

JEFFERSON COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS Review

THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY • FALL 2008



PARTNERING FOR EDUCATION

Shirley E. Greening, MS, JD, CFAIC,
and the Department of Bioscience
Technologies lend a hand in creating a
Saudi Arabian college of health professions.

Message from the President



Robert L. Barchi, MD, PhD

**Think globally,
act locally.**

**Healthcare professionals
educated at Jefferson are
quite clear about their
responsibility to improve
the health of all peoples.**

This now-familiar phrase, a hallmark of activist thinking over the past few decades, conveys both a call to action and a recognition that even local actions can have far-reaching consequences. It encourages us to change the world by focusing first on our own backyard. Enough people improving their own individual spheres, the thinking goes, can have the aggregate effect of significant, sustainable change across communities.

This is a nice concept, but here at Jefferson we take that philosophy a step further. Act locally first, but then extend your own efforts globally as well. Don't ignore the problems in your neighborhood or your city, but don't let local priorities blind you to broader issues requiring urgent and personal attention around the world. The AIDS epidemic in sub-Saharan Africa, the human tragedy in Darfur, the cultural catastrophe in the Middle East, the malaria epidemic in Asia—these global issues cannot wait for the slow diffusion of our local efforts to reach them.

At Jefferson, our faculty, students and alumni work both locally and globally. Our students organize and run community health clinics that serve those in our own area who are without healthcare. Our alumni combine the training they received here with their own personal dedication and trek to countless points around the globe in service of health, science and humankind. In many cases this vital work has been ancillary to whatever primary duty took them to distant lands in the first place. The healthcare professionals educated at Jefferson are quite clear about their responsibility to improve the health of all peoples. Whether delivering clinical services where they are needed most here or abroad, or conducting pioneering research, whether teaching the next generation of healthcare providers or leading pharmaceutical and

biotech companies, they advance the human condition one increment at a time.

A global component is a key facet of the daily operations of Jefferson. During their time here, students are exposed to an international array of ideas and viewpoints in research, education and patient care. We welcome men and women from other countries to work, study and engage in research with us in Philadelphia, and we encourage Jefferson students and faculty to study, lecture and conduct research abroad. Through the efforts of our Office of International Affairs, Jefferson is fostering action that makes a difference in people's lives, in our own city and country, and in far-flung corners of the world.

Those who have supported Jefferson's work have also, in their own way, heeded the call to think globally and act locally. Their contributions increase our reach and influence by making it possible for our students to receive a world-class education—and by inculcating a mission of collaboration, innovation and commitment in the pursuit of better health. I offer profound thanks to all who join us in this important and necessary work.

Working together—students, alumni, faculty, staff, donors—I have no doubt that we will continue to transform healthcare, at the bedside, in the laboratory, in the classroom and in the boardroom. And I have no doubt that our successes are as likely to come abroad as they are here, changing the world in the process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert L. Barchi". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Robert L. Barchi, MD, PhD
President
Thomas Jefferson University

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Editorial Board

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Address correspondence to:
Editor, Review

Jefferson College of Health Professions
Thomas Jefferson University
925 Chestnut Street, Suite 110
Philadelphia, PA 19107-4216

215-955-7920
patricia.shea@jefferson.edu
www.jefferson.edu/jchp/alumni

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Cover: Foreground: Bioscience Technologies chair, Shirley Greening. Background: Qoba Mosque in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. See page 4 for story.

The Dean's Column

Since its opening in October 2007, the Dorrance H. Hamilton Building and its adjacent welcoming Lubert Plaza have dramatically altered the landscape of Jefferson, both literally and figuratively. The first impressions and reactions of our students and faculty to the newest educational facility have been uniformly positive. The building's design, technological advances, and innovative simulation facilities are indeed impressive. But even more so are the exciting activities taking place within, where faculty and students from diverse disciplines, such as medicine, nursing and rehabilitation therapies, are engaged together in the initial phase of implementing Jefferson's strategic initiative to shape the future of clinical care through truly interprofessional healthcare education and training.

The Hamilton Building is the bricks-and-mortar manifestation of the university's commitment to its primary mission of education. To be successful, we must also rely on the superb skills and expertise of Jefferson's most valuable human resources, namely, the faculty. Jefferson faculty members have a long and well-deserved reputation as outstanding teachers and clinical educators. While exemplary teaching has always been and continues to be a major expectation of our faculty, it is not the only one. Faculty members are also responsible for making contributions to the research mission of the university and serving as scholarly role models for our students.

The strategic plan of Jefferson College of Health Professions shares in the university's strong commitment to discover new knowledge, particularly through intervention and translational research that reaches from

within the laboratory to the clinical bedside and beyond the institution to the community and home.

Over the years, JCHP faculty members have garnered increased recognition for their scholarly accomplishments in addition to their expertise in the classroom. These accomplishments can best be measured by the faculty's contributions to the discovery of new knowledge, as well as in the dissemination of that information in the literature and through the delivery of invited, peer-reviewed presentations at professional regional, national and international meetings.

Following are a few representative examples of JCHP faculty's recent scholarly accomplishments:

In support of their research, JCHP faculty members have been successful in securing externally sponsored grants and contracts from a variety of sources, including the federal government, private foundations, professional associations and corporations. For fiscal year 2008 to date, JCHP is operating with \$5.5 million in total funding (direct and indirect).

Research conducted in JCHP's Center for Applied Research on Aging and Health (CARAH) under the direction of Laura Gitlin, PhD, has an outstanding record of sustained accomplishments. To date, Dr. Gitlin has been awarded four new multi-year grants, totaling \$3.3 million, including a grant from the National Institute of Mental Health for the program "Treating Depression in African American Elders: A Community Academic Partnership."

A widely recognized expert for her pioneering research in the treatment of Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia, Dr. Gitlin has been inducted into

Our most
valuable resources



James B. Erdmann, PhD

To be successful, we must rely on the superb skills and expertise of Jefferson's most valuable human resources, namely, the faculty.

the College of Physicians in Philadelphia and was an invited guest lecturer in summer 2007 at the University of Wollongong in Australia. The third edition of *Successful Grant Writing*, the highly respected and often-cited book that she co-authored with JCHP Associate Dean Kevin Lyons, PhD, is scheduled for publication in May 2008.

Recently, Dr. Gitlin has been invited to participate in the Alzheimer's Study Group, established by the Congressional Task Force on Alzheimer's disease, to develop a national strategic plan for providing improved care and more effective patient treatment. CARAH's recently established Living Laboratory for Elder Care will provide innovative, evidence-based services and training opportunities for healthcare providers.

Other notable new grants include funding awarded to faculty members in the Jefferson School of Nursing (JSN) by the federal government's Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). Mary Bowen, CRNP, DNS, JD, CNAA, associate professor and associate dean of research and faculty development, received a grant in the amount of \$1.1 million for the Tri-state Nurse Anesthesia Program; and Beth Ann Swan, PhD, CRNP, associate professor and associate dean of graduate programs, was awarded just under \$1.3 million in HRSA funding for the project "Promoting Health Access: Online Graduate Programs for Rural Underserved Communities." The recent faculty appointment of Nancy Hodgson, PhD, from research scientist in CARAH to research assistant professor at JSN, is evidence of the goal to foster and expand research collaboration.

Philippa Campbell, PhD, who directs the Child and Family Studies Research Program in the department of occupational therapy,

has received three new multi-year grants so far this fiscal year, totaling just under \$3.9 million, including a \$2.1 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education for the Tots N Tech Program: "Using Assistive Technology with Infants and Toddlers," which began January 1, 2008.

The importance that the college places on scholarship and research is evident in two notable new faculty appointments, each of whom come to Jefferson with an impressive record of scholarly accomplishments. As noted in the article on page 25, Ann Barr, PhD, DPT, who joined the college as a tenured professor and chair of the physical therapy department in January 2008, is an accomplished scholar. Currently the principal investigator on an RO1-funded grant and co-PI or mentor on three additional grants, Dr. Barr, whose research work has contributed significantly to the understanding of musculoskeletal disorders, has an impressive history of securing competitive research funding continuously since 1988.

Similarly, Ashiwel Undieh, PhD, who has been appointed chair of the department of pharmaceutical sciences in the Jefferson School of Pharmacy, has extensive recognition as a scholar, particularly for his scientific research on the mechanisms by which dopamine exerts its myriad effects on brain function and dysfunction. With a strong history of and current major funding from NIH/NIDA, Dr. Undieh is a widely published author and much sought-after speaker, who has shared his scientific findings both nationally and internationally, in such places as Turkey, Germany, Nigeria and Kenya.

Historically, the most notable research accomplishments of JCHP faculty have been concentrated in the work of a few high-

ly successful individuals. Recently, there have been indications of increased interest among the faculty at-large to become more engaged in this important component of our mission. For instance, there has been a promising growth in faculty participation in activities such as research seminars and Faculty Research Day sponsored jointly by the Center for Faculty Development and the Center for Institutional Research.

Moreover, in a satisfaction survey conducted as part of the strategic planning process, JCHP faculty have identified a strong interest in increased support for conducting research. This formed the impetus for creating the JCHP Research Task Force. In response to the recommendations of the task force, the Deans' Council is investing \$1 million of the college's surplus funds from fiscal 2007 in a trust fund that will be used in a variety of ways: to provide seed money for faculty to submit new grant proposals, to provide bridge money for faculty who may be between funding opportunities, to support consultation for research design, and to expand the infrastructure needed to support research (e.g., the administrative tools and expertise to assist in the preparation of proposals). A college-wide research committee will be established to help coordinate these initiatives and to recommend others.

