The upcoming transfer of management services for the KU Cancer Center (KUCC) to KU Med will have little or no affect in the services offered to patients, KUCC employees and physicians.

That’s the word from KU Med President and CEO Irene Cumming, who announced Jan. 21 that KU Med will assume management services for KUCC from Salick Health Care, Inc. effective April 1.

“Our goal is to make this transfer as seamless and transparent as possible for Cancer Center employees, the physicians who practice there and—most importantly—patients,” Cumming said. “Patients will receive the same high level of compassionate, quality care, and employees and physicians will continue to be viewed as valued partners. In fact, as we move forward with our plans to enhance and expand our cancer care services, their roles will be extremely important.”

Since 1992, Salick Health Care, Inc. of Los Angeles has provided management services for KUCC, under an agreement entered into by former University of Kansas and hospital administrators. When the KU Hospital Authority was established in October 1998, the management agreement was reviewed and a temporary agreement was

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KUMC staff bring real-world science to school with Family Science Night

KUMC staff members were among the science and health professionals from several Kansas City businesses participating in Family Science Night at Briarwood Elementary School, Prairie Village, Kan. The Jan. 20 event brought more than two dozen hands-on science stations to Briarwood students, such as unusual live animals, a forensic science lab, a chemistry “magic show” and a chance to construct “anti-gravity” machines. KUMC genetic counselors provided a “Gene Station,” in which children could identify fingerprint patterns, build models of DNA, and learn about their own genetic history. Another KUMC group presented “Camp Diversity,” which offered information on Braille, cerebral palsy, arthritis and asthma. Debra Collins, M.S., clinical assistant professor of Endocrinology, Metabolism and Genetics, was among the event’s coordinators.
**Mentors wanted**

The YouthFriends program is seeking KUMC students and employees to serve as mentors for students at Rosedale Middle School and other Kansas City, Kan., schools (USD 500). The program requires a minimum commitment of one hour per week, which can be done over lunch. For an application or more information, call Shelley Bratton, senior coordinator of Alumni and Community Relations, at ext. 1252.

**Ahluwalia on panel**

Jasjit S. Ahluwalia, M.D., M.P.H., M.S., vice chair and associate professor, Preventive Medicine, has been invited to join the Scientific Advisory Panel for the American Legacy Foundation. The foundation was established as a result of the Master Settlement Agreement between a coalition of 46 states and the tobacco industry. Its goal is to create programs to effectively reduce tobacco use among Americans.

**Language classes forming**

In March, the Office of Interpreting Services will offer classes in Beginning Spanish and Beginning American Sign Language. The classes will be open to all employees and students on the KUMC campus. Anyone interested in attending either class should e-mail <khaynes> or call ext. 7811 to be placed on a notification list. Interpreting Services also asks that you state which night of the week you could most easily attend (Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday), which language you are most interested in learning (Spanish or American Sign Language), and your interest level in Intermediate or Advanced level classes at a later date.

**‘Find a doctor’**

A new, improved Physician Referral Directory has been placed on the KUMC web site to make it easier for Kansas City area residents to find a KUMC physician. The directory contains the same information Physician Referral Service representatives use to help people find doctors. Visitors may access the site by clicking on “Find a Doctor” under the Patient Care tab, then search for a physician by name, specialty, areas of interest and even languages spoken. Search results will show only those physicians who are currently accepting new patients, and all his or her practice locations. Site visitors may also request a phone call from the Physician Referral Service by clicking the “Request Callback” button. Any physicians needing to make additions or corrections to their profiles should contact Marilyn Humphrey, ext. 5859 or e-mail <mhumphre>.

**Teddy bears for CMN**

Make a unique addition to your teddy bear collection and help Children’s Miracle Network (CMN) at the same time, by picking up one of the pewter teddy bear pins now on sale in the Hospital Lobby Gift Shop and the Sunflower Gift Shop. The bears sell for $5 each, with all proceeds going to CMN. Funds raised by CMN benefit the KU Children’s Center.

**Call for abstracts**

The Emergency Nurses Association (ENA) has issued a call for research poster and paper abstracts and clinical poster abstracts for presentation at the ENA Scientific Assembly, Sept. 22-24 in Chicago. Entries must be postmarked by March 1.

**Visit us online at**

http://www2.kumc.edu/publications/inthecenter/
Elders to speak Feb. 11

Former U.S. Surgeon General M. Jocelyn Elders, M.D., will appear in Kansas City on Friday, Feb. 11 at 6:30 p.m. The event will take place at the Kansas City Marriott Downtown Hotel, and will include a dinner, book signing and dance. Dr. Elders will also present the evening’s keynote address, “Culturally Competent Healthcare in the New Millennium.”

