

## From Residents to Staff

Many of the young doctors who have come to Lahey to train in its Internal Medicine Residency Program have never left. Since the program's beginning in the mid-1990s, about two dozen graduating residents have accepted staff positions at the Clinic in Burlington, the satellite facility in Peabody, or one of Lahey's affiliated community-based practices. Two former residents now practice at the medical center as "hospitalists," a new breed of physicians based solely in the hospital.

"Most of my class stayed," says Elizabeth Collins, MD (IM'00), who practices primary care in the Department of General Internal Medicine. "That says a lot about Lahey."

*Many of the young doctors who have come to Lahey to train in its Internal Medicine Residency Program have never left.*

### Why They Came

The launch of Lahey's Internal Medicine Residency Program was a response to the growing emphasis on primary care nationwide, due in part to managed care. Lahey was eager to broaden its primary care through the program, and medical school graduates, learning of the new opportunity, were eager to apply.

Russell Zide, MD (IM'97), first worked at Lahey in the Vascular Lab under Alfred Persson, MD, in the 80s, as did his future wife, Jennifer Rehm, MD, (IM'98). Like other Persson protégés, the two decided to go to medical school.

When Zide was an intern at the BU School of Medicine Combined Program, rotating through University, Boston City, and the V.A. hospitals, he found out about Lahey's new residency program.

"I called Guy Napolitana, who met me [at the Clinic] at 8 o'clock one night," says Zide. "He was so friendly and honest that I said to myself if he's the program director, and everything I've read about the program is true, I

*... continued on page 4*

## Introducing...

Some recent alumni need no introduction to Guy Napolitana, MD, vice chair of the Department of General Internal Medicine and the new Alumni Association Executive Director. For the last nine years, he has headed the Lahey Clinic Internal Medicine Residency Program, and approximately 100 residents have trained under his direction.

A native of Schenectady, New York, and a graduate of St. Lawrence University, Napolitana received his MD from the State University of New York at Stony Brook. He went on to become an intern, resident and chief resident in Stony Brook's Affiliated Hospitals Program.

He joined the Lahey Clinic staff in 1988 because he believed it offered the "best combination of features in a job" — an enriched environment with skilled colleagues, clinical opportunities, and a good area in which to live. From the start, he was involved in teaching, working with Eugene Clerkin, MD, then head of Internal Medicine, to train residents from the Deaconess Hospital.

His interest in education led to his selection as head of the new Internal Medicine Residency Program in 1993. "I wanted to have the opportunity to launch a new program," says Napolitana. "Not a lot of newly

*... continued on page 2*



**Guy Napolitana, MD**

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\*deceased

## INTRODUCING...from page 1

founded programs were around at the time." Thanks in part to Napolitana's hard work, the program is now starting its third accreditation cycle.

Gerry Orfanos, MD, has replaced Napolitana as director of the Internal Medicine Residency Program. Prior to this, he served as its associate director as well as the coordinator of the medical school teaching program. Orfanos will bring the residency program "new energies and enthusiasm," says Napolitana.

*Napolitana's goal for the Alumni Association is to expand activities related to the educational endeavors of the Clinic.*

Napolitana is sure to bring the same to the Alumni Association. He sees his new role as executive director as a "natural progression." "I like having the opportunity to take on challenges," he says. "This is a new page in that exciting book."

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## ALUMNI NEWS

*Alumni News* is published semi-annually by the Alumni Association of the Lahey Clinic Medical Center.

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tional endeavors of the Clinic. He points to areas like the auditorium and library, where alumni contributions have already made a difference. Noting the financial stress health care is under, he says he would like to see alumni support residents and fellows following in their specialities. He looks forward to working with the advisory board, headed by Andrew Warner, MD.

In addition to his busy medical practice, Napolitana still teaches and serves as one of the internists for the Boston Celtics basketball team. He also finds time to volunteer as a coach for youth baseball and basketball teams. He and his wife, Patty, have three children — Matthew, 15, Marc, 12, and Lauren, 9. ■

## Noteworthy

**GUY NAPOLITANA, MD,** and **JENNIFER REHM, MD,** of the Department of General Internal Medicine, recently received an award of appreciation from the Burlington Board of Health for their work as directors of the free health care clinic for local residents.

