Clinical trials: Hunting for a stroke of luck

Frank Hunt stumbled into her office at DHMC one day last October. She’d felt fine while driving to work but started to feel strange as she walked in from the parking lot. She began veering and bumped into the door as she entered the building.

“I go in my office and I sit down and I realize I can’t move my right hand,” she recalls. “If I didn’t know any better, I’d think I was having a stroke,” she remembers thinking. But she considered herself too healthy for that.

Then the phone rang. “My speech was slurred when I tried to speak,” says Hunt. The caller, a colleague in another office, thought at first Hunt was kidding to speak, ” says Hunt. The caller, a colleague in another office, thought at first Hunt was kidding to speak, “Is international AIDS important?” Spielberg asked. Then he answered his own question: “Yes.”

Mark: DMS’s dean was speaking at a ceremony in November to mark the signing of an agreement between Dartmouth and Tanzania’s Muhimbili University College of Health Sciences (MUCHS).

On the Dartmouth side, the joint effort—called the Global Health Initiative—is being led by DMS and Dartmouth College’s John Sloan Dickey Center for International Understanding. It also involves Dartmouth’s Tuck School of Business and Thayer School of Engineering. Projects under way include the creation of a global health program in Tanzania; public programs at Dartmouth to raise

Tanzanian agreement targets the global impact of AIDS

In Tanzania, when you hire someone for a new position, you often have to hire two people because one will [soon] be dead from AIDS”: Dr. Stephen Spielberg, the dean of Dartmouth Medical School, was sharing something he’d been told by Dr. Kisali Pallangyo, his counterpart at a Tanzanian medical school. Tanzania has some of the highest HIV infection rates in the world, Spielberg went on, and its social fabric is unraveling as many young, potentially productive members of society are lost to AIDS. And those who’ve died have left behind more than a million orphans.

WORLDLY-WISE: In a March 3 New York Times op-ed essay, DMS researcher Kendall Hoyt called attention to the need for better preparedness—especially the development of better vaccines—against the global health threat of avian flu.

Neurologist Tim Lukovits is looking for ways to better treat and prevent stroke.