Distance education helps ease shortage of med techs

by Ellen Gladden

This spring a handful of students will graduate from the Medical College of Georgia without ever having set foot on its campus.

Students in 27 cities, from Eugene, Ore., to Albany, Ga., are attending lectures by MCG faculty via the Internet and new equipment in the Medical Technology Department. In June, the department received the first of three Tegrity WebLearner systems that will be housed in the School of Allied Health Sciences. This semester, faculty completed training and began broadcasting to distance-learning students the same lectures given to students on campus.

"From an instructor standpoint, Tegrity doesn't involve as much additional work as other distance-learning systems," said Dr. Elizabeth Kenimer Leibach, chair of medical technology. "Previously, faculty would take their lecture notes and PowerPoint presentations to the library and have them compressed to Web CT (Web-based instruction software). Students could read slides and lecture notes, but didn't get the actual lecture. Now, instructors can tape the lecture in the room while it is delivered and distance students can view the instructor-student interaction at the time of recording."

The system's digital document camera allows instructors to record notes made on overhead projections, zoom in on PowerPoint slides or record keystrokes and mouse clicks made to access a Web site. A remote microphone and additional camera record the instructor's facial expressions and speech, allowing Web learners to get the entire lecture. Completed lectures are uploaded to a server by the Information Technology Division and can be viewed in See Tegrity page 2

Dean co-edits book on cardiovascular disease, diabetes

by Toni Baker

Dr. David M. Stern, dean of the Medical College of Georgia School of Medicine, is co-editor of a new book for physicians and students titled "Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease: Integrating Science and Clinical Medicine."

Dr. Stern co-edited the book with Dr. Steven P. Marso, a specialist in cardiac intervention with Cardiovascular Consultants, P.C., a large group practice that covers parts of Kansas and Missouri.

The book, scheduled for release in late October, outlines the vascular manifestations of diabetes, detailing recent discoveries about how diabetes impacts blood vessels coupled with the latest treatment information for diabetics with vascular disease. It is published by Philadelphia-based Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, an international publisher of professional health information for physicians, nurses and students.

Dr. Stern, a prominent diabetes and vascular researcher who directed the Center for Vascular and Lung Pathobiology and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Center at the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Columbia University in New York before becoming dean in April 2002, also wrote a chapter for the book with his New York colleagues. The chapter focuses on RAGE, or receptor for advanced glycation end products, which Dr. Stern first identified as a binding receptor for sugar-modified proteins that accumulate in the blood vessels of diabetes.

Also, Dr. Stern co-authored the book's preface with Dr. Mario B. Marrero, MCG biochemist who has collaborated with him on several research projects.

Dr. Stern identified experts to write chapters on the basic science of how the blood vessel wall is impacted by diabetes. Dr. Marso, who developed the idea for the book, similarly orchestrated the clinical chapters.

"The idea is to give readers in one book something they See STERN page 11

Student sports season sizzles

Nursing school awarded board approval

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Ask the president

Editor’s Note. Each month the Beeper includes a Q&A session with MCG President Daniel Rahn. Submit your MCG-related questions via e-mail to president@mcm.edu.

I read that Russ Tadl, the president of the Georgia Cancer Coalition, resigned. What does this do to MCG’s cancer initiative and do we still have plans to build a center on campus?

Russ Tadl has indeed resigned as president of the Georgia Cancer Coalition. In light of this transition, Gov. Sonny Perdue has appointed a committee to review the mission and direction of the coalition. I have been asked to serve on this committee, which is being co-chaired by Hamilton Jordan, a strong advocate for cancer care and research who served as President Jimmy Carter’s chief of staff, and Dr. Louis Sullivan, former president of Morehouse School of Medicine and former U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services.

MCG is committed to cancer research and high-quality cancer care. Changes in the GCC organizational structure or leadership will not alter this commitment. GCC’s support to MCG, to date, has funded 11 eminent cancer scholars and has partially underwritten the operating expenses of our tumor tissue bank. We have received state funds and private donations to help design and construct our cancer research facility. We continue to expand our tumor tissue bank. We have received state funds and private donations to help design and construct our cancer research facility.

Dr. Daniel Rahn

Beeper

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Dr. Ellison honored in national women in medicine exhibit

by Toni Baker

Dr. Lois T. Ellison, medical historian in residence at the Medical College of Georgia, is featured in an exhibit honoring women in medicine at the National Library of Medicine in Bethesda, Md. “Changing the Face of Medicine” focuses on the professional and personal triumphs of women in medicine since they gained acceptance into medical schools 150 years ago. The exhibit is open to the public until April 2, 2005. More information about the exhibit is available at www.nlm.nih.gov/changingthefaceofmedicine.

Dr. Ellison, MCG Provost Emeritus and Professor Emeritus of Medicine, is a 1950 graduate of the MCG School of Medicine who overcame pulmonary tuberculosis and a resulting near four-year delay in her studies to fulfill her lifelong dream of being a physician. She worked as a research associate at MCG while pursuing postdoctoral studies in cardiopulmonary physiology under Dr. William E. Hamilton, then physiology chair and developer of the first method of measuring intravascular pressure. Dr. Ellison joined the faculty in 1951. She was named associate dean for curriculum in the School of Medicine in 1974, provost a year later and associate vice president for planning (hospitals and clinics) in 1984. She retired in April 2000 and assumed her duties as medical historian.

Her research interests have included preoperative and postoperative studies, open-heart surgery, alveolar surfactant and cardiovascular and pulmonary physiology. During the 1950s, she and her husband, Dr. Robert G. Ellison, established the first cardiopulmonary laboratory at University Hospital in Augusta, then served MCG’s teaching hospital. The lab, which she directed, was moved to Eugene Talmadge Memorial Hospital, now MCG Medical Center, when it opened in 1956.

