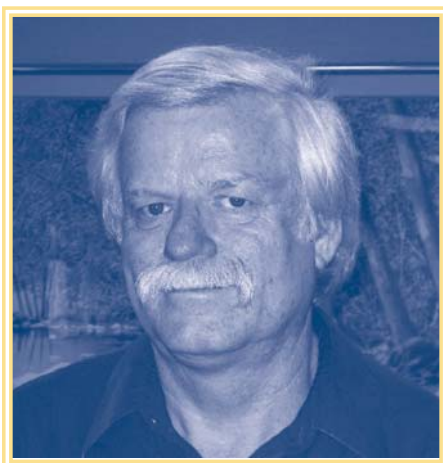


Greg Cole Q&A



Greg Cole, PhD, has been passionate about his research on aging and the brain for over two decades. He is Professor of Medicine and Neurology at UCLA, is the Associate Director at the UCLA Alzheimer Disease Center (ADC), and the Associate Director of Research at the Sepulveda VA Geriatric Research Education, and Clinical Center (GRECC). His basic science research has focused on understanding the mechanisms of disease processes in the brain, and on the prevention of Alzheimer's disease. Dr. Cole received both his bachelors (physiology and biochemistry) and masters degrees (physiology) from University of California at Berkeley and completed his post-doctoral work at UC Berkeley and UC San Diego. Dr. Cole has received many honors for his work. He will be presented with the prestigious Arthur Cherkin Memorial Award during the 24th Annual Intensive Course in Geriatric Medicine and Board Review in September.

Q: Tell us how you began your career path.

Back in my college days, I was intrigued with basic aging mechanisms and was particularly interested in aging of the brain. Reading an article by George Martin, where he argued that Down's syndrome was the second most similar condition, after Werner's syndrome, to accelerated aging, fueled this interest. In the reading, I found that Alzheimer's was a major aging syndrome and that provided a significant clue for this work that set my career path in motion. I decided that Down's syndrome was a way into the study of the genetics of Alzheimer's disease. My thesis project was on overexpressing chromosome 21 in human neurons and the impact on beta amyloid protein expression. I found that increased beta amyloid protein in human neurons was accompanied by increases in a larger protein that I hypothesized was a possible amyloid protein precursor. During my post-doctoral work I focused on cloning the amyloid precursor protein. I was certainly on the right track — going from Down's syndrome to Alzheimer's disease through the gene on chromosome 21. Since then, I've remained interested in the basic sciences of aging and the interface between aging and Alzheimer's.

Q: Please tell us about your current research projects.

Our Alzheimer's research group at the GRECC consists of one junior faculty and four senior faculty. The main purpose of our lab is to explore substances using animal models that may reduce Alzheimer's risk in human populations. We are at the beginning steps of the basic science research-to-product development process.

I work on interventions with substances that are potentially useful for more than

one disease of aging, for example by combining antioxidant, anti-inflammatory and anti-amyloid activities. We've tested a variety of substances, many with positive effects in our animal work. Ibuprofen, for example, has good epidemiologic evidence and was shown to be effective in our animal model. It has been tested in one clinical trial but was not effective. Its relative, R-flurbiprofen is currently being tested in clinical trials. It was effective in a phase two trial, and is now being tested in a phase three trial. We tested the omega 3 fatty acid, DHA (docosahexaenoic acid from fish) that has a strong epidemiological support. It was effective in our animal models and also slowed the progression of Alzheimer's disease in patients in the early stage. It is currently being tested as a preventive agent and with later stage Alzheimer's patients. We are also currently testing curcumin, the yellow curry spice extract. Curcumin is an anti-oxidant, anti-inflammatory, anti-carcinogen, neuroprotectant, anti-amyloid and is cholesterol lowering. Thus, curcumin is an agent that has the potential to prevent more than one disease of aging.

