

# FROM THE Dean's Desk



**ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON  
MEDICAL SCHOOL**  
University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey

## Message from the Dean

**F**or new leaders the first one hundred days are considered a milepost for assessing activities and accomplishments. I am pleased to report on some of the highlights of my first one hundred days as your dean. I take great pride that during this period a number of our faculty received recognition for key discoveries or received prestigious awards, as you will see in this issue.

This has also been a time of incredible activity and accomplishment. Among our leading initiatives were: the launch of a strategic planning process; development of plans for a research symposium; establishment of the foundation for curriculum reform; ongoing preparation for the 2010 LCME visit; definition of processes for appointing department chairs, institute directors, and deans; updating an affiliation and master agreement with our principal teaching hospital; and readying our junior faculty development program to be introduced this spring. Within our faculty practice, progress continues in automating the revenue cycle; implementing an electronic medical record and e-prescribing. These initiatives are important in our continuous pursuit of improved patient safety and quality care and are key to our participation in federal incentive programs and economic stimulus opportunities.

At our series of Town Meetings this spring, I encourage open discussion of these initiatives. Please make every effort to join us at the Town Meeting scheduled for your location. Your input is important.

Peter S. Amenta, MD, PhD  
Dean

## Dr. Alfred Tallia Leads National Study of Examination Process

**A**lfred F. Tallia, MD '78, MPH, professor and chair, Department of Family Medicine and chair of the national committee charged with evaluating the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE), is leading a movement that could transform the licensing process for physicians.

If adopted, the recommendations of the Committee to Evaluate the USMLE Program (CEUP)

would shift the focus of the overall examination to one that better informs medical licensure decisions at two patient-focused gateways: entry into supervised post-graduate training and initial unrestricted licensure. The recommendations would also integrate basic sciences with

clinical sciences in all exam components and assess a greater range of general competencies deemed important for providing safe and effective patient care.

"Our feedback said that USMLE is successful to the extent that it measures knowledge and some skills," says Dr. Tallia. "But we also



John Emerson

heard that the current sequencing and organization of the exam impedes the evolution of medical school curricula at the expense of new ways of addressing the needs of medical education. Advances in clinical science and practice, as well as in basic sciences, have made this a dated exam in some respects."

Dr. Tallia presented the proposed changes to the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) in March. These recommendations have already been accepted by senior leadership of the NBME, the Federation of State Medical Boards, and the Education Commission on Foreign Medical Graduates, the three parent organizations of the USMLE.

*Alfred F. Tallia, MD '78, MPH, professor and chair, Department of Family Medicine, discusses the licensing process for physicians with (left) Carol Penn, DO, resident, and Jennifer Amico '09.*

## ePrescribing to Become Mandatory: System Offers Advantages of Time, Safety and Clarity

**E**lectronic or "e" prescribing uses computer technology for physician-to-pharmacy or pharmacy-to-physician communication.

Accuracy, convenience, and patient safety are among the broad advantages it offers to the patient, the provider, and the pharmacist, says **Frank A.**

**Sonnenberg, MD**, professor of medicine and director, clinical information systems, **Robert Wood Johnson Medical Group (RWJMG)**. Dr. Sonnenberg notes that RWJMG is among the first to be implementing ePrescription technology, which may be ready to launch as early as the second quarter of 2009.

Until 2012, the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) will offer two percent bonuses to regular ePrescribers. Then, CMS will begin charging penalties to those who do not use the technology.

Providers write ePrescriptions by entering prescription information into any

device capable of electronic messaging. The ePrescription immediately goes to a designated clearing house, where it is matched with the patient's insurance. The system proposes comparable generic or brand name drugs and verifies eligibility according to the patient's health care plan. It also analyzes the prescription to ensure that it will not interact adversely with the patient's other medications.

The clearing house sends the ePrescription to the patient's preferred pharmacy, saving time for everyone and reducing the risk of human error. The system also allows pharmacists to request refills electronically.

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## Dr. Raymond Habas Honored at White House Ceremony

**R**aymond Habas, PhD, associate professor of biochemistry, received a 2008 Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE), the federal government's most prestigious award for exceptional young researchers. The award was announced by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and presented at a White House ceremony with then President George W. Bush.

