Most recently, the Markey Affiliate Network added Our Lady of Bellefonte Hospital in Greenup County to its network of hospitals, bringing the total number of Markey Affiliates to eight. And earlier this year, Dr. Dennie Jones joined the Markey team, leading the Markey Affiliate Network and its clinical outreach, research and education programs.

Those additions serve as momentum for the growing network. But besides providing high-quality clinical care at each affiliate site, Markey Affiliates are also beginning increased involvement in research. The Oncore Clinical Trials Database is active at most affiliate sites, and Dr. Jones expects the first trial to open before the end of 2011.

Plans for the network’s future include identifying funding opportunities to involve affiliate sites in patient navigator and telegenetics programs. In addition, Markey would like to enhance telemedicine efforts network-wide, and offer continuing education programs such as tumor boards and physician board review courses at all affiliate sites.

Affiliated hospitals also participate in the Kentucky Cancer Program and Kentucky Cancer Registry, as well as the Ovarian Screening Program.

STATEWIDE OUTREACH

The Markey Affiliate Network is growing - and continuing its vision of providing all Kentuckians access to excellent cancer care.

Most recently, the Markey Affiliate Network added Our Lady of Bellefonte Hospital in Greenup County to its network of hospitals, bringing the total number of Markey Affiliates to eight. And earlier this year, Dr. Dennie Jones joined the Markey team, leading the Markey Affiliate Network and its clinical outreach, research and education programs.

Those additions serve as momentum for the growing network. But besides providing high-quality clinical care at each affiliate site, Markey Affiliates are also beginning increased involvement in research. The Oncore Clinical Trials Database is active at most affiliate sites, and Dr. Jones expects the first trial to open before the end of 2011.

Plans for the network’s future include identifying funding opportunities to involve affiliate sites in patient navigator and telegenetics programs. In addition, Markey would like to enhance telemedicine efforts network-wide, and offer continuing education programs such as tumor boards and physician board review courses at all affiliate sites.

Affiliated hospitals also participate in the Kentucky Cancer Program and Kentucky Cancer Registry, as well as the Ovarian Screening Program.

MARKEY BY THE NUMBERS

The number of Markey Affiliate Network hospitals added to the network since 2010 ............................................. 3

Number of new cancer cases in Kentucky, highest among states without an NCI-designated center .......... 23,595
In so many ways, 2011 was a remarkable year for the Markey Cancer Center. I’m amazed at the challenging goals we’ve set for ourselves the past few years and all of the steps we’ve taken toward those goals during the past 12 months.

Take a look at just a few of the things we’ve accomplished in the last year:
- Took the pointed feedback of our NCI CCSG External Advisory Board from 2010 and improved upon our performance. At our recent 2011 meeting, our EAB told us that with a few key improvements, we’re ready to submit our application for NCI designation in 2012.
- Submitted our Gastrointestinal SPORE grant for funding renewal. We should know the SPORE status early in 2012.
- Increased our overall research funding and our research funding from the NCI.
- Increased the number of patients we are enrolling in clinical trials, the number of outpatient cancer visits, outpatient chemotherapy visits and radiation medicine treatment visits.
- Established an ACS Patient Navigator Program.
- Recruited 14 new basic science investigators and 11 new clinicians.
- Opened the fourth and fifth floors of the BioPharm Complex, which will be used to house Markey investigators.
- Added three new hospitals (see the front page of this newsletter) to the Markey Affiliate Network, and added the Kailash Cancer Hospital (India) as our second “sister” center.
- Produced another record-breaking Cancer Research Day, which drew more posters in 2011 than in any previous year.
- Revamped the Markey Minute weekly electronic newsletter, and start producing this quarterly update to keep everyone informed about the great things happening at our cancer center.
- Supported the continued efforts of our fundraising community through countless projects and donations by Markey teams.

There are many more things that I haven’t included – things that our faculty and staff are doing every day to make the Markey experience a great one. I would like to thank each of you for contributing to our success over the past year – what we’ve accomplished truly encompasses every one of us doing the best we can every day.

