The Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) has awarded an eight-year accreditation to the School of Allied Health’s Physical Therapy Department. The accreditation included commendations, which are known to have been given to only three other of the nation’s 237 physical therapy programs.

Topping the list of commendations was the strength of the department’s chair, Chukuka Enwemeka, PhD, PT, FACSM. Dr. Enwemeka said the report also cited “the financial support we have, the support of our dean, Karen Miller—the level of our scholarship and collegiality of our faculty, as well as our success with our distance education program in Pittsburg.”

In the past two years, 100 percent of Physical Therapy Department graduates have passed their board examinations on the first try, outperforming the national mean passing rate by 12 to 18 points annually.

CAPTE visitors were also impressed with the department’s research efforts. According to figures compiled by the department, grant funding has increased as much as 1,700 percent compared to the time of the last accreditation visit. During the same period, the department has developed five research laboratory facilities, while peer-reviewed research publications have increased ten-fold.

Regarding the Pittsburg distance education program, which brings the entire clinical curriculum to 16 students via the internet, interactive video and other electronic media, Enwemeka said CAPTE was “very impressed with our facilities, faculty, staff and students at Pittsburg.”

The CAPTE report further noted that, while the KUMC program is successful in its present facilities, more space will be needed to accommodate two new faculty members. The additional space is expected to be available when the KU School of Nursing moves to its new building early next year.

Roger Lambson to retire

Vice Chancellor Roger Lambson, PhD, has announced that he will retire from the University of Kansas Medical Center on Dec. 31. Dr. Lambson, who joined KUMC in 1984, has made significant contributions to the medical center, including creating the telecommunications infrastructure, supervising the construction of many buildings and renovations and representing medical center interests to city, county and state leaders. Dr. Lambson will be recognized at a reception Friday, Dec. 10, from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Hixson Atrium. All employees are invited.
This holiday season is a joyous time for sharing. And we can be especially joyful this year and feel a great sense of accomplishment for what we have achieved together.

During this season, there are frequent community events and I am continually asked about what we are doing, what has changed and how we are doing. I thought you might want to know what I’m sharing with others...what I’m saying about our “new” 97-year-old hospital.

I tell people about what a remarkable first year we have had. I talk about the JCAHO accreditation with commendation and what that means. I relate how we are really KUMed Health System because we have 15 locations around the metro area. I talk about our partner physicians, KUPI, who are also dedicated to improving care and service for our patients.

Then, I discuss how bond agencies have been impressed with our success, our strategic plan and our potential. In fact, we received an “A” rating for our first bond issue. I tell people that we have met our financial targets and have a clear five-year plan. The plan is on-track and we are achieving our goals. Because we have carefully managed our great medical center and planned for payment changes, we are not currently experiencing major problems.

As you can see, I am bragging about our “remarkable year” and encourage you to do the same. We have earned it. We should feel pride in our accomplishments as we celebrate the holidays.

The transition is completed

I want to take this opportunity to update you on the completion of many areas of our transition. We have accomplished everything that we need to strengthen all the entities, so individually and together we can be successful. The organizational structure and platform has been created and we are now implementing the changes. Now is the time to use the new systems and move forward.

When I came to KUMC in 1995, leadership principles were established for the transitions we faced. Under those principles we were able to recruit two strong leaders to become deans of our schools. Executive Dean Powell has strengthened the School of Medicine to meet the major changes in medicine and health care. Dean Miller has led the School of Nursing and the School of Allied Health into a jointly progressive, nationally recognized program. Each of the schools are, now, solidly structured and have clear vision and direction.

The physician group, KUPI, is integral to strategic planning. Executive Dean Powell represented the University in working out the new KUPI affiliation agreement. The new agreement creates a conjoint planning committee, which includes the president and CEO of the hospital, the executive dean for the School of Medicine and the KUPI president.