I've also been working with the imaging group at UCLA (Drs. George Bartzokis, and Gary Small) doing brain imaging of Alzheimer's patients with PET probes to diagnose Alzheimer's disease at an early stage. In the future, I'd like to work with clinicians at the UCLA Multicampus Program to explore the use of imaging in a prevention trial. It won't be feasible for mass screenings, but might be valuable if we target people who have Alzheimer's in their family history and screen the ones with early pathology by PET scan.

Q: Is there someone who was especially influential in your career development?

I've had mentors that let me go my own
Continued on page 6.

Director's Column

MPGMG Director David B. Reuben, MD



The Multicampus Program in Geriatric Medicine and Gerontology is completing its 28th year and the upcoming year will bring some of the biggest changes in

decades. We anticipate that two of the MPGMG's major centers—the Greater Los Angeles Department of Veteran's Affairs (DVA) Geriatric Research, Education, and Clinical Center (GRECC) and the Harry and Anna Borun Center for Gerontologic Research—will have new leadership.

Thomas Yoshikawa, MD, who has been Provost and Chief Operating Officer at Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Sciences and former Chair of its Department of Medicine, will become the GRECC Director, the Associate Chief of Staff Geriatrics and Extended Care, Chief, Division of Geriatric Medicine, and Network Lead for Geriatric Programs (VISN 22). Dr. Yoshikawa has substantial experience with the Department of Veterans Affairs, having served as Assistant Chief Medical Director, Office of Geriatrics and Extended Care of the Veterans Affairs Central Office from 1988 to 1995 and serving as Clinical Director of the West Los Angeles GRECC from 1981 to 1988. We are also concluding our search for the Borun Center Director, which was vacated when Dr. John Schnelle relocated to Vanderbilt this past year, and hope to have an announcement soon.

New clinician-scientist and clinician-educator faculty have also been recruited to reflect our expanding clinical and research programs. The Division of Geriatrics has also assumed administrative responsibility for UCLA Medical Center's Palliative Care services at its two hospitals in Westwood and Santa Monica. Bruce Ferrell, MD will serve as Interim Director of the Palliative Care Service, which will draw upon faculty from a variety of disciplines including general internal medicine, family medicine, hospital medicine, and geriatrics.

Although all of these changes are extremely positive, it will mean new roles for many and they will need to craft their

leadership styles and management teams. Such changes can be unsettling but are important to keep the MPGMG stocked with fresh ideas and growing in new directions that will maintain our future strength.

For me, this is also a period of transition. After nearly two decades of committee, board, and leadership service to the American Geriatrics Society (AGS) and the Association of Directors of Geriatric Academic Programs (ADGAP), this May I will complete leadership roles in these organizations. During this time, both AGS and ADGAP have emerged as strong, well respected, and proactive professional organizations. The membership, officers, and staff of AGS and ADGAP are some of the finest people I have ever worked with. I am proud to have played a small part in helping facilitate their transition to leadership among organizations representing geriatric health professionals. After a decade of serving on the Test Writing Committee for the American Boards of Internal Medicine (ABIM) and Family Medicine Geriatrics Certification Examination, I will rotate off this Committee. Beginning in July, Rosanne Leipzig will be the Internal Medicine leader of the Committee and will assume the geriatrics seat on the ABIM Board of Directors. This has also been a great honor and I have developed many close friendships during my committee service. For at least one year, I will remain on the Board of Directors as a member of its Executive Committee.

So what will I do with all this new "found" time? As my father liked to say, "Nature abhors a vacuum." In addition to working with the new MPGMG leadership team and junior faculty, I plan to focus my efforts both locally and nationally to work toward improving the health care that older persons receive. Specifically, I will continue my research through the Assessing Care of Vulnerable Elders (ACOVE) family of studies to define, measure, and improve the quality of health care that primary care physicians and geriatricians provide. I also plan to advocate for the preservation of primary care so that geriatricians, general internists, family physicians, and pediatricians can have careers that are attractive, rewarding, and viable. There is plenty of work to be done.

