey in the nineteenth and early twentieth century. A colorful array of "irregulars" and hucksters - from Thomsonians to hydropaths - honed their crafts or bought bogus credentials in an astonishing assortment of schools, institutes, and diploma mills in the Garden State.

Dr. Moss is a 1969 graduate of Rutgers Medical School in Piscataway and a former clinical associate professor of medicine at RWJMS. She is the author of some thirty articles in the history of medicine, with a particular interest in nineteenth century New Jersey medicine. Dr. Moss is the past president of the Medical History Society of New Jersey and a winner of the society's Cowen Award for achievement in the history of medicine.

Dr. Moss has written a delightful history of the water-cure in New Jersey which is included as a separate addendum to this newsletter.

RWJMS RFA BUSINESS MEETING – December 9, 2010

Eckhard Kemmann welcomed everyone to the December 9 meeting of the RFA at the Rutgers Club in New Brunswick. He announced that the RWJMS Retired Faculty Association bylaw amendments were approved by RFA members who paid their dues that (a) allow the bylaws to conform to tax regulations regarding non-profit status and (b) allow nominations and elections to occur at regular meetings, not only at annual meetings.

David Riley, Michael Gochfeld, and Mary Swigar were re-elected to serve on the Election and Membership Committee. Sarah Hitchcock-DeGregori was elected to serve on the Program Committee.

Eckhard inquired if the members were interested in attending a guided tour of the Zimmerli Art Museum in New Brunswick. There was general agreement that such a tour would be of interest. Information about the guided tour will be presented to the RFA members in the future.
Gordon Schochet, PhD, Professor Emeritus, Rutgers University, will speak on “John Locke: Physician, Philosopher, Political Theorist” at the next meeting of the RFA on Friday, February 18, 2011 at the Dean’s Conference Room in Piscataway.

**RWJMS RFA OFFICE**

All RWJMS retired faculty and staff members are encouraged to use the RWJMS RFA office which contains two desks, telephones, and computers with Internet connections. It is located on the second floor of the teaching wing of the medical school, room C-211, not far from the Great Hall in Piscataway. Donations of books for the office would be greatly appreciated. For more information about the use of the room, please contact Ruthe Geardino (732-235-8130 or geardira@umdnj.edu).

**FACULTY COUNCIL ESTABLISHED AT RWJMS**

*by David Riley, MD*

The UMDNJ Board of Trustees recently approved an amendment to the RWJMS Bylaws that establishes a Faculty Council at the medical school. For the first time in its history, RWJMS will have a faculty organization sanctioned by the central administration of the University. The goal of the Faculty Council is to bring matters of concern to the faculty and the attention of the faculty as a whole, and to the administration for discussion and resolution.

At faculty meetings, the Dean has traditionally set the agenda. What is new is that the president of the Faculty Council may conduct part of the faculty meetings and speak for the organization. Discussion of issues of concern to the faculty may engender more interest and attendance at faculty meetings.

Fifteen members, representing half from pre-clinical and half from clinical departments, will be elected by the faculty. Matters discussed may be those that affect the academic mission of the school including University services such as human resources and grant administration.

Recommendations of the Faculty Council, if ratified by a majority vote at a faculty meeting, will be considered to represent the position of the faculty as a whole. Once ratified, the Faculty Council will engage the administration to work toward resolving issues. The RWJMS Faculty Council will work with other faculty organizations throughout UMDNJ to bring University-wide issues to the attention of central administration.
UPDATE ON THE NEW RWJMS CURRICULUM

by Siobhan Corbett, MD

Since its founding, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School has had a traditional pre-clerkship curriculum that was organized according to disciplinary boundaries, with basic science courses that were departmentally controlled and staffed. As part of a long-range curricular plan and following two years of hard work by the faculty, the medical school unveiled Curriculum 2010, the goal of which was to improve the vertical and horizontal integration of the curriculum by replacing discipline-based with systems-based teaching.

