Mount Sinai School of Medicine held an annual “Match Day” event on Thursday, March 17, when the Class of 2011 gathered in the Annenberg lobby to open their envelopes together and learn where they would go for residency training. The anticipation leading up to this defining moment in their new careers was palpable as the students nervously awaited their match results.

“This year we had spectacular results,” said Dennis S. Charney, MD, Anne and Joel Ehrenkranz Dean of Mount Sinai School of Medicine and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs at The Mount Sinai Medical Center. “I am confident that the Class of 2011 will continue Mount Sinai’s legacy of promoting groundbreaking change in research and clinical care.”

Indeed, the majority of the 121 students matched to the nation’s top academic medical centers, including

Look inside
Mount Sinai Cath Lab Raises $5 Million
Exploring Nanotechnology to Treat Heart Disease
April is Donate Life Month
School of Medicine in Top 20

EPIC Town Hall Meetings
The Mount Sinai Medical Center will undergo a major technological transformation on Saturday, April 30, when Epic, the state-of-the-art electronic clinical information system, goes live in the Emergency Department and in most Inpatient Services at The Mount Sinai Hospital.

Kenneth L. Davis, MD, President and Chief Executive Officer of The Mount Sinai Medical Center, and Wayne Keathley, President and Chief Operating Officer of The Mount Sinai Hospital, joined physician and nursing leadership at two Town Hall presentations in March in...
The Sopranos added a little muscle to the successful fundraising efforts of Samin K. Sharma, MD, Director of the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory at The Mount Sinai Medical Center—but in a good way.

In February, three stars from the popular television series were Dr. Sharma’s featured guests at an event that raised $1.4 million to fund research at the Cardiac Cath Lab. The fundraiser, attended by 280 people at the Edison Ballroom in Manhattan, completed Dr. Sharma’s two-year campaign to create an endowment totaling $5 million, for which he pledged $2 million of his own money.

“The purpose of this fundraising campaign was to ensure that we have a steady stream of income, even in difficult economic times, in order to advance innovative research and invest in techniques to improve overall cardiovascular care,” says Dr. Sharma. “It gives me great pride to give back to the center by helping to build national and international recognition.”

Some students at the event took their envelopes outside the building to read their match results away from the crowd. Inside, students celebrated their accomplishments with handshakes and hugs from fellow classmates, family, friends, and their mentors at Mount Sinai.

“I could not eat, and I could not sleep, I was so nervous for her,” said Lana Fayngold, the mother of senior Sofia Fayngold, who will be receiving her residency training in Internal Medicine at Columbia University Medical Center—her first choice.

Sopranos stars Edie Falco, aka Carmela Soprano, Dominic Chianese, aka Corrado “Junior” Soprano, and Tony Sirico, aka Paul “Paulie Walnuts” Gualtieri, were on hand to sign autographs and lend their support to Mount Sinai’s Cardiac Cath Lab. Actor James Gandolfini, who played Tony Soprano, was not able to attend the event, but he donated $5,000 and enabled the guests to receive boxed sets of all 86 episodes of the Sopranos, which ran on HBO from 1999 to 2007.

In a special note, Mr. Gandolfini wrote, “I want to take this moment to say how honored and humbled I am to be asked to be part of such a special evening hosted by Dr. Sharma. He is a man of great talents. He has performed thousands of complex coronary interventions with an amazingly high success rate.”

In January, the New York State Department of Health reported that Mount Sinai’s Cardiac Cath Lab had the highest safety rating among New York institutions that perform percutaneous coronary intervention, PCI, a minimally invasive heart procedure known as angioplasty. Dr. Sharma was the only physician in the state awarded a two-star safety rating for both emergency and nonemergency cases.
Mount Sinai School of Medicine recently received a contract for roughly $16.5 million from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute’s Program of Excellence in Nanotechnology, to support research into the diagnosis and treatment of heart disease using nanotechnology. The five-year contract brings together researchers from Mount Sinai, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Columbia University, and Brigham and Women’s Hospital who will explore ways to regenerate tissue damaged in a heart attack, and repair inflammation due to atherosclerosis, along with other projects.

