**Upcoming RFA Meeting**

**“INTEGRATION UPDATE”**

Christopher J. Molloy, PhD, RPh  
Interim Provost for Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences and Professor, Pharmacology and Toxicology, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

Friday, February 8, 2013  
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm  
Dean’s Conference Room  
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, Piscataway

Dr. Molloy is leading the day-to-day activities to integrate Rutgers and UMDNJ.

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 to Nancy Stevenson (732-572-5023; e-mail: stevenso@umdnj.edu) by Monday, February 4, if you plan to attend and wish to reserve a lunch.

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**Annual Report of the RFA President**

By Eckhard Kemmann, MD  
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School  
Retired Faculty Association President

A few thoughts are in order at the beginning of a new year, and, indeed, the bylaws require that I give a report. The past year saw us meet four times, three times in Piscataway and the last meeting at the CAB in New Brunswick to make it easier for clinical faculty to attend. The highlight of each meeting was a keynote speaker covering a wide array of topics. We heard about Sir Arthur Conan Doyle as storyteller and physician, the history of the physical diagnosis, hiking in the Himalayas, and a review of the Presidential election. Our quarterly newsletter kept us informed about the relevant activities, provided a summary of the presentations, talked about developments at the school and the excitement and challenge of the merger with Rutgers, and presented news from and about our members and friends. And, sadly, we had obituaries.

The past year saw us gain IRS approval as a non-profit 501 (c) (3) entity. In this spirit we decided to create a Global Health Fellowship Fund to support medical students who go abroad as part of their training to learn, help, and teach in foreign countries under the aegis of the Global Health initiative of RWJMS. A first check for $2,000 was already forwarded at the end of 2012.

(continued on page 2)

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**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upcoming RFA Meeting</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RFA Annual Report</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merger of UMDNJ &amp; Rutgers University</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Health Institute of New Jersey: Coming of Age</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News from Afar</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photo of the Month</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Health Fellowship</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RFA Membership</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Application and Donation Form</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The RFA is envisioned as a forum and resource for faculty who are retired or nearing retirement. While the retirement process is a unique experience for each individual retiree, we all face similar issues and problems. The RFA likes to be a useful resource and learning opportunity through shared experiences.

A list of thanks would be surprisingly long, just look at our committee members, all working to make this a better organization. A special thank you goes to Paul Manowitz for his work as Secretary. He is stepping down, but I am grateful that he will continue his work as editor of the newsletter. We extend special thanks for their support to Dean Peter Amenta, COO Alice Lustig, Marie Kleeman who helps with the newsletter and all of our mailings, and, of course, Ruthe Geardino who, among other things, keeps our website current.

What are my wishes for the New Year? I’d like to see more retirees take advantage of our organization. I am looking forward to another year of exciting meetings and programs. And I hope that we can make a difference in the life of our medical students by supporting them through the Global Health Fellowship Program.

Best wishes for 2013. And stay healthy, please.

Eckhard Kemmann, MD  
President, RFA

MERGER OF UMDNJ AND RUTGERS UNIVERSITY

At a special joint meeting on November 19, 2012, the Rutgers Board of Governors and Board of Trustees adopted resolutions supporting the New Jersey Medical and Health Sciences Education Restructuring law that integrates many of the UMDNJ schools, including Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, with Rutgers University.

The restructuring will create a new entity known as the Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences. Most of the components of UMDNJ will thereby become part of Rutgers University, namely, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, The Cancer Institute of New Jersey, the School of Public Health, New Jersey Medical School, the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, New Jersey Dental School, the School of Nursing, and the School of Health Related Professions. The UMDNJ School of Osteopathic Medicine will be transferred to Rowan University and University Hospital in Newark will become an independent entity.

The Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences also will include Rutgers’ Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy, the Rutgers College of Nursing, the Institute for Health, Health Care Policy and Aging Research, and any other schools at the discretion of Rutgers President Robert Barchi.