James B. Erdmann, PhD

Dean

Jefferson College of Health Professions

PARTNERING FOR EDUCATION

Bioscience Technologies Chair
Shirley Greening traveled to
Saudi Arabia to help create a world-
class cytotechnology program,
modeled after Jefferson.

TWO YEARS AGO, King Saud bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences (KAU) in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, planned to establish a college of health professions. The university administration charged Nikolaos Chantziantoniou, BSc, ART (CSMLS), CT (IAC), with finding an institution to use as a model. He learned about Jefferson College of Health Professions through the global cytotechnology network of which Shirley E. Greening, MS, JD, CFIAC, chair, professor and director of the department of bioscience technologies graduate programs and programs in cytotechnology, is a member. Greening was a visiting professor at KAU, and her main goal was to evaluate the programs that KAU operates with support from and according to materials supplied by Jefferson.

At first glance, it was a good match. Like Jefferson, KAU includes medical and nursing colleges and shares its campus with a hospital. Dialogue between the two universities affirmed the affinity, and in September 2006, Jefferson and KAU signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to work together to develop laboratory-based programs under a unique licensing agreement.

The MOU stated that Jefferson would provide KAU with course materials, including curricula, syllabi, evaluation instruments, and selected lecture and laboratory teaching content for programs in

cytotechnology, molecular biology and clinical chemistry. Jefferson also shared governance documents, including bylaws and organizational charts, to show JCHP's structure. "KAU views Jefferson as a leader in allied health and nursing," Greening reports. "They felt that Jefferson's college structure, as well as its policies, procedures and programs, would easily provide the best framework on which to model KAU's new college. Our curricula easily translated to meet their needs."

KAU offered the three laboratory science programs immediately, and the first set of students completed the coursework a year later. A second cohort of students started in September 2007. The students taking these courses work in labs at King Abdulaziz Hospital and other hospitals in Saudi Arabia. Also in 2007, KAU established its College of Allied Medical Sciences in which these three new programs reside.

This year, KAU would like to renew the agreement with Jefferson, and this time they may include provisions for Saudi Arabian lab technologists to come to the Jefferson bioscience department's clinical and research affiliate laboratories for three to six months of specialized training.

The primary purpose of Greening's visit was to review the academic programs, offer input on the logistics, and collect feedback from instructors and students. Greening



The Saudi Arabian university felt Jefferson's college structure, as well as its policies, procedures and programs, would provide the best framework on which to model their new college.

was impressed by the will and perseverance of the university's administration and faculty. "They went from nothing to a college with functioning programs very quickly," Greening says. "Everyone I met was very committed, professional and technically proficient. The instructors are all full-time lab employees — most were the directors or supervisors of their labs, so their teaching responsibilities were in addition to their regular work.

"One thing that is lacking from KAU's program is outcome data, which is required for accreditation. The program directors are now planning an evaluation process that will demonstrate their educational outcomes," explains Greening. "This includes student course assessments, and preparing and encouraging students to sit for and pass

Left: Greening displays a traditional Bedouin-style necklace presented to her after a lecture at KAU in Saudi Arabia.



“Just imagine if Jefferson had two medical colleges, two health professions colleges, two graduate schools, separate hospital floors, cafeterias, waiting rooms for males and females...”



certification exams.” This was the second reason for her visit to Saudi Arabia. As a representative of the American Society for Clinical Pathology’s (ASCP) Globalization Committee, Greening evaluated whether KAU was prepared to offer new international certification exams that have been developed by the ASCP. ASCP certification is viewed worldwide as the premier credential for laboratory technologists and scientists, so KAU’s program graduates and laboratory workers are required to pass the new ASCP exams. She found a strong infrastructure and plenty of potential exam takers. Once the paperwork is complete, KAU will likely be approved to offer these exams. She found the same interest and capacity for these exams in her visit to the University of Sharjah, just “down the road” from Dubai in the United Arab Emirates.

Greening’s final task was to monitor the international cytotechnologist and cytopa-

thologist exams offered for the first time in Saudi Arabia by the International Academy of Cytology (IAC). Happily, Greening has just received word that the cytotechnology students from the first-year group and the cytopathologists all passed their exams. IAC may begin to offer this exam annually in Riyadh.

Although Greening says she was prepared for cultural differences during her trip such as wearing an abaya or loose gown, to cover herself and not being permitted to drive because she is a woman, she did not expect the extent to which men and women were separated. “I visited a transfusion medicine center, and there were separate donor rooms for males and females,” she said. At KAU and during her visit to the University of Sharjah, she was surprised that both institutions had two campuses with “the exact same buildings in mirror images, because in these countries it is typical that they cannot educate males and females in the same room. Just imagine if Jefferson had two medical colleges, two health professions colleges, two graduate schools, separate hospital floors, cafeterias, waiting rooms for males and females...”

They may be educated separately, but both genders’ needs are well met at KAU, and the facilities will only improve as the university and hospital double in size over

the next five years. The university plans to start other health profession programs in the future, such as radiologic sciences, occupational therapy and physical therapy. As these programs develop, KAU is very hopeful that JCHP will continue to be an active partner in their development.



Jefferson bioscience students have also benefited from Greening’s efforts in Riyadh. Monies generated under the MOU have provided scholarships, loans and graduate teaching assistantships for students in the department’s biotechnology, cytotechnology and medical technology programs—and will continue to do so.

Photos, top left: Kingdom Centre, Riyadh’s most famous and tallest skyscraper.

Above: A female student works in a lab at KAU.

In this seat
sits the **future**
of **clinical**
care.

A gift to name a seat in the Dorrance H. Hamilton Building's **Connelly Auditorium** supports the nation's future physicians, nurses, scientists, and healthcare professionals. Honor a loved one, friend or revered professor with a gift of \$10,000 for a seat in the first three rows or a contribution of \$3,000 for a seat in the remaining rows.

**Contact Fritz Ruccius at 215-955-8733
or frederick.ruccius@jefferson.edu.**





msforn Trans

Radiologic Sciences students, Modesty Orfetel and Ryan Hofmann, study using the 3-D Visual Dissector.

With the opening of the Dorrance H. Hamilton Building, innovation and technology are the main players in Jefferson's efforts to transform the future of healthcare education.

Creating a Technology Hub

Several innovations make the new building Jefferson's technology hub. An abundance of space provides opportunity for inter-professional simulations involving Jefferson College of Health Professions and Jefferson Medical College students. Standardized patient interactions and medical simulations can be projected in a large auditorium and recorded onto DVDs for student debriefing. Sophisticated software allows students to analyze data and evaluate their interactions with patients. Lectures can be broadcast at Jefferson's affiliates and clinical sites through teleconferencing capabilities.

"Technology in the new Hamilton Building is extremely advanced," says Katherine Berg, MD, co-director of the Rector Clinical Skills Center. "So much of classroom instruction is in a centralized place yet students are scattered all over the country. The Hamilton Building's teleconferencing and recordable simulation capabilities make interactive distance learning possible."

Jefferson recently acquired iStan, a patient simulator, making it one of the few universities in the world with this cutting-edge technology. Designed by Medical Education Technologies, Inc. (METI®), iStan is the first patient simulator based around a human-like, skeletal structure — it was, in fact, modeled from the cast of a real person. iStan closely mimics the anatomical workings of the human body, and the skin acts, looks and feels real. "The nurse anesthesia program will be utilizing iStan on a full-time basis, in simulation labs and classroom instruction, working alongside the hospital's anesthesia residents," says Julia Feliciano, CRNA, MSN, instructor and director of the certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA) program.

The software program, 3D Human Visual Dissector, is used in conjunction with two-dimensional anatomy software and cadaver labs to give students a global view and deeper understanding of the human anatomy. With the software, students can manipulate anatomic structures, such as the heart, by adding and removing layers, rotating it 360 degrees, and reducing it to its most basic components. Physicians and medical students as well as physical therapy and radiologic sciences students use the software. "The 3D Human Visual Dissector has revolutionized our radiologic sciences classes," says Caroline Golab, PhD, chair of the department of general studies. "The program allows students to compare basic MR and CT scans with three-dimensional cross

forming

Healthcare Education

sections. They see the body as a complete, holistic system rather than independent parts. Our students are better technicians because of it.”

In addition to using 3D imaging and teleconferencing, the departments of occupational therapy and physical therapy use virtual reality systems in classroom and clinical instruction. The V-Tree system, which is also used in major hospitals such as The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia and Magee Rehabilitation, and the Philadelphia School District, uses gaming as a therapeutic tool. Users engage in practical, life-experience scenarios, such as sorting laundry and operating a washing machine.

Although business professionals were the first to implement hand-held PDAs, the healthcare community has adopted the technology. Jefferson School of Nursing now requires all students to use PDAs in class and clinical settings. They also purchased reference text software and a wireless connection to selected journals. When FACT students were given an option of using a PDA or standard textbooks, “all but four out of 83 FACT students chose to use the PDA,” says Sharon Wallace, RN, MSN, assistant dean and instructor. Wallace and Karen Papastrat, RN, MSN, assistant dean and instructor, spearheaded JCHP’s PDA

project and have presented the new technology at several national and international conferences. The nursing faculty is integrating use of PDAs into the curriculum of all programs. “Our goal is to graduate nurses who are technically literate since the benefits of information technology are numerous, including error reduction, which is a national goal in healthcare,” continues Wallace.