**EDGAR ACHKAR, MD,** (GE'68), president of the American College of Gastroenterology, joined legislative sponsors of the "Colon Cancer Screen for Life Act of 2002" on Capitol Hill in February. He spoke about screening and treating patients for colorectal cancer and how the bill would improve access for Medicare beneficiaries.

**DAVID J. SCHOETZ, JR., MD,** Department of Colon and Rectal Surgery, was named the new director of education in April. In this position, he serves as chair of both the Education Committee and Graduate Medical Education Committee. He replaces Francis Scholz, MD, who had been chair of Graduate Medical Education since 1990.

# Farewell

## *A Message from Neil Weiner, MD*

After 14 years as executive director of the Alumni Association, I have decided to step down to devote more time to my other Clinic responsibilities. Working on alumni issues and getting to know many of you has been an enjoyable and fulfilling experience, and I will miss it. Nevertheless, change can reinvigorate an organization with new ideas, new energy and new avenues of creativity, and I believe that the association will benefit from new leadership.

We are very grateful for the support of our alumni, which has enabled us to continue established programs and develop new ones. Among these are: Postgraduate Recognition Day, the resident and fellow travel program, medical and surgical grand rounds, support for the Richard B. Cattell

Memorial Library, the annual David P. Boyd Lecture in Cardiothoracic Surgery, the annual Neil W. Swinton, Sr. Professorship in Colorectal Surgery, and, most recently, the renovation of the Alumni Auditorium. These programs have enhanced the education experience for the residents, fellows and the entire staff.

Because of the difficult financial situation in which we find ourselves as a profession and an industry, support for postgraduate medical education through sources other than patient care revenue is now a necessity. Therefore, we will need to look to our alumni as well as other friends of Lahey more than ever to help us maintain our high quality training programs.

Guy Napolitana, MD, a member of our Department of General Internal

Medicine, has been appointed the new executive director of the association, and he is a natural for this position. He was one of the founders of our current medical residency program and was the director of it from its inception until this year. He is very accomplished and is a strong supporter of postgraduate medical education. Because of his former position, he is already well acquainted with many of you. I wish him well in his new position, and I am confident that the Alumni Association will thrive in his capable hands.

I would like to thank all of you who have supported the association over the years. We have all benefited greatly from your generosity, and, in our willingness to respond, you have made my job easy. Special thanks to the officers, councilors, the advisory board, and to Pauline Katz and Charlotte Melillo, our alumni managers who have done all the real work. ■

# Grand Opening

Running counter to a regional trend of hospital closures, Lahey opened 19 new medical-surgical beds in Burlington this spring. The expansion is part of an effort to better meet patient needs and address the area's ER diversion crisis. Lahey has also recruited nearly 100 new nurses during the past year.

Since space is a scarce commodity at Lahey (and most institutions), opening the new beds required teamwork and logistics. Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine moved to Lahey Wall Street in Burlington so that Vascular Ultrasound could relocate to the fourth floor and make room for the new unit on 6-West. Most of the added beds are part of a new telemetry-monitored system that will be coordinated at a central nursing station.

Additional beds at Lahey will help prevent the "domino effect" that patient diversion has had on area hospitals, says Malcolm A. Creighton, MD, chair of the Department of Emergency



*At the official opening are (left to right): David M. Barrett, MD, chief executive officer; Sanford Kurtz, MD, chief operating officer; Kathie Jose, RN, MSN, chief nursing officer; Malcolm Creighton, MD, chair of emergency medicine, and Joan Robbio, senior vice president for human resources.*

Medicine. In the last decade, the number of hospital beds in Massachusetts has decreased from more than 23,000 to less than 16,000. This reduced bed capacity has resulted in emergency departments turning away patients

when admission is not possible.

"We hope this expansion will mark the beginning of a new trend for Massachusetts hospitals," says David M. Barrett, MD, chief executive officer. ■

should really consider changing. And it was a great decision for me. It was the training I needed and wanted, and it's why I'm here."

