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Boston University
BIOSAFETY LAB CONSTRUCTION TO BEGIN

BUMC recently received a decision from the federal government to fund construction of a biosafety laboratory on its campus. The facility will be called the National Emerging Infectious Diseases Laboratories and will work to develop diagnostic tests, drugs, vaccines and treatments for emerging infectious diseases.

This Record of Decision was issued by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), after an extensive process that involved public meetings and reviews by federal agencies.

BUMC already had received state and local approvals following extensive reviews by many agencies and BUMC participation in more than 200 community meetings.

In September 2003, BUMC was awarded $128 million by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, part of NIH, to build a laboratory that would study infectious diseases, whether they emerge naturally or are introduced through bioterrorism.

The laboratory will be part of a national network of secure facilities that study infectious diseases and will include Biosafety Level 2, 3 and 4 laboratories, where microorganisms such as the West Nile, equine encephalitis and ebola viruses may be studied under the most stringent safety and security requirements.
Team BMC: Marathoners dedicated to a cause

John Landry, an employee of Jordan's Furniture, took advantage of the unusually warm weather in January to train as a member of Team BMC for the 119th Boston Marathon on April 17. The Quincy resident, along with nine other Jordan's employees, are part of this year's 46-member Team BMC that will help raise funds for the medical center by running the annual marathon. Each is committed to raising at least $2,500 for BMC's various programs.

BMC received certifications as an Official Boston Marathon Charity last year, when 29 runners for Team BMC raised more than $125,000.

"When Jordan's presented me with a chance to run the marathon for charity, I accepted," Landry said. "At the same time, I need a great institution like BMC, it seemed like the perfect situation," said Landry, Jordan's assistant manager for Inventory Control. "I learned more about BMC and the great work it does every day, and felt privileged to support its commitment to providing accessible health services to all."

"BMC has assembled a great training program," said Landry. "I've had the opportunity to learn so much about the marathon equipment and the right approach to training. As a result, I can say that I'm running pain free."

"I'll never hit a ball out of Fenway, or score a touchdown at Gillette, but maybe I can cross the finish line in downtown Boston and take pride in having been a part of it," he added.

To sponsor a colleague and help raise funds for BMC's mission, visit www.bmc.org/marathon2006.

SWEET DELIVERATION

Lorenzo Glastra, FJ, associate dean for Academic Affairs, Sally Dwyer, operations manager, and Square Louis, MFIN, director, Diet Counseling Center at BMC, carefully considered their experiences with CBD and chose the CBD-oil-based dietary supplements, Delta-8-THC/THCV-Enriched CBD. The supplements are available in different dosages and contain THCV, which appears to reduce nausea and improve appetite.

Red Socks Campaign scores for patient safety

A part of the hospital's focus on improving patient safety, a new program to prevent patient falls is being implemented at BMC. "Patient falls are an incident of particular concern at the hospital," said Linda Gay, RN, director of Nursing Operations at BMC. "Many are preventable with patient assessment and interventions by medical, social and all employees."

The Red Socks Safety Campaign, developed by the hospital's Nursing Patient Safety Committee, provides red, slip-resistant socks to patients who are at risk for falling and should not be left alone. The bright colored socks alert staff to pay close attention, especially if the patient is observed walking unusually, said Gay.

The campaign, adopted from similar programs at other hospitals, was launched in December at the Menino Pavilion on 6 East, 6 West and 4 West. Based on two months of positive feedback and results, the program was expanded throughout the hospital on Feb. 14.

Training sessions have been offered to BMC physicians and staff from many departments, including Care Management, Nutrition, Patient Transport, Environmental Services, Human Resources and Respiratory Therapy.

Gay mentioned recent successes when an Environmental Services associate and Human Resources representative helped patients wearing red socks who were alone and in need of assistance. "Preventing patients from falling requires a team approach," said Gay. "Once our staff have been informed about the program and patients are identified, it's very easy to know what to do."

Kids Fund Dine-Out! March 21-23

Support BMC's Kids Fund by dining out at one of 12 South End restaurants participating in this year's Kids Fund Dine-Out on Tuesday, March 21 through Thursday, March 23.

