Selected Coverage August 2012

**National**
ABC News
Austin American-Statesman
Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin
Bloomberg Businessweek
Bloomberg News
Buffalo Business First
Buffalo News
CBS News
Cleveland Plain Dealer
CNN
Deseret News
Detroit News
ESPN
Fayetteville Observer
Financial Times
Forbes
Fox News
Globe and Mail
Health.com
HealthDay
Ithaca Journal
iVillage
Las Vegas Sun
Los Angeles Times
Minneapolis Star Tribune
MSN
MSNBC
National Geographic
New Scientist
Newday
New York Times
NPR
Salon
Science News
Scientific American
Syracuse Post-Standard
Tampa Tribune
UPI
USA Today
U.S. News & World Report
Washington Examiner
Washington Post
Washington Times
WebMD
Wired News
WLS-AM 890 Chicago
Yahoo! News

**New Scientist (August 15)**
Waste disposal network discovered in the brain
Jeffrey Iliff at the University of Rochester Medical Center, New York, and his colleagues, were intrigued by the fact that there are no obvious lymphatic vessels in the brain. Among other things, the lymphatic system removes waste interstitial fluids from body tissue. “It seemed strange that such an important and active organ wouldn’t have a specialised waste-removal system,” says Iliff. (Also Reported in: Scientific American, National Geographic, UPI, Salon, Yahoo! News, Wired News, Science News, HealthDay, 13WHAM-TV, Health.com, Science Daily)

**Washington Post (August 20)**
Obama ‘deeply concerned’ over Afghan insider; a key element of war strategy is risk
Jacqueline L. Hazelton, a visiting assistant professor at the University of Rochester, who has extensively studied counterinsurgency strategy, sees the attacks stemming from a combination of Afghan resistance and resentment. “As disturbing as the attacks are as a Taliban tactic, the broader popular anger revealed – among those the mission is supposed to be most closely allied with and most directly useful to – is even more dangerous for the longer term and reveals a greater rot within,” Prof. Hazelton said in an e-mail exchange. (Also Reported in: CBS News, NPR, News-Sentinel, Globe and Mail, Austin American-Statesman, Cleveland Plain Dealer, Deseret News, Detroit News, ABC News, Fayetteville Observer, 10WHEC-TV, and others)

**iVillage (August 29)**
ER Study Sows Drop in Deaths After Trauma Injury
The findings, which appear in the August issue of the Archives of Surgery, don’t directly prove that better medical care boosted survival rates in these patients. Nor does the study indicate exactly what the hospitals might be doing better. Still, the result “suggests that the quality of trauma care is improving substantially over time,” said study author Dr. Laurent Glance, vice chair for research in the department of anesthesiology at the University of Rochester School of Medicine, in New York. “It is likely that many incremental changes in medical care involving care of these critically ill patients in the intensive care unit and in the operating room are responsible for these improved outcomes.” (Also Reported in: HealthDay, MSN.com, U.S. News & World Report, Newsday)
ESPN (August 10)
For London, what will Olympic legacy be?
Mark Zupan, dean of the business school at the University of Rochester, said the total could easily come to $45 billion, only a tiny portion of which will ever be recouped. He noted that Britain is using public money to pay for a much higher percentage of the cost than American state and federal governments spent on Olympics in Los Angeles, Atlanta and Salt Lake City. British taxpayers will bear the burden for years. “The analogy would be a wedding or a christening or a bar mitzvah. There is an element of pride, of showcasing your city to the world, that can’t be denied and is fairly unique,” he said. “But even if you take that into account, this is one hell of an expensive wedding. When you look at sheer economic impact, it is hard to justify the expenditure.”

(Also Reported in: Fox News, NPR, MSNBC, Newsday, Las Vegas Sun, Washington Post, and others)

New York Times (August 3)
A Desperate Act, Born of Depression
For Dr. Timothy Quill, a professor of medicine and psychiatry at the University of Rochester School of Medicine, the tragedy is that many older couples shut themselves off from others when their lives begin to spiral downward. “If people could talk about this and didn’t have to go underground, we could help,” Dr. Quill said. “We have good ways of dealing with pain and depression.” He said he evaluates a lot of people who say they are contemplating suicide, “and for the vast majority, we’re able to help them find other alternatives.”

CNN (August 15)
Backpacking for the mind, body and soul
Backpackers are likely to experience the wilderness much more intimately than other types of travelers and reap the benefits of physical exercise and mental refreshment at the same time. “A variety of studies show that even relatively brief experiences in nature can enhance feelings of energy and vitality,” said Dr. Richard M. Ryan, professor of psychology, psychiatry and education at the University of Rochester.

