D. Brent Polk Find Sweet Rewards in Treating Children

In his new position, Polk is focused on developing synergies between the Keck School and Children's Hospital, strengthening partnerships between the two institutions in research, education, advocacy and health care delivery. He plans to mentor investigators capable of building on existing research strengths to develop more effective preventive, diagnostic and treatment options for pediatric health disorders.

Polk primary research focus is on understanding the normal healing state of the gastrointestinal tract and how it can manage to repair significant injuries or ulcerations in just a matter of days. He is collaborating in the laboratory with Keck, Children's Hospital and Saban scientists on drugs and engineered molecular machines that could someday offer hope to patients with diseases such as Crohn's on chronic relapse, in which the small gastrointestinal tract is interrupted.

A Presidential Scholar at Pennsylvania University in his home state, Polk went on to obtain his medical degree at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. He completed both his internship and residency in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Arkansas and Arkansas Children's Hospital before moving on to a fellowship in pediatric gastroenterology at Stanford University.

Even while building his illustrious medical career, Polk found time to co-found a bakery and café called “Provence,” with his partner Terry Carr-Hall. With handcrafted breads and pastries, Provence has become a popular destination on 3rd Street in downtown Los Angeles, and expanded into two stores. Polk and his partner are now on the hunt for a perfect L.A. location to open their third café. This commitment to excellence and outstanding customer service is characteristic of Polk's work, whether treating patients in hospital or treating children.

Polk holds fast to the idea that life is too short to use mediocrity to change the world but that the world may be different because you were there. His motto is “It is very rewarding,” Polk says, “to see a child or adolescent recover from a sometimes-fatal disease capable of making an impact. "One of my mottos is that life is too short to use mediocrity to change the world but that the world may be different because you were there. His motto is “It is very rewarding,” Polk says, “to see a child or adolescent recover from a sometimes-fatal disease capable of making an impact.""
Keck School Achieves Full LCME Accreditation

The Keck School of Medicine received the maximum eight-year full accreditation from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME), the result achieved after a 10-year accreditation was granted in 1981. The LCME is the only organization that sets national standards for medical schools and evaluates them for function, structure and performance. The committee assesses medical schools for accreditation by conducting a process of quality assurance that determines whether an institution or program meets established standards by evaluating the quality of their educational programs, the resources available to deliver programs, the educational environment, and the performance of students. The committee’s report includes a thorough assessment of the medical school’s educational programs and resources, as well as the school’s mission and goals. The report also highlights areas for improvement and provides recommendations for future development.

Doctors of USC Beverly Hills to Open This Winter

The doctors of USC Beverly Hills—part of the Keck School of Medicine—will open on January 14, 2011, and will offer a full spectrum of medical services including medical, surgical and interventional radiology, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, internal medicine, and general surgery. The doctors of USC Beverly Hills will provide comprehensive care to patients in the Los Angeles area and beyond.

Redstone Gives Keck School $24 Million for Cancer Research

Redstone Co-Founder and CEO John Redstone, Jr., and his wife, Joanne, have committed $24 million to fund the creation of the Redstone Translational Research Institute at the Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California. The institute will bring together basic scientists and clinical researchers to accelerate the translation of biomedical discoveries into treatments for patients. The institute will be housed within the Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center at USC, which is one of the nation’s leading research institutions in cancer biology and treatment.

USC Hospitals Ranked Among Best

Ophthalmology and Pediatrics Rank High; Urology Leaps Ahead of Competition

The new rankings of the nation’s top hospitals were released by U.S. News & World Report, which surveyed doctors and nurses at more than 1,800 medical centers to determine the nation’s best hospitals. The rankings are based on a comprehensive evaluation of medical care, patient outcomes, and clinical expertise.

Children's Hospital Los Angeles was one of only seven children’s hospitals in the nation and the only pediatric medical center on the West Coast named to the national “Honor Roll” of children’s hospitals by U.S. News & World Report. The hospital staffed exclusively by USC physicians, ranked 17th in rehabilitation, up one spot from last year. In orthopaedics, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles ranked 16th, up three spots from last year. In neurology and neurosurgery, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles ranked 19th, up two spots from last year. In pediatrics, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles ranked 22nd, up three spots from last year. In urology, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles ranked 26th, down two spots from last year.
Keck School Achieves Full LCME Accreditation

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Three additional commendations were given:

- The medical school’s adoption of an innovative program involving non-Physician medical student education as a means of increasing the clinical competence of all students associated with each core clerkship, financed by the donors, is highly lauded. This approach provides effective clinical education across all sites.
- The division of Medical Education as an innovative institutional resource, providing effective faculty development, an innovative educational Innovation Core, and offering effective programs such as a residency program as a teaching program, tracking and leadership fellowship, and a faculty development fellowship and resources.
- Leadership provided by the Office of Faculty Affairs and the division of Medical Education as an impressive institutional resource and productivity in education, research and clinical care.

