

The M. D. Anderson Connection

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Research base continues seeking community oncology partners

Just as the needs of former faculty members and trainees have evolved since their days at M. D. Anderson, the institution's community cancer research needs have changed as well. The Community Clinical Oncology Program Research Base at M. D. Anderson of five years ago is not the CCOP of today, says Michael Fisch, M.D., CCOP medical director.



Michael Fisch, M.D.,
CCOP
medical director

alumni and trainees. "You may have trained here and didn't have any lectures on survivorship," he says.

"Back then, maybe you didn't even care about that as an issue. However, I think it's important to realize that M. D. Anderson is not canonized the way you left it any more than you are. You're changing, we're changing, so keep your eye on us in order to know where your opportunities lie to interact with M. D. Anderson in collaborative ways."

30 years of outreach

The CCOP Research Base provides clinical trials to a national network of more than 20 community oncology centers.

Since the awarding of its first National Cancer Institute grant in 1987, the CCOP Research Base has managed 150 clinical trials involving more than 5,000 patients, including 2,688 patients entered into chemoprevention trials. It continues to generate and support a spectrum of clinical studies that can be implemented and conducted efficiently in a community environment.

Learn more about the CCOP Research Base at www.mdanderson.org/departments/ccop.

New times, new topics

"We've shifted our emphasis for this particular venue to cancer control research," Fisch says. "This includes areas such as survivorship research, palliative care and symptom management use of integrative medicine therapies."

Fisch says he realizes that many of these issues may not have been raised for many

Dream about the future

In addition to considering participating in the CCOP Research Base, Fisch says he would like for alumni and trainees not only to think about what's available to them now through the M. D. Anderson Alumni and Faculty Association, but also to consider what they would like to see.

For more information about the CCOP Research Base, send an e-mail to mdaccop@mdanderson.org or call 713-563-0276. For suggestions about alumni association offerings, send an e-mail to alumni@mdanderson.org or call Sharon Pepper, program manager in Trainee and Alumni Affairs, at 713-563-9194. ■



What's on your mind?

Survey coming soon

What new offerings would you like to see from M. D. Anderson's Alumni and Faculty Association? Perhaps ways to survey the membership about a particular topic? Do you wish you could subscribe to have institutional seminars streamed live? Maybe you'd like to listen to updated fellows lectures?

Start your wish list, because a membership survey will be mailed this summer. In the meantime, send your ideas to alumni@mdanderson.org, and if the demand is there, the association can address it.

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M. D. Anderson Alumni and Faculty Association information is available on the Internet: www.mdanderson.org/departments/andersonassoc

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MD ANDERSON
CANCER CENTER
Making Cancer History®

Referral assistance: helping you navigate M. D. Anderson

by Lyle Green, associate vice president for physician relations



Lyle Green

At M. D. Anderson, we value our relationship with alumni and want to make the referral process easier for those interested in accessing our comprehensive services for your patients. The Office of Physician

Relations serves as the primary liaison for community physicians. It can help you navigate the referral process.

Online referral

The best way to refer a patient is through the Web based portal myMDAnderson, which allows you to:

- Refer online by diagnosis or treatment service.
- Access your patients' appointment schedules.
- View dictated patient reports.

- Communicate via secure messaging with the Office of Physician Relations.
- Access M. D. Anderson clinical trial information.
- Update your contact information.

Future myMDAnderson enhancements include a clinical trials matching tool, allowing you to enter patient data and instantly see which clinical trials might be appropriate for your patient, and exclusive access to patient reports and test results currently not mailed to physicians. To sign up for myMDAnderson, visit <https://my.mdanderson.org>.

Delivering M. D. Anderson to your office

Our team of physician relations specialists visits referring physicians and can schedule a visit to your office.

As experienced oncology nurses, physician relations specialists are equipped to discuss clinical aspects of

your patient's care, providing personal assistance when you need it.

Your physician relations specialist can keep you up to date about:

- Special patient services.
- Clinical trials, including helping you to identify the right clinical trial for your patient.
- Continuing medical education opportunities.

In addition, with the physician relations specialist team, you can communicate your concerns and get immediate help.

Contact Physician Relations

For more information or personal assistance, or to share what's on your mind, contact Physician Relations by sending an e-mail to physicianrelations@mdanderson.org. Physician Relations is available at 713-792-2202 or 800-252-0502, or online at www.mdanderson.org/physicianrelations.

Physicians Network forms new Cancer Manager affiliation

The M. D. Anderson Physicians Network has formed an affiliation with Providence Hospital and the Cancer Center at Providence Hospital in Mobile, Ala., to enhance the level of cancer care available to patients enrolled in the program in Mobile County and surrounding counties in southwest Alabama.