FOUNDATIONS OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE

The M1 (first-year) students experienced the first step in this new curriculum in August. The first block, a 9-week course aptly named “Foundations of Biomedical Science,” was composed of essential elements of medical biochemistry, cell and molecular biology, and epidemiology and statistics. The goals of this block were two-fold. The first was to provide students with the biomedical science knowledge, on a cellular level, that was required for an understanding of body systems. The second goal was to introduce them to the language of evidence-based medicine (EBM), a foundational topic considered to be essential to the M1 year. New to this block, was the introduction of learning exercises that provided clinical context for the basic science concepts. These exercises included small group discussions built around case presentations, in addition to a multidisciplinary case conference that occurred every Friday. The feedback on the block was extremely positive, as its directors, Drs. Emine Abali and John Pintar, received strong support from the clinical faculty. Integral to this success, was the creation of a series of clinical case studies that juxtaposed basic science and real-patient situations, making the importance and relevance of basic science knowledge more evident. Hopefully, this will serve to increase the students’ drive to obtain and retain deeper knowledge about these topics.

BODY IN MOTION

Following the “Foundations” block, the students shifted into high gear as they began the first integrated systems block: The Body in Motion. This 5-week block, led by Dr. George Mulheron, introduced students to the normal structure and function of the musculoskeletal system and skin, and contained components of gross anatomy, systems histology, neuroscience and physiology. As a constant thread, students continued to attend multidisciplinary case conferences on Friday that utilized clinical case studies to review the prior week’s material. During this block, students received their first exposure to the anatomy lab, as they dissected the back, upper and lower limbs. These laboratories were coordinated with clinical presentations of common patterns of upper and lower extremity injuries. In addition, students continued to evaluate current literature to practice their EBM skills.
UPDATE ON THE NEW RWJMS CURRICULUM (continued)

CARDIOVASCULAR AND PULMONARY BLOCK

Following Body in Motion, the Cardiovascular and Pulmonary block, led by Dr. Rob Zachow presented an integrated approach to the normal structure and function of the heart and lung. Students were introduced to the anatomy and histology of each organ, followed by the physiology. Small group skills laboratories that taught the basics of EKG analysis complemented large group lectures. Friday morning multidisciplinary sessions topics ranged from congenital heart disease-coordinated by Dr. Benjamin Lentzner, a pediatric cardiologist, to chest trauma and its impact on respiratory mechanics, led by trauma surgeon, Dr. Hesham Ahmed. A detailed case study of an asthmatic patient, prepared by pulmonologists, Drs. John Crocco and David Riley, anchored a popular interactive small group session.

SPRING SEMESTER COURSES

As the New Year starts, students will begin the GI, Metabolism and Nutrition block, followed by Renal, Endocrine and Reproduction—which will both follow similar organizational strategies to the previous two systems blocks. The year will be capped by two additional blocks, Disease and Defense, composed of Microbiology, Immunology and an Introduction to Pathology, followed by a short 2-week block entitled, Cancer: Bench to Bedside. While the transition to the new curriculum has not been without some bumps, the students and faculty are enthusiastic about this new direction and the infusion of clinical expertise that has anchored the instruction thus far. Importantly, the net effect of the new curricular structure has been to increase time for patient contact in the M1 year. This will allow patient experiences to coordinate more easily with the basic and clinical sciences. Early patient contact will help students develop interpersonal and communication skills and allow more time for the gradual development of clinical proficiency.

A PROPOSAL TO MERGE RWJMS, RU, AND SPH

The report of the New Jersey Higher Education Task Force formed by Governor Chris Christie was released on January 4, 2011. Among its suggestions to improve higher education in New Jersey, the report recommended that UMDNJ’s “Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and the School of Public Health (SPH) should be merged with Rutgers University’s New Brunswick-Piscataway campuses to establish a first-class comprehensive university based health science center.” The entire report, including the recommendation of the proposed merger that begins on page 64, can be found at the following website: http://nj.gov/governor/news/reports/pdf/20101201_high_edu.pdf.

On the same day as the release of the task force’s report, the Governor issued Executive Order No. 51, establishing the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey Advisory Committee with its five members appointed by the Governor. “The committee shall also examine and provide recommendations concerning the following issues: (a) whether Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and the School of Public Health should be merged with Rutgers University's New Brunswick-Piscataway campuses....” The committee's report is due by September 1, 2011.
In response to the task force’s report, William F. Owen, Jr., MD, president of UMDNJ, wrote, “As the State’s leader in biomedical research and in the education and training of healthcare professionals, we embrace the opportunity to have a full and thorough review of all the relevant facts and data pertaining to medical education in New Jersey. We are confident that a comprehensive review of UMDNJ and its missions will support maintaining our current structure and underscore our strengths as a statewide asset for New Jersey and its residents.”