Aquitaine, Boli's Southern Bistro, Cafe Umbra, Equator, Giacomo's, House of Tamale, Iras, Joe V's, Metro's, Prithvi and Union will donate 10 percent of the bill to the Kids Fund at BMC for customers who bring the special Dine-Out flyer inserted in this issue of MedCenter News. The flyer is also accessible at http://www.bmc.org/development.
March is National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

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"The most important way to prevent colorectal cancer is to get screened starting at age 50. People with a family history may need to begin screening at an earlier age," said Furtney, associate professor of medicine at BUMC. The majority of colon cancers develop over the course of several years from benign polyps, and can in most cases be prevented through screening and removal of these polyps. Recommended screening tests include colonoscopy every 10 years, flexible sigmoidoscopy every five years and stool testing for every year. Furtney encourages people to speak with their primary care provider about which test is best for them.

"Through regular screening and simple living habits, such as not smoking, eating a healthy diet and exercising, we can significantly reduce the risk of colorectal cancer," he said.

For a listing of lectureship luncheon this month on Colorectal Cancer see Calendar page 7.

BMC commits to cultural change

"Business results are produced as a result of the actions people take. Those actions are the product of the culture of the organization. Creating the culture, which will produce the desired results, is the role of the management team and the accountability of every person in the organization."

Recently, 100 senior leaders at BMC participated in a two-day off-site retreat to develop the core beliefs and actions BMC will use to sustain the essential work and business goals of the medical center and begin the cultural transformation process. During the next few months, more than 275 additional managers will be engaged in the process.

"Our goal is to involve every Boston Medical Center staff member in this process," said Elaine Ullan, BMC president and CEO. "Working as partners, we can enhance our ability to focus on and successfully accomplish our goals of volume, safety, satisfaction and cost control."

"Cultural transformation means changing the way each employee thinks and acts to support the successful accomplishment of the hospital-wide goals," said Evelyn Hecht, EdD, director, Organization Development and Training at BMC. Seven core cultural beliefs were created at the retreat that will guide the organization through the transformation process:

- Own It - Take responsibility for our results and refuse to blame others
- Teams Work - Achieve and sustain excellence through a commitment to working with others
- Step Up - Take and support risk to innovate, advance and achieve results
- Patient First - Create an excellent patient experience one patient at a time
- Build Trust - Expected and earn trust by openly communicating, listening and encouraging new ideas
- Delight - Seek and provide feedback and data to produce results
- I Can - Make exceptional things happen

BMC's Reward and Recognition Team will present four of these awards to two inpatient units, one outpatient unit, and one ancillary service provider.

At the January meeting, Shining Star Awards were presented to the medical center with the highest overall Press-Ganey patient satisfaction at East and North inpatient units at the Newswain Pavilion, the Gastroenterology Outpatient Unit and the Radiology Division.

"The trophies are a tangible way to recognize the outstanding work that BMC staff are doing," said Matthew Russell, RN, manager, Transitional Care Unit at BMC, and chair of the Reward and Recognition Team. "The care here will change from month to month so that each unit will have the opportunity to showcase the work they've done to help BMC reach its goals and also have a chance to win a trophy."

"We are pleased and honored that BUMC has received this decision from the federal government that and the lengthy and rigorous process is complete," said Mark Klempley, MD, principal investigator for the new laboratory and associate provost for Research at BUMC. "We are proud to now be part of the national network of dedicated scientists and researchers who will use this state-of-the-art facility to study heart attack, stroke and other chronic diseases that threaten Boston, the nation and the world."

The laboratory will be located at BioSquare on Albany Street. The lead architectural firm designing the facility is CUNHA. Construction on the facility began early this month and is expected to be completed in two and a half years.

"This project will greatly expand the research possibilities, and increase productivity and utilization, which will lead to new and exciting discoveries in the research field," added Shultz. "I have no doubt that my research and the resulting publications will strengthen my application for residency."

Faculty members interested in mentoring a student and interested in a research project this summer should visit http://www.bumc.edu/gradmedresearch.