She received the American Lung Association’s highest award, the Will Ross Medal, in 1998 for her contributions to preventing and controlling lung disease. She has served as the association’s president, a member of its board and its Georgia representative. Dr. Ellison received the MCG School of Medicine Lifetime Achievement Award in 1996 and the YWCA’s Women of Excellence Award in Health in 1993. She was the first woman president of the Georgia Thoracic Society in 1956 and in 1979 became the first woman to serve as an at-large member of Oak Ridge Associated Universities, a board of nationally recognized scientists. Dr. Ellison was the first female president of the Alumni Association of the School of Medicine at the Medical College of Georgia in 1998 and received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the association in 1992.

TEGRITY… from page 1

real time or in streaming video, any time day or night.

“Students can pause the presentation, refer to an online class manual, then return to the presentation right where they left off,” said Glenn Owen, educational program specialist for technology in the Department of Medical Technology. “It’s really a very advanced but user-friendly system. As faculty walk through the training and become familiar with it, we’re getting very positive comments.”

Distance education is no new endeavor for the department. As the biotechnology industry grew in the 1980s and 1990s, so did the need for medical technologists. Dr. Kenimer Leibach notes in 1993 MCG began offering a bachelor of science degree in medical technology via the Internet. Meanwhile, medical technology baccalaureate programs at Columbia State University in 1995 and at Georgia State University in 1998 and Georgia citizens’ needs for expanded academic options increased.

“In the Southeast, the vacancy rate for medical technologists is among the highest in the country,” said Dr. Elizabeth Kenimer Leibach. “In Georgia, it’s 8 percent. As the only institution in the state to offer bachelor’s and master’s-level medical technology programs, we are providing an educational option for non-traditional students and for technical school graduates currently working in laboratories and looking for additional education.”

Distance students who complete MCG’s 61-hour medical technology curriculum via the Internet are matched with clinical affiliates, hospitals or laboratories where they receive clinical training. While completing the six-semester program, students often do internships with their clinical affiliate.

“We’re getting clinical affiliates in these various cities to help with the basic skills education of our students,” said Dr. Kenimer Leibach. “It requires a little more work on their part, but they are willing to do it because a great majority of the students will stay and fill job vacancies where they complete internships.”

Grant funds from the Intellectual Capital Partnership Program of the University System of Georgia Office of Economic Development funded the $35,000 Tegrity system. Because of its success with faculty in occupational therapy and nuclear medical technology, two additional Tegrity units are on route.

“It’s really been a great program for us,” said Mr. Owen. “If other departments or units would like to utilize this technology to offer programs, we would be happy to help.”

For more information, contact Mr. Owen at ext. 1-3046.
New network now being implemented

by Ellen Gladden

The teamwork of many departments brought the first set of buildings onto the Medical College of Georgia’s new computer and information network Oct. 27.

Now in the implementation stage, MCG Prime (Project to Renovate the Infrastructure for Medical Excellence), is establishing a single, cohesive up-to-date network for campus and clinical activities.

Excellence), is establishing a single, cohesive up-to-date network for campus and clinical activities.

Communications systems in the Alumni Center, dermatology and sickle cell clinic buildings and the Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home are now configured to the new system.

“The next phase is to assess these conversions and reconfigure any protocols or plans that may be necessary,” said Chris Zeigler, MCG manager of network operations. “We want to make changes to ensure the process is as seamless as possible in future conversions.”

To assist the project and ensure all equipment remains functional through the network upgrades, all computer users should report every application or device that attaches to the network. All biomedical devices, research equipment, printers or other network attachments within an area should be confirmed with the unit or division systems administrator. All applications must be tested prior to implementation to ensure compatibility with the new system and to prevent any possible downtime.

(For a status of applications already tested, see the MCG Prime Web site at www.mcg.edu/mcgprime.)

“While this is a huge technology project, it will not be successful unless we get everyone’s attention about how this may impact them,” said Mr. Zeigler. “If we convert the network in a particular area and an application, instrument or set of computers and printers was not previously tested, those items may not work. Both the MCG and MCG Health, Inc. help desks have been in touch with departments to discuss applications and schedule testing times.”

For more information about particular applications, contact the appropriate help desk, ext. 1-7500 for MCG Health, Inc., and ext. 1-4000 for MCG.

To minimize outages and downtime, network conversions have been scheduled at night. Support staff will be available the next day to handle any issues that were not addressed the night before.

“At least two days prior to the work being done, systems administrators and building coordinators will receive a schedule confirmation notice,” said Mr. Zeigler. “On the hospital side, business analysts will be notifying users. Signs will be posted on entrance and exit doors in the affected areas.”

The next areas scheduled for implementation are the Sports Medicine Center building and the dental school. A systems status calendar is available via the MCG events calendar at www.calendar.mcg.edu or at www.mcg.edu/mcgprime.

Bits & Bytes

Can servers and computers be synchronized to atomic time now? If so, what is the procedure? How do different program times get synchronized?

Synchronizing a computer’s time is as simple as using a Network Time Protocol (NTP) server. An NTP server will synthesize the computer’s time with system time. Users can adjust the time by using an NTP client application such as Automachron (www.onguycoding.com/automachron/).

Automachron is a freeware Simple Network Time Protocol for synchronizing a computer’s time with a Network Time Protocol server. Automachron works under Windows 95/98, NT4, Windows 2000 and Windows XP. During the first start of Automachron users will be prompted to enter an NTP host from which to get time. On campus, the NTP host is 158.93.7.43 port 123, which will synchronize with the firewall and with atomic clocks.

Macintosh computer users can set the NTP server (158.93.7.43) in the “Date & Time” preferences. In OS 10.x Date & Time can be found under “System Preferences.” Under earlier Mac operating systems, Date & Time is found in the control panel; check “Use a Network Time Server” and add the MCG NTP server under “Server Options.”

Don’t forget President Rahn’s State of the University address Thursday, Nov. 20 at 4:00 p.m. in the large auditorium.

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Clinic targets head, neck, jaw pain

by Christine Hurley Deriso

On only the second session of a Medical College of Georgia School of Dentistry orofacial pain clinic, it’s a mixed blessing that business is booming.

One patient complains of severe head and neck pain, plus an occasional suffocating sensation. Another patient notes constant clicking and popping in her jaw joint, accompanied by facial pain she rates as eight on a scale of zero to 10. A third patient points below her ears to indicate the source of her pain, which she notes is most severe early in the morning.

