The Spring of 2017…Change and Hope

Charles J. Yeo, MD, FACS

Thomas Jefferson University

Follow this and additional works at: https://jdc.jefferson.edu/jss

Let us know how access to this document benefits you

Recommended Citation
Yeo, MD, FACS, Charles J. (2017) "The Spring of 2017...Change and Hope," Jefferson Surgical Solutions: Vol. 12 : Iss. 1 , Article 2.
Available at: https://jdc.jefferson.edu/jss/vol12/iss1/2
There is excitement in the air at Jefferson this spring. We had a superb "Match" on March 17, and will be welcoming 6 terrific categorical general surgery residents come July. The Philadelphia Phillies just completed spring training well above .500, and there are high hopes for an improved year. In late April, the American Surgical Association—co-founded by our very own Dr. Samuel D. Gross (Chair of Surgery, 1856-1882)—hosted their 137th Annual Meeting here in Philadelphia. As part of the social program, attendees toured Lubert Plaza in the heart of our Center City campus, which includes the magnificent Samuel Gross Monument by Alexander Calder.

Jefferson Health continues to sustain momentum towards further expansion, with the planned addition of Kennedy Health in New Jersey and Philadelphia University to our Jefferson family soon. Some work is already underway with Philadelphia University (see the Enterprise Integration column), taking advantage of their expertise in creative design, innovation, and space planning. Add to this the work being done at our Center City, Abington and Aria campuses by our 7 surgical 2.0 Integration teams focusing on patient-centered, highest quality care...much is happening.

April 1 marked the launch of our Wave 2 EPIC implementation (inpatient EPIC) at our Jefferson Hospitals in Center City and on our Methodist campus. The power of this electronic health record (EHR) is quite amazing. Patients are being encouraged to sign up online for the "MyChart" patient portal, we are linked to other organizations via the Care Everywhere platform, and we now have one unified EHR for our outpatient and inpatient environments. As you might imagine, the surgical residents have embraced this new technology with great enthusiasm, while at least some of us (attending surgeons) are finding our outpatient and inpatient workflows to physical instruments...we're doing here in the hospital in terms of achieving the highest quality of care.

In September, 10 advanced practice nurses from the Department of Surgery gathered for a lunchtime kick-off meeting to form a Nurse Practitioners (NPs) & Physician Assistants (PAs) Professionalism and Scholarship Working Group. This initiative is an important career development component and has been meeting on a monthly basis to discuss issues in clinical practice, explore potential clinical research projects, foster CV development, and address professional practice concerns. Thus far, two projects have been submitted for small grant consideration, several presentations have been developed and two members are collaborating on publishing an online continuing education module for NPs.

Dr. Isenberg notes that the merger will allow Jefferson Health to blend resources and expertise clearly complements what Philadelphia University works with huge companies around the world. "We have an extraordinary opportunity to work together to improve the environment of care for our patients," he says. "Philadelphia University's expertise clearly complements what we're doing here in the hospital in terms of solving problems.

An integrated Philadelphia University and Thomas Jefferson University allows us to reimagine education in a way that launches students into the careers of their passion in a bigger, bolder way," says Philadelphia University President Stephen Spinelli, Jr, PhD. "We will prepare students for careers of the 21st century, with an emphasis on scientific and applied research, design thinking and discovery." For more information, go to wordpress.phila.edu/powered.