

From the Dean's Desk

May/June 2015

Message from the Dean

Match Day, a day full of suspense but also full of promise, is a medical student's last major milestone before Convocation. And what a successful Match Day it was for the Class of 2015. Our graduates are entering varied and challenging residency programs, where we know they will excel as they have here, in their years with us. We are extremely proud of their success and eager to celebrate with them at Convocation. We wish them well and hope they will stay in touch in the years ahead.

On August 1, we will welcome **Dr. Sherine Gabriel** as our new dean. Her knowledge, leadership and career at Mayo Medical School at the Mayo Clinic bring much deserved credit to our medical school. We look forward to working with Dr. Gabriel and wish her all the best in her leadership of Robert Wood Johnson Medical School.



Vicente H. Gracias, MD
Dean (Interim)

Dr. Sherine Gabriel Named as Dean

In August, **Sherine E. Gabriel, MD**, will join Robert Wood Johnson Medical School as its new dean.

Dr. Gabriel has served since 2012 as dean of the Mayo Medical School at the Mayo Clinic. In addition, she has been professor of medicine and professor of epidemiology at Mayo Medical School since 2000 and the William J. and Charles H. Mayo endowed professor since 2005. She has been associated with the Mayo Clinic in a variety of roles for nearly 30 years and is an established NIH-funded investigator in the epidemiology of the rheumatic diseases.

Dr. Gabriel earned her medical degree at the University of Saskatchewan and began her association with the Mayo Clinic in 1983, first with a residency in internal medicine, and later with a fellowship in rheumatology at the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine. She next held a rheumatology research fellowship at Wellesley Hospital in Toronto while earning a master's degree in clinical epidemiology at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario. In addition, she attended graduate executive education courses at the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania and the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University.

Dr. Gabriel became a senior associate consultant in the Mayo Clinic's Department of Internal Medicine



Sherine E. Gabriel, MD

in 1990. She was subsequently chair of the Mayo Clinic's Department of Health Sciences Research, medical director of its international office, and medical director of its Office for

Strategic Alliances and Business Development, and served as a member of the Mayo Clinic Executive Board.

In her first year as dean of Mayo Medical School, Dr. Gabriel launched a program to design, implement, and disseminate a new education model to prepare future physicians to achieve better care, healthier patients/communities, and more affordable health care. This initiative was recognized by the American Medical Association through a competitive award.

Her largely NIH-funded research has resulted in more than 250 peer-reviewed original scientific publications addressing the costs, determinants, and outcomes of the rheumatic diseases.

Dr. Gabriel is recognized in particular for her epidemiologic studies examining the risks of connective tissue diseases among women with breast implants, population-based studies characterizing the epidemiology of nearly all major rheumatic diseases, and her studies defining the economic impact of rheumatoid arthritis. Most recently, her research has focused on elucidating the risks and determinants of heart disease among persons with rheumatoid arthritis. She is past president of the American College of Rheumatology.

Brain Injury Alliance Honors Dr. Gracias

The Brain Injury Alliance of New Jersey honored **Vicente H. Gracias, MD**, dean (interim) at its 9th Annual Gala, held on March 31, in Livingston. Dr. Gracias was selected for this distinction because of his diligent work to

improve the life of the residents of New Jersey. Serving as honorary mistress of ceremonies and honorary gala chair was Rebecca (Becky) Quick, co-anchor of CNBC's morning program, "The Squawk Box."

Dr. Strom Interviewed on Sodium Intake for *Runner's World*

An article in the May issue of *Runner's World* includes comments from an interview between health writer Jessica Migala and **Brian Strom, MD, MPH**, chancellor, RBHS. The article reviews recent research on the effects of dietary sodium on clinical outcomes and suggests ways in which healthy, active people may incorporate sodium into their diet.



John Emerson

Brian Strom, MD, MPH

In 2012, Dr. Strom chaired an Institute of Medicine (IOM) committee that studied the relationship between dietary sodium intake and health outcomes with the goal of setting evidence-based sodium intake

guidelines. "There has been continuous interest in the committee report, in part because new data keep coming out proving we were right," he says. "In addition, we are currently undergoing the every-10-year process of deciding the dietary guidelines for Americans, and our report was important to the salt part of these guidelines."

