



NEWS ABOUT UB'S SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES AND ITS ALUMNI, FACULTY, STUDENTS AND STAFF

S P R I N G 2 0 0 5

Pathways

Greenfield Appointed Clinical Professor

Saul P. Greenfield, MD, has been appointed clinical professor of urology in the UB School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.



Greenfield

He has been director of the Department of Pediatric Urology at Women and Children's Hospital

of Buffalo and a faculty member of the school since 1984.

Greenfield graduated magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa from Bowdoin College in 1973 and earned his medical degree at the University of Pennsylvania Medical School in 1977. He trained in urology at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center in New York City and was a fellow in pediatric urology at the Children's Hospital of Buffalo.

Among the many awards and honors presented to Greenfield include the Urology Resident Teaching Award to Faculty, and consistently being named among the Best Doctors in America.

He was granted a U.S. patent in 2004 for the Greenfield/Wan Infant Stirrups.

Greenfield has held board and officer positions of numerous professional societies, including the American Academy of Pediatrics-Urology Section and Society of Pediatric Urology. He has also served as president of the American Association of Pediatric Urologists and the Buffalo Urologic Society.

Greenfield has delivered more than 70 clinical presentations at national meetings. He has published more than 80 monographs and book chapters and co-edited, "Pediatric Clinics of North America: Updates on Pediatric Urology." He currently serves as editorial reviewer for the *Journal of Urology*, *Investigative Urology*, *Urology*, *Neurology and Urodynamics* and the *Journal of Pediatrics*, and was on the Editorial Board of the Pediatric Section, *Journal of Urology*.

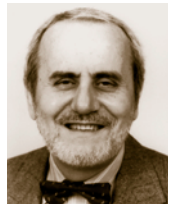
—JOHN MOSCATO

Ferrone to Serve on NIH Study Section

Soldano Ferrone, MD, PhD, chair of the Department of Immunology at Roswell Park Cancer Institute, has been invited by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to serve as a member of its Center for Scientific Review's Cancer Biomarkers Study Section.

Ferrone is a recognized national leader in the field of cancer immunology. His laboratory research program focuses on developing approaches to counter the multiple mechanisms used by human melanoma cells to escape immune recognition and destruction, and on designing a strategy to target humoral and cellular immunity to malignant lesions in patients with melanoma.

The NIH Cancer Biomarkers Study Section reviews applications addressing the discovery, validation and development of biomarkers for risk, early detection,



Ferrone

AMONG THE MANY AWARDS AND HONORS PRESENTED TO GREENFIELD INCLUDE THE UROLOGY RESIDENT TEACHING AWARD TO FACULTY, AND CONSISTENTLY BEING NAMED AMONG THE BEST DOCTORS IN AMERICA.

International Symposium Honors UB Inventor

SYDE A. TAHERI, MD, ASSISTANT CLINICAL
PROFESSOR OF SURGERY



BY LOIS BAKER

diagnosis, prognosis and progression of cancer. Members are selected on the basis of their demonstrated competence and achievement in their scientific discipline.

—DEBORAH PETTIBONE

Zivadinov and Bakshi Co-Edit Book

Robert Zivadinov, MD, PhD, associate professor of neurology at UB, and Rohit (Rob) Bakshi, MD '91, are coeditors of a book titled *Brain and Spinal Cord Atrophy in Multiple Sclerosis*, published in December 2004 by Nova Science Publishers, Inc.

Zivadinov is director of the Buffalo Neuroimaging Analysis Center (BNAC), located in the Jacobs Neurological Institute at Buffalo General Hospital, and executive director of the New York State Multiple Sclerosis Consortium. Bakshi, who is founding director of the BNAC, left UB last year to become director of Clinical MRI/MS Imaging at the Partners MS Center, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School.

Other UB collaborators include Ralph H. B. Benedict, PhD, associate professor of neurology, and Dominic A. Carone, clinical instructor of neurology, who coauthored a chapter titled "Brain Atrophy, Cognitive Dysfunction and



Zivadinov

Emotional Disturbances in Multiple Sclerosis."

Intended for general neurologists as well as specialists in multiple sclerosis (MS) and imaging, the book provides comprehensive discussion of central nervous system (CNS) atrophy involving the brain and spinal cord. Key issues covered include pathogenesis and its mechanisms, technical aspects of MRI measurement, the relationship between CNS atrophy and other MRI metrics, clinical relevance, the association with neurobehavioral and genetic-immunologic components of

A DEVICE THAT SAVES THE LIVES of patients with abdominal aortic aneurysms and its University at Buffalo inventor were honored at the International Symposium of Endovascular Treatment of Aortic Diseases held in Brazil February 1-2, 2005.