Stephanie Shapiro, MD (IM'99) also had a change in direction. She was in an MD/PhD program in anthropology, when she decided to pursue clinical medicine instead. She chose Lahey's Internal Medicine Residency Program, because of its focus on outpatient medicine and the training in subspecialty clinics. "A lot of medicine today takes place in the outpatient clinic," she notes.

*Residents who have joined the Lahey staff often cite collegial camaraderie as one of the main reasons they stayed.*

For Collins, medicine was a second career. She went to medical school at age 35 after she had two children. One of the reasons she was attracted to Lahey's program was its blend of residents. "They were not all 21 and right out of medical school," she says. "They were healthy, well-rounded individuals who had lives outside of the Clinic, yet were mature and devoted to becoming excellent physicians."

## Why They Stayed

Residents who have joined the Lahey staff often cite collegial camaraderie as one of the main reasons they stayed. They also frequently mention the friendliness of housekeeping, messenger and escort, cafeteria and other personnel.

"I wanted to be part of an organization that has a reputation for delivering outstanding care," says Bruce Campbell, MD (IM'98). "I also wished to stay at Lahey because it's an academic, tertiary care center that attracts patients with a variety of stimulating and challenging problems.

"Of course," he says, "the most important reason for wanting to remain at Lahey is the people. It's the

exceptional people here that make Lahey a great place to work."

Adds Zide, "There are so many great doctors to learn from here. Even now as a faculty/staff person, I find the people I work with are a huge part of my happiness. Everyone's approachable and interested in talking to you, and patient care comes first."

He also notes the willingness to allow people to grow professionally. "Dr. Corkery, my section chief, has allowed me to develop my interest in vascular medicine, for which I give him a lot of credit. While I work 70 percent of the time in General Internal Medicine, I also do a couple sessions a week in Vascular Medicine."

Shapiro has only recently returned to Burlington after working for two years at Lahey Arlington. "Everyone seems to come to that practice," she says. "You are literally taking care of the town. I really enjoyed that aspect of it."

Daily interaction with colleagues in General Internal Medicine is something Shapiro now values. She also appreciates her connections with subspecialists.

And as a new mother, she is grateful that the Clinic is accommodating with scheduling. "From the time we were residents until now, almost all of us have had families, and the structure of the department was supportive of that," she says.

Collins left Lahey to work as an internal medicine consultant at Massachusetts General Hospital's weight center after her training. However, Collins's strong interest in primary care, which was the reason she chose Lahey to train, drew her back. "When I came back, it was like coming



**LAHEY TRAINED** — Drs. Elizabeth Collins and Bruce Campbell in General Internal Medicine.

home. The physicians here are devoted to clinical care. I bring my parents, who are in their 80s, and my kids here."

Residents-turned-staff were also drawn by the clinical and teaching opportunities. "It's so busy," says Zide. "You see so many different problems, it's amazing. It's a great intellectual challenge.

"Teaching also gives you intellectual stimulation. We have a big medical student population from Tufts, mostly, and some from Harvard. You teach, and you learn things, and you get to meet some impressive people." ■

## UPCOMING EVENT...

- ◆ Postgraduate Recognition Day
- ◆ Friday, June 21, 2002
- ◆ 7:30 – 9:00 a.m.
- ◆ Alumni Auditorium, Lahey Clinic Medical Center

## Memoirs Published

Charles Fager, MD, is one of those Lahey legends. Now a member of the staff for 50 years, he trained at the Clinic as a fellow in neurosurgery and was hired by founder Frank Lahey, MD. He became a compassionate, caring and conservative surgeon who eschewed fad remedies for bad backs. A member of the faculty of Harvard Medical School, he was chair of Lahey's Department of Neurosurgery from 1963 to 1984. Through the years, he has won numerous awards, most recently the Gold Medal for 2000 from the Neurosurgical Society of America. Among his many published works are papers, book chapters, his own textbook on neurosurgery, and now, his memoirs.

