Welcome Back Rob Chadd!

After a 13 month military deployment in Iraq, IT was thrilled to welcome back Rob Chadd. At a gathering on Monday the 12th of July, we all had an opportunity to express our thanks for his military service and to warmly welcome him back to our “active service”. If you were unable to attend, please feel free to call or stop by and say hello. Rob is part of the Telecommunications group and works on a variety of system and building projects. He can be reached at x7239.

Raising the Bar with MAK

2010 marks an important year in raising the bar for patient safety at JDH. In our ongoing efforts to reduce medication errors, we have implemented Medication Administration Checking (MAK) on four additional units, bringing this technology to nearly 80% of our patient population.

Data from the University Health Consortium’s Patient Safety Net suggests that 35% of all medication errors occur at the point of administration, and that these errors are more likely to reach the patient than errors that occur at earlier stages in the medication process.

Medication Administration Checking closes the loop on our medication management strategy. Just prior to administration, the barcode is scanned on both the patient’s medication and wristband to electronically ensure the “five rights” of administration – right patient, right drug, right dose, right route and right time. The system warns the nurse of any mismatches, helping to avoid the most serious medication errors. The nurse will also document reasons a drug was not given and administration details such as pain severity.

The project consisted of two separate implementation dates – March 17th on Med4 and MedSurg5 and another one six weeks later on April 29th for ONC6, and Surg7. Hands-on training and assistance was provided to assist nursing and Pharmacy 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for 2 weeks during each go-live event. The team, comprised of resources from Clinical Informatics, Information Technology, Pharmacy, Nursing Education, and Facilities, was selected for the August 2010 PAWS Team Award. This is a considerable achievement toward our goals for patient safety and helping people achieve and maintain healthy lives.

For more information, contact Bert Romeo at x8054.
Announcing: New Training Series on Education and Technology

In this digital era, technology is enabling faculty and students to improve their access to information, learning and collaboration. As new student generations are increasingly familiar with technology, there is a resultant growing demand for technologically savvy educators. Aware of this challenge, the Faculty Instructional Technology Services office has developed a series of workshops aimed at enhancing skills and knowledge in this area. Ultimately, the goal is to increase faculty awareness of existing tools and technologies, and at the same time, enhance their ability to effectively use them in our educational environment.

This new educational series is composed of almost thirty lectures and workshops dealing with a broad range of available resources, such as Blackboard, Virtual Microscopy, SAIVIN, Electronic Testing, PowerPoint and others. Specific information on each session is available at [http://fitsdmz.uchc.edu/fitsasp/index.aspx](http://fitsdmz.uchc.edu/fitsasp/index.aspx). We have designed sessions specific for learners at diverse levels, so everyone should find a session appropriate for their needs and skills.

For more information, contact Yanko Michea at x1225.

The 19th Century Goes Digital

The Hartford Medical Society Historical Library has its first 5 titles digitized and available for viewing through the Internet Archive. The words in the titles are somewhat jarring to 21st century sensibilities:

- Human Monstrosities (4 volumes)
- The Pathology of Drunkenness
- Report on the Condition of the Insane Poor in the County
- Poor Houses of New York
- Observations on the Management of Madhouses (parts 1 and 2)

However, the abnormalities in the first title are the subject of real scientific inquiry, not simple prurience; the second title is concerned with a legitimate public health issue, (albeit with a 19th century moralistic slant,) and the last three volumes are an attempt to expose the often shocking conditions in which people with mental illness lived in an attempt to improve their care.

You can see the list and access the digitized volumes [here](http://fitsdmz.uchc.edu/fitsasp/index.aspx). The Internet Archive site offers digital page-turning in the ‘read online’ option, downloadable PDF versions, and searchable text produced by optical character recognition (OCR) scanning. Take a look and see how the 19th century looks in the 21st.

For more information, please contact Jennifer Miglus at x3200.

Data Center Gets a Makeover!

With rapid growth to 850 servers supporting increasing Health Center automation, the Data Center is showing its age. With limited space for expansion and outdated cooling, electrical and fire suppressant systems, it was time for a makeover!

A substantial renovation project is now underway, involving relocation of the Help Desk outside of the Data Center, installation of the latest technology in power and cooling, and replacement of the fire suppression system with a much more eco-friendly version. Old under-floor cabling will be replaced with overhead cables to improve airflow circulation. Transformation of the Data Center will be completed in December, and will support our expanding computing needs for many years to come.

For more information, please contact Bud Burke at x3593.
Coming to a Classroom Near You

In our continuing effort to provide the latest and greatest technology to enhance our academic mission, BMC staff have been busy this summer replacing, updating, and adding innovative new technology in the major teaching spaces. All 18 MDL Classrooms have received new computers and projectors and the rooms primarily used for histology and radiology are receiving new 55” HD LCD monitors. New computers have also been installed in Patterson and Massey auditoria, and Friends and Lecture Room A.

The teaching spaces primarily used by the Graduate School are receiving some new and updated technology too. In ARB-Small, we are adding a MAC computer (in addition to the built-in PC) and a Smart Annotation tablet to the podium along with new wall controls that will make it easier to control the projector and digital display sources. A camera will be added to allow remote capture of lectures on an as-requested basis for live and on-demand web capture and streaming.

Through a recent upgrade of the MediaSite web streaming system, a Podcasting option is now also available for viewers to subscribe to a particular series or course and automatically receive MP3 recordings of the events on their laptops or smartphones.

For more information, please contact Bill Hengstenberg at x2416.

Streamlining Student Experience Logging

To streamline the rigors of monitoring the patient experiences of 3rd and 4th year medical students, the IT Application Development team recently released a newly revamped Student Experience Log. To satisfy requirements for graduation and for medical school accreditation, all medical students need to experience encounters with similar types of patients. This application replaces an outdated Pocket PC implementation with a new, always connected system that has a streamlined and robust user interface built for speed. It will track requirements maintained by medical school administrators, giving real time feedback to students regarding when requirements have been met and what remains. The second phase of this project will include iPhone browser support and automatic emails to administrators, students, preceptors and site coordinators informing them about requirement status.

Significantly boosting efficiency, the new and improved Student Experience Log reduces recording burden, administrator management maintenance time and the need for a single person to be the disseminator of requirement status to students and sites.

For more information, contact Erik Barrows at x 8487.