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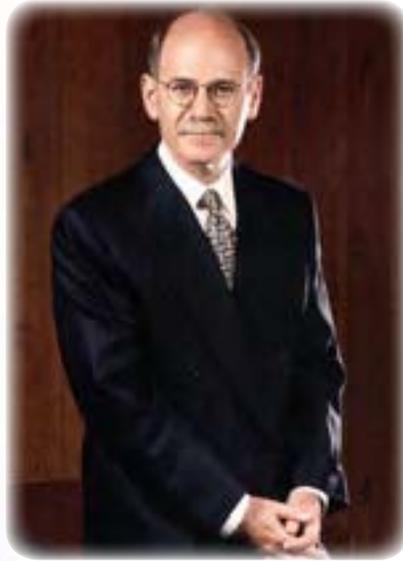
WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY BOONSHOFT SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
FALL 2005—VOL. 29, NUMBER 2



MEDICAL EDUCATION FOR
THE 21ST CENTURY



Dean's Message



Throughout the school's history, community partners—institutions and individuals—have generously provided support, encouragement, and resources. Institutions include regional foundations, local hospitals, and federal partners at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and the Dayton VA Medical Center. Individuals include government officials who lobbied the state for a medical school in the Greater Miami Valley, a dedicated group of physicians who understood the relationship between high quality patient care and medical education, and local phi-

lanthropists who have invested and reinvested in medical education for the greater good of the community.

Within this long-standing tradition, 2005 is a banner year. This year the Oscar Boonshoft family presented the school with a truly transformational gift. Our gratitude for their trust and support is reflected in our decision to rename the school as the Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine.

As we celebrate this milestone in the school's history, we also recognize another one—the 25th anniversary for the Department of Emergency Medicine, one of the first established in the country. The department has become a great community resource as have the nationally recognized research efforts of the Center for Interventions, Treatment and Addictions Research. Working with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, our scientists are refining behavioral interventions that work for often disenfranchised groups. While the Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine aims toward future successes in medical education, community service, patient care, and research, the time is right to reflect on and thank all who have committed to our community-based medical education.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Howard Part, M.D." in a cursive script.

Howard M. Part, M.D.,
Dean

About the Cover:

Wright State University
Boonshoft School of Medicine
is preparing physicians for
practice in the 21st Century
by expanding clinical and
research experience in
important key areas, such as
geriatric medicine and global
health, and constructing
facilities with tomorrow's
technology.

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TRANSFORMATIONAL

On June 27, university and school officials announced the largest gift ever given to Wright State University, a gift of \$28.5 million to the School of Medicine from the Oscar Boonshoft family. “This gift positions the School of Medicine to become an unparalleled community resource and to play a leadership role in community-based medical education nationally,” says Howard M. Part, M.D., dean of the school. This transformational gift will allow the medical school to quickly advance its mission of education, research, and patient care.

STATE-OF-THE-ART MEDICAL EDUCATION FACILITIES



Class of 2007 in team-based learning mode. New facilities will better accommodate this teaching methodology.

Curriculum for medical education is dynamic as technology and our understanding of disease and health advance. A national leader in community-based medical education, Wright State University School of Medicine is developing the facilities needed for the 21st Century. We will convert the Frederick A. White Health Center, a 59,000-square-foot building constructed in 1981, to a state-of-the-art medical education center. In Phase I, an 18,000-square-foot addition to the existing building will add a 150-seat auditorium and a new anatomical learning center.

MEDICAL EDUCATION CENTER, PHASE I

1—Lecture Hall

The new 150-seat lecture hall will be named after Drs. Saroj and Ramesh K. Gandhi's family. This 3,422-square-foot auditorium will incorporate advanced technology into the classroom. It will have a three-screen video projection system and the capability to stream video live across the Internet.

2—New Entry, facing Colonel Glenn Highway

3—Anatomy Office Suite

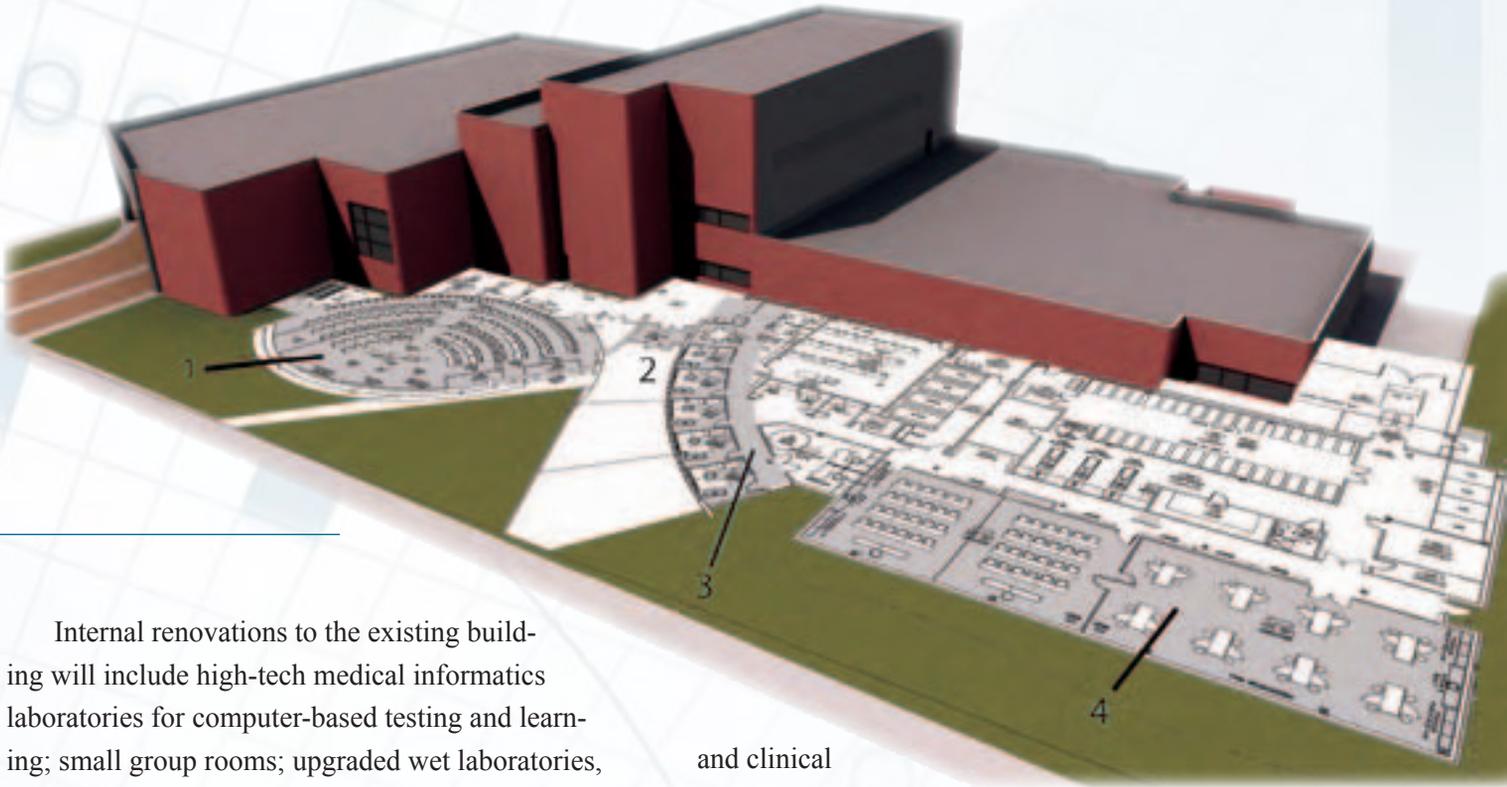
Offices for faculty and graduate teaching assistants are located within the addition. This 14,000-square-foot addition to the Frederick A. White Health Center will