*Quality of the Issue: Memoirs and Perspectives of a Neurosurgeon* (Vantage Press, 2002) is a 199-page volume that chronicles advances in medicine, especially in neurosurgery, by relating patient cases. It also details Fager's years growing up in Brooklyn and training in Boston. The book features his forthright views on medical issues today, such as managed care and alternative medicine.

"There's been such a change in the half century since I've been practicing medicine that I thought it might be interesting to put my memoirs together," he says. "And I like to keep busy. I'm still writing papers and speaking at national meetings, and I still see patients."

The manuscript, which took about a year to write, was typed by his long-time secretary Rita Sherburne, who also helped with revisions and proofreading.

In the book, Fager recounts stories of the early years at the Clinic. He talks about Frank Lahey and his "hero" and mentor, James Poppen, MD, one of the pioneers of neurosurgery.

"Particularly motivating was Poppen's dedication to the care and comfort of his patients and their families," he says in one passage. "Such was the spirit that permeated the clinic founded by Dr. Frank Lahey in 1922 and over which he ruled until his death in 1952. His insistence on excellence in every field was matched only by his emphasis on patient care that inspired the entire Lahey Clinic staff, nurses

and attendants. Out of medical school six years, I had not encountered such esprit as I found in this group. And I was never more honored than when I was invited to join the staff. During forty-nine years and many changes, I have had no regrets."

Describing the development of neurosurgery, he recalls when the skeptical would say, "Operate on the human brain —ridiculous!" In addition to remarkable advances in the field, he notes the dramatic increase in the number of neurosurgeons from 400 nationwide in the early 1950s to more than 5,000 today.

What's next for Fager? He's already writing a new book about his medical/legal work. "It exposes a lot of the fraud, exaggeration and malingering in the whole system," he says.

When he's not writing, speaking or at the Clinic, he's pursuing his other loves — playing tennis and working on his roses. ■

*Dr. Fager's book is available through Vantage Press by calling 1-800-882-3273. Copies are also sold in the Lahey Clinic gift shop and select bookstores.*

## 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Swinton Professorship

James W. Fleshman, MD, section chief of colorectal surgery and professor of surgery at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, was this year's Neil W. Swinton, Sr., Visiting Professor in Colon and Rectal Surgery. "Laparoscopic Management of Colorectal Cancer" was the topic of his lecture at the Clinic on April 3. His talk was followed by case presentations and a luncheon. ■



*At the Swinton lecture are Dr. Fleshman (fourth from left) and Department of Colon and Rectal Surgery members John A. Collier, MD; Patricia L. Roberts, MD; Peter W. Marcello, MD; John J. Murray, MD; Ignacio Gomez, MD; Lawrence C. Rusin, MD, and David J. Schoetz, Jr., MD.*



*Lahey's Patricia Roberts playfully presents James Fleshman with a reminder of the kick that clinched the New England Patriots victory over the St. Louis Rams in the Super Bowl.*

# 2001 Alumni Contributions

Alan V. Abrams (GS, CRS'74) Baltimore, MD	Edward H. Copenhaver (GYN)** South Yarmouth, MA	Paul T. Gross (N)* Lexington, MA	Virginia E. Maurer (GS'77) Mineola, NY
John A. Abramson (FP)* South Hamilton, MA	Robert E. Crozier (GE)** Boston, MA	Maurice S. Grossman (IM, GE'56) Corpus Christi, TX	Joyce A. McCaffrey (IM, ONC)* Newton Centre, MA
Edgar Achkar (GE'68) Pepper Pike, OH	Gary W. Cushing (IM, END)** North Chelmsford, MA	Michael A. Guidi (IM, FP)* Merrimac, MA	Karen C. McKoy (D)* Dover, MA
Marina M. Alfisher (DR'96) Newton, MA	Donat P. Cyr (IM, HEM'42)** Westborough, MA	Hillel S. Hammerman (GE'83) Scarsdale, NY	Peter J. McNamara (IM, GE'62) Mequon, WI
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John F. Beamis, Jr. (IM, PUD)* Winchester, MA	Alison B. Dick (GYN)* Lexington, MA	Paul C. Houston (GS'52) Middletown, RI	John R. Moore (GS'50) Gagetown, New Brunswick, Canada
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## 2001 Contributions (continued)

