MCG Library presented material portraying Antony’s medical first

Among the accomplishments of Dr. Milton Antony, one of the founders of the Medical College, was the performance of the first thoracotomy, a cutting operation on the chest wall. In recognition of this event, which took place in Augusta in March of 1821, Dr. Robert Ellison, chief of the section of thoracic and cardiovascular surgery at MCG, has presented the Medical College with a booklet containing documentary materials illustrating the operation of the performance of the operation. In addition to the booklet, Ellison included a framed photograph of the original freehand drawing done by Antony himself of the patient showing the site of the thoracotomy. Ellison relates that Antony’s procedure was identified as the first deliberate entrance into the plural cavity in a 1953 edition of The Journal of Thoracic Surgery. “In view of the significance of this accomplishment by Dr. Antony, it seemed appropriate to document this historical event at the Medical College of Georgia.”

The photograph and the booklet may be seen in the rare book room of the MCG Library.

Deadline for FY '84 purchases

MCG is quickly approaching the end of another fiscal year and budget cycle. Because of this, deadlines for receipt of departmental requests by the Procurement Division are required. The time figures for common categories are:

- May 11 - Departmental Requests estimated to cost over $5,000 (except special approval items listed below).
- June 11 - Departmental Requests for subscriptions.
- June 18 - Departmental Requests for under $5,000.
- June 18 - Departmental Requests for purchases of items on State Contracts, Agency Contracts, and Service Orders for Repair, etc.

Dates for special approval are:

- March 21 - Electronic Data Processing Requests to Computer Services.
- April 23 - Printing

The 1984 Heart Fund is currently underway at MCG. This year’s goal is $3,900, according to Dr. Martin Frank and T. R. Pearre, Jr., campaign co-chairmen. The goal for Richmond/Columbia counties is $77,090.

"All gifts will be welcome," says Frank, "and, if everyone gives as little as one dollar, we will exceed our goal." Cards providing for payroll deduction as well as direct contributions have been included in employees’ pay envelopes. Contributions to the Heart Association have helped reduce the death rate from heart disease by 24 percent over the past decade, according to the co-chairmen. Of every dollar given the Heart Association, 25.5 percent goes to medical research, 21 percent to community service, 6 percent to public health education, 8.6 percent to the national program, 6.6 percent to management and support costs and 11.3 percent to fund raising costs.

MCG has received more than $1.5 million from the American Heart Association since 1952 for its research and education programs.
ESP: Barbara Gibbs

Congratulations, Barbara Gibbs, on being selected an Extra Special Person at MCG and Talmadge Hospital.

Gibbs, patient coordinator in the Oral Surgery Clinic, is called a valuable part of the clinic. "She really keeps the clinic going when things seem to get hectic," her nomination says. "She is always concerned about our patients' care and treatment and she gives our new patients a very good first impression with her willingness to help and her never-ending smile!"

Keep up the good work! ESP puts the spotlight on special people who, through their attitude or actions respond in special ways to the needs of patients, their families, visitors and co-workers. Nominations may be sent to ESP, in care of Hospital Administration.

Giving new patients a good first impression has helped make Barbara Gibbs an ESP.

Chicago professor to speak at MCG March 19

Dr. Leon Goldberg, professor of pharmacology and medicine at the University of Chicago Medical Center, will speak at MCG at noon March 19.

The talk, the first in a planned annual lecture series in clinical pharmacology sponsored by Pfizer Pharmaceuticals, will be held in the auditorium of the School of Dentistry. Goldberg will focus on the use of dopamine and related drugs in the treatment of shock and its effect on the body's blood vessels and kidneys. In addition to the Pfizer Lecture, he will present a research seminar on the effects of changes in the basic structure of the drug. The seminar will be held at 6 p.m. in the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology in the R & E Building.

Copy center suited for large or small jobs

"During December, a slow month, the MCG copy center made 1,026,044 photocopies," says Sonny Mitchell, manager of the copy center, a section of the Procurement Division.

On a monthly basis, the 52 convenience copiers found in various departments on campus produce half a million copies and the three photocopy duplicators average 750,000 copies in the MCG copy center.

Mitchell says advantages of using the copy center are: quick turn around time, less costly, better copy quality, collating, automatic duplexing, reduction capabilities, pre-drill and color paper stock.

The copy center prices are billed at $0.16 per copy plus 16 cents for each original. For example, one thousand copies made in the copy center would cost the department $16.16 as compared to $35 ($0.35 per copy to most users) if they were made on a convenience copier.

A major concern of the copy center is the loss or theft of auditor keys. These are the keys used to activate the copier and record the total copies made.

Mitchell says, "We are considering converting to a micro meter control system." Instead of using an auditor key, a plastic coded card similar to a credit card would be used. Advantages of this system would be: a lost card could be invalidated immediately upon notifying the copy center; cost of the card would be $5 compared to $3 for an auditor key unaccounted photocopies would be eliminated; an efficient automated monthly billing would be provided.