accommodate the needs of medical students and residents at Wright State University and be used to supplement the training for community physicians.

4—Anatomy Labs

The anatomy training center, to be named after Dr. William A. Bernie, will be a state-of-the-art laboratory and classroom addition complete with wireless connections. The large lab, with modern ventilation and fiber optic lighting, will be flexible space that can accommodate as many as 16 dissection tables or as few as eight tables with one half of the space converting to two classrooms that seat 24 each. An additional stationary classroom for 25 students is planned as well.

GIFT



Internal renovations to the existing building will include high-tech medical informatics laboratories for computer-based testing and learning; small group rooms; upgraded wet laboratories, where the use of chemicals or biological matter require specific water and ventilation construction; “24/7” individual and group study areas; and a new Skills Assessment and Training Center. This center will bring advanced technology into our clinical training program that uses simulated patients, individuals who role-play a particular disease and history, to train and evaluate students’ communication

and clinical skills. State-of-the-art technology will stream live video from each of the 12 clinical exam rooms into a central viewing and media control room where faculty can monitor the interactions. In addition to feedback from faculty and simulated patients, students will receive DVDs of their clinical encounters to help reinforce learning and track progress over time.

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Wright State University School of Medicine is the most affordable program in Ohio, but medical education is expensive for students and their families. Since 1998, the costs of higher education and medical education have escalated, while the average physician's income has kept pace with inflation. The average debt for graduates of public medical schools has topped \$100,000, and about 85 percent of them are in debt. While the majority of medical students finance their education through low-interest loans, those loans are accruing interest earlier in their educational career and escalating in the amounts borrowed. In order to help students minimize their educational debt, the school will increase the number and amounts of scholarships awarded annually.



One hundred new students entered the Wright State University School of Medicine at the Class of 2009 Convocation. Cynthia Ewing gets a supportive reaction from her family after receiving her White Coat.



Katie Bullinger, a second-year student, is in the dual M.D./Ph.D. program.

INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS

The school will increase seed and start-up funding for pioneering educational, clinical care, and research programs with the expectation that they will quickly become self-sustaining through partnerships. Reinvesting in our research enterprise, for example, will enable our scientists to continue to advance scientific discovery. A key component of the research mission involves collaboration with other research institutions and industry, regionally, statewide, and nationally. Examples of this type of success include a joint project studying macular degeneration with statewide partners, the Cleveland Clinic, Case Western Reserve University, and three biotech companies, and a recent partnership with the Air Force Research Laboratory to continue research on the neurotoxic effects of chemical warfare agents.

NEW INITIATIVES, NEW FACULTY

Recruiting national and international experts to the School of Medicine will help fulfill its educational, clinical, and research missions. The goal is to hire first-class clinicians and acclaimed researchers who are dedicated to medical education and community service. One key area of growth will be the Department of Geriatrics, a hub of educational and research activities to meet the needs of the growing numbers of elderly. In partnership with the Dayton Veterans Affairs Medical Center and Premier Health Partners, the school has established one of the first departments in the field of elder care in the nation's medical schools. A portion of the Boonshoft gift will help develop the infrastructure that will prepare our community for the large population of aging baby boomers.



Marcia Braun, M.D. ('05), with patient and Dr. Cynthia Olsen, was one of many students to focus on geriatric care as a medical student. The new Department of Geriatrics will expand experiences for medical students as well as better prepare our community to meet the needs of our elderly.



Annually, medical students and faculty travel to other parts of the world in a variety of programs. Last year, Matthew Kuestner, Year III, worked in Swaziland's rural clinics, the Raleigh Fitkin Hospital, and an AIDS orphanage, where he met this young man.

COMMUNITY AND BEYOND

Over the years, our medical students have found international experiences enriching and rewarding. The new Global Health Systems Program will help both faculty and students better recognize the global nature of health care and provide international learning experiences and exchange programs for them. Recognizing that health care in the future will have some critical characteristics that are common around the globe, this program will analyze the successes and challenges that are faced in health care throughout the world. This innovative program will enable us to learn from others how to improve our own health care delivery systems and help other countries improve the systems of care they deliver.

NAMING CEREMONY

In a Naming Ceremony immediately following Convocation for the Class of 2009, the school formally adopted a new name, Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine, in honor of the generosity of the Oscar Boonshoft family. University and school officials conferred the new name on the school before incoming students and their families, individuals who will witness the impact of the transformation. Christine Pham, a Year II medical student who is enrolled in the Boonshoft Physician Leadership Development Program and working toward the M.D./M.P.H. dual degree, presented a commemorative plaque on behalf of the student body. “The gift that has created the Boonshoft School of Medicine will have extraordinary effects for us at Wright State,” she said. “New research programs

will provide us with opportunities to take part in the advancement of the science of medicine. New faculty will expand our horizons. New teaching facilities and added scholarship funds will help medical students tremendously. Our new Global Health Systems Program will help us to develop more multicultural perspectives and facilitate an international exchange of information between our faculty and students and those of other countries.”

“We are very grateful for the friendship and generosity of the Boonshoft family,” says Dr. Part. “With this gift, we can better meet the needs of our community and better prepare physicians for the 21st Century.”

