CUMC CELEBRATES acknowledges faculty, staff, and students at Columbia University Medical Center who receive grants and major awards, who are elected to honorary societies, or who take leadership positions in professional organizations. Celebrates also gratefully acknowledges the gifts made by donors and friends of the Medical Center and highlights faculty who have appeared in the news recently. If you have an award or honor that you would like to have listed in Celebrates, please fill out this online form (http://www.cumc.columbia.edu/award-honor-submitting). Please note: all federal grants are automatically included based on institutional data.

FEDERAL RESEARCH GRANTS

COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS

Raphael Clynes, Department of Pathology and Cell Biology; Angela M. Christiano, Department of Dermatology; Lori Sussel, Department of Genetics and Development; and Benjamin Tycko, Department of Pathology and Cell Biology, have received $6.6 million over four years from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases for “Epigenetic Events Underlying Type I Diabetes.”

Timothy Cragin Wang, Department of Medicine-Digestive and Liver Diseases, has received $6 million over five years from the National Cancer Institute for “Stem Cells and the Origins of Barrett’s Esophagus.” He also has received $2.6 million over five years from the National Cancer Institute for “Myofibroblasts in Gastrointestinal Cancers.”

Hilda Hutcherson, Diversity Affairs, has received $3.75 million over five years from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for “A Public Health Workplace Experience to Increase Minority Student Interest in Public Health.”

George Hripcsak, Department of Biomedical Informatics, has received $3.3 million over five years from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases for “HIT for Facilitating Problem Solving in Diabetes Management.”

Lawrence Schwartz and Binsheng Zhao, Department of Radiology, have received $3 million over five years from the National Cancer Institute for “Quantitative Volume and Density Response Assessment: Sarcoma and HCC as a Model.”

Uttiya Basu, Department of Microbiology, has received $2.4 million over five years from the National Institutes of Health for “Regulation of Adaptive Immune Response By Large Intergenic Non-Coding RNA.”
FEDERAL RESEARCH GRANTS

**Wendy Chung**, Department of Pediatrics-Molecular Genetics; and **Jo C. Phelan**, Department of Sociomedical Sciences, have received **$2.1 million over three years** from the National Human Genome Research Institute for “Impact of Return of Incidental Genetic Test Results to Research Participants in the Genomic Era.”

**Lorraine Clark**, Department of Pathology and Cell Biology, Taub Institute for Research on Alzheimer’s Disease and the Aging Brain; and **Elan D. Louis**, Departments of Neurology and Epidemiology, Taub Institute and Sergievsky Center, have received **$1.8 million over three years** from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke for “Identification of Susceptibility Genes for Essential Tremor.”

**Sharon Wardlaw**, Department of Medicine-Endocrinology, has received **$1.74 million over five years** from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases for “CSF Neuropeptide, Hormonal, and Metabolomic Analysis in Human Energy Balance.”

**Eugene Mosharov**, Department of Neurology, has received **$1.7 million over five years** from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke for “Interaction Between DA, Alpha-Synuclein and Chaperone-Mediated Autophagy.”

**Yinghui Mao**, Department of Pathology and Cell Biology, has received **$1.5 million over five years** from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences for “Formin mDia Functions in Mitosis.”

**Gregg Gundersen**, Department of Pathology and Cell Biology, has received **$1.5 million over four years** from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences for “Role of Nucleo-cytoskeleton Interactions in Cell Migration.”

**Cathy Lee Mendelsohn**, Department of Urology, has received **$1.4 million over five years** from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases for “Generating Molecular Markers that Selectively Label Urothelial Sub-populations.”

**Robert Whittington**, Department of Anesthesiology, has received **$1.2 million over four years** from the National Institutes of Health for “The Impact of Prolonged Anesthetic Exposure on Tau Pathology and Function.”
MAILMAN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

David Hoos, Department of Epidemiology, ICAP, has received $50 million over five years from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for “Technical Assistance for the Continued Sustainable Provision of Comprehensive Quality HIV/AIDS Services in the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia under the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) - New York.”

Wafaa El-Sadr, Departments of Medicine (P&S) and Epidemiology, ICAP, has received $15 million over five years from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for “HIV Prevention Services, Capacity Building Assistance and Evaluation Activities for High-Risk, Underserved Populations in the Republic of South Africa under the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) - NY.” She also received $3.6 million over five years from the CDC for “Technical Assistance to the Ministry of Health (MOH) for HIV Services and Program Transition in the Republic of Mozambique under the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) - NY.”