Now, we must look forward to 2012. It already is shaping up to be one of the biggest years in the history of the Markey Cancer Center – we have some incredibly important initiatives that will come to fruition in the coming year, and I hope we are all looking forward to adding some impressive things to our list of accomplishments. Let’s keep our momentum strong.

MARKEY DIFFERENCE MAKERS

Congratulations to the following Markey Difference Makers. The Difference Maker of the quarter is Marcia Ballard. Marcia has been nominated for Difference Maker recognition four times recently.

Linda Anderson  Robin Fisher  Sue Mucha  Sharon Schimmel
Donna Areaux  Susan Gibson  Stephanie Mullins  Gina Smithers
Linda Baker  Donna Gilbreath  Mincha Parker  Dana Stafford
Marcia Ballard  Daniel Grantz  Darlene Paskovics  kellie Thurman
Jean Barker  Kennetha Hatton  Angela Pennington  Nathan Vanderford
June Clopein  Melissa Hounshell  Lori Peters Jordan  Rachel Miller Ware
Felipa Cowan  Trisha Jackson  Mary Phillips  Melanie Wilson
Almita Cummins  Charles Jenkins  Laura Reichel  Roger Yankey
Jenny Delap  Linda Leach  Kara Reynolds  Stephanie Zebosky
Cassandra Dirks  Stacey Montgomery  Misti Rice
David Faulconer  Renee Morff Rainey  Jennifer Rogers

TELL US ABOUT IT
Do you have an idea for a future edition of Markey Quarterly? A picture you’d like to see included? Email Markey’s Research Communications Office (mccrco@uky.edu) with your story idea.
Hi David. Thanks for talking with us. What's your background and where are you from originally?
I'm from Clintwood, a small town in the southwestern part of Virginia.

Where did you go to school?
I went to radiation therapy school at the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond, Va.

What brought you to UK?
There were few jobs in my field when I graduated. While visiting a cousin at UK's College of Pharmacy, I stopped by the department of Radiation Medicine and was lucky to find a radiation therapist position available. I've been here since I graduated in 1996.

What’s your role in Radiation Medicine?
My role is to manage and supervise radiation therapists. There are nine therapists here at UK, and our outreach facilities in Morehead, Georgetown and Maysville each have two therapists who deliver radiation treatments. I am also part of our Radiation Department QA team and our Managerial Team that discusses and works to resolve departmental issues.

What role does Radiation Medicine play in patient care at MCC?
Our department plays a major role at Markey by delivering curative and palliative care radiation to many patients. We specialize in a number of treatments: brachytherapy implants for prostate and GYN cancers; stereotactic body radiation therapy (SBRT) for lung, liver and spine cancer; gamma knife radiosurgery for brain tumors; total body irradiation (TBI) for patients prior to a bone marrow transplant and a fair amount of pediatric radiation treatments.

What do you like most about your job?
In the department of Radiation Medicine, I work among the best radiation therapists out there. They make my job easier and deliver quality patient care to every patient. They really take pride in the their work, which makes me proud to be part of the team.

What do you like most about working at MCC?
The wide range and diversity of treatment modalities we provide is what I like most about working at Markey. The opportunity to offer the latest treatments used in the field today is very rewarding.

What do you like to do when you're not at work?
I love being a dad to my two young children. It is a full time job and there is never a dull moment. And in my free time, I try to play as much golf as possible.

What's your favorite food or meal?
My wife and I love good sushi.

What’s your favorite song or artist?
If you looked at my programmed radio stations or iTunes, they would all be country.

What was the last movie you watched?
A few weeks ago, I took my two year old to see The Lion King in 3D.

This quarter, Markey Quarterly introduces you to David Lockhart, Chief Radiation Therapist. David was nominated by Marcus Randall, MD, FACR, Markey Foundation Chair in Radiation Medicine and Professor and Chairman of the Department of Radiation Medicine.

“David possesses a rare combination of genuine caring for others plus exceptional technical leadership skills,” Randall said.

