Barbara Murphy, MD, Appointed Chair of the Department of Medicine

Barbara Murphy, MD, MB, BAO, BCh, FRCPI, a world-class physician-scientist known for her innovative research in transplant immunology, has been named Chair of the Samuel F. Bronfman Department of Medicine at The Mount Sinai Medical Center. Dr. Murphy, the Murray M. Rosenberg Professor of Medicine, is the first woman to serve as chair of Medicine at an academic medical center in New York City. She has been the department’s acting chair since June, and Chief of Mount Sinai’s Division of Nephrology since 2004.

Dr. Murphy also serves as the Director of Conduits at Mount Sinai’s Institute for Translational Sciences, and as the Dean of Clinical and Population Based Research. She has been consistently funded by the National Institutes of Health since 1997. Dr. Murphy’s current focus is on the use of genomics and genetics.

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Mount Sinai Receives Davies Award for Excellence

The Mount Sinai Medical Center received the HIMSS 2012 Enterprise Davies Award, an honor given by the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS). Mount Sinai was recognized for the implementation of its $120 million Epic electronic medical record (EMR) system that is improving quality of care and patient safety. HIMSS is the nation’s leading hospital information technology society.

To achieve this milestone, Mount Sinai demonstrated successful use of its Epic EMR through five case studies. Among those case studies was the highly acclaimed program, known as the Preventable Admission Care Team (PACT), which used the EMR as a tool to reduce 30-day readmission rates for Medicare patients by 56 percent, an important goal of the nation’s new Affordable Care Act.

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to investigate outcomes following renal transplantation. She holds one patent for a peptide that inhibits the immune response, and is awaiting approval for another for a urinary biomarker that predicts the development of fibrosis in renal transplants.

“As an outstanding leader in the Division of Nephrology, Dr. Murphy has helped elevate Mount Sinai’s renowned transplant programs to a new level,” says Dennis S. Charney, MD, Anne and Joel Ehrenkranz Dean, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, The Mount Sinai Medical Center. “Her innovative approach to patient care, research, and education will continue to enhance the Department of Medicine’s standing as one of the finest in the nation.”

Dr. Murphy says, “I am honored to take on the challenge of leading this extraordinarily talented team. The faculty in Mount Sinai’s Department of Medicine—the institution’s largest department—is world-renowned. Together we will continue to provide unsurpassed excellence in all areas, including patient care, research, and education.”

After receiving her medical degree from the Royal College of Surgeons in Dublin, Ireland, Dr. Murphy completed her residency and fellowship in Clinical Nephrology at Beaumont Hospital in Dublin. After moving to the United States to pursue a Nephrology Fellowship in the Renal Division of Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Harvard Medical School in Boston, she was recruited to Mount Sinai as Director of Transplant Nephrology for the Renal Division.

A past president of the American Society of Transplantation, Dr. Murphy also is widely published, and currently serves as Associate Editor for The Clinical Journal of the American Society of Nephrology, and as Consulting Editor for American Journal of Transplantation.

Friends of Mount Sinai Hold Annual Fall Fete

More than 350 of New York City’s young professionals gathered at The Metropolitan Club in November for the annual Friends of Mount Sinai Fall Fete to benefit the Young Scientist Cancer Research Fund (YSCRF) of The Tisch Cancer Institute. Danielle and Drew Anderman, Jenny and Benjamin Fischbach, Tracey Hanfling, and Elizabeth Right chaired the event that included appetizers and cocktails, dancing, and a silent auction.

Tyler Friedman, Chair of the Friends of Mount Sinai, welcomed the guests and thanked them for attending. The mission of the Friends of Mount Sinai is to cultivate the next generation of leadership and support for The Mount Sinai Medical Center.

“The Fall Fete is just one of the many ways to get involved with the Friends of Mount Sinai,” Mr. Friedman said. “I encourage you to experience our educational and social activities, and help further our commitment to The Mount Sinai Medical Center.”

The YSCRF supports young scientists who are pursuing innovative cancer research that can be translated into effective cancer therapies. Proceeds from the 2012 Fall Fete will be used to establish an award for a promising young scientist at Mount Sinai, and provide two years of funding for a cancer research project.

For more information, visit www.friendsofmountsinai.org.
Mount Sinai Graduate Student Honored by Forbes

Jillian Shapiro, 25, a third-year graduate student at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, recently was named to the Forbes second annual “30 Under 30” list of young people who have made significant contributions to their respective fields.

Ms. Shapiro’s discovery of a microRNA pathway that could someday advance treatments for multiple diseases led to her recognition by Forbes, in the January 21, 2013 issue. But, she says, her most important lesson as a researcher was learning that, “You can never just rule something out. You have to take a leap of faith and investigate first.”

That lesson stems from the genesis of Ms. Shapiro’s research, which began after she started working in the lab of Benjamin tenOever, PhD, Irene and Dr. Arthur M. Fishberg Professor of Medicine. Dr. tenOever, a highly respected scientist specializing in RNA viruses and small RNAs, wanted to see if viruses could achieve something theoretically impossible—deliver therapeutic small RNAs to specific cells in the body. The catch, however, was finding a researcher who was willing to devote his or her time to a venture that just about everyone in his lab considered risky.

