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**Marie Frey, CNM (1960 - 2011)**



It is with heavy hearts that we share the sad news of the unexpected passing of our dear friend, midwife and colleague, Marie Frey CNM, MS on September 12, 2011. Marie began her career as a registered nurse in 1980 providing Psychiatric, Medical/Surgical and Pediatric care. In 1986, she found her passion in the Labor and Delivery unit in the care of mothers and infants. Marie enjoyed teaching and offered childbirth preparation and breastfeeding education to many patients. She graduated with the first class from the Pathways to Midwifery Program at Stony Brook University in 1997, and began her midwifery career at Bellevue Hospital and Birthing Center in Manhattan. In 2001, Marie joined the Stony Brook Midwifery Division in the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Medicine where she had served as a vital member of the midwifery practice for the past ten years. Marie was also very involved in community service, volunteering many hours each year at a fund raising event

called “Spooky Walk”, to benefit the developmentally disabled children at Camp Paquattuck in Moriches. In addition, Marie had a passion for teaching and provided excellent mentorship to many student midwives during her tenure at Stony Brook. She was an enthusiastic traveler, loved the beach and catalogued life with the many wonderful pictures she took and shared. Marie is survived by her three children and a large and loving extended family. She will be remembered most for her infectious laugh, playful spirit and passionate commitment to the women and families she served. We hope to honor Marie’s life by continuing to provide quality care to women and their families. In addition, the Department of Ob/Gyn will be supporting the Marie Frey Excellence in Nurse-Midwifery Practice, a scholarship being established in memory of Marie by the Stony Brook School of Nursing.

To contribute to the Marie Frey Memorial, please send checks made payable to SBF (Stony Brook Foundation) and earmark them in memory of Marie Frey on the check itself. These checks may be sent to :

Vicki Irwin  
c/o Marie Frey Scholarship  
Office of Advancement  
The Clark House  
Stony Brook University Medical Center

## Residents Research Day 2011



Residents Research Day is not only a celebration for our graduating chief residents but a recognition of the educational and research efforts of the Department. The day kicked off in the HSC Galleria with a number of outstanding research presentations by our second and third year residents and a presentation by the Martin L. Stone Visiting Lecturer and Judge, Dr. Allan Jacobs from Flushing Hospital.

Following the day program, faculty and staff joined together at the Watermill Inn for an evening of dinner and dancing. The evening program is a chance to congratulate our graduating chiefs, and meet our new residents and fellows.

We congratulate our graduating chief residents, (*front row*) **Dr. Joseph Chappelle**, **Dr. Elizabeth Garduno**, (*back row*) **Dr. Donald Phillibert** and **Dr. Chanda Reese** and **Dr. Elizabeth Buescher** as well as our award recipients:

- Martin L. Stone Resident of the Year ◇ *Elizabeth Garduno, M.D.*
- Humanism in Medicine Award ◇ *Amanika Kumar, M.D.*
- William J. Mann Pathology Ward ◇ *Deepti Nahar, M.D.*
- Resident Teaching Award ◇ *Fabiola Balmir, M.D.*
- CREOG Faculty Award for Excellence in Resident Education ◇ *Lisa Rimpel, M.D.*
- APGO Faculty Ward for Excellence in Medical Student Education ◇ *Eva Swoboda, M.D.*
- AAGL ◇ Special Excellence in Endoscopic Procedures ◇ *Elizabeth Garduno, M.D.*
- Richard J. Scotti, M.D. Urogynecology Award ◇ *Leia Card, M.D.*
- Midwifery Awards: ◇ Partnership Award -- *Joseph Chappelle, M.D.*  
◇ Heart of Midwifery Award -- *Viveka Prakash, M.D.*

The winner of the Robert Barbieri Research Award is selected by the judges of the research presentations. This year's judges were Dr. Jacobs, M.D., Ken Rosenfeld, M.D. of the Stony Brook Department of Anesthesia and Christian Westermann, M.D., a well respected member of our community faculty. The award winner was Leia Card, M.D. for her outstanding presentation on the topic of "*Chorioamnionitis: A Retrospective Study Analyzing the Accuracy of the Clinical Diagnosis in Preterm Pregnancies.*" Dr. Card's faculty sponsor was Dr. Reinaldo Figueroa of the Division of Maternal Fetal Medicine.

So much hard work goes into making Resident Research Day happen. We thank all of our residents and their faculty sponsors for their hard work, Residency Coordinator Terry Leonbruno, and especially the academic office staff under the direction of Deborah Duttge for their exceptional work in making this year's Resident Research Day go off without a hitch!

## Stony Brook Midwives Celebrate 15 Years

The Stony Brook Midwives celebrated their 15th anniversary at Stony Brook, during National Midwifery Week. The celebration began on Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Hospital Lobby where the Midwives had a display of the midwifery model of care! They distributed practice information as well as educational materials regarding women's health throughout the life cycle. The celebration continued on Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup> in the Health Sciences Center as they joined the Stony Brook School of Nursing and Long Island Midwives, Inc. in welcoming two very special guests, renowned midwife, Ina May Gaskin and NYU Director, George Stoney. Ina May Gaskin, author of *Spiritual Midwifery*, made a presentation and George Stoney screened his movie "All My Babies", a very moving film about a midwife in the 1950's who practiced midwifery in the Deep South. Wine & Cheese reception followed.



## Announcements and New Staff

Congratulations to **Carrie Semelsberger, NP** on passing her Boards last month. We are proud of you, Carrie!