Nanotechnology medical research, which enables investigators to manipulate matter at the molecular or atomic levels, is promising because it allows drugs to be delivered effectively in a targeted and precise way. Up until now, most of this research has been focused on treating cancer.

Zahi A. Fayad, PhD, Professor of Radiology, and Medicine (Cardiology), and Director of the Translational and Molecular Imaging Institute at The Mount Sinai Medical Center, is a co-principal investigator of the study, along with Robert Langer, ScD, the David H. Koch Institute Professor at MIT.

“The way we work right now in cancer is with a brute force approach, you try to kill all the bad elements and expose the patient to lethal drugs or radiation,” Dr. Fayad says. “Nanotechnology is more targeted, and reduces patient side effects. It holds enormous potential to treat cardiovascular disease too, but this has remained largely unexplored.”

Dr. Fayad says the NIH contract will support a number of different projects with the goal of becoming useful in clinical care in a relatively short amount of time. “We think that within the five years of this contract, at least one of these projects could end up being ready to be used in humans for the next stage of research,” he says.

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**Exploring Nanotechnology to Treat Heart Disease**

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**EPIC Town Hall Meetings** (continued from page 1)

Stern Auditorium to prepare Mount Sinai faculty and staff for the changeover.

The Epic system is being phased in throughout Mount Sinai. The Inpatient Pharmacy went live in October 2010, and the departments of Rehabilitation Medicine, and Psychiatry, on Saturday, March 26. Maternal/Child Health, including all pediatric units, labor and delivery, antepartum and postpartum units, will go live Saturday, June 4. The electronic system will integrate medical records and enable Mount Sinai to enhance the quality and safety of patient care.

“Epic is the largest single investment in capital that Mount Sinai has made, with the exception of buildings we constructed,” Dr. Davis said at the Town Hall. “We made this commitment because we knew that being a leading medical center required us to have a system of this quality.” Dr. Davis noted that other health care providers, such as the Cleveland Clinic, Yale-New Haven Hospital, Stanford Hospital, Geisinger Health System, and Kaiser Permanente, have also chosen the Epic system.

“We are in a very competitive environment in a time of great change,” Mr. Keathley told the audience. “Mount Sinai must have the most sophisticated and powerful tools to be best in class. That’s what Epic represents.” He said the implementation of a comprehensive electronic medical records system also would enable Mount Sinai to attract more outside physician groups, and cut down on documentation errors on patient records that cost the institution valuable insurance reimbursements.

Ira Nash, MD, Chief Medical Officer and Senior Vice President for Medical Affairs at The Mount Sinai Medical Center, told listeners, “We are on the verge of being able to have a complete transfer of medical information—from the outpatient to inpatient setting, from unit to unit, from doctor to doctor, and into the intensive care unit.”

Dr. Nash noted, however, that there are challenges involved in learning such a sophisticated program, and training is crucial. “This is not the kind of system where you remove a CD from a box, slip it into your computer drive, fire it up, and then you’re good to go. There is training required,” said Dr. Nash.

Mark Callahan, MD, Chief Medical Officer of the Faculty Practice Associates, encouraged users to also spend time becoming familiar with the system, saying, “A real advantage to Epic is that you can customize your view of data—but that takes practice.”

Most providers will need about eight hours of training. Some will receive less, but others may require 12 to 16 hours. Nurses are receiving about 23 hours of training.

“Almost all of nursing documentation for patients is going onto Epic, so it’s a very, very big deal,” said Carol Porter, DNP, RN, Chief Nursing Officer, and Senior Vice President for Nursing. “Every single nursing leader, manager, director, coordinator, and educator is becoming a ‘superuser’ so they will know Epic inside and out, and will be available around the clock through the ‘go-live’ period.”

Bruce Darrow, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor of Medicine (Cardiology), and the Epic Physician Champion, told the audience, “There are hundreds of doctors who have been involved in this project, and point people within every clinical division and every floor of the hospital, as well as the technical staff who are actually building the system—they will all be there to help during the transition.”

“During the ‘go-live,’ we will have a small army of people to help answer all questions,” added Amy Albano, RN, MBA, Senior Director, Nursing Operations, who serves as Mount Sinai’s Epic Nurse Champion.