—*Judith Engle*



On October 10, university and school officials hosted a groundbreaking ceremony for the new addition for a new medical education center. (L-R) Oscar Boonshoft, local philanthropist and the school's namesake; Carrie Castleforte, a Year IV student, on behalf of the medical student body; Dr. Richard DeWall, a long-term supporter of medical education and a founder of the school; Dr. Walter Reiling, a school founder and chair of the Dean's Advisory Board; University President Kim Goldenberg; Bonnie Langdon, chair of the Wright State University Board of Trustees; Michael Di Flora, chair of the Wright State University Foundation Board of Trustees; Dr. William Bernie, a dedicated friend and supporter for whom the anatomy learning center will be named; Dr. Ramesh Gandhi, for whose family the new 150-seat lecture hall will be named; and Dean Howard M. Part.



Christine Pham, a Year II student, is in the Boonshoft Physician Leadership Development Program and working toward the dual degree, M.D./M.P.H. She holds the commemorative plaque given to Mr. Oscar Boonshoft at the Naming Ceremony.



**With this gift, we can better
meet the needs of our
community and better
prepare physicians for the
21st Century.**

OSCAR BOONSHOFT

Oscar Boonshoft is a native of New York City. A mechanical engineering graduate of Stevens Institute of Technology, he worked as a project engineer, first with the Army Air Corps at Wright Field, which later became Wright-Patterson Air Force Base (WPAFB). There he was involved in the development of armaments, which entailed design, procurement, flight-testing, and the evaluation of installations in bomber aircraft. Mr. Boonshoft was promoted to USAF Contracting Officer and later transferred to Supervisory Production Engineer before retiring in 1970. His engineering career spanned over 30 years and was followed by active speculative trading of commodity futures contracts, which continues to date. He holds seats on three commodity futures exchanges.



Mr. Boonshoft and his late wife, Marjorie, have been generous donors to the Miami Valley community and supported the arts, education, science, and medicine. Their donations have been instrumental in developing a Division of Health Systems Management, a new M.P.H. program, and a physician leadership program for the M.D./M.P.H. and M.D./M.B.A. dual degrees at Wright State's medical school.

Mr. Boonshoft is a trustee of the Dayton Society of Natural History and a member of the governing board of the Wallace-Kettering Neuroscience Institute at Kettering Memorial Hospital. He is a trustee of the Wright State University Foundation; an honorary trustee of the Dayton Opera Association; an honorary member of the Board of Directors of the Jewish Federation of Greater Dayton; and a trustee of the Temple Israel Foundation.

In addition to their support of the Wright State University School of Medicine, the Boonshofts have provided major funding for the Boonshoft Museum of Discovery, the Marjorie and Oscar Boonshoft Center for Jewish Culture and Education, and the Boonshoft Center for Medical Sciences at Kettering College of Medical Arts.



“We have competed very successfully nationally to bring a talented core of emergency medicine physicians and educators to Dayton, thereby making this a more desirable community to live and work in.”



EMERGENCY MEDICINE— 25 Years of Community Service

Walking toward the unassuming entrance, the extra-wide automatic sliding glass door glides smoothly to the right, and like Dorothy in the Wizard of Oz, you, too, are in another world. This is the emergency room, “the E.R.” A young Hispanic woman is there, in pain and bloody. The fingers on her hand are almost completely severed from a terrible accident from her work as a migrant farm worker. The attending physician, Mark Gebhart, M.D. ('97), vividly remembers her case and how they worked to save this young woman's hand, which they did. “We emergency physicians are a ‘safety net’ for the population,” says Dr. Gebhart, assistant professor of emergency medicine. “It is here in the E.R. where people come, sometimes unconscious, and we intervene,

direct, instruct, and approve their treatment.”

Officially recognized as a specialty in the United States since 1979, emergency medicine emphasizes immediacy of treatment for acutely ill or injured individuals. Its roots stem from military operations, transporting the wounded from the battleground and the medical training required to care for them. This specialty's doctors are trained to handle every situation—24/7, 365 days a year.

The Department of Emergency Medicine, established at Wright State's medical school 25 years ago, was the fourth emergency medicine program in the nation. The program has graduated almost 250 physicians, including more than one-third of the region's emergency physicians. It supports 36 physician resi-



Dean Howard Part, M.D., and Glenn Hamilton, M.D., professor and chair of emergency medicine, at the 25th anniversary celebration.

dents in a three-year program and now has 14 full-time faculty. The residency program is a fully integrated civilian/military model for the

nation. Throughout the Miami Valley more than 100 volunteer clinical faculty and most area hospitals are actively involved in resident and medical student education.

“We have competed very successfully nationally to bring a talented core of emergency medicine physicians and educators to Dayton, thereby making this a more desirable community to live and work in,” says Glenn Hamilton, M.D., professor and chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine. “These professionals have a wide range of talents, and give the Greater Miami Valley a national presence in this field.”

Jonathan Singer, M.D., professor of pediatrics and vice chair for the Department of Emergency Medicine, works and teaches at Children’s Medical Center. “No two days, nor two hours, are similar in the emergency room,” he says. “We must all have the skills to anticipate and care for any illness or injury, and all who gravitate to this specialty enjoy the challenge of prompt response, decision making with incomplete data, and the fluidity of a semi-chaotic environment. I find tremendous pleasure being here in the E.R., and I strive to be the able healer who responds to the expressed complaint and unexpressed fear. I celebrate the success of every positive encounter.”

Lt. Col. John M. Wightman, M.D., professor of emergency medicine and director of Critical Care Air Transport Teams for Wright-Patterson, is currently deployed overseas. “Because of the nature of emergency medicine, there really is no typical



Jonathan Singer, M.D., professor of pediatrics and vice chair for the Department of Emergency Medicine, with young patient at Children’s Medical Center. [Photo courtesy of Tom Suttman, Dayton Children’s Medical Center.]

day in the emergency department,” he says. “I have the privilege of taking care of warriors who are risking their futures for the future of this country and global society. Nobody deserves the best care I can possibly deliver more!”

Members of the faculty provide medical expertise for a wide range of activities throughout the community: Urban Search and Rescue teams, including FEMA’s Ohio Task Force One; local SWAT teams and law enforcement; and local sports events, from the high school level, to the Bombers hockey team, to the U.S. Women’s Open. Every year, the department provides medical support to the Dayton Air Show. Faculty serve in leadership roles for the Greater Miami Valley EMS Council, as medical directors for local fire departments, and as nationally certified trainers for mass casualty events, either natural or man made.

