DIVISION OF GERIATRIC MEDICINE

OVERVIEW

The Division of Geriatric Medicine continues to play a leadership role in the development of high quality care for older persons throughout Missouri and Southern Illinois. The division also provides education for health care providers and the public. The division was ranked 12th in the U.S. News and World Report rankings for postgraduate studies and geriatrics was also ranked in the best hospitals.

The educational highlight of the year was the annual Geriatric Summer Institute. Besides the Summer Institute the division co-sponsored a conference on falls with Logan Chiropractic College, presented a long term care conferences in Kansas City and was actively involved in the Des Peres Long Term Care Conferences along with providing multiple talks in the community for the public. The Journal of the American Medical Director’s Association is edited by Drs Morley, Gammack and Thomas. Dr. Banks is the Editor-in-Chief of Current Pharmaceutical Design. The division continues to assist the medical students in administering the Health Resource Center. We continue to have 8 first year fellows under the leadership of Dr. Julie Gammack.

The division remains a highly successful research unit with over 120 publications in the past year. Studies by Dr. Banks and Dr. Farr have continued to explore the importance of an antisense to the messenger RNA for amyloid precursor or protein in the treatment of Alzheimer’s disease. This is now going into clinical trials. The division has continued its studies in andropause, nutrition and diabetes. We demonstrated that testosterone, together with a protein supplement, markedly reduced hospital admissions in persons in assisted living. The study of Aging in African Americans continues to be funded by the National Institute of Aging. Dr. Morley writes a regular column in the St. Louis Post Dispatch and blogs regularly for them (www.StLtoday.com).

Clinically the division provides leadership for Acute Care for the Elderly (ACE) units at Saint Louis University Hospital and Des Peres Hospital. Outpatient services are provided both in the Doctor’s Office Building at Saint Louis University Medical Center and at Des Peres Senior Services. Drs. Rodin, Paniagua, Hajjar and Flaherty are part of the Palliative Care Team for SLU Hospital, three of whom are board certified in hospice and palliative medicine. The division was involved in the care of residents in eight nursing homes and assisted living facilities. A home care service was provided under the leadership of Dr. Chantri Trinh. Dr. Flaherty is the medical director for Alternative Hospice and Nurses and Company. The division directs the GRECC at St. Louis VAMC and provides clinical services at the VAMC in the outpatient, nursing home and Geriatric Evaluation and Management Unit.

HONORS AND RECOGNITION

William A. Banks, M.D.
Editor-in-Chief, Current Pharmaceutical Design, 2002-present

Visiting Professor, Department of Anatomy, School of Medicine, Showa University, Tokyo, Japan, re-appointed 2009.
DIVISION OF GERIATRIC MEDICINE

Joseph H. Flaherty, M.D.
Best Doctors, St. Louis Magazine

Julie K. Gammack, M.D.
Best Doctors, St. Louis Magazine

Certified Medical Director: American Medical Director’s Association, July, 2008
Faculty Advisor, Global Medical Mission, Saint Louis University Chapter, January, 2008

Organization of Student Representatives Association of American Colleges 2008 Nomination for Humanism in Medicine Award (45 nominees)

Geriatric Academic Career Award, Health Resources and Services Administration, 2007-2010

Associate Editor Journal of the American Medical Director’s Association, 2006-present

John E. Morley, M.B., B.Ch.
Best Doctors, St. Louis Magazine

Editor: Journal of the American Medical Director’s Association, 2006 – present

Board, American Medical Directors Foundation

Miguel A. Paniagua, M.D.
Best Doctors, St. Louis Magazine

Geriatric Academic Career Award, Health Resources and Services Administration, 2007-2010

Miriam B. Rodin, M.D., Ph.D.
Convener, SIOG Task Force on Communication and Medical Decision-Making in the Elderly Cancer Patient

Panel Leader, ASCO-Hartford 2nd Annual Mentoring Session in Geriatric Oncology, September, 2008

David R. Thomas, M.D.
Best Doctors, St. Louis Magazine

Associate Editor Journal of the American Medical Director’s Association, 2006-present

2009 National Delegate, American Directors Association, Charlotte, March, 2009

2009 Top Reviewers for The Annals of Internal Medicine

2008-2009 President, Missouri Association of Long-Term Care Physicians

GRANTS AND CONTRACTS HELD BY EACH FACULTY MEMBER

H. James Armbrecht, Ph.D.
Department of Veterans Affairs VISN 15 Bridge Grant, “Age-related Changes in Vitamin D Metabolism,” 2008-2009, $70,000.

Dr. Julie Gammack (second from the right) with her team on rounds
DIVISION OF GERIATRIC MEDICINE


William A. Banks, M.D.

VA Merit Review Grant, “Control of Drug Delivery to the CNS: Modulating P-glycoprotein,” 2009-2010, $200,000.


Susan A. Farr, Ph.D.

Joseph H. Flaherty, M.D.
Department of Veterans Affairs, “Consortia Conference on Delirium and Mental Status as the 6th Vital Sign,” 2009-2010, $6,500.

Julie K. Gammack, M.D.
Bureau of Health Professions, Health Resources and Services Administration, “Geriatric Academic Career Award (GACA),” 2007-2010, $65,000/year.

John E. Morley, M.B. B.Ch.


Miguel A. Paniagua, M.D.
Bureau of Health Professions, Health Resources and Services Administration, “Geriatric Academic Career Award (GACA),” 2007-2010, $65,000/year.

Terry V. Zenser, Ph.D.

During fiscal year 2009 the Division of Geriatric Medicine had four active studies with different sponsors. Due to confidentiality agreements and non-publicity clauses in contracts with sponsors, specific information pertaining to industry sponsored research may not be released in public documents.