“I have a piercing pain in my upper jaw,” explains yet another patient, whose jaw has become locked in place because of rheumatoid arthritis and the scar tissue of several resulting surgeries.

All readily acknowledge they are at the brink of despair.

The clinic’s practitioners are exceedingly gratified to help, but sad that the demand for their service is so high.

“We get calls every day,” says Dr. Joseph Konzelman, professor of oral diagnosis. Migraine headaches alone plague about one in 10 Americans, and other sources of head, neck and/or jaw pain such as temporomandibular joint disorders affect millions more.

Dr. Eric T. Rippert, an oral/maxillofacial surgeon, was frustrated to know that many pain sufferers could benefit from the collective expertise of different specialists, yet were likely to receive fragmented care. Head, neck and jaw pain, Dr. Rippert notes, is often a complex problem requiring a willingness to look beyond the confines of a single specialty.

So rather than sending patients from one specialist to the next to piece together the puzzle of their pain, Dr. Rippert spearheaded the Multidisciplinary Orofacial Pain Clinic. The clinic, which opened this fall and treats patients the third Wednesday of each month in the dental school, pairs oral surgery, oral medicine, prosthodontics and psychology. The clinic hopes to soon add oral and maxillofacial radiologists, orthodontists, physical therapists, neurologists and other pain-related specialists to the team.

“Chronic pain of the head, jaw and neck is usually a complex problem, often involving joints, muscles, nerves and blood vessels,” says Dr. Konzelman. “In addition, patients with chronic pain, particularly in this area of the body, often develop depression, anxiety or other psychological symptoms.”

The multidisciplinary clinic not only minimizes doctor visits but enables specialists to share their observations on the spot, consulting after the examination to jointly develop a treatment plan, says Dr. Rippert, director of the clinic.

During session two, Dr. Wayne Herman, associate professor of oral diagnosis, and Dr. Solon Kao, an oral surgery resident, join Drs. Konzelman and Rippert in the clinic.

The patient with the suffocating sensation is determined to have myalgia, which causes her head to pitch forward unnaturally. The posture pinches the esophagus and causes the suffocating sensation.

“When the head rolls down and forward, the curve of the spine is altered, compressing the esophagus,” Dr. Konzelman explains.

The dentists’ approach to treating the pain includes obtaining a complete family and medical history; studying laboratory reports, radiographs and other test results; inquiring about lifestyle and everyday habits, such as tooth-grinding; examining the teeth and observing the bite; and listening intently to what the patient has to say.

Dr. Konzelman studies one patient’s radiographs and asks her to say “his-house-horse-church.” He then nods and confirms, “Her jaw moves from side to side when she talks, causing posterior mandible misplacement.” The problem can be solved with a vinyl appliance to fit over her top teeth. The dentists also diagnose problems she didn’t know she had, including a folic acid deficiency and periodontal disease.

“We can likely prevent further bone deterioration if she begins flossing regularly and getting her teeth professionally cleaned,” Dr. Konzelman says. “Otherwise, she’ll eventually lose all her teeth.”

The patient with the suffocating sensation is determined to have muscular myalgia, which causes her head to pitch forward unnaturally. The posture pinches the esophagus and causes the suffocating sensation.

“When the head rolls down and forward, the curve of the spine is altered, compressing the esophagus,” Dr. Konzelman explains.
Mini-medical school up and running

by Ellen Gladden

Dozens of CSRA residents entered 'medical school' Tuesday, Oct. 14 thanks to efforts by Medical College of Georgia Professor Alan Roberts.

Mastermind of the MCG Mini-Medical School, Dr. Roberts secured grant funding from Pfizer, Inc., to provide classes for the public to learn more about science and medicine. MCG faculty members and guests from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are teaching the courses on a variety of topics including antibiotics, gene therapy and healthy sleep habits.

Dr. David M. Stern, dean of the MCG School of Medicine, welcomed participants and discussed how programs like the Mini-Medical School strengthen the health care system.

"The future of health care is a consumer-driven model," said Dr. Stern. "The key issue is the knowledge base of the patient. The more informed the patient, the better prepared he or she will be to make important choices related to medical problems. Choices such as, 'Which doctor should I engage to treat a particular disorder?' Which hospital should I go to? Which approach to treatment do I want to consider? What is the role of complimentary and alternative medicine in my care?"

"The mini-med school is a wonderful opportunity to become more informed about many different aspects of medicine. It is a start in what should be a life-long journey to understanding more about health and disease. It should help you gain insight into where to go to seek information about medical questions."

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**Principal Investigator:**
Michael F. Bergeron, Ph.D., FACSM
Georgia Prevention Institute, HS-1640, Department of Pediatrics • Medical College of Georgia
Phone: (706) 721-4534

For more information, please contact the Study Coordinator: Elaina Hall, B.S. at (706) 721-4534

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Beeper deadline
The deadline for the Nov. 13 issue is Nov. 5. Deadline for the Nov. 26 issue is Nov. 18. Send story ideas or announcements to Beeper Editor Ellen Gladden at (706) 860-5455 (phone), ext. 1-4410 (phone), egладen@mail.mcg.edu, (e-mail). Advertising inquiries should be addressed to publisher Dan Pearson, PO Box 397 Augusta, GA 30903-0397 or call (706) 880-8455.

Practice opportunity fair
The Graduate Medical Education Office will sponsor a Practice Opportunity Fair, Thursday, Nov. 6, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Alumni Center for housestaff, senior medical students, physician assistants and nurse prac­titioners. Representatives from community hospitals, health centers, health maintenance organizations and others will discuss career opportunities throughout the state. Peggy Shull from the State Medical Education Board will discuss state loan repayment. For more information, contact Holly Wolp, graduate medical education manager, at ext. 1-3052.

