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Holiday Party

Mark your calendars for the School of Medicine faculty holiday reception.

Thursday, Dec. 8

5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

**Mutual of Omaha Ballroom,
V.J. and Angela Skutt Student Center**

Message From The Dean

Focus on Faculty

By [Cam E. Enarson, M.D., M.B.A.](#),
Dean, Creighton School of Medicine
Vice President for Health Sciences

Nurturing academic excellence is a strategic priority at Creighton University. Attracting and retaining the best and brightest is a goal that affects all aspects of the School's – and the University's – success. A university's reputation and culture is built on the quality of its faculty and the accomplishments of its students. Faculty are the heart of the Creighton community of scholars, and it is their work that sets the intellectual tone for the institution. It is my goal to nurture the diversity of our faculty through mentorship and development programs.



Our medical student curriculum is designed to provide maximum overlap between basic and clinical sciences... and address the art – as well as the science – of medicine. Our labs have been built and redesigned to encourage interdisciplinary learning and sharing of information between and among faculty and students. As each faculty member succeeds, so do our students, which in turn attracts the best and brightest among them to attend and support Creighton University's School of Medicine.

The continued and generous support of our alumni is vital to the success of the School of Medicine and to Creighton University. The visionary leadership of Creighton University's Board of Directors and President John P. Schlegel, S.J., has led to unprecedented philanthropic support for the university's future direction. To secure its place as one of the finest Catholic universities in the U.S., Creighton will launch "Willing to Lead," the Campaign for Creighton University, at the inaugural event on Saturday, Dec. 3, 2005 at the Qwest Center.

Faculty Affairs

Taking Care of Our Own

By [*Roberta Sonnino, M.D., FACS, FAAP*](#)

Associate Dean for Academic and Faculty Affairs

In today's higher education environment, faculty members are expected to do it all. Faculty development is an important component of any university, and here at Creighton we are committed to helping our faculty excel in their careers.

I am very pleased with the progress we have made in the Office of Faculty Affairs over the past year. We have implemented numerous programs geared toward increasing the success of our faculty and the academic profile of the School of Medicine. We have also started



to define and clarify old and new policies and guidelines that will make our faculty's work less cumbersome, cutting down as much red tape as possible. We have also developed detailed guidelines for promotion that will give our faculty achievable goals for advancement at each step in their careers.

Our faculty is a group of extraordinary, caring, compassionate, and internationally recognized professionals. The caring, professional environment at Creighton is one of the things that attracted me here, and I hope to be able to show my colleagues that achieving excellence in science and medicine can go hand in hand with the humanistic and ethical qualities that Creighton values so highly.

My personal goal is to help the faculty reach their true potential as teachers, academicians, physicians and scientists, and to show them that it can be done with professionalism and without sacrificing family and outside life.

I am very gratified when a faculty member I have worked with excels in his/her field, reaches his/her career goals and is so well prepared for career advancement that the promotion and tenure process becomes a routine, stress-free activity.

I want this to be true for our entire faculty. Above all, my goal is to be surrounded by successful individuals who are happy with their lives and their careers. Then I will consider my own career a success as well.

Two important initiatives are our [Faculty Development Seminars](#) and our [Women in Medicine and Science \(WIMS\) Program](#)

Preparing and developing faculty members as teachers is the mission of **Katie Huggett, Ph.D.**, director of Medical Education, Development and Assessment.

"The art of teaching medicine is constantly changing, and our goal is to help our faculty stay on top of innovations in technology and learning philosophies," said Huggett. "We work closely with the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) and the International Association of Medical Science Educators

(IAMSE) to provide our faculty with the best practices in teaching and learning available.”

For more information, visit:

- <http://medicine.creighton.edu/ome/Faculty%20Development.htm>
- <http://medicine.creighton.edu/ome/facdevcalendar.htm>
- <http://medicine.creighton.edu/ome/faculty/Resources%20for%20Med%20Ed%20Research.htm>
- <http://medicine.creighton.edu/ome/faculty/Writing%20MCQ%20Test%20items.htm>

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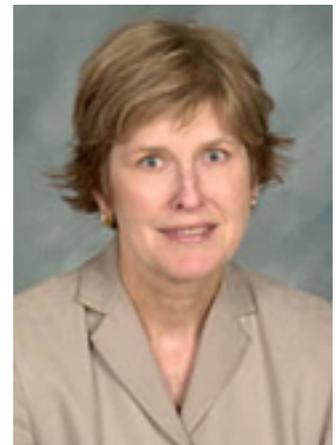
Research

Core Facilities Encourage Researcher Collaboration

“A discovery is said to be an accident meeting a prepared mind.”