In his conclusion to the 2012 IOM report, Dr. Strom said: "These new studies support previous findings that reducing sodium from very high intake levels to moderate levels improves health; but they also suggest that lowering sodium intake too much may actually increase a person's risk of some health problems. These studies make clear that looking at sodium's effects on blood pressure is not enough to determine dietary sodium's ultimate impact on health. Changes in diet are more complex than simply changing a single mineral. More research is needed to understand these pathways."



Steve Hockstein

Match Day Opens the Next Chapter for the Class of 2015

Of the 129 medical students who participated in the 2015 Residency Match, 96 percent matched to a program of their choice, exceeding the national average of 94 percent. The medical school has exceeded the national match rate each year for more than 10 years.

More than 37 percent of the students matched with primary care programs, while 13 percent will specialize in surgery. Among the programs with which the class matched are residencies at Brown University, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Columbia University, the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Johns Hopkins, Yale University, and



Steve Hockstein

Weill Cornell.

An unexpected match concluded the ceremony when Brian Kempf, of Falls Church, Virginia, stepped forward to propose to **Ashnoo Nanavati '15**, of Piscataway.

A surprised Ashnoo, who had just learned that she had matched with the Medical University of South Carolina to train in psychiatry, promptly accepted Brian's proposal.

Global Health Seminar Focuses on Mental Health Issues



The annual Global Health Seminar, held April 1, addressed ways to improve mental health in South Asian immigrant communities by interfacing global and local approaches. The South Asian Total Health Initiative (SATHI) presented the seminar, which featured cross-cultural psychologist Alison Karasz, PhD, associate professor, Department of Family and Social Medicine, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, founder and executive director, Sapna, NYC. Seen here are medical school hosts and special guests (left to right) **Vicente H. Gracias, MD**, dean (interim); **Sunanda Gaur, MD**, professor of pediatrics and director, SATHI; **Mary E. O'Dowd, MPH**, N.J. Commissioner of Health; **M. Carolyn Daniels, DHSc**, executive director, Office of Minority and Multicultural Health, N.J. Department of Health; and **Robert Like, MD**, professor of family medicine and community health and director, Center for Healthy Families and Cultural Diversity.

Medical Group Nurses Earn Patient Praise

A patient of Robert Wood Johnson Medical Group phoned with special praise for **Krystal Hollins, MSA**. “Krystal went above and beyond yesterday,” the patient said, “touching my heart.”

“Krystal is always, professional, kind, and compassionate,” says **Kris Peterson, RNC, CCCE**, nurse manager, Department of Medicine.

Aura Velasco, LPN, a nurse in the division of rheumatology, quickly helped a patient sort out a billing issue with Medicare and saw to it that she was fully reimbursed. “She went above and beyond the call of duty, and I will always remember her for her kind and gentle ways,” the patient said.

“Aura is trained in several divisions and never hesitates to cover other clinical areas when necessary,” says Ms. Peterson.

Medical School Becomes Alan Alda Center Affiliate

Alan Alda may be best known for his role as field surgeon “Hawkeye” Pierce on the TV series, *M*A*S*H*. But he is also a writer and an educator with a deep interest in science and a passion for “getting the message across,” says **Carol A. Terregino, MD ’86**, associate professor of medicine and senior associate dean for education. Following his keynote address at the 2014 annual meeting of the Association of American Medical Colleges, Mr. Alda met with several deans, including Dr. Gracias and Dr. Terregino, to describe his innovative program at the Alan Alda Center for Communicative Science at Stony Brook University, where actors use improvisation to teach scientists how to better explain their work and respond to their listeners.

Dr. Terregino successfully proposed that the medical school and the Alda Center establish an affiliation, which will start with grand rounds for 20 to 25 core educators in the Department of Surgery—residents and faculty who work in fellowship programs. Leading the rounds will be Evonne Kaplan-Liss, MD, clinical associate professor in public health, preventive medicine, and pediatrics at Stony Brook University School of Medicine and an active member of the steering committee of the Alda Center.

Second-Year Students Receive \$50,000 to Implement Health Startup

A team of second-year students has launched Copernicus Health, a startup that uses financial rewards and gamification to engage patients in their own health care. Team members, left to right are: **Jeet Patel**, Rutgers University, Class of ’18, **Jonathan Haskel ’17**, **Sam Schild ’17**, **Brian Friel ’17**, **Joshua David ’17**, and **Tom Nahass ’17**.

