Employee of the Month: Anita Weinhoef, Surgery, has been named employee of the month for July. Her nominators said “she consistently demonstrates the willingness to help the orthopaedic residents. Anita goes above and beyond the call of duty.” Congratulations, Anita.

New SITEC Medical Director Named: John B. Fortune, M.D., Surgery, has been named medical director of the Southern Illinois Trauma Center (SITEC) in Springfield. He succeeds William R. Schiller, M.D., Surgery, the founding medical director, who is retiring this summer. John P. Sutyak, M.D., Surgery, continues as associate director. SITEC just completed its third year of operation, based at Memorial Medical Center, and moved July 1 to St. John’s Hospital. SITEC began providing trauma care for west central and southern Illinois in July 1999. It is a partnership between SIU and its two affiliated hospitals, who alternate responsibility for the Level I trauma center annually.

Looking for a Few Good Seniors: One-hour information sessions will be held for the geriatric mentor program at 9 a.m. Tuesday, July 16, and 5 p.m. Friday, July 19, in the South Auditorium. Seniors 65 years and older are asked to serve as examples of “healthy aging” for the students. Volunteers can attend a session or call Anne Gunderson, R.N., Psychiatry, 545-7655.

CAMP COCO: SIU's 17th annual Camp COCO is hosting 70 campers with cancer and other blood disorders during its one-week session July 13-19 at the Timber Pointe Outdoor Conference Center of Lake Bloomington. The campers spend the week enjoying typical camping activities: fishing, boating, swimming, horseback riding, hiking, arts and crafts, and singing around the campfire. The theme for this year’s camp is Club COCO. The campers receive special attention from a number of SIU’s Department of Pediatrics staff, who spend the week providing medical care and getting to know their patients better. Also participating are campers from the Peoria area as well as health professional from the St. Jude’s affiliate in Peoria and community volunteers from Springfield. Tanni Lovelace, Pediatrics, is camp director.

Welcoming your children: Fifty-plus children of Springfield employees will participate in “Take Your Child to Work” day 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Friday, July 26. They will see clinical demonstrations, take tours, learn about the Pearson Museum and have lunch in the courtyard. The program was planned by a CQI work group of employees, Kids Count. For information, call CanDee Luttrell, Family/Community Medicine, 545-3301.

Pulmonary Study: Adults with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease such as emphysema or chronic severe bronchitis and who have a general feeling of depression or low mood are being recruited by the Department of Medicine. The double-blind study of sertraline, known as Zoloft, will determine its impact on depression. The drug is already FDA approved for use as a treatment for depression and anxiety disorders. Volunteers at least 18 years of age are being sought. The 16-week trial is sponsored by Pfizer Pharmaceuticals. For information call Merri Ellen King, Medicine, 545-8893, weekdays or email mking2@siumed.edu.
COMMUNITY CORNER

FUNDRAISING UPDATES: The central Illinois Wal-Mart & Sam’s Club “Cooking for Kids” cookbooks are on sale for $10 in the 2nd floor lobby, 801 N. Rutledge.

Illinois State Fair one-day tickets, which includes admission and most rides, are on sale for $17 per ticket in the main lobby, 801 N. Rutledge. For information call SIU Foundation, 545-2955. Proceeds from both sales benefit Children’s Miracle Network.

A total of $27,000 was raised at this year’s Camp COCO Golf outing. A special thanks to our presenting sponsor, Vono Pharmacies & Medical Supplies.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: Sojourn Shelter, the local domestic violence agency, is seeking volunteers to provide crisis intervention to victims of domestic violence. Volunteers are on-call for 8-hour shifts. The schedule is very flexible and volunteers can choose their level of commitment. All training is provided free of cost by Sojourn. Contact Meredith Murphy at 217-726-5100 for additional information.

ENOS SCHOOL: The Enos committee will be collecting school supplies beginning in August. Watch for back-to-school sales.

