A New Era for Biomedical Education, Research

Mount Sinai's leadership in biomedical research and patient care, together with Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute's expertise in engineering and invention prototyping, form the foundation for a new academic affiliation agreement between the two institutions. The agreement signals a new era of biomedical discovery and entrepreneurship for the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and Rensselaer.

The partnership, commemorated at a signing ceremony on Wednesday, May 22, promotes collaboration in educational programs and research, with the ultimate goal of developing innovative diagnostic tools and treatments for patients around the world.

Mount Sinai and Rensselaer plan to develop complementary research programs in neuroscience and neurological diseases, genomics, imaging, orthopaedics, cancer, cardiovascular disease, and scientific and clinical targets. The agreement also promotes joint funding in research programs, in areas such as precision medicine, drug discovery, stem cell biology, robotics and robotic surgery.

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Champions of Children’s Health

More than 700 attendees showed their support for children's environmental health at The Mount Sinai Medical Center's sixth annual Greening Our Children luncheon, held on Monday, May 20, at the Hyatt Regency Greenwich in Connecticut.

Proceeds from the event—which featured a guest appearance from actress and author Jessica Alba—will be used to support Mount Sinai's Children's Environmental Health Center (CEHC) and the Laboratory for Molecular Environmental Chemistry at Mount Sinai. The CEHC and laboratory are led by Philip J. Landrigan, MD, MSc, Dean for Global Health, the Ethel H. Wise Professor of Community Medicine, and Professor of Pediatrics; and Robert O. Wright, MD, Professor of Preventive Medicine, and Pediatrics, at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

The CEHC, founded by Dr. Landrigan in 2007, conducts research to identify the environmental causes of childhood diseases. Studies under way include an autism and learning disabilities discovery and prevention project; research into how environmental and genetic factors lead...
Jagat Narula, MD, PhD, Receives Honor

Jagat Narula, MD, PhD, was recently named a 2013 Master of the American College of Cardiology (ACC) for his leadership and educational contributions on behalf of the organization. This is the latest of several ACC awards that have been bestowed upon Dr. Narula, the Philip J. and Harriet L. Goodhart Professor of Medicine, Director of the Cardiovascular Imaging Program at Mount Sinai Heart, and Associate Dean of Global Health.

In 2012, Dr. Narula received the ACC’s Gifted Educator Award and was also designated as one of five “Innovators in Cardiovascular Medicine” for his substantial contributions in advancing research and education in cardiovascular imaging. His pioneering work includes describing the phenomenon of heart muscle suicide, and the detection of atherosclerotic plaques that are likely to cause acute heart attacks. He is actively involved in population-based heart attack prevention programs, including the multinational Heart Attack Prevention Program for You (HAPPY).

“Jagat Narula’s recognition as a Master of the American College of Cardiology is the highest honor bestowed on fellows to recognize a very few who have made major contributions to the ACC and the field of cardiology,” says Spencer B. King III, MD, Past President, ACC.

“This is a charge that all of its members, myself included, take as our fundamental responsibility,” says Dr. Narula, whose translational research has been published in both basic science and clinical journals, including Nature Medicine, Science, PNAS, The New England Journal of Medicine, and The Lancet.

“Dr. Narula continues to embody an unparalleled commitment to translational research and education in cardiology, not only as a physician and professor, but also as a distinguished member of the American College of Cardiology,” says Valentin Fuster, MD, PhD. “There is no greater legacy for a physician than sharing knowledge with the next generation of doctors and scientists, and in Dr. Narula we have a great educator who has helped make better physicians of us all.” Dr. Fuster is Physician-in-Chief of The Mount Sinai Medical Center, the Richard Gorlin, MD/Heart Research Foundation Professor, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, and Director of Mount Sinai Heart, the Zena and Michael A. Wiener Cardiovascular Institute, and the Marie-Josée and Henry R. Kravis Center for Cardiovascular Health. Dr. Fuster was recognized by the ACC in 2012 as one of two U.S. physicians who are “Legends of Cardiovascular Medicine.”
The Mount Sinai Medical Center has been named the first-ever official medical service provider and hospital of the USTA and the US Open. The five-year agreement calls for Mount Sinai to provide on-site clinical care for tennis players competing in the US Open, develop policies around injury prevention, and conduct educational outreach to promote the health benefits of playing tennis.