Health and executive director, RWJ Partners, to determine whether financial rewards and gamification will truly motivate patients with chronic health issues.

“Currently, if a diabetic patient reduces his or her HbA1C, the physician and the payer both save money, and the integrated delivery systems are rewarding both of these parties. But where



Courtesy of the Nicholson Foundation

Last year, in an “Idea-a-thon” sponsored by the Nicholson Foundation, the students won a \$5,000 grant to help launch the project. This spring, in Nicholson’s healthcare delivery challenge, the group won a \$50,000, Phase II grant to support implementation of the pilot program. The plan will roll out with a focus on Type II diabetes mellitus, because the disease is so well studied and patient education can produce significant results. The group is working with **Alfred F. Tallia, MD ’78, MPH**, professor and chair, Department of Family and Community

is the patient in all this?” asks Tom Nahass. “The patients are the ones doing the day-to-day hard work, and it may not be enough to motivate them with the promise of better health.” Copernicus recently added a new branch: they are working with faculty members, including **Carol A. Terregino, MD ’86**, senior associate dean for education, and the directors of patient-centered medicine course, to allow medical students to develop an interdisciplinary team that will educate patients on chronic disease.



John Emerson

Dr. Tallia Elected to Executive Board of National Board of Medical Examiners

Alfred F. Tallia, MD ’78, MPH, professor and chair, Department of Family Medicine and Community Health, was elected to a two-year term as a member of the executive board of the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME). The NBME is an independent, not-for-profit organization that provides high-quality assessments of the health professions. In addition, the NBME appointed Dr. Tallia to represent the organization as a regular member on the Composite Committee of the United States Medical Licensing Exam (USMLE).



Gala Raises Funds for Scholarships and Honors Three Esteemed Clinicians



Above: *Left to right; Lani Strom, Brian L. Strom, MD, MPH, chancellor, Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences, and Barbara Bennett, congratulate Arnold Rabson, MD, professor of pediatrics, pharmacology, and pathology and laboratory medicine, and director, Child Health Institute of New Jersey, on the Meritorious Service Award.*



Photos by Kim Schaff

Above: *Robert Wood Johnson Medical School students had a wonderful time at the Gala. Left to right: Anousheh Shafa, Lauren Battaglia, Thomas O'Brien, Sam Schild, Aixa Navia, and Linda Ezidiegwu. ■ Left: Left to right; Vicente H. Gracias, MD, dean (interim), and Christopher J. Molloy, PhD, senior vice president for research and economic development, Rutgers University, congratulate Michael Lewis, PhD, university distinguished professor of pediatrics and psychiatry, and director, Institute for the Study of Child Development, on his Honorary Alumni Award.*

The 5th Annual Scholarship Gala was a great success, raising a record-breaking \$225,000 for student scholarships. These scholarships will help ensure that medical education remains accessible to the largest number of our students.

Above: *Robert Wood Johnson Medical School students had a wonderful time at the Gala. Left to right: Anousheh Shafa, Lauren Battaglia, Thomas O'Brien, Sam Schild, Aixa Navia, and Linda Ezidiegwu. ■ Left: Left to right; Vicente H. Gracias,*

Save the Date

■ **May 14, 2015:**
Graduation Banquet
■ 6:30 p.m. ■ Imperia, Easton Avenue, Somerset ■ **Contact Marie Kleeman:**
kleemame@rwjms.rutgers.edu

■ **May 17, 2015:**
Rutgers University Commencement
■ 12:30 p.m. ■ High Point Solutions Stadium
■ **For additional information, visit**
www.rutgers.edu

■ **May 18, 2015:**
Convocation
■ 7:00 p.m. ■ State Theatre
15 Livingston Avenue, New Brunswick
■ **Contact Jeannette Evans:**
evansje1@rwjms.rutgers.edu



Safe to Sleep Campaign Seeks to Maintain Low SIDS Incidence

Much of the success of the Safe to Sleep education campaign of the SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome) Center of New Jersey can be credited to the participation of the state's birthing hospitals. According to a recent survey, 85 percent of families report receiving safe sleep information before discharge.

Based on the newest information released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the incidence rate for all sudden unexpected infant deaths (SUID) in New Jersey is one of the lowest in the nation and the lowest ever in New Jersey. "The goal is to sustain these rates," says **Barbara M. Ostfeld, PhD**, professor of pediatrics and program director,



John Emerson

Barbara M. Ostfeld, PhD

SIDS Center of New Jersey and program director, High Risk Infant Follow-up Program. Each year, more than 100,000 babies are born in New Jersey. Families must hear the information anew; new providers enter the system, and other safety messages compete for time.