But three months after joining Dr. tenOever’s lab, Ms. Shapiro proved that this venture was worthwhile. And after a year-and-a-half, she not only demonstrated that it was possible, she also established how the process occurs in animal models. To date, Ms. Shapiro has been the first author on two studies appearing in RNA, and the second author on studies appearing in Cell Host & Microbe, and Molecular Therapy.

“I am delighted that Forbes recognizes the significance of Jillian Shapiro’s research and the amazing accomplishment of having achieved this success by the age of 25,” says Dr. tenOever. “I have no doubt that Jillian will continue producing this type of paradigm-shifting research. This recognition is very well deserved and speaks volumes to the strength of Mount Sinai and the Department of Microbiology.”

Ms. Shapiro credits Dr. tenOever’s creativity and leadership as a mentor. “He’s a great advisor and a great scientist,” she says.

In the coming months, Ms. Shapiro’s research will explore the relationship between the microRNA pathway and virus infection. She also hopes to begin preparing to defend her doctoral thesis.

Researchers in Dr. tenOever’s lab, meanwhile, have started to apply her discovery to other virus studies, and are now investigating ways to use these viruses to treat a variety of diseases.

Mount Sinai Receives Davies Award for Excellence

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According to Eric Hartz, MD, Chair, HIMSS Enterprise Davies Award Committee, and Chief Medical Information Officer, Trinity Health, “Mount Sinai’s implementation of health care technology has allowed it to reach excellent clinical and financial value in the challenging environment of a medical teaching, patient care, and research facility. We encourage hospitals looking to implement an EMR to review Mount Sinai’s case studies.”

Kenneth L. Davis, MD, President and Chief Executive Officer, The Mount Sinai Medical Center, says, “The long-term benefits of our new EMR system, which I consider the backbone of our care today, are far-reaching. It enables new reimbursement models, improvements in safety and quality, and accelerated research and innovation.”

“We are extremely pleased to be honored by HIMSS with an award that reflects the broad, sustained efforts of the entire Mount Sinai community to adopt a forward-looking and integrated EMR system,” says Kumar Chatani, Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer.

The Davies Award is competitive: Only 5 percent, or 265 out of approximately 5,500 hospitals, have an advanced EMR system and were eligible to apply for the award. According to the award announcement, Mount Sinai also further distinguished itself by having a visionary leadership and governance structure, stringent program management methodologies, and clinical champions who drove the implementation.

“When designing the system, Mount Sinai placed a great deal of value on the input of hundreds of individuals from all levels of clinical care, and that’s been an important part of our success,” says Bruce Darrow, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor of Medicine (Cardiology) and Interim Chief Medical Information Officer.

“Implementation of Epic was not merely a technical installation, but a medical centerwide clinical transformation initiative,” adds Kristin Myers, Vice President of Information Technology, who has led the program since its inception.
Events

Faculty Headshot Session
This is open to faculty members who need pictures for their web profiles on the Mount Sinai Find-a-Faculty Directory. Bring a Mount Sinai ID. Those with a USB flash drive will be able to take their photos with them. Contact Susanne Erni at 212-731-7821 for more information.

Tuesday, January 15
8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Guggenheim Atrium

Grand Rounds
Diabetes
Andrew Stewart, MD, Professor of Medicine, Director of Diabetes, Obesity and Metabolism Institute, presents “Where Are We with Beta Cell Replacement and Regeneration for Diabetes in Humans with Diabetes?”
Thursday, January 10
8:30 – 9:30 am
Atran Building
Fourth Floor, Room AB4-11

Grand Rounds
Anesthesiology
Erin S. DuPree, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Senior Vice President, Medical Affairs, presents “TeamSTEPPS Education.”
Wednesday, January 16
6:30 – 8:10 am
Annenberg 13-01

Grand Rounds
Pediatrics
Stuart L. Goldstein, MD, Professor, Department of Pediatrics, University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, presents “Pediatric Acute Kidney Injury: Renal Angina and the Search of the Renal Troponin I.”
Thursday, January 10
8 – 9 am
Hatch Auditorium

Grand Rounds
Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine
Christine S. Ritchie, MD, MSPH, Harris Fishbon Distinguished Professor, Clinical Translational Research and Aging, University of California San Francisco, presents “Multimorbidity.”
Thursday, January 17
5 – 6 pm
Annenberg 10-3

Announcement
Mount Sinai Weight Loss Program
The Department of Clinical Nutrition will offer an eight-week weight loss program, titled “Join Winning by Losing,” beginning Thursday, February 7. The program costs $125 to join. To learn more, call Laurie Tansman, MS, at 212-241-7797.

An Evening with Broadway Legends
Through a continuing partnership, The Mount Sinai Medical Center and 92nd Street Y are co-sponsoring an event that explores the vitality of aging with Broadway stars Barbara Cook, Joel Grey, Sheldon Harnick, and Mary Rodgers.

Dennis S. Charney, MD, Anne and Joel Ehrenkranz Dean, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, The Mount Sinai Medical Center, will introduce these enduring stars, and participate in a discussion about their work and active lifestyles.

Dr. Charney is co-author of the new book, Resilience: The Science of Mastering Life’s Greatest Challenges. He will be on hand to sign books following the event.

Monday, January 21
7:30 pm
92nd Street Y
1395 Lexington Avenue

Tickets can be purchased at the Box Office, or by calling 212-415-5500.