New technology has affected the way Jefferson students attend class as well. Many of the college’s programs are now offered partially or completely online, including the doctor of occupational therapy (OTD), doctor of nursing practice (DNP), master of science in radiologic and imaging sciences, and RN-BSN programs. Designed for working professionals, these programs offer coursework and lectures online, with students visiting campus a few times per semester. With this hybrid format, health professionals across the nation can pursue a Jefferson degree while maintaining their professional careers.

Patients Teaching Students

In fall 2007, Jefferson Center for Interprofessional Education (JCIPE) launched an interdisciplinary, community-based curriculum called the JEFF Health Mentors



Program. In the program, volunteer Health Mentors living with one or more chronic conditions such as asthma, heart disease, diabetes or multiple sclerosis are paired with a team of three to four first-year students in nursing, occupational therapy, physical therapy and medicine. Pharmacy and public health students will join the teams in fall 2008.

Health Mentors commit to meeting with student teams four times a year for two years. Each visit has a different theme, ranging from obtaining the mentor’s health history to exploring the barriers the mentor may have encountered with insurance and other healthcare systems.

Each visit entails an interactive dialogue between the mentor and the interdisciplinary student team. The students gain insight from their mentor as well as their peers. “For example, while taking the mentor’s health history, the students recognize that each discipline asks the patient similar questions but from different angles,” explains Reena Antony, education programs administrator for JCIPE and course coordinator for the program. “The current health outcomes are poor and can be avoided,” she continues. “We need health professionals to foster a collaborative practice as interprofessional



“Technology in the new Hamilton Building is extremely advanced.”

Left: Faculty member Hector Lopez, MD, uses the Symposium during class.

Above: JCIPE faculty advisors: Stephen Kern, MS, OTR/L, PhDc (JCHP department of occupational therapy), Christine Arenson, MD (JMC department of community and family medicine, division of geriatric medicine), Leigh Ann Hewston, PT, MED (JCHP department of physical therapy), Cecilia Borden, EdD, MSN, RN (JCHP School of Nursing), Lauren Collins, MD (JMC department of community and family medicine, division of geriatric medicine).



What students are saying about the **Hamilton Building...**

“Our mentor taught each one of us how important our future profession was in her ongoing treatment. We should all realize that interdisciplinary healthcare is vital to our patients.”

teams in relation to caring for the consumer and their families.” Students are learning how to do just that in this program.

Health Mentors range in age from 33 to 96 years old and are recruited through senior centers, retirement communities, community-based organizations and Jefferson outpatient practices. “The Health Mentors are doing the program to make a difference in the healthcare world,” explains Antony. “They want to help our future health practitioners to become better leaders and high-functioning teams in relation to consumer healthcare.”

After each visit, students complete an assignment and debrief with faculty either in a small group session or class to share their experiences. Initial feedback is positive. “The reflection papers students wrote after the first visit showed that they were pleasantly surprised that their mentors were active and healthy, and for many their chronic conditions were not impeding their lifestyles,” Antony shares. In addition to building communication skills on the healthcare team, students are learning about the illnesses their patients live with, as well as how to interact with patients.



“When I first walked in, I was amazed at the aesthetics of the building. The tall ceilings make the space open and airy, and the natural browns and slates are very inviting. It’s nice to have natural light.”

— Christina Subers, OT student

“The building is beautiful! I especially like the coffee bar setting where I can plug in my laptop and take advantage of the wireless internet access. I can’t wait until spring when we can work outside on the plaza.”

— Arnie Colon, first-year nurse anesthesia student



“Our lectures used to be in Alumni Hall, where the classrooms are really small and uncomfortable. It’s nice to have classes in Hamilton now. Connelly Auditorium is a great place to learn.”

— Paurush Shah, Vincent Casiano, and Colin Smith, second-year JMC students

Practice Makes Perfect

Six JCHP alumnae prove that practical experience pays off.

Every Jefferson College of Health Professions student is required to have hands-on practical experience. Whether it is called a clinical rotation, affiliation or fieldwork, the confidence and competence students gain are hallmarks of Jefferson graduates. Affiliations also offer students a chance to experience a variety of practice areas and establish many contacts.

“A rotation is a good way to find out what you want and what you don’t want,” says Caryn Johnson, MS, OTR/L, FAOTA, assistant professor and fieldwork coordinator in the department of occupational therapy. Johnson emphasizes to students that a fieldwork placement does not determine where a student will ultimately be hired. “With so much demand in the job market, most students get their first job in a setting where they didn’t get a fieldwork placement.”

Regardless of whether a rotation yields a job, this practical experience is an important first step for students to polish their new skills.

The skills of **Allyson Zuber Fleischman, MSPT’05**, impressed her supervisors at her final physical therapy affiliation at

Bryn Mawr Rehabilitation Hospital. “They saw how I performed, and they could tell that I knew what I was doing.” She interviewed for a job on the last day of her affiliation and accepted the position a week later. Fleischman credits Jefferson with preparing her. “We experienced rehab physical therapy at clinics and learned about neurological physical therapy at community centers. We role-played a lot and talked about various treatment options for different cases.”

Laura Chowansky, DPT’06, had a similar experience applying her education in her affiliation work. “The courses [at Jefferson] enabled me to extract general treatment principles that have assisted me in both rehab settings that I have affiliated on (NYU-Rusk Rehab and Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation in West Orange, N.J.). Also, being exposed to real patients during the courses enabled us to put our classroom knowledge into practice in a safe learning environment.”

Her education in the department of bioscience technologies helped **Lauren Brown, MS’06**, jump right into her position in the department of cytology





“My supervisors saw how I performed; they could tell I knew what I was doing. Thanks to Jefferson I was offered a job at the end of my affiliation.”

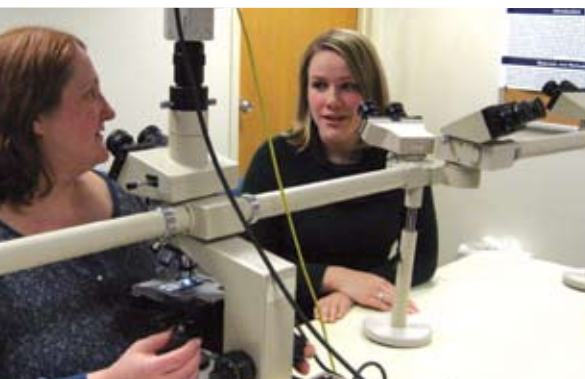
— Allyson Zuber Fleischman, MSPT’05

at Thomas Jefferson University Hospitals. “I did my rotation in April 2006, and I was offered my position in mid-May,” she says. “It was exactly what I was trained to do. Jefferson prepared me with the skills and clinical rotations to give me the ‘real-life’ work experience.”

“Employers know that Jefferson students are good students,” says Margaret E. Rinehart Ayres, PT, PhD, associate professor and director of clinical education for the department of physical therapy. She adds that it makes sense for a clinical site to hire a student who worked there because, “the student is familiar with the system. They get to have a trial period while on the affiliation.”

The “trial period” certainly helped **Linda Ferguson, MSN’05**, prove herself at Jefferson’s department of family and community medicine. “They were only interested in hiring a nurse practitioner with experience, but they reconsidered after getting to know me, my clinical skills and my willingness to learn.”

The opportunity to try a variety of practice areas is a key benefit of doing a few affiliations. “I did not know going into the



Lauren Brown, MS'06

rotation that I wanted to be a family nurse practitioner,” says Ferguson. “I started out in the oncology advanced practice nurse track, but I switched after my first rotation with family medicine.”

From the clinical supervisor’s point of view, Jefferson makes it easy to accept students. When Mary Pat Hulmes, RT(R) (MR) became the MRI manager at Abington Hospital, Jefferson was the only school with which she contracted to accept students for rotations. “We get exceptionally gifted students from Jefferson,” she says. “The school does the work of finding the students and takes only the crème de la crème. It’s like a year-long interview—I get to see their work ethic and their skills.” As a result, Hulmes has offered a job to one Jefferson student each year for the past four years.

Johnson points out that it does not matter how strong the student is if there are no open positions; it may be impossible to hire them. “That’s why students should not focus on getting fieldwork experience at a place where they think they want to work,” she adds. “It speaks to the



I loved every moment of my fieldwork at duPont and made many lasting relationships that in the end helped me get a job.

— Shannon White, MSOT'06

“The practice was only interested in hiring a nurse practitioner with experience, but they reconsidered after getting to know me, my clinical skills, and my willingness to learn.”

— Linda Ferguson, MSN’05

importance of networking,” she says. “You should use the time as an opportunity to network, making contacts at the fieldwork location, interviews, job fairs and various organization meetings.”

