

ON ROUNDS AT CCHS

A NEWSLETTER
OF THE
COLLEGE OF
COMMUNITY HEALTH
SCIENCES
THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

The Dean's Corner

Accreditation and Accountability

CCHS has finished the big A of all our accreditations this week, for the continuing franchise to conduct medical education as a part of the University of Alabama School of Medicine. Actually we have two big A's, the other being the franchise to operate a family practice residency program and to teach family practice residents. These two major components of the college are accredited by—you guessed it—two entirely separate organizations, each of which has its own criteria, site visitors, and timetables.

For the accreditation site visit that we've just undergone, data gathering began in December 1983. If all individuals and groups involved meet their deadlines, we can expect to have the final report in February 1985, a process encompassing

Vol. 2, No. 2

November/December 1984

fifteen months. If all the paper we have submitted were laid end to end, you could drive to Gulf Shores on it and never touch the highway.

Since the maximum accreditation period is ten years and the median accreditation is approximately eight years, we spend a significant portion of our work year either preparing for this event or awaiting the results. This process also followed hard on the heels of the universitywide accreditation conducted by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools in which all colleges of the university participate.

There are a host of other accreditations and accountabilities in which we are required to participate. Each faculty physician, nurse, and laboratory technician must renew his/her license to practice in Alabama annually, and on a separate form physicians must maintain annual licenses for the prescription of controlled drugs at both the state and federal levels.

Until last year, all Alabama physicians were required to have fifty hours a year of continuing medical education to maintain membership in the state medical association. This was abolished because most specialty organizations require continuing medical education to maintain active status in the specialty. The American Board of Family Practice was the leader in this trend by setting the precedent that its members must acquire a specific number of hours of CME and must be recertified by reexamination every seven years.

Such examples of voluntary accountability are commendable. But the escalating number of public and governmental accountabilities is tedious and disruptive. Ultimately, they tend to erode public confidence in our institutions because a minor technical violation of a given rule or regulation is often confused with true competence or true quality. Myriad accountabilities also threaten individual responsibility. Derek Bok, the president of Harvard University, describes the ideal governance structure for a university as one of "benign anarchy." Where medicine is concerned, we need to temper our regulatory zeal with a little benign anarchy; we would all be the better for it.

W.J.C.

Profile

William O. Owings, M.D.

Dr. William O. Owings, Clinical Professor of Family Medicine, has been an integral and valued participant in the teaching program of the College of Community Health Sciences since its founding over a decade ago. He is one of a handful of West Alabama physicians who worked with Dr. William R. Willard, Dean Emeritus, and his staff to establish CCHS and ensure its success.

A native of Alabama, Dr. Owings received his bachelor's degree in chemistry from the University of Alabama in 1956 and his medical degree from Tulane Medical School, New Orleans, Louisiana, in 1958. He completed a rotating internship and a general surgery residency at St. Francis Hospital, Wichita, Kansas, in 1959 and 1965, respectively. Since then he has been practicing general surgery and family medicine in Centreville, Alabama.

Dr. Owings has served as chief of staff of the Bibb Medical Center in Centreville, is medical director of the Bibb Medical Center Nursing Home, and is a member of the board of directors of the West Alabama District Health Department. At the state level, he is president-elect of the Alabama Academy of Family Physicians.

As a preceptor for the Departments of Family Medicine and Community Medicine, Dr. Owings routinely has medical students and residents rotating through his practice, as well as social work graduate students from the university. In addition, Dr. Owings spends every Wednesday serving as an attending physician in the family practice suites in the Capstone Medical Center. When asked why he, as a physician in private practice, devotes so much time to teaching, he replies, "Because I love doing it; besides, I learn more from them than they learn from me. Working with them makes me a better physician."

ON ROUNDS is published bimonthly by the College of Community Health Sciences.