UCLA Alzheimer Disease Center

The Education and Information Transfer Core of the UCLA Alzheimer Disease Research Center has undergone a transformation from exclusively providing dementia education to health professionals and the general public to focusing on research subject recruitment. The newly-renamed Education and Community Outreach Core, under the leadership of Diane Katz, MA, MPH, recently hired a Recruitment Coordinator, Lynn Nishimoto, MA, to help increase the flow of patients with memory disorders from the community to the UCLA ADC.

Alzheimer disease clinical research with its mission to find ways to prevent, treat, and even cure AD and related dementias cannot be accomplished without the participation of volunteer subjects and their families. Ms. Nishimoto is working with community-based neurologists and geriatricians to educate patients and families about research opportunities and the everlasting value of research participation.

On June 8, 2007, the UCLA ADC, in collaboration with the USC Alzheimer Disease Research Consortium, and the Alzheimer's Association, California Southland, will present a conference, Research Advances: Reducing Risk for Dementia Through Physical Activity and Vascular Health. This conference focuses on cutting edge dementia risk-reduction research related to physical activity and vascular health. It provides an update to researchers and offers an opportunity for community and university based health professionals to translate this research into improved practice. The presenters include Helena Chui, MD, Director, USC Alzheimer Disease Research Center, and Carl Cotman, PhD, Director, UCI Institute for Brain Aging and Dementia.

For further information about this conference or the UCLA ADC, please contact Ms. Diane Katz at (310) 312-0531 or dkatz@mednet.ucla.edu.

UCLA MPGGMG Provides Professional Association Management

In 2005, the California Council on Gerontology and Geriatrics (CCGG) issued a sub-award, funded by an Archstone Foundation grant, to the UCLA MPGGMG to provide an administrative home for the association. Governed by a Board of Directors, the CCGG is a professional association of individuals and organizations, which provides leadership in education in order to promote research, policy, and practices that enhance the quality of life of California's diverse population. Under the direction of Jolene Fassbinder, Executive Director, UCLA manages association financials, and assists with promotion and growth activities for the association. In addition, an administrative team coordinates the Annual Meeting, three board meetings, and works with a number of committees to further the mission of CCGG. Recent activities of the CCGG include the recruitment of the Board of Directors to serve as the Steering Committee on the 3-year FIPSE-funded grant awarded to UCLA entitled "SAGE: A Systems Approach to Gerontology Education".

The association recently became a state affiliate for the National Association for Professional Gerontologists (NAPG). NAPG's mission is to promote and credential the education of professionals in the field of gerontology. The CCGG has also actively participated in the planning of the "Safe California" project in collaboration with the California Department of Health Services, State and Local Injury Control Section.

The MPGGMG also provides an administrative home to the California Association of Long Term Care Medicine (CALTCM). Their mission is to promote quality patient care across the long-term care continuum through medical leadership and education. CALTCM will hold its 33rd Annual Meeting titled, "Transitions in Care: Coming of Age Best Practices" at the Long Beach Marriott Hotel, June 22-24, 2007. The program will highlight issues that impact transitions in patient care within the acute hospital, skilled nursing home, assisted living and home health care settings. A member of the

CALTCM Executive Office will attend the Institute for Medical Quality CME Provider Conference in San Francisco in preparation for the filing its accreditation renewal application in summer 2007.

AGRC News



The UCLA Academic Geriatric Resource Center (AGRC) is a cooperative effort of the UCLA Multicampus Program in Geriatrics and Gerontology, UCLA Schools of Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing, Public Health, and Public Affairs, the College of Letters and Sciences, and UCLA Center on Aging. On February 28, 2007, Dr. David Reuben presented the 18th Annual UCLA AGRC Distinguished Professor Award to Dr. Betty Ferrell, a Research Scientist at the City of Hope National Medical Center and an internationally-renowned figure in the field of palliative care. Dr. Ferrell provided an informative, penetrating, and emotionally moving colloquium to more than one hundred nursing students and other health professional students and faculty on "The National Agenda for Quality Palliative Care." In her role as Distinguished Professor, Dr. Ferrell also addressed several nursing school classes, and met with geriatric medicine faculty and fellows. Dr. Ferrell has authored: *Cancer Pain Management* (1995), a text on *Suffering* (1995), *Pain in the Elderly* (1996) and the *Textbook of Palliative Nursing Care* (2006).