Across the country, marketplace pressures and changes in the delivery of health care have made it imperative for hospitals to be independent of the State. On Oct. 1, 1998, the hospital became a separate entity. However, planning is linked. The hospital board includes the chancellor, executive vice chancellor, the executive dean and the dean of the School of Nursing, who advocate, and monitor, support of the education and research mission.

The scope and importance of medical research has been strengthened. A recently appointed vice chancellor for research is incorporating the research initiatives for the School of Medicine and the Schools of Nursing and Allied Health. There is a comprehensive strategic research plan.

Now we are implementing our planning. We have made the transition and we are positioned to succeed.
Wellness program helps students seeking balance

Seeking a little balance in your life? If so, try “Discovering Balance,” one of many programs sponsored by the KUMC Student Wellness Program.

Coordinated by the Department of Student Services, the Wellness Program serves as a clearinghouse for wellness information, and offers programs and events designed to help students develop and maintain wellness in six areas: physical, emotional, spiritual, intellectual, social and cultural.

In addition to the ongoing “Discovering Balance” series, the program produces a Student Wellness Calendar, which is posted in high traffic areas and e-mailed to all students. Stress-relieving wellness activities are also posted on the Wellness Bulletin Board, located in the Student Center Computer Lab. Any student organization sponsoring a health or wellness program may advertise at this site.

The next Student Wellness event will be a “finals study break” on Thursday, Dec. 9, from 9-10:30 p.m. in the Orr-Major Student Lounge. Food and massages will be provided. For more information about this activity or the Student Wellness Program, e-mail Ashley Wiles at <awiles>, or call ext. 6590.

Make plans now for the holiday party

With all the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, don’t forget about this year’s KUMC holiday party. The party, jointly sponsored by the University of Kansas Medical Center and KUMC (hospital), will be Dec. 15 in heated tents placed in the Fountain Courtyard. Invitations will be distributed during the next few days to all employees. Please remember to attend only the session indicated on your invitation, and to bring your invitation to enter the party.

There’s still time to participate in this year’s KUMC Gingerbread House Contest. To enter, register by 4 p.m. Dec. 14 with Mary Jo Williams, ext. 5248, Sharon Taylor, ext. 5455, or Stacey Snakenberg, ext. 5060. All entries will be displayed at the holiday party, and prizes will be awarded for Most Traditional, Most Unique and Most Calories. For more information, call Williams, Taylor or Snakenberg.

Health care discount for State of Kansas employees will end Dec. 31

As a reminder, the courtesy discount on health care services provided to State of Kansas employees cannot be extended after Dec. 31, 1999. These discounts were offered to state employees when KU Med (hospital) was part of the University of Kansas Medical Center. Because of legal and regulatory constraints, these discounts must be discontinued effective Jan. 1, 2000. KU Med and Kansas University Physicians, Inc. (KUPI) will continue as preferred providers under some health insurance plans offered to state employees.

Chancellor’s Teaching Award nominations are due Dec. 20

Nominations are being accepted for the Chancellor’s Distinguished Teaching Awards. The awards are open to any KU faculty member except prior winners. The deadline for nominations is Monday, Dec. 20. Send nominations to Joseph Bast, PhD, Office of Academic Affairs, 5015 Wescoe.
Medical exchange program brings benefits to Kyrgyzstan and KUMC

Somewhere high in the central Asian mountains, a man on horseback proudly tells of the time he met a woman from America. He says he always wanted to meet an American.

Half-way around the world in Kansas City, Louise Redford proudly recalls meeting the man on horseback. According to Redford, his is just one of many lives she and others from KUMC touched during a seven-year KUMC-Kyrgyzstan medical exchange program.

Following the break-up of the Soviet Union in 1991, Kyrgyzstan emerged as an independent democratic republic. To help foster good will with the new nation, the U.S. State Department backed a U.S.-Kyrgyzstan medical exchange grant—the brainchild of Professor of Medicine Frederick Holmes, M.D.