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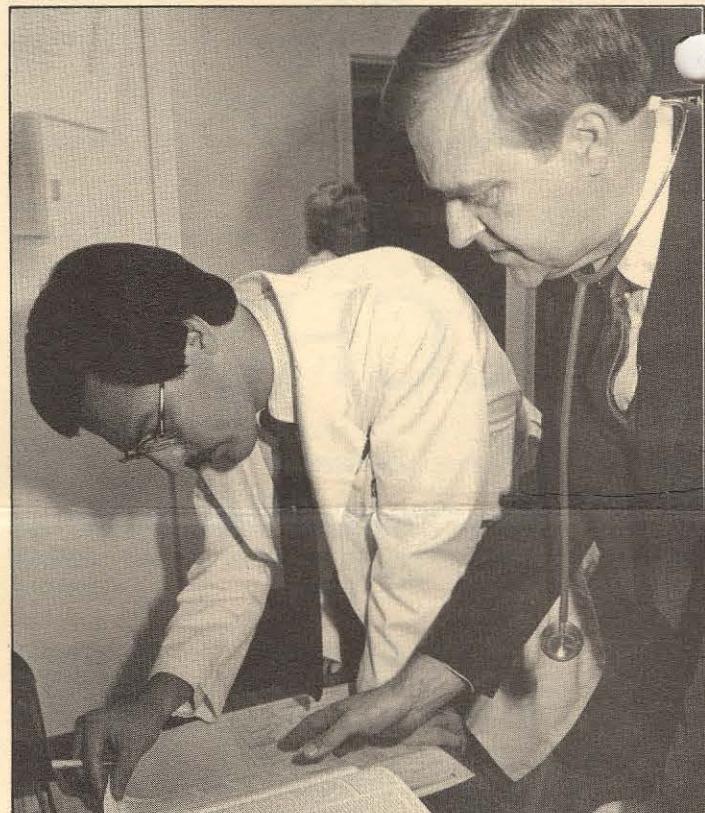
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Dr. Bill Owings with Dr. Bob Lahasky

Preventive Medicine Residency

The Department of Community Medicine is currently developing and implementing a Tuscaloosa-based component for the system-wide federally-supported Preventive Medicine Residency Program. The residency follows a clinical postgraduate year in essentially any discipline and begins with a didactic year in Birmingham, at the end of which the resident is awarded the master's degree in Public Health.

The third postgraduate year is devoted to the Tuscaloosa-based practicum, allowing the resident to gain, under continued supervision, necessary experience in the application of material learned during the didactic year. Rather than a single basic curriculum, the practicum year is designed to meet the individual needs and interests of the resident, with the cooperation and assistance of the systemwide Advisory Committee. During the year in Tuscaloosa, the resident is given both exposure to the local health agencies and responsibility for completion of a major project related to his or her special interests. The program's first resident is scheduled to begin the practicum year in January 1985.

CMC Offers Pediatric Cardiology Clinic

As students and residents crane their necks for a better view, Dr. Mac Bargeron, pediatric cardiologist from the University of Alabama School of Medicine, Birmingham, points out unique features in the pulsating image on the monitor screen. The child on the examining table lies quietly while she and her parents watch and learn more about her heart murmur from the two-dimensional echocardiogram.

Dr. Bargeron and the monthly cardiology clinic in the Capstone Medical Center Pediatrics Suite are filling a void in CCHS and Tuscaloosa caused by the departure of Dr. Paul Bellet, former Associate Professor of Pediatrics, over a year ago. With no other pediatric cardiologist in the area, parents faced an hour drive to Birmingham in order to get specialized care for their children with heart disorders.

Now, in addition to the nationally recognized expertise of Dr. Bargeron and his associate, Dr. Ed Colvin, the Capstone Medical Center can provide comprehensive onsite diagnostic services including two-dimensional echocardiography. The ADR Ultrasound Scanner serves double duty at the CMC, providing ultrasound capability for the Obstetrics Clinic as well as the echocardiography tests for Dr. Bargeron's cardiac evaluations.

According to Dr. David Hefelfinger, Professor and Chief of Pediatrics, Dr. Bargeron is providing valuable educational experience for CCHS students and residents and an important service to the physicians of the region who refer their patients for

specialized consultations. "We are fortunate that Dr. Bargeron is providing 'state of the art' cardiac evaluations at CMC. The 2-D echos illustrate the whole mechanism of the heart so that parents can see exactly what happens when there is a hole between the chambers. Before this new technological advance, doctors could only describe what they heard to parents and draw sketches. Now parents can see the problems for themselves."

Dr. L. Malcolm Bargeron has been a member of the faculty of the University of Alabama School of Medicine since the midfifties. He has earned a national reputation as a cardiologist par excellence for his work in cardiac catheterizations. As Dr. Hefelfinger describes his work, "He's kind of like E. F. Hutton; when Mac Bargeron speaks to medical academicians about catheterizations, people listen."