U.S. News & World Report (August 26)
New Blood Thinner Effient No Better Than Plavix at Preventing Heart Trouble: Study
One expert noted that might make the difference when it comes to deciding which to prescribe for this group of patients. “In the long run, it’s going to come down to cost,” said Dr. Christopher Cove, assistant director of the cardiac catheterization lab at the University of Rochester Medical Center. “Now that clopidogrel is generic, it’s going to be tougher to prescribe a drug that’s going to cost a lot more money without significant benefits.” (Also Reported in: Newsday, MedBroadcast)

Financial Times (August 24)
The Simon School launches one-year MBA
The Simon School at the University of Rochester is the latest US business school to launch a one-year MBA programme. The programme, which will enroll its first students in June 2013, requires participants to have a minimum of four years relevant work experience in addition to being academically qualified to handle the accelerated nature of the programme — having an undergraduate degree in business and economics, for example. Simon joins schools such as the Kellogg school at Northwestern University and Thunderbird, in Arizona, in teaching a one-year MBA. Simon’s two-year MBA is open to younger students than the traditional top-ranked US degree, where students average around 27 years of age. (Also Reported in: Bloomberg Businessweek)

ABC News (August 29)
Tapping Engineers, Families for Hospital Safety
Ultimately, Pronovost envisions an iPad-like device that allows both health workers and family members to see at a glance which of dozens of required daily care steps have been performed and which still need to be. “The beauty of checklists is it gives you that constant visual reminder,” and an electronic, automated version is the next logical evolution, said Ann Marie Pettis, director of infection prevention at the University of Rochester Medical Center, who called the project intriguing. (Also Reported in: CBS News, MSNBC, NPR, Washington Post, Newsday, USA Today, and others)
8WROC-TV (August 16)
University of Rochester Med Students Help with Canal Rescue
Three University of Rochester medical students are being called heroes tonight. They were attending a community outreach picnic when a biker rushed over asking for help. Without hesitation, 22-year-old Bridget Hughes of Williamsville and 23-year-old Lindsay Wahl of Pittsford rushed to the canal and jumped in. The students were able to get the boy out of the stroller. (Also Reported in: Rochester Democrat and Chronicle, YNN, 13WHAM-TV, WHAM AM 1180, Tampa Tribune, Buffalo News, and others)

WLS-AM 890 Chicago (August 16)
Kids who exhibit self-control may have lower BMI as adults
“The sample they are collecting from is a bit skewed,” noted Dr. Stephen Cook, pediatrics fellow at Golisano Children’s Hospital at the URMC. He added that within the sample, “they also seem very educated as adults.”

Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (August 23)
University of Rochester featured on college guide cover
The USA Today College Guide, which will be published next month, features a photo of the University of Rochester campus on its cover. A photo of Rush Rhees Library, taken from the Eastman Quad by UR staff photographer Brandon Vick, is on the cover.

Health.com (August 1)
Even Mild Depression May Hasten Death
For instance, surges of adrenaline and other stress-related body chemicals can cause the fatty plaques in narrowed arteries to rupture, leading to blood clots, heart attacks, and strokes, says Christopher Cove, MD, a cardiologist and associate professor of medicine at the University of Rochester Medical Center, in Rochester, N.Y. Being distracted by psychological distress could even contribute to fatal car accidents and injuries, says Cove, who was not involved in the study.

Rochester Business Journal (August 28)
Warner School lands $2.2 million grant
The University of Rochester’s Warner School of Education has been awarded a $2.2 million grant that will allow it to help school districts implement new national standards and improve mathematics instruction. The grant comes from the National Science Foundation and supports the school’s work with math teachers throughout the region, UR officials said. Jeffrey Choppin, associate professor in teaching and curriculum at the Warner School, will lead research in designing instructions that address the Common Core math standards. (Also Reported in: YNN)

ABC News (August 23)
New Study Highlights Dangers of Over-Medicated Seniors
Many physicians say these findings highlight a growing and significant health problem. Dr. Daniel Mendelson, a geriatrician and associate professor of medicine who practices at the University of Rochester Medical Center affiliate Highland Hospital, believes more bad outcomes occur for seniors from mis-prescribing than from medical procedures. Often this happens for reasons just like the ones that got my father into trouble: they tend to see multiple physicians and use multiple pharmacies. Mendelson notes that older adults with memory issues have difficulty keeping track of the medications they take, or they don’t take them correctly. Advancing age also changes the body’s ability to metabolize medication, which can increase sensitivity and magnify reactions. (Also Reported in: Yahoo! News)