JoAnn Damron-Rodriguez Honored with Distinguished Teaching Award

JoAnn Damron-Rodriguez, adjunct professor of Social Welfare, and Social Work Education Director of the UCLA Academic Geriatric Resource Center (AGRC) was honored last fall with a UCLA Distinguished Teaching Award. Since 1961, outstanding instructors from all disciplines at UCLA have been recognized for their impact on students; scholarly approach to teaching; size, number, and diversity of classes taught; involvement in community linked projects and profession; and teaching ratings.

"As someone who has personally witnessed JoAnn's extraordinary commitment to student learning – both in an out of the classroom – I was delighted to see her receive this highly regarded student award," said Social Welfare colleague Karen Lee.

As co-principal investigator on the Hartford/Archstone Geriatric Social Work Education Consortium (GSWEC), she has helped to create a new field training model that aims to advance preparation of geriatric social workers. She is past president and member of the California Council of Gerontology and Geriatrics (CCGG), and was for many years the Associate Director of Education Evaluation for the VA Geriatric Research, Education, and Clinical Center (GRECC). In 1992 she was appointed to serve on the Geriatrics and Gerontology Advisory Committee, a 14-member committee that advises the U.S. Secretary of Veterans Affairs. With support from the AGRC and the Center on Aging, Dr. Damron-Rodriguez helped to develop the

Continued on page 7.

UCLA Claude D. Pepper Center Awards New Pilot Studies

Following a highly competitive review process, four Older Americans Independence Center (OAIC) pilot awards were announced in April and will begin in July 2007. This was the first pilot funding series under the new NIH guidelines which mandates that at least one-third of study reviewers be external to the Center's own institution. The UCLA OAIC utilized its External Advisory Committee, Stanley P. Azen, PhD, Professor and Director, Department of Preventive Medicine, University of Southern California, William B. Ershler, MD, Deputy Clinical Director, Intramural Research Program, National Institute on Aging, James S. Jackson, PhD, Director, Institute of Social Research, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and other external experts in its study section process. The criteria for selection were exemplary science, a good balance of both junior and senior faculty involvement, fit with the Center's mission, and potential for future funding.

Epigenetic Control of Neural Repair in the Aged Brain After Stroke

Principal Investigator: S. Thomas Carmichael, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor of Neurology, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA

After stroke, older individuals recover less well than do younger ones. The investigators will use a mouse model to study the mechanism behind that observation. The researchers hypothesize that the peri-infarct cortex (the region around the stroke in which recovery occurs) of older patients does not undergo optimal repair due to oxidative damage in that region. The oxidative damage may lead to changes in DNA, which in turn alters the level of expression of certain genes, finally resulting in less neural recovery.

Identifying Predictors of Transitions Between Physical Activity and Inactivity Among Community-Dwelling Older Persons

Principal Investigator: Obidiugwu Kenrik Duru, MD, MS, Assistant Professor of Medicine, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA

Regular physical activity, whether exercise or an active lifestyle, reduces the risk of long-term disability and functional dependency among older adults by exerting beneficial effects at multiple steps in the disablement process. However, at least 60% of older persons are inactive, and many of those who do engage in physical activity become sedentary over time. Identifying predictors of transitions between physical activity and inactivity, particularly modifiable factors, will assist in the development of effective approaches to help older persons maintain their independence.

Tai Chi as a Buffer on Stress and Inflammation in Older Adults

Principal Investigator: Sarosh J. Motivala, PhD, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA

Acute stress triggers an integrated pattern of physiological responses including sympathetic activation, cortisol expression and increases in inflammatory markers. Older adults often grapple with a number of stressful burdens including physical debility, familial conflicts, and financial difficulties. Tai Chi, an ancient Chinese form of calisthenics, is a promising intervention that affects the autonomic nervous system, which in turn can influence inflammatory processes. The specific aims of this study are to determine whether performing Tai Chi before exposure to a stressful task affects stress-induced changes in sympathetic activity, cortisol levels and inflammatory cytokine expression.

