IU Geriatrics and IU-CAR Host Visiting Professors

IU Geriatrics clinicians, educators and researchers kept Visiting Professor Edward R. Marcantonio, MD, SM, on a very active schedule during his IU visit February 27-28, 2007. He presented Medicine Grand Rounds and Regenstrief Institute Work-in-Progress, and consulted with IU Geriatrics administrative leadership, clinicians, fellows, and Center for Aging Research scientists.

Dr. Marcantonio uses the techniques of clinical epidemiology and outcomes research to improve the quality of health care for older persons. His topical focus is delirium or acute confusion. He is Associate Professor of Medicine at the Harvard Medical School and Director of Research in the Division of General Medicine and Primary Care at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

The IU Center for Aging Research hosted Visiting Professor Mary Naylor, PhD, RN, on March 1, 2007.

Dr. Naylor’s meetings with researchers and clinicians and a presentation to IU Geriatrics personnel focused on her research, including three National Institutes of Health funded randomized clinical trials, testing the Advanced Practice Nurse Transitional Care Model, an innovative approach to addressing the needs of high risk chronically-ill elders and their caregivers. The interdisciplinary program is designed to improve quality of care, decrease unnecessary hospitalizations and reduce health care costs for vulnerable community-based elders.

Dr. Naylor is the Marian S. Ware Professor in Gerontology at the University of Pennsylvania, School of Nursing. Her visit to IU included consultation at the IU School of Nursing.

Amy Marie Olin Receives Darnell Medical Student Geriatrics Achievement Award

The faculty and staff of IU Geriatrics congratulation Amy Marie Olin who has been awarded the 2007 Jeffrey C. Darnell Medical Student Geriatrics Achievement Award.

The award was created in 2006 and honors the founding father of geriatrics at IU, Dr. Jeff Darnell, for his dedication and 31 years of service to his patients and to IU Geriatrics. It is presented annually to a medical student to recognize his or her outstanding leadership and service in the care of older adults.

Ms. Olin, a fourth year medical student, received an engraved crystal keepsake, a one-year membership to the American Geriatrics Society and an all expense-paid trip to the AGS national meeting held in May. A Darnell Award perpetual plaque is located in the Medical Science Building to commemorate the honored students.

Glenda Westmoreland, MD, MPH, announced the award during the February 28 Medicine Grand Rounds featuring a geriatrics presentation by Visiting Professor Dr. Edward R. Marcantonio.

GRANT

IU Roybal Center Funds CADRE

Recruitment to various Alzheimer disease research studies in one geographical area is challenging at best. In Indianapolis, it became apparent to clinicians, researchers and community service providers that a collaborative, rather than a competitive recruitment model, might be in everyone’s best
The Collaborative Alzheimer Disease Research Exchange, known as CADRE, grew from an identified need for a cooperative system to identify, inform and recruit potential participants to AD research projects.

With pilot funding from the IU Roybal Center, the Alzheimer’s Association of Greater Indiana chapter is developing CADRE to inform potential participants about AD research. The Association will assess the feasibility and acceptability of recruitment through the local Alzheimer’s Association 24-hour/7 day per week Helpline using well trained Helpline staff and association volunteers. The principal investigator is Jennifer Bachman, MEd, the Association’s Director of Programs and Outreach.

The IU Center for Aging Research is home to the National Institute on Aging Edward R. Roybal Center for Research on Applied Gerontology, known locally as the IU Roybal Center.

**PUBLICATIONS**


**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Congratulations to Glenda Westmoreland, MD, MPH, who has been named the competency director for effective communication at the IU School of Medicine. As competency director she will serve on the IUSM Curriculum Council and be responsible for overseeing the implementation of this competency across the undergraduate medical education curriculum.

Teresa Damush, PhD, attended and presented two posters at the annual meeting of the International Stroke Conference held February 7-9, 2007, in San Francisco. The conference is an educational forum highlighting the most recent advances in the treatment, prevention and outcomes of cerebrovascular disease and stroke.

Dr. Damush was lead author on “A qualitative analysis of stroke survivors’ barriers, facilitators, and preferences for physical activity and self-management” with local co-authors Laurie Plue, MS, Arlene Schmid, PhD, OTR, Tamilyn Bakas, DNS, RN, and Linda Williams, MD. She was also lead author on “Case-finding algorithm for post-stroke depression in Veterans Health Administration,” with local co-authors Laurie Plue and Linda Williams.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Indiana Geriatrics Society, a new state affiliate of the American Geriatrics Society, will hold its first annual meeting on Tuesday evening, March 13, 2007, 6-9 p.m. at the Fountains Banquet and Conference Center in Carmel. The guest speaker is Christopher M. Callahan, MD, FACP, who will present “Caring for Older Adults with Mood Disorders in Primary Care.”

If you are interested in becoming part of the Indiana Geriatrics Society or attending the first annual meeting, please contact Kathy Frank, RN, DNS, at (317) 630-8183 or click here to send e-mail. Follow this link for directions to the Fountains Banquet and Conference Center.

Frederick Unverzagt, PhD, will present “MCI – Mild Cognitive Impairment” at the IU Geriatrics Conference on March 21, 2007, from 7:30-8:30 am in Wishard T2008 A&B. Dr. Unverzagt is Associate Professor of Psychiatry and is an IU Center for Aging Research Affiliated Scientist. His research interests
include clinical assessment of memory loss and dementia and the prevalence, incidence, and risk factors for mild cognitive impairment (MCI/CIND) and Alzheimer disease. Dr. Unverzagt’s clinical duties include providing neuropsychology services at the IU Center for Senior Health.

The Indiana Alzheimer Disease Center will commemorate the 100th anniversary of Dr. Alois Alzheimer’s seminal study with a three-part lecture series, *Current Perspective on Caring for the Cognitively Impaired: 100 years after Auguste D.* The sessions will be held in the Emerson Hall Auditorium March 28, April 3, and April 11 from 1 – 4 pm. Register early; space is limited.

Arlene Schmid, PhD, OTR, will present "Fear of Falling in the Elderly and Stroke Rehab" at the IU Geriatrics Conference on April 11, 2007, from 7:30-8:30 am in Wishard T2008 A&B. Dr. Schmid is a post-doctoral fellow at the Roudebush VAMC and is assistant professor in the Indiana University Occupational Therapy Department.

Rheumatic conditions affect a substantial number of older adults, while at the same time, quality of life expectations are higher than ever. The area of geriatric rheumatology has emerged as a response to the changing environment in which we deliver health care. A symposium has been designed to familiarize physicians and other interested health care professionals with rheumatic diseases as they relate to the elderly.

*Rheumatic Diseases in the Elderly* will be held on Friday, April 27, 2007, from 7:30am – 4:15pm in the Riley Outpatient Center’s Ruth Lilly Learning Center. On the symposium faculty is IU Geriatrics’ Youcef Sennour, MD, who will present “Rheumatic Diseases in the Elderly: Impact on Function and Quality of Life.”

Registration is available online at [http://cme.medicine.iu.edu](http://cme.medicine.iu.edu). A symposium brochure is available in the IU Geriatrics office from Kathy Frank and Mindy Nowacki.