Dr. Ostfeld urges all birthing hospitals, particularly NICU nurses, to schedule an on-site presentation to review existing policy improvements and to discuss efficient and effective methods for delivering the information to families. **Dr. Ostfeld may be reached at ostfelba@rwjms.rutgers.edu or 732-235-6974.**

Children's Hospital Announces New Leadership Structure

The Bristol-Myers Squibb Children's Hospital at RWJUH (BMSCH) announced a new approach to advancing—namely the creation of a “management dyad.” This organizational model—in which clinical leaders are paired with administrators to jointly oversee service lines or clinical areas—aims to encourage systems thinking and align clinical and operational resources to improve outcomes and efficiency. Heading the BMSCH team are:



Joseph G. Barone, MD '87, MBA

■ **Joseph G. Barone, MD '87, MBA**, professor of surgery, chief, division of urology, and surgeon-in-chief, BMSCH. Dr. Barone is appointed to the newly created role of chief strategy and program officer, BMSCH.



Warren E. Moore, FACHE

■ **Warren E. Moore, FACHE**, executive vice president and chief operating officer, Children's Specialized Hospital. Mr. Moore is appointed to the newly created role of chief administrative officer, BMSCH.

In this new dyad structure, both Dr. Barone and Mr. Moore will maintain their existing responsibilities within their respective “home” organizations, but now have responsibility for the clinical excellence, strategic direction and growth of BMSCH.

Rutgers Publishes 250th Anniversary Portrait

Celebrate the legacy of Rutgers and own the first book that captures the rich history of Rutgers University. *Rutgers: A 250th Anniversary Portrait*, details the school's transformation from a classic liberal arts college to a leading public research university.

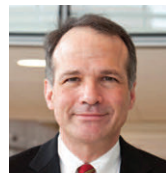
Through July 1, Rutgers is offering a special pre-order price of \$50 for paperback copies, a savings of \$20 off the list price of \$70. A special leather edition, individually bound by hand, is also available and may be personalized with embossing on the front cover.

For additional order information please visit www.RU250.com/book or send an email to Rutgers250@rutgers.edu.

Noted Physician Scientists Join Faculty

Two outstanding physician scientists have been appointed to leadership positions at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School.

Fredric E. Wondisford, MD, has been named professor of medicine and chair, Department of Medicine, and **Sally Radovick, MD**, has been named professor of pediatrics and senior associate dean for clinical and translational research. Both Dr. Wondisford and Dr. Radovick will be Chancellor Scholars, a new designation awarded by the Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences to the school's academically strongest new recruits.



Fredric E. Wondisford, MD

Dr. Wondisford previously served as professor of medicine, pediatrics and physiology and as director of the metabolism division at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He also served as director of the Johns Hopkins Diabetes Institute, leading a multi-disciplinary effort of research scientists and physicians to improve the quality of care for patients. His well-funded research program focuses on pituitary and pancre-

atic hormonal growth and regulation. He is the inventor of the approach to synthesize recombinant human TSH, for which he holds two U.S. patents. Recombinant human TSH (Thyrogen) is FDA-approved for use in the diagnosis and treatment of patients with thyroid cancer.

Dr. Radovick served as the Lawson Wilkins Professor of Pediatrics, director of the division of



Sally Radovick, MD

endocrinology, and vice chair for research in the department of pediatrics at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. An expert in pediatric growth and development disorders, Dr. Radovick's well-funded research program focuses on steroids that control sexual maturity and reproduction, neurotransmitters, and growth factors. In addition, she studies the deficiency of hormones produced by the pituitary gland in children with growth failure.

Both Dr. Wondisford and Dr. Radovick are members of the American Association of Physicians and the American Society for Clinical Investigation.

Dr. Manuel Jimenez Joins Faculty as an Inaugural Chancellor Scholar

Brian L. Strom, MD, MPH, chancellor, selected **Manuel Jimenez, MD '06, MSHP**, as one of two inaugural Chancellor Scholars at RBHS. Dr. Jimenez joined the faculty last summer in a tenure-track position as assistant professor of pediatrics and assistant professor of family medicine and community health.