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**Epic ‘Go-Live’ Training and Help**

To register for training: Visit the Epicenter Information Booth, Guggenheim Pavilion Lobby, Monday to Friday, 7 am – 3 pm, or go to https://mountsinai.csd.com.

For help: Stop an Epic team member in a blue “Epic Support” vest, or call 212-241-EPIC (3742).
Bilingual Community Health Fair

Stop by the Eighth Annual Mount Sinai Community Health Fair—a free, bilingual event that addresses health care problems common to East Harlem—for health screenings, seminars, handouts, and cooking demonstrations. To learn more, e-mail mssmcommunityhealthfair@gmail.com.

Saturday, April 16
11 am – 3 pm
17 E. 102nd Street, Between Madison and Fifth Avenues

Grand Rounds

Health Evidence and Policy
Philip J. Landrigan, MD, MSc, Dean for Global Health, and Professor and Chair, Department of Preventive Medicine, presents "Global Health: The Challenges that Lie Ahead."

Tuesday, April 5
1 pm
Icahn Medical Institute
Second Floor, Classroom L2-82

Endocrinology

W. Virgil Brown, MD, Charles Howard Candler Professor of Medicine Emeritus, Emory University School of Medicine, presents the Dr. Mona Shimshi Memorial Lecture, "Arteriosclerosis Prevention, A Battle Half Won."

Thursday, April 7
4:30 pm
Atran Building
Fourth Floor, Room AB4-11

Grand Rounds

Pediatrics
Peter S. Midulla, MD, Chief, Division of Pediatric Surgery, Assistant Professor, Surgery, and Pediatrics, presents "Appendicitis: Still a Surgical Emergency?"

Thursday, April 14
8 – 9 am
Hatch Auditorium

Grand Rounds

Oncological Sciences Lecture
Yang Shi, PhD, Merton Bernfield Professor of Neonatology, Children’s Hospital Boston, presents “Histone Demethylases: Mechanism of Action and Link to Human Disease.”

Tuesday, April 5
Noon
Icahn Medical Institute
First Floor Seminar Room

Education

The Page and William Black Post Graduate School for Continuing Education

The Office of Continuing Medical Education offers seminars, conferences, grand rounds, and live webcasts for physicians and other health professionals to extend their knowledge and remain current in their specific fields. For more information on courses, visit http://www.mssm.edu/education/continuing-medical-education/courses or call the Office of CME at 212-731-7950.

Thirteenth Annual Pediatric Research Day

The Mount Sinai Pediatrics Department presents the Thirteenth Annual Pediatric Research Day. Lisa M. Satlin, MD, Professor and Chair, Department of Pediatrics, will open the event. William V. Tamborlane, MD, Professor and Chief of Pediatric Endocrinology, Yale-New Haven Children’s Hospital, Yale School of Medicine, presents the Dr. Howard Rappaport Memorial Grand Rounds Lecture, “Continuous Glucose Monitoring in Type 1 Diabetes: Better Care Through Technology.” Admission is open to the public. For more information, contact Carla Monaco at carla.monaco@mssm.edu.

Thursday, April 7
8 am: Grand Rounds Lecture
9 – 11:30 am: Abstract Presentations
Hatch Auditorium
11:30 am – 12:30 pm: Abstract Poster Review and Lunch
West Lobby

April Is National Donate Life Month

The Recanati/Miller Transplantation Institute and The New York Organ Donor Network are holding a donor-education and registration drive. Learn about organ donation, and meet donor families, living donors, and organ recipients.

Monday, April 4 – Friday, April 8
10 am – 3 pm
Guggenheim Pavilion, Near The Plaza Café

Mount Sinai School of Medicine in Top 20

Mount Sinai School of Medicine ranked 18 out of 146 medical schools and schools of osteopathic medicine in the United States, maintaining its position in the top 20 best medical schools, according to newly released rankings in the 2012 edition of the U.S. News & World Report “America’s Best Graduate Schools.”

Mount Sinai stands alone at Number 18, having passed the Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern University, which shared the same ranking last year. Mount Sinai improved in nearly every ranking indicator, including its significant increase in National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding. The School of Medicine’s Geriatrics program is Number 1 in the nation, up from second last year. The geriatrics service also tops the list in that category in U.S. News & World Report’s “Best Hospitals in the United States” rankings.