The device in the spotlight is the TALENT Thoracic Stent Graft, a synthetic graft supported by a metal stent that is used to stabilize or bypass a ballooning site in the aorta, the major blood vessel leading away from the heart.

The symposium celebrated the stent's 10th anniversary (it first was used on a human patient in Australia in 1995).

Syde A. Taheri, MD, UB assistant clinical professor of surgery, invented the device as a way to treat this life-threatening condition without performing major surgery, which was the only way to treat aortic aneurysms before the stent became available.

Since its introduction, the device has been implanted in 60,000 patients outside the U.S. Clinical trials currently are under way at 35 sites in the U.S. in preparation for Food and Drug

Administration approval.

Taheri was honored for his invention at the meeting by the Society of Vascular Surgeons of South America.

A thoracic aortic aneurysm that bursts is often fatal. Approximately 15,000 Americans die suddenly each year from such a rupture, making it the ninth leading cause of death in men over age 55. Five to seven percent of people over age 60 in the U.S. have abdominal aortic aneurysms, with men at significantly higher risk than women.

Using the stent allows physicians to avoid subjecting patients to major abdominal surgery, which often results in severe complications, including paralysis and death. The device, encased in a catheter, is threaded through a small opening in the major artery in the leg. The catheter is advanced through the artery under X-ray guidance to the aneurysm site, where the stent is released, unfolds to fit the diameter of the blood vessel, blocks the aneurysm and restores a stable path for blood flow. **BP**

MS, and the effects of disease-modifying therapies on tissue atrophy. Special attention is devoted to CNS atrophy as a clinically relevant biologic marker of the MS disease process.

—S. A. UNGER

Wagle Appointed to National Board

Datta G. Wagle, MD, clinical assistant professor of urology at UB, has been appointed to the board of directors of the American Urologic Association as representative of the organization's Northeastern Section. A senior partner at Main Urology Associates, Wagle also is chief of urology

at St. Joseph and Sisters of Charity hospitals, part of the Catholic Health System.

He is past president of the American Association of Clinical Urologists, as well as the Northeastern Section of the American Urological Association, and continues to serve on their respective boards. A board certified urologist and fellow of the American College of Surgeons, Wagle serves on the Catholic Health System board of directors, the Bishop's Catholic Health Care Task Force and is a member of 21 national and



Wagle



international organizations.

He has been honored with numerous service awards, including The American Urological Association's Distinguished Service Award, Northeastern Section, (only the seventh recipient of the award in the organization's 55-year history); the Dr. G. M. Phadke Memorial Oration Award from the National Conference of All India Urological Association; and the Caritas Award of the St. Joseph Hospital Foundation for community service.

—DENNIS MCCARTHY

Murray Named Associate Medical Director

Brian M. Murray, MD, associate professor of medicine



Murray

at UB, has been appointed associate medical director for Erie County Medical Center (ECMC), where he has been on staff since 1985.

In this role, he will oversee clinical research, quality improvement activities and clinical informatics and will work closely with the UB School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences to create an infrastructure that will enhance research activities at ECMC.

Murray received his graduate and undergraduate degrees at Trinity

College, University of Dublin. Following residency training in the Dublin area, he completed a renal fellowship at the University of Minnesota Hospital.

Board certified in internal medicine and nephrology, Murray has been director of dialysis services at ECMC since 1989 and was president of the ECMC medical-dental staff in 2001 and 2002. He is a fellow of the American College of Physicians, and a member of the American Society of Nephrology, The International Society of Nephrology, the American Society of Transplantation and the Central Society for Clinical Research.

—S. A. UNGER

Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery

Hashmat Ashraf, MD, has been appointed chief of cardiothoracic surgery at Kaleida Health.

A practicing surgeon for more than 20 years, Ashraf has been affiliated with Kaleida since 1996 and has been consistently rated among the top surgeons in New York State. He completed his general and cardiothoracic surgical training in Great



Ashraf

Britain, including four years at London's Harefield Hospital. There, under the direction of Sir Magdi Yacoub, he became proficient

in advanced adult and pediatric cardiac surgery, including cardiac transplantation.

In recognition of his surgical skills, Ashraf was inducted into the Royal College of Surgeons. He is also a Fellow of the American College of Cardiology and a member of the Society of Thoracic Surgeons, the American Society of Artificial Internal Organs, the American Heart Association and the Western New York Cardiovascular Society.

