A Message from the Director

I’m excited to announce several developments within the Cambia Palliative Care Center of Excellence. The success of our Research Operations has grown substantially since the Center was launched in 2012. This is especially evident in the increasing amount of foundation and federal funding that members of the Cambia PCCE have received over the last three years. Palliative care researchers received $2.1 million in research grant funds in 2012, $2.9 million in 2013, $3.8 million in 2014, and well over $7 million in 2015. You can find out more and scan a list of current research projects on our website at this link:

www.uwpalliativecarecenter.com

The Withing Project

Hope Wechkin, member of the Cambia PCCE, introduces The Withing Project. This Project (www.thewithingproject.com) is a world premiere theatrical oratorio to be performed in Seattle on November 19-22, 2015. Developed by an interdisciplinary team of Seattle-based theatre, music, voice, dance, medical and scientific collaborators, and based on controversial findings in modern neuroscience, The Withing Project...
The Center’s Education Operations recent accomplishments are highlighted by this week’s Community of Educators’ Retreat. This year’s retreat was on November 5th and focused on ways we can foster mindfulness and resiliency in ourselves and our trainees and was entitled, “Nurturing Resiliency in Our Learners and Ourselves”. We welcomed nearly 50 participants from all disciplines and specialties who were interested in education in areas concerning palliative care, resiliency, or clinical communication and were looking for opportunities to network with individuals to share ideas and develop innovative strategies to teach these skills. We were excited to have Dr. Claudia Finkelstein as the keynote speaker for the event. Dr. Finkelstein is a Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of Medicine and Director of the UW Medicine Faculty Wellness Program. This is the third annual retreat for the Education Operations led by our Education Operations Chair, Dr. Caroline Hurd. Tita Begashaw warmed up the group with “laughter yoga” and we’ve included some fun pictures below. Stay tuned for information about the development of next year’s retreat!

The Clinical Operations, under the guidance of the Palliative Care Clinical Strategic Planning Committee, has been focused on the application to the Joint Commission for Advanced Certification in Palliative Care. We are planning to have all UW Medicine hospitals be surveyed in the Spring of 2016. All of the palliative care clinical services have expanded over the past year and offer 24/7 coverage and access to services previously unavailable to patients such as spiritual care and social work support making our clinical palliative care programs at UW Medicine truly interdisciplinary. Achievement of Advanced Certification may make UW Medicine the first full system in the country to be certified by the Joint Commission in palliative care. The Joint Commission is a national accreditation organization that sets standards of care and certifies programs across the nation. The University of Washington became the first hospital in Washington State to receive Advanced Certification in Palliative Care in February 2014 and achieved its second year of Advanced Certification in Palliative Care in February 2015. We’re excited to have all of the services follow suit. Palliative care continues to be high priority for UW Medicine leadership.

As always, thank you for your support and interest in the Cambia Palliative Care Center of Excellence. We welcome your feedback and look forward to your participation in the ongoing implementation of our Center and in providing excellent care to all patients with serious illness and their families.

J. Randall Curtis, MD, MPH
Director, UW Cambia Palliative Care Center of Excellence
A. Bruce Montgomery – American Lung Association Endowed Chair in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine

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**Dan Lam Named One of Cambia Health Foundation’s 2015 Sojourn Scholars**

Dr. Daniel Lam, Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine, has been chosen as one of Cambia Health Foundation’s 2015 Sojourn Scholars for his project entitled, “Integrating palliative care into routine care delivery across an entire dialysis provider system at Northwest Kidney Centers.” Dr. Lam is the head of the palliative care service at Harborview Medical Center and will receive a two-year, $180,000 career development award to support his work. This project will serve as a model for dialysis provider systems across the country.
The Sojourns Scholar Leadership Program promotes palliative care leadership by funding research, clinical, educational or policy projects. In addition, national leaders will mentor the Sojourns Scholars, further broadening their learning and leadership development opportunities. By advancing palliative care quality, awareness and workforce development, Cambia Health Foundation furthers the Cambia Cause: serving as a catalyst to transform health care to be more person-focused.

The 2015 class of Sojourns Scholars spans the nation, representing Massachusetts, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Washington and Washington, D.C. Their projects will build on the groundbreaking work of the 2014 inaugural class to improve care for patients of all ages facing a variety of serious illnesses.

"These grants are career-changing opportunities for exceptional physicians and nurses who are future leaders in palliative care,” said Dr. Anthony Back, co-director of the Cambia Palliative Care Center of Excellence at the University of Washington. “The Sojourns Scholar Leadership Program is creating the next generation of leaders who will shape innovations, policies, and systems to improve the quality of care for individuals living with serious illness and their families.”

To learn more about the 2015 Sojourns Scholar Leadership Program Grant recipients, see Sojourns Scholars Profiles at the link below:

http://www.cambiahealthfoundation.org/sojourns/sojourns-cohorts.html

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**Providence Hospice of Seattle selected to Participate in Medicare Care Choices Model**

Providence Hospice of Seattle (PHOS) is one of three hospice providers in WA selected to participate in the Medicare Care Choices Model. The model provides Medicare beneficiaries who qualify for coverage under the Medicare Hospice Benefit and dually eligible beneficiaries who qualify for the Medicaid Hospice Benefit the option to elect to receive supportive care services typically provided by hospice and continue to receive curative services at the same time. The model is part of a larger effort across the country to transform our health care system to deliver better care, spend our dollars in a smarter way, and put patients in the center of their care.