Sexual health symposium
Boston University School of Medicine and the National Foundation for Sexual Health Medicine will sponsor a half-day continuing medical education program Saturday, Nov. 1, from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the small auditorium of the MCG Auditory Area. Dr. Ronald Lewis, section chief of urology in the MCG Department of Surgery, will present "Male sexual circuitry: Sexual dysfunction and rapid ejaculation," and "Low testosterone and your male patients: Correlates, symptoms and treatment." Dr. Murray Freedman, MCG clinical professor of obstetrics and gynecology, will present "Female sexual circuitry: Sexual response and dysfunction." Dr. Diane Solursh, MCG associate clinical professor of psychiatry and health behavior, will present "Psychological perspectives and sexual function." To register, e-mail hospitals@cmdny.com or call (877) 457-3300. For more information, call the National Foundation for Sexual Health Medicine: (888) 519-3999.

PDA survey
Campus users of Personal Digital Assistant devices are asked to complete a five-minute online survey (www.mcg.edu/tfd/pda) for use in developing PDA standards on campus. For more information, contact Kristy Stephens, in the Greenblatt Library at ext. 1-9901.

Human Resources Open Enrollment
The MCG Human Resources Division will host information sessions on benefits programs in the large auditorium Thursday, Nov. 6, from 8 to 9 a.m. and from 3 to 4 p.m. and on Friday, Nov. 7, from 10 to 11 a.m. and from 3 to 4 p.m. The Benefits Open Enrollment period ends Nov. 14. For MCG active, leased and GHCH employees and retirees who wish to retain current benefit plans, no action is necessary. To change, add or drop participation in any of the eligible benefit plans, contact the benefits section no later than Friday, Nov. 14.

Golf tournament slated Nov. 10
The Department of Emergency Medicine will host the first annual MCG inter-departmental golf tournament, Monday, Nov. 10 at The River Golf Club with a shotgun start at 9 a.m. Cost is $300 per four-person team, which includes greens fees, golf cart, lunch and prizes.

Each team will consist of two residents and two active (at least half-time) faculty members from the same department. Each department may enter only one team, including one team each from the Schools of Allied Health Sciences, Dentistry, Graduate Studies, Medicine and Nursing. Students will team with corresponding basic science faculty. Selection of team members is the responsibility of each individual department or school. The Perpetual Trophy will be presented to the winning department for display until the next year’s event. First-place team members will each receive a $100 gift certificate. Second-place team members will receive a $50 gift certificate and third-place members will receive a $25 gift certificate. Golfers shoots closest to pin and longest drive will each be awarded $50. A plaque will be awarded to the individual with the lowest 18-hole score.

Official business mail reminder
Official business mail must bear the Medical College of Georgia or MCG Health Inc. return address including the department name, section, budget department number, city, state and ZIP code in the upper-left corner to be eligible to receive postage. For more information, contact Vickie Harrison in Campus Mail Services at ext. 1-3996.

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Parking fees: Where does the money go?

by Ellen Gladden

Parking fees increased this year and many have asked “Where does the money go?”

Director of Public Safety Mitch Jones notes the increase is the division’s first in almost two decades.

“The Medical College of Georgia’s parking program is self-maintaining,” he explained. “No tax revenue, student fees or tuition funds are received or used to maintain parking lots or for administration. If you do not drive a motor vehicle or park on MCG property you do not support the parking program.”

The Parking Advisory Committee, formed last year by MCG President Daniel Rahn, came face-to-face with one of Mr. Jones’ greatest challenges in the parking program — maintaining a fee structure that is fair to parkers, maintains the current program while preparing for future needs, such as parking decks.

Currently, the campus contains some 4,000 parking spaces, including 150 spaces leased from the Kroger Grocery store on 15th Street.

“Since we stepped up enforcement in August, most citations have either been because there was no decal or the hangtag was not in view,” said Mr. Biles. “If the ticket writer can see the decal or the hangtag, we don’t write a citation.”

Mr. Biles went on to explain that of the 954 citations issued in August, 403 were for failure to display a registration decal and 277 were for failure to display a hangtag. In September, total citations dropped to 525, of which 169 tickets were given for lack of a decal and 144 for no hangtag.

“We continue to give drivers a warning,” said Mr. Biles. “The first instance of failure to display a hangtag will be voided. If the hangtag is damaged and won’t hang, leave it on the dashboard so it’s visible to ticket writers. If you drive a non-registered car to campus, call the Parking Office as soon as you arrive to avoid getting a citation. If you receive a ticket after calling, it will be voided.”

Meanwhile, additional changes have been made to the parking program to meet users’ needs. MCG employees may choose monthly payroll deduction for parking fees. For MCG Health, Inc., Physicians Practice Group and University of Georgia pharmacy program employees, the Health Center Credit Union offers a monthly bank draft service. Participants can have parking fees automatically withdrawn from any bank account by opening a HCCU savings account and completing an authorization form. Current HCCU members can download an authorization form from the Parking Services Web site at www.mcg.edu/psd/ParkingSvcs/Parking.htm. Students are instructed not to write a citation.

Of the 954 citations issued in August, 403 were for failure to display a registration decal and 277 were for failure to display a hangtag. In September, total citations dropped to 525, of which 169 tickets were given for lack of a decal and 144 for no hangtag.

“We continue to give drivers a warning,” said Mr. Biles. “The first instance of failure to display a hangtag will be voided. If the hangtag is damaged and won’t hang, leave it on the dashboard so it’s visible to ticket writers. If you drive a non-registered car to campus, call the Parking Office as soon as you arrive to avoid getting a citation. If you receive a ticket after calling, it will be voided.”

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We’re continuing to make changes, modifications and improvements to the parking and transportation services. Suggestions and feedback are welcome and encouraged,” said Mr. Biles.

For more information, call the Parking Office at ext. 1-2953 or HCCU at ext. 1-2040.

Parking citations and fines 2003-2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Violation</th>
<th>Fine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Failure to Register/Expired Permit</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Violation</td>
<td>$120.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parked in Patient/Visitor Zone</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Violation</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parking in Space for Persons with Disabilities</td>
<td>$300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parked within 15” of Fire Hydrant</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parked in Ambulance Zone/Space</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to Display Current Decal Properly</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Violation</th>
<th>Fine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parked in Service Vehicle Area/Space</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parked Blocking the Lane of Traffic</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parked in Reserved Area/Space</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to Park in Assigned Zone</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improperly Parked, Failure to Park Between Painted Strips</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overtime/Exceeding</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time Limit Exceeded</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improperly Parked/On Sidewalks</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grass or Shrubbery</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Violation</th>
<th>Fine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abandoned Vehicle</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parked on Yellow Curb</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parked in a Fire Lane/Tow-Away Zone</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Displaying a Counterfeit/Altered Parking Permit</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Displaying a Lost or Stolen Permit</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Limited delivery area. $8 minimum order.

