



# Intercom

## Duke University Medical Center

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## Lab Changes To Improve Patient Care

In an effort to consolidate the operation of hospital laboratories, a number of lab-related, behind-the-scenes administrative changes have taken place here over the past several months.

The physical results of these changes will probably not be visible until after Duke North has been occupied in 1979, but Dr. Kenneth Schneider, director of hospital laboratories, believes improved service to patients can result much sooner.

In a recent interview, Dr. Robert L. Habig, director of clinical chemistry, said that Schneider has created a three-person directorate for hospital laboratories and a number of advisory and policy committees.

### Variety of Viewpoints

"Rather than establishing a vertical chain of command in decision making, Dr. Schneider prefers to bring a variety of points of view to bear on a problem so that a workable consensus and the best solution can be reached," Habig said.

The chemist said the directorate consists of Robert Wildermann, a medical laboratory supervisor in clinical chemistry, as technical coordinator, himself as deputy director and Schneider as director.

"The directorate will be responsible for activities that

individual lab directors won't have to be concerned about, such as blood collection in the new hospital, the way the computer system will serve the labs and how vacated space in

Duke South may eventually be used to centralize some of the existing laboratories in one location," he said.

Two of the new committees are

called councils. They are the Laboratory Directors' Council which Habig chairs and the Laboratory Technologists' Council which Wildermann chairs.

The first group, as one might expect, includes the heads of all the hospital's clinical labs. Habig said council members will help make decisions on budgeting, capital equipment priorities and certain wage and salary policies.

The members and the areas they represent are: Dr. Judith C. Andersen, clinical hematology; Dr. John Falletta, pediatric hematology; Dr. Kenneth Hall, blood gas lab; Dr. Dolph Klein, clinical microbiology; Dr. Wendell Rosse, blood bank; and Dr. John Bittikofer, clinical chemistry.

### Chief Technologists

The Laboratory Technologists' Council includes, but is not limited to, chief technologists in the various labs. They will help determine policy on such topics as quality control, coordinated purchasing and laboratory personnel, among others.

Members of this council and their labs are: Norma Daniels, pediatric hematology; Mary Ann Dotson, clinical hematology; Patricia Beckjord, blood bank; Stephen Benson, microbiology; Samuel Hargraves, clinical chemistry; Robert Hoover, blood gas lab; Diane Moore, lab collection service; and Ran Whitehead, eye center.

The other new committees Habig cited are the Laboratory Safety Committee and the Continuing Education Committee. Both groups act in advisory and information exchange capacities.

"One of the major objectives Dr. Schneider has set is to have all of the

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**NATIONAL MEDICAL LABORATORY WEEK**—Will be observed next week. Miriam Baker, teaching supervisor in Clinical Chemistry, teaches basic manual laboratory techniques to medical technology students and serves as technologist liaison with Sea Level Hospital to help the labs there gain accreditation. See page 3 for photographs of others in the medical center's labs. (Photos by Ina Fried)

## ALPN to BSN With PEP's Aid

(From a report by Wilma Yellock, Reporter, Carter Suite.)

"I'm telling you the truth — I can't praise PEP enough." Elsie Trollinger, Advanced Licensed Practical Nurse (ALPN) on Carter Suite, glows when she talks about Paths for Employee Progress (PEP).

The program enabled her to complete her bachelor's degree in nursing at North Carolina Central University (NCCU) in December. She plans to take her examinations to become a registered nurse (RN) in July.

"PEP is really a catalyst to people here at Duke," Trollinger said. It pays tuition and a stipend to supplement part-time earnings while employees are attending school. They continue to receive employee benefits such as health insurance and pro-rated amounts of sick leave, holidays and vacation time.

### School Always with You

"It's hard to go to school and work," Trollinger admitted. "You may work just 20 hours a week but school is with you 24 hours a day. I feel like I'm on vacation now,"

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## Surgeons Hearing Latest Emergency Methods

Surgeons from across North Carolina will hear some of the latest methods for treating emergency patients at the American College of Surgeons state chapter meeting here today and tomorrow.

About 100 physicians are expected to attend, according to Dr. William W. Shingleton, president of the group and director of the Duke Comprehensive Cancer Center. Program chairman for the meeting is Dr. Samuel A. Wells Jr., professor at the Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Today's session begins at 9 a.m. at the Ramada Inn Downtown. On Saturday, the doctors meet at 8:30 a.m. in the Jones Building auditorium.

### Replanting Amputated Body Parts

Burns and amputations are among the emergencies to get attention this

morning.

Dr. Roger Salisbury, an associate professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, will describe the newest burn treatments and will point up the problems in burn patient rehabilitation at 9:40 a.m. Replanting amputated body parts will be detailed at 10 a.m. by Dr. James R. Urbaniak, an associate professor at Duke.

Urbaniak and his colleagues drew wide publicity in the summer of 1974 after they re-attached the amputated thumb of a Fayetteville teenager. The thumb had been torn off in a water-skiing accident and lay lost on a lake bottom for two hours before the victim's brother found it.

### Other Topics

Other speakers and topics today are:  
Dr. Jesse H. Meredith, professor at

Bowman Gray School of Medicine, on organizing an emergency medical care facility.

Dr. Joseph H. Moylan, Jr., associate professor and chief of the Emergency Service at Duke, on treating liver trauma.

Dr. Herbert J. Proctor, associate professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, on metabolic care of the trauma patient.

Dr. Oliver H. Beahrs of the Mayo Clinic on the combined ileostomy.

Dr. William H. Muller, chairman of the American College of Surgeons Board of Regents, on issues and problems related to the college.

Dr. Howard C. Filston, associate professor at Duke, and Dr. Lillian R. Blackmon, Duke associate professor, on surgical emergencies in the newborn.

After grand rounds in the Jones Building Saturday morning, Beahrs will speak on cancer of the lower colon and rectum at 10:15 a.m.