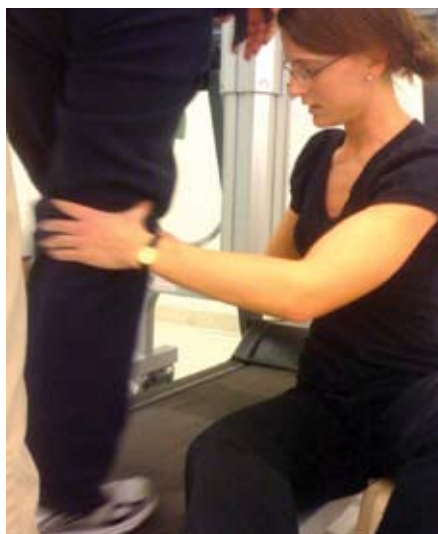
Networking and maintaining contacts helped **Shannon White, MSOT’06**, get her position at Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children. After completing fieldwork there in April 2006, she stayed in touch in the hopes of getting a job. But duPont was not hiring, so she took a position elsewhere in January 2007. A few months later, duPont asked her to interview for a new position and offered it to her the next day. “I feel it was definitely to my benefit to have had fieldwork prior to the interview. I loved every minute of my fieldwork at duPont and made many lasting relationships that in the end helped me get the job.”

The value of a Jefferson degree often opens doors before students are ready to knock. Nine months before she would finish her multicompetency program in radiography and nuclear medicine, **Christine Warner, RS’03**, applied to work

as an x-ray student technician at Frankford Hospital. When the employer saw that she was a Jefferson student working toward a nuclear medicine degree, she was offered a job in that department, with a sign-on bonus. “I was apprehensive because I wasn’t even halfway finished my nuclear medicine program,” admits Warner. She accepted the job, and then arranged to do



her clinical there. She believes the strict schedule of the rotation helped her prepare for the job. “You get in a routine. When you start out, they teach you what you need to do, and then you do it every day. When I started working, it was great—I was finally getting paid to do the work I’d been doing for eight months.”



“Being exposed to real patients during the courses enabled us to put our classroom knowledge into practice in a safe learning environment.”

— Laura Chowansky, DPT’06



GLOBAL CONNECTIONS

T a k i n g t h e P u l s e W o r l d w i d e



Students Address Rwandan Crisis

Can artwork heal the pain of genocide? Can a group of young American medical and allied health students make a difference in a war-torn African country? Can one person's simple contribution change the life of a stranger?

The Rwanda Health and Healing Project spearheaded by James Plumb, MD'74, MPH, clinical associate professor and director of Jefferson's department of family and community medicine, along with a philanthropic group of Jefferson Medical College students, was created to answer these questions.

In 1994 the mass killing of hundreds of thousands of ethnic Tutsis and moderate Hutu sympathizers in Rwanda was the largest atrocity during the four-year Rwandan Civil War. During that time, many were infected with AIDS, which was used as a weapon of war, and others were left with debilitating deformities. Rwanda was left in ruin, with thousands of orphans living in extreme poverty. The Rugarero Survivors Village in Northwestern Rwanda was built as a safe haven and temporary home for

the thousands of Rwandans who had fled to the Congo.

In October 2005, Jefferson faculty and medical students, as an extension of Jeff HEALTH (Helping Africans Link to Health), began working with Barefoot Artists, a philanthropic organization that seeks to "bring the transformative power of art to impoverished communities around the world." The team designed a community-oriented, primary care health needs assessment of the Rugarero Survivors Village and integrated basic public health principles into Barefoot Artists' holistic philosophy of healing and community.

In the summer of 2006, Jefferson's first "Rwanda Squad," comprised of two faculty members, three medical students, and one public health nursing student, journeyed to the Rugarero Survivors Village and began a community health assessment. They had three goals: to document the needs of community members; to evaluate the health resources currently available; and to better understand the community's health needs in the context of the unique social and political history of Rwanda. To achieve these goals, the Rwanda Squad developed

With Jefferson's plan for interdisciplinary education well underway, students and faculty focus on the future of international healthcare.



Left: James Plumb, MD'74, MPH, with Barefoot Artists.

Above: Rwandan children perform in the Rugerero Survivors Village.

Right: Modesty Orfetel presents Plumb and Rwanda Squad III with a check.

a health and hygiene “train-the-trainer” program, which included an environmental walk, disease transmission prevention training and a health fair.

“One of our family medicine faculty members just sat and listened to the Rwandan people talk about their lives. Listening, understanding, creating friendships — these are the treasured opportunities we had in Rwanda,” explains Plumb.

Rwanda Squad II, a group of seven second-year medical students, started meeting in the fall of 2006 to plan for the following summer, with the goal of developing an ongoing presence in the commu-

nity. Using the United Nation’s Millennium Development Goals as a foundation, the team journeyed to Rwanda in the summer of 2007 to complete a nutritional assessment of the village and provide HIV/AIDS education. They also connected the village to local medical students as part of the Rwanda Village Concept Project, which aims to improve the living standards in the community by using simple, low-cost methods and to develop the capabilities of students in participatory development work.

Future project goals include improvements to the village’s clean water supply, malaria prevention, a nutrition plan and continued HIV/AIDS education.

The Jefferson medical students have also instituted an exchange with their counterparts. Rwandan medical students receive additional training in the United States, while Jefferson students participate in clini-

Through the fundraising efforts of students, staff and faculty, the department of radiologic sciences raised \$2,300 to support the Rwanda Health and Healing Project.



cal clerkships in the National University of Rwanda’s Medical School in Butare, Rwanda. Three Rwandan students arrived on campus in December 2007 to study with Jefferson medical students.

Frances Gilman, MS, RT (R)(CT) (MR)(CV), assistant professor and chair of the department of radiologic sciences, first heard about the Rwanda Health and Healing Project during a diversity panel meeting and brought it to the attention of her department. The students, faculty and staff loved the idea and immediately organized a bake sale to raise funds, awareness and support for the project.

“Radiologic sciences students cannot go out and serve like nurses, OTs, and PTs can,” explains Gilman. “Our department wanted to find a way to be involved in the community.”

Through the fund-raising efforts of students, staff and faculty, the department of radiologic sciences raised \$2,300 to support the project. Modesty Orfetel, a second-year radiologic sciences student and president of the Lambda Nu Honor Society, presented Plumb and the JMC students with a check on November 12, 2007.

“It was a truly collaborative project,” Sue Schaffling, radiologic sciences education coordinator, proudly recalls. “Everyone in



the department helped, whether they were baking cookies or running the sale.”

The department of radiologic sciences plans to repeat its efforts, getting all of the college’s disciplines involved in the next fundraiser. The School of Nursing has already expressed interest in participating in the project, which they discovered through the outreach and fundraising done by the department of radiologic sciences.

If you are interested in contributing to the Rwanda Health and Healing Project, please contact Plumb at james.plumb@jefferson.edu.

Study Abroad

Global healthcare issues, like the SARS and AIDS epidemics, have become headline news resulting in an urgent need for internationally prepared healthcare leaders. Global outreach has long been a hallmark of healthcare education at Jefferson, with students and faculty members traveling the globe, to learn from and teach their international colleagues.

During spring break, six students from the School of Health Professions visited Kitasato University in Japan. Jefferson and Kitasato have had a relationship for 15 years. This year for the first time, two students from the department of radiologic sciences participated in the exchange. They joined two occupational therapy students and two physical therapy students. Christina Truluck, PhD, CNMT, RT(N), assistant professor and program director/clinical coordinator for the nuclear medicine program in the department of radiologic sciences, accompanied the students.

The group visited clinical sites in Japan and gave a presentation about Jefferson to the Kitasato University students and

faculty. Truluck met with her Japanese colleagues to discuss opportunities for collaboration.

The exchange was part of an interprofessional, independent study. Students gave presentations at Jefferson and Kitasato, corresponded with their Japanese colleagues and, while in Japan, communicated with Jefferson student alternates and faculty members who did not travel. Susan Toth-Cohen, PhD, OTR/L, associate professor and director of the occupational therapy doctoral program, and Maggie Rinehart Ayres, PhD, PT, associate professor and director of clinical education in the department of physical therapy, also coordinated the course.

Jefferson is truly a global healthcare university with many students studying abroad. Bioscience students Lloyd Donnelly (biotechnology) and Liwen Mai (cytotechnology) spent spring semester 2007 studying at Kitasato University. The relationship between Jefferson and Kitasato dates back to 1992 when Shirley E. Greening, MS, JD, CFIAC, chair, professor and



Above: Green Point Lighthouse in Capetown, South Africa, where OT faculty member Roseann Schaaf presented at a conference in 2007.

Right: Zenrin-mon Gate located in the Kanagawa Prefecture of Japan, home of Kitasato University.

director of the department of bioscience technologies graduate programs and programs in cytotechnology at Jefferson, and Misao Takeda, MD, formerly the medical director of the cytotechnology program and formerly a pathologist at Thomas Jefferson University Hospitals, developed a relationship with Hiroyuki Kuramoto, MD, PhD, FAIC, former chair of the department of obstetrics and gynecology and gynecologic oncology at Kitasato School of Medicine.

In June 2007, Jefferson physical therapy students Karlene Lihota and Nicole Neidig participated in a five-week research opportunity at the University Medical Center (UMC) St. Radboud in Nijmegen, Netherlands. The 10-year partnership between UMC and Jefferson began when JCHP’s former Dean Larry Abrams, Senior Associate Dean



Jefferson and Kitasato University in Japan have had a relationship for 15 years. This year, for the first time, two radiologic sciences students participated in the exchange.



Linda Kramer, and Roger M. Nelson, former chair of the physical therapy department, collaborated with Hogeschool van Arnhem en Nijmegen University to promote the exchange of students and faculty between the two colleges. In addition to studying topics ranging from facial sensibility to repetitive strain injury, Jefferson students have the opportunity to observe physical therapy practices in Holland.