“He leads a fantastic team of radiation therapists who often work in a very stressful environment and has earned everyone’s respect by working very hard, setting a great example for others and treating everyone with respect. He is always willing to go the extra mile to take care of our patients.”

“Hi David. Thanks for talking with us. What’s your background and where are you from originally?
I'm from Clintwood, a small town in the southwestern part of Virginia.

Where did you go to school?
I went to radiation therapy school at the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond, Va.

What brought you to UK?
There were few jobs in my field when I graduated. While visiting a cousin at UK's College of Pharmacy, I stopped by the department of Radiation Medicine and was lucky to find a radiation therapist position available. I've been here since I graduated in 1996.

What’s your role in Radiation Medicine?
My role is to manage and supervise radiation therapists. There are nine therapists here at UK, and our outreach facilities in Morehead, Georgetown and Maysville each have two therapists who deliver radiation treatments. I am also part of our Radiation Department QA team and our Managerial Team that discusses and works to resolve departmental issues.

What role does Radiation Medicine play in patient care at MCC?
Our department plays a major role at Markey by delivering curative and palliative care radiation to many patients. We specialize in a number of treatments: brachytherapy implants for prostate and GYN cancers; stereotactic body radiation therapy (SBRT) for lung, liver and spine cancer; gamma knife radiosurgery for brain tumors; total body irradiation (TBI) for patients prior to a bone marrow transplant and a fair amount of pediatric radiation treatments.

What do you like most about your job?
In the department of Radiation Medicine, I work among the best radiation therapists out there. They make my job easier and deliver quality patient care to every patient. They really take pride in the their work, which makes me proud to be part of the team.

What do you like most about working at MCC?
The wide range and diversity of treatment modalities we provide is what I like most about working at Markey. The opportunity to offer the latest treatments used in the field today is very rewarding.

What do you like to do when you're not at work?
I love being a dad to my two young children. It is a full time job and there is never a dull moment. And in my free time, I try to play as much golf as possible.

What’s your favorite food or meal?
My wife and I love good sushi.

What’s your favorite song or artist?
If you looked at my programmed radio stations or iTunes, they would all be country.

What was the last movie you watched?
A few weeks ago, I took my two year old to see The Lion King in 3D.

Who should be the next Markey Mover?
Email Markey’s Research Communications Office (mccrco@uky.edu) with your story idea.
NOTEWORTHY

WELCOME

Tadahide Izumi, PhD, Associate Professor, Toxicology
Jon Thorson, PhD, Professor, Pharmacology
Qiou Wei, PhD, Assistant Professor, Toxicology
Ying Liang, Internal Medicine
Heather Russell-Simmons, Research Communications Office

LEADERSHIP APPOINTMENTS

Marc Randall, MD, professor and Markey Foundation Endowed Chair in Radiation Medicine, UK HealthCare Chief of Ambulatory Services

Brett Spear, PhD, professor of Microbiology, Immunology and Molecular Genetics, Integrated Biomedical Sciences Director of Graduate Studies

PRESENTATIONS & PUBLICATIONS

Markey members published 107 manuscripts in peer-reviewed journals in July, August, September and October.

The article “6-Carboxyfluorescein and structurally similar molecules inhibit DNA binding and repair by O6-alkylguanine DNA alkyltransferase” by Manana Melikishvili, David W. Rodgers and Michael G. Fried was highlighted by the Faculty of 1000. The article appeared in DNA Repair earlier this year.

GRANTS

Susanne Arnold, MD, associate professor of Internal Medicine, and colleagues were awarded a grant by the Department of Defense to study potential environmental reasons for the high lung cancer rates in Eastern Kentucky. The grant is for $1.43 million over three years.

Gang Chen, PhD, research assistant professor of Internal Medicine, was awarded a total of $599,000 for fiscal year 2012 as part of a four-year grant totaling $599,000 from American Cancer Society for “The Mechanism of Arsenic-Induced Cell Transformation.”

Hiroshi Saito, PhD, assistant professor of Surgery, was awarded a total of $304,425 for fiscal year 2012 as part of a five-year grant totaling $1,522,125 from National Institute on Aging for “The Role of Adipose Tissue in Age-dependent Sensitivity to Critical Illness.”

