Message from the Chair

EPIC is almost upon us! Please practice the skills you were introduced to in the training sessions, check out the “hardware” that is present in your clinical areas, and begin to model how you will interface with your patient in the new charting system. Remember, EPIC will help us ultimately take better care of our patients and communicate better with each other. We MUST NOT let it compromise how we communicate with our patients in the visit setting. There has been an erosion of public trust and satisfaction with health care provider encounters over the last decade. If we spend all our time focused on a computer screen our most precious professional relationships will only flounder further. I would encourage you to work to bond with your patients over the challenges and opportunities that the electronic record may provide in the exam room itself, and in the patient’s flow through the clinic.

Congratulations to our educational leadership and to you as teaching faculty! We have once again received much recognition at the student Ever’s Society awards ceremony, with our Department as a whole winning both the Third year Clerkships Department of the Year award, and also the Fourth Year Clerkships Department of the Year award. Individual award winners included Barr Biglane and Kevin Bridges, Jerry Sheppard and Jose Subauste. Extra special congratulations to Dr. Zeb Henson who was awarded both M-4 Attending of the Year and School of Medicine Clinical Professor of the Year! I am grateful especially to our student educational leadership team which includes Dr. Michelle Horn, as overall clerkship director and Director of Medical Education, Jennifer Chappell as DOM clerkship administrator, Dena Walker as clerkship administrative assistant, Dr. Fred Asher as assistant clerkship director, Dr. Khalid Hegazy as VA clerkship liaison, Dr. Jimmy Stewart as ICM clerkship director, and of course our chief residents for the 2011-2012 academic year Dr. Allyn Bond, Dr. Darryl Pollard, and Dr. John Saxon. Good work, all!

Be watching for next month’s Medicine Matters when we will provide an overview of the “NAS:” the Next Accreditation System for Graduate Medical Education. We have many changes coming over the next year and change is always uncomfortable. The good news is that we are all in this together, and in the long-run we will be much better positioned to effectively meet all our missions in superb fashion.

Thank you for all you do!

Tuesday Chairs’ Conference

MAY 29TH—CQIC
JUNE 5TH—PULMONARY CONERLY LECTURE
JUNE 12TH—DERMATOLOGY
JUNE 19TH—CQIC

Any change, even a change for the better, is always accompanied by drawbacks and discomforts.  
Arnold Bennett
1. A 67-year-old man comes for a routine physical examination. The patient has hypertension treated with hydrochlorothiazide.

On physical examination, temperature is normal, blood pressure is 140/85 mm Hg, pulse rate is 88/min, and respiration rate is 16/min. The patient has a ruddy complexion. There is no jugular venous distention. Cardiopulmonary examination is normal. The spleen tip is palpable just below the left costal margin.

Laboratory studies:

- Hematocrit: 61%
- Leukocyte count: 11,200/µL (11.2 × 10^9/L)
- Platelet count: 405,000/µL (405 × 10^9/L)
- Erythropoietin: 10 mU/mL (10 U/L)
- Arterial oxygen saturation: 96% (on ambient air)

Cytogenetic studies show a JAK2 mutation.

Which of the following is the most appropriate treatment?

A. Therapeutic phlebotomy
B. Therapeutic phlebotomy plus anagrelide
C. Therapeutic phlebotomy plus aspirin
D. Therapeutic phlebotomy plus hydroxyurea

2. A 58-year-old man is evaluated for preoperative clearance prior to elective hernia surgery after a prolonged activated partial thromboplastin time (aPTT) is found on laboratory studies. Personal and family history of abnormal bleeding is negative. Medical history is otherwise noncontributory, and the patient takes no medications.

The vital signs and general screening examination are normal.

The inhibitor mixing study corrects the prolonged aPTT, and factor assays indicate an isolated factor XI deficiency with a value of 47% of normal (normal, 70% to 120%).

Which of the following is the most appropriate management?