Nutraceutical Intervention in the Nrf2-Mediated Anti-Oxidant and Anti-Inflammatory Pathway to Suppress Inflamm-aging in Mice

Principal Investigators: Andre E. Nel, MD, PhD, Professor of Medicine, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and Hyon-Jeen Kim, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow, UCLA Department of Medicine

This study will examine the underlying mechanisms of inflammation with age. Increased inflammation processes with

age may be due to immune activity or the response of a counter-balanced system of oxidated stress expression. By treating young and old mice with a nutraceutical chemical, sulforaphane (SFN), present in broccoli sprouts, this study aims to explore a new modality for treating the age-related inflammatory process.

For more information about the UCLA OAIC and future funding opportunities, please contact:

Lucio Arruda
Administrative Manager
larruda@ucla.edu

12th Annual UCLA Research Conference on Aging

The Center on Aging will hold its 12th Annual UCLA Research Conference on Aging, Tuesday, June 26, from 8 am to 2 pm, at the UCLA Faculty Center. This year's speakers include: Jorge Barrio, PhD, Professor, Molecular & Medical Pharmacology, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA; Marie-Françoise Chesselet, MD, PhD, Chair, Department of Neurobiology and Charles H. Markham Professor of Neurology, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA; Arun Karlamangla, PhD, MD, Assistant Professor of Medicine, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA; Alison A. Moore, MD, MPH, Associate Professor of Medicine, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA; and David B. Reuben, MD, Director, Multicampus Program in Geriatric Medicine and Gerontology, Chief, Division of Geriatrics, Archstone Professor of Medicine, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. Poster session abstracts are being accepted - for abstract guidelines email jtiller@mednet.ucla.edu. Reservations are required for the conference and lunch, there are no registration or luncheon fees. For more information call (310) 794-0676.

UCLA Reynolds Program Kicks Off 2007 with Mini-Fellowship

Many clinician-educators are faced with the challenges of teaching geriatric content without proper training. Mini-fellowships, scholarships and on-site consultations are training vehicles developed by the Donald W. Reynolds Faculty Development to Advance Geriatric Education (FD~AGE) Program at UCLA to mobilize geriatric education into institutions across the nation.

In February, clinician-educators from all over the country attended the 5th offering of the UCLA Mini-Fellowship in Geriatrics. This highly anticipated 3-day training program attracted participants from twelve states and fifteen different institutions, bringing together a variety of individuals who share the same goal to improve the health of older persons through education. Participants were particularly impressed by the comprehensive course content, knowledgeable faculty and accommodating staff. "Access to the leading experts in the field was unparal-

leled and priceless," says Mini-Fellowship participant, Dr. David Chang. "Really valuable 'hands on' advice to bring into practice," says another participant. Enrollment is free for eligible clinician-educators with limited geriatric training. Two more trainings have been scheduled for 2007: June 20-22 and October 17-19.

The Mini-Fellowship is just one type of training offered through the UCLA Reynolds Program. The Reynolds committee believes that education and development should not be an end-goal, but rather an on-going process. Eight scholarships are awarded each year to attend the Annual UCLA Intensive Course in Geriatric Medicine and Board Review, a 4-day course that emphasizes a functional assessment approach to comprehensive care of older adults. Newly added this year are two additional scholarship opportunities: enrollment scholarships for the Geriatric Medicine Leadership Training (GMLT) program, and \$500

stipends to attend the American Geriatrics Society (AGS) Annual Conference.

The Reynolds Program also offers on-site consultations to provide guidance for institutions looking to develop geriatric teaching programs. These consultations will provide best strategies to expand or create effective educational programs in geriatrics. Consultations are available at no cost to all eligible medical schools and residency programs.