The department is one of four regional training centers for the National Disaster Life Support program, a curriculum developed by the American Medical Association in partnership with major medical centers and national health organizations. The other three certified sites are Yale, George Washington University, and Virginia Commonwealth University.

In the research area, the department has funding from the National Institutes of Health to study brain edema, swelling caused from trauma or injury.

“Emergency medicine is all about the human-to-human experience. The balancing of the predominant goodness of spirits with the rare and always sorrowful circumstance when something truly bad is encountered,” explains Dr. Singer.

—Nancy Harker

“Emergency medicine is a nourishing adventure that cannot be matched.”

On the **CRISIS** Front Line

While thousands of people were evacuating the Gulf Coast as Hurricane Katrina moved toward it, two members of the Department of Emergency Medicine were deliberately heading into the eye of the storm. Mark Gebhart, M.D. ('97), assistant professor, and Scott Fitzsimmons, senior EMS technologist, were among the first responders to this national tragedy.

Dr. Gebhart serves as Medical Team Manager for Ohio Task Force 1, an Urban Search and Rescue team for FEMA. The 35-member task force—plus four canines—was deployed on Saturday, August 27, arriving in Gulfport, Mississippi, around 6:00 p.m. Sunday. Amid the devastation, the water was still knee deep and the ground covered

with “thick Mississippi mud.” The team immediately went into “blitz” mode, working 36 hours without rest, followed by eight 20-hour days before being demobilized. The team searched 2,500 structures, rescued two people, and provided care for dozens of others. “This experience was the most profoundly moving experience of my medical career,” Dr. Gebhart says, “and I directly credit this university, our medical school, and Dr. Hamilton’s residency for preparing me.”

Scott Fitzsimmons, a member of Ohio 5 Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT), was in Biloxi, Mississippi, from August 31 to September 12. Activated on August 27, the team flew to Memphis, moving into Biloxi Wednesday morning. DMAT teams are mobile emergency rooms,

providing triage and stabilization for patients, and during this deployment this team treated more than 1,800 patients. The team’s Base of Operations was set up next to the Biloxi Regional Medical Center. The National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) under which DMAT teams operate, is part of the newly formed Department of Homeland Security, Directorate of Emergency Preparedness and Response.

Mr. Fitzsimmons is also the First Responder Program Manager for the school’s Homeland Emergency Learning and Preparedness (HELP) Center, a community-wide effort to better prepare the Greater Miami Valley for large scale emergencies, such as a weather disaster, terrorist attack, or hazmat situation.

—*Judith Engle*





(Left) September 5, 2005—A local health worker inoculates a relief official responding to Hurricane Katrina at the Harrison County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in Gulfport, Mississippi. [Photo courtesy of Mark Wolf/FEMA]

(Below left) Base of Operations (BoO) for Ohio Task Force One in Gulfport, Mississippi.

(Below center) Storefront represents devastation encountered by Ohio Task Force One en route.

(Below) Ohio 5 Disaster Medical Assistance Team in Biloxi, Mississippi.





Staff members (L-R) Richard Rapp, Tim Lane, and Carey Carr are training case managers in 10 cities to use a technique the Center for Interventions, Treatment and Addictions Research developed as part of a CDC-funded AIDS prevention and treatment project.

Behavioral Interventions that Work

A behavioral intervention developed by researchers here may help overcome a major obstacle to slowing the rate of new HIV infections in the United States: the fact that about a third of the people who know they are HIV-positive are not receiving medical care.

Despite significant strides forward in HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment in recent years, more than a million people in the United States are HIV positive or living with AIDS, and the estimated number of new HIV infections has remained steady at about 40,000 per year over the past decade, according to the Centers for Disease Control

and Prevention (CDC). Studies have shown that the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the United States is increasingly a problem of disadvantaged and disenfranchised people who face both personal and systemic barriers to obtaining health care and needed social services.

One of the CDC's fundamental prevention strategies is to increase the proportion of HIV-infected individuals who seek appropriate care soon after being diagnosed. With that objective in mind, the CDC invited the Center for Interventions, Treatment and Addictions Research (CITAR) to adapt a strengths-based model of case management it has been perfecting since the early 1990s for use with newly diagnosed HIV-positive individuals. The model would encourage them to enter medical care promptly after diagnosis,

according to Richard Rapp, M.S.W., director of Case Management Studies for CITAR and assistant professor of community health.

“No matter how good the HIV care provider is, no matter how effective the medications are, if people don't show up for treatment, they're of no value to the individual or to society at large,” he says. “Case management is an intervention that helps people address personal and system barriers and as a result more effectively link with treatment.” Social workers have used case management to help people overcome both personal and societal barriers to getting their needs met, primarily in mental health settings, since the 1970s, Mr. Rapp explains.

Case managers who practice from a strengths perspective adhere to five principles: no matter what

the problem is, the case manager must help the client identify his or her strengths, abilities, and skills; no matter how disadvantaged the individual is, he or she must have a meaningful role in determining how the problem is addressed; the case manager should build a strong relationship with the client; the case manager should be very assertive in being with the client in the field; and the case manager must try to link the client with informal sources of support, such as 12-step programs or AIDS support groups.

In response to the CDC request, CITAR staff, led by Mr. Rapp and Harvey Siegal, Ph.D., the late CITAR director and professor of community health, developed ARTAS Linkage Case Management (ALCM), a five-session, strengths-based model of case management that was tested in a randomized, controlled clinical trial in four metropolitan areas: Atlanta, Baltimore, Los Angeles, and Miami. In the AR-

TAS clinical trial, 316 HIV-infected individuals enrolled in the four cities were randomized to receive either ALCM or passive referral. The passive referral group received standard information about HIV and local care resources; the ALCM intervention group received up to five face-to-face contacts with a specially trained case manager over 90 days.

“ALCM was found to improve client linkage with medical care,” Mr. Rapp says. Researchers found that patients who worked with case managers were 40 percent more likely to visit an HIV clinician at least twice during the first year following diagnosis. “In addition to being effective, the intervention also had to be brief and relatively inexpensive. It had to be something health departments could realistically take on; and, it was.” The average cost was \$600 to \$1,150 per client. The findings were published in the March 4, 2005, issue of the journal *AIDS*.

Last year, the success of ARTAS Linkage Case Management led CDC to fund a two-year, 10-city demonstration project to test the intervention in real world settings. Through a competitive process CITAR was once again chosen to refine the treatment protocols and deliver training to case managers and their supervisors at each of the sites. The case management technique developed for CDC is also being replicated in other areas, most notably throughout the state of Florida, where CITAR staff members Tim Lane, M.Ed., and Carey Carr, M.P.H., are assisting with training and initiating the project.