The Presidential Award recognizes and nurtures leading scientists and engineers who, early in their career, show exceptional potential for leadership at the frontiers of scientific knowledge. As a recipient of a five-year, \$1.3 million R01 research grant, which began in April 2007, Dr. Habas met the criteria

to be nominated for the PECASE award by the NIH, one of 11 different funding agencies in the program.

Dr. Habas's research focuses on understanding the role of the Wnt signaling pathway, which

has been demonstrated to regulate critical cell fate determination, proliferation, behavior, adhesion, migration, and polarity during development.



Raymond Habas, PhD

Dr. Habas earned his doctoral degree from the State University of New York at Stony Brook and performed post-doctoral fellowships at Harvard Medical School and at

the NIH Laboratory of Molecular Genetics. He joined the faculty in 2003. He became a member of **The Cancer Institute of New Jersey** in 2004 and an associate of the **Child Health Institute of New Jersey** in 2006.



### Alumni Association Hosts Career Night

*Students view the program and discuss career options at the Alumni Association's 21st Annual Career Night, on January 13, 2009 in the Great Hall. More than 40 alumni, representing 23 medical specialties, volunteered at Career Night.*

### Partnership Creates New Imaging Center

**A** new partnership between the **University Radiology Group (URG)** and **Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital** has created a state-of-the-art diagnostic imaging center. The facility opened on March 2 at the hospital's new facility at 10 Plum Street in New Brunswick. The center will be the largest medical imaging center in New Jersey and will feature an all-digital women's imaging center among many outpatient procedures. URG is an academic department of the medical school. For information, call 732-249-4410.

### Dr. Keith Reinsdorf Revives the House Visit

**A**s director of the Home Visit Service for the **Robert Wood Johnson Medical Group (RWJMG)**, **Keith A. Reinsdorf, MD**, clinical assistant professor of family medicine, is helping to revive a time-honored tradition. Dr. Reinsdorf was recruited from Visiting Physician Services last year, when RWJMS initiated the service, designed primarily to better serve a fast-growing aging population, whose ability to get to a doctor's office is often constrained by physical limitations or cognitive disabilities.

**Alfred F. Tallia, MD '78, MPH**, professor and chair, Department of Family Medicine, was instrumental in initiating the Home Visit Service at RWJMG. The advantages to patients are clear, says Dr. Tallia, and financially, "the margins are thin," but demonstrable. The home visit concept is growing in New Jersey, adds Dr. Tallia. He has already been approached by two major health care insurers, seeking to avoid emergency room visits, which can cost thousands of dollars.

## Reformulated Core Competencies Introduced

Students at RWJMS are expected to accomplish learning objectives within six competency areas: patient care, medical knowledge, practice-based learning and improvement, interpersonal and communication skills, professionalism, and systems-based practice. These competencies were reformulated within the last few years by the Curriculum Committee and subsequently approved by the faculty. Now a broad campaign, using pocket cards and “table tents” on cafeteria tables, as well as posters in hallways, is reinforcing awareness of these competencies throughout the medical school.

“We want to make the competencies apparent to all who participate in the education and training of RWJMS students,” says **Siobhan A. Corbett, MD '87**, associate professor of surgery and chair, Curriculum Committee. “This awareness is important not only for our faculty but also for residents and faculty at our teaching affiliates.”

The reformulated competencies mirror the residency training competencies established by the Accreditation Committee for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). “We felt that we would best prepare our medical students for their residencies by adopting the core competencies required by the ACGME and revising our curriculum to meet those

objectives.” says **David E. Swee, MD**, professor of family medicine and associate dean for education. The revisions

help to position RWJMS well for re-accreditation by the Licensing Committee for Medical Education, he adds.

**CORE  
COMPETENCIES**

<b>1 Patient Care</b>	<b>2 Medical Knowledge</b>
<b>3 Practice-Based Learning and Improvement</b>	<b>4 Professionalism</b>
<b>5 Interpersonal and Communication Skills</b>	<b>6 Systems-Based Care</b>

**1 Patient Care**  
Students will gather essential and accurate information about their patients in the context of a **compassionate** and **respectful** therapeutic relationship, to **provide effective care for health concerns**, health maintenance and disease prevention.  
Students will use best **medical evidence**, patient information and patient preferences to support patient care decisions, patient education and counseling.

**2 Medical Knowledge**  
Students will demonstrate **up-to-date knowledge** of the basic and clinical biomedical sciences and the **application of this knowledge**, through clinical reasoning and problem solving, for **effective patient care**.