BONDED BRIDGES

The Department of Oral Rehabilitation seeks patients who want a bonded bridge to replace a missing upper or lower front tooth, to participate in the clinical evaluation of a resin-bonded, fixed-partial-denture or bridge. Patients must be 21 or older and in good health. The teeth on either side of the missing tooth should be sound and not in need of an extensive filling or a crown. Patients may benefit by having their smile improved with the replacement of a missing front tooth. The study will last five years. Half of the cost of the bonded bridge will be paid by the sponsor and half paid by the participant.

Principal Investigator:
Dr. William D. Browning
Department of Oral Rehabilitation

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Want to salute a coworker or classmate for going the extra mile? Send nominations for the Beeper SWELL Award to egladden@mail.mcg.edu or call ext. 1-4410.
Students seek support to save sight

by Ellen Gladden

At the American Medical Association conference in Chicago last spring, Amit Patel and Shivan Amin found a unique way to help the citizens of Augusta.

The second-year Medical College of Georgia students met professors from the University of Maryland and the University of Michigan giving grants for students to develop glaucoma-screening programs in their own communities. They returned to MCG, gathered endorsements from the School of Medicine dean and the Department of Ophthalmology and submitted an application.

"We were awarded $20,000 over two years and all the equipment needed to set up screenings throughout the community," said Shivan, who is considering a career in ophthalmology. "We're looking into various places of worship, factories, shopping centers and community centers where the screenings will target groups at the greatest risk for glaucoma. Anyone over age 60, African-Americans, and people with high blood pressure, diabetes or family history of glaucoma should really be tested."

Using the funds made possible by the Congressional Glaucoma Caucus, the Friends of the Congressional Glaucoma Caucus Foundation and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the students will organize 10 to 12 free glaucoma screenings a year throughout the CSRA. Supervised by MCG faculty, students will give screening participants a risk-factor questionnaire, visual acuity test, peripheral vision test, intraocular pressure test and exit interview where vision-testing measures are explained.

"This is a great way for MCG students to get out into the community and begin helping neighbors," said Amit. "Students benefit by learning from patients. Patients receive a free screening and vital information about a disease that could steal their sight. The community benefits because it is a cost-effective way to screen patients."

MCG is among 21 medical schools nationwide participating in the Student Sight Savers Program. Begun in early 1990s at the University of Michigan Medical School, the program is typically coordinated and organized by local chapters of medical student associations. Through their roles as co-founders of the MCG ophthalmology interest group, Shivan and Amit are garnering support from fellow medical students and faculty to staff screenings.

Second-year medical students Nikki Vira and Mollie Gallaher are helping coordinate the program.

"The support from MCG has been really overwhelming," said Shivan.

See GLAUCOMA page 15
Twins named students of the year
Medical College of Georgia nursing anesthesia students Lee and Lyle Dorman have been named 2003 Students of the Year by the Georgia Association of Nurse Anesthetists.

"The Dorman twins, who are twins, will earn their master’s degree in nursing anesthesia this winter."

"An MCG student has won the award every year since it was introduced in 1997," said Dr. Fred Lupien, chair of the program. "This year was particularly unique: for the first time, there was a tie, and the recipients were the Dorman twins."

Nurse anesthetists are selected from nominations by clinical preceptors and/or members of the association. The awards were presented during the association’s annual meeting Oct. 4-5.

Lyle Dorman also received the Georgia Association of Nurse Anesthetists/American Association of Nurse Anesthetists Foundation Scholarship, awarded to a Georgia resident enrolled in a nurse anesthesia program. The Dorman twins are from Manchester, Ga.

Also at the association’s annual meeting, MCG nursing anesthesia student Dwayne Breeden gave the Dan Ebald Memorial Lecture. Mr. Breeden, who will graduate in December 2004, is from Aiken, S.C.

Ms. Maddox wins national respiratory therapy award
Ginger E. Maddox, a respiratory therapy student at the Medical College of Georgia, has received the American Respiratory Care Foundation’s 2003 Morton B. Duggan, Jr. Memorial Education Recognition Award.

The $1,000 award, named in memory of a leader in the field of respiratory therapy, honors academic achievement and an original referenced paper on some aspect of respiratory therapy. Respiratory therapy students nationwide are eligible to apply. Ms. Maddox received the award for her paper, "Nosocomial Pneumonia: Are you putting your patients at risk?"

"This is the fifth year running that at least one of our students has been recognized by the American Respiratory Care Foundation as one of the best in the nation," said Dr. Randy Baker, chair of the MCG Department of Respiratory Therapy. "I don’t believe any other program in the country can make that claim."

The award will be presented during the American Association of Respiratory Care’s 49th International Respiratory Congress Dec. 8-11 in Las Vegas.

23 inducted to AOA

Students inducted as juniors this past spring include Lance G. Breeden, Bethany J. Konter, Christopher Ramsden, David A. Sclocum, Brian M. Varisco and Paul M. Weinberger.

Nursing students hold state offices
Medical College of Georgia School of Nursing senior Noel Lawson was named president of the Georgia Association of Nursing Students during the association’s 51st annual convention Oct. 9-12 in Augusta.

Other MCG students elected to office during the convention were Wendy Jackson, a junior on the Athens campus; Kimberly Hardy, a junior on the Athens campus; and Traci Steinhauser, a senior on the Athens campus.

Jennifer Herrings, a senior on the Athens campus, received the Virginia M. Harmeyer Scholarship during the convention. Abby Kessler, also a senior on the Athens campus, won the Nurse America Travel Essay Competition.

