Dr. Hardesty Announces Retirement

Susan Hardesty, MD, Senior Vice President and Medical Director, is retiring on June 30. Please join me in celebrating Sue as she retires from a career devoted to caring for patients with mental illness.

In 2009, Sue joined the Menninger Executive Team after serving 15 years on the faculty of the Medical University of South Carolina where she held leadership roles in Admissions, the Adult Division and as Vice Chair for Clinical Services. At Menninger she recruited many clinicians and researchers. She has been committed to sustaining the Menninger model of care and supported growth in research.

Soon after arriving at Menninger, Dr. Hardesty and her colleagues prepared for the clinical and operational transition of The Clinic from its first Houston location on Gessner to our current campus. The medical and clinical teams

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expanded to provide greater coverage and leadership under her direction. In addition, utilizing a $250,000 grant from the Arthur Vining Davis Foundation, Sue championed NAMI Provider Training that strengthened the staff’s understanding of hospital mental health care from the patient’s point of view thereby reducing patients’ trauma and maximizing their engagement with the treatment team. Sue is the coauthor on several research papers that are in press on this important subject.

Sue was recognized for all of her contributions and service, during a special reception on campus last month. We wish her every success and happiness in her retirement.

New Appointments
I am also pleased to announce that Ed Poa, MD, will succeed Dr. Hardesty as the Medical Director for Inpatient Services. Succeeding Dr. Poa as Medical Director of Admissions is Mike McClam, MD. I will work closely with Drs. Poa and McClam in the next few weeks to transition responsibilities. Please join me in congratulating Drs. Poa and McClam on their new appointments.

Best Place to Work
In observance of Administrative Professionals Day, April 27, it is a pleasure to recognize the superb administrative professionals of The Menninger Clinic. Thank you all for your numerous contributions to the success of The Clinic.

Some of our talented administrative professionals who gathered recently for a photo are, front from left, Linda Adams, Tony Hickman, Michelle Taylor; back from left, Suzanne Hartt, Sandra Perez, Sharon Kelly-Hyath, Dianne Soto, Melanie Gibson, Lucy Pascal, Robin Haroian, Khalila Walker, Lynn Bodenhamer, Glenda Stencel and Tina Holmes.

Patients Recognize Outstanding Staff
Patients at Menninger have the opportunity to identify faculty and staff who have contributed to a positive experience by listing them in the comments section of the Menninger Quality of Care Survey administered at discharge. Last month, I had the pleasure of personally presenting certificates of appreciation to the following faculty and staff who were recognized by our patients: Cheryl Buteaux, MSN, RN; Elizabeth Castrellon, LCSW; Danielle Collins, RN; Sylvia Gonzalez Cruz, MD; Misty Freeman, RN; Sara Garcia, MHA; Linda Gould, RN; Corinne Lanier, RN; Donna Lamb, LCSW; Joshua Martinez, MHA; Brandi Nash, MHA; Audrey Pyle, RN; Joseph Sheng, RN; Rebecca Wagner, PhD; and Marilyn Warnock, RN.

Staff Recognized by Social Workers
As part of its annual celebration of National Social Work Month, the Menninger Social Work Discipline recognizes a colleague outside the social work discipline who shares and emulates the values of the discipline. Congratulations to this year’s nominees: Jared Broussard, LPC, Kimberly George, RD, Elizabeth Newlin, MD, Chris Webb, MT-BC, CPRP, and the entire nursing and MHA staff of The Clinic. Kudos to this year’s winner, Dr. Newlin, who was recognized for being “a highly dedicated and hard-working leader, creating a unit that is culturally competent and consistently striving to provide the highest quality care for patients.”

Featured Events
- April 15—Take a moment to register for Menninger’s spring symposium, Emotion Regulation and Dysregulation.
- April 30—Registration is open for the annual National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Walk Houston.
- May 11—Tickets are available on the Donate page of our website for the 2016 Menninger Annual Signature Luncheon, featuring Heisman Trophy winner Ricky Williams who experienced social anxiety and stigma during his football career.
- May—National Mental Health Awareness Month

Links to April Topics
- April—Counseling Awareness Month, National Alcohol Awareness Month, National Autism Awareness Month, National Stress Awareness Month, Sexual Assault Awareness Month
- April 7—World Health Day, National Alcohol Screening Day
- April 28—National Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day

Menninger Celebrates Diversity
- April—National Minority Health Month
- April 14—Vaisakhi, Sikh
- April 15—Rama Navami, Hindu
- April 22—Passover begins at sundown, Jewish
- April 24—Eastern Orthodox Palm Sunday

Ed Coffey, MD

“There is no health without mental health.”