THE CHILD HEALTH INSTITUTE OF NEW JERSEY: COMING OF AGE

By Arnold Rabson, MD  
Director of the CHINJ and Professor of Pediatrics, Pharmacology, and Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

2012 has witnessed more than its fair share of milestones and turning points at RWJMS. Perhaps without the fanfare of some of these, but certainly with long-term significance for our scientific community has been the “coming of age” of the Child Health Institute of New Jersey (CHINJ), which (continued on page 3)
The Child Health Institute of New Jersey: Coming of Age (continued from page 2)

it could be reasonably asserted, passed from its own childhood to scientific adolescence in the last 12 months. Over this past year, the recruitment efforts of the CHINJ have come to fruition. The CHINJ now has an active core of ten research scientists with their laboratory groups in residence in the two open-laboratory floors of the CHINJ building in New Brunswick.

CHINJ has identified four programmatic focus areas for its research initiatives that, together, span critical areas of pediatric disease. Our focus areas are:

1. **Inflammation, Immunity and Infection** (including asthma, autoimmune diseases, juvenile onset diabetes, and infections);
2. **Autism and Neurodevelopment**
3. **Pediatric Cancers and Diseases of Stem Cells and Development**
4. **Pediatric Metabolism and Childhood Obesity**

Our newly recruited (over the last 16 months) faculty are focused in these areas and include:

**Derek B. Sant’Angelo, PhD, Associate Professor of Pediatrics**, recruited from Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, whose laboratory studies the regulation of NKT cells and the roles that they play in normal and pathogenic immune responses. His laboratory uses transgenic and knockout mouse models to characterize the functions of the PLZF family of transcription factors in NKT and other immune cells.

**Lisa K. Denzin, PhD, Associate Professor of Pediatrics**, recruited from Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, whose laboratory studies antigen presentation and regulation of the immune response. Her studies have shown the roles of variant MHC molecules in the regulation of autoimmune disorders including type 1 diabetes. Her laboratory also studies the role of novel cell cycle regulatory proteins in leukemias.

**Davide Comosetti, DVM, PhD, Assistant Professor of Neuroscience and Cell Biology**, recruited from the University of California, San Diego, whose laboratory studies molecular basis of synapse formation and connectivity. His work focuses on the atomic structure and cellular functions of trans-synaptic adhesion molecules such as neuroligins and neurexins, to gain insights into how mutations of these proteins associate with autism and other common neurodevelopmental disorders.

**Zhipe Zhang, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor of Neuroscience and Cell Biology** was recruited from Stanford University. His laboratory studies the neural basis of the regulation of feeding, satiety, metabolism and obesity. He has also developed novel techniques for deriving neuronal cells from primary skin cells, providing unique opportunities to study the pathogenesis of neuronal disorders using primary human neurons, including pediatric developmental disorders and autism. This past year, Zhipe Zhang was awarded the Brain and Behavior Research Foundation Freedman Prize for outstanding research by a young investigator and the Sinsheimer Scholar Award.

These investigators have joined those already present at CHINJ:

**Yufang Shi DVM, PhD** (*Professor of Pharmacology*): immune cell regulation and anti-inflammatory activities of adult stem cells;

**Amale Laouar, PhD** (*Assistant Professor of Surgery*): immunology of the gut;

**Chi-Wei Lu, PhD** (*Assistant Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences*): development of the placenta and placental stem cells, role of aging in induced pluripotent stem cells;

**Sevgi Gurkan, MD** (*Assistant Professor of Pediatrics*): pediatric nephrology, causes and treatments of pediatric nephrotic syndrome;

**Arnold Rabson, MD** (*Professor of Pediatrics, Pharmacology, and Pathology and Laboratory Medicine*): causes and treatments of leukemias, regulation of gene expression and development.

CHINJ also houses the Transgenic and Knockout Mouse Shared Resource of the Cancer Institute of New Jersey directed by **Mantu Bhaumik, PhD** (*Assistant Professor of Pediatrics*), which also provides these sophisticated mouse genetic engineering services to CHINJ investigators, as well as other investigators across RWJMS, Rutgers, UMDNJ and Princeton. Dr. Bhaumik is an active scientific participant in the CHINJ research community.