Since September 2004, the Donald W. Reynolds FD~AGE Program at UCLA has successfully trained over 80 clinician-educators, awarded 20 scholarships and conducted 6 on-site consultations. For more information or to request an application, please contact the Reynolds Program Coordinator, Anne Hu at annehu@mednet.ucla.edu or (310) 312-0531. You can also visit us at www.geronet.ucla.edu/centers/reynolds

Title VII Funding for Geriatric Education Restored by Congress

In a surprising series of Congressional actions, funds for national geriatric training programs were restored in February 2007, at the 2005 budget level of \$31.5 million. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), acted quickly to reinstate Bureau of Health Professions (BHP) program personnel who had been reassigned to other departments after funding elimination of the geriatrics program in December of 2005. This budget reinstatement allows the resurrection of the geriatric education centers national network, which had once included over 50 centers. The interdisciplinary fellowship programs and the geriatric academic career awards will also be resumed.

The grant opportunity and guidance document for the Geriatric Education Center (GEC) program component was pub-

lished on April 9, with a May 14, 2007 due date. The guidance emphasizes that GEC projects must offer interdisciplinary training involving four or more health professions, one of which must be allopathic or osteopathic medicine. These projects must also address all of the statutory purposes, including:

- (1) improve the training of health professionals in geriatrics;
- (2) develop and disseminate curricula relating to the treatment of the health problems of elderly individuals;
- (3) support the training and retraining of faculty to provide instruction in geriatrics;
- (4) support continuing education of health professionals who provide geriatric care; and

(5) provide students with clinical training in geriatrics in nursing homes, chronic and acute disease hospitals, ambulatory care centers, and senior centers.

The UCLA MPGMG has been the administrative home for the California Geriatric Education Center (CGEC) since 1987. At its pinnacle of support, the CGEC included 11 educational institutions across the state. At press time, the CGEC was preparing its grant application and will again provide projects with a statewide focus on key issues in improving the care provided to older Californians. If successful, the program will begin October 1, 2007 for a three-year cycle.

Enhance Your Career Path Through the Geriatric Medicine Leadership Training Program (GMLT)

Have you ever wished that you had knowledge and skills in business, finance, management, and leadership that would enhance your career path as a health professional? This is the question that we asked our target audience of physicians, nurse, and nurse practitioners. Most health profession graduates enter further training or practice without the benefit of any background in finance, business, or leadership. The Geriatric Medicine Lead-

ership Training (GMLT) was developed to address this gap through a unique, highly interactive and intensive conference.

The UCLA AGRC collaborated with the California Geriatric Education Center (CGEC) and SCAN Health Plan to present the fifth annual Geriatric Medicine Leadership Training (GMLT) on March 23-24, 2007 at the Hilton Long Beach Hotel. GMLT was presented, under the leadership of Dan Osterweil, MD, MscEd,

CMD, to twenty-one physicians and nurses. GMLT participants were encouraged to consider novel approaches to address problems in the clinical practice setting. Participants were offered the opportunity to design and implement a plan to address a problem at their work-site under the mentorship of a GMLT faculty member. Participants received invaluable expert assistance in order to tackle daunting leadership issues.

Greg Cole Q&A

(continued from page 1)

way and now that I'm a mentor, I appreciate how difficult that is to do. They encouraged and allowed me to write grants, with a sink or swim attitude. Many laboratories don't allow you to write grants, which makes it difficult to get started. You need a grant to get a job, but can't write a grant without a job. Investigators have so many demands that it's hard to find the freedom to do something new and different. My wife and co-investigator (Sally Frautschy, PhD) and I were hired by David Solomon, MD and we are grateful to him for bringing us to UCLA.

Q: What are your biggest challenges in doing your research?

The first challenge is getting a good idea; then finding the money to do the work. The federal government grants paperwork requires a significant amount of staff time and resources and every year there are more rules. The other challenge is being able to recognize what's right about the data you've collected, and finding the important results if they aren't what you expected. You need to pay attention to your negative results. History is full of great discoveries that were great because nobody expected them. The skill of translating data is not always taught which is too bad because it can lead to so many exciting outcomes.

Q: What is the most exciting discovery you've made to date in your research?

