

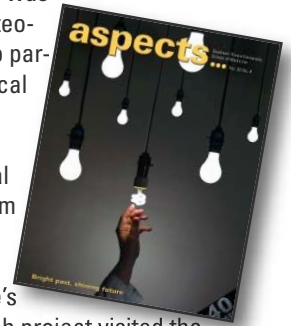
U.S. REP. AARON SCHOCK VISITS



U.S. Rep. Aaron Schock, left, visited Simmons Cancer Institute in August. Schock and Gary Veicht, SCI administrator, listen to Dr. John Godwin, associate director of the Simmons Cancer Institute at SIU.

‘Living the mission’

SIU School of Medicine was one of six medical and osteopathic schools selected to participate in a study of medical schools using innovative strategies to advance socially accountable medical education. A site team from George Washington University School of Public Health and Health Service’s “Beyond Flexner” research project visited the School for three days to learn about the innovations in education and social mission done at SIU that can be models for other medical schools. Their consensus? SIU “lives its mission.”



Read about how SIU is addressing the social mission in **aspects** 33-4.

SIU marks 20 years treating childhood cancer

SIU School of Medicine and St. John’s Hospital in Springfield have treated pediatric cancer for the past twenty years.

In today’s world of modern medicine, the prognosis is good for most types of childhood cancer.

Outcomes have improved during the past few decades, says **Gregory Brandt, M.D.**, associate professor and chief of the pediatric hematology/oncology division. “Young patients who have been treated at SIU in the past several years for acute lymphocytic leukemia (ALL) have had an 86 percent survival rate,” says Brandt, who also is a member of SIU HealthCare, Simmons Cancer Institute at SIU and St. John’s Children’s Hospital. ALL is the most common type of cancer in children.

Brandt’s clinical staff includes **Daniel Niebrugge, M.D.**, assistant professor of pediatric oncology, nurse practitioner **Justine Morgan**, research nurse **Carol Peterson** and clinic nurse **Kelly Cramer**. Niebrugge also sees patients in Effingham two days a week.



Dr. Brandt helps patient Delaney Beard with a puzzle.

“Our focus is to help make our patients’ lives as normal as possible. We interact with them on their own level rather than treating them like glass when they are here,” said Brandt. “Patients can get the same treatment in Springfield as in the larger centers because we are a member of the Children’s Oncology Group (COG),” said Brandt.

The COG membership allows Brandt’s patients the opportunity to enroll in national clinical trials. Patients in the trials can benefit from treatments that show promise of improved cure rates and decreased side effects.

Patients appreciate being treated in Springfield because it is closer to home so less time is spent traveling. At the larger centers, patients are often treated by residents and fellows, but in Springfield, Brandt and Niebrugge personally see and treat all of their patients.

In addition to ALL and neuroblastoma, other types of pediatric cancer treated by Brandt and his staff include Hodgkin lymphoma and Wilms tumor. Treatment may include chemotherapy, radiation and possibly surgery. “During the past year, a pediatric neurosurgeon has located in Springfield, so hopefully brain tumors in children now can be treated in Springfield as well,” says Brandt.