**3 Practice-Based Learning and Improvement**  
Students will be able to engage in **self-evaluation** regarding their academic and clinical performance, develop **plans for personal improvement** and recognize how the application of new learning can be used to improve patient care.

**4 Professionalism**  
Students will demonstrate **respect, compassion, and integrity** in interactions with peers, patients, and other health professionals, **adherence to ethical principles**, and **sensitivity to a diverse patient population**.  
Students will **demonstrate accountability** and a commitment to excellence by recognizing and addressing personal limitations and behaviors that influence their effectiveness as physicians.

**5 Interpersonal and Communication Skills**  
Students will be able to demonstrate **interpersonal and communication skills**, both verbal and written, that result in effective information exchange with patients, patients' families, peers and other health professions colleagues.

**6 Systems-Based Care**  
Students will demonstrate an **awareness of barriers to health care** and the importance of **advocacy in assisting patients** in gaining access to care.  
Students will **work collaboratively** in a health care team to provide **patient-centered care** and to employ strategies that ensure **patient safety and the quality of patient care**.

## Dr. Cheryl Dickson Leads Careers Opportunity Program

The Office of Multicultural Affairs and Special Academic Programs, under the direction of **Cheryl A. Dickson, MD**, associate professor of pediatrics and assistant dean of multicultural affairs, received a three-year, \$1.3 million grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Health Careers Opportunity Program. The grant will support several pipeline programs that seek to increase diversity in the health professions and, ultimately, eliminate healthcare disparities. The programs will target high school and undergraduate students from disadvantaged backgrounds interested in careers in medicine and health related professions.

## Felix Gonzalez '09: A Dream Deferred

**Felix Gonzalez '09** was 16 and in his third week of medical school in his native Cuba, when soldiers evacuated the classroom and drafted the students. A year later, he successfully emigrated to the United States. He persevered and was later accepted at RWJMS.

During a two-year internship in the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI)-National Institutes of Health Research Scholars Program, Felix resumed his pursuit of a career in medical research. His work is chronicled in the November issue of the HHMI *Bulletin*: “Working with lead investigators at the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, Gonzalez showed that even brief pre-treatment with the ubiquitous chemical, nitrite, can prevent cellular damage after a heart attack.” The results of the study were published June 10, 2008, in the journal *Circulation*.

### FROM THE Dean's Desk

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## Dr. David Kountz Receives Award Named for His Father

On February 27, at the New Jersey Sharing Network's 10th Annual Heritage Awards Dinner, the Kountz Heritage Award of Excellence was presented to **David S. Kountz, MD**, associate professor



David S. Kountz, MD

of medicine, senior vice president for medical and academic affairs, Jersey Shore University Medical Center, and associate dean, RWJMS.

The Heritage Award is named for Dr. Kountz's father, Samuel L. Kountz, MD.

A pioneer in transplantation

surgery, the senior Dr. Kountz made history when he performed a kidney transplant on NBC's *Today* show, inspiring more than 20,000 viewers to offer their kidneys to patients. Dr. David Kountz recently told the *Asbury Park Press*: "He wanted to expose the field of transplant surgery to a more needy population and made a lot of international trips to help medical schools build transplant programs."

## Dr. Barbara DiCicco-Bloom Named Finalist in New York Times Tribute

**Barbara DiCicco-Bloom, PhD, RN**, assistant professor of family medicine, was named a finalist in *The New York Times Tribute to Nurses*.

The *Tribute* honors "America's most dedicated and indispensable professionals" by recognizing nurses who have made a significant difference in

patients' lives and in the nursing profession. The awards

also honor exemplary nurse educators — of whom

Dr. DiCicco-Bloom was one of only two recognized this year.



Barbara DiCicco-Bloom, PhD, RN

The Edward J. III Excellence in Medicine Foundation selected two RWJMS faculty members to receive its 2009 awards. Selected for the Outstanding Medical Research Scientist Award for Basic Biomedical Research was **Aaron J. Shatkin, PhD**, professor of molecular genetics, microbiology, and immunology and director, the Center for Advanced Biotechnology and Medicine. **Joseph R. Bertino, MD**, professor of medicine and pharmacology, chief scientific officer and associate director, The Cancer Institute of New Jersey, and interim director, the Stem Cell Institute of New Jersey, will receive the Outstanding Medical Research Scientist Award for Clinical Research.