“The success of strengths-based case management in linking people in need with necessary services is testament to the abilities of our faculty and staff to develop and practically apply research-based programs in a real-world setting and positively impact community health,” says Robert Carlson, Ph.D., professor of community health and director of CITAR. “Designing and applying interventions remains a vital dimension of the center.”

“CITAR has worked for more than 15 years adapting strengths-based case management to address the needs of marginalized, underserved populations, including people with HIV, both in-treatment and out-of-treatment substance abusers, and people involved with the criminal justice system,” Mr. Rapp points out. “It has been shown to improve both linkage with and engagement in needed health care and social services for a variety of high-need populations, including people newly diagnosed with HIV infection. If we get similar findings in the second ARTAS trial to those in the first, this tool is likely to be widely adopted.”

—Robin Suits

“Case management is an intervention that helps people address personal and system barriers they have and as a result more effectively link with treatment.”



Robert Reece, Ph.D.

Somewhere along his path toward becoming a minister, Robert Reece discovered that he was more suited to be an academic—he wanted to teach. In retrospect, Dr. Reece believes that some of his choices were audacious, but after more than 35 years as an educator at Wright State, he says teaching is where he found fulfillment. His ability to lead discussions and help others understand complicated issues of life is part of his renown.



Dr. Reece was granted a prestigious Danforth Fellowship as a history major fresh out of Baylor University. This fellowship covered his training at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, and graduate school at Yale University, where he earned an M.A., an M. Phil, and a Ph.D. in

religious studies with a concentration in ethics.

He was hired as an assistant professor in the Department of Religion at Wright State University. In 1975, he was named chair of the Department of Medicine in Society in the newly established medical school at Wright State. The department, which addressed medical ethics in a formalized curriculum, was one of the first of its kind in the nation. Some of the courses developed and taught in the department over the years include Social and Ethical Issues in Medicine; History of Medicine; Coping with Loss and Death; Suicide and Personal Violence; Ethics in an Interprofessional Context; Law and Medicine; Intervention and Treatment in Substance Abuse; and Literature and Medicine.

Teaching medical students provided Dr. Reece the opportunity for student contact over the entire four years they spend in medical school, compared to the one or two quarters he had teaching undergrad students. “Within the medical school working with the students and faculty, my greatest desire has been to help cultivate the humanistic dimension of medicine,” says Dr. Reece. “We can’t create that humanistic side in people,” he explains. “But, we hope to take the virtues that students

come into medical school with and cultivate, not corrupt, those values that will make them good, caring physicians.”

“My greatest desire has been to help cultivate the humanistic dimension of medicine.”

In 1990, Dr. Reece was appointed chair of the Department of Community Health, formed from diverse programs within other departments. His perspective came from his background as a teacher of ethics. He explains, “The directors of these different divisions within this new department, each brilliant in their own right, had a very big vision for their specific area, and they have all done well. I am but one of the supporters of these very creative individuals and teams. We work exceptionally well together and have had many rewarding accomplishments. And,” he continues with a shy smile, “I tell them that I take credit for it...when it comes time for a raise. But, we all know the truth.”

—Nancy Harker

Khalid Elased, Ph.D.

Dr. Khalid Elased, assistant professor of pharmacology and toxicology, says, “I’ve been all over the world, truly.” His birthplace is the Republic of Sudan, in northeast Africa. He comes from a large family of professionals—with more than 20 aunts and uncles—and is a graduate of the University of Khartoum, with a degree in pharmacy. From there, he moved to Great Britain to continue his studies. He earned a Master of Science degree in Experimental Pharmacology at the University of Bradford, England (1986), and a Ph.D. in Biochemical Pharmacology at the University of Strathclyde, in Scotland (1990). His thesis topic was stress-induced hyperinsulinaemia (abnormally high levels of insulin in the blood).

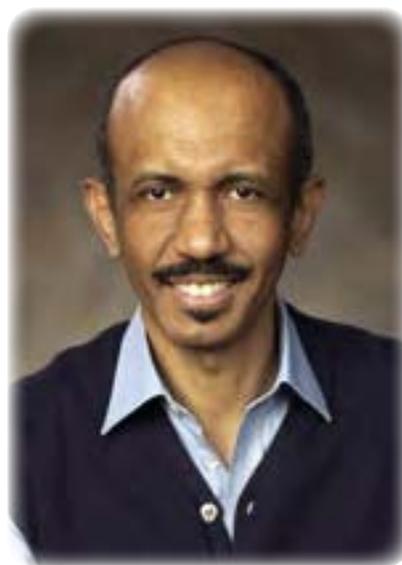
“I’ve been all over the world, truly.”

Dr. Elased returned to England to perform diabetes research at the University of Buckingham. A 1992

fellowship from the Wellcome Trust took him to the University of London Medical School, as senior researcher with an immunology group studying malaria parasites—*Plasmodium yoelii*—to investigate and isolate a hypoglycemic agent released during malarial infection. The work led to several patents, and Dr. Elased and his collaborators formed a biopharmaceutical company, Rademacher Group Ltd.

Dr. Elased’s next move was to the United States, and eventually to Dayton, where he was a hospital pharmacist at Good Samaritan Hospital. Interest in the cardiovascular research conducted by Dr. Mariana Morris, professor and chair of the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, drew him to Wright State University, and in 2004 he became the first licensed pharmacist on the faculty of the department. In his research, Dr. Elased observes and manipulates the renin-angiotensin system (RAS)—a hormone system that helps regulate long-term blood pressure and blood volume in the body—relevant to hypertension and diabetes. He and Dr. Morris recently developed a rapid and sensitive mass spectrometric method to monitor the activities of the enzymatic hormone, renin, and angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE). A patent

application has been filed, and Dr. Elased hopes that the method will be commercially viable as a means of high throughput screening for RAS inhibitors, and helpful in the development of new drug therapies for cardiovascular disease. He is supported by a development award from the National Institutes of Health,



and recently had the honor of being asked to give an oral presentation on his work for the American Heart Association’s annual meeting.

While Dr. Elased considers the United States his “mecca for science and technology,” this family-oriented research scientist returns to Sudan with his wife and children at least once a year, to visit his family.

