April 21-27, 2011
CENTER eXpress
THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS HOSPITAL • UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS MEDICAL CENTER

Clock is ticking on LMS deadline
The final push is under way among hospital employees to complete their annual courses on the Learning Management System. Deadline for the 13 online courses is April 30 – barely a week away!

Through the end of March, 82 percent of employees had completed the courses, compared with 80 percent at the same time last year.

These departments posted 100 percent completion rates in March: Clinical Nutrition, CTS Services, Durable Medical Services, Healthcare Information Technology Services, Infection Control, Neuro Diagnostics, Operations Capital Projects, Pre-Anesthesia Testing, Primary Stroke Center, Retail Pharmacy and Same-Day Surgery.

Teamwork supports KCCC integration
It’s been a month since The University of Kansas Cancer Center and Kansas City Cancer Center (KCCC) announced plans to unite, and integration activities are off to a robust start.

More than 70 employees from KCCC, the hospital, university and The University of Kansas Physicians have formed nine operations work groups. They’re working to bring together two premier cancer programs to offer the most comprehensive care in the region.

Some staff serve on several teams. And many of the teams actually started meeting several months before the announcement to unite, so they’ve gotten a chance to get to know each other and understand the tasks at hand.

“I’m very impressed with the level of enthusiasm of the groups wanting to work together,” said Jeff Wright, Cancer Services vice president and a member of many of the teams. “Everyone understands the value of doing what’s best for patient care.”

They’re targeting June 20 to complete the implementation plans.

They’re sizable groups to unite. KCCC has about 330 employees, compared with approximately 210 at our Richard and Annette Bloch Cancer Care Pavilion at the Westwood Campus.

Combined, the physicians will consist of 50 hematologists, oncologists and radiation oncologists.

Wright said both organizations share similar cultures, namely providing excellent patient care, outstanding outcomes and the highest possible quality.

After the combination, KCCC will continue to use some proprietary services offered by U.S. Oncology.

On Earth Day, embrace our green achievements
Earth Day arrives Friday, April 22, giving employees and students throughout campus reason to celebrate many months of progress making the world a more eco-friendly place.

The hospital’s 80-employee Green Team, working closely with KUMC’s student and faculty environmental groups, for the first time has applied for the EPA’s WasteWise Gold Achievement Award.

Winners won’t be announced until summer, but groups throughout campus already are getting applause for finding new ways to keep paper, aluminum, medical supplies and other materials out of the waste stream.

“Our entire program is run by students and volunteers who understand the importance of minimizing landfill waste in health care settings,” said Core Laboratory’s Sean Tucker, continued on page 2

Operations work groups
• Information Technology
• Finance (includes patient flow and practice operations)
• Human Resources
• Quality/Performance Indicators
• Communications
• Ancillary Care plus
• Joint Commission/Environment of Care
• Clinical Research
• Nursing

Recycling efforts on campus are led by various teams from the hospital, KUMC and students. Members include (from left) Kevin Growney, KUMC Facilities Management; Fonda Briles, KUMC Student Services; Angela Hale, hospital Pain Management; Marcia Gilliland, KUMC Facilities Management; and students Laura Blasi (holding bin) and Jennifer Stone, who oversee student recycling efforts.

continued on page 2
HERO time

With the weather getting nice, the HERO (Hospital Employees Reaching Out) calendar is filling up. Make plans to volunteer this season! HERO teams are formed for these events:

- **April 23** – Installing smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors in Atchison
- **May 1** – March of Dimes Walk
- **May 12** – Shave to Save
- **May 22** – Headstrong for Jake, Joel’s Ride, Congregation Beth Torah, Overland Park
- **May 23** – Headstrong for Jake, Highlands Elementary, Mission
- **July 4** – Headstrong for Jake, Village Fest, Prairie Village
- **Oct. 1** – Christmas in October

Event details are on 24/7 (click Employee Resources, then HERO).

Want to form your own HERO team? A team needs just three or more hospital employees. Here are other local fundraisers to consider:

- **May 3** – JayDoc 5K run
- **May 18** – Parkinson’s Foundation Steps to the Cure, 5K run/walk
- **May 30** – Amy Thompson Run for Brain Injury, Loose Park, 8K walk/run
- **June 4** – Hospital Hill Run, Half marathon and 10K

---

Walkers (and heart lovers!) needed for Heart Walk

Spring flowers are in full bloom, which means preparations for American Heart Association’s Heart Walk also are flourishing.

Campus goals for this year include 800 registered walkers and $60,000 in donations. To reach that financial goal, hospital employees can take advantage of payroll deduction, which makes contributions that much easier. The form is online, or you can get a hard copy from your team captain.