**Ranita Sharma, MD**, associate professor of medicine, was elected governor of the northern region of the New Jersey Chapter of the American College of Physicians.

The Society for Risk Analysis named **Joanna Burger, PhD**, distinguished professor of biological sciences, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, to receive the 2008 award for the outstanding paper published in its journal, *Risk Analysis*. **Michael Gochfeld, MD, PhD**, professor of environmental and occupational health, was a co-author of Dr. Burger's paper and was also named in the citation.

**Erica Dommasch '09** was selected to receive the 2009 American Medical Association (AMA) Foundation Leadership Award. Only 15 medical students were chosen for this award, which was presented in March at the AMA's National Advocacy Conference, in Washington, D.C.

**Camille MacDonald '09** received a Young Oncologist Essay Award from the American Radium Society (ARS). In April, she will present "Effects of Riluzole and Ionizing Radiation in Metabotropic Glutamate Receptor1 (GRM1) Positive Human Melanoma" at the ARS conference in Vancouver and her abstract has been accepted for publication in *Oncology*. In addition, UMDNJ selected her to sing the National Anthem at Commencement in May.

The American Association for the Advancement of Science recently named **Michael Hampsey, PhD**, professor and interim chair, Department of Biochemistry, and **Nancy Walworth, PhD**, professor of pharmacology, as fellows.

Four beginning doctoral candidates from the **Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at RWJMS** have been inducted into the Foundation of UMDNJ Society of Research Scholars. Each research scholar received a scholarship of \$26,500, plus an additional \$5,000 to be used for educational expenses. RWJMS inductees were **Allen Alcivar**, **Sabrina Engler**, **Tatiana Kazdoba**, and **Jeffrey Overton**.

**Vassiliki Karantza-Wadsworth, MD '01, PhD**, assistant professor of medicine, was one of five young researchers selected by the Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation to receive a 2008 Clinical Investigator Award. Dr. Karantza-Wadsworth received \$450,000 to support the development of research into the role of autophagy in tumor cell survival and responsiveness to chemotherapy.

Three members of the faculty were named among *New Jersey Business's* Top 10 scientists: **Sidney Pestka, MD**, professor and chair, Department of Molecular Genetics, Microbiology and Immunology; **Aaron J. Shatkin, PhD**, professor of molecular genetics, microbiology and immunology and director, Center for Advanced Biotechnology and Medicine; and **Stuart W. Peltz, PhD**, adjunct professor of molecular genetics, microbiology and immunology.

**Chioma Ihunnah '11** was selected to participate in the Chrysalis Project sponsored by the American Academy of Allergy Asthma and Immunology during the academy's annual meeting in Washington, D.C. in March.

**Bruce G. Haffty, MD** professor and chair, Department of Radiation Oncology and president, American Radium Society, will deliver the presidential address at the society's annual meeting in Vancouver, in April.

**Alexander Izaguirre, PhD**, director, Information Technology, was a co-author of "Comparative Analysis of IRF and IFN- $\alpha$  Expression in Human Plasmacytoid and Monocyte-Derived Dendritic Cells," which received the 2008 Dolph Adams Award from the *Journal of Leukocyte Biology* for the most highly cited original research paper.

### In Memoriam

**Robert P. Eisinger, MD**  
**Ashton B. Morrison, MD**  
**Uma Viswanathan, MD**  
**Syed K. Hamid, MD**

## Team Finds Breast Cancer Gene Linked to Disease Spread

A team of researchers at Princeton University and **The Cancer Institute of New Jersey (CINJ)** has identified MTDH, a long-sought gene that is fatefully switched on in 30 to 40 percent of all breast cancer patients, spreading the disease, resisting traditional chemotherapies, and eventually leading to death.

The research is described in the January 6 issue of *Cancer Cell*. **Yibin Kang, PhD**, assistant professor of molecular biology, Princeton University and research member, CINJ, led the research. The paper's co-authors included **Michael Reiss, MD**, professor of medicine and director, Breast Cancer Research Program, CINJ, and **Bruce Haffty, MD**, professor and chair, Department of Radiation Oncology and chief of radiation oncology, CINJ.

Dr. Reiss notes that not only has a new metasta-

sis gene been identified, but MTDH is one of a few such genes for which the exact mode of action has been elucidated. "That gives us a real shot at developing a drug that will inhibit metastasis," he says. The multidisciplinary research strategy used by the team to pinpoint the gene in breast cancer patients also could be used to find genes involved in the spread of other cancers.