—Sue Rytel

Advancement/Alumni

Wright State University Recent Graduate Award

On May 20, 2005, the WSU Alumni Association recognized Mark E. Gebhart, M.D., with the Recent Graduate Award. Dr. Gebhart graduated from Wright State with a B.A. in Biological Sciences in 1993 and an M.D. in 1997. His work at the local, state, and national levels continues to establish Wright State University as a leader in the emergency preparedness arena.



In the sands west of Cairo, Egypt, Drs. Juli Althoff-Faerber ('95) and Thomas Englehart ('94) coincidentally met during Operation Bright Star, a multi-national military exercise. The two had never met, but enjoyed sharing memories from medical school. Lt. Commander Althoff-Faerber has had an extensive military career in the Navy and is in a preventive medicine residency. Major Englehart is in the U.S. Army Reserves and completed a residency in clinical anesthesiology at The Ohio State University. Says Dr. Englehart, "I thought this might be proof that the impact of the Wright State University School of Medicine is truly worldwide."

Medical Alumni Honor Their Past by Investing in the School's Future

Over the past year, several School of Medicine alumni have stepped forward to establish new funds for our medical students:

The Class of 2000 established the **Jacob P. Deerhake, M.D., Memorial Scholarship** to provide financial support and encouragement for medical students who reflect the strong values and moral character of Dr. Deerhake, who graduated in 2000. He was an elected member of Alpha Omega Alpha and received the Ohio ACP's "Outstanding Senior Medical Student" award. He was chief medical resident at the University of Michigan from 2003 to 2004 and planned to begin a cardiology fellowship there in July 2004. Unfortunately, Dr. Deerhake died of a rare, metastatic neuroendocrine tumor in May 2004, at the age of 30.

Dr. Gary M. Onady ('87) established the **Onady Medical Artist Scholarship** to provide financial support and encouragement for medical students who have demonstrated an ongoing interest in and contributions to the fine arts. Dr. Onady is an associate professor of internal medicine and pediatrics as well as an accomplished jazz musician. He has performed in the University of Cincinnati and Colorado State University jazz ensembles and in various small group ensembles in New York City. "I hope the scholarship will recognize and instill a sense of self worth that rewards continued creativity in the fine arts, which I believe only enhances the creativity of performance in the medical arts," Dr. Onady says.

Drs. Rick L. Brittain ('93) and Bhairavi Patel ('94) have established two loan funds for third- or fourth-year medical students. The **Rick Brittain Loan Fund** provides zero interest loans to medical students from rural areas, and the **Bhairavi Patel Loan Fund** provides zero interest loans to medical students living with dependents. "Rick and I feel strongly that medical school is difficult enough without adding financial concerns," Dr. Patel says. "We also feel that many individuals who are not considered traditional minorities could benefit from some financial aid. This is what prompted Rick and I to establish interest free loan funds to assist nontraditional minorities."

This year's graduating Class of 2005 has used its class gift to start the **Class of 2005 Endowed Scholarship for International Medicine**. Many students in the Class of 2005 participated in international travel related to their study of global medical issues. "The unique and gratifying experiences while learning and practicing medicine abroad only helped to inspire and motivate us in our future pursuits," said class president Kate Conway, M.D. "We were excited about the idea of creating a lasting entity that would serve to bring Wright State medical students to all areas of the world."

Establishing a new scholarship can be a very rewarding way of giving back to the Boonshoft School of Medicine, allowing you to make a difference in the lives of medical students. For more information, please contact the Office of Advancement at (937) 775-2972 or som_alumni@wright.edu.

Reunion Weekend 2005

On the weekend of July 15 to 17, more than 70 alumni from the Classes of '80, '85, '90, '95, and '00 celebrated their reunions in Cincinnati. The Medical Alumni Association would like to thank the following alumni who were on the planning committees from each class:

Save the Date!
Reunion 2006
July 14–16, 2006,
in Cincinnati
Classes: '81, '86, '91,
'96, '01

Class of 1980

Samia W. Borchers, M.D.
Robert L. Brandt Jr., M.D.
David K. Hedden, M.D.
Carol A. LaCroix, M.D.
John Lyman, M.D.

Class of 1985

Jerry A. Clark, M.D., C.M.D.
Tina M. Gabbard, M.D.
Joseph Kandel, M.D.
Jeffrey D. Manser, M.D.
Linda M. Meister, M.D.
Cynthia G. Olsen, M.D.

Class of 1990

Dominic J. Bagnoli, M.D., FACEP
Catherine Cook, M.D.
Daniel J. Dunaway, M.D.
Tracy A. Kotnik, M.D., FAAFP
Holli K. Neiman-Hart, M.D.
Marcel N. Nwizu, M.D.
Laurel E. Roach-Armao, M.D.,
FAAP

Class of 1995

Theresa J. Blachly-Flanagan, M.D.
Lisa M. Dieruf, M.D.
Kevin M. Longshaw, M.D.
Edward W. Schwartz, M.D.
Kevin Jerome Watt, M.D.
Teresa L. Zryd, M.D.

Class of 2000

Linda M. Hermiller, M.D.
Andrea M. Iversen, M.D.
Peter C. Iversen, M.D.
Amy Keebler Jones, M.D.
Sherri L. Morgan, M.D., MPH
Robert A. Pohlmeier, M.D.
Major Maurice E. Young, M.D.



1980s

'80 **Peter C. Imber, M.D.**, practices with the VA-Panama City Community Based Output Clinic in Panama City, Florida. He and his wife Anna have two daughters: Ann Nicole, 23, and Allison Renee, 21. Dr. Imber maintains an active outdoor lifestyle, balancing assistance with his daughters' academic lives with daily care of the family's horses, dogs, and cats.

'80 **Ellen L. Sakornbut, M.D.**, spent 22 years in academic family medicine and has been a residency director for 11 years. She has most recently opened a private solo practice, Family Health Center of Waterloo, Iowa, and is co-editor of *Family Practice Obstetrics*, (third edition pending). She and her husband Randolph have two children: Alan Charles, 20, and Patrick James, 17.

'81 **Mark E. Thompson, M.D.**, practices with Mid-Ohio Oncology/Hematology in Columbus. He and his wife Mary E. Thompson, a pastoral associate, have four children: Greg, 22; Eric, 20; Megan, 18; and Jeff, 15.

The School of Medicine wishes to extend its deepest sympathies to the family of Dr. Rochelle Peskin Godshall, M.D. ('81), who died in June 2005 of liver cancer at age 54.

'85 **Robert M. Cook, M.D.**, practices diagnostic radiology and nuclear medicine at Middletown Regional Hospital, Greene Memorial Hospital, and North Main Imaging in Ohio.

