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[The Naomi Berrie Diabetes Center \(/\)](#) > [News \(/news\)](#) > The Berrie Center hosts a Preceptorial in Diabetes

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## The Berrie Center hosts a Preceptorial in Diabetes

Last month the Naomi Berrie Diabetes Center hosted a "Preceptorial in Diabetes", sponsored by the Endocrine Fellows Foundation, (EFF) which offered 5 fellows from around the country a front row view of the vigorous research and quality clinical programs at the Berrie Center. "It was a full week of opportunity for the fellows to experience the richness of what we do here," said Dr. Lauren Golden, who co-hosted the week along with Dr. John P. Bilezikian, M.D. of the Division of Endocrinology at Columbia. "We could have used another full week and it still would have been just the tip of the iceberg."

The EFF is a non-profit organization whose mission is to foster the advancement of fellows in endocrinology, diabetes and metabolism through mentoring, education, research funding and career support. A preceptorial is a method of study where a small group of students meets in regular conference with faculty members.

There were faculty conferences with Berrie Center Co-Director Robin Goland, MD, J. Merrill Eastman Professor of Clinical Diabetes, who talked about the epidemiology and pathophysiology of type 1 diabetes prevention trials; Ophthalmologist Daniel Casper, MD, PhD, who spoke about diabetic eye disease; Geneticist Wendy Chung, MD, PhD, who talked of monogenic diabetes and stem-cell biologist Dieter Egli, PhD, who conducted a session on novel therapies in diabetes.

There was a hands-on session with the Berrie Center diabetes educators on new insulin pumps, sensors and hybrid systems. Dr. Golden invited the fellows to attend her weekly Tuesday lunch group on unusual diabetes cases. She also led a session on diagnostic dilemmas. Co-Director Rudy Leibel, MD, the Christopher J. Murphy Memorial Professor of Diabetes Research spoke to the fellows about the role of the intrauterine environment in the programming of obesity and diabetes.



All told the fellows had 27 different learning sessions over five days—and on the sixth, Saturday, it was the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Frontiers in Diabetes Research Symposium, Advances and Challenges in the Neuroscience of Ingestive Behaviors.

Said University of Virginia fellow William Horton, MD, "I was thoroughly impressed with both the Endocrine Fellows Foundation Preceptorial and the Berrie Center itself! The Center was well designed to handle every stage of diabetes care—from diagnosis to chronic management. I myself have type 1 diabetes, so it was inspiring and encouraging to see something designed for all aspects of diabetes care. The Preceptorial was an excellent educational experience. The chance to work with and learn from such experts in the field was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity!"