Elaine Abrams, Departments of Pediatrics (P&S) and Epidemiology, ICAP, has received $6.1 million over five years from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for “Improving Care and Treatment for TB/HIV Co-Infected Children Through the Establishment of Comprehensive Pediatric TB/HIV Activities in the United Republic of Tanzania under the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) - NY.” She also received $5.6 million over five years from the CDC for “Supporting Local Organizations to Implement and Expand Comprehensive HIV/AIDS Prevention, Care, and Treatment in the Republic of Cote d’Ivoire under the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) - NY.”

Ruth Ottman, Departments of Epidemiology and Neurology (P&S), and G.H. Sergievsky Center, has received funding from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke for a Center without Walls for Collaborative Research in the Epilepsies. The project, titled “Epi4K: Gene Discovery in 4,000 Epilepsy Genomes,” includes six linked R01 grants. Dr. Ottman is principal investigator on two of these grants: Phenotyping and Clinical Informatics Core ($2.1 million) and Whole Genome Sequencing in Multiplex Families and Pairs ($945,000).

Karolyynn Siegel and Helen-Maria Lekas, Department of Sociomedical Sciences, have received $1.9 million over three years from the National Institute of Mental Health for “Online Partnering of Heterosexuals and HIV Risk.”

Batya Elul, Department of Epidemiology, ICAP, has received $1.45 million over five years from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for “Strengthening HIV Strategic Information in the Republic of Mali under the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR).”
FEDERAL RESEARCH GRANTS

Jeffrey Shaman, Department of Environmental Health Sciences, has received $1 million over four years from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences for “Influenza Outbreak Prediction: Applying Data Assimilation Methodology to Make Skillful Forecast of an Inherently Chaotic Nonlinear System.”

Lambert Lumey, Department of Epidemiology, has received $1 million over three years from the National Institute on Aging for “Prenatally Induced DNA Methylation Profiles and Disease Risk at Age 60.”

AWARDS & HONORS

COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS

Carol Mason, Department of Neuroscience, has been elected to the Institute of Medicine.

Cory Abate-Shen, Department of Urology, has been named an American Cancer Society Research Professor.

Rita Charon, Department of Medicine, has received the 2011 Alma Dea Morani, M.D., Renaissance Woman Award from the Foundation for the History of Women in Medicine, honoring an outstanding woman physician or scientist in North America who has furthered the practice and understanding of medicine in our lifetime.

Janis Cutler, Department of Psychiatry, has been elected president, for a two-year term, to the Association of Directors of Medical Student Educators in Psychiatry.

Dawn L. Hershman, Department of Medicine–Oncology, has been chosen as one of Prevention magazine’s Integrative Medicine Award winners for 2011, in recognition of her work studying how acupuncture can decrease pain for women who take aromatase inhibitors.
AWARDS & HONORS

Gerard Karsenty, chair, Department of Genetics and Development, has received the 2011 William F. Neu- man Award from the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research, recognizing an ASBMR member for outstanding and major scientific contributions in the area of bone and mineral research.

Azra Raza, Department of Medicine-Oncology, has been selected as one of the four honorees receiving the 2012 Award of Excellence from The Hope Funds for Cancer Research, which is dedicated to advancing innovative research for the most difficult-to-treat cancers. The other three honorees are Nobel laureate Elizabeth Blackburn, PhD, of the University of California, San Francisco; Presidential Medal of Freedom awardee Janet Rowley, MD, of the University of Chicago; and Joseph Schlessinger, PhD, of Yale.

Marie-Pierre St-Onge, Institute of Human Nutrition, has been named as a member of the finance committee of the Obesity Society.

COLLEGE OF DENTAL MEDICINE

Ira B. Lamster, dean; and Dennis Mitchell, have been named to the New York State Medicaid Redesign Team: Basic Benefit Review Work Group, which will examine the latest cost-effectiveness research and value-based benefit design initiatives to see what lessons can be gleaned for NYS Medicaid.

Panos N. Papapanou has been named vice chair, Gordon Research Conference in Periodontal Diseases, 2013; and chair of the 2015 Gordon Research Conference in Periodontal Diseases by the Gordon Research Conference Attendees, July 2011, in recognition of his contributions to periodontal research.