Every new discovery that looks like it will be useful is exciting. If we can get the same positive findings we get in our animal models in clinical trials, then the initial excitement will mature into satisfaction. The goal when working on a disease is to prevent or treat the disease. Discoveries that come to mind relate to curcumin, omega 3 and DHA. With curcumin, we saw that it could bind to amyloid and reduce its aggregation some years before we published it. If that works in clinical trials, then it will be quite exciting.

One of the more exciting things we saw was with the omega 3 fatty acid. We took animals on a normal diet, gave them a poor diet, and found there wasn't much synapse loss. When we took away the omega 3 fatty acid, the animal that had the Alzheimer gene showed a major deterioration. We didn't see the differences until we changed the diet. The profound impact of the diet on the manifestation of the genetic risk was really exciting.

I believe Ibuprofen may still work for prevention, although it failed the trial in Alzheimer's patients. The epidemiology is strong in the case of identical twins. If you take it for ten years prior to diagnosis, you are much more likely to be protected than if you take it for only one year prior to diagnosis. This supports the need for early intervention.

Q: What do you find most gratifying about the work you do?

We never doubt the significance of the goal. We know what we are trying to do is what needs to be done. If we can succeed in what we're doing, then we'll have done something that makes a difference and leave the world a better place. That is a nice thought to have at the end of the week. This work is fun and always interesting. We work in one of the most interesting possible areas because it is the interface between how memory in the brain works and how aging works.

Being in academia also gives you the ability and freedom to get things going. I have been fortunate enough to have the opportunity to do that with NIH, ADC, private foundation, and donor funding. It has been critical that pilot grant programs like the UCLA Older Americans Independence Center (OAIC) and Center on Aging exist to fund things that take a chance.

Q: What do you do for fun?

Anything to get outside. I enjoy hiking trails, bike paths, and recently I have done a lot of traveling. Los Angeles is such the film capital, so I enjoy watching films and going to the theater. At the center of it all, is my son.

Faculty News

The American Medical Directors Association (AMDA) selected **Dan Osterweil, MD, MScEd, CMD**, as the recipient for this year's William Dodd Founder's Award for Distinguished Service. The award recognized Dr. Osterweil's contributions to building the organizational strength, image and mission of AMDA. The award was presented at the AMDA Annual Symposium 2007 in Hollywood, Florida on March 30, 2007.

Gary Small, MD, Professor of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences and Director of the UCLA Center on Aging, was invited to present his research on "Alzheimer's Disease: Early Detection and Intervention" at a United States Congress briefing on March 14, 2007. Dr. Small's research was also featured at a Gallery Exhibition on Plaque and Tangle Brain Imaging at the Science Museum, London, England, in February 2007.

Sonja Rosen, MD, Assistant Clinical Professor of Geriatric Medicine, has recently been awarded a Donald W. Reynolds Faculty Development to Advance Geriatrics Education (FD~AGE) at UCLA grant to develop an educational tool to assist geriatricians in making decisions about whom to recommend screening mammograms.

Patricia Housen, PhD, Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Center of Excellence for the Study of Healthcare Provider Behavior at the Sepulveda VA, won the Postdoctoral Fellowship Poster Award at the annual VA Health Service Research & Development Service National Meeting held in Arlington, VA in February 2007. The poster was entitled "The Stability of Residential Care Preferences in VA Nursing Home Residents."

Janet C. Frank, DrPH, MS, Assistant Director for Academic Programs and Director of the California Geriatric Education Center (CGEC) at UCLA, was recently elected as a member-at-large to the Executive Board of the Association of Gerontology in Higher Education (AGHE) for the 2007-2009 term of office. In addition, she received a promotion in the adjunct faculty series at the UCLA School of Public Health. Dr. Frank will also receive the 2007 Arthur Cherkin Award. This award is given to faculty in recognition of their energy, wisdom and commitment to improving medical care of older persons, conducting research on aging and training geriatric medicine fellows in the Multicampus Program.

