April is Child Abuse Awareness Month

CALENDAR

April

14 Parkinson Disease Awareness, 9 a.m.-noon, Wedeberg Conference Center, Leslie Randolph, Neurology, 545-7181

14 AMA 5K Run, 8:30 a.m., Washington Park, Jeff Bradley, senior, 417-4444.

14-15 Gallery of Homes by Moughan Builders, proceeds for Simmons-Cooper Cancer Institute, Patsy Wappel, Cancer Institute, 545-0395

25 Trainee Research Symposium, South Auditorium/Pearson Museum, Nancy Austin, Research Affairs, 545-7936

FYI

CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS: Seven hundred and sixty-two blue ribbons are tied to the railing in the courtyard at 801 N. Rutledge. This represents the child abuse and neglect cases reported in Sangamon County in FY06. The ribbons were placed by SIU medical students in recognition of the Blue Ribbon Campaign to raise awareness of the importance of child abuse prevention. To report abuse or neglect, call the Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline, 1-800-25-ABUSE.

HEAD AND NECK CANCER SCREENINGS: James Malone, M.D., and Thomas Robbins, M.D., both Surgery, will perform free head and neck screenings 4-7 p.m. Monday, April 16, and 9 a.m.-12 noon Saturday, April 21, both at the SIU Otolaryngology clinic, fifth floor, St. John's Pavilion, 301 N. 8th St. The screening is part of National Oral Head and Neck Cancer Awareness Week and sponsored by the Simmons-Cooper Cancer Institute. For info, call Pam Ray, Surgery, weekdays at 545-6150.

COVER THE UNINSURED WEEK: The School, along with Memorial Medical Center, St. John's Hospital and Sangamon County Medical Society, has again joined the national campaign to offer a series of local activities to raise awareness for Cover the Uninsured Week, April 23-27. A volunteer committee, chaired by Janet Albers, M.D., Family/Community Medicine, is organizing this year's events. A Grand Rounds program will be held at noon Monday, April 23, in the South Auditorium, featuring Jerry Kruse, M.D., Family/Community Medicine, who will present "Health Care Systems-Worlds Apart." A recognition luncheon for community "safety-net" agencies will be held at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, April 24, at Prairie Heart Institute in Springfield. Craig Backs, M.D., Springfield physician and past president of the Illinois State Medical Society, and Dora Ramos, M.D., Capital Community Health Care, will discuss improving patient accessibility to health care. A public event will be held on the evening of Thursday, May 2, featuring guest speaker Scott Morris, M.D., from the Church Health Center in Memphis. For info, contact Albers, 757-8137 or go to www.covertheuninsuredweek.org.

EMPLOYEE HONORS: Tamara Bivins, Medicine, is the A/P employee for the quarter. Her nominator said "Tamara's level-headed approach to issue resolutions, her great sense of humor and her attention to details make her a good administrator."

Susie Gentry, Surgery, is the April employee of the month. Her nominators said "she consistently volunteers to do extra work and obtain new skills. She approaches projects with enthusiasm, while adhering to meeting critical deadlines."

Seven employees and one department have been Caught in the Act of Excellence. Jeremy Anderson, Information Resources, "assisted a co-worker putting boxes on shelves at the warehouse." Christine Salzeider, Pediatrics, "worked extra hours, provided updates and planned for the implementation of the electronic medical record conversion." Christi Branham, M.D., and Michelle Miner, M.D., both Pediatrics, "assisted the clinic staff in making sure that all patients were called back following the first day of implanting the electronic records management conversion." Sharon White, Surgery, "made sure the clinic functioned in spite of it being her first day and also a major blizzard." SIU Call Center "helped the clinics during the bad weather and during the electronic records system rollout." Two employees were "caught" by a patient. Angela Matson, Surgery, "helped schedule four appointments in one day for a patient living more than an hour from SIU." Ron Kanwischer, Psychiatry, "helped a patient by lending a sympathetic ear." Congratulations, all.

LECTURES & SYMPOSIUM: David Ahlquist, M.D., professor of medicine from Mayo Medical School, will present "Colorectal Cancer Screening: Current Issues and Future Opportunities" at 8 a.m. Tuesday, April 10, at Medicine Grand Rounds in MMC's room E72. For information, call Kay DeFord, Medicine, 545-4383.

Kendall Blumer, Ph.D., professor of cell biology and physiology at Washington University School of Medicine, will present "G Protein Signaling Regulation by RGS Proteins in the Cardiovascular and Nervous Systems" at noon Thursday, April 12, in the Pharmacology conference room 3313, 801 N. Rutledge, Springfield. For information, call Diana Smith, Pharmacology, 545-2185.

“Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics: Best Practices Update” is the title of a CME conference 8:25 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Thursday, April 26, at the James T. Dove, MD Conference Center, Prairie Heart Institute, 619 E. Mason St., Springfield. Glen Aylward, Ph.D., Pediatrics, is the course director. For info, call Continuing Medical Education, 545-7711.
COMMUNITY CORNER

ENOS UPDATE: The Enos committee is beginning to collect children's books for distribution to Enos students at the end of the school year. New or gently-used books are needed for kindergarten through fifth grade. Send them to Public Affairs, MC 9621, or look for the blue Enos bins. Monetary contributions are accepted. Make checks payable to SIU Foundation, Actt. 12-02420, and send to Public Affairs, MC 9621. For information, contact Tracey Smith, 545-2230, or Anne Barnett, 545-0795, both Education/Curriculum. Also keep collecting your box tops from General Mills Products and don't forget to donate your new or gently used clothing items for Enos students.

MARCH COMMUNITY TALKS: Ron Zec, Ph.D., Psychiatry, presented on memory and aging to students at Lincoln Land Community College and members of the Dental Hygiene Association.

STAFF UPDATE: Hossam AbdelSalam, M.D., has joined the faculty at SIU as an assistant professor in neurology, specializing in pediatric neurology. He is one of the new pediatric specialists recruited for St. John's Children's Hospital, a joint endeavor of SIU and St. John's Hospital in Springfield. AbdelSalam completed a three-year fellowship in child neurology at Cleveland Clinic Foundation (2006) and a pediatric residency at Brookdale University Hospital and Medical Center in Brooklyn (2003). He earned his medical degree at Cairo University Pediatric Hospital in Egypt (1995). AbdelSalam is board certified in pediatrics.

Christina Kramer has joined the staff in Human Resources as an assistant manager, specializing in recruitment and retention of employees and serving as a liaison between the School and community agencies and educational facilities. She earned her bachelor's in health education and promotion from Western Illinois University (2000).

RESEARCH UPDATE: Gregory Brewer, Ph.D., Medical Microbiology/Immunology/Cell Biology, has received a five-year federal grant from the National Institutes of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, a division of the National Institutes of Health, to study the function of neurons in the brain. The grant budget is $942,072.

NEWSLETTER SIU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE April 6, 2007

PRESENTATIONS: Laura Rogers, M.D., Medicine, presented “Physical Activity Correlates in Head and Neck Cancer Survivors” at the Society of Behavioral Medicine meeting in March in Washington, D.C.

Faculty members presented at the Central Group on Educational Affairs conference in March in Indianapolis. Gina Paul, Ph.D., MED-PREP, presented “Academic Development: Barriers to Learning,” and Paul and Steven Verhulst, Ph.D., Statistics/Research Consulting, presented “A Two-Year Study of Minority Students’ Perceptions and Use of Deep Breathing Medication to Reduce Testing Stresses.” Susan Hinkle, M.D., and Gary Rull, M.D., both Medicine, presented “Teaching Professional Attitudes and Conduct: An Interactive Approach” and Hinkle and Rull presented “Faculty Observers of Year 2 Teaching Cases that Open with Standardized Patients.” Christine Todd, M.D., Medicine, presented “Focused Inpatient Training for Internal Medicine Residents” at the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education meeting in March in Kissimmee, Fla.

Gayle Woodson, M.D., Surgery, presented “Evolving Concepts of Laryngeal Paralysis” and “Management of Benign Vocal Fold Lesions” as the Daniel C. Baker Lecturer in Laryngology at Columbia University Medical Center in New York in March.


Bethany Spielman, Ph.D., Medical Humanities, authored “Faulty Premise, Premature Conclusion: That Money was Extraneous to the Research Ethics of the TGN1412 Study” in the American Journal of Bioethics, Vol. 7:2, pp. 93-94, 2007.

Robert Struble, Ph.D., and Shari Randall, both Alzheimer Center; Seema Afridi, senior; Maio Li and Mary McAsey, Ph.D., both Obstetrics/Gynecology, co-authored “Neocortical and Hippocampal Glial Fibrillary Acidic Protein Immunoreactivity Shows Region-Specific Variation During the Mouse Estrous Cycle” in Neuroendocrinology, Vol. 83:5-6, pp.325-35, 2006.


STAFF UPDATE: Welcome to Jeanette Clark, ambulatory care aide, Surgery; Jo Ellen Davis, medical assistant, Pediatrics; Shawna Forinash, clinical social worker, Pediatrics; Gayla Havener, nurse, Medicine; and Rebecca Queen, clerical assistant, Medical Records. Farewell to Dianna Martin, Medicine, and Marilyn McQuern-Webb, Cancer Institute.