Lyndley Maddox Receives the 2010 Amdur Fellowship

Lyndley Maddox received the Amdur Fellowship this summer. The Amdur Fellowship in Palliative Care provides an intensive, one-month internship in palliative care social work under the guidance of one of the nation’s leading academic palliative care programs. Designed for graduate level social work students with prior hospital experience who would like to consider professional specialization in palliative care. Lyndley worked with the Department of Supportive and Palliative Care for the month of July. Throughout the month she was able to work side by side with Charlene Amato, worked with the social workers at the Department of Medical Ethics at UPMC Shadyside, and was able to spend a week at Family Hospice’s Center for Compassionate Care and making hospice home visits with a social worker at Family Hospice. Throughout the fellowship Lyndley learned that palliative and hospice social work can be one of the hardest, yet most fulfilling careers. Lyndley is currently in her last semester at the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Social Work. She would like to pursue in hospital or hospice social work.

Jamie Uy Receives the 2010 Gleitsman Award

Jamie Uy received the Alan Gleitsman Student Research Fund in Palliative Care, which provides financial support for a medical student’s summer learning in the Palliative Care Program. Students may, for example, work with faculty of the Institute to Enhance Palliative Care on a research project, and/or see hospital patients with the Palliative Care Team in the hospital to gain a better understanding of the nature of palliative care, the therapies associated with it, and the benefits it can provide to patients and families. All medical students at The University of Pittsburgh are eligible to apply for support from the Alan Gleitsman Student Research Fund in Palliative Care. While students typically have the most flexibility for summer projects between their first and second year, more senior students who are devoting elective time to their Scholarly Projects should also consider an application. Jamie is a second year medical student at the University of Pittsburgh. Originally from Princeton, NJ, she obtained her undergraduate degree in Finance and International Business at New York University. After a year working in finance, she decided that medicine was her true calling and began the process of applying to medical school. This past summer she worked with Dr. Amber Barnato studying the nature of physician involvement in end-of-life decision making. By analyzing recorded stimulated encounters between physicians and a standardized patient with end-stage cancer, physicians were categorized into four distinct roles: informative, facilitative, collaborative and directive, based on their level of involvement in end-of-life decisions.

The Institute Welcomes Lori Spahr

Lori Spahr joined the Section of Palliative Care and Medical Ethics as an Administrative Assistant. She earned an Associates Degree in Information Processing from the Monroeville School of Business. Lori has over 17 years of administrative experience.