Dear Colleague,

In what must be no news to anyone, yesterday was “Super Sunday.” I confess that going into the day, I was not particularly excited about the game, and really haven’t been since 1998. That said, it was a good game, and what looked like it could be an early blow-out for Indianapolis, became a competitive game. Remembering how excited this town was in ’97 and ’98, and realizing how depressed New Orleans has been in every sense of the word since Hurricane Katrina in 2005, it was nice to see this outcome. Some of the ads were very funny, and I couldn’t help but wonder if the e-trade toddler was a multi-millionaire yet – not from his trades, but from his royalty income.

About fifty friends and family attended the Memorial Service for Carter Ballinger at Montview Presbyterian Church Sunday afternoon. It was a very nice service. As Bruce Paton said to me at the reception that followed: “I am always amazed at how much I never knew about our colleagues until they pass away.” He’s right. We should take the time to know and understand each other while we can.

The University of Colorado Hospital held its Medical Staff Awards Dinner last week at the Seawell Grand Ballroom at the Denver Center for the Performing Arts. The dinner honored several of our faculty and two members of the nursing staff at the hospital. Medical Staff President Andy Meacham was the Master of Ceremonies and kept the evening moving along. The winners of the seven awards were:

- Todd Kingdom, MD, the President’s Award
- Bennie Lindeque, MD, Outstanding Full-Time Physician of the Year
- Michael Cain, Extraordinary Service Award
- Paul Maroni, MD, and Fred Severyn, MD, Pioneer Award.
- Harri Brackett, RN, MS, and Maren Diercks, RN, MSN, Partners in Care Award
- Shandra Wilson, MD, Partners in Care Physician Award
- Ethan Cumbler, MD, and Erin Egan, MD, Performance Improvement and Patient Safety Award.

Congratulations to all of them.

I got to host a nice luncheon ceremony for some of our major scholarship donors and recipients last Thursday. The list of donors and recipients is attached. Several of the students talked about how important these scholarships are to them.

Many of our students attended the annual Western Research Society meetings in Carmel a couple of weeks ago. I was also sent a note that Peter Moore, MS2, won the medical student research
award at the Annual Academic Surgical Congress in San Antonio at about the same time. Nice job.

The Society of Thoracic Surgeons has given Frederick Grover, MD, its Distinguished Service Award. Fred, who is chairman of the Department of Surgery, was praised for modernizing and improving the Society’s database in many ways. The award, established in 1969, only has been given 24 times.

We are seeking a Director of Community Outreach and Admissions to help further the School of Medicine’s goals to increase the diversity and inclusion of the Medical School class. Among the duties of the person in this role will improve community outreach to underrepresented communities in medicine. Please see the attached job description and apply online here.

Last week I asked you take a look at our new web site and offer suggestions. Many of you did! There was a lot of positive feedback for a site that is easier to navigate, more informative, more timely and nicer looking. Our staff has done a great job with this huge transition. We also got suggestions from people who found things that needed improvement. That kind of feedback is crucial to making this a great site. So keep those suggestions coming. There’s a link to a feedback form on the home page or you can click here.

No WGOH next week – it is President’s Day and a UCD holiday.

Have a good two weeks,

With warm regards,

Richard D. Krugman, MD
Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs and Dean, School of Medicine

"What’s Going On Here" is an email news bulletin from Richard Krugman, MD, Dean of the CU School of Medicine, that is distributed to inform University of Colorado School of Medicine faculty members about issues pertaining to the School’s mission of education, research, clinical care and community service. If you would like to receive these emails directly, please contact Cheryl.Welch@ucdenver.edu.

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