The Georgia Association of Nursing Students represents and mentors Georgia nursing students, promoting the skills that will enhance their profession and advocating for advances in nursing education and health care in general.
Dr. David Terris to lecture

Dr. David J. Terris, chair of the Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, will lecture for the Fifth Annual Diane Goldstone Lectures at Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine Nov. 11.

Dr. Terris, Porubsky Chair in Otolaryngology at MCG, will discuss “Endoscopic and Robotic Neck Surgery: Exploring a New Frontier.”

Dr. Terris came to MCG in September 2002. His clinical interests are the minimally invasive surgical management of thyroid and parathyroid disorders and salivary gland tumors. His research interests include translational studies of novel surgical treatments for thyroid and other head and neck cancers, including robotic neck surgery, and the molecular assessment of hypoxia. He is on the editorial board of Laryngoscope, Operative Techniques of Otolaryngology and Microsurgery.

Dr. Bergeron chairs task force

Dr. Michael F. Bergeron, exercise physiologist at the Medical College of Georgia’s Georgia Prevention Institute, has been appointed to chair the new American College of Sports Medicine Task Force on Youth Sports & Health.

The task force will help the American College of Sports Medicine implement the theme of youth sports and health to enhance physical activity, safe sports participation, fitness, nutrition and the overall health of young people with the ultimate goal of developing a lifelong commitment to healthy living.

Target groups include young athletes, obese and sedentary children, parents, coaches and related governing bodies.

Dr. Bergeron is a fellow of the American College of Sports Medicine, a member of its Strategic Health Initiative – Pediatric Exercise Committee, chair of its Environmental Physiology Special Interest Group and a member of the group’s Southeast Chapter. He is clinical applications editor of the International Journal of Sport Nutrition and Exercise Metabolism.

He earned his master’s degree and doctorate in exercise physiology from the University of Connecticut and completed a sports nutrition fellowship at the University of Massachusetts before joining the MCG faculty in 1998. Dr. Bergeron’s research focuses on the physiological effects of exercising in the heat, including fluid and mineral balance and thermal strain.

Dr. Jones honored

Dr. Chandra R. Jones, maternal-fetal medicine specialist at the Medical College of Georgia, is the 2003 recipient of the Red Rose Award from MCG student chapter of the American Medical Women’s Association.

Dr. Jones was honored for her leadership in the field of women’s health and for mentoring women in medicine, according to Melissa Fritsche, a second-year MCG medical student and treasurer of the MCG student chapter. “She was an easy pick,” Ms. Fritsche said. “Some of the things that came up were her willingness to teach and work with students and her work with the ob-gyn interest groups,” she said of student groups organized around specialty interest.

Dr. Jones’ work with the MCG student chapter of the American Medical Women’s Association includes helping staff a free Women’s Homeless Health Care Clinic the first and third Tuesday of each month at the Greene Street office of the Salvation Army & Welfare Center. Dr. Jones helped the students establish the clinic in 2000. She received the Year Award from first- and second-year medical students in 2001.

The high-risk pregnancy specialist is a 1993 graduate of Morehouse School of Medicine. She completed her obstetrics and gynecology internship at Howard University Medical Center, and residency at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, where she served as administrative chief resident. She completed her maternal-fetal medicine fellowship at MCG in 2002 before joining the faculty.

She has a National Institutes of Health-sponsored Reproductive Scientist Developmental Scholarship and is working with Dr. Vadivel Ganapathy, biochemist and interim chair of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, and Dr. Putter D. Prasad, researcher in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, on fetal alcohol syndrome and the amino acid transport system.

Obituaries

Ramona C. Givens, daughter of Mona Givens, an environmental services employee at the Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home, died Oct. 6, at age 16.

Sallie Gainey, a retired senior staff nurse died Oct. 8, at age 59. Ms. Gainey served MCG for 16 years.
Health Information and Technology Week

The MCG Department of Health Information Management is participating in National Health Information and Technology Week Nov. 2-8. Health information professionals "manage the records of life" (this year's theme) by maintaining and protecting Americans' health information. Department of Health Information Management Carol Campbell notes that the professionals' expertise is more vital than ever in view of recently implemented HIPAA regulations that give patients the right to view, amend and obtain copies of their health information. For more information about the field, call ext. 1-3436. (Phil Jones photo illustration)

Nursing receives full board approval

by Christine Hurley Deriso

The Georgia Board of Nursing has granted full approval of the Medical College of Georgia School of Nursing baccalaureate program through 2008.

The board conducted a site visit in fall 2002 to assess the school's compliance with its rules and regulations for educational programs. "These rules address such things as faculty qualifications, quality of clinical sites, pass rates for students, documentation of course content, outcome evaluation and student data," said Dr. Katherine Nugent, interim dean of the School of Nursing.

The evaluators met with faculty, administrators and students and studied extensive documentation to reach their conclusions.

The school received nine commendations based on the evaluation, including praise for:
- the R.N.-to-B.S.N. program enabling registered nurses to earn bachelor's degree with minimal disruption to their careers and family lives;
- teaching strategies that stress critical thinking and decision-making;
- teaching strategies that facilitate the transition to professional practice;
- faculty members' excellent qualifications and laudable spirit of cooperation; and
- the school's newly developed comprehensive Preceptor Information Packet.

"Receiving the full four years of approval along with the positive report from the board demonstrates the School of Nursing faculty's commitment to providing a quality educational experience that will prepare our students to be successful nurses," Dr. Nugent said.

The board's next site visit will be held during the 2006-07 academic year.

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MCG, Greenway partner to develop medical templates

Greenway Medical Technologies, Inc., a provider of integrated software solutions for physician practices, has partnered with the Medical College of Georgia to broaden the application of its flagship software, PrimeSuite, a Web-based ambulatory software suite that integrates a practice’s clinical, financial and administrative needs.

MCG and a team of clinicians will help Greenway develop medical templates for different specialties and oversee the templates’ accreditation by medical specialists. Through this partnership, MCG and Greenway can quickly increase the quantity of medical templates available to physicians using the PrimeSuite system.

MCG selected Greenway based on PrimeSuite’s ability to integrate the processes associated with practice management, electronic medical records and managed care into one system.