Dr. Holmes secured funding through the USAID-supported American International Health Alliance. Redford, fluent in Russian and a home health nurse, was hired as coordinator of the KUMC-Kyrgyzstan Partnership.

“When I first visited Kyrgyzstan, there had been no Americans there for decades because it was a militarily sensitive part of the old Soviet Union,” Dr. Holmes said. “I was struck by the country’s beauty. It’s full of rugged country, beautiful lakes and streams and really interesting people.”

While the grant’s original intent was to help bolster Kyrgyzstan’s oncology and pediatrics institutes, KUMC eventually sent representatives from virtually every department and school to Kyrgyzstan.

“Exactly 226 people have gone over,” Redford said. “We’ve never had any trouble getting people to go. It’s been a terrific experience for so many of us.”

Some of the biggest successes involve advancements in the care of burn patients and nursing. Redford, who played a prominent role in reorganizing Kyrgyzstan’s nursing profession, said the program brought 32 Kyrgyzstani nurses to KU to teach them administration, nursing education techniques and up-to-date nursing standards. These efforts—and the establishment of a Department of Nursing at the medical school—earned Redford honorary citizenship and a certificate for service by the country’s nurses on her last trip to Kyrgyzstan.

The grant also enabled Kyrgyzstani doctors, nurses and administrators to make extended visits to KUMC, where they observed state-of-the-art American health care. As 1999 draws to a close, funding for the KUMC-Kyrgyzstan grant is coming to an end. And while the purpose of the grant was to improve medical care in Kyrgyzstan, Dr. Holmes said all parties benefited.

“It was great for us to send professional people over who could relate to their peers in another country,” Dr. Holmes said. “It enables us to see what the wider world of medicine is like.”
The Dickens Carolers, a professional Christmas caroling company, gave a stirring performance for visitors and employees in the KU Med (hospital) lobby last week. The appearance was courtesy of KU Med administration.

Britny Bivins, left, was one of several nursing students who stopped by Stoland Lounge Nov. 22 to learn about the new senior nursing associate position offered by KU Med (hospital). With Bivins are Lindsey Wannamaker, KU School of Nursing, center, and Carol Theis, KU Med Employment.

Susan Carlson, PhD, CNS, left, was the guest of honor at a Nov. 30 reception. Dr. Carlson, a noted nutritional researcher with expertise in infant diets, was recently named the Midland Dairy Council Endowed Professor in Nutrition in the Department of Dietetics and Nutrition, KU School of Allied Health. With Dr. Carlson is Lou Loescher-Junge, assistant dean, School of Allied Health.

Steve Eden of National Fire Suppression cuts pipe for fire sprinklers at the Breast Center in the women’s health care services area now under construction at KU MedWest. The center, which will include high-risk breast cancer prevention screening, genetic counseling, mammography and other services, is scheduled to open in mid January.
Begun updating anti-virus software at all workstations.
Prepared to run complete backups on all file servers and other computing resources Dec. 30-31.
Prepared detailed contingency plans.
Staff members will be on site New Year's Eve and beyond to deal with any issues that might arise, and all key technology support people will be available during January to deal with any Y2K-related problems.

What has been done thus far?

The three groups have:

- Taken steps to make major systems compliant (mainframes, web servers, file servers, and network infrastructure), including setting up a test network to simulate the Year 2000 rollover and resolve any Y2K impacts.
- Met with departments throughout 1999 to increase Y2K awareness, inventory departmental equipment/systems, and assist where necessary in resolving Y2K problems.
- Tested PC workstations and their associated software for Y2K compliance.
- Taken steps to increase KUMC network security, including installing router hardware and software to perform intrusion/detection and prevent malicious “hacking” or unauthorized access to medical center/hospital computing resources. These measures should be in place by the end of December.

- Begun updating anti-virus software at all workstations.
- Prepared to run complete backups on all file servers and other computing resources Dec. 30-31.
- Prepared detailed contingency plans.