-Albert von Szent-Gyorgy

According to Barbara McLaughlin, Ph.D., *right*, Associate Dean for Research, Creighton University’s core research facilities are designed to allow free flow of information and collaborative work environments so that more “accidents” of discovery can occur. Funded by grants from the Health Futures Foundation, the Nebraska Tobacco



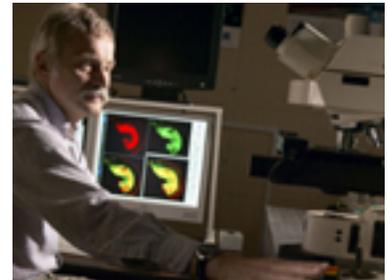
Settlement Biomedical Research Development Grant (LB 692), and the National Science Foundation’s (NSF) Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR), Creighton’s core facilities provide biomedical researchers opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration, interaction and development of team

research projects. Core facilities are located in the Criss Buildings.

Faculty, graduate and undergraduate investigators from Creighton and other institutions are encouraged to take advantage of the state-of-the-art technology available in the cores.

- **Confocal Microscopy --**

The facility contains a multi-photon confocal microscope that allows high resolution imaging of labeled cell components in three dimensional space. The confocal microscope is available to investigators throughout Nebraska and



Dr. Bernd Fritzsich uses the confocal microscope to study cochlear hair cells.

funded through the NSF EPSCoR Nebraska Center for Cell Biology. A novel application of telecommunications technology is being currently implemented that will make real-time operation of the confocal microscope available to researchers from remote locations. Located in Criss II Room 405. Key contact: Richard Hallworth, Ph.D., Director, <mailto:%20hallw@creighton.edu>.

- **Flow Cytometry --** The facility provides equipment and services to identify, quantify, analyze, and isolate cells in complex mixtures (like blood, for example). The facility is equipped with two state-of-the-art flow cytometers: a BD



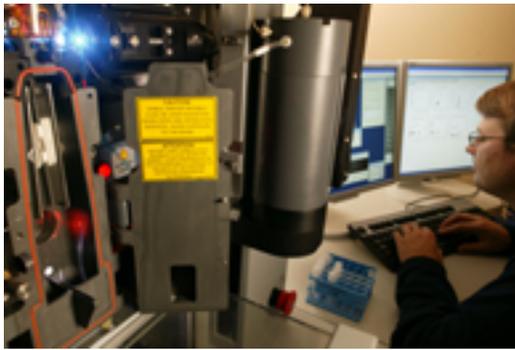
BD FACSCalibur for 4-color analysis and a recently acquired BD FACSAria for high-speed sorting and multicolor analysis using three different lasers (350 nm [UV], 488 nm, and 633 nm) which allows for rapid purification of specific cell populations. Located in Criss II Room 525. Key contacts: Patrick C. Swanson, Ph.D., Facility Director, <mailto:%20pswanson@creighton.edu>; Greg Perry, Ph.D., Technical Director, <mailto:%20cytometry@creighton.edu>.

- **Genomics --** The facility provides assistance and shared instrumentation for investigators using gene-based research tools to study cellular structure and function. The core provides DNA sequencing analysis,

oligonucleotide synthesis, gene microarray analysis, DNA fragment analysis and laser photocapture for obtaining microscopic dissection of tissue specimens for genetic analysis. Shared instruments are available by reservation and include ultra and high speed centrifugation; real time PCR – ABI 7000 Sequence Detection System for gene sequencing; Shimadzu UV-1601 and Pharmacia Gene Quant II for DNA/RNA concentrations; DHPLC-Transgenomics WAVE instrument for high throughput mutation searching; Nanogene CHIP for DNA microarray analysis; and a gel documentation system. Located in Criss III Room 382. Key contact: Joseph A. Knezetic, Ph.D., Director, <mailto:%20joek@creighton.edu>.