Xianglin Shi, PhD, professor in the Graduate Center for Toxicology, was awarded a total of $334,125 for fiscal year 2012 as part of a five-year grant totaling $1,670,625 from National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences for “Prevention of UV-Induced Carcinogenesis by Cyan din-3-glucoside.”

Haining Zhu, PhD, associate professor of Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry, was awarded a total of $324,844 for fiscal year 2012 as part of a five-year grant totaling $1,299,376 from National Institutes of Health for “Role of FUS in ALS.”

AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS & SELECTIONS

Sue McFarlan received her CCRN® Nurse Executive-Board Certified status through the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses. CCRN certification is for nurses providing care to acutely and/or critically ill adult, pediatric and neonatal patients.

NEW MARKEY RESEARCH FLOORS OPEN IN BIOPHARM BUILDING

Markey Director Dr. Mark Evers (center) cuts the ribbon to open new two new research floors in the BioPharm complex on November 29. University of Kentucky President Eli Capilouto, Board of Trustees members and College of Pharmacy leadership also participated in the ceremony.

The new floors house research laboratories and office space for researchers in the College of Pharmacy and for the Markey Cancer Center.
Markey names Assistant Directors

WORKING ON UNIFIED FOCUS FOR NCI DESIGNATION

Markey has appointed three assistant directors, whose attention will be placed on Markey’s vision and goals and aligning strategic cancer center efforts in relation to the 2012 application for NCI designation.

Beth Yost will serve as assistant director for finance, providing fiscal oversight of human resources and cancer center finances. She will also ensure compliance with college and university policies and collaborate with departments and colleges on financial matters.

Nathan Vanderford, PhD, will serve as assistant director for research, providing oversight, planning, development and evaluation of Markey’s research endeavors. Most recently, he was supervisor of the Research Communications Office.

Carla Repass will serve as assistant director for administration, supervising the administrative functions of the director’s office, engineering major cancer functions, connecting constituencies and overseeing special initiatives.

Earlier this year, leadership changes were announced for the Division of Medical Oncology. Dennie Jones, MD, became Interim Division Chief of Medical Oncology. He will oversee the continued growth of the division, including new faculty recruitment. Dr. Jones also retains his current role as Markey Deputy Director for Clinical Outreach, Research and Education, Director of the Markey Affiliate Network and Professor of Internal Medicine.

Susanne Arnold, MD, will serve as Associate Director for Clinical Research, and John Hayslip, MD, will serve as Director of the Clinical Research Organization and will be responsible for overseeing Clinical Care and Research Teams.

FUNDRAISING UPDATE

LIGHT THE NIGHT

The Markey and Friends team for Light the Night, a fundraiser for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, raised $16,640. Samantha Eddington and Judy Malone, both nurses in the Markey Hematology Program, were team captains. Robin Fisher provided support for the Markey team and serves on the Executive Leadership Council for the Lexington office.

The office of Dr. Michael Karpf, UK executive vice president for health affairs, provided a $20,000 sponsorship.

Other UK teams included the Department of Psychology ($12,640), Clinical Lab ($2,028) and Bone Marrow Transplant ($2,338). More than 2,000 people attended the event, and more than $226,000 has been donated to the walk in total this year. Donations are accepted through the end of the year.

MAKING STRIDES FOR AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

The Markey team raised $908 for the Making Strides for the American Cancer Society race this year. The team held two events: a yard sale and chili cook-off.

SHARE YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Markey Cancer Center would like to celebrate the successes of our faculty, staff and students, and we would like your help finding out about the great things that are happening.

You’re invited to submit your recent accomplishment via the link below. You may also want to bookmark it for future reference; the online submission form will always be live so that you can submit new accomplishments as they happen.

https://redcap.rdm.org/redcap/surveys/?s=WUVHdv

Some recent accomplishments are already highlighted in this issue’s Noteworthy column – yours could be next!
2011 Markey Holiday Party