Providence is one of only seven health care systems in the country and the only one in Alabama to provide services under the M. D. Anderson Cancer Manager program.

The full-service oncology disease management program is offered to area businesses for the care of their employees. It provides patients enrolled in the program with access to more than 100 detailed regimens for the diagnosis and treatment of almost every type and stage of cancer.

Our guidelines, treatments to be followed

Patients enrolled in the Cancer Manager program at Providence have access to M. D. Anderson's guidelines and treatments, in addition to review of the treatment by a Physicians Network medical director.

Enrolled patients are seen by local physicians credentialed into the Physicians Network. These physicians are trained on the use and application of the evidence-based approach to cancer care used at M. D. Anderson. If the need arises, however, for a patient to travel to Houston for care, Providence's affiliation with the Physicians Network provides support services to ease that transition:

- Scheduling of timely appointments.
- Meeting patients at M. D. Anderson and escorting them to appointments.

- A discount on lodging services in Houston.
- Personal coordination of other aspects of medical care.

Other Cancer Manager program partners are:

- Baptist Medical Center; Jackson, Miss.
- Baptist Memorial Health Care System; Memphis, Tenn.
- Christus Schumpert Health System; Shreveport, La.
- Sacred Heart Health System; Pensacola, Fla.
- Saint Francis Medical Center; Cape Girardeau, Mo.
- Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System; Spartanburg, S.C.

Paul Lauterbur to deliver Mike Hogg Award Lecture

Nobel Laureate **Paul Lauterbur, Ph.D.**, will present the 2007 Mike Hogg Award Lecture Thursday, April 5, at 4 p.m., in Hickey Auditorium at M. D. Anderson.

Lauterbur is a Center for Advanced Study professor of chemistry who holds appointments in the bioengineering program, the Center for Biophysics and Computational Biology, and the department of medical information sciences in the College of Medicine at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He also is a Distinguished University Professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine.

The award ceremony, lecture and reception are sponsored by the Mike Hogg Fund of Private Foundation Services and the M. D. Anderson Alumni and Faculty Association.

Lauterbur shared the 2003 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine with Sir Peter Mansfield of the University of Nottingham in England. The award recognized the two scientists for their seminal discoveries concerning the use of magnetic resonance to visualize different structures. These discoveries have led to the development of modern magnetic resonance imaging, MRI, which represents a breakthrough in medical diagnostics and research.

Trainee Recognition Day planned May 25

Mark your calendars for Friday, May 25, 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m., in Hickey Auditorium at M. D. Anderson when M. D. Anderson will recognize and exhibit the excellent research of its educational trainees during the annual Trainee Recognition Day and Research Exposition.

Sponsored by the M. D. Anderson Alumni and Faculty Association, the competition will feature platform presentations, a poster session and a dessert reception.

Cash awards will be presented in basic science research and

translational research for graduate research assistants, and in basic science research, clinical/translational research and patient-oriented research for fellows.

Although they won't compete for awards, undergraduate students from the M. D. Anderson School of Health Sciences will participate in an exhibition of their work as well. For more information, call Sharon Pepper, program manager in Trainee and Alumni Affairs, at 713-563-9194.

Association to host AACR reception in Los Angeles

The M. D. Anderson Alumni and Faculty Association will host a reception Monday, April 16, 6:30–8:30 p.m., at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel and Suites, for M. D. Anderson faculty, trainees, alumni, and friends during the American Association for Cancer Research meeting in Los Angeles.

AACR is the oldest and largest scientific organization in the world focused on high-quality, innovative cancer research. Its reputation for scientific breadth and excellence attracts the premier researchers in the field. The programs and services of AACR foster the exchange of knowledge and new ideas among scientists dedicated to cancer research, provide training opportunities for the next generation of cancer researchers, and increase public understanding of cancer. This is the 10th year for M. D. Anderson to host a reception at AACR.

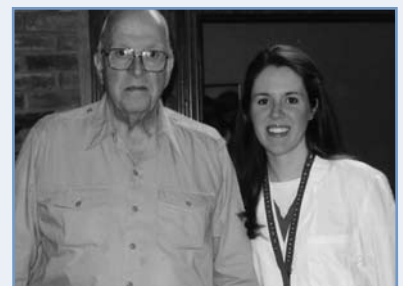
Alumni Quest campaign continues

Contact information for more than 700 alumni has been acquired since the call in the previous issue to locate former faculty members and trainees. For this purpose, alumni are defined as former faculty members or educational trainees who have been employed as a faculty member or

have been trained for six months or more at M. D. Anderson.

If you're an M. D. Anderson alumnus or if you know of others who are, forward any contact information via e-mail to Sharon Pepper, program manager in Trainee and Alumni Affairs, at spepper@mdanderson.org, or call her at 713-563-9194.

