Message from David Barnard

Dear colleagues and friends:

As of July 1, 2010 I have stepped down as Director of the Institute to Enhance Palliative Care. My colleague, Dr. Robert Arnold, Chief of the Section of Palliative Care and Medical Ethics in the Division of General Internal Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, has assumed the role of Interim Director while the Institute searches for a permanent successor. My decision to step down reflects the fact that I have recently taken on a number of new roles and responsibilities at the University in the areas of global health and human rights. I will remain a member of the Institute’s Governing Council.

We founded the Institute in 2003. Since then attention to palliative care has intensified locally, regionally, and nationally. We can be proud of the Institute’s role in this process, which has been documented not only in previous editions of this newsletter but, more importantly, in the programs, publications, and projects that the Institute has initiated and sponsored.

I look forward to the continuing growth of palliative care as a clinical and academic field, and as a source of encouragement and hope for everyone whose life is touched by a serious illness.

The Institute Welcomes Hospice and Palliative Medicine Fellow Michael D. Barnett, MD

The Senator H. John Heinz III Fellowship in Palliative Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh welcomes Michael D. Barnett, MD. Dr. Barnett attended the University of Kentucky College of Medicine earning his degree with distinction in 2006. He then completed a combined Internal Medicine-Pediatric Residency acting as Chief Resident in his final year at the University of Alabama at Birmingham in 2009. During his fellowship Dr. Barnett will be earning a Masters in Education. In his spare time he enjoys music, running and reading on the topics of philosophy and theology, history, and Russian literature.