A. Cancel surgery
B. Proceed to surgery with no preoperative treatment
C. Treat with factor VIII concentrate preoperatively
D. Treat with cryoprecipitate preoperatively
E. Treat with fresh frozen plasma therapy preoperatively
The division of Geriatrics was established in the Dept. of Medicine in 1992 under the leadership of Dr. Mark Meeks. Dr. Meeks started practicing in 1987 in Internal Medicine. Since he was treating many geriatric patients in his practice and because of a special affinity to this generation he wanted to pursue an exclusively geriatric practice. With the support of Dr. Jack O’Connell, department chair at the time, Dr. Meeks pursued accreditation as a geriatrician. He was grandfathered in after passing the certification exam in 1992. After this accomplishment, the Geriatric Division was born.

Dr. Kathy Gregg, who completed her geriatric fellowship at Johns Hopkins University, was hired in 1998 to the geriatric faculty team. She currently conducts the Geriatric Assessment Clinic which includes a multi-disciplinary team targeted to the frail elderly patient with multiple complicated medical problems.

Dr. Kim Tarver was hired in 2004 and sees geriatric patients in her clinics as well as providing counseling for geriatric patients related to their medical conditions and aging.

Dr. Gwen Windham, who completed a three-year geriatric fellowship at John Hopkins University joined the division in 2009 and is 50% clinical and 50% research. She works very closely with the ARIC studies in collaboration with Dr. Tom Mosley. The geriatric clinical team also includes one nurse practitioner, Ginny Webb.

The geriatric clinical team sees patients in the Pavilion who are 70 years of age or older (unless there is confirmed diagnosis of dementia, memory loss or Alzheimer’s for those younger than 70.)

Drs. Meek and Gregg see patients in long term care facilities in Ridgeland in addition to in-patient and home hospice patients.

Due to the increased aging population and as the division has grown, there has been a need for certified geriatricians treating the elderly in the state. A geriatric fellowship program was approved by the ACGME in 2009 with the goal of training geriatricians to practice this specialty and to supplement the UMMC faculty team. Geriatrics currently is completing the first academic year with a fellow and anticipates 3 upcoming fellows for the AY 2012/13 year.

The VA geriatric team consists of Drs. Chere Peel, Jolanta Roszkowska, Eliza Jabaley and Paul Low who actively participate in weekly trainee teaching conferences.

Under the umbrella of Geriatrics falls the Research team with Dr. Tom Mosley’s leadership. He and his team currently maintain active research with 10 NIH funded projects totaling $22.5 million. This team consists of 25 fulltime research staff and 2 part time biostatisticians. In addition, plans and fundraising efforts are underway for the MIND center specializing in dementia research, clinical care and education. (The MIND acronym represents Memory Impairment and Neurodegenerative Dementia.)

Happy 20th birthday in 2012 to the Geriatric Division!

Vision Statement

“We will be a department of top quality physicians, with excellent work ethic, committed to serving our patients, teaching our learners, and expanding the art and science of medicine.

Each of us will be happy to come to work each and every day, contributing to a tremendous team effort, finding personal and professional fulfillment in making a difference for those we work with and those we work for.”
The Department of Medicine is delighted to welcome Russell Boles as Associate Director of Administration and Finance. Russell brings a background of business, finance, and contract and research administration. He comes to the department having most recently served as the Manager of Program Operations at the National Children’s Study. Please join us in welcoming Russell to our department.

June 16—Chief Roast
June 21—Resident / Fellow Graduation
Fellowship Feature
We are pleased and proud to announce that three of our graduating Hem/Onc Fellows are staying on as Oncology Faculty - Dr. Matt Cassell, Dr. Natale Sheehan & Dr. Calvin Thigpen

Dr. Nuttha Ungnapatanin received the highest score in the nation for this year’s subspecialty in-training exam. 525 fellows took the exam.

**Congratulations**
Matt and Amanda Cassell on their baby girl
Hayden Grace Cassell
Tuesday, May 1, 2012 at 1:07am
6 lbs 9 oz 19 inches long

Department of Medicine Awards
2011-2012

The Arnold P. Gold Foundation Humanism and Excellence in Teaching Award
Barr Biglane, MD

School of Medicine Honors Day Awards
SOM Clinical Professor of the Year
Zeb Henson, MD

Carl G. Evers, M.D. Society Awards

M3 Department of the Year—Internal Medicine
M4 All Star Residents—Barr Biglane, MD  Kevin Bridges, MD
M4 All Star Attendings—Jerry Sheppard, MD  Jose Subauste, MD
M4 Attending of the Year—Zeb Henson, MD
M4 Department of the Year—Internal Medicine

Pictured above: Jerry Sheppard, Dena Walker, Shirley Schlessinger, Jose Subauste, Kevin Bridges, Michelle Horn, Jennifer Chappell, Barr Biglane and Zeb Henson


**Winners of the Clinical Research Category**

**First Place Award** went to Sushant Khaire, a resident, for the poster, “Microalbuminuria is Related to Endothelial Health in African Americans”.