Jefferson's reach also extends to Ireland, where each year a physical therapy student completes a 10-week rehabilitation affiliation at the National Rehabilitation Hospital in Dun Laoghaire.

In addition to established programs, students and faculty often organize their own international experiences. Nursing alumnus Jacob Donaldson traveled

twice to Kenya with the outreach group "Mission to the World." During his first 14-day trip, he worked in clinics in Nairobi, while the second focused on community health outreach. During his community health clinical, Donaldson hosted health education classes and treated patients at clinics and in their homes.

Jefferson faculty members are also making a positive impression around the globe. For the past 15 years, Dennis Desilvio, MSN, RN'84, a faculty member in the School of Nursing, has worked with Healthcare Ministries, a missionary group of healthcare workers who volunteer their services to help the underserved around the world. Healthcare Ministries has taken Desilvio to Africa and more recently gave him the opportunity to work in a clinic in Honduras.

Roseann Schaaf, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA, associate professor in the department of occupational therapy, presented "Sensory Integration: Updates on Theory, Research and Treatment Efficacy" at the 2007 Asia Pacific Occupational Therapy Congress, attended by over 200 therapists from Asia and Australia. During her trip, Schaaf also presented a one-day workshop on "Sensory Integration Principles for Practice" at Polytech University and met with the OT faculty at Thailand's Chiang Mai University, which will soon start an OT program in Bangkok. In September, Schaaf presented "Sensory Processing in Children with Autism: What's the brain got to do with it?" at the 16th Congress of the South African Association for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions at the University of Capetown. During her visit to South Africa, Schaaf and several OT students networked with Capetown University students and faculty, observed OT interventions in rural settings, and visited the University of Wittswaterstrand in Johannesburg.

Laura Gitlin, PhD, professor of occupational therapy and director of the Center for Applied Research on Aging and Health, spent her summer vacation lecturing at the University of Wollongong in Australia. During her stay, Gitlin met with community care providers, conducted a series of research seminars, and was interviewed on a radio show discussing dementia.

Profiles

FOR THE LOVE OF MUSIC: PAUL HOWARD, PhD, PT, OCS

“I was attracted to the cello because of its rich, deep tones and decided to take lessons nine years ago,” says **Paul Howard, PT, PhD, OCS, Cert. MDT**, associate professor of physical therapy and amateur cellist. “The role of the cello in many musical arrangements for string instruments is to provide a musical foundation and to maintain the tempo and tone for the other instruments. This somewhat parallels how I see myself in general, nothing flashy, but dependable, someone you can always count on.”



Howard fits the bill of the dependable guy who sets the foundation. His busy schedule includes teaching, maintaining a part-time physical therapy practice and following a daily physical fitness program — a mix of swimming, running, cycling and weight training. A favorite time of each day is dinner with his wife, Lisa, and daughter, Rachel. “We make an effort to stay in touch with each other’s daily activities,” says Howard.

Cello practice is also a part of his schedule most days. He credits his continued interest and improved playing ability to his teacher, Lynne Beiler. “I was very lucky to find such an accomplished teacher/performer who was willing to take on an adult beginner,” says Howard. She is a perfect match for a

student who is also a physical therapist. “She is very ergonomically aware of the musculoskeletal issues that can occur with playing the instrument. In addition to her technical instruction on the techniques to bring out the beautiful sounds of the cello, she is equally concerned and instructive in ways to maintain symptom-free playing.”

Last year Howard started playing with the Jefferson Chamber Orchestra that was organized by another Jefferson faculty member, Bruce Fenderson, PhD, professor in Jefferson’s department of pathology, anatomy and cell biology. The group plays at many Jefferson social functions. Howard has also played with an adult string ensemble in Cherry Hill, N.J., and says he would like to audition for the South Jersey Philharmonic in a few years. “It would be a great thrill to play with a full orchestra.”

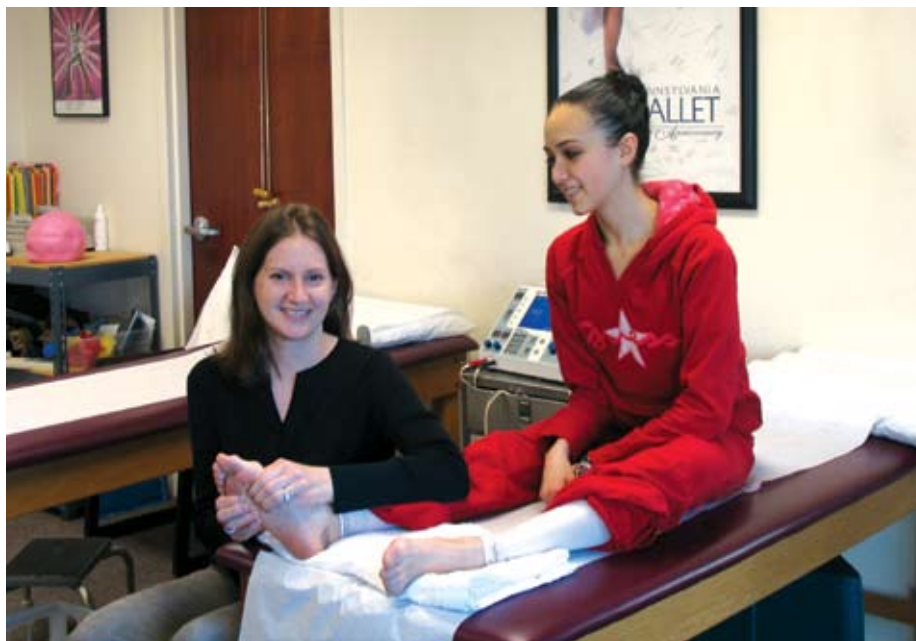
His connection to and enjoyment of students, a major reason he is still a teacher, came as a surprise. “I came to Jefferson in August 1991, with a small cactus I placed on my bookshelf and a little green plant I sat in the corner for what I thought would be ‘an interlude.’” He did not think either plant would have grown much by the time he was ready to leave academia and return to full-time clinical practice, but he soon realized he enjoyed the student interactions and the continued study he had to do to keep up with them. Years later, the green plant in the corner reaches out to his desk and grazes students’ arms as they sit in the chair next to it in his office; the cactus has tripled in size.

Howard likes knowing that teaching has an influence beyond his student interaction. “I asked myself, ‘How many patients can I personally touch?’ A small number compared to the thousands I can touch indirectly through my students.”

Students admire Howard as much as he enjoys them. In 1998 JCHP students selected him for the Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching. He was excited to receive this award. In 2006 Jefferson Medical College students named him the guest of honor at the annual Black and Blue Ball for his role in JMC’s Human Form and Development Course. “It was great to be

“I tell my students, ‘If you are reaching for everything life has to offer, there is never a dull moment.’”





FOR THE LOVE OF DANCE: JULIE GREEN, MSPT'97

recognized by the students for something I pour my heart into every day. I'm thrilled to now be contributing not only to the education of future physical therapists, but also future physicians," he says.

Howard's favorite day of teaching is on Fridays. "Not because it's the end of the week," he explains, "but because it's musculoskeletal day. Since I've been at Jefferson I've always taught the musculoskeletal labs on Fridays. I always enjoy the lab portion of courses because that is where I really get to interact with the students on a one-to-one basis."

Before studying physical therapy, Howard earned a bachelor's degree in psychology. "Those years were well spent, preparing me for my roles as clinician, educator and student adviser," he says. "I always tell students that you really have to connect with patients and develop a rapport with them. In addition to being an expert in the technical aspects of your profession, it's the rapport and trust you build with your patients that will make you an effective clinician."

Lifelong learning extends beyond cello lessons for Howard; he attends several continuing education courses each year. One of the extra joys of taking the courses is running into former students. "They are often shocked to see me. They think, 'You're the teacher, why are you here?' Hopefully I'm modeling the continued study it takes to stay current in the field." At conferences and professional meetings, he gets great satisfaction in seeing former students receive advanced certification in different specialties and take on leadership roles. Many former students stay in touch. Howard receives regular e-mails and phone calls from graduates who ask career path questions, seek input on CE courses, consult about their own or a family member's health issue, or just keep in touch.

Howard says, "Life is a tremendous ride, but is a huge and constant balancing act between family, academics, clinical practice, and hobbies. I advise my students to learn the skills of time management now. Because if you are reaching for everything life has to offer there is never a dull moment."

A serious back injury forced **Julie (Greenwood) Green, MSPT'97**, to drop out of the Pennsylvania Ballet and give up her first love, dance. A classically trained ballerina, Green found herself without a place to channel her energy and dedication to the art.

She missed dance for a number of reasons: the adrenaline rush of performing and the fulfillment of her artistic side. However, Green found herself wondering what else sparked her love affair of dance. The grace and beauty of the human form intrigued her, and anatomy was so interesting. Pursuing her physical therapy degree at Jefferson was the creative outlet she was seeking.

"I missed dance when I was away," admits Green. "Physical therapy allows me

to do what I love the most. It gives me the opportunity to help dancers in their most distressing moments."

Green went back to the Pennsylvania Ballet in 2002—this time as a physical therapist for the 42 dancers in the company. In addition to working with injured ballet dancers, she also provides physical therapy for dance students at the University of the Arts and the Rock School for Dance Education.