BMC part of major genetic research study

"Using the latest technology, researchers will be able to obtain more information about the cause of heart attack, stroke and other chronic diseases. In the past, we've been able to make fairly rough correlations of hypertension and heart disease," said Karen Antman, MD, BUSM's professor of medicine and associate provost for Research at BUMC. "Now we should be able to say more precisely which genes are associated with which diseases, and it should take many fewer people to make those correlations."

"This project will greatly expand our knowledge and hopefully lead to new treatments and better strategies to prevent cardiovascular and other diseases," said Wolf.
Friends, employees boost Moakley Campaign

Ongoing financial contributions from BMC friends and employees are helping to make BMC's J. Joseph Moakley Building a reality. The Moakley building will offer consolidated cancer care and services in a spacious, centralized location on the BU Medical Campus, ensuring more timely and effective care for cancer patients. The building, now in the final stages of construction, is scheduled to open late this summer.

During the past few months, gifts and pledges totaling more than $2.4 million have brought the Moakley Campaign closer to meeting its $5.1 million goal, and closer to realizing a $2.5 million match from the Kresge Foundation, according to Norman Stein, vice president of Development at BMC. BMC doctors have contributed more than $1 million toward the Physicians' Campaign goal of $1.5 million. BMC's annual Employee Campaign has raised more than $250,000 so far.

Several friends of BMC recently pledged more than $1 million: Richard and Rosalyn Shiff increased their campaign commitment by $200,000 to $1 million, as did Timothy Berberich and Eileen Gebman. Additionally, through the Sidney and Esther Rabo Foundation and the Sidney R. Rabo Charitable Trust, Deborah and Michael Winter and Carol and Avram Goldberg pledged $100,000. Ocean State Job Lot Inc. contributed $150,000 to the Moakley campaign through a special holiday promotion at 27 of the company's stores in Massachusetts. Throughout December, the discount retailer sold festive mobiles to its customers for a $1 donation to support cancer care at BMC.

"This campaign is a broad-based effort that seeks the participation of our BMC community, as well as our loyal contributors," said Stein. "We are very grateful for the many generous contributions from our employees and friends." To make a donation to the Moakley Campaign, visit http://www.bmc.org/develop.

NURSING CAREGIVERS

Workers recall glass over the remains of the front of the Moakley building. These were the scenes in Allston Street.

South End Shop
Walk set for May 6

All shopping! It's time to lace up your sneakers and get ready for BMC's South End Shop Walk on Saturday, May 6.

Family, friends and community members are invited to participate in this new event that begins on Talbot Green and will help raise funds to support the women's health programs at BMC.

More than 50 establishments have signed up to participate in the event, including June's Bakery, Sam Campbell's, POSH on Tremont and Turtle. At 10 a.m., shoppers, runners and spa will open their doors and offer discounts to walkers. In order to receive the store discounts, participants must raise a minimum of $50. Walkers will be provided maps of all the venues participating in the event.

"Our female patients are among Boston's least visible and often come from low-income, immigrant and underserved communities," said Norman Stein, vice president of Development at BMC. "This event offers our donors and friends an opportunity to support BMC's women's health programs, and also enjoy being outside and taking part in a fun day of shopping at the wonderful shops and restaurants in our South End neighborhood.

For more information or to register, visit http://www.bumc.org/southendshop or call (617) 638-6930.

Ob/Gyn enhances patient services

BMC's three obstetrics and gynecology practice sites on the BU Charles River and medical campuses recently adopted a shared name.

The Women's Center in the Yawkey Ambulatory Care Center (ACC) and the ob/gyn clinic in the Doctors Office Building and on the Charles River Campus will now be known as Boston University Ob/Gyn Clinic.

"We wanted a name that would identify us with Boston University's medical and Charles River campuses," said Lise LeParmentier, MD, chair for Obstetrics and Gynecology at BMC and associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology at BUSM.

Among the three sites, services are offered in high-risk pregnancy, gynecologic oncology, infertility, ectopic pregnancy, prenatal diagnostic and genetic services. Specialized programs include family planning, ob/gyn for women with disabilities, and obstetrics care for women with substance abuse issues.

Services for women or victims of violence are available at BMC's Boston Center for Refugees Health and Human Rights.