## Faculty Awarded Major Research Funding

The National Institutes of Health recently awarded grants of \$1 million or more to the following members of the RWJMS faculty:

- **Cheryl F. Dreyfus, PhD**, professor and acting chair, Department of Neuroscience and Cell Biology: a four-year, \$1,365,000 grant to fund her project, "The Role of Neurotrophins in Oligodendrocyte Function."
- **Raymond Habas, PhD**, assistant professor of biochemistry: a five-year, \$1.3 million grant for his project, "Non-canonical Wnt signaling and Cell Motility."
- **Loren Runnels, PhD**, assistant professor of pharmacology: a five-year, \$1.5 million grant for his study, "Functional Analysis of the Bi-Functional Ion Channel and Kinase TRPM7."
- **Michael Reiss, MD**, professor of medicine: a five-year, \$1.5 million grant for his project, "Targeting Transforming Growth Factor in Metastatic Breast Cancer."
- **Kathleen Scotto, PhD**, professor of pharmacology, vice president for research, UMDNJ, and interim dean, UMDNJ-Graduate School for Biomedical Sciences: a five-year, \$1.3 million grant for her project, "Caffeine Regulates Splicing of Cancer-Related Genes: Dissecting the Mechanism."

The American Cancer Society awarded a \$768,000 Research Scholar Grant to **Karine Cohen-Solal, PhD**, assistant professor of medicine, to study the mechanisms that lead to melanoma at a certain stage of development.

## Study Shows Menthol Cigarettes Are More Addictive

A study led by **Kunal Gandhi, MBBS, MPH**, a researcher in the division of addiction psychiatry, examined the effects of menthol on quit rates among a diverse group of nearly 1,700 participants in a Tobacco Dependence Clinic at the UMDNJ-School of Public Health. "We previously found that menthol cigarette smokers take in more nicotine and carbon monoxide per cigarette," says Mr. Gandhi. This study found that smokers of menthol cigarettes — particularly African American and Latino smokers — find it harder to quit, despite smoking fewer cigarettes per day. "The conclusions were published in February in the *International Journal of Clinical Practice*. **Jonathan Foulds, PhD**, director, Tobacco Dependence Program, adds: "These results build on growing evidence suggesting that menthol is not a neutral flavoring in cigarettes. It masks the harshness of the nicotine and toxins, affects the way the cigarette is smoked, and makes it more deadly and addictive."

## CHINJ Launches Program in Immune and Inflammatory Diseases

**Arnold Rabson, MD**, professor of molecular genetics, microbiology, and immunology, interim director, **Child Health Institute of New Jersey (CHINJ)**, and interim senior associate dean for research, announced the launch of a research program at CHINJ that will focus on the mechanisms by which the immune system prevents infectious diseases that are the major cause of childhood diseases world-wide. "The immune system, when abnormally regulated, can itself cause autoimmune diseases and cancers," says Dr. Rabson.

A CHINJ search team recently recruited immunologist **Amale Laouar, PhD**. Working closely with the institute's growing group of investigators studying immune and inflammatory diseases, Dr. Laouar will study inflammatory disease and immunity of the gastrointestinal tract.

## Dr. Matthew Menza Reports Findings on Treating Parkinson's Disease-related Depression

**Matthew Menza, MD**, professor of psychiatry and neurology, was first author of a study that examined the use of older antidepressants to treat depression in patients with Parkinson's disease (PD).

The findings were published online before print by the journal *Neurology*, on December 17. Dr. Menza's study is the first to



Matthew Menza, MD

compare an older antidepressant that targets two receptors in the brain with a newer generation, serotonin only-based drug and placebo. It is also the largest placebo-controlled study for PD-related depression, suffered by as many as 50 percent of patients with the disease. The study showed that patients who took nortriptyline, a tricyclic antidepressant that affects both norepinephrine and serotonin, two different receptors in the brain, were nearly five times more likely to see improvement in depression symptoms when compared with people who took paroxetine CR, a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor or a placebo pill.

**A P P O I N T M E N T S**

**Dr. Evan Cadoff Appointed Interim Chair,  
Pathology and Laboratory Medicine**

**E**van Cadoff, MD, professor of pathology and laboratory medicine, was recently appointed interim chair of the department. Dr. Cadoff was instrumental in the State's awarding the HIV Rapid Testing Grant to the department, and he has served as principal investigator on that grant since 2003. He was recently appointed laboratory director of the New Jersey Public Health Laboratory, in Trenton.

