

# FROM THE Dean's Desk



**ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON  
MEDICAL SCHOOL**  
University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey

## Message from the Dean

**T**he Scholarship Gala to Celebrate with Alumni and Friends was a wonderful occasion and a great success. The Gala presented an opportunity for alumni, faculty, students, and friends to be together, enjoy one another's company, support our students, and share our dedication to the medical school. Co-hosted by UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and the Foundation of UMDNJ, the event raised \$195,000 to support scholarships for RWJMS students. It will become an annual event.

Match Day is always a much-anticipated event on the academic calendar; this year was no exception. Reflecting the pattern of the past decade, the residency matches announced in those carefully guarded envelopes were among the best ever. Our students matched with many of the nation's foremost residency programs, in a variety of specialties. Our 98 percent match rate was above the national average, reflecting the fine reputation earned by our previous graduates in their residencies. These Match Day outcomes are a tribute not only to our students, but also to the remarkable teaching, mentoring, and advising provided by our faculty and staff. Congratulations to all!

*Peter S. Amenta, MD, PhD*  
Peter S. Amenta, MD, PhD  
Dean

## Class of 2011 Scores Match Day Success

**T**he 157 members of the Class of 2011 achieved a 98 percent match rate, making St. Patrick's Day a lucky day for the graduating class — lucky and proof of four years of hard work and a well-planned residency match process.

"Even more important than percentage points is the number of premier residencies with which our students matched," says **David Seiden, PhD**, professor of neuroscience and cell biology and associate dean for student affairs. In addition to matching with highly



Steve Hochman

competitive residencies at RWJMS, the class is headed to top-flight programs at Harvard, Brown, Columbia, Cornell, NYU, Johns Hopkins, Penn, and Yale. The most popular matches were the surgical specialties (28%), internal medicine (19%), and anesthesia (10%).

## Practice Makes Progress in Use of Health Information Technology

**T**he world of health care is changing. More accountability is demanded from health care providers, including outcome and management reporting that requires an electronic medical record (EMR). "The Robert Wood Johnson Medical Group (RWJMG) is stepping up to that challenge," says **Frank A. Sonnenberg, MD**, professor of medicine and medical director of clinical information systems. "Nearly all RWJMG practices are now live on the GE Centricity EMR."

Dr. Sonnenberg identifies mandates that will affect the practice in the year ahead. Most important is the EMR incentive program in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), which will make incentive payments to Medicare and Medicaid providers who adopt EMR technology. Medicare is paying providers

an incentive to use e-prescribing, which is available to all physicians using the EMR. In 2012, a penalty will be assessed on providers not using e-prescribing.

RWJ Med Connect, a patient portal, is now live in a test system. The EMR team has been meeting with each department to review progress toward meeting the requirements for ARRA meaningful use and selecting clinical quality measures to report. Through Equation Consulting, RWJMG is developing a data-reporting tool that will permit weekly monitoring. To help focus on areas needing improvement, practices will receive feedback on their progress toward meaningful use objectives. An Electronic Superbill form will make it easier to enter charges and automatically capture charge codes needed for quality reporting.