What about my PC?

As a PC user, what are your vulnerabilities and what can you do to prepare yourself for Y2K? Information Resources will send out a series of broadcast e-mails during December and early January, offering Y2K recommendations to all PC users. Some actions to consider are:

- Log off the network and shut your PC off completely the last time you use it in 1999.
- Print your calendar, at least for January 2000.
- Back up critical data either to a floppy/zip drive, network drive (usually your G drive), or other backup source if available.
- Make sure your computer clock is functioning properly after Jan. 1. If it isn’t, the time stamps assigned to new files and e-mail you send may have the wrong dates.

- Learn how your software interprets two-digit year dates. Any data with a two-digit year field may not translate as expected. For example, “00” may be interpreted as 1900 or 2000.
- Make sure you fully understand Y2K compatibility issues associated with database systems you use that were developed by a vendor or written in house.
- Visit KUMC’s Y2K web site, www2.kumc.edu/y2k. This site contains KUMC’s Y2K disclosure statement, a description of the Year 2000 problem, Y2K compliance information for selected equipment, software, and technology vendors, and compliance status for many KUMC assets.

If you use a PC at home, all recommendations listed above apply. If you use remote access through KUMC On-Line, you can download the latest McAfee anti-virus software and the latest virus definition files from our download site, www2.kumc.edu/ftp/kumc.

What if I have questions?

Contact any Y2K project manager:
KUMC Tania Stastny, <tstastny>
KU Med Malcolm Cunningham, <mcunning>
KUPI Susan DeCoursey, <sdecours>

You can also contact the IR Help Desk, ext. 7995 or <helpdesk>, or the HIS Help Desk, ext. 4894 or <hishelp>.
Communications update

The Pulse online phone and e-mail directory has recently changed. Employees are asked to check their listings to be sure they are correct. If not, e-mail Cheryl Pace at <pace>. Also, don't forget that 10-digit dialing is now in effect for local calls between the 816 and 913 area codes. These are still local calls; you do not need to dial 1 first. Remember that you must dial area code 913 when calling a KUMC pager from off campus. When calling from on campus, it is not necessary to include the area code. Simply dial 9 for an outside line and the seven-digit pager number, as before. If you have any questions, call ext. 7995.

EPEC course offered

The Palliative Care Service and the Department of Continuing Education is sponsoring “EPEC” (Education for Professionals on End-of-Life Care). The two-day program will run 8 a.m.-5:15 p.m. Friday, Jan. 14, and 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15. Faculty members can obtain registration forms by calling ext. 4488. Those who register before Dec. 20 will receive a $10 discount. Cancellations must be made before Dec. 31 to receive a refund.

Family Matters Day

University of Kansas Medical Center employees and students helped brighten up a school in need and fulfilled one the medical center's Kansas City Promise/ America's Promise pledges by participating in the first National Family Matters Day. Volunteers from KUMC and other local community groups gathered at Rosedale Middle School, the adopted school for KUMC, to paint heating vents, refurbish a gym concession stand, pick up trash, reorganize the library and help build frames for students' artwork. Family Matters Day is part of the national Points of Light Foundation and the Wyandotte County Volunteer Connection.

Sullivan elected

Eleanor Sullivan, RN, PhD, FAAN, professor and former dean of the KU School of Nursing, has been elected to the nominating committee of the Sigma Tau International nursing honor society. Dr. Sullivan will be responsible for coordinating the election of new officers during the two-year term. Sigma Tau, a 77-year old society known as the "Phi Beta Kappa of nursing," seeks to further the quality of nursing scholarship around the world. Dr. Sullivan is the organization's immediate past president.

