

WHAT'S HAPPENING

A newsletter for the Maine Medical Center family

MMCRI Welcomes Sen. Susan Collins for Briefing, Tour

U.S. Sen. Susan Collins toured the Maine Medical Center Research Institute (MMCRI) on Friday, following the recent award of a \$20 million National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant to the institute and its partners to establish the Northern New England Clinical and Translational Research Network.

"These research efforts and the broad benefits that they bring to our state, would not be possible without the support of the NIH and

other federal agencies that fund biomedical research," says Don St. Germain, VP of Research, MMC, and Director, MMCRI. "Senator Collins shares our passion for the importance of biomedical research, and our values as scientists and healthcare professionals - values of caring, curiosity, determination, and thoughtful discourse."

MMCRI investigators briefed Senator Collins on

Continued on back



Senator Susan Collins, right, tours the MMCRI research labs with Clifford Rosen, M.D., Director of the Center for Clinical and Translational Research at MMCRI.

From Scrubs to Socks, 15 Years of Sales Support BBCH

This year, MMC is celebrating its 15th anniversary of partnership with our scrub sale vendor, First Uniform.

First Uniform sells scrubs, socks, shoes and other attire necessary for our employees to be comfortable while maintaining safety standards in the clinical workplace. The company donates a portion of their sales to The Barbara Bush Children's Hospital and in 15 years has donated more than \$550K to pediatric patient care. In addition, First Uniform has been a repeat supporter of the BBCH Radiothon fundraiser and is encouraging people to get the BBCH license

plate by offering a special deal.

"They have been visiting the hospital for such a long time that they know the names of our employees and have really made a personal connection with our staff," says Meaghan McNamara, Coordinator, Philanthropy. "They also make a point to bring things for certain employees -- they'll take special requests and try to work with them -- and apparently, MMC is unique in that our employees are crazy about good socks!"

First Uniform is back at MMC this week — Tues-



First Uniform offers many colors, patterns and styles of scrubs.

day, July 25, 7 a.m., through Wednesday, July 26, 4 p.m., in the Dana Lobby. Any employee who signs up for a BBCH license plate at the sale will receive a 10 percent discount on their scrub sale purchase. See the July 24 eNews for more details.

PEOPLE NEWS



Michelle Crispo, M.D., has joined Maine Medical Partners in a dual capacity. She will work half time in emergency medicine and half time in palliative care. Dr. Crispo received her medical degree from the University of Vermont College of Medicine. She completed her emergency medicine residency at Maine Medical Center and went on to work at Central Maine Medical Center and York Hospital. Dr. Crispo returned to MMC, where she just completed her hospice

and palliative medicine fellowship. Dr. Crispo is an avid runner and enjoys outdoor activities including telemark skiing, cross-country skiing and paddle boarding.



Mark L. McAllister, M.D., has joined Maine Medical Partners – Neurology. Dr. McAllister received his medical degree from University of Rochester School of Medicine, and underwent residency in the department of neurology at the University of Maryland

Medical Center. He completed a fellowship in vascular neurology at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. Dr. McAllister comes to us from St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Brighton, MA, where he was a neurohospitalist. Currently, he is an assistant professor of neurology at Tufts University. In his spare time, Dr. McAllister enjoys being outdoors and cooking.



Elena Ziarnik, M.D., has joined Maine Medical Part

ners – Thoracic Surgery where she specializes in lung and esophageal surgeries. She earned her medical degree at Medical College of Wisconsin and completed a residency in general surgery at Baystate Medical Center – Tufts University, followed by a cardiothoracic fellowship at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Dr. Ziarnik, who is Board certified in both surgery and thoracic surgery, joins Gary Hochheiser, M.D., director of thoracic surgery, and his team, including patient navigators Stephanie Carpenito, BSN, R.N., O.C.N., and Jennifer Powers, M.S., R.N., O.C.N. Outside of work, Dr. Ziarnik enjoys hiking, jogging and cooking, and she is excited to get to know Portland and the state of Maine.

MMCRI Welcomes Sen. Collins' from front

the consortium during her visit, and the senator toured research labs housed at the institute's Scarborough campus.

"This \$20 million grant will help spur the advancement of treatments, means of

prevention, and cures for diseases that affect nearly every American family. The establishment of this consortium is a true credit to the skilled scientists at the Maine Medical Center Research Institute and its partnering institutions, including the University of Southern Maine," says Senator Collins. "As a senior mem-

ber of the Appropriations Committee, I have strongly advocated for increased funding for biomedical research. By helping to foster collaboration among researchers and implement innovative medical treatments, this investment will help us conquer many diseases that take an emotional and financial toll."

Clifford Rosen, M.D., Director of the Center for Clinical and Translational Research at MMCRI, and Gary Stein Ph.D., Director of the University of Vermont Cancer Center and Chair of the Department of Biochemistry at the University of Vermont College of Medicine, will co-lead the network.