"The dancers really appreciate having a former dancer as their therapist," says Green. "One of the most rewarding aspects for me is to develop relationships with my patients, to share in their successes. I still get excited during performances; I still feel that rush."

Save the Date!

Jefferson School of Nursing Alumni Celebration

Sunday, October 26, 2008

2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Dorrance H. Hamilton Building
11th and Locust Streets
Philadelphia

Join us for an afternoon featuring a reception, keynote speaker, tours and dinner.

An invitation will be mailed to Jefferson nursing alumni in the summer.

At this year's celebration, we would like to highlight nursing alumni accomplishments. Please e-mail Melissa Chirinos, associate director of JCHP Alumni Relations, melissa.chirinos@jefferson.edu, to let us know what you have been doing since you left Jefferson.

OnCampus



Biswas-Fiss

BIOSCIENCE TECHNOLOGIES

Awards

Esther E. Biswas-Fiss, PhD, associate professor in the department of bioscience technologies and director of research programs and the biotechnology program, received the Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching at the 2007 JCHP Awards Ceremony in June.

Biswas-Fiss is also in the news for receiving a two-year renewal of her grant, "Biomolecular Analysis of Proteins in Visual Diseases," from the National Eye Institute of the National Institutes of Health in the amount of \$232,500. This grant was initially awarded to Biswas-Fiss on July 1, 2000, to investigate the molecular basis of age-related macular degeneration (ARMD) and Stargardt disease by biochemical analysis of genetic mutations in the retinal ABC transporter gene in patients with visual diseases. Biswas-Fiss also received a one-year, \$31,620 Minority Access to Research Career (MARC) fellowship award for Maimouna Bah, a master's biotechnology student, which will allow her to conduct research with Biswas-Fiss in identifying proteins that work in conjunction with ABCR in the human retina.

Student Achievement

Justin Lin, a bachelor's student in the biotechnology program, participated in the 2008 Gordon Research Conference on Prolactin and Growth Hormone Family. He was first author on a poster titled, "Analysis of Breast Cancer by CEMA Arrays." Lin conducted the research as a work-study and volunteer trainee in the lab of **Hallgeir Rui, MD, PhD**, at Jefferson's Kimmel Cancer Center.

CARAH

Partnership Wins Prestigious Award

CARAH, together with Fox Rehabilitation, a physical and occupational therapy practice specializing in geriatric home care, is one of five national recipients of the Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregiving (RCI) Johnson & Johnson Award. The award is presented to innovative research and practitioner partnerships that implement evidence-based programs to enhance the well-being of family caregivers of individuals with Alzheimer's disease or related disorders. The grant will allow CARAH to translate its tested caregiver intervention programs for use by Fox Rehabilitation clinicians, who will be trained to assess the needs and concerns of family caregivers then teach them specific skills to manage daily challenges in order to reduce caregiver stress and improve the well-being of the patient.

Home Environmental Skill-building Program

The New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) has received an 18-month demonstration project from the Administration on Aging to partner with CARAH to develop a practical application of the Home Environmental Skill-building Program (ESP) for dementia caregivers, which will be replicated nationwide.

Gitlin Participates in National Group on Alzheimer's

Laura Gitlin, PhD, director of CARAH, has been invited to participate in the Alzheimer's Study Group (ASG), co-chaired by Newt

Gingrich and Bob Kerrey. The ASG's mission is "to develop a high-level, national strategic plan for Alzheimer's disease to improve care today and speed the development of more effective treatments for tomorrow." As a member of the group, Gitlin will collaborate mostly online with about 500 other experts. The first task is to review and contribute to an assessment of the nation's battle against Alzheimer's disease.

COUPLE AND FAMILY THERAPY

Master's Program Launched

The department of couple and family therapy launched its master's in family therapy program in fall 2007, enrolling nine full-time students. As a complement to classroom instruction, students participated in a full-day Sexual Attitude Reassessment (SAR) led by faculty members **Christopher Fariello, PhD**, and **Michelle Marsh, PhD**. SAR is a process-oriented, structured group experience, which promotes participants' awareness of the attitudes and values related to sexuality, with the objective to explore how these feelings, values and beliefs influence them professionally and personally.

Symposium Presentation

Couple and family therapy faculty and students have excelled both scholastically and professionally in the field. Faculty member, **Michael Bridges, PhD**, and four students presented a symposium titled, "The Crying Body: Deciphering the Language of Tears in Psychotherapy" at the 2008 Society for Exploration of Psychotherapy Integration Conference. Bridges also presented a pre-conference workshop on somatic approaches to psychotherapy.

Faculty Accolade

Faculty member, **Uri Weinblatt, PhD**, was the senior author of "Nonviolent Resistance: A Treatment for Parents of Children with Acute Behavior Problems," published in the January 2008 "Journal of Marital and Family Therapy." The article evaluates non-violent resistance as a way for parents to deal with children with serious behavior problems.



The Couple and Family Therapy program.



Loveless

GENERAL STUDIES

English as a Second Language Program

The general studies department celebrated a successful first semester of the new English as a Second Language (ESL) program. The program had a higher than expected response, mostly from JMC and JCGS post-docs, and the classes were notably successful. In addition to fulfilling an academic need for students by improving their oral and written English skills, the classes also fulfilled a social need for them; they enjoyed meeting people and having fun while learning.

NURSING

JSN Sponsors Lecture Series

This spring Jefferson's School of Nursing (JSN) sponsored "International Nursing in a Global Healthcare Society," a lecture series addressing concepts related to autonomy, acculturation, assimilation, gender roles, ethnic communication styles and healthcare

practices of Peru, Indonesia and Africa. The first lecture, "Successes and Challenges of Working with ESL Students," was presented by **Lyn Buchheit, MEd, RN**, consultant for the JSN grant titled, "English as a Second Language Project: Enhancing Student Learning for ESL Nursing Students." Other lecture topics included nursing in Peru and Indonesia.

Student News

Dana Menkin, a family nurse practitioner student, gave a presentation, "Insights from Working the Streets with the HIV Harm Reduction Coalition" at the Drexel Women's Health Conference on February 21, 2008, in Atlantic City, N.J.

Andrew Storer, a DNP student, presented at the Emergency Nurses Association Leadership and Management Conference in Honolulu, HI, with **Linda Davis-Moon, MSN, CRNP**, on February 28 and March 1, 2008. The presentations were: "A Survey of Emergency Department 'Fast Track' Characteristics"

and "A Survey of Emergency Department Nurse Practitioner Programs."

Thirty-seven international students attended Project CONSULLT (Consortium Offering Nursing Students Useful Learning/ Language Techniques), part of Project ESL: Enhancing Student Learning for ESL Nursing Students. JSN students hosted the event together with their grant partners, LaSalle University and Holy Family University.

Faculty Notes

Mary Antonucci, MSN, RN, CNE, instructor, received her Certified Nurse Educator (CNE) certificate.

Patricia Hentz, EdD, CS, PMH, NP-BC, has been named the associate dean of the undergraduate nursing programs at JSN. Hentz received her BSN from William Patterson College, MSN at University of Pennsylvania, and her doctorate from Teachers College, Columbia University. With over 25 years of teaching and administrative experience as a psychiatric clinical specialist/nurse practitioner, Hentz has presented her research and theory development nationally and internationally in the areas of ethical decision making and body memory.

Thomas J. Loveless, BSN/MSN'02, RN, CRNP, instructor and coordinator of the nursing learning laboratory, was named associate director of university simulation in December 2007. Loveless is also co-chair of the University Simulation Committee.

Karen Papastrat, MSN, RN, assistant dean and instructor and **Sharon Wallace, MSN, RN**, assistant dean and instructor, are principal investigators for "Initiative

Faculty Research Day

JCHP's Center for Faculty Development and Center for Collaborative Research co-hosted the seventh annual Faculty Research Day on January 10. This year's theme was "Ethics in Research: Not an Oxymoron." Nationally acclaimed speaker John Fielder, PhD, gave a keynote lecture, "Don't Worry. This Won't Hurt..." Fielder, professor emeritus at Villanova University and associate editor of *IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology*, is known for his work on ethical and policy issues in the fields of engineering, medicine and technology. The day also featured Connie Ulrich, PhD, RN, assistant professor of bioethics, University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing, who presented a two-part ethics in research workshop: "Research Ethics: Why are we concerned about human subjects?" and "Scientific Integrity: What seems to be the problem in academia?" Ulrich's dissertation led to the development and testing of a conceptual model for use in bioethics research.



John Fielder, PhD, Keynote Speaker

for Nursing Success,” a Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Workforce Grant for 2007-2008. The project was awarded \$88,200 in September 2007. Three faculty members, **Miriam Bermudez, MSN, RN**, **Mary Antonucci, MSN, RN, CNE**, and **Lyn Buchheit, MS Ed, RN**, will collaborate with student-teaching assistants to provide peer guidance support.

Elizabeth Speakman, EdD, RN, CNE, ANEF, associate professor and assistant dean of RN to BSN programs, was elected to a three-year term on the board of governors of the National League for Nursing in September 2007. In that same month, Speakman was inducted as a fellow into the Academy of Nursing Education.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Day on the Hill

Each year the department of occupational therapy sends third-year BS/MS students to Capitol Hill to advocate for occupational therapy funding. This year, recent graduates who participated in last year’s event are mentoring participants as part of a clinical leadership course.