However, the development of the 2-D echocardiogram has reduced the need for the invasive catheterization process. Dr. Bargeron is finding that not only is echocardiography better for him, but also better for parents. When they can see the image of their child's heart on a television screen, parents tend to deal with and accept the problems and treatment better.

Dr. Hefelfinger feels that Dr. Bargeron's contribution to the Pediatric Clinic at CMC is a tangible example of the cooperative commitments between the main campus of the University of Alabama School of Medicine and CCHS. He hopes to bring other specialty clinics to the Department of Pediatrics in order to fulfill the educational goals of CCHS and to meet the needs of the Tuscaloosa community.

Dr. Mac Bargeron with medical students Sandra King and Jim Parker and first-year resident Dr. Wendy Arthur.



International Research and Service: Faculty Interests Extend Worldwide

The University of Alabama is rapidly expanding its involvement in the international arena, and faculty and students at CCHS devote substantial time and expertise to the international scholarship, research, and consulting activities of the university. In the September/October issue of On Rounds, Lisa Rains, Chief Medical Librarian, reported on her consulting trip to Xi'an, People's Republic of China. During the past year, other representatives of CCHS have traveled to Southeast Asia, Central and South America, and Eastern Europe.

Dr. Robert S. Northrup, Professor and Chief of Community Medicine, participates in a variety of international activities, primarily in Asia. Since 1981, he has been involved in the development of a collaborative program between an Indonesian medical school and the primary care and public health delivery system in the province of West Sumatra. Since 1978, Dr. Northrup has worked with the government of Bangladesh in a project, financed by UNICEF and organized through the Helen Keller International Foundation, to prevent blindness caused by Vitamin A deficiency. He has made two professional visits to Haiti, where he developed plans for orientation of newly graduating physicians and nurses for rural service.

In a project sponsored by the Ford Foundation, Dr. Northrup is working to improve pregnancy outcome and child health and survival in the United States and has visited sites in India to assess the potential for productive research to improve health in this area. As a member of the Diarrhea Task Force of the Primary Health Care Technology Project, he is working with 30 developing countries to assist them in improving their delivery programs, particularly oral rehydration and immunization. Dr. Northrup is also a member of the Subcommittee on Nutritional Surveillance of the National Academy of Sciences Committee on International Nutrition Programs and a contributing author to a United Nations Population Division monograph on the implication of mortality rates for health care services in developing countries.

Dr. Robert F. Gloor, Associate Professor

of Community Medicine and director of the department's medical student clerkship, traveled to Cali, Colombia, last December to meet with faculty at the Universidad del Valle to discuss their teaching programs in social and preventive medicine. Dr. Gloor has also worked with refugees in the Cardamom Mountains of Western Cambodia teaching the delivery of medical care under crude conditions. In addition, as part of their medical student clerkship in community medicine, in the past two years eight students have served in Colombia, Haiti, Jamaica, and Yugoslavia.

Dr. William W. Dressler, Associate Professor and Acting Chief of Behavioral Science, is currently serving as technical advisor and co-investigator on the PRECAVAS Project (Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease in Developing Nations), a multisite international cooperative study of the causes of essential hypertension. The research seeks to identify the sociocultural, dietary, and biochemical antecedents of hypertension, which is a major cause of the increase in cardiovascular disease mortality that occurs during economic development. This study is currently underway in Brazil, Jamaica, and Mexico; it includes collaborators from the University of Sao Paulo, Ribeirao Preto, Brazil, the University of the West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica, and the National Institute of Nutrition, Mexico City, Mexico. Dr. Dressler, an anthropologist, is author of Hypertension and Cultural Change: Acculturation and Disease in the West Indies, which grew out of his doctoral research in Saint Lucia.

Dr. Arthur A. Stamler, Associate Professor of Pediatrics, has for the past eight years been involved with Partners of the Americas, a national organization that establishes links between Latin American and Caribbean countries and states in the U.S. Dr. Stamler is medical affairs chair of the Alabama partnership with Guatemala. His duties have included the shipment of approximately \$1 million in medical equipment and supplies to Guatemala, serving as a pediatrician in a rural Guatemala clinic, and the development of medical interchanges (ideas, people, lectures, information) between Alabama and Guatemala.