Each walker is encouraged to raise or donate $25. Remember to urge co-workers, friends and family to join with you and support your team. Find your team captain and register at kccheartwalk.org.

Want to be a team captain? Contact Ally Bittner in Marketing, 5-5248.

This year’s race is 9 a.m. May 21 at Theis Park (east of Country Club Plaza). Every campus participant gets a team T-shirt and can attend a pancake breakfast after the walk.

Information: Nick Sterner, American Heart Association Heart Walk director, 913-652-1925, or Bittner in Marketing, 5-5248.

Our team T-shirt this year is yellow with a message to “Love Your Heart.”

---

Green, continued from page 1

co-chair of the hospital’s two-year-old Green Team.

“We are truly dedicated to becoming a national leader in eco-friendly health care services.”

Examples of our greener campus are abundant.

Since last Earth Day, the hospital and KUMC have collected 76.8 tons of recycling on the main campus, up from 45.3 tons a year earlier. That total includes paper, aluminum, plastic and tin.

The purple glass-recycling bin behind Dykes Library has attracted 17.6 tons, or more than 70,000 bottles and other glass containers, since its arrival last June.

A sustainability committee at KUMC will test a new paper-recycling program, possibly starting this summer. In the pilot, employees in Murphy and Robinson buildings will put handy bins under their desks, making it easier to recycle white paper.

More cardboard began going to recycling vs. landfills this spring. The hospital brought in a cardboard compactor last month, which will divert about 15 tons a month toward recycling.

KUMC plans to buy its own compactor and recycle about 13 tons of cardboard a year.

The list goes on and on. The hospital has switched to high-efficiency fluorescent light bulbs. Two reusable programs for medical plastics and expensive “single use” medical devices are now in place. Recycling training is even woven into new employee orientation.

“You might think what you recycle seems small – a can here or a few papers there,” said Fonda Briles, KUMC Division of Student Services and advisor for the medical center’s recycling efforts.

“But when we all work together, those small pieces can add up to over 100 tons in a year. That is a huge impact!”

---

KC CC, continued from page 1

Examples include their electronic health record system, iKnowMed, along with pharmacy distribution and their Level 1 Clinical Pathways developed for 14 of the most common types of cancer.

Wright and others are confident the work groups will ensure a successful partnership in which the whole indeed is better than the sum of its parts.

“We’re not just integrating,” he said. “Over time our ultimate goal is to develop the best practices from both organizations that will make us a national model for cancer care delivery.”

---

Our play at the K

The Royals this week battled the Cleveland Indians for first place in the AL Central division. And our hospital – as the team’s official medical provider – will get lots of great play at Kauffman Stadium all season long. Grand slam!
**extracurricular**

**Thursday, April 21**

**STUDENT FINANCIAL Aid Presentation:** “Student Loan Q&A,” Kevin Struckhoff, TG Financial Services, noon-1 p.m., 1014 Orr-Major. Lunch provided for first 30 students.

“STRAIGHT from the Heart” Cardiac Recovery Support: Mondays and Thursdays, 3:30-4:30 p.m., White Heart Learning and Resource Center Conference Room, Center for Advanced Heart Care. Talk with a heart health expert. Information: 8-1227.

**Friday, April 22**

**NEUROLOGY/NEUROSURGERY Grand Rounds:** “Update on Secondary Stroke Prevention,” Michael Rippee, MD, 8-9 a.m., Lied Auditorium.

**PEDIATRIC GRAND Rounds:** “Guillain-Barre Syndrome: An Update,” Mazen Dimachkie, MD, 8-9 a.m., Clendening Auditorium.

**Monday, April 25**

**BLOOD DRIVE:** 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Stoland Lounge. Walk-ins welcome, or contact Wendy Anderson, wanderson@kumc.edu, to schedule an appointment.

**Tuesday, April 26**

**RESEARCH SEMINAR Series on Aging, Health and Dementia:** “Hearing and Balance in Older Adults,” Hinrich Staecher, MD, 4-5 p.m., 200 Landon Center on Aging. Additional seminars in the series are May 10 and 17. Register: coa.kumc.edu/cpgec and select “upcoming programs.”

**Wednesday, April 27**

**INTERNAL MEDICINE Grand Rounds:** “Prevention of Stroke in Atrial Fibrillation,” Loren Berenbom, MD, 8-9 a.m., 3015 Sudler Auditorium.

**BROWN BAG Lunch Series for Older Adults:** “If I Would Have Known Sooner,” noon-1 p.m., 200 Landon Center on Aging. Hospice care discussed. Reservations: Matt Chandler, 8-3094.