The Institute of Medicine (IOM) appointed **David B. Reuben, MD**,

to a committee of 15 experts to undertake a consensus study to characterize the optimal health care workforce for older americans in an aging society. This study will seek to determine the healthcare needs of the target population—the rapidly growing numbers of Americans who are over 65 years of age—and then address those needs with a thorough analysis of the forces that shape the health care workforce and mold its practice, including education, training, models of practice and reimbursement.

Bruce Corbin, Larry King and Della Reese to be Honored at the 11th Annual ICON Awards

Each year, the UCLA Center on Aging's ICON award recognizes individuals who continually make outstanding contributions to society, and serve as an inspiration for those who value healthy and active living throughout life. This year's honorees are Bruce Corbin, Senior Vice President, Union Bank of California; Emmy Award winning broadcaster Larry King, host of CNN's Larry King Live; and renowned actress and singer, Della Reese. The 11th Annual UCLA Center on Aging's ICON Award event will be held Thursday, May 31, at the Beverly Hilton Hotel. For more information contact Greg Richardson, ONE Event Management at (310) 659-5517.

Distinguished Teaching Award (continued from page 3)

immensely popular UCLA freshman cluster course, Frontiers in Human Aging. She has published extensively on geriatric education, ethnic diversity, and community based elder care.

For further information regarding the activities of the UCLA AGRC, please contact Ms. Diane Katz at (310) 312-0531 or dkatz@mednet.ucla.edu.

New MPGGMG Staff and Faculty

Lynn Nishimoto joined the MPGGMG as Education and Community Outreach Coordinator for the Alzheimer Disease Center at UCLA. She received her MA degree in psychology from Pepperdine University.

Sungjin Kim, joined the MPGGMG as a Statistician working with Drs. Moore and Sarkisian.

Katherine Prenovost, joined the MPGGMG as a Statistician. She will provide statistical support to Dr. Kado.

Charles Taylor, joined the MPGGMG as an administrative assistant/receptionist

supporting the Division's administrative office. He received his BA degree in Political Science from Swarthmore College.

Barbara Valenzuela, joined the MPGGMG in December 2006. She will provide administrative support for Dr. Osterweil's Department of Health and Human Services Project.

Tanaka Taylor, joined the MPGGMG in January 2007, as a Staff Research Associate. She will provide research support to Dr. Greendale on her Study of Women's Health Across the Nation (SWAN) project.

MPGMG Calendar of Educational Events

June 2007 – September 2007

June 7

The 15th Annual Hospice and Palliative Care Conference: Living the Legacy of Hospice and Palliative Care
Fort MacArthur
San Pedro, CA

June 8

Research Advances: Reducing Risk For Dementia Through Physical Activity And Vascular Health
Andrus Gerontology Center, University of Southern California
Los Angeles, CA

June 20-22

Donald W. Reynolds FD~AGE Mini-Fellowship Program
UCLA
Los Angeles, CA

June 22-24

California Association of Long Term Care Medicine (CALTCM) 2007 Annual Meeting
Long Beach Marriott Hotel
Long Beach, CA

June 26

UCLA Center on Aging 12th Annual Research Conference on Aging
UCLA Faculty Center
Los Angeles, CA

September 26-29

24th Annual UCLA Intensive Course in Geriatric Medicine | Pharmacy and Board Review
Marina del Rey Marriott Hotel
Marina del Rey, CA

October 17-19

Donald W. Reynolds FD~AGE Mini-Fellowship Program
UCLA
Los Angeles, CA

David Geffen School of Medicine
at UCLA
Division of Geriatrics
Multicampus Program in
Geriatric Medicine and Gerontology

Director:

David B. Reuben, MD

Associate Directors:

Theodore J. Hahn, MD
Dan Osterweil, MD, MscEd, CMD
Laurence Z. Rubenstein, MD, MPH

Assistant Director for Academic Programs:

Janet C. Frank, DrPH, MS

Editor:

Pamela Jackson-McCall
prjackso@mednet.ucla.edu
(310) 312-0531

UCLA Multicampus Program in Geriatric Medicine and Gerontology

10945 Le Conte Avenue
Suite 2339
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1687

(310) 312-0531