

University Hospital Receives Stroke Center Designation

The creation of a stroke team composed of physicians, pharmacists, technicians, nurses and administrators who can be mobilized quickly to provide rapid medical diagnosis and treatment of stroke patients has led to the designation of University Hospital as a Stroke Center by the New York State Department of Health. University Hospital is the only Stroke Center in Central New York.

"This designation from the state health department recognizes University Hospital's thoughtful planning and commitment to providing the best, most comprehensive approach to caring for and treating stroke patients," said Phillip C. Schaengold, MBA, JD, chief executive officer of University Hospital. "It also underscores University Hospital's commitment to provide the best care for our patients through a collaborative approach to medicine. We have achieved this recognition because of the efforts of neurologists, emergency medicine physicians, pharmacists, nurses, technicians and hospital administrators."

To gain stroke center designation, University Hospital passed a rigorous

31-point review that examined the stroke team protocols and hospital policies for treatment of stroke, training of clinicians, neurological surgery services, patient education, and immediate access to radiological services, especially CT scans.

Medical experts say the most critical element in caring for and treating stroke patients is time and stroke centers have the ability to diagnose and treat patients quickly once they arrive through the Emergency Room door.

"A dedicated stroke team brings all the players to the emergency room in a matter of minutes," says Tarakad Ramachandran, MD '79, stroke director at University Hospital. "The CT scanner is quickly made available to provide us with the appropriate scans for diagnosis, and a pharmacist stands at the ready to mix the tissue plasminogen activator (tPA) to dissolve the blood clot, if appropriate. Much needs to be accomplished in a short period of time, and that is why a stroke team is so important to the care and treatment of our patients."



Celebrating University Hospital's designation as a Stroke Center by the New York State Health Department are, from left, Jeremy Shefner, MD, PhD, professor and chair of the Department of Neurology; Tarakad Ramachandran, MD, medical director of University Hospital's stroke program; Phillip S. Schaengold, JD, MBA, chief executive officer and senior associate dean for hospital affairs; Rochele Clark, RN, stroke program coordinator; Tim Perkins, director of Central New York Emergency Medical Services; and Sheree Murphy, director of quality for the American Stroke Association.



GROOMING THE NEXT GENERATION:

William Williams, MD, is known for his signature bow ties. Since the beginning of the year, two students in his Practice of Medicine small group, Greggory Laroche '09 and Drahmame Kaba '09, have been wearing bow ties to impress him. Course Co-Director Debra Buchan, MD '87 and POM Administrator Susan Flewelling decided to get his entire small group in on the act. Steven Scheinman, MD, dean of the College of Medicine, donated his bow ties for the occasion. Students surprised Williams on April 4 by gathering for this photograph.



BLACK TIE OPTIONAL: Upstate medical students wore traditional African formal dress for Upstate's Student National Medical Association celebration on February 25. The Student National Medical Association (SNMA) is the nation's oldest and largest organization focused on the needs and concerns of medical students of color. National membership includes nearly 5,000 medical students, pre-medical students, residents, and licensed physicians. Front row, sitting, left to right: Ngozi Okeke, Trisha Jorgensen, Ijeoma Anyanwu, Kimberly Blasius, Greggory Laroche, Shannon Maher, Oliver Masaba. Sitting, center: Olubukunmi Oyebola (fashion show coordinator) Back row standing, left to right: Dodji Modjinou, Mary Otoo, Shirley Obioha, Neelam Gidwaney, Twana Jackson, Eugene Essandoh, Daniella Akibo-Betts, Jason Swaby, Mary Morrissey, Erin Murphy, Sovan Powell, Oluwatoyin Showole, Chijioke Eseonu, Briani Ramsahai

Schaengold Named Senior Associate Dean and University Hospital CEO



Phillip S. Schaengold, JD, MBA, has been named chief executive officer of University Hospital, a position he has held on an interim basis since January

2005. In a first for Upstate Medical University, however, Schaengold's position carries the additional title of senior associate dean for hospital affairs in the College of Medicine.

"University Hospital and Upstate Medical University are one institution," says Steven J. Scheinman, MD, executive vice president and dean of the College of Medicine. "This is a wonderful way to integrate the hospital system and the College of Medicine into a single culture. Phil has established a sense of openness, vision, and teamwork that will serve SUNY Upstate well as we work toward our shared goal of providing excellence in our scholarly pursuits, patient care, and biomedical research."

As senior associate dean, Schaengold will be part of the decision-making process for matters related to the College of Medicine.

New Assistant Deans Named



N. Barry Berg, PhD, was appointed assistant dean for student affairs. In this role, Berg will be responsible for coordinating the medical student advisory dean and

academic support programs. Berg's previous work with the Office of Student Affairs includes the development of the summer gross anatomy program, coordination of minority student educational programs, residency advising, and service to the Medical Student Admissions Committee. Berg currently is responsible for coordinating gross anatomy courses for medical and physical therapy students.



Leslie Kohman, MD, was appointed assistant dean for faculty development. As assistant dean, Kohman will be responsible for faculty orientation, mentoring programs, and the coordination of all faculty development events in the College of Medicine. Kohman is professor of surgery and director of the Thoracic Oncology Program. She played a

key role in earning accreditation for University Hospital's cancer program and has been widely honored for her outstanding contributions to medicine. In 1997 she received the highest honor of the Association of Women Surgeons, and in 2005 was appointed a SUNY Distinguished Service Professor.



David Turner, PhD, was appointed assistant dean for curriculum. Turner is a professor of biochemistry and molecular biology whose research focuses

on adhesion of muscle and nerve cells to molecules of the extracellular matrix. He played a key role in designing and implementing curriculum renewal in the College of Medicine, an effort that he will continue to oversee in his new post. Turner has served as vice chairman of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, as director of the Cell and Molecular Biology Graduate Program and as co-director or director of three medical school courses, most recently Molecular Foundations of Medicine. He is a past recipient of the SUNY Upstate's President's Award for Excellence in Teaching.