PHARMACY

Accreditation Report

Jefferson School of Pharmacy was awarded pre-candidate accreditation status during the January 2008 meeting of



Speakman



OT Day on the Hill 2007

the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) Board of Directors. Updated information regarding the JSP accreditation status and its interpretation can be found at <http://www.jefferson.edu/jchp/pharmacy/AccreditationDisclosure.cfm>.

Administrators Named

Jefferson School of Pharmacy welcomes **Gerald Meyer, PharmD, MBA, FASHP**, and **Ashiwel S. Undieh, PhD**, as its newest administrators.

In his new position as director of experiential education, Meyer is responsible for the development, oversight and quality assurance of the experiential component of the curriculum. He will continue to serve as the director of resident training at Thomas Jefferson University Hospitals, a position he has held for 32 years. In this position, Meyer ensures residencies within the department

of pharmacy maintain accreditation status; provides guidance in the development of new residency programs; and oversees the recruitment, selection, training and placement of residents. He also chairs the department’s Resident Advisory Committee and ensures the availability of adequate training sites with qualified preceptors.

Among Undieh’s responsibilities as chair of the department of pharmaceutical sciences are recruitment and oversight of medicinal chemistry, pharmaceuticals and pharmacology faculty for JSP; oversight of the basic and pharmaceutical sciences components of the curriculum; and development of a collaborative research program with other academic departments throughout Jefferson. Prior to joining Jefferson, Undieh served as associate professor of neurosciences and pharmacology at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy.



OT students gather around a real human brain at Brain Awareness Week.

OT Students Celebrate Brain Awareness Week

To commemorate Brain Awareness Week, March 10-16, the Philadelphia area chapter of the Society for Neuroscience hosted researchers and students from Philadelphia’s major health institutions, including Jefferson, Temple University, and the University of Pennsylvania. The event took place at the Franklin Institute. Jefferson was the only university that had occupational therapy students participate.

“Brain Awareness Week is a time when we cater to all types of learners and provide cross-generational learning,” said faculty member **Audrey Zapletal, MS, OTR/L**.

Twelve occupational therapy students developed activities for Brain Awareness Week participants, who ranged in age from 4 to 88. The activities, which explained how the brain and nervous system work, included a “tactile station,” where participants closed their eyes and used their senses to discover what was in a box; a zoom ball game, which encouraged kids to use the tension in their muscles to sense when the ball is coming and leaving; and a station where participants could color a map of the brain onto a swim cap.



Meyer



Undieh



Barr

PHYSICAL THERAPY

New Chair of Physical Therapy

As the new chair of the department of physical therapy, **Ann E. Barr, PhD, DPT**, looks forward to giving back to her profession. “My college mentor helped me to decide to go into physical therapy,” recalls Barr, who has been a physical therapist since 1987. “I want to turn around and do the same. As chair I hope to mentor junior faculty and students into the profession.”

Two things convinced her to enter her profession: the need for clinical and applied research in the field and the close interaction with patients. “There has always been a research component to my work, and spending time with patients is important,” says Barr.

“Ann Barr brings a wealth of research and academic experience to Jefferson,” says **Janice P. Burke, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA**, dean, Jefferson School of Health Professions and chair and professor, department of occupational therapy. “Ann is a collaborator, and we look forward to the ideas and innovations that she will generate as we move forward in interprofessional research, education and service activities. Her experience and insights are wonderful additions to the school and college’s academic and management teams.”

During her 11 years at Temple University, Barr was involved in governance and administration: sitting on merit review, institutional research advisory, and promotion and tenure committees; co-chairing a chair search committee; and serving as an elected representa-

tive to Temple’s faculty senate and its steering committee. “As I got involved at higher levels of administration, I realized that I really enjoyed it because it enabled me to have a broader impact,” she explains. A position as chair seemed like the next step. She came to Jefferson on January 1, 2008, as chair and tenured professor.

Academic administration is a balance to Barr’s research. Since working on her dissertation, she has focused on clinical work in

“My college mentor helped me to decide to go into physical therapy. I want to do the same. As chair I hope to mentor junior faculty and students into the profession.”

orthopaedic biomechanics, specifically musculoskeletal problems as a result of physically demanding jobs and stressful work environments. It started with a study on computer operators who developed hand and wrist problems. As a result of her dissertation research, she developed and patented a new computer mouse configuration, which reduced risk factors for the users. Barr now collaborates with Mary Barbe, PhD, at Temple to study whether repetitive movement causes tissue pathophysiology and long-term disability. Using rats as an intermediate step in a translational research program from the bench to the clinical setting, Barr and Barbe simulate workplace conditions by training the rats to perform repetitive and forceful tasks, and then track the exposure-response

relationship of the tasks and tissue changes. Their findings confirm current information on common disorders like carpal tunnel syndrome and tendonitis.

In 2007, the research team found that chemical biomarkers build up in the blood of people with repetitive motion injuries based on the work in their rat model. Now they are studying the effects of interventions in preventing these disorders. Specifically, they are investigating ergonomic and pharmaceutical interventions, particularly ibuprofen. “We hope that the research will help us find more precise ways of detecting the onset of the disorder at an earlier stage,” Barr continues. “Then treatment can begin earlier, be more targeted, and contribute to a better long-term outcome.”

The pair has received funding from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS), and the Foundation for Physical Therapy. Barr continues to collaborate with Barbe, although the biomechanical and behavioral aspects of the research will

soon move to Jefferson. She hopes to find collaborators at Jefferson to translate her research into clinical populations.

During her first week as chair, she and the other faculty members from physical therapy held a faculty retreat. “We collectively aligned the department mission with that of the university and college. It includes excellent education for students, preparing them for the challenges of contemporary practice, and developing a good research infrastructure so that faculty and students can contribute to scholarship.”

RADIOLOGIC SCIENCES

Programs Receive Accreditation

The department of radiologic sciences announces the recent accreditation of two programs, MRI and nuclear medicine, in recognition for providing the scope and quality of professional preparation required in the field and exceeding the educational standards set by the review committees.

Department chair **Frances Gilman, MS, RT(R)(CT)(MR)(CV)ARRT**, received formal recognition of the accreditation from two nationally recognized accrediting agencies, the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT) and the Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology (JRCNMT). Jefferson's programs are among



Gilman



Weening



Truluck

the few radiologic sciences programs in the Northeast to hold this accreditation.

"I am very pleased to announce that both the MRI and the Nuclear Medicine programs received full initial programmatic accreditation by their respective Joint Review

Committees," says Gilman. "Congratulations to the program directors, **Richard Weening, PhD, RT(R)(CT)(MR)**, program director of CT & MRI and **Christina Truluck, PhD, CNMT, RT(N)**, program director of nuclear medicine."



OT Alumni Luncheon

The department of occupational therapy hosted the 7th annual TJU Alumni Luncheon and continuing education program at Jefferson Alumni Hall in December.

The conference, "Understanding the Aging Experience: New Directions for OT Practice," offered insight into the complex course of aging in society and demonstrated how occupational therapists can improve their services and offer greater support to older adults. Presentations from the Center for Applied Research on Aging and Health (CARAH) included "Making Decisions About End-of-Life Treatments," "Health Disparities and Preferred Treatment Approaches Among Older African Americans," and "The Role of Occupational Therapy in Reducing the Effects of Late Life Disability: Promising Findings from Project ABLE."



Meet JCHP's Alumni Board of Directors



You may have wondered, “Who are the alumni on the alumni board of directors?” Here, we give an opportunity to share some background and hopefully spark interest in helping the alumni association or joining the board.

Tom Loveless, BSN/MSN'02, RN, CRNP, president of the board, is the director of simulation and clinical skills for the Jefferson School of Nursing and associate director of simulation at Jefferson. Loveless maintains his private clinical practice as an adult nurse practitioner caring for people living with HIV. In his practice, he integrates advanced training of Jefferson student nurse practitioners. He is working on a PhD in nursing at the University of Wisconsin.

Vice-president **Matt Finley '04 (bioscience technologies)** is a molecular biology doctoral student. He has been awarded Young Investigator Travel grants and was inducted into the Sigma Xi Research Society for his thesis work on understanding opioid regulation of HIV co-receptors involved in the HIV infection and inflammatory diseases. In the future, Finley hopes to continue research at the National Institutes of Health.

Jill Carroll '96 and '05 (bioscience technologies) past-president, worked at Jefferson for 10 years, ultimately supervising the Tay-Sachs Prevention Program and serving as a clinical instructor for the biotechnology program. For the past three years, she has been an adjunct professor in the biology department at Burlington and Camden County Colleges and Rowan University.

Stacey (DiBiao) Caviston '02 (physical therapy) events chair, earned her transitional doctorate in physical therapy and is an APTA-certified specialist in pediatrics. She works at Children's

Hospital of Philadelphia as the Acute Care Team Leader.

Sue Spadoni '04 (bioscience technologies) board secretary, works as a senior project manager for a regional utility. She holds an MBA and has taught as a computer science adjunct professor at several community colleges. Spadoni's favorite JCHP memory is participating in the student exchange program between Jefferson and Kitasato University in Japan.

John Marstrell, ASN'06, is completing the RN-BSN program at Jefferson with plans to pursue an MSN. Marstrell is also a member of the team of nurses at TJUH's Emergency Department. He is proud that he is not only an alumnus of Jefferson, but also an employee.

