WCMC-Q Students Win Research Grants

Twenty-eight premedical students at the Qatar branch have been awarded grants for research with faculty members. The grants, totaling $280,000, come from the Qatar National Research Fund. They will support eleven projects on topics ranging from safe drinking water to gene therapy.

Longtime Librarian Retires

Library director Carolyn Reid has retired after twenty-three years of service. Reid came to Weill Cornell as an associate librarian and was promoted to director in 2004. During her tenure, the library’s physical space doubled. When she arrived in 1987, it carried 1,500 print journals; that has increased to more than 9,000 electronic journals and 12,000 e-books. Says Dean Gotto: “Carolyn brought the Medical College Library into the twentieth century.”

New Faculty Orientation Program Launched

In July, Weill Cornell held its first faculty orientation to welcome new hires. The session—a two-hour introduction on college history, policies, and goals, followed by a campus tour and reception—was organized by Lisa Abbott, senior director of human resources. The orientation was created in response to faculty requests for a more formal, comprehensive welcome to the college. “Learning things second-hand was not necessarily the right way,” Abbott says.

Promoting a Balance Between Work and Personal Life

Radiology chairman Robert Min, MD ‘90, said that when his daughters were small, he worked so much that they didn’t include him in the family portraits they drew; associate dean of academic affairs Shari Midoneck, MD ’89, discussed living so close to work that she rarely has a commute. In March, they and three other Weill Cornell physicians spoke at an event promoting a work-life balance. They discussed the dangers of putting such single-minded focus on career that it precludes a fulfilling personal life—and detracts from the work. “It’s very easy to find someone who is academically and clinically productive,” surgical oncology professor Rache Simmons, MD, said. “What’s hard is finding someone who is both, and has a life and is a happy person.”

TIP OF THE CAP TO…

Assistant health policy professor Yuhua Bao, PhD, recipient of a five-year Mentored Research Scientist Career Development Award from the National Institute of Mental Health.

William Borden, MD, the Nanette Laitman Clinical Scholar in Public Health/Prevention, winner of the Young Hearts Award for Achievement in Cardiovascular Science and Medicine from the American Heart Association.

Obstetrics and gynecology chairman Frank Chervenak, MD, named an honorary fellow of the Royal College of Obstetrics and Gyneocology at its yearly congress in Belfast, Ireland.

Soumitra Eachempati, MD, professor of surgery and public health, named president of the New York State Chapter of the American College of Surgeons.

Brian Kelly, PhD, senior director of technology development at Weill Cornell, and Nigel Mongan, PhD, assistant research professor of pharmacology, named to the 2010 Irish Life Science 50, a list of Irish Americans who contribute to advances in medical treatment.

MD-PhD student Sandeep Kishore, featured as a “Hero of Global Health” in a June special issue of Scientific American for founding the Young Professionals Chronic Disease Working Group.

Associate professor of clinical surgery Mia Talmor, MD ’93, named president of the New York Regional Society of Plastic Surgeons.