News Briefs

Appointments, Honors, and Awards

University President Joab Thomas has appointed the following CCHS faculty and staff to standing committees: Sarah DEMELLIER, Coordinator of Contracts and Grants, Dr. Roland FICKEN, Associate Professor of Behavioral Science and Acting Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, and Dr. William WINTERNITZ, Professor and Chief of Internal Medicine, to the Alcohol Awareness Committee; Judy HODGES, Staff Assistant, Assistant Dean for Financial Planning and Management, to the Staff Development Advisory Committee; and Bernice PRICE, Manager of Budgets and Accounting, to the Resources and Priorities Committee.

Dr. William DRESSLER, Associate Professor and Acting Chief of Behavioral Science, has been appointed to the Research Advisory Committee, a universitywide committee established to advise President Thomas on research activities.

Dr. David HEFELINGER, Professor and Chief of Pediatrics, has been appointed Chief of the Pediatric Service at Druid City Hospital for 1984 through 1986. He has also been appointed to a two-year term on the Executive Committee.

Dr. Ralph JONES, Professor and Chief of Psychiatry, has been appointed president-elect of the Alabama Psychiatric Society.

Publications and Presentations

Dr. Russell ANDERSON, Associate Professor and Chief of Family Medicine, presented a bibliography on elective curriculum at the Residency Assistance Program Panel of Consultants Workshop in Kansas City, Missouri, on September 20-22.

Dr. William DESHAZO III, Associate Professor of Family Medicine and Project Director of Athletic Medicine, published "Hematoma of the Rectus Abdominis in Football: Two Case Reports" in The Physician and Sportsmedicine 1984; 12(9):73-75.

Dr. William DRESSLER, Associate Professor and Acting Chief of Behavioral Science,

presented the invited paper "Hypertension and Culture Change in the Caribbean" at the conference New Perspectives in Caribbean Studies in New York, New York, August 28 through September 1.

Dr. Roland FICKEN, Associate Professor of Behavioral Science and Acting Associate Dean for Academic Affairs; Dr. Tamar MILO, formerly Data Analyst in the Department of Community Medicine; Lee BADGER, Research Coordinator in the Department of Psychiatry; Dr. James LEEPER, Associate Professor of Community Medicine; Dr. Russell ANDERSON, Associate Professor and Chief of Family Medicine; and Dr. Ralph JONES, Professor and Chief of Psychiatry, published "Management of Mental Disorders by Family Practice Residents" in Family Medicine 1984; 16(5):170-174.

Dr. Robert GELLER, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, presented two poster sessions, "The Serum Osmolal Gap in Ethanol Toxicity" and "Triage Strategy for Camphor Ingestion," at the 1984 Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Association of Poison Control Centers, the American Academy of Clinical Toxicology, the American Board of Medical Toxicology, and the Canadian Association of Poison Control Centers in San Diego, California, October 7-12.

George TULLI, Administrator of the Capstone Medical Center, and Dr. Bradley WARE, Assistant Professor of Family Medicine and Community Medicine, were discussion leaders at the National Forum for Issues Concerning Soaring Health Care Costs, which was held at Stillman College, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, on September 15.

Dr. Bradley WARE, Assistant Professor of Family Medicine and Community Medicine, presented a two-day conference at the Tuscaloosa Veterans Administration Medical Center on September 20-21. The conference, titled The Illness-Health Continuum: The Role of the Social Worker and Other Professionals in a Holistic Approach to Treatment, included the following topics: Holistic Health; Primary Prevention Concepts: Perspectives from a Physician and a Social Worker; Developing an Assessment Using the Health-Illness Model; and Practical Intervention Techniques Based on the Health-Illness Model.

Dr. William WINTERNITZ, Professor and Chief of Internal Medicine, has published "Hypokalemic Periodic Paralysis" in the Southern Medical Journal 1984; 77(9):1207-1209.

Grant and Contract Activities

Dr. Russell ANDERSON, Associate Professor and Chief of Family Medicine, has submitted a continuation application for the third year of funding under the "Grants for Graduate Training in Family Medicine" program. The total request for the final year is \$75,000.

Dr. Robert PIERONI, Professor of Internal Medicine, Dr. Riley LUMPKIN, Professor of Family Medicine and Assistant Dean for Continuing Medical Education and Professional Relations, and Dr. Lorin Baumhover, Professor of Social Work and Director of the Center for the Study of Aging, have submitted a preproposal to the Office of Human Development Services requesting \$138,715 to provide gerontological training for medical personnel.