Richard L. McCormick, PhD, president of Rutgers University, wrote, “I want to highlight especially the recommendation to reunite Rutgers and Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, which could have the single biggest impact on the university and the state of any proposal contained in the report…Reuniting Rutgers with RWJMS would bring enormous benefits to the institution, including placing Rutgers in the top ranks of all American universities in total research funding.”

For an account of the history of how Rutgers Medical School became CMDNJ, please see the article by Ron Morris, MD, which appeared as an addendum to a previous RFA newsletter, vol. 2 no. 4, at the following website: http://rwjms.umdnj.edu/about_rwjms/faculty/retired_faculty/documents/HowRutgersMedicalSchoolBecameCMDNJ.pdf.

**UPCOMING GALA IN SUPPORT OF STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS**

The Scholarship Gala to Celebrate with Alumni and Friends of UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, a new event, will take place on Saturday evening, April 2, at The Heldrich, in New Brunswick. Awards will be presented to Roger S. Fine, Esq., retired vice president and general counsel, J&J, and chair, Foundation of UMDNJ; Neil Calman, MMS ’73, MD, president and CEO of the Institute for Family Health, in New York City; and Aaron Shatkin, PhD, professor of molecular genetics, microbiology, and immunology and director, Center for Advanced Biotechnology and Medicine.

A joint effort of RWJMS and The Foundation of UMDNJ, the Gala will bring together the school’s many constituents to celebrate the success of RWJMS, to revitalize relationships with current and future alumni, to generate new funds, and to increase the availability of scholarships for students.

If you have any questions prior to receiving your invitation, contact Jeannette Evans, evansje1@umdnj.edu.
Joyce Orenstein, a past Executive Director of the UMDNJ-AAUP, wrote the following on November 18, 2010 in response to a request to describe her musical activities before and after retiring:

“I first became interested in composing music while I was completing my undergraduate work at UCLA. I was listening to a lot of jazz at the time, and was doing some improvising. This led me to become interested in composing. After graduating, I studied counterpoint with Leonard Stein, who had been a pupil of and then an assistant to Arnold Schoenberg. After a while, I told him of my interest in composing and studied composition with him briefly. I then moved to New York, where I studied with Mario Davidovsky, at first privately and later at The City College of the City University of New York, where I earned a master's degree in composition and won some composition awards. During that time I also received a few composing fellowships at the Composers Conference in Bennington and later in Johnson, Vermont. After I had my third child I stopped composing for a while, but later began again and reentered the doctoral program in composition at Rutgers University. I finally received a PhD in composition in 1994. I continue to compose, play the piano, and do a little teaching. My compositions include chamber music, song settings, and an orchestral piece. They have been performed in the U.S., Europe and Japan, and continue to be performed once in a while. Recently, my composition Soundings for solo guitar was performed by William Anderson at the African Art Museum in Tenafly, New Jersey.”

Stanley S. Bergen, Jr., who became the first president of what was then called the College of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey in 1971, wrote the following on November 10, 2010:

“Following retirement as president of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey in June 1998, I worked full-time at the University for one year in a transition role and then part-time upon such projects as the development of University Heights Science Park in Newark and other duties until June 2004. During that period, I also participated in teaching assignments as requested.

“From 1999 to 2004 my wife and I gradually became residents of Stonington, Maine. We renovated, winterized and expanded our summer home into a year round abode and began gardens - she flowers and bushes, me vegetables. Since our rocky hill is very exposed to cool winds off of water on three sides, we have been forced to experiment with plants that could exist in shallow soil and withstand the often harsh Maine climate. Sue continued her visual art activities working in various media while participating in a number of local arts groups. In 2005, she resumed singing, joining the Blue Hill based Bagaduce Chorale after a fifty year hiatus since she was a member of the All New York City Chorus.

“We both became involved in local community activities of this fishing village of 1300. In 2005, we sold our home but continued to maintain a small apartment in Englewood, New Jersey until
2009. We joined a local group in 2000, Opera House Arts, composed mostly of retirees and their spouses ‘from away’ with the mission to renovate and reopen the Stonington Opera House and in 2003 I was elected the first chairperson of the board. With the determination and astounding skills of our executive director and artistic director, we have become a year round theater providing live shows, front-run movies and many performances of former professional and amateur thespians and musicians drawn both from local and imported talent. Each year we produce a Shakespearean play with Equity actors from New York City, sponsor a jazz festival and perform at least one commissioned work. The summer of 2010 we presented the world premier of an operetta of Robert McClasky’s ‘Burt Dow, Deep Water-man.’