FACULTY APPOINTMENT: Connie Poole, Information Resources, has been appointed associate dean and chair for information resources effective June 1. She has served as interim chair since September 2000.

SIU P&S BOARD: David Steward, M.D., Medicine, was elected chair and Gary Dunnington, M.D., Surgery, was elected vice-chair of SIU Physicians & Surgeons Board of Directors and will begin a two-year term beginning July 1. The Board thanks outgoing chair Elvin Zook, M.D., Surgery, and outgoing vice-chair John Bradley, M.D., Family/Community Medicine-Decatur, for their dedicated service.

RESEARCH GRANTS: Louis Premkumar, Ph.D., Pharmacology, has been awarded a five-year grant from the National Institute of Neurological Disorder and Stroke to study pain sensitivity. The total budget for the grant is $908,300.

Jacquelyn Quin, M.D., Surgery, received funding from the William E. McElroy Foundation for a two-year grant to study “Improving Radial Artery Preservation for Coronary Artery Bypass.” The budget is $35,200.

SIU PARKING STICKERS: The new SIU parking stickers are available for purchase at the Security Office, 801 first floor. The fee for parking stickers has increased to $70. For those employees earning less than $20,000 per year and for students, the fee will be $45 per year; additional stickers are $20 for each vehicle. Current stickers are good until September 1. For information, call Security, 545-7777.

NEWSLETTER: The SIU Newsletter becomes more valuable with submissions and comments from the School community. Let us know about your upcoming events, visiting professors, publications, honors, community outreach and other accomplishments in your professional lives. We also welcome comments on how to improve the Newsletter. Contact Merle Shifman, mshifman@siumed.edu, with your comments or suggestions. The Newsletter is posted on the home page - click on “About SIU.”

NEWS BRIEFS

HONORS: Osaretin Idusuyi, M.D., Surgery, received the E. Shannon Stauffer, M.D., Excellence in Teaching Award at the annual resident recognition dinner in Springfield in June. This annual award is presented to a local orthopaedic surgeon who is selected by SIU orthopaedic residents as the outstanding teacher.

Horst Konrad, M.D., Surgery, will serve a one-year term as president of the American Otological Society beginning July 1.

Maureen Doran, Anatomy, was recognized at a reception in July in Carbondale by the SIUC vice chancellor for administration and the center for environmental health and safety as one of four employees who make SIUC a safer workplace.

Amin Nadeem, M.D., Family/Community Medicine, has been recognized as the Mentor of the Year for the School of Medicine during the 2001-2002 academic year. He was recognized for “his clinical knowledge as well as his basic science knowledge, willingness to share his valuable time and excellent teaching skills. He is a role model for our medical students.” Eight of the 52 mentors were nominated by first-year students for the award.

PRESENTATION: Laura Rogers, M.D., Medicine, presented “Assessing Physical Activity Determinants and Preferences Among Patients with Arthritis to Enhance Future Intervention Design” at the National American College of Sports Medicine meeting in May in St. Louis.

PUBLICATIONS: Kazim Husain, Ph.D., and Stephen Hazelrigg, M.D., both Surgery, published “Oxidative Injury Due to Chronic Nitric Oxide Synthase Inhibition in Rat: Effect of Regular Exercise on the Heart” in Biochimica et Biophysica Acta, June 2002.


STAFF UPDATE: Welcome to Diane Drew, research nurse, Medicine; Kruti Fozdor and Torri Jones, researchers, Medical Microbiology/Immunology; Kimberly Hall and Marilyn Johnson, account technicians, Patient Billing Services; Janice Kuhl, nurse, Surgery; Susan Nolan, medical assistant, Medicine; and Allison Siez, nurse, Medicine. Farewell to Deborah Berman, Finance/Administration; Karen Daugherty, Pediatrics; Christine Hedberg, Medicine; Shirley Moore, Medical Microbiology/Immunology; John Proctor, Capital Planning/Facilities; Lynne Rouse, Medicine; and Penny Spears, Surgery.