MAILMAN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Barbara Barlow, Department of Epidemiology, has received the 2011 CDC Foundation Hero Award for 25 years of work in the field of traumatic injury to children and injury prevention.
AWARDS & HONORS

Marlyn Delva, associate dean of student affairs, was given an award this summer by the Dr. Toribio Bencosme Hospital in Moca, Dominican Republic, for her work with the hospital and for fostering key university partnerships.

Wafaa El-Sadr, Departments of Medicine (P&S) and Epidemiology, ICAP, has been awarded the Society Citation from the Infectious Diseases Society of America, recognizing exemplary contribution to IDSA and outstanding achievements in the field of infectious disease.

Mady Hornig, Department of Epidemiology, and W. Ian Lipkin, Department of Epidemiology, have received the 2011 Charles C. Shepard Science Award for Assessment and Epidemiology. Drs. Hornig and Lipkin co-authored the publication “Epidemiologic Investigation of Immune-mediated Polyradiculoneuropathy Among Abattoir Workers Exposed to Porcine Brain,” which was cited as the best manuscript or original research published in a peer-reviewed journal by scientists working at CDC or Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

Karestan Koenen, Department of Epidemiology, is president-elect of the International Society for Traumatic Stress. She will assume her role as president in the fall of 2012.

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Sarah Cook has been elected to the board of directors of the International Society of Nurses in Genetics.

Lorie Goshin has received the Rising Nurse Researcher Award from the New York Nurses Center for Nursing Research Foundation for excellence in developing an emerging program of research, demonstration of interest in nursing research, and quality of research.

Kathleen Hickey has been elected president of the International Society of Nurses in Genetics.

Judy Honig and Rita John have received the Pediatric Mental Health Specialist certification from the Pediatric Nursing Certification Board. They are part of the first group to receive this certification.
PHILANTHROPIC GIFTS
(Gifts received since September 15, 2011)

COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS

A bequest of $1.57 million will establish a professorship fund in the Department of Pediatrics.

The Celgene Corporation made a grant of $100,000 to advance research in the Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center.

The American College of Rheumatology Research and Education Foundation made a grant of $198,800 to support research in the Division of Rheumatology.

A family foundation made a gift of $350,000 to advance pancreatic cancer research in the Department of Surgery.

A donor made a gift of $200,000 to the Department of Surgery to support pancreatic cancer research.

The Simons Foundation made a grant of $130,950 toward its commitment to advance the work of the Institute of Cancer Research.

A $150,000 gift from the Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund will support pancreatic cancer research in the Department of Surgery.

A $1.5 million commitment from the Ralph Schlaeger Charitable Foundation will support a fellowship in the Department of Radiology.

A gift of $250,000 will support pancreatic cancer research in the Department of Surgery.

Two individual bequests of $250,000 will support a professorship in the Department of Dermatology.

COLLEGE OF DENTAL MEDICINE

A bequest of $250,000 will support scholarships at the College of Dental Medicine.

A bequest of $219,400 will provide unrestricted support to the College of Dental Medicine.

A bequest of $324,165 will support scholarships at the College of Dental Medicine.
PHILANTHROPIC GIFTS
(Gifts received since September 15, 2011)

SCHOOL OF NURSING

The Lincoln Fund awarded $50,000 to support scholarships for students attending the School of Nursing.

MAILMAN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

The Birth to Five Policy Alliance awarded a grant of $100,000 to the National Center for Children in Poverty.

The Robin Hood Foundation awarded a grant of $200,000 to support Project STAY.

A bequest of $250,000 will support scholarships at the Mailman School of Public Health.
CUMC Celebrates

NOVEMBER 2011

CUMC MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

The Washington Post

‘Contagion’ consultants talk about the movie’s scientific accuracy – September 12, 2011
ScienceNOW, the online news site of Science magazine, hosted a discussion with two consultants on the new Stephen Soderbergh thriller “Contagion.” Laurie Garrett, who has reported on infectious diseases for 30 years and recently wrote “I Heard the Sirens Scream: How Americans Responded to the 9/11 and Anthrax Attacks,” and W. Ian Lipkin, a neurologist and epidemiologist at Columbia University who has helped identify several new infectious agents.

The New York Times

After Setbacks in Harvesting Stem Cells, a New Approach Shows Promise – October 6, 2011
A team led by Scott Noggle and Dieter Egli of the New York Stem Cell Foundation has now gone back to the basics by trying to improve on the original method of using oocytes to generate patient-derived embryonic stem cells. The New York Stem Cell Foundation researchers had the advantage of access to plentiful oocytes because they worked with a Columbia University program that pays donors $8,000.