- **Morphology** -- The facility provides instrumentation and expert assistance to all Creighton faculty and outside users for research programs needing transmission or scanning electron microscopic analysis for high resolution imaging and identification of tissue structures. A new state of the art JEOL-1011 transmission electron microscope is available along with a JEOL 240A scanning electron microscope and supporting equipment. Located in Criss Complex Room 281. Key contact: William Hunter, III, M.D., Director, <mailto:%20hunter@creighton.edu>.

- **Proteomics** -- The newly established Proteomics core will provide researchers with the capability to analyze and identify proteins that play a role in certain biological functions and that may have potential significance to disease processes. The core has recently purchased an ABI MALDI-TOF/TOF 4800 mass spectrometer and an electrospray-triple quadrupole mass spectrometer for use in protein identification. An LC Packings nano-flow HPLC and Probot fraction collector will also be available for sample preparation. The core will be available for service by the Spring of 2006. Located in Criss II, Room 326. Key contact: Robert B. Mackin, Ph.D., Director, <mailto:%20rmackin@creighton.edu>.



Dr. Patrick Swanson works with Creighton's new BD FACSAria instrument in the Flow Cytometry Core Facility.

New Cell Sorting Technology Arrives At Creighton

Creighton University researchers have just purchased state-of-the-art technology that can speed the pace of biomedical research.

The study of how cells develop and function can be difficult because of the many different types of cells present in the blood, organs and other tissues. In order to study and compare the individual cell types, they must be identified and sorted. Current available technology can sort 2,000 to 3,000 cells per second. With the recent installation of the BD FACSAria instrument in Creighton's Flow Cytometry Core Facility, cells can be sorted ten times faster - at a rate of 30,000 per second.

According to the manufacturer, BD Biosciences, Creighton's new cell sorter is among the first of its kind in the world, using recent improvements in technology that were integrated into the machine based on Creighton's specifications. Creighton is one of only three institutions to have this type of technology.

The director of the Core Facility, Patrick Swanson, Ph. D., associate professor of Medical Microbiology and Immunology at Creighton University School of Medicine, says the instrument is designed to provide diversity and flexibility in its analysis and sorting capability, making it highly suited for use in a shared core research facility.

The cell sorter takes cells that have been stained with the colored antibodies and forces them through tiny tubes, arranging them in "single file" formation. Lasers then read and provide information on each cell as it passes through the sorter. Current technology only allows analysis of four colors. The new cytometer can simultaneously analyze 12 colors, making the process of identifying cell types extremely accurate and precise.

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In the News

Peter Silberstein Joined Lance Armstrong in Tour of Hope

Peter Silberstein, M.D., assistant professor of medicine and chief oncologist at Creighton University Medical Center, is among a team of 24 cancer survivors, advocates, caregivers, physicians and researchers who rode from San Diego to Washington, D.C. in September as members of the Bristol-Myers Squibb Tour of Hope™. This was the third year for the cross-country journey to promote the promise of clinical trials.



Driven by their ties to cancer, this team of avid cyclists covered 3,300 miles of American landscape to share their experiences and inspire those they met along the way to learn more about cancer research. Six-time Tour de France winner Lance Armstrong led the National Team at the kick-off in San Diego and for the finish in Washington, D.C.

Dean Enarson Elected to National Positions at AMA and NBME

Cam E. Enarson, M.D., M.B.A., vice president for Health Sciences and dean of the School of Medicine at Creighton University, was elected as chair-elect of the Governing Council of the American Medical Association (AMA) Section on Medical Schools.

The AMA Section on Medical Schools helps develop AMA policy of concern to medical schools on such issues as education, patient care, and clinical research. The Governing Council serves as the direct communication link between the AMA and the Section representatives.

Enarson also was elected to a four-year term as Member-at-Large of the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME), a not-for-profit organization that provides high-quality examinations for the health professions. Enarson has also served the NBME as a member of the Medical School Programs Advisory Committee.

Mohiuddin Named First Holder of Booth Professorship in Cardiology

The Richard W. Booth, M.D. Endowed Professorship in Cardiology was conferred upon Syed Mohiuddin, M.D. on September 13, 2005.



The Booth Professorship will support Dr. Mohiuddin's efforts to conduct research and education related to cardiovascular health.

The Professorship honors Dr. Mohiuddin for his many years of contributions to the Cardiac Center and to Creighton University.

