Dr. Tracey Vlahovic, DPM, Associate Professor at TUSPM recently Co-authored the book Skin Disease of Lower Extremities along with Dr. Stephen M. Schleicher, MD, Associate Professor of Medicine at the Commonwealth Medical College, Adjunct Assistant Professor of Dermatology at the University of Pennsylvania Medical College and the Clinical Instructor of Dermatology.

Dr. Piraino was the People’s Choice Award winner in the Innovative Idea’s Competition for Locking Fusion Rod Patents. He has completed numerous publications and posters. He has lectured at conferences throughout the US on Podiatric Surgery, “Advances in Tendon and Ligament Repair”, “Haglund’s Deformity”, and facilitated a Pediatric course on peri-operative management.

Dr. Piraino is well respected by his peers in the field of Podiatric Medicine and Surgery. He has received the Clinician and Teacher of the Year Awards.

TUSPM Tidbits

Sport Medicine Club

Conducted foot screenings at the Susan G. Komen 3-Day Breast Cancer Walk.
Philadelphia, PA

Pre-Health Open House
November 17, 2012
10:00am - 1:00pm

TUSPM hosts a Saturday Fall Pre-Health Day for students and advisors interested in learning more about the educational process and career opportunities in the professions of podiatric medicine, pharmacy, dentistry and the College of Health Professions and Social Work.

Please RSVP at
215-625-5457

TUSPM Winter Internship Program (WIP)
January 6—9, 2013

This is a four day program that provides a synopsis of the profession and the education process. Spend time shadowing podiatric physicians in various health care settings, receive hands-on experience in biomechanics and participate in an anatomy workshop. The program and housing are provided at no cost. Learn more by visiting the TUSPM website. Deadline November 26, 2012
Sneha Patel is a North Carolina Native that found her transition to a large metropolitan city both swift and fun. She was exposed to Podiatric Medicine by her friend while studying Biology and Women and Gender Studies at Mercer University in Macon, Georgia. She was amazed with the variety of procedures and disorders that a Podiatrist could treat. After researching the profession and shadowing several Podiatrist she made the ultimate decision that Podiatric Medicine was definitely for her.

Currently, a third year student here at Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine, she has taken great strides to become the best Podiatric Medical student she can possibly become. She is very active both in the academic and extracurricular arenas. Sneha has managed to obtain numerous scholarships. She has been the recipient of an Admissions Scholarship, PICA/ProAssurance, Derr Memorial, Turrissi Memorial, Roccapiore and North Carolina Health and Science Scholarships. She manages to balance her academics while participating in several extra curricular activities such as President of the Stirling Hartford DiPrimio Honorary Society, Orientation Leader and Class President. She is a very ambitious person. Sneha is passionate about the profession that pushes her to strive for excellence in all that she does. She believes that by being involved in the community and excelling academically it will help her enhance her clinical knowledge and skills. She even finds time to reach back and help others as a tutor and a teaching assistant.

After completing her residency, Sneha looks forwards to returning to North Carolina and starting her own practice. She is also interested in forming an organization that would provide healthcare in rural and underserved areas of India. In her spare time she enjoys reading, hiking, and traveling.

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**Blood Type May Affect Heart Disease Risk**

A person’s blood type may affect their risk for heart disease, according to a new study that finds people with blood type A, B or AB were more likely to develop the disease than those with type O.

The senior author, Lu Qi, an assistant professor in the Department of Nutrition at the Harvard School of Public Health in Boston and his colleagues published their findings in a paper published online in the American Heart Association Journals.

Qi and his colleagues analyzed data from two large studies that followed adults for at least 20 years and found those with blood type AB had a 23% increased risk for heart disease, those with type B had an 11% increased risk, and those with type A had a 5% increased risk compared to people with type O.

Blood type AB is the rarest blood type, it occurs in around 7% of Americans, while type O, the most common, occurs in around 43%.

Qi says it’s important to know your blood type, just as it’s good to know your cholesterol and blood pressure levels. “If you know you’re at higher risk, you can reduce the risk by adopting a healthier lifestyle, such as eating right, exercising and not smoking.”

Funds from the National Institutes of Health, the American Heart Association Scientist Development Award and the Boston Obesity Nutrition Research Center helped finance this study.


**Seeking a Cure for Type 1 Diabetes:**

“A New Marker for Identifying Precursors to Insulin-Producing Cells in Pancreas”

For the millions of people worldwide with type 1 diabetes who cannot produce sufficient insulin, the potential to transplant insulin-producing cells could offer hope for a long-term cure. The discovery of a marker to help identify and isolate stem cells that can develop into insulin-producing cells in the pancreas would be a critical step forward and is described in an article in BioResearch Open Access, a new bimonthly peer-reviewed open access journal from Mary Ann Liebert, Inc. The article is available for free online at the BioResearch Open Access website.