The CHINJ is also becoming a vibrant hub for scientific interactions, communication, and dissemination of the science of childhood diseases. As some of you know, thanks to the generosity of the Gould family, CHINJ hosts the **Dr. Kenneth S. and Audrey S. Gould Lecture in Molecular and Cellular Medicine**. This past October, our speaker was Dr. James R. Downing, Deputy Director,
The Child Health Institute of New Jersey: Coming of Age (continued from page 3)

scientific director and executive vice president of the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital who presented a tremendous lecture on genomics of childhood leukemias.

In the broader picture, the CHINJ is a component of the New Brunswick Children’s Academic Campus, a collection of institutions providing pediatric care and performing children’s health research that is unique in our region and in many ways, in the whole country. Obviously, an important component of this campus is the RWJMS Department of Pediatrics whose outpatient pediatric practice is housed in the CHINJ building, as is the renowned Institute for the Study of Child Development, led by Dr. Michael Lewis, a world leader in the cognitive and emotional development of children. The Pediatric Clinical Research Center of the Department of Pediatrics is on the ground floor of the CHINJ and provides support for over two dozen clinical trials involving children. The Bristol-Myers Squibb Children’s Hospital of Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital provides acute care for sick children from critically ill neonates to kids with cancer. Also on this campus is the PSE&G Children’s Specialized Hospital, one of the largest and best pediatric rehabilitation hospitals in the country. This Children’s Academic Campus has the potential to be a powerful engine for discovery and its clinical translation for the treatment of childhood diseases.

With the establishment of our research programs and core of resident faculty, CHINJ, as part of the Children’s Academic Campus, is now poised to develop the kinds of interactions across basic, clinical and translational, and population and prevention sciences that will make this a truly great research institute. To this end, we will soon begin to add associate (non-resident) members recruited from across the RWJMS and Rutgers campuses to the different program areas, based on their research interests and expertise, and interest in collaborative research projects. We would anticipate future joint recruitment with departments across the new Rutgers University, leveraging all of our diverse strengths to enhance innovative research. As part of this effort, we will also seek to develop focused, disease-oriented research “sub-programs” around such topics as asthma, autism, and childhood obesity. Our long-term goal is to integrate basic science with clinical/translational and prevention research to enhance understanding, treatment and prevention of childhood diseases and to contribute to the worldwide effort to alleviate the tremendous burdens that these diseases exert across the globe.

NEWS FROM AFAR

Drs. Gail Zeevalk, Barbara Brodsky, and Alvin Salkind

Gail Zeevalk, PhD, retired associate professor of neurology writes: I retired from UMDNJ a little over two years ago and as I reflect on life after an active research and teaching career, I am amazed at how fast time passes. I have always been a self-motivator and I knew even before retiring that I would have no problem filling my days. With a combination of service, volunteering, travel, family responsibilities and interest pursuits, I am as strapped for time now as I was when I was at the university. Shortly after retiring, my husband Bob and I took a long desired trip to the Pacific Northwest. We spent some time in Seattle, Vancouver and then toured Banff, Lake Louise, and Jasper. The scenery was breathtaking and we enjoyed every minute. We are planning to take a river cruise along the Baltic Coast for our next big trip with a vacation sandwiched in between to Disneyland next September with my daughter, her husband and our two grandsons (31/2 and one due any day now). Running, bending, lifting and crawling 1-2 days a week (no not at a gym) but watching my very active grandson keeps me physically active and young at heart. It remains to be seen how I will hold up with two very active boys to watch over but I look forward to the challenge.