Gel Cuts Women's Risk of Herpes, Study Finds – October 21, 2011
A vaginal gel that sharply reduces a woman’s risk of infection with the AIDS virus is even more effective against genital herpes, a much more common risk for young American women, a new study has found. The new study, involving lab experiments, was done to explain why the trial worked, said Dr. Salim Abdool Karim, a professor of epidemiology at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in South Africa and Columbia University and one of the Caprisa trial leaders.

WALL STREET JOURNAL

Applying Venture Philanthropy to Chronic Fatigue Syndrome – September 15, 2011
Venture philanthropy — the model used to accelerate research and drug development in diseases such as multiple myeloma and cystic fibrosis — is now being applied to a new arena: chronic fatigue syndrome. Researchers will use “very specific criteria to ensure we have representation of many of the aspects of CFS that may increase chances of finding a pathogen if it is still present in blood samples or other samples we will be acquiring,” says Mady Hornig of Columbia University, who is a co-director of the pathogen discovery piece.

Los Angeles Times

Ovarian cancer: BRCA2 mutation associated with improved survival – October 12, 2011
Having mutations in the BRCA1 or BRCA2 genes leads to a higher risk of breast and ovarian cancers in women, but the mutations don’t affect health outcomes in exactly the same way. Learning more about how BRCA1 and BRCA2 mutations affect the body could help scientists treat ovarian cancer more effectively, wrote Drs. Victor R. Grann and Ramon E. Parsons, both of the Columbia University Medical Center, in an accompanying editorial.

FDA to review safety of osteoporosis drugs – September 13, 2011
U.S. Food and Drug Administration advisers recommended Friday that osteoporosis drugs such as Fosamax, Actonel, Boniva and Reclast come with revised labels, clarifying how long a patient should take a drug before potential health risks set in. While these side effects shouldn’t be downplayed, “when you consider the number of very dangerous, life-threatening fractures that are prevented by these drugs, the benefits dwarf the side effects,” said Dr. Elizabeth Shane, also a professor of medicine at Columbia University in New York City.
Scientists use cloning to make human stem cells – October 5, 2011
U.S. scientists for the first time have used a cloning technique to get tailor-made embryonic stem cells to grow in unfertilized human egg cells, a landmark finding and a potential new flashpoint for opponents of stem cell research. The research was done in the New York Stem Cell Foundation Laboratory in New York in collaboration with doctors and researchers at Columbia University Medical Center, whose institutional review board and stem cell committees reviewed and approved the study protocols.

Marijuana a major cause of accidents? – October 17, 2011
“Given the ongoing epidemic of drug-impaired driving and the increased permissibility and accessibility of marijuana for medical use in the U.S., it is urgent that we better understand the role of marijuana in causing car accidents,” study author Dr. Guohua Li, professor of epidemiology at Columbia University, said in a written statement. U.S. researchers conducted a meta-analysis that found drivers who test positive for marijuana are more than twice as likely as other drivers to be in a crash. Senior author Dr. Guohua Li of Columbia University’s Mailman School of Public Health said the meta-analysis provides compelling evidence for an association between marijuana use and crash risk.

Ira Flatow and guests look at the psychological effects of 9/11, and what researchers have learned since then about caring for victims of psychological trauma. Sandro Galea is a Gelman Professor and chair in the Department of Epidemiology at the Mailman School of Public Health commented on the topic.

Breast Cancer Gene Boosts Survival From Ovarian Tumors in Study – October 11, 2011
Ovarian cancer patients with a genetic mutation best known for its ties to breast cancer have a higher survival rate than those without the mutation, a study in the Journal of the American Medical Association found. The study is a major advance in understanding how new treatments for ovarian cancer should be used, wrote Victor Grann and Ramon Parsons, from Columbia University Medical Center’s cancer center in an editorial accompanying the study.

New York-Presbyterian Hospital surgeon on mission to help low-income women – October 2, 2011
Martin’s surgeon, New York-Presbyterian’s Dr. Sharyn Lewin, reassured her patient. “You’re going to live a nice long life. It looks like we got it all in time.” Martin, 48, is among dozens of low-income Hispanic women who are able to get world-class medical care because of the northern Manhattan neighborhood they live in. … Lewin, 36, joined the gynecologic oncology division at Columbia University in 2009 after completing a fellowship at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. Last year she won the coveted “Physician of the Year” Award from the hospital.