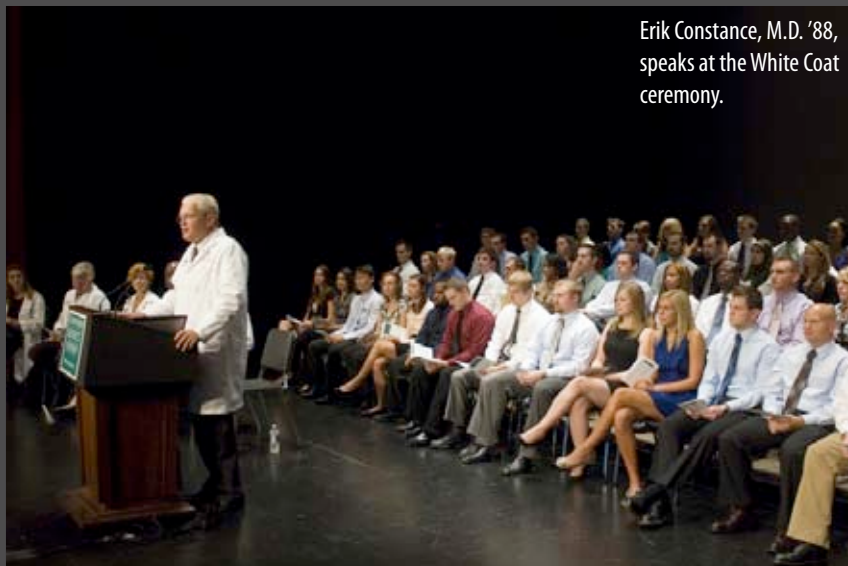
If patients need other therapies such as bone marrow transplants or are good candidates for phase I clinical trials that can’t be offered in Springfield, the SIU clinic helps patients find a center that can provide the needed treatments.

White Coat, 2011

Thirty-four men and 38 women comprising the Class of 2015 participated in a "White Coat ceremony," the annual initiation into SIU School of Medicine on August 12 in Shryock Auditorium.

J. Kevin Dorsey, M.D., Ph.D., dean and provost '78, welcomed the students.

Wesley Robinson-McNeese, M.D., '86, associate professor of internal medicine and medical humanities, executive assistant to the dean for diversity and a 1986 graduate, presented the medical students. Students received their first white coat from the president of the School's Alumni Society, Douglas Carlson, M.D., '84, professor of pediatrics and director of the Hospitalist Medicine division in the Department of Pediatrics at Washington University (WU) in St. Louis, a pediatrician at WU and St. Louis Children's Hospital. The School's Alumni Society provided



Erik Constance, M.D. '88, speaks at the White Coat ceremony.

the coats. The students also received a pin made up of the words "Compassion, Respect and Integrity" from the SIU Foundation.

Dr. Careyana Brenham, '00, associate professor of family and community medicine gave the keynote speech. She received the School's 2009 Humanism in Medicine Award.

Most of the students are from the

southern two-thirds of the state, says **Erik J. Constance, M.D., '88** associate professor of internal medicine, associate dean of student affairs. make up the class.

The White Coat ceremony is designed to establish a "psychological contract for professionalism and empathy" in medicine and is held at most U.S. medical schools each fall.



Happy Birthday!

Dr. Ricardo Loret de Mola (right) holds one of the babies who have been delivered as a result of the many treatment options offered at the SIU Fertility and IVF Center. Families helped by the center and the center's staff enjoyed the center's first birthday celebration, held Sunday, September 25 at Southwind Park.

Families helped by the center attended the event and helped plant an apple tree.

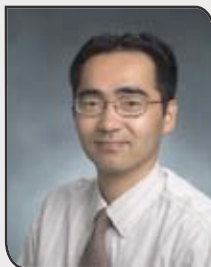
Since the clinic opened in 2009, more than 300 babies have been delivered as a result of the clinic's services.

AWARDS & HONORS

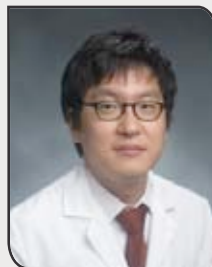
Three faculty members of the Department of Internal Medicine have been appointed chiefs of their divisions: **Dr. Lucinda S. Buescher**, associate professor of internal medicine, has been appointed chief of the dermatology division. Buescher also is director of the Dermatology Residency Training Program. **Dr. Michael G. Jakoby**, associate professor of internal medicine, has been appointed chief of the endocrinology division. Jakoby also is director of the Center for Diabetes and Metabolic Health and specializes in diabetes, metabolic syndrome and related disorders. **Dr. Janak Koirala**, associate professor of internal medicine, has been appointed chief of the infectious diseases division. Koirala also is program director of the Infectious Diseases Fellowship Training Program.