Services will be available around the clock, 365 calendar days per year and CMS will pay a per beneficiary per month fee to participating hospices delivering these services under the model. PHOS was selected to be in phase two of the model and will start delivering these services to patients in Jan. 2018.

**Providence Hospice in Olympia Launches New Cardiac Hospice Pilot Program**

Knowing the right time to enlist the help of hospice for people with heart failure can be challenging. Fluctuating symptoms and periods of improvement can sometimes postpone bringing in hospice care. On July 13, Providence Hospice in Olympia launched a Cardiac Program pilot designed to improve access and better serve patients with advanced heart disease.

The Providence Hospice Cardiac Program is a specialized program that offers hospice-eligible patients with heart failure a disease-specific management approach to their end of life care.

This was a truly collaborative venture within the Southeast region. Team members reached out to the Cardiology communities in Olympia and Seattle to identify patient needs; developed protocols and clinical guidelines; developed a cardiac comfort medication protocol; and trained caregivers. The next phase is to begin community outreach to the provider community, and development of clinical protocols for the transition of care between home health and hospice.

**UWMC Dedicates Memorial to Dr. Stu Farber**

Steve Zieniewicz and Cindy Angiulo led the dedication of a plaque in honor of Dr. Stu Farber in August. The plaque will be located in the display case in the main lobby of the University of Washington Medical Center. It reads, “Thank you Dr. Stuart ‘Stu’ Farber for your passion and caring for our patients and their families and your diligent work in championing Palliative Care at UW Medical Center.”
Boise VA Medical Center Seeks Palliative Care Physician

The Boise VA Medical Center in Boise, ID, will be looking for a new palliative care physician in 2016 to join a team including a nurse practitioner, a social worker, a chaplain, and a fellow physician (former UW graduate and faculty member, Dr. Moe Hagman). Duties would include performing inpatient and outpatient consults, providing care in a 7-bed hospice unit, and teaching UW medical students and residents. Please contact Dr. Hagman at mhagman@uw.edu or 208-695-9827 if interested or for more information.

Seattle Children’s Pastoral and Spiritual Care 2015 Symposium

Seattle Children’s Pastoral and Spiritual Care 2015 Symposium
“The Whole Person Model of Care: Being Present to Others”
Guest speaker: Christina Puchalski, MD, MS, FACP, FAAHPM
Thursday, December 3, 2015       9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Seattle Children’s Wright Auditorium
To register: email no later than November 25, 2015 to: pastoral&spiritualcare@seattlechildrens.org
For more information CLICK HERE to download the event flyer.

American Cancer Society 2015 Palliative Care Workshop

American Cancer Society 2015 Palliative Care Workshop
Wednesday, November 18th, 2015 10:00am—3:00pm
Crown Plaza Hotel, Seattle Washington
Local Panel Participants: Dr. Ellyn Lee- Swedish Cancer Institute
Dr. Margaret Jacobsen- PeaceHealth     Rainy Larson- Tri-Cities Cancer Center
For more information email paul.kilian@cancer.org
CLICK HERE to download the event flyer.

Community of Educators Retreat Opens with Laughter Yoga

Our recent Community of Educators Retreat was launched with a warmup of “laughter yoga” led by Tita Begshaw, Harborview Volunteer & Community Services. Below are a few photos from the event.
Notable Members’ Accomplishments

Dr. Anthony Back, Co-Director of the Cambia Palliative Care Center of Excellence was selected as one of Seattle Metropolitan Magazine’s Top Doctors for 2015.

Dr. Anthony Back also was recently awarded a grant from the National Palliative Care Research Center for his project entitled, “Development of a scalable intervention to promote palliative care clinician sustainability and prevent burnout.”

Dr. Darrell Owens, an alumni of the University of Alabama at Birmingham, was selected as the recipient of the Jo Ann Barnett Award for Compassionate Care in Administration at the UAB.

Dr. Wayne McCormick has been appointed as the new Head of the Division of Gerontology & Geriatric Medicine for the University of Washington School of Medicine.

Dr. Ann Long, Senior Fellow in the Division of Pulmonary & Critical Care Medicine, was recently awarded a grant from the National Palliative Care Research Center for her project entitled, “Improving palliative care after ICU transfer from the acute care floor.”

Cambia PCCE Members Bibliography

*Articles listed are 2015 publications in peer-reviewed journals and book chapters. If you have an article you would like to have featured, please email pallcntr@uw.edu.


Lee JJ1, Long AC1, Curtis JR1, Engelberg RA2. The Influence of Race/Ethnicity and Education on Family Ratings of the Quality of Dying in the ICU. J Pain Symptom Manage. 2015 Sep 16.

Leland NE, Gozalo P, Bynum J, Mor V, Teno JM. What Happens to Patients When They Fracture Their Hip During a Skilled Nursing Facility Stay? J Am Med Dir Assoc. 2015 Sep 1;16(9):767-74. PubMed Central PMCID: PMC4553133.


If you have questions, comments or would like to be removed from our mailing list, email us at pallcntr@uw.edu.

Visit our website at: www.uwpalliativecarecenter.com