"In order to produce maximum copy quality, all originals submitted to the copy center should be typed on plain white Xerox or mimeograph paper," Mitchell says.

The copy center is totally self-supporting. The charge for photocopying services is used to pay current maintenance fees, plus purchase of new or replacement copiers.

All users are encouraged to send their photocopy requests to either the main center, room B13-135 or the satellite center located in the Research and Education Building, room CB1B-5 when they desire 11 or more copies of an original.

News briefs

Doctor's offices move

The offices of Dr. Malcolm Page and Dr. Ronald Spearman have been moved from rooms 540, 542 and 544 of the Sydenstricker Wing to rooms 139 and 141 of the Residence 3 building. The phone numbers for these offices will remain the same.

Auditions encouraged

Auditions for employees wishing to participate in the musical entertainment for MCG's Annual Service Ceremony will be held on Thursday, March 29, from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the Large Auditorium, Auditorium Center. Please prepare a brief audition piece or bring a sample of your talent. Come any time during the 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. period that is convenient for you. Anyone who cannot attend the auditions should call Sue McChuffle at extension 3790 to arrange a special audition. The Service Ceremony will be held during the second weekend in May, 1984.

Personnel mailbox

The Personnel Division has installed an after hours mail drop in order to provide accessibility after normal working hours. The mail drop is located to the right of the main (Floyd Circle) entrance to the Personnel Division building. The mail drop is for the use of employees in submitting paperwork to Personnel after 5 p.m. and on weekends.

Finding the store at the copy center are Grace Scott and Sonny Mitchell.
Notables


New Car Loans now 12.9 percent at the Health Center Credit Union

If you're buying a new car, check with the credit union to compare financing and monthly payments.

Promotions

MICHAEL D. MARTIN, Pub Syf Pol Off from Pub Syf Pol Cdt;
BERTHA E. MOORE, Med Rcd Tec 1 from Sr Secety;
MARVIN MOSS, Grounds From 1 from Grounds Kpr 1;
KAREN M. WIDMAR, Sr Med Trans from Adm Secety;
BEVERLY E. WILLIAMS, Comp Opr from 1 EDP Clerk 2, KELVIN L. WILLIAMS, Stores Clerk 1 from Custodial Wkr 1;
PAULETTE T. BROWN, Sr Adm Secety from Sr Secety; TELINDA M. CARTER, Nurs Ast 3 from Nurs 2;
MAUREEN CORLES, LPN 1 from Nurs Ast 2;
DAVID P. ERNERT, Oste Press Opr from Oste Egp Opr;
MONTZ M. GORDON, Sr Secety from Clerk;
MARIE A. GREEN, Food Svc Wkr 1 from Custodial Wkr 1.

R.D. GAMBRELL JR MD, Endocrinology and Obstetrics and Gynecology was awarded Foundation Prize of the Society for his work on the prevention of breast and endometrial cancer, at Sourashtra Institute of Medical Sciences in Ahmedabad, India, February 19, 1984.


HARTLAGE and R. Levitti PhD, private practice, Miami, Fla, presented "Clinical Utility of a Multiple Block Design Test" at annual meeting of International Neuro-psychological Society, Houston, February, 1984.

R. GREEN PhD, DSc, Ophthalmology and Physiology, presented "Potential for the Use of Marine Bioluminescence" at School of Chemistry, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Ga., February, 1984.

Two-day substance abuse seminar to be held March 21-22 at MCG

The director of a state program for health professionals who have become addicted to alcohol or other drugs will speak at Talmadge Hospital March 22 as part of a two-day program on substance abuse. The program, sponsored by the MCG Department of Psychiatry, will be held March 21-22 in the Psychiatric Studio in Talmadge.

Dr. C. Douglas Talbott, director of the Georgia Impaired Professionaals Program in Atlanta, will speak March 22 at 10 am. The first day's speaker will be Dr. Melody Ann Stancil of LaGrange, Ga., director of District Four Health Services. Stancil will speak at 10:30 am March 21 on chemical dependency on college campuses.

Talbott is associate professor of psychiatry at the Emory University School of Medicine. He also is director of Ridgeview Institute's Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program and the Medical Association of Georgia's Disabled Doctors Program.

An addictionologist, he specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of disease dealing with the abuse of and addiction to alcohol and other drugs. He is a member of the American College of Physicians and the American College of Healthcare Executives.

A graduate of Columbia Medical School, he served a consult to the National Space Agency in the selection of the United States first seven astronauts. He later founded and directed a Dayton, Ohio, institute utilizing computers and space-age technology to study and treat heart attack victims.

Talbott later joined the faculty of the Rutgers School of Alcoholism and the Maryland Institute of Addiction. He also served as medical director of the Baltimore Alcohol Program and director of the DeKalb County Alcohol and Drug Program in Atlanta.

Stancil, a graduate of Queens College, received her MD degree from the Medical College of Pennsylvania and is on the medical staff of West Georgia Medical Center in LaGrange.

