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Weill Doctors Fight Cancer

New radiation chip revolutionizes Cornell's treatment of cancer

By **BRENDAN DOYLE**
Sun Senior Writer

Doctors at Weill Cornell Medical College in New York City recently discovered a breakthrough in treating cancer of the head and neck. Using Cesium-131, a newly released radiation chip, the doctors have been able to prevent the recurrence of buccal mucosa cancer in a 66 year old male patient, inferring a new strategy of treating particularly aggressive cancers.

"I think it's a very promising radiation source," said Dr. Bhupesh Parashar, radiation oncology. Along with Dr. David Kutler MD '96, otorhinolaryngology, and Dr. Jason Spector '91, plastic surgery, Parashar helped

treat the patient who received the Cs-131 treatment. The three doctors comprise a team that deals with head-neck cancer treatment at WCMC. As the radiologist of the group, it was Parashar who chose Cs-131 as the appropriate treatment for the patient's case.

What makes Cs-131 so special, according to Parashar, is "its short half-life and high-dose rate, which is appropriate for treatment of aggressive cancers." The seed has a half life of 9.7 days, meaning that it kills cells then dies relatively quickly in the body. Radioactive seeds such as Cs-131 can cause issues such as hair loss and hyperthyroidism in addition to killing

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After 10-Year Fight, Asian Community Center Opens at C.U.

By **ELAINE LIN**
Sun Contributor

Asian and Asian-American students now have a center on campus solely dedicated to their needs, after a nearly decade-long fight to get the University to allocate more resources to the Asian community at Cornell.

Located in 208 Willard Straight Hall, the Asian/Asian-American Center (A3C) officially opened this semester, though the center is considerably smaller than proponents had originally sought.

Temporarily, the center consists of a single office space and one conference room located within the Office of Student Support and Diversity Education.

Although the center now has a physical center and a staff member, students and administrators said there is still much room for improvement.

"It is all a work in progress. Right now, I am spending time taking in what the community is all about and what it needs," said Patricia Nguyen, who is the newly-appointed assistant dean of students for Asian/Asian-American outreach. "It's more of a reflection year."

Nguyen, who is the first assistant dean of students tasked with focusing on a single race, is the director of the A3C and its sole staff member.

Clara Ng-Quinn '10, former member of the A3C development committee, said that the center lacks sufficient space, considering it is supposed to serve about 16 percent of the student body.

"I will not pretend that the center is fully compatible for what the center is needed for," said Susan Murphy '73, vice president for student and academic services. "But a year in the Straight will give Patricia more time to determine what needs to be achieved."

Also, Nguyen said that a lack of staff members to help bring up and run A3C is becoming a major problem and that right now she is taking on a four-person job.

Her primary function is to help students in any sort of situation, she said.

Nguyen said she supports, provides resources to, and

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Giving back



CHLOE LINCOLN / SUN CONTRIBUTOR

Allie Hilovsky '12 and Morgan May '11 help register volunteers for blood donations for the American Red Cross in the Straight Memorial Room yesterday.

Schuyler Houses Transfers, for Now

By **DAN ROBBINS**
Sun Contributor

One hundred and ten of the over 500 transfer students finally found a residence hall of their own this year in Schuyler House, a Cornell dorm in Collegetown that formerly housed graduate students. Now that the house has opened its doors to undergraduates, however, the University plans to have non-transfer upperclassmen reside in Schuyler next year, according to Susan Murphy '73, vice president for student and academic services.

The University assigned transfer students to Schuyler this year to compensate for an over-enrollment of freshmen. Next year, however, University administrators want to maintain their policy of blocking groups of six transfers among non-transfer

students. Some transfer students, like Andrew Brokman '11 chair and founder of the Student Assembly Committee on Transfer Affairs, are skeptical of this decision.

"Transfer students come here a little wary, a little intimidated," Brokman '11 said. "And to put them in a place where it's not making it easier for them to meet new people is unfortunate."

When Brokman moved to Cornell as a transfer student last year, he found himself living cramped in a freshmen lounge on North Campus with two roommates. It was not what he had expected.

This first-year experience drove Brokman to form the committee, which passed a resolution last semester calling for the reinstate-

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DAN ROBBINS / SUN CONTRIBUTOR

An integrated approach | Transfer students will most likely remain living among non-transfer students in West Campus residences next year.

NEWS: A Life Legacy

Rosemary Stasek '85 led a life of service to her local community and abroad.

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OPINION: Something Amis

Public Editor Rob Tricchinelli, law explores what went awry in last week's news story about the FWS.

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ARTS: The Art That Remains

The ephemeral works of Gordon Matta-Clark '68 are on display at the Johnson Museum.

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WEATHER:



HIGH: 59°
LOW: 45°