'86 **John T. Hanna, M.D.**, practices family medicine at Samaritan Hospital in Ashland, Ohio. He and his wife Angela, who works in adaptive physical education/special education, have five children: Emily, Molly, Zachary, Jared, and Sean.

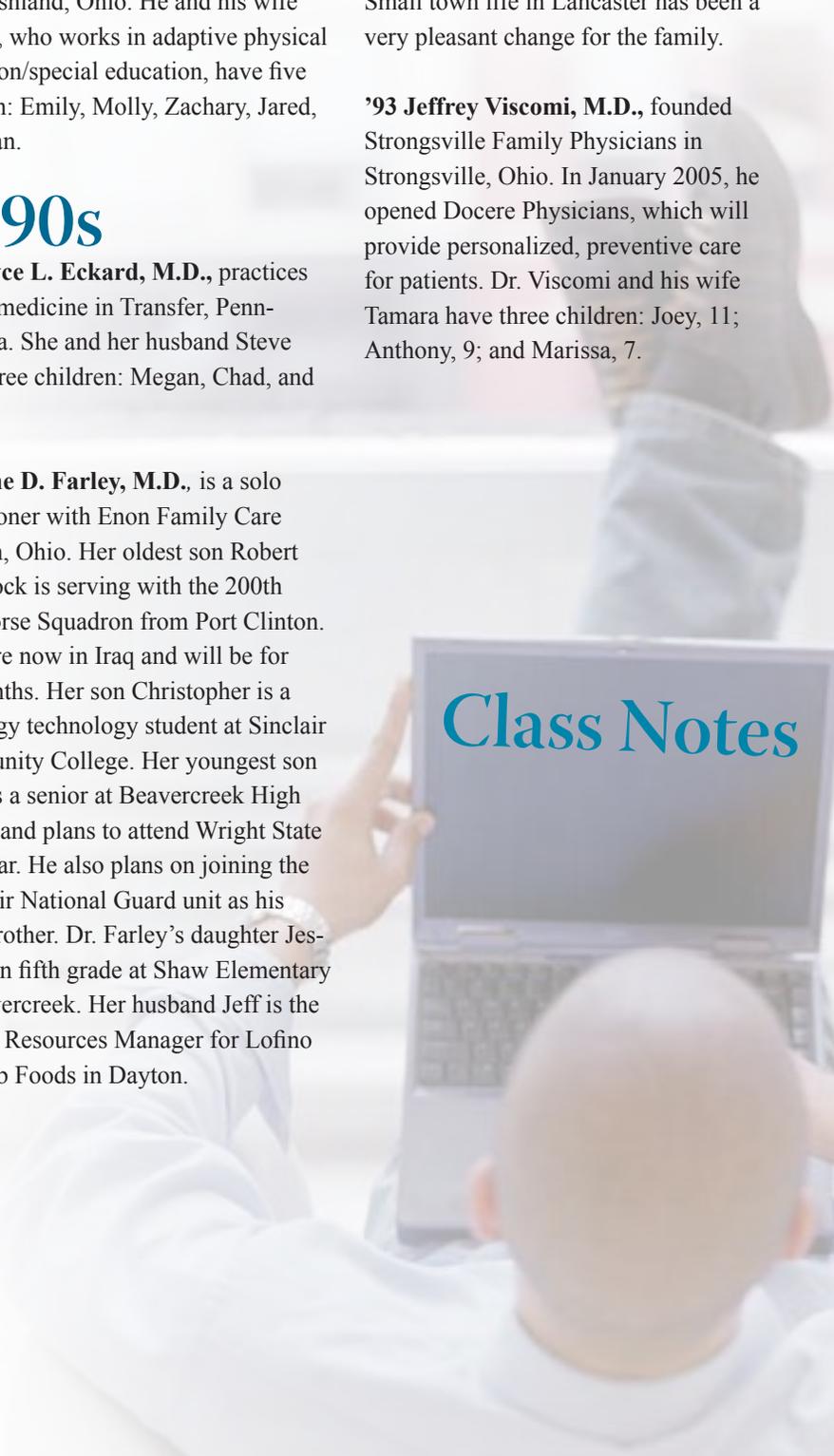
1990s

'90 **Joyce L. Eckard, M.D.**, practices family medicine in Transfer, Pennsylvania. She and her husband Steve have three children: Megan, Chad, and Kristin.

'92 **Jane D. Farley, M.D.**, is a solo practitioner with Enon Family Care in Enon, Ohio. Her oldest son Robert Skomrock is serving with the 200th Red Horse Squadron from Port Clinton. They are now in Iraq and will be for six months. Her son Christopher is a radiology technology student at Sinclair Community College. Her youngest son Andy is a senior at Beaver Creek High School and plans to attend Wright State next year. He also plans on joining the same Air National Guard unit as his older brother. Dr. Farley's daughter Jessica is in fifth grade at Shaw Elementary in Beaver Creek. Her husband Jeff is the Human Resources Manager for Lofino and Cub Foods in Dayton.

'92 **David M. Hasl, M.D.**, has been practicing general surgery since September 2003 at Fairfield Medical Center in Lancaster, Ohio, joining Scott Johnson with Lancaster Surgical Associates. He and his wife Elizabeth, an x-ray technologist, have four children: Lauren, 11; Kelsey, 9; Zachary, 7; and Jacob, 5. Small town life in Lancaster has been a very pleasant change for the family.

'93 **Jeffrey Viscomi, M.D.**, founded Strongsville Family Physicians in Strongsville, Ohio. In January 2005, he opened Docere Physicians, which will provide personalized, preventive care for patients. Dr. Viscomi and his wife Tamara have three children: Joey, 11; Anthony, 9; and Marissa, 7.



Class Notes

'95 Edith G. Grannum, M.D., practices with Genesee Valley Medicine in Rochester, New York. She and her husband Douglas Newcomb, LSW, have one child: Ian Newcomb, 18 months. Since graduating, she has enjoyed traveling to China, Hong Kong, Bali, and the Greek Isles.

'95 Julie O. Jones, M.D., practices family medicine with Sanford Medical Group in Sanford, Pennsylvania. She and her husband Capt. Bryan Jones, a U.S. Army Aviation Officer, have two children: Bryce and Evan.

'95 Janet R. Mason, M.D., practices at Ohio State University Family Practice in Gahanna. She and her husband Kevin, a research scientist, have twin sons: Caleb Joshua and Jordan Michael.