Meetings, Workshops, Consultations

Sarah DEMELLIER, Coordinator of Contracts and Grants, attended a Preapplication Technical Assistance Workshop held by the Area Health Education Center Program, Division of Medicine, Bureau of Health Professions, Public Health Service, in Rockville, Maryland, on October 17-18.

Dr. David HEFELFINGER, Professor and Chief of Pediatrics, and Dr. Arthur STAMLER, Associate Professor of Pediatrics, attended the annual meeting of the Alabama Chapter-American Academy of Pediatrics on September 28-30 in Gulf Shores, Alabama.

Judy HODGES, Staff Assistant, Assistant Dean for Financial Planning and Management, attended a seminar on Zero-Based Planning and Budgeting for Nonprofit Organizations October 17-18 in Madison, Wisconsin.

Dr. Ralph JONES, Professor and Chief of Psychiatry, attended an Alabama Psychiatric Society meeting in Birmingham, Alabama, on September 29.

Dr. James LEEPER, Associate Professor of Community Medicine, attended the American

Statistical Association's annual meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on August 13-16.

From September 21 through October 7, Dr. Paul MOZLEY, Professor and Chairman of Obstetrics/Gynecology, was traveling in India with a group of other obstetricians/gynecologists. The group visited hospitals in Delhi, Agra, Kashmir, Nepal, and Varanasi.

Dr. Robert NORTHRUP, Professor and Chief of Community Medicine, recently visited the Parent to Parent Program at the Toronto (Canada) Department of Public Health. He also attended the Alabama Rural Health Association Conference in Gulf Shores, Alabama, on September 17-18.

From September 15 to October 5, Dr. Robert PIERONI, Professor of Internal Medicine, served as medical director on a mountain trek in Peru. He also attended the Ninth Annual Regional CME Program "Office Dermatology and Pediatrics" at Joe Wheeler State Park, Florence, Alabama, in July.

Guests and Special Events

The Department of Community Medicine recently hosted two international guests: Daltias Churchill, Principal of the School of Nursing, Padang, West Sumatra, Indonesia; and Khathi Mokoetle, Physician's Assistant and Nurse-Midwife, Transvaal, South Africa.

The Department of Pediatrics welcomed two Guatamalan physicians, Drs. Miguel Martini and Jose Barrios, in early October. In addition to other activities, the two presented a noon conference on "Medical Care in Guatemala."

Margaret GARNER, Assistant Professor and Clinical Nutritionist, Department of Family Medicine, hosted a Site Visitors Workshop (July 26-28) and a Commission on Accreditation meeting (July 29-August 1) for the American Dietetics Association at the Warner House in Tuscaloosa. The group included representatives from university nutrition programs and nutrition internship programs nationwide. The Commission on Accreditation is the ADA's version of the LCME.

On October 1, Dr. Alan Siegal, Professor and Associate Chair, Department of Medicine, University of South Alabama, conducted grand rounds on "Cushing's Disease"; presented a noon conference on "Thyroiditis and its Various Entities"; and participated in case discussions with medical students, residents, and faculty.

Community Service

Sarah DEMELLIER, Coordinator of Contracts and Grants, and Margaret GARNER, Assistant Professor and Clinical Nutritionist, Department of Family Medicine, participated in a volunteer training workshop for Hospice of West Alabama on October 6 and 20.

On September 19, Dr. David HEFELFINGER, Professor and Chief of Pediatrics, presented "Asthma and Children: Implications for the Future" to a meeting of the Alabama Chapter, American Lung Association at the Stafford Inn in Tuscaloosa.

Arrivals and Departures

Jackie BURKHALTER is the new receptionist in the Internal Medicine Suite.

Sheree JONES, R.N., has been appointed Director of Nursing at the Capstone Medical Center. She brings over 15 years of nursing experience to the job, including several years in the armed services. Her most recent position was as a nursing instructor at West Alabama General Hospital.

Cynthia McDANIEL has joined the Department of Obstetrics/Gynecology staff as a Medical Office Assistant.

Dr. Thomas McDERMOTT resigned his position as Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine on September 30 to enter private practice with Drs. David RICE and Richard SNOW, both Clinical Assistant Professors of Internal Medicine.

Cecile MCDONALD has been hired as a Secretary II in the Department of Pediatrics.