To enhance patient care, added LeParmentier, BMC is building a new outpatient procedure unit in the Yawkey ACC. "This will allow some procedures that are too complicated to be performed in a doctor's office but do not need an operating room. A new post-partum service for the labor and delivery unit is also under construction in the Menino Pavilion, which is converting semi-private rooms to private rooms. "These building enhancements will help us provide the highest quality of care to all our patients, regardless of their site of care or ability to pay," said LeParmentier.

BMC announces WE CARE Award recipients

BMC honors employees and volunteers who have shown exceptional care toward others with their WE CARE Employee and WE CARE Volunteer awards.

The recipients of the WE CARE Employee Recognition Award for February 2006 are Matthew Brown, clinical social worker, Case Management, Newton Pavilion; Patricia Kishkoff, case manager, Geriatrics; Gargiola Medico, service associate for Environmental Services; and Sara O'Brien, RN, West, Newton Pavilion at BMC.

The recipients of the WE CARE Volunteer Recognition Award for February was presented to Brenda Hong, a Harvard University student who has given more than 200 hours of service to spina cord injury patients at BMC's Center for Clinical Simulation and Innovation. "BMC selected Hong because the program helps to make our teaching and research environment a more supportive and caring place in which to work," said Nancy Patmon, MD, assistant director of Human Resources at BMC.

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Susan Flah, PharmD, MPH, has been named co-director of BUMC's Master of Arts in Clinical Investigation Program, where she will be responsible for curriculum development and student mentoring. For the past three years, she served as associate director, Office of Clinical Research at BUMC. Fish is also associate professor of biostatistics at BUSPH.

Deborah Foumier, PhD, MS, director of the Office of Educational Research and Evaluation and assistant professor of diagnostic sciences and patient services at SDM, has been named associate dean for Institutional Planning and Evaluation at SDM. In her new position, Foumier will continue to oversee predoctoral and postdoctoral evaluation and also seek collaborative opportunities and partnerships across the BU medical and Charles River campuses.

New Appointments

Salomon Amar, DDS, MSD, PhD, professor of periodontology and oral biology at SDM, has been appointed associate dean for Research at SDM. In his new position, Amar will provide leadership and managerial expertise for existing programs at the school, establish new research initiatives and determine institutional research priorities. Amar is an internationally renowned scientist, educator and clinician who has contributed notably to SDM's research initiatives, including the discovery of two new genes. He serves on the editorial board of Journal of Dental Research and was named to the U.S. Federal Drug Administration's Dental Products Panel in 2004.

Vassiliki Cartson, DMD, MS, was recently appointed associate professor of orthodontics at SDM. Previously, she served as chief orthodontist at the Cambridge Health Alliance in Cambridge, Mass., where she also managed private practice. Cartson received her doctoral degree from the University of Athens, Greece, and a master's degree and orthodontics certificate from Tufts University School of Medicine.

From left, Wanda Turner, patient navigator, Sheila Norton, MSN, RN, OCN, clinical service manager; Breast Health Program, and Deborah Richard-Kwakulski, manager, Breast Imaging at BMC, display the Monroe E. Trout Premiers Care Award recently presented to BMC's Breast Health Services for helping breast cancer patients in its multicultural community access care more effectively and efficiently. Premiers, an alliance of not-for-profit hospitals and health care systems that recognizes exemplary efforts by community organizations to improve the health of the medically underserved, sponsored the award. BMC received the recognition, along with a $70,000 cash prize, at Premiers' 4th annual Governance Education Conference held in Scottsdale, Ariz.

The Family Advocacy Program at BMC recently received one of eight local grants awarded by Putnam Investments to support crisis-related services for children and families at risk of hunger and homelessness. The BMC program uses legal advocacy onsite in the pediatric clinic to help ensure that children's basic needs, including food, safety, housing and access to health care and appropriate education, are met.

Dan Natanson, DMD, MSD, chair, Department of Restorative Sciences and Biomaterials at SDM, was named Clinician of the Year at the 31st Yankee Dental Congress, an annual event sponsored by the Massachusetts Dental Society. The congress, attended by more than 27,000 dental professionals, took place in Boston Jan. 26-29.