Color copier available

KUMC Printing and Document Management has recently installed a color copier which is now available for customer orders. The copier produces some of the most realistic color on the market today. Copies can be produced from hard copy or electronic files. For long-term needs and projects, access can be provided to the printer from a customer's workstation. Laser paper, 90 lb. cover or transparency stock is available. The equipment is located in the printing service office area, G001 Eaton. For information on charges, call ext. 7095.

visit us online at: http://www2.kumc.edu/publications/inthecenter/
FOR SALE:
Black leather couch, 4 yrs. old, $300 OBO; oak/glass coffee table, $75. Call 913-342-0599 afternoons & evenings.

Brother-190 FAX, unused, auto, paper cutter & feeder, $75; paper shredder, as new, $20. Call 913-348-4763 after hours.

Papasan chairs (2) w/clean peach-colored cushions, including ottomans w/o cushions, $30/set, $50 for all. Twin mattress & box springs, like new, $50, also red metal headboard, $20, $60 for all. Call 816-554-1346.

D P Fit for Life Airdyne exercise bicycle, $35; Bruce Jenner workout bench w/bands & video, $400 new, asking $50; girls 3-speed bicycle, $25. Call Beth, 913-334-5354.

Chiefs tickets for Sunday, Dec. 12 game against Minnesota Vikings, unable to use. Call 913-722-4252, 816-861-0774, after hours.

Jazzy electric wheelchair w/gel seat, paid $6,879.73, leave message.

Wyandotte County. For more information, call ext. 6681.

OUTREACH PROGRAM

The Outreach Program Lectureship Series, “Reappraisal of DFMO as a Chemoprevention Agent,” noon-1 p.m., Clendening Amphitheater.

Goodwill Book fair to benefit COP program, which directly benefits residents of Wyandotte County. For more information, call ext. 6681.

AUTOMOTIVE:
1985 Toyota Camry, needs some body & trans work, new radiator & exhaust, make offer. Call 913-381-8452.

1991 Ford Probe LX, V6, 5 speed, red w/gray int., $3,000 OBO; 1989 M ercury Cougar LS, V6, white w/blue int., $1,800 OBO; both cars look & run good, well-kept w/service records available. Call Jim, 913-438-9769.


BOOK FAIR:

The Community Outreach Program (COP) Book Fair will be in the Wyandotte Room of the Main Cafeteria Tuesday, Dec. 21, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 22, 7 a.m.-5 p.m., and Thursday, Dec. 23, 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Shoppers can save up to 70 percent off retail prices for books and gifts.

Fair proceeds go to the COP program, which directly benefits residents of Wyandotte County. For more information, call ext. 6681.

COMING UP

Friday, December 10:
- Psychiatry Grand Rounds, “Treatment of Depression in Outpatient Clinic, Private Practice vs. H MO Model of Care,” 10:30 a.m., Clendening Amphitheater.

Saturday, December 11:
- Wellness Program, “Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder,” 10-11 a.m., Parkway Family Care, 300 SE 2nd St., Suite 100, Lee’s Summit, Mo.
- N on-Denominational Advent Sunday Service, 11:30 a.m., Spencer Chapel.

Sunday, December 12:
- N on-Denominational Advent Sunday Service, 7-9 p.m., 1018 O rr-M ajor.

Monday, December 13:
- National Stuttering Project Support Group, 7-9 p.m., 1018 Orr-Major.

Tuesday, December 14:
- Center on Aging Research Seminar: “Automobile Driving in the Earliest Stages of Alzheimer’s Disease,” 4-5 p.m., Clendening Amphitheater.

Wednesday, December 15:
- N on-Denominational Candlelight Caroling Service, 11:15-11:45 a.m., Spencer Chapel.
- K U MC Interface, noon-1 p.m., 3401 Wescoe.
- Center on Aging Visiting Professor Lecture: “A Clinical Trial of Exercise to Improve Function After Hip Fracture: Preliminary Findings,” noon-1 p.m., Lied Auditorium.

Thursday, December 16:
- Holiday Crafts, 6-7 p.m, K U MC Interface, Community Room.