“We have been using Greenway’s PrimeSuite in our classrooms for more than two years to prepare our students for the challenges they will face in practices post graduation,” said Lori Prince, assistant professor of health information management and Greenway termed chair. “We are excited to be collaborating with Greenway in the development of clinical templates for PrimeSuite. With our clinical resources and Greenway’s technical expertise, I believe we can develop a medical management tool that will be unsurpassed,” said Dr. Andy Albrighton, MCG School of Medicine associate dean for curriculum.

To develop specific applications for a broader range of practices, Greenway and MCG will expand on the most frequently used medical templates for each specialty and review the content of the supporting files needed to create these templates. Upon completion, all templates will be tested in patient care settings and will be reviewed by a board-certified physician.

“We have always been physician-centric,” said Tee Green, president and chief operating officer of Greenway. “We developed PrimeSuite to meet the growing need among physicians for an efficient, time-saving, and cost-cutting practice software solution. Our commitment to ensuring the availability of a robust and flexible set of medical templates for use with PrimeSuite has been strengthened through this partnership. Through our work with such a prestigious medical school, we have accelerated the development of medical templates specific to the needs of each physician’s speciality.

PrimeSuite’s integrated practice management, electronic medical record and managed-care functionality enables a practice to increase profitability, enhance patient satisfaction and facilitate adherence to HIPAA regulations, Mr. Green said.

New anesthesia technology may speed recovery time

by Danielle Wong

A new patient monitoring system in MCG Health System’s operating rooms ensures that patients receive precisely the amount of anesthesia they need during a procedure, minimizing side effects and speeding recovery time.

The Bispectral Index System, introduced in MCG operating rooms this fall, enables anesthesiologists to tailor anesthesia doses for each patient. During surgery, a sensor placed across a patient’s forehead continuously monitors brain waves. The brain waves are computed into a number ranging from zero to 100 that indicates the level of consciousness.

At 100 the patient is wide awake and under 60 the patient is unconscious, according to clinical studies. Anesthesiologists can use these numbers to adjust anesthesia doses as needed to control pain and induce unconsciousness throughout an operation.

“We are now among the 55 percent of top-ranked hospitals utilizing these devices,” said Dr. James Mayfield, vice chair of anesthesiology and perioperative medicine. He will lead a multi-center study of the new system, collecting data and tracking responses in the recovery room.

Current BIS data are available at www.anesthesiology.org.

Before BIS, anesthesiologists had to rely on vital signs, such as heart rate, blood pressure and respiratory rate, to determine dosage. But these are imprecise measures of a patient’s consciousness and can lead to complications.

“With the BIS, we know we are giving each patient a more exact amount of anesthetic, which can lessen the postoperative side effects of the drugs, such as nausea and vomiting, and allow for faster, more predictable recovery after surgery,” said Dr. Mayfield. “Patients wake faster, feel more alert and go home earlier.”

The system also helps reduce the potentially traumatic possibility of consciousness during surgery—a already-rare occurrence affecting fewer than 1 percent of general anesthesia patients.
Clinic enhances quality of life for children with hemophilia

by Danielle Wong

Imagine a hereditary protein deficiency that causes a person to bleed suddenly and unexpectedly. Sound like science fiction? It’s not. Known as the “royal disease” because generations of Queen Victoria’s family had it, hemophilia is a bleeding disorder that affects an estimated 22,000 men and boys in North America. The blood of a person with hemophilia lacks the ability to clot, and internal bleeding can happen spontaneously. Internal bleeding damages organs and causes joints to weaken and become painful, crippling those with the disorder. The only treatment is regular infusion of clotting factor into a hemophiliac’s bloodstream, helping to prevent damage before signs and symptoms occur.

MCG Health System offers the only comprehensive pediatric hemophilia clinic in the CSRA, serving more than 125 children statewide. A comprehensive team approach combines the skills of physicians, surgeons, nurses, physical therapists, social workers, nutritionists, genetic counselors, dentists and others to help patients maintain a high quality of life by learning how to infuse clotting factor. To minimize the need for surgery, physical therapists and orthopedic surgeons develop an exercise plan to help patients build strength and maintain healthy joints. Genetic counselors develop a family history, and help pinpoint recurrence rates and inheritance patterns. Social workers help identify additional services, including career planning.

“Our team is highly skilled in rehabilitation, but the goal of our clinic is to promote health and stop problems before they start,” said Dr. Beverly Bell, a pediatric hematologist and medical director of the clinic. “Hemophilia is an expensive disease and one that takes a large toll on the body. Our comprehensive approach helps these individuals make good choices for their health and overall well-being.”

Through Hemophilia of Georgia, the clinic also provides an outreach nurse who guides patients though self-infusions and creates a hemophiliac-friendly home. In addition, the clinic takes staff on the road every summer to host outreach clinics in Waycross, Ga., and Dublin, Ga. “It’s important for patients to see our commitment to their care,” said Dr. Bell. “In the future, we hope to expand our outreach to those who live far from the Augusta area.”

ACROSS
1 The D of DMB
5 Amulet
10 Incline
14 Poet’s black
15 Aural
16 River in central Europe
17 Dissolve in heat
18 Fabric joints
19 Uncover
20 Pursuit of high principles
22 Fitting
24 Invasive lead-in
25 Serious
27 Late regent Tom
31 Portable lamp
35 Grain stalks
36 Choose
38 Flower garland
39 Sea eagle
40 Eskimo boat
41 Urm
42 Present tense of “be”
43 Incompetent
44 Living in flowing water
45 Labored breathing
47 Neither male nor female
49 Palmetto power co.
51 Doc’s org.
52 Seem
55 Narrow perspective
60 Hawaiian feast
61 One half of a cone
63 Do nothing
64 Corrosive liquid
65 Former anesthetic
66 Oceans
67 City of Comedy Central
69 Charts
70 J. Smith’s on Broad St.
50 Radio code word for “A”
51 Wing-shaped
53 Brownish purple
54 Acute discomfort
56 Lead-in for heart or minded
57 Notion
58 Type of hockey shot
59 Untidy condition
62 Consumed
63 Do nothing
64 Run allowed by error
65 The art of singing
66 South American Indian
67 Bean type
69 USC Aiken team
70 Uncover
71 Dissolve in heat
72 River in central Europe
73 Hemophilia
74 The D of DMB
75 Amulet
76 Incline
77 Invasive lead-in
78 Serious
79 Late regent Tom
80 Pursuit of high principles
81 Fitting
82 Fabric joints
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85 In bed
86 Crescent-shaped areas
87 Notion
88 Type of hockey shot
89 Untidy condition
90 Frost or Ludlum
91 Father of Abel
92 Literary blackbird
93 Hunted animal
94 Weaving apparatus
95 Noise and throat doc’s letters
96 Salt of oleic acid
97 In front
98 BBQ baron, to friends
99 Crescent-shaped areas
100 Humiliate
101 Overjoy
102 Sap
103 Your sister’s daughter
104 Sass
105 Run allowed by error
106 The art of singing
107 South American Indian
108 Bean type
109 Not authentic
110 USC Aiken team