—MICHAEL HUGHES

Adragna Recognized for Service

Michael Adragna, MD, clinical assistant professor emeritus of anesthesiology at UB, has been recognized by the Malignant Hypertension Association of the United States for 20 years of dedication to a unique service called the Malignant Hypertension Hotline.



Adragna

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22

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Shelley Hirshberg, President

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School of Public Health and Health Professions

Maurizio Trevisan, MD, named dean

ON DECEMBER 9, 2004, University at Buffalo President John B. Simpson appointed Maurizio Trevisan, MD, dean of the UB School of Public Health and Health Professions, effective immediately.

Trevisan, an internationally renowned epidemiologist in the field of cardiovascular disease risk factors, served as interim dean of the school since September 2001.

“Professor Trevisan has been instrumental in guiding the successful merging of UB’s programs in social and preventive medicine and in health-related professions into a comprehensive, integrated, and forward-looking School of Public Health and Health Professions,” said Simpson at the time of the announcement.

Under Trevisan’s leadership, he added, the School of Public Health Professions “has come to exemplify UB’s mission to translate research and scholarly excellence into programs that have a significant, long-term impact on the larger communities served by the university.”

Satish K. Tripathi, UB provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, joined Simpson in praising Trevisan, noting that he is confident that under his leadership, the school will continue to advance the body of research in the field, provide exemplary educational experiences to its students and translate scholarship to benefit the public.

“Professor Trevisan’s appointment carries historical significance, as he is the first dean of the newly designated School of Public Health and Health Professions,” added Tripathi.

“A distinguished scholar, he has been integral in establishing the School of Public Health and Health Professions and, equally as important, he has been integral in shaping the vision and scholarly direction of the school.”

Trevisan joined the UB faculty in 1985 and served as chair of the Department of Social and Preventive Medicine from 1993 to 2003 when it was located in the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences and then when it became part of the School of Public Health and Health Professions. In October 2001, he was named interim dean of the former School of Health Related Professions. In January 2003, the school merged with the Department of Social and

Preventive Medicine to create the School of Public Health and Health Professions, at which time Trevisan was named interim dean.

Trevisan also holds appointments as professor in the UB Department of Family Medicine, adjunct professor with UB’s Nutrition Program and senior associate research scientist with UB’s Research Institute on Addictions. He is co-principal investigator with UB’s Clinical Vanguard Center of the Women’s Health Initiative and director of Health in Housing, a World Health Organization Collaborating Center located in the UB medical school.

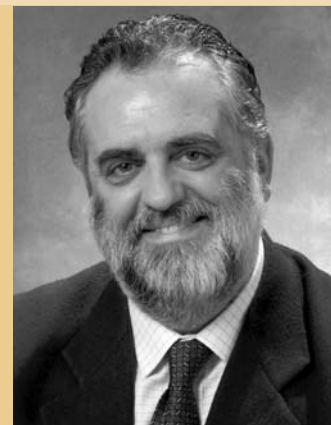
A fellow of the American College of Epidemiology and the Council on Epidemiology of the American Heart Association, he is executive editor of *Nutrition Metabolism and Cardiovascular Disease*. He previously was newsletter editor for the Council on Epidemiology and Prevention and was on the editorial boards of *Child Nephrology and Urology*, *Ethnicity and Disease*, and *The Clinical Journal of Women’s Health*.

Trevisan has authored or co-authored more than 200 scientific articles in peer-reviewed scientific journals, 24 book chapters and monographs and edited *Hypertension in Childhood* (W.B. Saunders 1989) with N.G. DeSanto and G. Capasso. He has made more than 40 invited presentations at national and international meetings, as well as at universities and other academic institutions.

He earned his medical degree from the University of Naples Medical School in Naples, Italy, and a master’s degree in epidemiology from UB. Before joining UB, Trevisan was a consultant with the Institute of Internal Medicine and Metabolic Disease at the University of Naples and a research fellow at Northwestern University.

In 2002, Trevisan received the SUNY Chancellor’s Research Recognition Award in recognition of his research accomplishments. Three years earlier he received the UB School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences’ Stockton Kimball Award, honoring a faculty member for academic accomplishment and worldwide recognition as an investigator and researcher. **BP**

—ARTHUR PAGE



Trevisan



Buffalo Physician Online

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Just go to www.smbb.buffalo.edu/bp

Back issues, starting with autumn 2004, are also available.

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Malignant hyperthermia is a silent, inherited metabolic disorder of muscle. Affected individuals usually appear healthy and have no functional difficulties in everyday life. However, when these individuals are given a triggering anesthetic the disorder may be fatal.