Pancreatic stem cells, the precursors of insulin-producing cells, have not yet been identified in humans or animals, and there is much debate about where they may reside. Ivka Afrikanova, Ayes Kayali, Ana Lopez, and Alberto Hayek, University of California, San Diego, CA, have identified a biochemical marker – stage-specific embryonic antigen 4 (SSEA4) – that they propose can be used to identify and purify human pancreatic stem cells. The article “Is Stage-Specific Embryonic Antigen 4 a Marker for Human Ductal Stem/Progenitor Cells” reports that when grown in culture with high levels of glucose and B27, these SSEA4 + stem cells can differentiate into insulin-producing pancreatic cells.


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"Ed Snider Youth Hockey Foundation & Temple Health: Teaming Up for Healthy Young Athletes"
Temple University News

US Surgeon General Helps Celebrate the American Podiatric Medical Association 100th Anniversary

Regina M. Benjamin, MD, MBA

Regina M. Benjamin, MD, MBA is the 18th Surgeon General of the United States. As America’s Doctor, she provides the public with the best scientific information available on how to improve their health and the health of the nation. Dr. Benjamin also oversees the operational command of 6,500 uniformed public health officers who serve in locations around the world to promote, and protect the health of the American People.

On Thursday, August 16, United States Surgeon General Regina M. Benjamin, M.D., MBA, helped kick off APMA’s 2012 Annual Scientific Meeting. She addressed three separate areas of health care including the importance of foot care in avoiding diabetes-related amputations, the national prevention strategy, and the 2012 surgeon general’s report on preventing tobacco use in young adults. However she indicated that over 26 million people have diabetes and over 7 million people are not aware they have the disease. She praised the profession for their assistance in reducing the number of amputations and the care they give to their patients. She shared some overwhelming statistics on the number of diabetic patients they expected though the year of 2050. As a result of these statistics it shows that the need for Podiatric Physicians is really there.

The American Podiatric Medical Association (APMA) is the nation’s leading professional organization for today’s podiatrists. Doctors of Podiatric Medicine (DPMs) are qualified by their education, training, and experience to diagnose and treat conditions affecting the foot, ankle, and structures of the leg. APMA has 53 state component locations across the United States and its territories, with a membership of more than 12,000 podiatrists. All practicing APMA members are licensed by the state in which they practice podiatric medicine. For more information, visit APMA.org.

Philadelphia Zoo

Want to walk over 42-acres of Victorian gardens to view more than 1,300 animals? The Philadelphia Zoo is the place to do so. It is the first and oldest zoo in the US and opened in 1874. Last year the zoo welcomed over 1.2 million visitors. Not only can you visit all of the animals but you will can go on safari, travel the world in their creatures of culture series, attend their concert series or get your Halloween on at the Boo at the Zoo.

Cherry and White dominate Lincoln Financial field in September with over 30,000 people in attendance.

Temple defeated Villanova 42 -10

Temple Football wins Mayor’s Cup

Neil D. Theobald named Temple’s 10th President

Neil D. Theobald is named Temple University new president. He currently serves as vice president and Chief Financial Officer at Indiana University. In January, he will become the tenth President here in Philadelphia. President Michael A. McRobbie of IU was cited as he applauded Theobald for his extensive record of accomplishments as an IU administrator and faculty member. “Neil has an extremely strong academic and practical background, particularly on matters concerning the financing of higher education. Through his work across so many of our academic and administrative units, he has developed a keen understanding of Indiana University, its objectives, and the support it needs to achieve those objectives. He also is an excellent teacher and nationally recognized researcher who has dedicated himself to enhancing the quality of higher education while seeking new and innovative ways to keep it affordable and accessible.”

Temple University looks forward to welcoming Neil Theobald as its next president.

Chrysanthemum Festival

Now – November 18

Philadelphia Zoo

Photo Courtesy of TU Hospital

The 5th Annual Asian American Film Festival

November 7-17, 2012

Philadelphia Museum of Art

Displaying Full Spectrum Workshop Exhibit
(September 7—November 25, 2012)

The Philadelphia Convention Center

Plays host to the upcoming

Art Craft Show
November 8—11, 2012

Philly Men are Cooking (PMAC)
November 23—24

Thanksgiving Day Parade
November 22, 2012

Mummer’s Parade
January 1, 2013

Longwood Gardens
Autumn Colors
Now– November 18

Chrysanthemum Festival
October 27 - November 18

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