Joann Ludwig '67 (radiologic sciences) worked in industrial medicine as a radiologic technologist upon graduation. She now works as the district manager for the Northeast region of E.M. Adams Co., Inc. selling medical supplies to hospitals and training and supporting new employees. A board member since 1989, Ludwig was

president from 1999 to 2001. She served on the steering committee for the college's strategic plan in 2001 and received the first Distinguished Alumni Service Award in 2001. Ludwig helped establish the Jefferson Alumni Volunteer Association (JAVA).

Gina Cooke '01 and '02 (occupational therapy) completed a certificate in advanced practice in hand and upper quarter rehabilitation from Drexel University in 2007. She is completing a second term as financial officer for the Pennsylvania Occupational Therapy Association District V. She works at Magee Rehabilitation Hospital as an advanced clinician on the spinal cord injury unit.

Beverly Zimmerman '97 (laboratory sciences) came to Jefferson after 20 years in business. After pursuing a post-baccalaureate in cytogenetics, she now works as a senior cytologist, contributing to the diagnosis and treatment of cancer and other diseases. Zimmerman joined the board upon graduation and has chaired multiple committees and served as vice president and president.

Visit us on the web!

Additional information on board members can be found at <http://www.jefferson.edu/jchp>. We invite alumni to volunteer at campus events and off-campus recruiting opportunities. Contact Tom Loveless (thomas.loveless@jefferson.edu) or Matt Finley (mfinley@alum.jefferson.edu) for more information.

ClassNotes

BIOSCIENCE TECHNOLOGIES

Beverly (Werner) Volk '70 (medical technology) and her husband, **Steve (JMC'72)**, are the proud grandparents of Jacob and Sebastian. "We are positive that no one ever enjoyed being grandparents as much as we do. We hope that at least one of them heads off to Jefferson one day!"

Veena Singla '73 (cytology) worked at various hospitals then for SmithKline until she left in 1994. Singla later became involved in promoting cancer prevention by consuming more fruits and vegetables. Currently, she does public presentations and seminars on wellness and disease prevention.

NURSING

Marjorie K. Berrier '61 moved to The Villages Retirement Home in Florida in September 2007. She reports that The Villages is the largest retirement community in the United States with several golf

courses, and she has taken up golfing. She also spends her time volunteering with the American Red Cross and serves on the Disaster Assistance Team.

Nancy A. Calabrese, BSN'74, is the director of health services at St. John's College in Annapolis, Md. She and her husband, **Anthony J. Calabrese, MD (JMC'72)**, have two sons, Christopher and Michael. In July 2007, they welcomed their granddaughter, Megan. She says she is trying to slow down, but it is difficult.

JoAnne Reifsnnyder, PhD, APRN, MS'91, is division director of Health Policy and Health Services Research in the department of health policy at Jefferson Medical College. She leads a group of scientists and staff around a diverse agenda of research issues. Her expertise is palliative and end-of-life care, research, education and practice.

Marnie Heiss Buchanan, BSN '93, is a Lieutenant Commander, Nurse Corps in the U.S. Navy. She earned

a Master of Science in Nursing, Medical Surgical Clinical Nurse Specialist track through the Navy's Duty Under Instruction program at the University of Florida in December 2007. She is now stationed at Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune in North Carolina.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Brett (Lucas) Brumbaugh '02 is a research project associate at the Center for Health Policy and Research at the University of Massachusetts Medical School. This position involves being a member of the team working on the Massachusetts Medicaid Infrastructure and Comprehensive Employment Opportunities Grant, which aims to promote competitive employment for adults with disabilities in that state.

Tisha (Winslow) Miller '99 recently moved to Mexico, where she provides occupational therapy for individuals with various disabilities including cerebral palsy, Down Syndrome, mental retardation, and head injury. Miller practices OT as part of the Association Manos por la Discapacidades (AMAD), a non-profit organization for the disabled.

Anthony Quijaro '99 specializes in pediatric occupational therapy as owner of his own private practice in Hartsdale, N.Y. As an owner of Optimal Health and Development



Quijaro

Center, Quijaro works with children with fine motor delay, motor coordination difficulty, sensory integration dysfunction and autism.

PHYSICAL THERAPY

Paul Heim '87 is pleased to announce the opening of his private practice in Vineland, N.J., and Malaga, N.J. He writes, "Even more rewarding is seeing both my daughters achieving success in their college careers."

Timothy A. Fox '95, chief executive officer of Fox Rehabilitation, was appointed to the board of trustees of Thomas Jefferson University in fall 2007.

IN MEMORIAM

Maureen Brady Fox, BS'77 (nursing), passed away on September 18, 2007.

Stephanie Calafati, BS'80 (cytology), passed away on February 21, 2007.

SUBMISSIONS

Tell us your news.

Send your Class Notes to:

Editor, The Review
925 Chestnut Street, Suite 110
Philadelphia, PA 19107-4216

215-955-7920
Fax: 215-503-5084

or via our Web site at www.jefferson.edu/jchp/alumni/

PT'97 Reunion



On Saturday, January 26, 2008, 33 physical therapy alumni from the class of 1997 celebrated their 10-year reunion at Jefferson Alumni Hall. Alumni traveled from as far away as Colorado to attend the reunion, which included a cocktail and dinner reception and a slideshow of photos from when they were students.

The event was organized by class of '97 graduates Julie Green, Ken Knecht and Randi Leon. Congratulations again to the Class of '97 for reaching their 10-year milestone as physical therapist professionals!

Join us for Jefferson's Family and Friends Night!

Saturday, June 14, 2008

The JCHP Alumni Association is sponsoring a Jefferson Alumni Family and Friends Night at the Camden Riversharks at Campbell's Field, Camden, N.J.

The event will include tickets to the game, an all-you-can-eat buffet in the Picnic Pavilion, free wristbands for children under 12, admission to the adjoining Fun Zone and Carousel, and the opportunity for the kids to run the bases after the game. All for the amazing cost of \$10.00 per person. Children under five are free.

Come and enjoy the game, the food, the fun and catch-up with former classmates and faculty.

Look for invitations in the mail in May 2008. If you do not receive an invitation or have any questions, please contact events@jefferson.edu or phone Kathryn Mazzeo at 215-955-8387.



Online Community Keeps Alumni in Touch

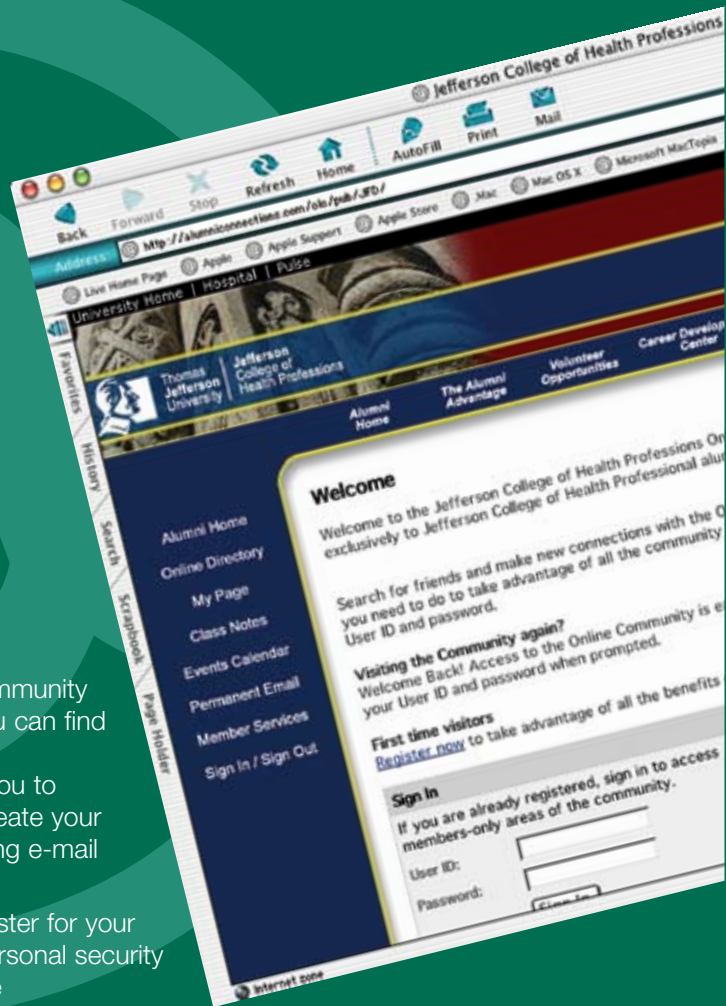
Connecting with other Jefferson Alumni has never been easier!

Jefferson College of Health Professions offers a free online alumni community service exclusively to Jefferson alumni. Using the Online Directory, you can find your old classmate or former lab partner, search for friends, or make new connections. Special My Page and Class Notes features allow you to upload a photo, share information about your family or career, and create your own web page. You can also view upcoming events or create a lifelong e-mail forwarding account.

Simply go to www.alumnicconnections.com/olc/pub/JFD and register for your free access. As part of the registration process, you will need your personal security code to verify your information. This code is located above your name on the address label of this issue. If you cannot find your security information, please e-mail alumni.support@jefferson.edu with your name and graduation year, and your security information will be sent to you.

Visit this site and register now. Please make sure you add your e-mail address to your personal information so we can stay in touch with you and keep you up-to-date with all of our services and key developments at JCHP.

The online alumni community is maintained by the Alumni Relations Office of The Jefferson Foundation.



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925 Chestnut Street, Suite 110
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