As chief of the Division of Cardiology, professor of medicine and pharmacy, director of the Cardiac Center and associate chair for academic affairs of the Department of Medicine, Dr. Mohiuddin takes time to teach students, residents and fellows.

He is a dedicated community leader and is a founding member and past president of the India Association of Omaha. He is active in the American College of Cardiology and the American Heart Association. In 2001 he received the Distinguished Professor Award from Creighton University's School of Medicine and in 1999 the School of Medicine awarded him its Master Clinician Award.

Dr. Richard W. Booth, M.D., joined Creighton University and Saint Joseph Hospital in 1961 and served the Creighton community for 35 years. He opened the first coronary care unit in Omaha at Saint Joseph Hospital which today is known as the Creighton Cardiac Center.

The professorship honors Dr. Booth's unflagging efforts

to see the dream of a Cardiac Center come true. Today it is one of Creighton University's premier programs and sets a strong example for the compassionate care of patients, education of students, residents and fellows, and for clinical research.

Haddad Named Director of Center for Health Policy and Ethics

Amy M. Haddad, Ph.D., R.N., has been named director of the Center for Health Policy and Ethics at Creighton University. Haddad has served as interim director of the Center since July of 2004. Haddad was also named the holder of the Dr. C. C. and Mabel L. Criss Endowed Chair in Health Sciences.



The Center for Health Policy and Ethics is a multidisciplinary group of scholars dedicated to excellence in the study and teaching of the dimensions of ethical care and health policy. The Center provides education in the ethics of health care practice and policy to Creighton University's health professions students, faculty and clinicians.

Haddad teaches health policy and ethics in the Schools of Pharmacy, Medicine and Nursing, and has been teaching ethics in the health sciences at Creighton University since 1984.

Sam Caughron and Lara System Featured in National Pathology Magazine

Sam Caughron, M.D., a Creighton University School of Medicine graduate and fourth year resident in the Department of Pathology at Creighton University Medical Center, was featured in the October 2005 issue of "CAP Today," the official publication of the College of American Pathologists. Dr. Caughron introduced the LARA system (Live Anywhere Record Access) to allow physicians to obtain current lab results and vital signs for each patient using their PDAs or any



hand-held device.

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Briefly Noted

Creighton's Center For Health Policy & Ethics Receives Rockefeller Grant

Creighton University's Center for Health Policy and Ethics has received a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation to host a conference at the Bellagio Study and Conference Center in Bellagio, Italy. Creighton faculty will attend and host an international conference to discuss "Ethical Issues in Public Health Policy in Post-Soviet Countries: Changing Attitudes and Practices Toward Respect and Autonomy."

Amy Haddad, Ph.D., director of Creighton's Center for Health Policy and Ethics, is the principal organizer of the conference. She is joined by Dr. Dilara Valikhanova, a former Creighton visiting scholar from Azerbaijan and Dr. Givi Javashvili from Tbilisi, Georgia, who will collaborate on conference organization.

The purpose of the conference is to convene a multi-disciplinary group of experts in health policy, ethics, health education and public health delivery from two post-Soviet countries, Azerbaijan and Georgia, joined by colleagues in the United States. Participants will examine the political, socio-cultural, religious, ethical, legal and human rights elements that influence understandings of patient autonomy and informed consent practices.

Creighton Receives Health Center Honors

Peter M. Townley, M.D., *right*, assistant clinical professor of medicine, and the Creighton University School of Dentistry are two recipients of the OneWorld Community Health Centers' Milagro Award. They were recognized at the annual awards dinner on November 10. Terry Wilwerding, D.D.S., M.S.,



associate professor of prosthodontics, accepted the award for Creighton's School of Dentistry.



Each year, OneWorld Community Health Centers, a south Omaha clinic that provides affordable health care to immigrant and low-income patients, honors a person or persons with the Milagro award. Milagro is the Spanish word for miracle. According to OneWorld, the recipients are "miracle workers," and are being honored for the time they devote to uninsured patients.

To celebrate the clinic's 35th anniversary, OneWorld also honored those who were instrumental in the clinic's past, including founding board member, Jim Phalen, M. D., associate professor of radiology and medicine at Creighton University Medical Center, and executive directors, Sr. Mary Kay Meagher, APRN, MSN, who provides pediatric and obstetrical services at Creighton's South Omaha clinic and Mary Lee Fitzsimmons, Ph.D., a member of Creighton's School of Nursing alumni board.