Lester Rosen (CRS'81) Allentown, PA	Charles E. Strachan (IM'52) Paradise, CA
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Daniel Rosenthal (CRS, GS'66) San Antonio, TX	James W. Stricker (CRS'87) San Francisco, CA
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Christine M. Sharis (IM'96) Boxford, MA	Norman M. Wall (IM'47) Heathrow, FL
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Nasy J. Stefan (IM, GE'69) Miami, FL	Russell S. Zide (IM'98)* Woburn, MA
Michael S. Stix (AN)* Lexington, MA	
Robert A. Stoller (ORD'63) Newburgh, NY	

\* Current Staff  
\*\* Former Staff

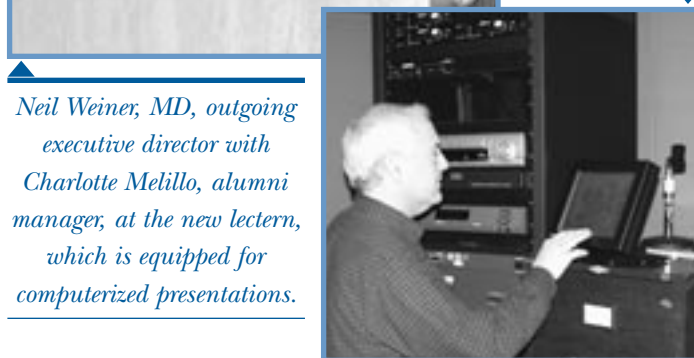
## New and Improved

Thanks to alumni donations, the Alumni Auditorium now has up-to-date media equipment, enhanced lighting and improved sound. A new projection system allows medical staff and guest speakers to give computerized presentations.

This technological upgrading of the auditorium will help the Clinic continue its tradition of hosting educational events, such as medical grand rounds, continuing education courses, medical ethics lectures and community health programs. ■



*Rick Chevalier  
of Biomedical  
Photography in  
the control room.*



*Neil Weiner, MD, outgoing  
executive director with  
Charlotte Melillo, alumni  
manager, at the new lectern,  
which is equipped for  
computerized presentations.*

## In Memoriam

**LAURA E. SANDERS, MD**, died on May 6, 2002 following a long struggle with cancer. A member of the Department of General Surgery, she graduated from Princeton summa cum laude and attended Harvard Medical School. She completed a residency in general surgery at Massachusetts General Hospital before joining the Lahey staff in January 1989. A fund has been established for the Annual LE Sanders Lectureship in Surgical Education.

**KENNETH W. WARREN, MD**, a retired member of the Lahey staff, died November 15, 2001. He joined the staffs of Lahey and New England Baptist Hospital in March 1945 and retired from his surgical practice in 1989. An internationally known authority on diseases of the pancreas, liver and biliary tract, he served as surgeon in chief at New England Baptist Hospital, chair of the Department of Surgery at Lahey Clinic and lecturer at Harvard Medical School.

Other recent Lahey Clinic alumni losses include:

**L. Richard Webb, MD (IM, GE'49)**

**Frederic B. Mayo, MD (IM'47)**

**Paul J. Laube, MD (GS'50)**

# Continuing Medical Education

## *Hand Access Laparoscopic Intestinal Surgery Workshop*

June 15, 2002

New England Baptist Bioskills Learning Center  
Boston, Mass.



## *Current Topics in Gastroenterology & Hepatology*

July 25–28, 2002

Ocean Edge Resort & Conference Center  
Brewster, Mass.

## *Cardiovascular Disease: State of the Art 2002*

June 22–25, 2002

Ocean Edge Resort & Conference Center  
Brewster, Mass.



## *Neurology for the Primary Care Physician*

October 12–14, 2002

The Colonnade Hotel, Boston

To register or for further information, call Continuing Medical Education at 781-744-8969.

## Alumni Chairs



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