As a medical student, Dr. Jimenez developed an interest in removing barriers to health care for children with disabilities, and cofounded the Promise Clinic. During his residency at Children's National Medical Center, in Washington, D.C., he launched a practice-based, community-focused line of research committed to children with special needs. Subsequently, he was named a Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Public Policy Fellow, and



Manuel Jimenez, MD '06, MSHP

worked on health and disability issues in the office of U.S. Senator Jeanne Shaheen of New Hampshire

As a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholar, Dr. Jimenez then earned a master of science degree in health policy research at the University of Pennsylvania, while also serving as a member of the community needs-focused PolicyLab at the Children's Hospital of Pennsylvania (CHOP). At Rutgers, he will continue to seek a better understanding of the impact of adversity on child development, while promoting optimal developmental outcomes for at-risk children.

From the Dean's Desk

Culinary Medicine Will Benefit Future Physicians and Their Patients

Culinary medicine, a new elective, seeks to weave a better understanding of healthy eating into physicians' everyday interactions with their patients. "I think this movement is going to revolutionize not only the way we teach students to understand nutrition, but also teach them how to teach their patients," says **Carol A. Terregino, MD '86**, senior associate dean for education. The course was developed at Tulane University by Timothy Harlan, MD, an internist and blogger, known as "Dr. Gourmet." Dr. Terregino brought Dr. Harlan and his associate, Chef Leah Sarris, to New Brunswick a year ago to get the program off the ground.

Emine Ercikan Abali, PhD, associate professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, manages the course, which is run in collaboration with the Department of Food Science at Rutgers University. "A patient's personal physician can play a critical role in good nutrition," says Dr. Abali. "Research shows that patients listen to their doctors. We can bring a nutritionist in, but I think if their doctor talks to them, the impact is quite positive for the patient."



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Education

AMSA Hosts Third Annual MDTalks



Circular tables set the tone for MDtalks, where guests can listen, discuss, and learn in an interactive, informal atmosphere free of "the hassle and rigor of a medical student's typical day," says **Sam Schild '17**, a member of this year's organizing committee. Sponsored by the local chapter of the American Medical Students Association, MDtalks has grown rapidly in three years. An audience of 225 attended the February event, held in the Schwartzman Courtyard at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital.

Faculty, alumni and student speakers spoke from experience, covering a range of topics, most based on personal involvement. The faculty speaker was **Patricia Whitley-Williams, MD**, professor and chair, Department of Pediatrics, while **Geza Kiss, MD '95**, associate professor of anesthesiology and

clinical director, acute pain and regional anesthesiology, represented the alumni. Speeches by fellow students are particularly inspiring, says Sam, and they touched on topics not covered in the regular curriculum, such as rural medicine, end-of-life care, and women's experience as practitioners. **Matthew Kraushar '17, PhD**, retold his story of triaging a flooded community after Hurricane Sandy and **Andrew Orr '15**, used music to illustrate the feelings of patients he had met: "each encounter is a canvas you paint on."

Above: MDtalks speakers, organizing committee, and Student Affairs deans. Back row, left to right: **Sonia Garcia Laumbach, MD '99**, assistant dean for student affairs, **Dina Nassar '17, Sam Schild '17, Maria Quincy '17, Matt Kraushar '17, PhD, Alex Pronk '17, Andrew Orr '15, Vhatsal Bhatt '18, Steven Shterenberg '18, Daniel Mehan, Jr., PhD**, assistant dean for student affairs. Front row, left to right: **Helen Mac '17, Sydney Hyder '17, Murphy Lu '17.**

Arbor Vitae Takes Root at the Medical School

In February, the RWJMS Literary Society published the flagship issue of *Arbor Vitae*, its new online literary magazine. Featuring poetry, prose, essays and art—all with a medical slant—the magazine reflects the literary society's goal of fostering a home for humanistic medicine and creativity throughout the online community of doctors, writers, and readers. Art and writing submissions are drawn entirely from the



creative reflections of students, residents, and faculty. The literary magazine is the latest project for the society, which has offered a writing workshop, book club, and diverse lunch lectures. Managing editor **Zeynep Uzumcu '17** designed the society's attractive, user friendly web site, <https://rwjmliterarysociety.wordpress.com/>.