**Second Place Award** went to Alejandro Arzabala, a clinical fellow, for the poster, “Pulmonary Fellows’ Evaluation of Oral Endotracheal Tube and Central Line Placement”.

**Third Place Award** went to Hillary Freeman, a resident, for the poster, “The Clinical Impact of Potential Drug Interactions Associated with use of Boceprevir and Telaprevir in Patients with Hepatitis C”.

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**Winners of the Population Research Category**

**First Place Award** went to Alycia Kleinman, a resident, for the poster, “Falls and Orthostatic Hypotension: Re-examining Limits”.

**Second Place Award** went to Asha Thomas, a clinical fellow, for the poster, “Low Prevalence of Use of ACEI /ARB and Lipid Lowering Agents in African American (AA) SLE Patients”.

**Third Place Award** went to Harsha Najarajaran, a clinical fellow, for the poster, “Plasma Brain Natriuretic Peptide Concentration is Inversely Associated with Prevalent Metabolic Syndrome and Metabolic Syndrome Components: Findings from the Jackson Heart Study”.

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**Winners of the Basic Science/Translational Research Category**

**First Place Award** went to Licy Yanes-Cardozo, a resident, for the poster, “Angiotensin II Stimulate TNFα in a Hyperandrogenic Female Rat”.

**Second Place Award** went to Kiran Chandrashekar, a research fellow, for the poster, “Chronic Nicotine Exacerbates Sub Pressor Ang II (SP-AngII) Induced Hypertension (HTN) and Renal Injury”.

**Third Place Award** went to Arnaldo Lopez-Ruiz, a resident, for the poster, “Angiotensin 1-7 Protects Against Renal Ischemia Reperfusion and its Deleterious Cardiac Effect”.

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**The People’s Choice Award**

The People’s Choice Award (lunch for 2 at Bravo’s Restaurant) went to Arnaldo Lopez-Ruiz, a resident, for the poster, “Angiotensin 1-7 Protects Against Renal Ischemia Reperfusion and its Deleterious Cardiac Effect”
Faculty Focus: Three of our Retirees

Ken Hardy, MD

What is one of your earliest memories when coming to work at UMC?

Riding my 1983 Honda V65 motorcycle every day from Brandon to UMC for a month just after moving to UMC/VA Jackson to assume the position of Professor of Medicine and director of the division of rheumatology/molecular immunology. During that one month I was to enjoy the best parking I would have for the next twenty years.

Who were some important people during your time here who influenced you in some way or made an impression?

Four people influenced me profoundly……Dr. Norman Nelson, who was wonderfully supportive and completely ingenuous. Dr. Jack O’Connell who hired me, inspired me, sang with me, made good on all his promises, and proved to be larger than life. Dr. Dan Jones, whose uncompromising honesty, humanitarian ethics, missionary vision, loyalty to chain-of-command, and academic prowess are the stuff of legend. And finally, the matriarch of UMC’s Department of Internal Medicine, Ms. Suzanne Clay…..who always found the time, the answers, and most of the solutions to my twenty years of questions and problems.

How would you like to be remembered?

As a crawfish picking, controversial New Orleans swamp dog who broke all of the rules in developing UMC’s division of rheumatology, its research programs, its fellowship training program, its osteoporosis center, its outreach programs, and its position of national academic respect.

Any words of wisdom you would like to pass on?

It is no longer adequate to “See One”, “Do One”, “Teach One”. Today we must “Comprehend Widely and Objectively”, "Demand State-of-the-Art Productivity", and "Teach Passionately Without Arrogance”. Wisdom emerges from recognizing how little we actually know.

What does your future hold?

The promise of more time to spend with family, friends, and professional/personal interests…..finally free of impossible deadlines.

Additional comments?