The M. D. Anderson Alumni and Faculty Association requests that a current mailing address be provided. The office, however, will accept any contact information, even limited data about an alumnus' whereabouts or current workplace.



Another generation at M. D. Anderson

Samuel Jagoda, Jr., M.D., a radiologist with the Veterans Affairs Clinic in Fort Worth, poses with his granddaughter, **Samantha Caskey**, a student trainee at the M. D. Anderson School of Health Sciences' Clinical Laboratory Science program. Jagoda was a resident and American Cancer Society fellow in radiation therapy with Gilbert Fletcher, M.D., in 1959 and is a member of the Fletcher Society. "My year at M. D. Anderson with Dr. Fletcher was a wonderful experience," Jagoda writes. "I am proud of my M. D. Anderson association."

Milestones

Two international universities recently presented M. D. Anderson President **John Mendelsohn, M.D.**, with honorary



John Mendelsohn, M.D.

degrees for his contributions to advancing cancer care and science. He received honorary doctorates of philosophy from Yonsei University in Seoul, South Korea, and from the China Medical University in Taichung, Taiwan.

Both institutions have long histories of medical research excellence. Yonsei University was established in South Korea 125 years ago, and the China Medical University is Taiwan's oldest and most prestigious research institution.

Mendelsohn received the awards during a recent trip to Asia, where he represented M. D. Anderson in meetings with collegial institutions and delivered several lectures.

Mendelsohn was honored for his groundbreaking research on the development of Erbitux, a monoclonal antibody targeting signaling pathways in cancer cells, now approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for treating patients with cancers of the head and neck and colon.

Robert Chamberlain, Ph.D., professor in the Department of Epidemiology,



Robert Chamberlain, Ph.D.

was named a 2007 Alumni Achievement Award recipient by the Alumni Council of Westminster College. It is the highest honor bestowed on an alumnus of the college, located in Fulton, Mo.

The award, which will be presented in April, recognizes Chamberlain for research in social risk factors and preventive oncology, as well as training and mentorship of future professionals.

Lorenzo Cohen, Ph.D., associate professor in the Department of Behavioral Science and Palliative Care and Rehabilitation Medicine, was chosen as president-elect/vice president of the Society for Integrative Oncology during its recent annual international conference.



Lorenzo Cohen, Ph.D.

Cohen is director of M. D. Anderson's Integrative Medicine Program.

SIO is a nonprofit, multidisciplinary organization dedicated to studying and facilitating cancer treatment and recovery through integrated complementary therapeutic options. The group provides a forum for presentation, discussion and peer review of evidence-based research in integrative oncology.

Lorraine Reitzel, Ph.D., a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Health Disparities Research, recently began a two-year tenure as president of the American Association for Correctional and Forensic Psychology.

AACFP is a professional organization of 1,000 members devoted to the generation of scholarly research and the development of effective psychological practices in criminal justice and law enforcement settings.

Rina Bhagat, graduate research assistant with the UT Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at Houston, received the 2006 R.W. Butcher Achievement Award. The award is presented to a student who demonstrates excellence in research, has a commitment to a career in biomedical research, and makes professional contributions to the community.

Established in 1977, the \$2,000 award is presented annually to an advanced GSBS student in any degree program who has achieved both excellence in research and in contributions to the GSBS and our society as a whole. ■

Upcoming Events

The following presentations and events may be of interest to M. D. Anderson faculty members and alumni. For more information, check www.mdanderson.org/conferences.

- **March 23-24: Forty Years of Metastasis Research: Symposium in Honor of Isaiah J. Fidler, Ph.D.**
Houston Marriott Medical Center, Houston
- **April 5: Mike Hogg Awaard Lecture and Reception**
Hickey Auditorium, Main Building, M. D. Anderson
- **May 5: Current Topics in Cancer Medicine and Research: A Community Outreach Series, Prostate Cancer**
Anderson Conference Hall, Main Building, M. D. Anderson
- **May 25: Trainee Recognition Day and Research Exposition (details, Page 3)**
Hickey Auditorium, Main Building, M. D. Anderson
- **Oct. 27: Sixth Annual M. D. Anderson Alumni Dinner**
J.W. Marriott Hotel, Houston

Send Us Your Milestones

Your achievements are important to us. Send recent news we can share with your fellow alumni to:

M. D. Anderson Alumni and Faculty Association
Department of Trainee and Alumni Affairs, Unit 165
M. D. Anderson Cancer Center
1515 Holcombe Blvd.
Houston TX 77030

E-mail items to alumni@mdanderson.org or call Sharon Pepper at 713-563-9194.

Along with details about your news item, include your name, degree(s), years when you were at M. D. Anderson, current title and affiliation, city, state, country, and a telephone number and e-mail address so we can contact you if we need additional information.

Contact us with your change of address.