**Dr. Richard Bronson** and **Dr. Michael Lydic** were both recipients of Castle Connolly Top Doctor's Honors. Physicians for this honor are selected through an exhaustive process involving surveys of over 230,000 physicians and healthcare professionals, asking them to identify excellent doctors in every specialty. In addition to these surveys, the Castle Connolly physician-led research team evaluates nominees based on their credentials, medical training, hospital appointments, administrative posts, professional achievements and malpractice history. Drs. Bronson and Lydic conduct their private practice through Reproductive Specialists located in Stony Brook and run a reproductive endocrinology clinic once weekly with the residents at the 6 Technology Drive office.

Congratulations to **Asti Heller** on her promotion to Administrative Assistant I and her transfer to the Division of Gynecologic Oncology as their Academic Secretary. While all of her friends in Tech Park miss her, we wish her well in her new endeavors.

We also wish **Andrea Verderose** well as she retires from the Department on November 9th. Her expertise in medical records, not to mention her festive sweaters, will be greatly missed by her friends at Ob/Gyn.

## Labor and Delivery Move

The newly constructed space for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) and L & D Suite at Stony Brook University Medical Center opened on Sept. 13. That morning, beginning at 7 am, a parade took place featuring NICU babies, expecting mothers, families and staff, as they rode the elevator from the NICU on 8S and Labor & Delivery space on 8N to move into the new area located off the Medical Center Lobby. Babies were wrapped in special blankets imprinted with, "One Small Elevator Ride for Me, One Big Step for Stony Brook." The NICU is the first all-private-room NICU in New York State, equipped with 46 beds. The Labor & Delivery Suite offers 10 Labor & Delivery rooms with private bathrooms, private recovery rooms and three state-of-the-art operating rooms. With all mother and baby services now consolidated into one location, the new facilities provide conveniences previously not available to patients and their families and enhance Stony Brook's ability to provide state-of-the-art care. The smooth and successful move would not have been possible without the hard work of the L&D staff, our ob/gyn residents and especially Dr. Joseph Chappelle, Director of Labor and Delivery.

## WELCOME

Once again we welcome Dr. Lee Weiss to the Division of General Gynecology and Dr. Melissa Henretta to the Division of Gynecologic Oncology.



Melissa Henretta, MD



Lee Weiss, MD

We also welcome new clerical staff to the Department. April Gaudio has joined the 4 Tech Drive staff and Laura Niver will be working in the Medical Records Department at 6 Technology Drive.

Lisa Boreshesky joins the MFM division at the HSC as the department's Administrative Assistant.

## October is Ultrasound Awareness Month

Every October sonography organizations join together to promote medical ultrasound awareness month to increase the public's knowledge about sonography.



Diagnostic medical ultrasound is a procedure that uses high frequency sound waves (ultrasound) to produce dynamic images of organs, tissues or blood flow inside the body. There is no radiation involved in the study. All of our ultrasonographers are highly skilled professionals, who are certified by the ARDMS in obstetric ultrasound.

## Coding Corner By Nicole Rodecker

### Improving Your Documentation

With significant changes coming to documentation coding in October 2013 with the implementation of the ICD-10 code set, it is more important than ever to focus on our medical documentation. Here are a few tips to help you improve your documentation.

#### “If it isn’t documented, it wasn’t done”

- Check off all boxes for the physical examination; a reviewer will not assume that if you did not check a box, the area was normal. If the examination of a body part was sub-optimal, indicate that. (also remember to check off each box – drawing lines down a column of boxes is incorrect documentation).
- When you review the history form that the patient completed, sign the bottom of it, or it cannot be considered as part of your documentation.
- Don’t forget to document the chief complaint!

### Documenting E&M Services (“Problem Visits”)

Most E&M services require the completion of three key components, history, exam and medical decision making for new patients and two key components for returning patients. However, if counseling and/or coordination of care dominates (takes up more than 50%) the time spent with the patient, you may document the service based on time. *Remember to document in your note the amount of time of the visit, the amount of time spent in counseling along with what was discussed.*

Certified coders Nicole Rodecker and Elsa Singh and billing staff Anne Holmes are available and willing to answer your coding and documentation questions. Feel free to call or e-mail them anytime.

### Holiday Scholarship

The December holidays are right around the corner, and the Scholarship Committee will soon be hard at work soliciting and reviewing nominations for the Department’s Annual Holiday Scholarship. The scholarship is an opportunity to support the educational efforts of our staff and their children by providing a monetary award. The fund is a part of the annual “Its About Us” Faculty and Staff campaign. You may make a one time contribution by submitting your check made out to “SBF 29976” to Deborah Haeg or by signing up of an automatic payroll withdrawal to support the fund. Help us to support the staff who support us all year long!



Staff who have worked in the Department for at least one year and their children may be nominated for the award. Interested candidates should submit a letter to the Scholarship Committee, which includes background information and their academic goals. Letters may be submitted directly to Dr. Christine Conway, Committee Chair.

### TEMPTATIONS ARE COMING!!

They’ll be here before you know it...*holiday treats!* It begins with Halloween, when you rediscover which candies are your favorites. Stores offer treats that you can’t resist, especially on sale. Co-workers bring in goodies that call to you when your self-control is low. The weather gets colder, and you spend less time outside. Now is the time to prepare yourself for the next few months of “extra calories.”

- At a party or special dinner, you may be facing a buffet. Try to plan your meal ahead.
- Before you leave, eat a handful of nuts or a string cheese to control your appetite.
- Half of your plate or 50% of your meal can be non starchy vegetables, including salad. The other half can be divided between lean protein and starchy food.
- Take your time eating and enjoy the food, or you may eat too fast and too much.
- Skip the bread basket or dinner rolls. Save those empty calories for dessert.
- Choose mostly fruits for dessert. If you must have cake, don’t eat the whole slice.
- Limit empty calories from alcohol by choosing drinks with juice or seltzer.

Remember, you don’t have to sample everything, whether it’s treats at work or at a buffet meal.