On September 22, 2011, over 110 CAC members and guests attended *Museums, Mummies and Medical Musings*, a presentation by David T. Mininberg, M.D., Former Director of Pediatric Urology and Senior Lecturer in both Urology and Public Health at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center. The Center Alumni Council was pleased to welcome Dr. Mininberg, a fellow CAC member, to speak on a topic which combined his work in the Department of Egyptian Art at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and his knowledge of Ancient Middle Eastern Studies with his love of medicine. The cocktail reception that followed in the Griffis Faculty Club gave our members the opportunity to mingle with their colleagues and have copies of the book *The Art of Medicine in Ancient Egypt*, signed by Dr. Mininberg.
Thank You for Your Support of the Weill Cornell Community Clinic

Special thanks to all our members who contributed to the Center Alumni Council 2010-2011 fundraising initiative. Through your generosity, $15,000 was raised in support of the Weill Cornell Community Clinic (WCCC). The WCCC is a student-led initiative at Weill Cornell Medical College that provides health care services such as consultations, treatments, referrals and screenings to uninsured New York City residents. Recently, the WCCC expanded its services to include a Women’s Health Clinic, Mental Health Nights, and the Heart to Heart Outreach Campaign – which screened over 1,000 individuals for cardiovascular disease risk factors. Providing these services enhances the philanthropic spirit of our students and faculty. This volunteer work fosters a sense of humanitarianism while educating our students about the social issues surrounding caring for those in need.

In May 2011, the CAC Board presented the WCCC with the funds that were raised by CAC members. We were impressed by the student representatives of the WCCC who informed us about the impact that this donation will have on the WCCC. Every year, the student leaders raise funds to support this program through grants and donations. Last year, with an annual budget of approximately $30,000, 112 medical student volunteers logged in 374 patient visits. The CAC’s gift has off-set half of the clinic’s operating budget, enabling the WCCC to do what it does best, treat patients. Your generosity has given these medical students the opportunity to both improve their skills and gain a deeper understanding of the challenges faced while caring for the clinic’s patients.

CAC & Housestaff Quality Council Housestaff Welcome Reception

The CAC Board of Trustees and Housestaff Quality Council (HQC) hosted the Housestaff Welcome Reception on July 28, 2011. The HQC, under the leadership of the new Chair, Samantha Brenner, M.D. and Vice Chair, Samuel Sultan, M.D., teamed up with the leadership of the CAC to host this event during which the HQC was able to promote their 2011-2012 goal of Improving Patient Care through better Communication.

Over 200 guests, including hospital leadership, department chairs, residency program directors, members of the Housestaff Quality Council, and Center Alumni Council members had the opportunity to interact with the new residents at this event.
As CAC members, one of our goals is to promote the educational, research and clinical missions of NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center. This year, the CAC Board hopes to achieve this goal by encouraging the CAC to focus its attention on two Burn Center projects – the Hearst Burn Center Playroom and Camp Phoenix.

Burn survivors by nature of their injuries often have extended hospital stays. Due to the risk of infection, these stays often keep patients isolated from visitors and non-medical staff. This is extremely challenging for the youngest survivors in burn surgery. The Firefighter Jeff Giordano Burn Unit Playroom provides an outlet for kids of all ages to be kids with resources including games, books, televisions, and dvds that they can enjoy in a safe space while receiving treatment at the Hospital.

Camp Phoenix, a program that has been in existence at Weill Cornell for more than 10 years, is a tuition-free camp run by Weill Cornell Medical College students that annually serves approximately 150 former patients of the Hearst Burn Center. The camp provides pediatric burn survivors with the opportunity to socialize with other burn survivors outside of the hospital environment. Several activities occur on Saturdays throughout the year, with the major outing being a weekend-long camp held in June in the Adirondacks. While acting as counselors, this program gives medical students the opportunity to learn to hone skills in empathy and bedside manner. Through mentoring guidance and support from the Camp Phoenix advisor, Roger W. Yurt, M.D., Weill Cornell’s Johnson & Johnson Professor of Burn Surgery and Director of the Hearst Burn Center, medical students practice compassionate care and gain a unique and informed perspective on burn medicine and surgery.

New Leadership for NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital and Weill Cornell Medical College

The Center Alumni Council acknowledges the long-time leadership of Herbert Pardes, M.D. and Antonio M. Gotto, Jr., M.D., D.Phil. Dr. Pardes has served as President and Chief Executive Officer of NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital for more than a decade, and Dr. Gotto has served as Dean of Weill Cornell Medical College since 1997.

Effective September 6, 2011, Dr. Steven J. Corwin, who has served our Medical Center in various management capacities since 1991, was appointed the new Chief Executive Officer of NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital. In addition, Dr. Robert E. Kelly became President of NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital. Dr. Herbert Pardes remains very much a part of the NYP community, having assumed his new role as the Executive Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

On January 1, 2012, we will welcome Dr. Laurie Glimcher, one of the nation’s leading physician-scientists and researchers. Dr. Glimcher comes to us from Harvard Medical School and has been selected as the new Stephen and Suzanne Weiss Dean of Weill Cornell Medical College and Cornell Provost for Medical Affairs. Dr. Gotto will become co-chair of the Board of Overseers and Cornell University Vice President.
The CAC Awards Committee would like to extend a note of thanks to our members who took the time to submit nominations for the 2011 Outstanding Service Award. Many deserving candidates were nominated and we are proud to report that Mark W. Pasmantier, M.D. is this year’s recipient. Dr. Pasmantier has provided nearly 40 years of service to the Medical Center and has been a dedicated member of the Center Alumni Council Board for over 10 years.

We look forward to honoring him at the NewYork Weill Cornell Medical Center Alumni Council Awards Dinner on November 3, 2011 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Griffis Faculty Club. During this dinner, we will also present twenty-two deserving housestaff with the 2011 Distinguished Housestaff Awards and give recognition to our new Medical Center Circle donors - CAC members who made a philanthropic commitment of $25,000 or more to NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell.

For more information about this event or the Medical Center Circle, contact Catherine Warner at 646-317-7418.

We constantly work to keep information about the CAC up-to-date on our website and hope you find it useful. Don’t forget to visit us online at weill.cornell.edu/about-us/cac.html.

William Teich Greene, a beloved member of the NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center community for 35 years, most recently as Vice President of Operations, passed away in New York on May 25, 2011. We will miss Bill Greene, who was also a Medical Center Circle donor and an active and dedicated member of the Center Alumni Council Board.

The Center Alumni Council would also like to express our sorrow at the passing of the following colleagues and friends:

Stanley J. Behrman, D.M.D. of New York, NY; January 30, 2011; Dentistry and Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery
Arnold M. Cooper, M.D. of New York, NY; June 13, 2011; Psychiatry
Lyman Fulton, M.D. of Johnson City, TN; May 2, 2011; Internal Medicine
James J. Rahal, M.D. of New York, NY; June 11, 2011; Infectious Diseases
Martin Sonenberg, M.D., Ph.D. of New York, NY; June 27, 2011; Endocrinology and Biochemistry

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