The CMBD Community Leadership Council now has a very promising roster which includes a diverse group of professionals and philanthropists from various disciplines and backgrounds across Birmingham. The Council will meet four times per year, beginning August, 2012, to advise the Directors of the CMBD and the Osteoporosis Prevention & Treatment Clinic (OPTC) on community outreach and fundraising opportunities.

While the Council will develop its own objectives, we anticipate that the initial objectives will be:

To keep the Bone Center and the Osteoporosis clinic a vibrant part of the Birmingham community. Support of the clinic will help the staff continue to design appropriate treatment plans, including exercise, nutrition and medications; and to support research projects within the CMBD.

Community Leadership Council Members:

- Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD, Director, CMBD
- Sarah Morgan, MD, Director, OPTC
- Mary Wier, CFP, Vice President & Financial Consultant, NBC Securities
- Elna Brendel, YWCA Foundation Board
- Susan Mason, Managing Partner, B&A Warehouse
- Mia Cowan, MD, Founder & Medical Director, MiBella Wellness Center, LLC
- Debra H. Goldstein, Administrative Law Judge
- Cheryl Williams, President, A.G. Williams & Co., Inc.
- Darlene Negrotto, President & CEO, Vulcan Park & Museum
- Virginia Loftin, Executive Director of Development and Community Relations, UAB School of Medicine

CMBD Research Focus

The CMBD recently launched an initiative to establish
new research collaborations across various disciplines in order to produce a strong collaborative record demonstrated by joint publications. This record is necessary to facilitate the future submission of competitive NIH Program Projects and/or Center grants, as well as future clinical trials. We have called for faculty from various Departments and Centers around the UAB campus to participate in focus groups within the following four themes:

1. Tumor microenvironment/tumor bone metastasis (prostate, breast, osteosarcoma, myeloma);
2. Autoimmune diseases (including rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis) and bone disease;
3. Diabetes, obesity, and the skeleton;
4. Dental implants, tissue engineering, and bone grafting.

Our Center will financially support some of the CMBD Core usage as it relates to each project within this scope of work. Also, P&F funding will be available to support specific studies within these projects. It is our hope that this initiative will lead to a successful joint publication within 1½ years, and then a Program Project/Center grant submission by the end of year 2.

If you are interested in participating in one or more of these focus groups, please contact Ginny Duke at ginnyd@uab.edu, designating (1) which group(s) you would like to be a part of and (2) in what ways your research interests and expertise can contribute to these efforts.

### Pilot & Feasibility Grant Application Announcement

This summer we announced that the CMBD will fund pilot & feasibility grants including phase-2 pilot clinical trials for up to $30,000/year. In order to encourage interdisciplinary interaction among faculty, we deviated from the previously used CMBD P&F mechanism and modeled the application process after the Center for Clinical and Translational Science (CCTS) system by requesting matching funds from each applicant. I am very pleased to say that we received eleven promising applications, all within the parameters of the four CMBD Research Focus groups. Applicants were able to obtain matching funds from Departments and Centers across campus including, but not limited to, the following:

- Comprehensive Cancer Center
- Division of Neurosurgery
- Institute of Oral Health Research
- Department of Microbiology
- Division of Hematology-Oncology
- Comprehensive Diabetes Center
Recent CMBD/OPTC Special Seminar Guest Dr. Diane Schneider

On June 21st, 2012, the Osteoporosis Prevention and Treatment Clinic (OPTC) and CMBD co-hosted a special seminar featuring Diane Schneider, MD, a consultant at the University of California, San Diego and author of The Complete Book of Bone Health. The title of Dr. Schneider's talk was "Atypical Femur Fracture: A Long-term Complication of Bisphosphonates?"

2012-13 Journal Club and Seminar Series Schedule

After much discussion with CMBD members and Journal Club/Seminar Series attendees, we have changed the format of the CMBD Journal Club and Seminar Series this fall, moving from the current 1st/3rd Thursday of every month to every 1st/3rd Friday at noon. The Journal Club and Seminars will be held in the Shelby Biomedical Research Building, Room 1015. Lunch will be provided at each meeting. Speakers are currently being invited to participate and the fall 2012 schedule will be sent out as soon as it is finalized.

If you are interested in presenting an article or giving a talk about your research please contact Ginny Duke at ginnyd@uab.edu or 205-934-6666.

Please contact Ginny Duke at ginnyd@uab.edu or 205-934-6666 with any news or topic suggestions you would like to see in future CMBD Newsletter editions.