Shortly after I retired, I started volunteering at the Food Bank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties. I sort food one day a week and go out with the Mobile Pantry one day a month along with fundraising activities. It has been a very rewarding service made even more relevant by the great need following hurricane Sandy. It has also been very heartening to see the overwhelming response from surrounding communities with donations as well as hands on help. I’ve also made a number of good friends among the other volunteers. Gardening has always been a soft spot of mine and one that I always called my ‘mental health’ activity. I’ve taken several gardening and landscaping courses since retirement and am outside every chance I get to putter around and try new plantings or landscape a patch of my backyard. We had a big tree come down during ‘Sandy’ and crush our fence and reshaping that area will be the next task. (continued on page 5)
News from Afar (continued from page 4)

My years at UMDNJ have left me with several good friends who are either also retired or still at the university. We manage to get together every two months or so to catch up on each other’s news. I have maintained a volunteer faculty position and over the last two years have continued my lectures in several courses. I also maintain an editorial position for one of the neuroscience journals and review 2-3 manuscripts each month. This helps to keep me up to date within my area of expertise and something that I still find rewarding. I remember several people who retired before me telling me that “…they didn’t know how they had the time to work” with all that they currently do. I now echo those sentiments.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a wonderful and productive New Year and much luck with the many changes that will come with the upcoming merger. Gail □

(News from Afar continued on page 6)

PHOTO OF THE MONTH

The RWJMS Retired Faculty Association invites all retired faculty and staff to submit their interesting and pertinent photographs with original content (no copyrighted or trademarked material) for publication in this newsletter. One photo will be selected for publication in each newsletter. The photos should be of such quality that the printed version will have 300 dpi (dots per inch). Send the photos as an email attachment to Manowitz@umdnj.edu.

Photograph with a caption provided by Russell McIntyre.

This photograph of Russell Mcintyre and his wife, Christine, was taken by one of the guards at Machu Picchu in Peru in April, 2005. It’s late in the afternoon and there is only one other person in the picture. He is so small that it really gives you a sense of perspective and how big this site is. □
News from Afar (continued from page 5)

Barbara Brodsky, PhD: Greetings from Boston! I moved to Boston more than two years ago, after 35 years at RWJMS, in large part to be closer to my daughter and grandson. My grandson Noah is now three years old, and my daughter is expecting twin boys in April. I live in the Coolidge Corner section of Brookline, and can walk out the door to a great bookstore, vintage movie theatre, Trader Joe’s, and a large variety of restaurants. My activities include piano lessons (I have a retired college friend nearby for duets), painting, rowing in the 8s on the Charles, cross country skiing and lots of walking. And I still work. I am a research professor in the Department of Biomedical Engineering at Tufts University, with a lab bench in the chair’s huge lab and a multi-PI NIH grant with the chair. Being on a non-tenure track gives me a clear sense of what a caste system academia is! My other NIH grant is up for renewal, and funding won’t be determined until the fiscal cliff is resolved and NIH gets a firm budget. I also still have a 20% appointment in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at RWJMS, which includes some teaching, curricular development (my favorite part), and working on educational papers and grants.

I love hearing news of the RFA and miss being with you, and hope to return to make an RFA meeting soon.

Warmest wishes to all of you. Barbara

Alvin Salkind, PhD: I spent the month of May, 2012 in Australia. The visit had three objectives. 1) to visit family - my first Australian cousins were born in 1920 of an American father, my father’s brother, and an Australian born bride. So the first generation had dual citizenships. In particular, my family had had frequent contact with Luana Felber and her husband, Anthony, a radiologist who often attends societal meetings in the United States. I stayed with them in their home south of Melbourne. There are now four generations of "cousins" born in Australia. When Luana and Anthony went off to work each day, I slowly walked the three miles to the nearest town, Truro, where I enjoyed lunch and then exercised. I also managed to get to the parks by bus and train.

2) The second objective was to give some lectures and seek an Australian collaborator for text work I am planning on 'Battery Powered Implantable Medical Devices.' My lectures were given to a large group at the University of Melbourne and at a neurological research group in Sydney at the University of New South Wales. This is the subject on which I gave lectures at RWJMS to the fourth year medical students, to graduate students at Rutgers, and as a member of the NIH devices review committee.