Regents make MCG appointments

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia made several appointments to the MCG faculty at their February meeting.

Dr. Benjamin Bashinski, an MD graduate of Tulane University who has been working in the Department of Neurology at Tulane, was named assistant clinical professor in the Department of Neurology.

Dr. Larry Cotran, an MD graduate of MCG where he completed his residency, was named assistant professor in the Department of Surgery (Plastic). Dr. John Edelsberg, an MD graduate of the University of Rochester who recently completed a Master of Public Health at the Harvard School of Public Health, was made assistant professor in the Department of Family Medicine.

MCG tv log for Channel 7

THURSDAY 3/15
1 pm: M2B SCANNERS
2 pm: THE IMPACT OF HOSPITALIZATION ON THE CHILD AND FAMILY
FRIDAY 3/16
1 pm: NJHA UPDATE
1:30 pm: AHA ANNUAL MEETING
MONDAY 3/19
1 pm: OBESITY: ETIOLOGY; PHYSIOLOGY & TREATMENT

As a national affiliate of Healthcare Information Network, MCG television services has permission to tape this program for distribution on campus only. If your department or section would like to review any of these programs at other than broadcast times or if you would like to keep them for future use, please contact the MCG television services will be glad to copy them for you on our tape or yours for $5 per hour. Please allow five working days notice. Payment can be accomplished by IBA. For more information, contact television services at ext.3811.

TUESDAY 3/20
1 pm: STATE OF THE ART: M2K LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES
2 pm: PERSONAL FINANCIAL PLANNING
WEDNESDAY 3/21
1 pm: THE IMPAIRED PHYSICIAN PROGRAM
2 pm: GRAND ROUNDS U.S.A. (featuring MCG this week)
Treatment available for sufferers of premenstrual syndrome

Headache, diarrhea, nausea, low blood sugar, water retention, nervousness, and depression. Are these symptoms of a new strain of virus? No, these are symptoms of premenstrual syndrome, a problem which affects 40 to 50 percent of otherwise normal women during the last seven to 10 days before menstruation, says Dr. William E. Barfield Sr., assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology at MCG.

Barfield, who also has a private practice in gynecology and gynecologic oncology, wrote about PMS back in 1959 before many people had heard of this disorder, which is also called premenstrual tension. It has been called the "newest women's health issue in the United States," but as Barfield points out, the syndrome was described in medical literature back in 1931.

PMS has been blamed for everything from marital discord and work absenteeism to criminal behavior, suicide attempts, and psychiatric break downs.

Is it real? Yes, says Barfield. "Premenstrual tension is an important and ever-present complaint which should command the attention of every physician."

What causes PMS? No one knows for sure. The cause probably differs from patient to patient. There are several theories about the cause of PMS, including: a deficiency of the hormone progesterone; a deficiency of vitamin B; which is needed to break down estrogen in the liver; a vitamin A deficiency; a lack of vitamin E and/or consumption of caffeine, both of which appear to be involved in breast swelling and tenderness; and an abnormality in carbohydrate metabolism which causes low blood sugar. Low blood sugar (hypoglycemia) is a condition which has, among other symptoms, headaches, nervousness and faintness.

Is there a cure? There are therapeutic measures which can be taken, says Barfield, to alleviate practically all of the symptoms, although he stresses that "no one therapeutic approach will suffice for all patients."

Barfield counsels his patients with moderate premenstrual tension to adjust their lifestyles. "Limit your sodium intake," he says. "Increase your water intake—and I mean water, not tea or cola. And when premenstrual hypoglycemia is evident, I suggest frequent protein feeding. The patient often forgets that (high protein) food is often a better sedative than a pill at this time."

If the premenstrual symptoms are severe, says Barfield, a three-treatment approach may be needed: a diuretic to alleviate sodium and water retention, a tranquilizer to treat emotional and nervous symptoms, and progesterone to treat disorders of the hormonal metabolism and menstrual abnormalities.

"Interestingly enough," Barfield adds, "I have found in my practice that progesterone treatment alone often relieves most premenstrual tension without the need to resort to other treatments."

"The old philosophy was that premenstrual tension was all in a woman's head," says Barfield. "Now we know differently: we know that premenstrual tension is a problem that has a scientific explanation; and we know that we must approach the problem medically. There is a solution."

William Kerwin (right) talks with John Bowen during a reception for Kerwin on his retirement from MCG. He has been assistant custodial superintendent in Physical Plant's housekeeping section.

Calendar

Current...

TUESDAY 3/20

Students for Community Involvement, Assignments and Review, Peter Rush, SCI student coordinator, noon, room 303, R & E Bldg.

School of Medicine Faculty Senate Meeting, 4 pm, room SC 130, Auditorium Center.

WEDNESDAY 3/21

Department of Psychiatry Grand Rounds, "Alcoholism and Drug Addiction," Dee Stancil MD, Director, District Four Health Services, LaGrange, 10:30 noon, third floor classroom, Tallmadge Hospital.