- **Judith K. Amorosa, MD**, clinical professor of radiology, received the Outstanding Teacher Award from American Alliance of Academic Chief Residents in Radiology.
- A recently published book on bed-wetting debunks the myth that failed toilet training or delays in training are the fault of either parent or child. *It's Not Your Fault* was written by **Joseph G. Barone, MD '87, MBA**, professor of medicine and chief, division of urology, and chief surgeon Bristol-Myers Squibb Children's Hospital at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital.
- The **Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities** was recognized by the Association of University Centers on Disabilities for its recruitment and retention of students from diverse backgrounds and cultures.
- **Patricia Hansen, MA**, director, Communications and Public Affairs, served as a facilitator at two sessions at the 2015 AAMC National Professional Development Conference for Institutional Advancement: "The Challenge of Transformation: Engaging Your Community and Employees through Change Communication" and "Metrics and Measurement for Marketing and Communications."

Medical Student Team Wins Challenge Bowl

A fast-thinking team from the medical school won the *Jeopardy*-style Challenge Bowl at the 2015 Scientific Meeting of the New Jersey Chapter of the American College of Physicians. Team members were **Andrew Orr '15**, **Michael Serzan '15**, **Brian Wentworth '15**, and **Michael Chevinsky '15** (alternate). **John Walker, MD**, professor of medicine, rallied the team and facilitated their preparation for the event.

Leading all the way, the team handled 25 challenging questions relating to body systems, medical history, and images and videos from physical examinations. The Challenge Bowl was well attended not only by physicians, but also first-, second-, and third-year students who came to support the team. "It was fun to feel our school pride, meet teams from other medical schools, and be tested in rapid format on what you'd learned over the past four years," says Brian Wentworth.

The moderator was **Brian Gable, MD '03**, former associate director of the Internal Medicine Residency Program. He was assisted by **Deborah Kim, MD '11**, the program's current chief.

- **Norma S. Saks, EdD**, professor of psychiatry, assistant dean for educational programs, and director, Cognitive Skills Program, was invited to participate in a plenary session, "Leveraging Diversity and Inclusion to Achieve Excellence Across the Learning Environment," at the spring meeting of the AAMC Council of Deans.
- **Kenneth R. Kaufman, MD**, professor of psychiatry and neurology, was appointed associate editor, *British Journal of Psychiatry* and deputy editor, *BIPsych Open*.
- **Wun Jung Kim, MD, MPH**, professor of psychiatry, was recently named Distinguished Life Fellow of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.
- **Gaurav Gupta, MD**, assistant professor of surgery, director of cerebrovascular and endovascular neurosurgery, and director of the New Jersey Brain Aneurysm and AVM Program at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, and **Charles Prestigiacomo, MD**, chair, Department of Neurological Surgery, New Jersey Medical School, were co-authors of a chapter, "Vascular Biology of the Endothelium," in *Endovascular Surgical Neuroradiology*, published in January 2015.

- **Carol A. Terregino, MD '86**, senior associate dean for education and associate dean for admissions, chaired the spring meeting of the AAMC Northeast Group on Educational Affairs, in New Orleans
- The American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, Inc. (ABPN) announced that **Jill M. Williams, MD '93**, professor of psychiatry, will receive the 2015-16 ABPN Faculty Innovation in Education Award, previously known as the Faculty Fellowship Award.

- **Michael Lewis, PhD**, university distinguished professor of pediatrics and psychiatry and director, Institute for the Study of Child Development, and **Tara Matthews**, developmental behavioral pediatrician, Children's Specialized Hospital and Department of Genetics, Division of Life Sciences, School of Arts and Sciences, Rutgers University–New Brunswick, and fellow of the Institute for the Study of Child Development, have received a U.S. Copyright Office certificate of registration for their screening application.

Excellence in Medicine Foundation Announces 2015 III Awards

The Excellence in Medicine Foundation selected two members of the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School faculty to receive Edward J. III Outstanding Medical Research Scientist Awards

Congratulations to:

- **M. Maral Mouradian**, William Dow Lovett Professor of Neurology and director, Center for Neurodegenerative and Neuroimmunologic Diseases, was recognized with the **Clinical Research Award**. The award honors the research scientist's important contributions in clinical or translational research leading to advances in disease therapy.
- **Estela Jacinto, PhD**, associate professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, received the **Basic Biomedical Research Award**, which recognizes an outstanding research scientist who has carried out biomedical research leading to important advances in biotechnology or in the understanding of disease processes.