3) My third objective was to meet with a mature engineering manager working in Adelaide who had asked me to be on his thesis committee. We had met at a technical conference in Poland two years ago. In Australia, as in England, one can get a PhD while still at work.

Overall, my visit was delightful and partially successful. I had forgotten that May in Australia south of Melbourne is the beginning of winter. The first night there, I went and bought flannel pajamas. (North of Sydney was not quite as cold). The lectures appear to have been well received from follow-up comments, but I am still looking for a university who will schedule a web based course on the subject of my lectures. From a tourist’s point of view, the Felbers and I spent two nights at a small apartment south of Brisbane, where their son was finishing medical school. The famous beach, Surfside Beach was near, and there were hordes of tourists, mostly Japanese, looking at the surf roll in. We also visited a jungle area and natural national parks. This town has the only private university in Australia, Bond University. Since I returned I have had two sets of Australian visitors: Luana Felber in July, and Wayne and Beverley Sackville (he is an older brother of Luana) in Oct.-Nov. Another may come soon, as Luana’s daughter is visiting a college friend in San Diego.

I would be delighted to talk to any of the RWJMS/Rutgers faculty, and I can provide an e-mail copy of my main lecture for those interested (or repeat it at RWJMS).

Best Regards, Alvin Salkind
Professor Emeritus, FACC, FAAAS, FNJAM, FAIMBE, sailor, landscaper, ex-skiing instructor
The following members have paid their RWJMS RFA 2012 dues.

- David Alcid
- Gad Avigad
- Gordon Benson
- Bruce and Mary Breckenridge
- Barbara Brodsky
- Charles and Margaret Brostrom
- Wilfredo Causing
- Jay Chandler
- Jerry Crowley
- Donald Dubin
- Robert Edelberg
- David Egger
- Eric Eikenberry
- Stephen Felton
- Michael Gallo
- Herb Geller
- Joanne Medlinsky Gibson
- Michael Gochfeld
- Lisbeth Haines
- Richard Harvey
- Arthur Hess
- Boris Ivovich
- Marsha Jessup
- Joseph Kedem
- Eckhard Kemmann
- Avedis Khachadurian
- Florence Kimball
- Howard Kortis
- Linda Kovach
- George Krauthamer
- Lourdes Laraya-Cuasay
- John Kuriyan
- Michael Leibowitz
- John Lenard
- Michael Lewis
- Harold Logan
- Gordon Macdonald
- Paul Malatesta
- Paul Manowitz
- Russell McIntyre
- Virginia Mehlenbeck
- Ron Morris
- Sandra Moss
- Robert Pinals
- Irwin Pollack
- Rebecca Puglia
- Alvin Salkind
- Marilyn Sanders
- Gordon Schochet
- David Seiden
- John Semmlow
- Norman Sissman
- Paul Smilow
- Frank Snope
- Paul Stein
- Nancy Stevenson
- Victor Stollar
- William Strohl
- Marian Stuart
- Marshall Swartzburg
- Mary Swigar
- Arthur Upton
- Alan Wilson
- Frank Wilson
- Gisela Witz
- Donald Wolff
- Joseph Zawadsky
Retired Faculty Association

If you have not already done so, please send in your 2013 dues. Dues are collected for the calendar year. Also, if you like to support medical students to have an opportunity to participate in the Global Health Program, consider donating to the RFA Global Health Fellowship Fund. Please send your check to Nancy Stevenson. Thank you.

RWJMS Retired Faculty Association 2013 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 cut along the dotted line below and return this portion with your payment.

Please Print:

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

Please enclose a check for a donation to the Global Health Program made payable to the “RWJMS Retired Faculty Association” and/or $15 for dues made payable to the “RWJMS Retired Faculty Association” and mail them to Nancy Stevenson, PhD, at the following address:

Nancy Stevenson, PhD
444 Harrison Ave.
Highland Park, NJ 08904

Please include any personal information that you wish to share with others.

Thank you.                                               January 2013