MSN (August 23)
Tap Water Used in Neti Pot Tied to Rare, Fatal Brain Infection
Two people in Louisiana died last year from a rare brain infection contracted after using neti pots containing tap water to flush their sinuses. Although the infection is extremely rare, it is almost uniformly fatal, said Dr. Ann Falsey, a professor of medicine at the University of Rochester Medical Center, who was not involved with the study. (Also Reported in: Newsday, HealthDay, U.S. News & World Report)
Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (August 30)
University of Rochester College Town moves toward breaking ground
Developers of the University of Rochester’s College Town hope to begin work on this $100 million project in November, with their plans now being reviewed by city of Rochester officials. The city is awaiting approval of a $20 million federal loan that would be used for this project and $4 million in state money that the city hopes to obtain through the next round of funding to regional development councils.

Rochester Business Journal (August 10)
Strategic plans echo vision of institution, not one person
The University of Rochester also employs a process that takes into account multiple stakeholders, ensuring an effective and wide-ranging plan. But the university has yet another set of constituents who share in details of the plan – members of the community. President Joel Seligman has made transparency a priority, giving regular updates on the university’s goals and achievements through speeches to faculty and the community at large. “Simply imposing a plan on the community is about as far removed from what we do as you can get,” Seligman says.

Bloomberg News (August 2)
Obama, Romney Test Economic Messages in Swing States
With the economy cooling and unemployment stuck above 8 percent, President Barack Obama and Republican Mitt Romney are battling to set the terms of the economic debate for swing state voters. “President Obama appears to be mounting a two-pronged ‘it could be worse’ strategy,” David Primo, a political science professor at the University of Rochester in New York, said in an e-mail. “This is a far cry from his 2008 message of ‘hope’ and ‘yes, we can,’ and reflects the reality that most voters do not believe the economy is headed in the right direction.”

Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (August 12)
Supercomputer will benefit health care and Rochester community (essay)
By Joel Seligman
What if we could determine if a new drug will cause dangerous or even fatal cardiac side effects long before a single person ever takes it? These are not hypothetical ideas. These are real projects that researchers at the University of Rochester are working on right now thanks to a partnership with IBM and New York State. Seligman is president of the University of Rochester.

Minneapolis Star Tribune (August 8)
Finally, good news about kids’ health:
Cholesterol down
The findings “cannot be interpreted as anything but good news,” said Dr. Rae-Ellen Kavey, a specialist in children and cholesterol at the University of Rochester in New York. Kavey acknowledged that she found some of the changes inexplicable, but said she did not question their significance, since improvements were seen in kids of all ages, ethnic backgrounds and even among children who were already obese. (Also Reported in: Los Angeles Times)

Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (August 21)
Regional councils tout progress on building economy
In the Hudson Valley, only one of its three priority projects was funded: $4 million for a New York Medical College biotechnology incubator laboratory in Westchester County. In the Finger Lakes, $5 million was allocated to a partnership between the University of Rochester and IBM for a new Health Sciences Center for Computational Innovation. “In the past year, we have been tremendously impressed by the progress that has been made through this process,” said Joel Seligman, UR president and co-chairman with Danny Wegman of the Finger Lakes council. (Also Reported in: Elmira Star-Gazette, Poughkeepsie Journal, White Plains Journal News)

Health.com (August 13)
Swimmer Dies in First NYC Ironman Triathlon
However, one of the most common problems that can occur in this kind of event is an electrolyte abnormality resulting in a life-threatening heart arrhythmia or abnormal heart rhythm and then sudden cardiac death, says Eugene Storozynsky, M.D., Ph.D., assistant professor of medicine at the University of Rochester Medical Center.
Such a problem “definitely happens but it’s also extremely rare,” says Dr. Storozynsky. An athlete “could easily have had some underlying structural heart disease which went unnoticed and, for whatever reason, came to light at the time of the competition,” he adds.

*Rochester Democrat and Chronicle* (August 29)
*Job growth at Eastman Business Park tops regional council’s 2012 plan*
The Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council released a draft list of its priority projects for 2012, the ones for which it is likely to seek state funding this fall. “Our goal for 2012 has been to strengthen our strategic plan, accelerate our progress and position the Finger Lakes for continued growth,” said council co-chair and University of Rochester President Joel Seligman. “We encourage the public to review our draft progress report. It is only through a shared economic development vision that our region will continue to evolve into an increasingly successful and diverse knowledge-based economy.”