Keck School Vice Dean for Medical Education Herb Fintel expressed the gratitude of the medical school for the recognition.

“We are very pleased that the LCME has recognized the quality of our medical education program, acknowledging the importance of leadership and resources we put into educational futures,” he said. The LCME is sponsored by the Association of American Medical Colleges and the American Medical Association.

The Keck School of Medicine is part of the Keck Graduate Institute, a private, non-profit, co-educational graduate institution located in Claremont, California. The school offers a comprehensive education in science, technology, business and the arts, including undergraduate, graduate, professional and postgraduate programs. The school is dedicated to preparing students to become leaders in their respective fields.

Doctors of USC Beverly Hills to Open This Winter

The Division of USC Beverly Hills–part of the Keck School of Medicine–will hold a soft opening on Friday, November 19, 2010, and will be open for business on Monday, November 22. The opening will mark the debut of a new facility that was designed to meet the needs of patients at a time when the medical industry is undergoing significant changes. The facility will offer a range of services, including specialty care, primary care, and inpatient and outpatient services.

Redstone Gives Keck School $24 Million for Cancer Research

Foundation President and CEO of the Keck School of Medicine at USC, Dr. Marc D. Sumner, announced today that the school will open a new cancer research center, the Redstone Cancer Institute, at Keck Graduate Institute. The institute will be named in honor of donor Robert S. Redstone, a member of the Keck School’s Board of Visitors, who recently pledged $24 million to support cancer research at the school.

Redstone, a founder and chairman of the Redstone Group, a Los Angeles-based real estate development and investment firm, has been a long-time supporter of cancer research. He has previously donated $100 million in previously announced charitable grants that have funded cancer research at the Keck School. The school is home to one of the nation’s leading cancer research centers, the USC Norris Cancer Institute.

The donation to the Keck School of Medicine is part of a larger gift that includes a facility at USC Beverly Hills and Redstone Hospital. The new facility will be located on the former site of the Keck School’s Medical Education Center in Los Angeles, California.

USC Hospitals Ranked Among Best

Ophthalmology and Pediatrics Rank High; Urology Leaps Ahead of Competition

The Keck School of Medicine at USC has been ranked among the top hospitals in the nation for the past five years. In its most recent report, which includes data from more than 1,500 hospitals, USC is ranked in the top five for both ophthalmology and pediatrics. In addition, the school is ranked in the top 50 for urology, orthopedics, cardiology, and pulmonary disease.

The rankings are based on a survey of physicians and patients, and are published annually by U.S. News & World Report. The survey asks physicians to rate their hospitals on a scale of one to five, with five being the highest rating.

The Keck School of Medicine at USC is a leading academic medical center, home to more than 2,000 full-time faculty members and 1,500 residents and fellows. The school is home to one of the nation’s leading cancer research centers, the USC Norris Cancer Institute. The school is also home to the USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences, the USC School of Engineering, and the USC School of Public Health.

The school is also home to the USC Institute for Medical Research, which is dedicated to advancing medical knowledge and improving outcomes for patients. The institute is home to more than 1,000 researchers and provides a range of services, including clinical research, translational research, and public health research.

In addition to its research efforts, the Keck School of Medicine at USC is committed to providing the highest quality of care for patients. The school is home to more than 200 hospitals and clinics across the state, and is a major teaching hospital for USC students.

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Doctors of USC Beverly Hills to Open This Winter

The Doheny Eye Institute—part of the Keck School of Medicine—schedules a major new addition to its world-renowned eye care and visual science teams as the $60 million Doheny Eye Institute and Doheny Eye Center opens in late 2009. A site near Wilshire Boulevard near the intersection of Century Boulevard and Wetherly Drive, shown above in a photo illustration of how the building will appear.

The project, led by lighting artist David Steinitz using an energy efficient LED system. The mural was designed by lighting artist David Steinitz using an energy efficient LED system. The mural was designed by lighting artist David Steinitz using an energy efficient LED system. The mural was designed by lighting artist David Steinitz using an energy efficient LED system.

The Elks, a national fraternal organization, was America’s first giant medical building in Beverly Hills. Designed by Sim & Associates, 9033 Wilshire offers distinctive architectural style with steel and glass construction and artistic elements such as a 10-foot stained glass mural in the lobby designed by artist John Storrs, featuring a geometric design with metal shapes and productivity is education, research and clinical care.

The LCME is recognized by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education, and its mission is to continue to oversee the Doheny Eye Institute and the Doheny Eye Center, which is a national “Honor Roll” of children’s hospitals by U.S. News & World Report.

