

MIZZOU

The magazine of
the Mizzou Alumni Association

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Around the Columns

For child health, a new face and façade

For many, the new year signifies a new beginning and a time of change. This year, the department of child health at the MU School of Medicine was no exception. In January, the department announced that it plans to consolidate its child health services at Columbia Regional Hospital, celebrated Ted Groshong's retirement as department chair, and hired Timothy Fete as his replacement.

"University of Missouri Health Care has contemplated consolidating all of the children's services in one place for several years," says Groshong, BA '63, MD '67. "Columbia Regional is a logical place for the consolidation, as the NICU [neonatal intensive care unit] is already there and the Birthing Center has been tremendously successful."

The consolidation, slated to occur in May 2010, will allow physicians to "provide all of the services the children need in one place, with substantial improvement in facilities," Groshong says.

In addition, the consolidation of children's services to Columbia Regional allows University of Missouri Health Care to plan the development of a women and children's hospital. All the women's services were consolidated to Columbia Regional in 2002.

Groshong retired as department chair on Dec. 31, 2008. "It has been a wonderful experience," he says. "I will continue to serve part time on the faculty, practicing pediatric nephrology, and will continue to serve as associate dean for alumni."

Fete, the new department chair, was most recently the vice chairman for clinical affairs for the department of pediatrics and director of the division of general academic pediatrics at St.



Timothy Fete is the new department chair for the department of child health at the MU School of Medicine.

Louis University. At SLU, he founded the primary care pediatric practice and served as division director for developmental and behavioral pediatrics.

“I would like to see child health continue to build upon its strong foundation in clinical services and research, and would also like to express our interest in continuing to grow and enhance the educational program for our students, residents and allied health professionals,” Fete says. “They’re why we get up in the morning.” In addition, Fete sees the department advocating for the health and well being of all children in Missouri.

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Published by MIZZOU magazine, 109 Reynolds Alumni Center, Columbia, MO 65211 | Phone: 573-882-5916
| E-mail: Mizzou@missouri.edu

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Last updated: Feb. 15, 2013