In addition, the Peter W. Rodino, Jr. Citizen's Award was presented to Captain **Joseph P. Costabile, MD '86**, a general and vascular surgeon who practices with the Virtua Surgical Group.

In Memoriam

Arthur Hess, PhD, DSc, former professor and chair, Department of Anatomy, died January 5. Dr. Hess was the department's inaugural chair, serving from 1967 until his retirement in 1993. Dr. Hess earned his doctorate at University College London, where he was subsequently awarded a DSc in recognition of a substantial contribution to scientific knowledge.

Dr. Hess contributed broadly to the neuroanatomy of both vertebrates and invertebrates, beginning with the first demonstration of nodes of Ranvier in the central nervous system and later working on the pathology of Parkinson's disease at Washington University, St. Louis; the University of Utah College of Medicine; and Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in laboratories funded principally by the National Institutes of Health. Throughout his career he organized and taught yearly courses in neuroanatomy/neuroscience and published over 80 scientific papers.

**Faculty Members
Selected to Attend HERS
Summer Institute**

Shawna Hudson, PhD, associate professor of family medicine and community health, and **Monica Roth, PhD**, professor of

pharmacology, are among the three RBHS faculty selected to attend the prestigious 2015 HERS Bryn Mawr Summer Institute.

HERS is dedicated to creating and sustaining a community of women

leaders through leadership development programs, and other strategies, with a special focus on gender equity within the broader commitment to achieving

equality and excellence in higher education. This competitive program features a 12-day higher education resource services leadership training course that provides a concentrated curriculum to help mid-career women in academia prepare to assume senior leadership roles.



Shawna Hudson, PhD



Monica Roth, PhD

**Collaborative New Departments Will Enhance
Clinical Enterprise**

The creation of two new departments—the Department of Neurological Surgery and the Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery—will enhance the clinical enterprise at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School.

Faculty in both departments will work in collaboration with colleagues at New Jersey Medical School, capitalizing on the strengths of experts across Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences. This partnership allows for enriched educational opportunities, an enhanced research program positioned to increase grant support, and most important, a comprehensive range of patient care across multiple disciplines.

The Department of Neurological Surgery will be developed with physicians from the division of neurological surgery within Robert Wood Johnson Medical School's Department of Surgery. Pending approval of a joint Department of Neurological Surgery, **Charles J. Prestigiacomo, MD**, professor and chair, Department of Neurological Surgery, New Jersey Medical School, will be named interim chair of the department at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, and interim joint chair of the nascent, systems-wide Rutgers Neurological Surgery.

Dr. Prestigiacomo will oversee the New Brunswick and Newark campuses during the search for a permanent joint chair.

Dr. Prestigiacomo is renowned for his specialty in cerebrovascular microsurgery, as well as endovascular surgery for the treatment of all brain, spinal cord, and head/neck pathology and stereotactic radiosurgery for vascular lesions.

The Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery is new to Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and will add services to treat adult patients with disorders of the ear, nose, and throat, and surrounding structures in the head and neck. Also working in collaboration with faculty in Newark, **Soly Baredes, MD**, professor and chair, Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, will be named interim chair of the Department at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, and interim joint chair of the nascent, systems-wide Rutgers Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, until a permanent joint chair is named. Dr. Baredes' clinical expertise is in benign and malignant head and neck tumor surgery, including skull base surgery, rhinology, and laryngology.

Research Highlights

- The New Jersey Health Foundation awarded grants totaling \$1.2 million to 28 RBHS faculty members. Through its Signature Initiatives Program, the foundation awarded \$100,000 to **Nancy Woychik, PhD**, professor of biochemistry and molecular biology. In addition, it awarded \$50,000 to **Robert Laumbach, MPH, MD '97**, associate professor of environmental and occupational medicine.
- The National Multiple Sclerosis Society awarded a three-year, \$607,160 grant to **Cheryl Dreyfus, PhD**, professor and chair, Department of Neuroscience and Cell Biology, principal investigator in *The Role of Glial Cell-Derived Factors in a Cuprizone Model of Multiple Sclerosis*.



The 16th Annual HIPHOP 5K Run/Walk

The 16th Annual HIPHOP 5K Run/Walk took place on March 14. Enthusiastic participants braved the rainy weather for a successful event, which raised \$4,000 for all HIPHOP community service programming, including the Promise Clinic and Community Health Initiative.