Dr. Fernandez and Dr. Sanchez are Honored with Special Service Awards

Heartland Latino Leadership presented Cristina Fernandez, M. D., assistant professor of Pediatrics, with the 2005 Health and Human Services Award and Mario Sanchez, M.D.,



Family Practice, with the 2005 Education Award. These awards were presented at the Annual Latino Leadership Conference on Nov. 4 at the Qwest Center.

Sonnino Elected President of Society for Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine

Roberta E. Sonnino, M.D., FACS, FAAP, associate dean for Academic and Faculty Affairs, has been elected president of SELAM International (Society for Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine).

In this capacity, she will guide the organization's

activities that include continuing education, development, and assisting academic health centers in establishing regional leadership programs.

Sonnino has served as an officer and committee member for more than 15 professional societies, including president of the Academy of Surgical Research.

Her research career has been focused on ischemic injuries to the intestine, bowel transplants and graft preservation. Her accomplishments also include 74 peer-reviewed published articles and 95 national or international presentations.



From left, Drs. Steven Feldhaus, Marcus Balters and Richard Feldhaus.

Feldhauses and Balters Join Creighton

Richard J. Feldhaus, M.D., Steven J. Feldhaus, M.D. and Marcus W. Balters, M.D., have joined Creighton University's Department of Surgery. Each of these professionals brings extensive experience in heart, lung and vascular surgery to their clinic.

Dr. Richard Feldhaus is associate professor of surgery at Creighton University. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Creighton University, and his doctor of medicine degree from Creighton University's School of Medicine.

Dr. Steven Feldhaus is assistant professor of surgery at Creighton University. He received his bachelor's degree from Creighton University and his doctor of medicine degree from Creighton University's School of Medicine.

Dr. Balters is instructor of surgery at Creighton University. He received his bachelor's degree from

Texas Christian University and his doctor of medicine degree from the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Gold Humanism Honor Society Induction

Creighton's chapter of the Gold Humanism Honor Society inducted its second class of honorees on October 4, 2005. The GHHS recognizes student and faculty exemplars of excellence in clinical care, leadership, compassion and dedication to service. David C. Leach, MD, Executive Director of the



From left are Dr. Leach, Dr. Enarson and medical student George Tripp.

Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education was on hand to help bestow the awards. Dr. Leach also delivered the 2005 Gold Foundation Lecture entitled "The Formation of Physicians: Competence and Character." The 2005 student honorees include: Katharine Armstrong, Anela Bonic, Mary Bussey, Mack Eleid, Jamie (Eder) Frey, Jessica Jones, Kris Kazlauskas, Paul Mathew, Kelli Shannon, Eri Shimizu, George Tripp, Benjamin Young and Steven Zahn. New Faculty members inducted included PaulaJo Malin, MD, Cam Enarson, MD, Jimmy Khandalavala, MD, and Daniel Egan, MD.

Historic Notes on Display

Letters and notes from Dr. Bernard Brandner, *right*, Creighton University School of Medicine Class of 1933, are on display in the Criss II Fourth Floor Interactive Area. Dr. Brandner died earlier this year, and his family donated several commemorative items to the School of Medicine.



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Faculty News

New Faculty

- Syed Bin-Sagheer, M.D., assistant professor of Medicine
- Narendra Nathoo, M.D., Ph.D., assistant professor of Surgery
- Kristi NewMyer, M.D., instructor of OB/GYN
- Sriram Ramaswamy, M.D., instructor of Psychiatry
- Rebecca Reindel, M.D., instructor of Pediatrics
- Christopher Sweeney, M.D., assistant professor of Medicine
- Saiprakash Venkateshiah, M.D., assistant professor of Medicine

Departures

- Patricio Reyes, M.D., Neurology
- Bhakta Dey, M.D., Surgery
- Nicoline Lee, M.D., Medicine
- Krishnasamy Soundarajan, M.D., Surgery
- Ademola Abiose, M.D., Medicine
- Mark Johnson, Ph.D., Medicine
- Hemant Satpathy, M.D., Family Medicine
- Suganthi Soundarajan, M.B.B.S., Pathology
- Hong-Wen Deng, Ph.D., Medicine

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