The MH Hotline is open seven days a week, 24 hours a day, to provide medical professionals around the world with real-time consul-

tation if they have a patient who is suffering from a suspected or actual episode of malignant hyperthermia. Adragna serves as a consultant for the hotline.

For more information about malignant hyperthermia, visit www.mhaus.org.

—S. A. UNGER

Ritter Joins Orthopaedics

Christopher A. Ritter, MD, joined UB's faculty as clinical assistant professor of orthopaedics on September 1, 2004,

and is affiliated with Erie County Medical Center.

A native of Western New York, Ritter earned a bachelor of science degree at Cornell University and a master's degree at UB prior to attending medical school at the State University of New York Health Sciences Center at Brooklyn.

He completed his surgical residency training in the Department of Orthopaedics at UB, after which he



Ritter

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completed a foot and ankle fellowship under Arthur Walling, MD, and Roy Sanders, MD, at the Florida Orthopaedic Institute, in Tampa, FL, where he specialized in post-traumatic reconstruction of the foot and ankle and total ankle replacement surgery.

—S. A. UNGER

Iyer Receives Dual Appointment

Renuka V. Iyer, MD, has joined Roswell Park Cancer Institute (RPCI) as a staff physician in

the Department of Medicine. She also serves as an assistant professor in the Department of Medicine in the UB School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.

Iyer earned her medical degree from Grant Medical College, University of Bombay, India in 1995, after which she conducted postdoctoral research at Fox Chase Cancer Center until 1998. She completed training in internal medicine



Iyer

at Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center affiliated with Cornell University, NY, and a fellowship in Medical Oncology at RPCI.

Iyer is board certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine with subspecialties in internal medicine and medical oncology. She is an ad-hoc reviewer for *Oncology* and is a member of the American College of Physicians, American Society of Clinical Oncology, American

Association for Cancer Research and the Radiation Research Society. Her laboratory research interest involves understanding the mechanism of the anticancer effects of vitamin D. Her clinical research is focused on quality of life in cancer patients and on developing novel treatments for patients with upper aerodigestive cancers, including non-small cell lung cancer, esophageal cancer, pancreatic cancer and cholangiocarcinoma. **BP**

—DEBORAH PETTIBONE

In Memoriam

Roger Cunningham, PhD '70

Associate professor of microbiology and immunology

ROGER K. CUNNINGHAM, PHD, associate professor of microbiology and immunology in the UB School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, died of cancer on December 24, 2004, at the age of 71.

Cunningham was a specialist in the study of human blood groups and blood-group antigens and had authored or co-authored 44 articles on the subject in scientific journals.

In 1992 he was named director of the Ernest Witebsky Center for Immunology at UB and served in that capacity for 10 years. The center, now known as the Witebsky Center for Microbial Pathogenesis and Immunology, is a highly regarded multidisciplinary research center for the study of bacterial, parasitic and viral diseases.

Working with students was his passion, however. "Teaching was his life," says his wife, Nancy Cunningham.

He was awarded the Louis A. and Ruth Siegel

Excellence in Teaching Award in 1979 and 1980, and received a letter of commendation for the award on five different occasions.

Outside of his academic life he was a gardener, a lover of dogs and was interested in animal rehabilitation.

A native of Enumclaw, WA, Cunningham received his bachelor's degree in zoology and chemistry from the University of Washington in Seattle and a master's degree in zoology and biochemistry from Clemson University. He earned a doctorate in immunology and microbiology from UB in 1970.

In 1971 he was awarded a fellowship from the Fogarty International Center of the National Institutes of Health, which provides international training opportunities in biomedical and behavioral research for faculty and graduate students. The fellowship allowed him to spend the next two years at the Medical School of Linkoping University in Linkoping, Sweden. He returned to UB in 1973 as assistant professor of microbiology and remained an active member of the

faculty until his death.

Cunningham had served as a consultant in microbiology and diagnostic serology for UB's Student Health Center since 1974. He was a member of the Scientific and Medical Advisory Committee for the Buffalo Regional Red Cross Blood Center from 1974 to 1983. He also served as assistant director of the clinical laboratory for Health Care Plan, Inc. He was a member of several scientific organizations, including the American Society of Zoologists, the American Society for Microbiology and the Council of Biological Editors.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by two sons, Roy of Buffalo, and Carl of Seattle; a daughter, Shelia Fricke, of Bainbridge Island, WA; a brother Thomas, of Seattle, and a granddaughter, Ella Williams, of Bainbridge Island. A daughter, Anna, and a brother, Richard, preceded him in death. **BP**

—Lois Baker