DOWN
1 Ashton’s girlfriend
2 In bed
3 Small rodent
4 Snarl
5 J. Smith’s on Broad St.
6 Colors
7 Famous Patch
8 Outer edge
9 Old-fashioned person
10 Frost or Ludlum
11 Father of Abel
12 Literary blackbird
13 Hunted animal
14 Poet’s black
15 Aural
16 River in central Europe
17 Dissolve in heat
18 Fabric joints
19 Uncover
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32 Sap
33 Your sister’s daughter
34 Sass
35 Run allowed by error
36 The art of singing
37 South American Indian
38 Bean type
39 Not authentic
40 USC Aiken team

THE PUZZLE SOLVED

ACROSS
1 The D of DMB
5 Amulet
10 Incline
14 Poet’s black
15 Aural
16 River in central Europe
17 Dissolve in heat
18 Fabric joints
19 Uncover
20 Pursuit of high principles
22 Fitting
24 Invasive lead-in
25 Serious
27 Late regent Tom
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67 Bean type
69 USC Aiken team
Campus beat

The following incidents were recorded by the MCG Public Safety Department. Periodic reports of crime-related news on campus are posted in conjunction with federal, state and local laws and are intended to maximize campus safety and awareness. To report crimes or suspicious activity, call MCG Public Safety at 1-2911 or #2911 from a cellular phone.

Vehicle Break-In
A gold 1984 Oldsmobile Cutlass was entered while parked on the first level of the Children's Medical Center parking deck on Oct. 8 between 11:30 a.m. and 1:40 p.m. An after-market radio/CD player was reported missing. There were no signs of forced entry. Anyone with information concerning this incident should contact MCG Police at ext. 1-2911.

Fanny Snatch, Arrest
A robbery was reported to the Richmond County Sheriff's Department in the Kroger grocery store, 501 15th Street, on Oct. 9 at 3:30 p.m. The victim reported that she was sitting in front of the store when an unknown juvenile male snatched her fanny pack. A juvenile and an adult male accomplice were later arrested and charged with robbery by sudden snatch. Anyone with information concerning this incident should contact MCG Police at ext. 1-2911.

Protect yourself and your property
- Keep your vehicle locked.
- Do not leave property — especially face plates or after-market stereo equipment — in your vehicle visible to passers-by.
- Never leave your keys in a parked vehicle, even if you think they are hidden.

Anyone with information concerning these incidents should contact MCG Police at ext. 1-2911.

Reporting scams

The MCG Division of Public Safety has received an increasing number of reports from employees and students about fraud scams presented via U.S. mail, fax and email.

"Frequently we have folks forward e-mails to us where scam artists are asking for a person's bank account number for assistance with transferring money from Nigeria, or some other African country," said MCG Police Sgt. David Toulson. "Recipients are often asked to pay an advance fee and told larger amounts will later be deposited into their account. We have blocked many of these through the campus firewall, but because the variety of senders and types of scams are so great, some still enter the MCG e-mail system."

Sgt. Toulson explained the Secret Service is the government agency that tracks such scams and attempts prosecution when theft and fraud has occurred. Often employees forward these messages to the Information Technology Division, MCG Public Safety or the Federal Bureau of Investigation, but none of these agencies have jurisdiction with these scams.

"Please do not forward these scam messages to campus or local law enforcement agencies. The 419 Fraud Coalition’s Web site contains links to the Secret Service to report suspicious or fraudulent activity. There are also links to other agencies fighting these scams."

The Division of Public Safety urges all members of the MCG community to ignore such solicitations and refrain from giving out any personal financial information.

"If it seems too good to be true, it probably is," said Sgt. Toulson. "Hundreds of people have been victims and lost thousands of dollars to these scams."

To file a complaint about fraud scams, visit www.home.rica.net/alphae/419coal/. For more information, contact Sgt. Toulson at ext. 1-2914.

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He specifically cited the help of School of Medicine Dean David Stern, Department of Ophthalmology Chair Julian Nussbaum and mem-
bers of the ophthalmology faculty, including Drs. Balmoral Ambati and Parag Gokhale, both of whom will help with the training.

The students plan to begin screen-

ings in mid-November, so training and preparation are under way. First-
year students will take blood pres-
sure and family medical histories,
then second-year students will per-
form vision tests with assistance
from faculty.

“One of the first symptoms of glau-
coma is a loss of peripheral vision, and it’s a very non-invasive test to see how well patients can see objects in their periphery,” said Shivan.

For patients at higher risk due to personal or family medical history, students will measure intraocular pressure and examine the optic nerve. After testing, patients will receive findings of “no glaucoma,” “possible glaucoma,” “probable glaucoma” or “definite glaucoma,” and then be referred to the appropri-
ate clinic or specialist.

“Glaucma strikes without warn-
ing and there are no obvious symp-
toms to patients,” said Shivan. “The most common form affects 3 million Americans. Half of those affected don’t realize they have the disease. Early detection and treatment is the only way to save a person’s eyesight.”

To volunteer with the Student Sight Savers project, contact Shivan at samimmd@students.mcg.edu or Amit at ampatelmd@students.mcg.edu.
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