“I finally have been able to read some of the books delayed by medical journals although I still remain addicted to a few of those readings.

“In 2000, I was elected to the board of the local (25 mile distant) Critical Access Hospital – Blue Hill Memorial. It is a 25 bed primary care hospital supplemented with general and orthopedic surgery, urology, gynecology and rehabilitative services while operating a busy emergency room and four satellite family health centers in Castine, Bucksport, Blue Hill and Stonington.

“In 2002, I was elected to the board of the Eastern Maine Healthcare System which provides extensive healthcare service to the nine most northern counties of Maine. The system includes nine hospitals and healthcare facilities, thirty support companies, a large home care/hospice program and helicopter ambulance services while maintaining extensive primary healthcare programs thru rural family health clinics and individual provider practices. I still attempt to jog 2.5 to 3.0 miles per day, weather permitting.

“We love living here with these wonderful hard-working fishermen, support persons and their families. We enjoy being part of a diverse group of friends and neighbors.”
In Memoriam

“It is with sad news that I inform you of the recent passing of Dr. Robert Crane, a renowned physiologist and biologist, who served as the founding chair of the department of physiology from 1966 until his retirement in 1986. During his distinguished career as a scientist and an educator, Dr. Crane discovered sodium-glucose cotransport, which eventually helped treat millions of victims of cholera. He was the recipient of numerous notable awards that included the American Gastroenterological Association Distinguished Achievement Awards (1969) and the Dr. Harold Lamport Award, New York Academy of Sciences (1977).

“He received a bachelor’s degree from Washington College, Chestertown, Maryland in 1942, and received his doctorate in medical sciences from Harvard Medical School in 1950. He was a Navy veteran of World War II and served as professor and chair of the department of biochemistry at the Chicago Medical School, until joining then Rutgers Medical School.

“Last year, Dr. Crane was interviewed by the American Physiological Association about his life and science career. The interview may be found at: http://www.the-aps.org/video/livinghistory/robertcrane.htm.

“Originally from New Jersey, Dr. Crane was a resident of Macon, Tennessee and is survived by his wife, Dr. Laura Crane, son Jonathan, daughter Barbara and three grandchildren.”

“Dr. Crane’s obituary may be found at: http://www.peeblesfuneralhome.com/obits/obituary.php?id=48155.”

-Peter S. Amenta, MD, PhD, Dean

This newsletter was edited by Eckhard Kemmann, Michael Gallo, John Lenard, and Paul Manowitz.
Retired Faculty Association

The following members have paid their RWJMS RFA 2011 dues:

- Gad Avigad
- Bruce and Mary Breckenridge
- Barbara Brodsky
- Charles and Margaret Brostrom
- Ned Browning
- Jay Chandler
- David Egger
- George Hansen
- Arthur Hess
- Eckhard Kemmann
- Avedis Khachadurian
- George Krauthamer
- Lourdes Laraya-Cuasay
- John Lenard
- Gordon Macdonald
- Paul Manowitz
- Russell McIntyre
- Paul Smilow
- Thomas Stevens
- Nancy Stevenson
- Mary Swigar
- Joseph Zawadsky
Retired Faculty Association

If you have not already done so, please send in your 2011 dues. Dues are collected for the calendar year. Please cut along the dotted line and return this portion with your payment.

RWJMS Retired Faculty Association 2011 Dues

Benefits of RFA Membership:
• Defining, advocating for and publicizing the benefits of retired faculty at RWJMS,
• Fostering ongoing engagement and participation of retired faculty in RWJMS activities,
• Promoting continuing interaction among retirees,
• Providing information and options for faculty considering retirement, and
• Interacting with other academic retired faculty associations (e.g., Rutgers Retired Faculty Association).

Please Print:

Name: __________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________
________________________________________
Phone: ____________________________________________
E-mail address: __________________________________

Please enclose a check in the amount of $15 made payable to “RWJMS Retired Faculty Association” and mail it to John Lenard, PhD, at the following address:

John Lenard, PhD
Department of Physiology and Biophysics
UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
675 Hoes Lane
Piscataway, NJ. 08854

Thank you.                                         January 2011