Attention Physicians: It’s Best Hospital Voting Time

Using Doximity, an online network for physicians, all MDs and DOs at Menninger and Baylor College of Medicine will have an opportunity to name the Best Hospital nationally for psychiatry later this month.

Stay tuned for your notice from U.S. News that the annual survey is open.

This year, Menninger is ranked #3 nationally for caring for patients with difficult cases.

Project Val Begins

The implementation of Menninger’s new electronic health record (EHR) is officially underway. On January 30 and 31, a team from Cerner Corporation joined forces with Menninger’s Information Management Steering Committee (IMSC) to kick off this important project as part of a formal, two-day event on the Menninger campus.

In addition, the IMSC carried out a two-day site visit to the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation flagship campus in Center City, MN, to learn from the clinical and leadership teams there about their experience implementing the Cerner EHR.

Where are we going?
The EHR implementation is estimated to be a 13-month project. The next major milestone is the Current State Review, which is scheduled for February 20-23 here at Menninger. During this event, the Cerner team will conduct focus groups to gain a deeper understanding of our unique processes and how they align with Cerner’s recommended work flows and best practices.

To learn more about Project Val and how you can get involved, please join the IMSC for an All-Menninger Launch Party Wednesday, February 28, 3-4 pm in the Classrooms.

Updates to IT Systems Will Affect All

Two upgrades will begin this month.
1. Your IT team is upgrading all computers to Windows 10 soon. Windows 10 is the most stable operating system version available, providing the latest and best support options for the organization for both clinical and administrative applications.

   Additionally, Dell will ship their latest laptop model with Windows 10, which will be used during this year’s regular refresh of laptops. The Windows 10 upgrade will affect the following devices: 250 physical laptops, 113 of which will be new replacements for existing laptops, and 155 VDIs (virtual computers).

2. Your IT team is implementing a new password program that will enforce HIPAA and PCI Privacy and Security Compliance measures. The new password requirements for helping keep Menninger data safe will apply to all employees and faculty. The new process requires that passwords be changed every 90 days with a length of at least eight characters, using rules that require more complex passwords. The passwords are very similar to what is required for online banking and what is required by Baylor College of Medicine. Watch The Link and your email for more specifics.

Black History Month: First Psychiatry Class Historic

Note: In honor of Black History Month, Update includes this excerpt from a past issue of Menninger Alumni News for graduates of the Karl Menninger School of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences.

Following World War II, the Veterans Administration, influenced by Dr. Will Menninger, who was a Brigadier General overseeing mental health care of soldiers, requested the Drs. Menninger create a program combining psychiatric

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Recreation Therapy Expands Evening & Weekend Programming

The addition of Mary Beth Miller and Jade Rocha as recreation therapists allows evening and weekend programming to expand and to improve the patients’ experience. Together with their supervisor, Shaar Garner, they have so many great ideas they have had to prioritize to develop a schedule, said Garner.

Recreation Therapy’s schedule now compliments Rehabilitation Services’ programming and the Wellness Center’s activities. Patients appreciate having a greater number of choices and opportunities to celebrate major events, such as the NFL’s Big Game, while they are away from their homes, families and friends.

One patient loves the theater and suggested that a group of patients could read plays together for creative expression. Garner says that has worked out well, and she hopes to adapt future programming to special interests of patients.

The Recreation Therapy team makes rounds on units to orient our patients about what is offered and leave behind a schedule. In February, offerings include Latin and line dancing, chukka yoga, pet therapy, discussion of current events, and individual consultations about fitness education as it relates to mental health. During nicer weather, they plan to show evening movies in the courtyard.

Dr. Rutherford Stevens observes a girl creating her home environment with toy figures.

Dr. Stevens graduated from Howard University as an undergraduate and medical student. He completed his psychiatric training at Freedmen’s Hospital in Washington, DC. As a military officer, he was considered an excellent candidate for Menninger’s two-year psychiatry training in Topeka.

After 50 years in private practice, Dr. Stevens passed away at the age of 92 in 2003. At the end of his life, he made his home on Central Park West in New York City.

Your Newsletter: Update

You have probably noticed that Update is longer than in the past. The goal of the monthly newsletter is to curate information you can use, rather than restrict it based on what two pages will accommodate. After all, a lot of positive things are happening.

Your executive and supervisor, the Update newsletter, The Link, in-person Town Hall meetings, emails and fliers in your work areas comprise the organization’s trusted communication resources. Your announcements, photos, awards and recognition are always welcome. Submit ideas and topics for Update to Nancy Trowbridge in Marketing.

Combining recreational therapy and wellness activities for inpatients are, from left, Jade Rocha, Shaar Garner and Mary Beth Miller.

Advancement of Knowledge

View our important contributions to the medical literature by our faculty and staff on our website.

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Upcoming Events

- **February 19**—Patients’ families will be on campus attending Family Education Day.
- **February 22**—Human Attachment and Spiritual Connection is the topic of Dr. Jon Allen’s lunch-time presentation this month. See The Link for how to register. Seating is limited.
- **February 23**—On Houston’s celebration of Go Texan Day Menninger is offering a free barbecue meal with all of the fixings prepared by our own Dietary Team, a chili cook-off and western attire contest. Plan to wear your nice Western attire.
- **February 28**—Our annual training concludes. Complete the modules that are assigned to you in the Menninger Learning Center.
- **February 28**—All Menninger faculty and employees are encouraged to attend the Project Val Launch Party 3-4 pm in the Classrooms. The short program will begin at 3:15 pm.
- **March**—Watch The Link for details about National Nutrition Month.
- **March**—Menninger observes National Social Work Month.
- **March 1**—Directors from The Menninger Clinic and Foundation Boards will meet here for the annual meeting.
- **March 9**—Menninger is the site of a suicide prevention training conference for psychiatric nurses, presented by the Texas Chapter of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association. The presenters are former Menninger Chief Nursing Officer Pam Greene, PhD, RN, and Rebecca Deisler, BSN, RN-BC. The full-day conference will offer 6.5 clock hours continuing education credits.
- **March 14**—Make room for dessert on our Menninger Pie Day. Bring your favorite pie to share and enter the pie-eating contest. Watch The Link for details.
- **March 15**—Dr. Jon Allen will present Value and Limitations of Plain Old Therapy in his seven-part educational series for faculty and staff. Preregistration is required.
- **March 19**—National Certified Nurses Day
- **March 30**—The new Distinguished Clinicians Series continues with a two-hour continuing education presentation, Gaining Epistemic Trust by Peter Fonagy, PhD. Seating is limited so please register in advance. Details are posted on The Link.