From the ninth ward of New Orleans, to Bay St. Louis and a hog farm in Kiln, MS, then on to Nashville, Tn. and back to uptown New Orleans. Finally, across the Sierra Nevada’s to San Francisco, back through Houston and Birmingham, and my inevitable return to MS….for good!! And what a fascinating roller coaster ride the next twenty years would prove to be at UMMC. I now retire exactly as I arrived…..scruffy, secular, scholarly, musical, professorial (now emeritus), and mechanical.....a libertarian who still remains financially vulnerable, creatively independent and entirely committed to understanding everything. My eternal thanks to Mississippi and UMMC, esp. its faculty/scholars, residents, students, patients and administrative staff, for a great and loving tour, complete with a very happy ending. I will truly miss you all very much, and will never be very far away.

Right: about a year ago after just removing the engine (single handedly) from a 1985 Firebird TransAm.
Above: most recent photo of it in its present (yet incomplete) stage of restoration.
Ralph Vance, MD

What is one of your earliest memories when coming to work at UMC?
My first recollection of the University Medical Center was as a high school graduate from Murrah High School in 1964, the summer before entering Ole Miss in the Fall. I worked as an orderly in the Emergency Room (which presently is the kidney unit in the hospital). To show the appropriate changes that have transpired over the years since that time, the restrooms and the water fountains at the Medical Center were labeled as “Colored” or “White”. This segregation would thankfully change by the time that I graduated from Ole Miss and entered medical school in 1968.

Who were some important people during your time here who influenced you in some way or made an impression?
There have been so many people with whom I have developed friendships and who made a difference in my life over the forty years here at the University. To name a few, Doctor Peter Blake, Doctor Pat Lehan, and Doctor Bob Currier are at the top of the list of those who early-on until their deaths made a significant change in the way that I conducted my daily life. Even before these giants of medicine became my mentors, I must mention Doctor Billy Guyton (the father of Doctor Arthur Guyton) who probably is responsible for providing me with the opportunity to enter medical school in the first place.

How would you like to be remembered?
I would like to be remembered as someone who made a difference in our State by influencing change in the smoking habits of our fellow Mississippianis, by educating a huge number of our Mississippi practicing physicians, and by positively altering the lives of cancer patients who can now think of the disease as a chronic process rather than a death sentence.

Any words of wisdom you would like to pass on?
Words of wisdom: “Nothing in the world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not; nothing in the world is more common than unsuccessful men with talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is a proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent.”
Calvin Coolidge

What does your future hold?
My wife, Douglas, and I are building our retirement home in Oxford, Mississippi, and plan to move this summer when the house is completed. I plan to retire from practicing medicine and continue to work for the University of Mississippi in the area of development. We are thrilled to be moving to Oxford to be with long-time friends as well as newly-developed relationships. We, in addition, will be nearer to our daughter, Barrett, who is a happy resident of the Baddour Center in Senatobia. Down the road we hope that our son, Brooks, and his wife Rebecca will return to Mississippi to practice medicine near us.
Joe Files, MD

What is one of your earliest memories when coming to work at UMC?

My first memory at UMC was the first day of medical school. We gathered in the old nursing school auditorium and listened to Dean Blount talk about what our next 4 years would be like. He then introduced a first year Medicine resident Bill Causey who talked about the honor of learning of care of sick people.

I sat between Ed Egger and Allen Flowers who were both friends through out medical school.

Who were some important people during your time here who influenced you in some way or made an impression?

There were many important people who made a positive impression and some others that contributed in a not so positive way. Peter Blake, Pat Lehan and Harper Hellems were very important to me in medical school as well as residency. The negative influences will go unnamed.

How would you like to be remembered?
I hope to be remembered in many ways, but always as a hard working advocate for our patients.

Any words of wisdom you would like to pass on?
We control only two things: time and your reputation. Protect them both.

What does your future hold?
My future will be full of outside projects. My garden, yard, farm, lake, and Gus my new german shorthair pointer puppy. We will have more visits to see our grandchildren. Coleman and Charlotte in Winston Salem North Carolina: Clark’s children, and Adaline in Seattle: Matt’s new daughter.

Additional comments?
UMC has been a great place for me to spend my career. I hope that in some small way I have contributed in a positive way to the continued development of our academic mission.