**Thursday, April 28**

**HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE Care Lecture Series:** “Adult Learning Theory,” Leslie McGrew-Kaufman, 8-9 a.m.; “Radiation,” Christian Sinclair, MD, 9-10 a.m. Fee for each is $15. Series continues every Thursday morning. Register and select an ITV viewing site: coa.kumc.edu/cpgec/palliative.

**Friday, April 29**

**NEUROLOGY/NEUROSURGERY Grand Rounds:** “Neurovascular Complications of Pregnancy,” Deetra Ford, MD, 8-9 a.m., Lied Auditorium.

**PEDIATRIC GRAND Rounds:** “Diagnostic Dilemmas,” Stephen Smith, MD, 8-9 a.m., Clendening Auditorium.

**2011 CAMPUSWIDE LEADERSHIP Series:** “KC Firefighter Injured While on Duty – How This Family Held It Together During Tragedy,” Captain Chris Joiner and Suzie Joiner, Fire Station No. 17, KCFD, noon-1 p.m., G013 School of Nursing Auditorium. Lunch provided for first 125 attendees. Register: www2.kumc.edu/PFATraining.

---

**Unit 46 Weight Loss Challenge begins next week**

It’s time again for the Unit 46 Weight Loss Challenge. Last year 117 participants stepped up to the scale, shedding a total of 440 pounds and raising more than $1,180 for the Kansas City Heart Walk. Weigh-ins for the eight-week challenge are next week, starting Monday, April 25. Weigh-outs are the week of June 13.

Interested? Stop by the Unit 46 waiting room 2-4 a.m. and 2-4 p.m. Monday-Friday to register. Cost is $10, with all proceeds going to the Heart Walk.

Weekly healthy living tips will be emailed to participants who weigh-in and weigh-out; they’ll also receive a wellness credit.

Weight loss will be calculated by percentage. Those who are in the top 10 percent of weight loss will be entered in a drawing for a fitness basket. Information: Trynn Waldon, twaldon@kumc.edu.

---

**Event highlights LGBT health care**

Learn about lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender health care issues during a day-long event in the KU School of Nursing. “ABCs of LGBT Health” is 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Thursday, April 28. It’s sponsored by the KU School of Nursing, the KUMC Diversity Initiative, LGBT and Allies and KUMC alum Charles Sturgis, MD.

The day includes a faculty session focusing on the role of nursing in LGBT health care. There also will be a campuswide session, strategy session for KUMC and hospital leadership, and a reception.

Details are at www2.kumc.edu/son/fgrep/cpgec/event.html. RSVP: Jennifer Keeton, 8-3319 or jkeeton@kumc.edu.

---

**PKD golf tournament tees up May 2**

The sixth annual Driving Home a Cure for PKD is May 2 at The Deuce at the National in Parkville. The golf tournament benefits the Kidney Institute at KUMC and the Polycystic Kidney Disease Foundation.

Fee is $150 per player, which includes golf, lunch, drink tickets, post-round cookout and more. Top three teams receive prizes. The tournament is a four-person scramble/shotgun start. Registration and details: pkdcure.org/kansascitychapter.

---

**Walk away stress during Walk the Line**

The hospital’s next wellness challenge, Walk the Line, is a four-week campaign encouraging employees to gradually add more steps to their daily life.

During the program’s first week starting May 2, you’ll establish a baseline of “fitness” walking habits (aim for 20 minutes three days per week). During the second, third and fourth weeks, you’ll strive to increase daily fitness walking by 10 minutes per week. (“Fitness” is defined as participating in physical activity above and beyond normal activity.)

Deadline to sign up is April 29. Information and to enroll, email WalkTheLine@kumc.edu.

---

**Cancer center Facebook: 600 more ‘likes’ needed**

Like us. Share us. Join us in being part of the cure.

For every person who “likes” The University of Kansas Cancer Center’s Facebook page (facebook.com/kuacancercenter), Roy Jensen, MD, cancer center director, will donate $1 to help find a cure for cancer, up to $10,000.

The page already has more than 9,400 fans, but more are needed. Join in supporting the quest for National Cancer Institute designation and click to cure today!

---

Send calendar items to centerexpress@kumc.edu. Items must be received by noon on the Monday prior to publication.
Thomas earned an undergraduate degree in biochemistry from Harvard, a masters in biochemistry and biology at KU, and her MD from New York University School of Medicine. She is also director of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine’s Cytopathology Fellowship program. As an anatomic pathologist with specialty boards in cytopathology, Thomas’s areas of expertise are the fine-needle aspiration technique and breast pathology. Her research interests include health disparities; she devotes the majority of her time to developing and implementing programs that will help eliminate those disparities.

The Hall of Fame has inducted women annually since 1970. Its 199 individuals are exemplary members of society in both overall impact and outstanding character.