Mount Sinai is also the official sponsor of Arthur Ashe Kids’ Day, an annual tennis event for children, which takes place before the US Open on Saturday, August 24, at Arthur Ashe Stadium. Mount Sinai will have an informational booth on the grounds of the US Open, which will be held August 26 – September 9.

At a special press event held in Guggenheim Pavilion on Thursday, May 30, a temporary tennis court was set up to hold a demonstration that included tennis pros James Blake and Patrick McEnroe, General Manager of Player Development at the USTA, and children from the Harlem Junior Tennis and Education Program (HJTEP). The HJTEP was founded in 1972 to give inner-city children the opportunity to excel in tennis and develop self-discipline, self-esteem, and sportsmanship.

Alexis Chiang Colvin, MD, Assistant Professor of Sports Medicine at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in the Leni and Peter W. May Department of Orthopaedics at Mount Sinai, will serve as the Chief Medical Officer, and as Medical Advisor to the U.S. Fed Cup team. Dr. Colvin previously served as a consultant to the USTA for the US Open, providing medical care to the players.

Dr. Colvin's colleague, James Gladstone, MD, Associate Professor of Sports Medicine at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, is analyzing samples to assess the timing of exposure to chemicals. "I'm not sure if many of you know this about me, but I suffered from multiple health issues as a kid, including severe asthma, bouts of pneumonia, kidney surgery, appendicitis, and tonsillitis, and spent many nights in hospital rooms," Ms. Alba said in her acceptance speech. "So I was determined to create the safest and healthiest environment for my little ones—and not just for my family but for everyone."

She said she was moved to start The Honest Company when she broke out in welts after washing her daughter's clothing in a popular laundry detergent. "I called my mom and said, ‘There's no way this is safe for babies.'”

A renowned leader in the field of environmental health, Dr. Landrigan has published more than 500 scientific papers. Over the years, his research has led to national and local legislation governing the removal of lead from paint and gasoline, and banning BPA from baby bottles and children's cups. Dr. Landrigan's textbook on children's environmental health—the first on this subject—will be published in October.

The new Laboratory for Molecular Environmental Chemistry at Mount Sinai, headed by Dr. Wright, will enable the CEHC to conduct rapid analyses of toxic chemicals, something no institution other than the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta has the ability to do.
Events

Randomized Clinical Trials Workshop

The Office of Academic Enhancement and Mentoring and the Research Administration Reengineering Program are hosting a Randomized Clinical Trials Workshop, led by Michaela Kiernan, PhD, Senior Research Scientist, Department of Medicine, Stanford University. RSVP at www.surveymonkey.com/MNNTST5.

Tuesday, June 11
Session One: 9 – 11 am
Session Two: 11:15 am – 1:15 pm
Annenberg 19-79

Grand Rounds
Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine

Ula Hwang, MD, Associate Professor, Emergency Medicine, and Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine, presents “The Geriatric Emergency Department.”

Thursday, June 13
5 – 6 pm
Annenberg 10-30

Joseph L. Goldman
Alumni Day
Otolaryngology

Faculty speakers present “Updates in Otolaryngology.”
Keynote speaker:
Ralph Metson, MD,
Clinical Professor,
Harvard Medical School

Friday, June 14
7:30 am – 1 pm
Goldwurm Auditorium

Seventeenth Annual Complex Coronary Valvular & Vascular Cases

This symposium will cover emerging areas in the field of intervention, present information on the latest techniques and technologies, and help clarify areas of diagnostic and therapeutic controversy. Selected lectures will supplement the live cases, and unbiased commentaries by experts will help bring about consensus on appropriate strategies that physicians can apply immediately.

To register, go to www.cccsymposium.org, or call 212-731-7950.

Tuesday, June 11 – Friday, June 14
8 am – 5 pm
Stern Auditorium

July 2013 Mount Sinai
TOWN HALL

We invite you to attend one of Mount Sinai’s Town Hall meetings. Bring your colleagues and your questions to this lively, open exchange.

Tuesday, July 9
4 – 5 pm

Wednesday, July 10
9:30 – 10:30 am
7 – 8 pm

Stern Auditorium

Education

16th Annual Complex Coronary Valvular & Vascular Cases

Kenneth L. Davis, MD
President and Chief Executive Officer
The Mount Sinai Medical Center

Dennis S. Charney, MD
Anne and Joel Ehrenkranz Dean
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
The Mount Sinai Medical Center

David L. Reich, MD
Interim President and Chief Operating Officer
The Mount Sinai Hospital