Dr. Cadoff joined the faculty in 1989. He is co-chief of service, director of clinical pathology, and chief of clinical chemistry at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital. He has also

served as the laboratory director at University Diagnostic Laboratories, Children's Specialized Hospital, and University Behavioral HealthCare.

Dr. Cadoff received his MD degree from the State University of New York at Stony Brook. He also holds an MS degree in computer science from Polytechnic University, Brooklyn, and an MBA in finance from Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. Dr. Cadoff completed his internship in family practice at Franklin Square Hospital, in Baltimore, and a residency in clinical pathology at University Hospital, Stony Brook, New York, where he was chief resident.



*Evan Cadoff, MD*

John Emerson

**RWJMG  
Announces New  
Appointments**

**A**nthony T. Scardella, MD, professor of medicine and acting senior associate dean for clinical affairs, announced two appointments at the **Robert Wood Johnson Medical Group**. As medical director for quality initiatives and patient safety, **Alan J. Spotnitz, MD**, professor of surgery, will staff the Operations and Clinical Care Committees and will work with the department administrators and practice managers. As medical director for practice development and managed care contracting, **Michael Eleff, MD**, assistant professor of medicine, will staff the finance, managed care coordinating, and strategic business development and planning committees.

**Save the Date...**

- **April 18: HIPHOP 5K Run Registration**
  - 8:30 –10 AM • Johnson Park, Piscataway
  - Contact: *susan.giordano@umdnj.edu*, 5-4198
- **May 14: Graduation Banquet**
  - 6:30 PM • Westin Princeton at Forrestal Village
  - Contact: *Marie Kleeman, kleemame@umdnj.edu*
- **May 18: Convocation**
  - 7:00 PM • State Theatre, New Brunswick
  - **Keynote Speaker:** Nancy Snyderman, MD, chief medical editor, NBC News
  - Contact: *Jeannette Evans, evansje1@umdnj.edu*
- **May 20: Commencement**
- **June 20: Dean's Golf Outing**
  - First tee off: 11:00 AM • Cranbury Golf Course
  - Contact: *Jeannette Evans, evansje1@umdnj.edu*
- **October 10: Gala Alumni Reunion Dinner Dance**
  - 6:30 PM • Hilton East Brunswick
  - Contact: *Roberta Ribner, ribners@umdnj.edu*

**N E W S A N D E V E N T S**

**Dr. Richard Losick of Harvard Delivers Morris Lecture**

**A** full auditorium heard Richard Losick, PhD, deliver the sixth annual N. Ronald Morris Lecture, on February 5th. Dr. Losick is Maria Moors Cabot Professor of Biology at Harvard College. He spoke on "Morphogenesis in a Simple Organism," describing the mechanisms by which *Bacillus subtilis* differentiates to form a highly durable endospore.

The lecture series honors **N. Ronald Morris, PhD**, emeritus professor of pharmacology, who retired recently after a noteworthy scientific career and 36 years of distinguished service to RWJMS. Dr. Morris is known to his colleagues as "The Scientist's Scientist," says **Marc R. Gartenberg,**



Lara Photographer

*Left to right: Leroy F. Liu, PhD, professor and chair, Department of Pharmacology; Marc R. Gartenberg, PhD, professor of pharmacology; N. Ronald Morris, PhD, emeritus professor of pharmacology; Richard Losick, PhD, Maria Moors Cabot Professor of Biology, Harvard College; and Ann Stock, PhD, professor of biochemistry, associate director, CABM, and Investigator, Howard Hughes Institute.*

**PHD**, professor of pharmacology and chair, N. Ronald Morris Lecture Committee. He was named a University Distinguished Professor, having served as a preeminent scientific, academic and administrative leader.

**Dr. Helmut Zarbl, PhD,  
Appointed to New Post at CINJ**

**H**elmut Zarbl PhD, professor of environmental and occupational medicine and director, NIEHS Center of Excellence at EOHSI, was appointed in November to serve as associate director for public health science at The Cancer Institute of New Jersey. Dr. Zarbl's re-

search has focused largely on toxicogenomics and functional genomics, carcinogenesis, molecular and cellular biology, and toxicology. Prior to joining the faculty, Dr. Zarbl was involved in translational population science at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center.