Rothstein named chair of medicine

The Geisel School of Medicine has named Dr. Richard Rothstein the Joseph M. Huber Professor of Medicine and chair of the Department of Medicine. Rothstein served as interim chair of medicine for the past year prior to his new appointment in August.

“Rich is recognized as one of our Medical School’s top educators, has been successful as a clinical investigator, and is a top-notch physician,” says Dean Chip Souba.

Rothstein joined the Geisel faculty in 1985 and served as section chief of gastroenterology and hepatology at DHMC for 15 years. Under his leadership, the section developed centers of excellence in gastrointestinal and liver disorders and endoscopy. He is considered a pioneer in the field of natural orifice translumenal endoscopic surgery.

“The Department of Medicine has incredible strength in its programs, faculty, staff, and trainees,” says Rothstein. “Many of the leaders in education at Geisel are medicine faculty, and our clerkships and electives are consistently well regarded. Many Geisel students choose careers in internal medicine in part, we believe, because of the role-modeling and supportive educational experiences they received on rotations in our department.”

In his new role as chair of medicine, Rothstein is working with colleagues from Geisel and the Tuck School of Business to create a clinical and research program that will focus on the problem of obesity. A second project is a collaboration with the Association of American Medical Colleges that will help patients, families, and clinicians better address care decisions at times of serious illness and the end of life.

“It is clearly a challenging time to lead a large academic department and I appreciate the opportunity to do so,” Rothstein says. “We will face the future together as a team with energy and enthusiasm, and we are destined for success.”

Matthew C. Wiencke

Worthy of Note: Honors, awards, appointments, etc.

John Moeschler, M.D., a professor of pediatrics, was named New Hampshire Pediatrician of the Year by the New Hampshire Pediatric Society. He was recognized for his 20-year tenure as director of the New Hampshire Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities Program.

Patricia Ernst, Ph.D., an associate professor of genetics and of microbiology and immunology, was elected to the board of directors for the Society for Hematology and Stem Cells. She was also appointed a charter member of the Molecular and Cellular Hematology Study Section of the National Institutes of Health.

Meghan Longacre, Ph.D., a research assistant professor of pediatrics, received an Award for Excellence in Reviewing for her service to the Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior. She was selected from more than 1,000 reviewers based on her dedication to the journal and the quality of her reviews.

Suzanne Boulter, M.D., an adjunct professor of pediatrics and of community and family medicine, received the 2012 Franklin Norwood Rogers Award from the New Hampshire Pediatric Society.

Eleanor Clancy-Thompson, a Ph.D. candidate in molecular and cellular biology, received one of nine nationally competitive Research Scholar Awards from the Joanna M. Nicolay Melanoma Foundation. Her research focuses on improving the targeting of immune cells to tumors.

Alexandra Coria ’13 and Laura Ostapenko ’13 were selected for Physicians of Tomorrow Awards by the American Medical Association. The two students are among just 18 fourth-year medical students selected nationally. Dartmouth’s Geisel School of Medicine is the only medical school in the country to have two medical students selected for this honor.

Thomas Desmarais ’13 received a Doris Duke Clinical Research Fellowship.

The American Heart Association and the American Stroke Association recognized Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center’s stroke team with a Get With the Guidelines-Stroke Gold Quality Achievement Award.

CORRECTION: In the listing of Geisel School of Medicine faculty who are fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, on page 7 of the Spring 2012 issue, one faculty name was omitted: Roger P. Smith, Ph.D., Irene Heinz Given Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology emeritus. We apologize for the error.