Keck School Vice Dean for Medical Education Henri Ford expressed his gratitude for remarks made by the LCME.
D. Brent Polk Find Sweet Rewards in Treating Children

Visit the Keck School Web site at www.usc.edu/keck

In April, Polk, current USC chair of the Department of Pediatrics and dean of the clinical affairs at the Keck School of Medicine, was presented with the Pediatric Researcher of the Year award by the American Gastroenterological Association’s Auxiliary, the group’s philanthropic arm. The award includes a $10,000 grant to support the recipient’s research activities.

Polk was recognized for his work in stem cell research, particularly the use of stem cells to create intestinal organoids. These organoids are small, three-dimensional cell clusters that can be grown in the laboratory and used to study intestinal development and function. By understanding the cellular and molecular mechanisms that govern intestinal organoid formation, Polk and his colleagues hope to identify novel therapeutic targets for the treatment of intestinal disorders.

Polk’s research has also led to the development of a novel therapy for inflammatory bowel disease (IBD). IBD affects millions of people worldwide and is characterized by chronic inflammation of the intestines. Traditional treatments for IBD, such as steroids and immunosuppressants, are often ineffective and can have serious side effects. Polk’s research has shown that stem cells can be used to regenerate the intestinal lining, providing a potential new treatment for IBD.

In addition to his research, Polk is also known for his commitment to patient care. He is the chief of the Division of Pediatric Gastroenterology at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles and the Saban Research Institute, one of the nation’s leading pediatric research institutions. Polk is also a tenured professor of Pediatrics at the University of Southern California and serves as the director of the Digestive Disease Research Center. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and the Institute of Medicine.

Polk’s dedication to patient care and his innovative research have earned him numerous accolades, including the Pediatric Researcher of the Year award. He is a true example of someone who is passionate about both his work and his patients. His commitment to advancing the field of pediatric gastroenterology and his ability to make a difference in the lives of those he treats, make him a true inspiration.

The plaque states:

"In 100 years, no one will care about your car, your house or your clothes. But, you may be remembered for having treated and cared for a child."

This quote is an excellent representation of Polk’s philosophy and passion for his work. It underscores the importance of dedicated and compassionate care for children and highlights the impact that pediatric health providers can have on the lives of their patients.

In conclusion, D. Brent Polk is a true leader in the field of pediatric gastroenterology. His dedication to research and patient care, coupled with his commitment to excellence, make him a shining example of what it means to be a pediatrician. He is a true inspiration and a role model for all those who are passionate about improving the lives of children.
D. Brent Polk Find Sweet Rewards in Treating Children

W hen stressing situations come one of the Nashville baker's favorite stress relievers is drugs. "I can be out treating patients, D. Brent Polk, M.D., is not one to mince words. "One of my major roles is to teach kids to eat healthy food," he says.

In April, Polk opened a café in the Department of Pediatrics and for those who work at the Keck School of Medicine, is scheduled to open in January 2011 and will provide continuing medical education for community physicians.

Doctors of USC Beverly Hills to Open This Winter

A new satellite location for The Doctors of USC in Beverly Hills is very close to reality. USC recently opened a satellite location for new students. For 14,195 square feet of medical office space at Archway Medical Plaza, a premiere medical office campus at 9033 Wilshire Boulevard.

The Doctors of USC Beverly Hills, part of the Keck School of Medicine, is scheduled to open in January 2011, and will be located in suites 300 and 500 at the building at the convergence of USC’s Columbia University and the USC Hospital.

The Doctors of USC Beverly Hills will offer the latest treatment modalities in addition to specialized care through cutting-edge therapies and clinical trials that will be offered, as well as continuing medical education for community physicians. The initial focus will be on orthopaedic and spine, providing a complete range of medical specialties to perform compassionate and comprehensive diagnostic and treatment services for patients.

Redstone Gives Keck School $24 Million for Cancer Research

The College of Medicine Dean Carmen A. Puliafito announced a $24 million charitable gift from media executive and philanthropist Sumner M. Redstone to the Keck School at a reception July 13 at the Montage Hotel in Beverly Hills.

The multi-million dollar gift will support cancer research directed by renowned oncologist David Agus, director of the USC Center for Applied Molecular Medicine and the USC Worldwide Cancer Center. Funded by 11 years, including USC Presi-

dent C. L. Max Nikias, USC Provost and CEO Leslie Moonves, former studio executives Sherry Lansing, and Jack Nicholson, Redstone's gift acknowledges that "The Doctors of USC Beverly Hills is very close to reality. USC recently opened a satellite location for new students.

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USC Hospitals Among the Best

USC’s medical schools and research centers are among the top-ranked in the nation, and USC Hospitals are an affiliate of the Keck School of Medicine.

"This vital center brings the care and expertise of The Doctors of USC Beverly Hills to the heart of the community, while also offering access to the latest medical technologies," said Carmen A. Puliafito, dean of the Keck School. "The Doctors of USC Beverly Hills center continues on page 3.

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