Quincy Scott, DO, FAAFP, Family and Community Medicine in Carbondale, received the physician category Division of Specialized Care for Children (DSCC) Award for “Champion for Children.” The award recognizes distinguished physicians who have had a positive impact on children with special health-care needs by partnering with DSCC. The SIU-C Family Medicine Residency Program participates in the Pediatric Medical Home Project that is co-sponsored by the Illinois Academy of Pediatrics and the DSCC. It was the first Illinois residency program to participate in the project and with help from the local and regional offices of DSCC has improved the care of children with special health-care needs in Southern Illinois.

Gaye Butler, a licensed practical nurse with the Southern Illinois Family Medicine Care-A-Van in West Frankfort, was named the Civil Service Employee of the Year. Her nominators said, “She makes all resident physicians and medical, physician assistant and nurse practitioner students feel welcome and comfortable. Butler is very personable to everyone including her nurse peers but especially to patients. She was the first and initially the only nurse at the satellite patient facility when the mobile care unit was integrated in the 1980s and 1990s. During her 20-year tenure at SIU, she has performed every task as an LPN at our satellite facilities in Sesser and Benton very well.”



Dr. Shingo Chihara



Dr. Se Young Han



Dr. Rita Tranquilli



Dr. Khondakar Hasanat



Dr. Sushant Kale



Anna Cianciolo, Ph.D.



Dr. Shelda Borders



Dr. Ra'Kerry Rahman

NEW FACULTY

Family & Community Medicine

Dr. Laura L. Loesel, associate professor and clinical medical director of the SIU Center for Family Medicine in Springfield.

Dr. Sara Beth Malone, assistant professor

Dr. Kevin M. Robbins, assistant professor

Internal Medicine

Dr. Manuel Amaris, assistant professor

Dr. Muhammad Farooq Asghar, assistant professor and hospitalist

Dr. Shingo Chihara, assistant professor, infectious diseases

Dr. Se Young Han, assistant professor and hospitalist

Sara Lopinski, registered dietitian, endocrinology

Dr. Tiffany Malli, assistant professor

Dr. Muralidhar Reddy Papireddy, assistant professor and hospitalist

Dr. Mingchen Song, assistant professor, pulmonology

Dr. Thamilvani Thiruvashar, assistant professor and hospitalist

Dr. Isha Tyagi, assistant professor, infectious diseases

Dr. Siegfried Yu, assistant professor

Dr. Omar Vargas, assistant professor

Medical Education

Anna Cianciolo, Ph.D., assistant professor

Neurology

Dr. Brajesh Agrawal, assistant professor

Dr. Sushant Kale, assistant professor and director of St. John's Hospital Stroke Center

Dr. Venkata Sasidhar Majjiga, assistant professor, neurology/pediatrics

Dr. Rita Tranquilli, assistant professor

OB/GYN

Dr. Laurent Brard, Ph.D., associate professor and a member of the Simmons Cancer Institute at SIU.

Dr. Kristina Ericsson, assistant professor

Psychiatry

Dr. Shelda Borders, assistant professor, psychiatry/oncology

Dr. Anoosh Salman assistant professor of child and adolescent psychiatry

Dr. Laura Shea, assistant professor

Dr. Santosh Shrestha, assistant professor

Dr. Khondakar Hasanat, assistant professor

Surgery

Nada Berry, M.D., assistant professor, plastic surgery

Dr. Kathy Lehman-Huskamp, assistant professor, emergency medicine

Dr. Ra'Kerry Rahman, assistant professor, orthopaedic surgery

STAFF UPDATE

Karen Carlson has been named director of Communications and Public Relations

Glenn Groesch has been named director of Telehealth Networks and Programs

Laura S. Worrall has been named director of continuing medical education (CME)

Elvin G. Zook, M.D., retired from the Division of Plastic Surgery after 38 years of service.