The KUMC chapter of the Student National Medical Association (SNMA) is among the organizations sponsoring this event. Admission is $25 for students, $35 for non-students. For more information, contact Charla Tunget, Office of Cultural Enhancement and Diversity, at ext. 5292, or e-mail <ctunget>.

Upcoming events

The KUMC Student Wellness Program Committee will meet from noon to 1 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 31 in Stoland Lounge.

“Discovering Balance, Campus Safety Awareness” will be presented from noon to 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 2 in Rieke Auditorium. The event is sponsored by the Student Wellness Program and the KU Police Department.

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made between Salick Health Care and KU Med. Following a year of assessment, KU Med administrators decided to terminate the management agreement.

“The health care environment has changed dramatically since KU Med entered into the initial management agreement, and there have been many recent developments in cancer care delivery,” Cumming said. “Salick Health Care has provided good management services. However, we felt that integrating all inpatient and outpatient services under the management of KU Med would provide optimal outcomes. This decision also supports our goal of making cancer research, diagnosis, treatment and care a ‘Center of Excellence’ for KU Med.”

To provide a smooth transfer of KUCC management to KU Med, a transition team made up of employees from various hospital departments and the Cancer Center has been formed. Led by KU Med Vice President for External Affairs Tom Valuck, M.D., MSHA, and KUCC Vice President/Executive Director Gaylon Lowery, CHE, the team will oversee the implementation of a 60-day transition plan. KUCC employees have been asked to transfer to KU Med, and Hospital Human Resources staff members are now meeting with KUCC employees to work out details of the move.

KUCC was one of the first centers of its kind in the region, offering 24-hour outpatient cancer treatment as well as comprehensive detection and diagnostic services. During the past eight years, the center has built a solid reputation for providing exceptional patient care and for meeting and exceeding patients’ needs.
FOR SALE:

Home gym by Weider, 5 stations, originally $350, asking $175 or trade for treadmill, can deliver; couch & loveseat, tan, comes w/blue & white slipcovers, worn but usable, $50 for set; large capacity Kenmore microwave w/new magnetron, $100, microwave stand $25. Call 816-468-6996.

Moving sale, 2 full-size beds, 1 single bed, stereo, washer & new dryer. Call 913-362-9518 after 5 p.m.

Queen size no-water water bed, sleigh style, black leather, new heater, nice cond., $300 OBO. Call 913-402-0896 after 6 p.m.

Wood dinette table w/2 chairs, makes a good extra card table, $20. Call 913-596-2866 after 6 p.m.

Almost new brown wooden desk, 72" long x 35" wide, & matching credenza 71" long x 20" wide, $200. Call Sara, 913-338-3265.

AUTOMOTIVE:


1995 Mercury Mystique (like Ford Contour), V-6, all options incl. power moon roof, seats, windows & mirrors, leather, CD player, looks & runs great, well maintained, only 51K miles, lists for about $8,500, asking $7,995. Call 913-342-9824.

STUDY SUBJECTS WANTED:

Healthy adult subjects, 18-50 years of age to participate in non-invasive study of memory and learning. Involves 1 hour visit to the Cognitive Neuroscience Lab for the recording of event-related brain potentials (ERPs or brain waves). For more information, contact Jennifer Vavold, ext. 5997.

COMING UP

Friday, January 28:

- Pediatrics Grand Rounds, “Pediatric Neck Swellings,” 8 a.m., Lied Auditorium.
- Psychiatry Grand Rounds, “Alzheimer’s Disease: Early Diagnosis and Treatment,” 10:30 a.m., Clendening Amphitheater.

Monday, January 31:

- Grief-Loss Support Group, 3-4 p.m., Radiation Oncology Conference Room.

Tuesday, February 1:

- Cognitive Therapy Addiction Treatment Strategies, first of four-part program, 5:30-6:30 p.m., KUMC Medical West.

Wednesday, February 2:

- Diabetes Self-Mangement Series, 9-11 a.m., 1107 KUMC.
- KUMC Interfaith, noon-1 p.m., 2023 Wescoe.
- Anxiety Support Group, 4-5:30 p.m., Adult Outpatient Psychiatry Clinic.
- “Understanding the World of Mental Illness,” first of 12-part program, 5:30-9:30 p.m., KUMC Medical West.

Thursday, February 3:

- Free Prostate Cancer Screening, 8-10 a.m., KUMC Medical West, call ext. 1227 for appointment.
- Academic Support and KU School of Nursing, “Virtual Universities: Online and On-Target,” 1:30-3 p.m., 1023 Orr-Major.
- Burn Patient Family Support Group, 6-7 p.m., Burnett Burn Center Waiting Room.