*Washington Times* (August 28)
*Stocks, gas prices offer hard election numbers for Obama*
During Reagan’s first term, the stock markets increased about 25 percent, the dollar was stable, and gas prices declined. “I have to give Reagan a lot of credit,” said Mark Zupan, dean of economics and public policy at the University of Rochester’s Simon School of Business. “A lot of the boom in the 1980s had to do with his policies and not trying to stimulate ourselves into a recovery. It was much more active than in recent years when we tried to stimulate our way out” or a downturn.

*Fox News* (August 20)
*Drinking milk not linked to early puberty*
Despite popular belief, drinking cow’s milk does not increase children’s risk for early puberty, according to a new study from China. However, because the study was conducted in China, it’s not clear whether the results apply to the United States, said Dr. Ruth Lawrence, professor of pediatrics at the University of Rochester School of Medicine. This country’s many ethnic groups have different breast-feeding and milk consumption habits, and different rates of development (for instance, African-American girls tend to mature earlier than Caucasian girls), Lawrence said. A careful study needs to be conducted to determine whether breast-feeding, milk consumption, or ethnic differences in culture or biology are linked with the age of puberty, Lawrence said. (Also Reported in: MSNBC)

*ABC News* (August 28)
*Should More Heart Patients Get Stents? Study Says Yes (video)*
*Profile: University of Rochester*
I am Dr. Arthur Moss, professor of Medicine and Cardiology and director of the Heart Research Follow-up Program. I’m also the principal investigator of a large clinical trial that’s ongoing, trying to see if we can prevent the development, and inhibit the development, of heart failure in at-risk patients with heart disease, and also trying to improve survival through the use of the implantable defibrillator, a device that has now been on the market for 20 years or so. The idea of this is that there are patients who have had previous heart attacks or have an inflammatory condition of the heart – something called myocarditis – where they end up with a lot of scar in the heart. These patients are at risk for very dangerous heart-rhythm disorders, and what we’ve been able to show in the past is that with an implantable defibrillator in these patients, it can reduce the risk of death by about 30 percent. This is in the very high-risk group. We are currently working on a study to prevent the development of heart failure with what we refer to, and has been referred to as resynchronization therapy – a way of pacing a portion of the heart to make it contract more efficiently and more uniformly. Our current study is a large study involving 1,820 patients who are randomized, either to the resynchronization therapy or not, and the findings from this study should be available sometime within the next year.

*WebMD* (August 8)
*Can TB Vaccine Stop Type 1 Diabetes?*
A lot more evidence will be needed before Faustman convinces most diabetes experts that she’s on the right track. One skeptic is Steven Wittlin, MD, professor of medicine and director of the diabetes service at the University of
Rochester, N.Y. “We are always hoping for an immune cure for diabetes,” Wittlin tells WebMD. “But so far all the immune studies that looked promising in early human studies have failed in large-scale trials.”

Washington Examiner (August 4)
Amend the First Amendment? Be careful what you ask for
Since Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission was decided in January 2010, several polls have shown the decision is unpopular. A Washington Post-ABC News poll taken a few weeks after the decision found that nearly 80 percent of respondents opposed it. Polling data on campaign finance has always been extremely sensitive to wording, and the public is historically inconsistent in its preferences. In a study of years of polling data, political scientist David Primo, of the University of Rochester, concluded that on any close examination, the public’s views on the subject are “wishy-washy,” and reflect “a tension between freedom of expression and a desire to prevent corruption.”

Forbes (August 6)
Stop Hyping Alzheimer’s Cures, Learn to Care for People Who Have the Disease
Dr. [Al] Power, a geriatrician, associate professor of Medicine at the University of Rochester, and member of the board at Eden Alternative, described the problem this way: The media feeds the frenzy by highlighting every study with even a whiff of possibility as the next breakthrough. And the researchers certainly pick up on this and use the media hype to get their names out there in the public eye. It is time to get real – both in setting the goals of research and in the way we conduct and report these studies. Irresponsible reporting does not help our cause and actually harms our efforts to improve the lives of people with dementia.

10WHEC-TV (August 13)
University of Rochester receives more than $2.6-million in grants
The University of Rochester has been awarded three grants totaling nearly $2.7-million from the National Science Foundation. Congresswoman Louise Slaughter made the announcement Monday. She said, “The University of Rochester is a deserving recipient of today’s fund. A world class university, U of R is not only expanding our scientific knowledge, but is also creating breakthroughs that will power our economy and create jobs in Monroe County. I strongly believe that many of the challenges that face our nation and the world will be addressed through science. Today’s grants help Rochester secure its standing as one of the great centers for science and innovation in the world.”

Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (August 5)
Gov. Andrew Cuomo helps launch supercomputer project at UR
Want to know how some new drug might affect the human heart? The common route today is to do long, extensive and sometimes risky testing, first on animals and then on people. But within five years, University of Rochester biomedical researcher Jean-Phillippe Couderc hopes to get the same answers by hitting the enter key on a computer keyboard. UR and state officials cut the ribbon Friday on Blue Gene/Q – a minivan-sized piece of computer hardware sitting in the university’s Science Parkway data center. Made by International Business Machines Corp., Q is a 172-teraflop, Formula One racecar of superfast computing. (Also Reported in: Rochester Democrat and Chronicle, Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin, Buffalo Business First, Poughkeepsie Journal, 8WROC-TV, YNN, 10WHEC-TV, White Plains Journal News, Syracuse Post-Standard, and others)

Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (August 23)
UR students return to campus
The excitement, tempered by a bit of anxiety, that accompanies the beginning of college was more than evident Thursday at the Susan B. Anthony Residence Halls on the University of Rochester River Campus. Thursday was Move-in Day at UR for more than 1,230 first-year students – the largest incoming class ever at UR’s River Campus. They will be joined by about 130 incoming students at UR’s Eastman School of Music, arriving Friday and Monday from 28 states and 13 countries. (Also Reported in: YNN)
Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (August 22)
Tainted tattoo ink leads to 19 infections in Rochester
A 20-year-old man with a fresh tattoo and a stubborn rash sparked a months-long investigation by the Monroe County Department of Public Health that found 19 cases of skin infections, led to a product being taken off the market and the detective story being told in a prestigious medical journal. The county, with help from the state Department of Health, the University of Rochester Medical Center, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Food and Drug Administration, traced the problem to premixed ink that an artist at Upstate Tattoo Co. on South Clinton Avenue bought at a trade show in Arizona. The artist had used one batch apparently without incident and had reordered. The product, Catfish Carl’s Realistic Washes, was voluntarily recalled in April by the maker, according to the FDA. (Also Reported in: Science News Online, MSN, Newsday, MedBroadcast)

Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (August 25)
Exhibit of Tiffany stained glass now at Memorial Art Gallery
A new exhibit at the Memorial Art Gallery melds Rochester’s contributions to the art of stained glass with a nationally touring exhibit of a group of seven Tiffany church windows rescued from dusty basements and garages and painstakingly restored by artists. “We’re giving the nod to this great art form that really has its roots from the medieval area until now, but we’re also linking to the community and a company that’s been in the area for over 100 years,” says Marlene Hamann-Whitmore, MAG’s curator of education. (Also Reported in: 13WHAM-TV)

WXXI (August 3)
U of R Gets Go Ahead on Student Health Insurance
The University of Rochester is one of four universities in the state allowed to provide health insurance to its students. Dr. Ralph Manchester, director of the University Health Service, says being able to make health benefits directly available to students lowers administrative and risk costs: “We think based on experience with self-insured plans at schools in other states and the experience in New York State with employers that have already been able to offer self-insured plans that it would result in lower health care costs to the student.” (Also Reported in: Ithaca Journal, Rochester Democrat and Chronicle)

Rochester Business Journal (August 29)
URMC wins five-year, $7.5 million research grant
The University of Rochester Medical Center has been awarded a $7.5 million federal grant through the Centers of Research Translation to support programs searching for new therapies for arthritis and bone healing, officials said Wednesday. The five-year grant begins Sept. 1, with scientists investigating mainly the regulation of stem cell joints in tissue and bone and how tissues respond after musculoskeletal injury to knees and hips.

Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (August 25)
University of Rochester Medical Center to establish suicide prevention program
But now, fueled by a new five-year, $4.1 million grant, the University of Rochester Medical Center is looking to turn private pain into public health. “This is taking a fundamentally new look at how best to change people’s lives before they become suicidal,” said Dr. Eric Caine, chairman of the Department of Psychiatry at URMC and co-director of the center funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Rochester Business Journal (August 10)
Dining facilities respond to sophisticated palates, lifestyles
Since 2010 the University of Rochester has invested roughly $13 million in upgrades to its dining facilities – in response to demand for a more sophisticated dining experience. “It seems that every year our student body becomes more and more sophisticated as it relates to food,” says Cameron Schauf, director of dining services at UR.

Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (August 5)
Mary Louise Sproull (obituary)
For many years Mary [Sproull] was a welcoming and gracious hostess at Cornell University and the University of Rochester, where her husband served as Vice President for Academic Affairs (Cornell) and Provost and President (University of Rochester). She and her husband have supported higher education throughout their lives.