Nanette PETERS has joined the Capstone Medical Center staff as an L.P.N. in the Red Suite.

Jean S. THOMAS is the new Secretary III in the Department of Family Medicine.

Vital Statistics

Bron Bates, birthweight 5 lbs. 15 oz., was born to Tanya and RUSTY BATES, a 1983 graduate of UASOM, Tuscaloosa, on August 29. Dr. Bates has decided to go into academic medicine and has been told by Galveston that he can plan his own fellowship.

College faculty and staff extend the deepest sympathy to Bessie GASKINS, Housekeeper at the Capstone Medical Center, on the death of her sister and to Leola JACKSON, Housekeeper at the Capstone Medical Center, on the death of her stepfather.

James Randall Horton was born to Mary and RANDALL HORTON, a 1979 graduate of the residency program, on June 19. On July 17, Ashley Louise McCormick was born to Gail and LOUIS MCCORMICK, a 1979 graduate of the residency program. Along with Dr. Brent ALLAIN, also a 1979 graduate of the residency program, Drs. Horton and McCormick have been in practice at the Acadiana Family Practice Associates in Franklin, Louisiana, for six years.

Our sympathy is extended to Dr. George SMITH, a 1983 graduate of UASOM, Tuscaloosa, on the recent death of his mother.

A nine pound baby girl, named Susan Cara, was born to Susan and JOHN VANDERWOOD, a 1983 graduate of UASOM, Tuscaloosa, on September 25.

Miscellany

Dr. Clarence FEAGIN, a 1983 graduate of UASOM, Tuscaloosa, completed one year in medicine in Chicago and is currently in the army at Weed Hospital, Fort Irwin, California. He has a three-month old baby boy.

Dr. Barbara WHALEN, a 1978 graduate of UASOM, Tuscaloosa, is a Lieutenant Commander in the Navy and is in the final months of an Ob/Gyn residency at Bethesda. She recently presented a paper on "Uterine Sarcoma" to the Armed Forces District of the American College of Ob/Gyn meeting in Atlanta. Dr. Timothy WHALEN, a 1978

graduate of UASOM, Tuscaloosa, is also a Lieutenant Commander in the Navy and is head of student health at the Naval Academy at Annapolis. He will be entering an emergency medicine residency in June. The Drs. Whalen plan to return to Tuscaloosa to practice when their tours of duty are over.

As of October 31, the residency program had interviewed 31 of the 56 candidates selected for consideration.

College Calendar

November 2

First Friday Letters, Science, and Medicine Conference, 12:30 p.m., 101 Educational Tower, Druid City Hospital. "Putting Hamlet on Stage," lecture/demonstration by Dr. Edmond Williams, Professor and Chair, Department of Theatre and Dance, University of Alabama, and actors from the University Theatre production of Hamlet.

November 6

Grand Rounds, 8:00 a.m., Oak Room, Druid City Hospital, "Inflammatory Bowel Disease." Noon Conference, 12:30 p.m., 101 Educational Tower, Druid City Hospital, "Reflux Esophagitis." Dr. Lawrence R. Schiller, Staff Physician, Gastroenterology Department, VA Medical Center, Dallas, Texas, and Assistant Professor, University of Texas Health Sciences Center at Dallas.

November 9

CCHS Research Conference, 12:30 p.m., Druid City Hospital Conference Center. "Screening of Athletes," Dr. Robert Voy, Medical Director of the U.S. Olympic Center.

November 14

General Faculty Meeting, 12 noon, Carrel Room, Capstone Medical Center.

November 27

Noon Conference, 12:30 p.m., Room 101, Educational Tower, Druid City Hospital. "The Modern Treatment of Chemical Dependency," Dr. Max A. Schneider, President of the California Society for the Treatment of Alcoholism and Director of Recovery Services, St. Joseph Hospital, Orange, California.

December 7

CCHS First Friday Letters, Science, and Medicine Conference, 12:30 p.m., 101 Educational Tower, Druid City Hospital. Dr. John F. Schmitt, Assistant Professor of Communicative Disorders, "The Use of Rate-Altered Speech to Assess the Auditory-Temporal Processing Abilities of Elderly Listeners."

December 12

General Faculty Meeting, 12 noon, Carrel Room, Capstone Medical Center.

December 14

CCHS Research Conference, 12:30 p.m., 101 Educational Tower, Druid City Hospital.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

College of Community Health Sciences

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