'95 Kimberly M. Walton-Verner, M.D., currently practices pediatrics at Cottage Grove Health Center of Cook County in Chicago. She and her husband Trent, an electrician, have two children: Elik Chandler, 5, and Ethan Jackson, 2.

'98 Carlos R. Estrada, M.D., completed a urology residency at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago, in 2003. He then began a pediatric urology fellowship at Children's Hospital Boston/Harvard Medical School, which he will complete in 2006. He and his wife, **Bita Tabesh, M.D. ('97)**, have two children: Cameron, 3, and Nora, 2.

'99 Cynthia R. Horning, M.D., joined the medical staff of McLaren Regional Medical Center in Flint, Michigan, in December 2004. She completed her residency in pediatrics at Tod Children's Hospital in Youngstown, Ohio.

2000s

'00 Luciara Mendenhall, M.D., and her husband Kyle, a high school teacher, live in Sarasota, Florida, where she practices pediatrics.

'00 Kevin J. Temple, M.D., joined the Altru Health System emergency medicine team in July 2005. He completed his emergency medicine residency at Michigan State University/Saginaw Cooperative Hospitals in Saginaw, and later completed a medical toxicology fellowship at Wayne State University in Detroit.

'00 Andrea M. Iversen, M.D., and **Peter Iversen, M.D. ('01)**, live in Dayton with their children: Isaac, 3, and Caroline, 18 months.

'01 Louisa L. Pecchioni, M.D., started her chief year in general surgery in July 2005. When finished, she plans to do a fellowship in vascular surgery at Indiana University. She married Matt Jones in March 2005.

'03 Courtney A. Holland, M.D., is a third-year orthopedic surgery resident at William Beaumont Army Medical Center in El Paso, Texas. He married Mary Schaumburg, a developmental specialist, in March 2005.

'03 Aaron M. Pennell, M.D., is an anesthesiology resident at University of Kentucky Chandler Medical Center in Lexington.

We have heard from several alumni in the region devastated by Hurricane Katrina and share these brief updates.

Brian Tobe ('01), lives two hours west of New Orleans, so missed the major storm and flooding, but he is helping with relief efforts.

Shay Price ('02), is fine although his house was destroyed.

Marilyn J. Roby ('02), is staying in Baton Rouge with friends.

Mohammad Alzubaslat ('04), was stranded at a hospital for a week and is now staying with relatives.

Bradey Kleman ('04), at West Virginia University Department of Pediatrics, is providing care to evacuees at Camp Dawson, an Army facility outside of Morgantown.

Capt. Michael Krier ('04), and his family evacuated Keesler AFB in Biloxi before the storm, and he will complete his residency at McChord AFB, Washington.

Madelyn Meyn ('05), has been helping with the relief effort and hopes to get back to New Orleans soon.

Maria Mohan ('05), evacuated New Orleans before the storm hit and is volunteering with the Red Cross in Alexandria, Louisiana, running one of the shelter clinics there.

Submit your Class Note online at <http://www.med.wright.edu/alumni/classnotes.html>. From this site, you can also search for class notes by name, specialty, or class year.



GRADUATION 2005





Eighty-six graduates from Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine received the Doctor of Medicine degree on May 27 at the Schuster Performing Arts Center in Dayton. The School of Medicine has graduated more than 2,150 physicians, with almost one-third of them practicing in the Greater Miami Valley.

Of Primary Interest

New Faces

Christiana O. Adesanya, M.D.
Associate Professor, Internal Medicine
M.D.: Northwestern University School of Medicine
Residency: Albert Einstein School of Medicine (medicine and cardiology)
Fellowship: Harvard Medical School (cardiology)



Harry L. Anderson III, M.D.
Professor, Surgery
M.D.: University of Michigan Medical School
Residency: University of Michigan Medical School (general surgery)
Fellowship: University of Michigan Medical School (surgical critical care)



William H. Bines, M.S.
Assistant Professor, Community Health
M.S.: Central Michigan University (health services administration)

Jody L. Brown, M.D.
Assistant Professor, Psychiatry
M.D.: University of South Florida College of Medicine
Residency: Wright State University School of Medicine (psychiatry)
Fellowship: Wright State University School of Medicine (child and adolescent psychiatry)



Heidi Buckingham, M.D.
Assistant Professor, Internal Medicine
M.D.: University of Texas Health Science Center
Residency: Keesler USAF Medical Center (internal medicine)
Fellowship: Wilford Hall USAF Medical Center (endocrinology)

Of Primary Interest

New Faces

Nicholas A. Doninger, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Psychiatry

Ph.D.: Finch University of Health Sciences/
Chicago Medical School (clinical psychology)

Fellowship: University of Chicago (clinical
neuropsychology)



Kathrin L. Engisch, Ph.D.

Associate Professor,
Neuroscience, Cell Biology
and Physiology

Ph.D.: Washington
University (neural sciences)

Fellowship: MCP
Hahnemann University
(muscular dystrophy)



Kimberly F. Foster, M.D.

Instructor, Obstetrics and
Gynecology

M.D.: Indiana University
School of Medicine

Residency: Wilford Hall
USAF Medical Center/
Brook Army Medical
Center (obstetrics and
gynecology)

Brian L. French, M.D.

Assistant Professor, Internal Medicine

M.D.: University of Minnesota Medical
School

Residency: Abbott Northwestern Hospital
(internal medicine)



Jeremy M. Groll, M.D.

Instructor, Obstetrics and
Gynecology

M.D.: Wayne State
University School of
Medicine

Residency: Wilford Hall
USAF Medical Center
(obstetrics and gynecology)

Fellowship: University of

North Carolina at Chapel Hill (reproductive
endocrinology and fertility)

Associate Dean for Air Force Affairs Named

The new commander of the Wright-Patterson Medical Center, Andrew R. Monteiro, Jr., M.D., has been named Associate Dean for Air Force Affairs. Dr. Monteiro received his M.D. degree from Tufts University School of Medicine and completed a family medicine residency at the Eastern Maine Medical Center in Bangor. He has received multiple awards in his military career, including the Legion of Merit and the Meritorious Service Medal, and he was also named Air Force Reserve Physician of the Year.



Convocation

On July 31, at the Schuster Performing Arts Center, Wright State University School of Medicine welcomed 100 new students and their families during the students' first "Rite of Passage"—Convocation and the White Coat Ceremony. Immediately following Convocation, the school formally adopted its new name, Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine, in a Naming Ceremony honoring the extraordinary generosity of the Oscar Boonshoft family.

Fast Facts about the Class of 2009

Applicants: 2,710

Entrants: 100

Dual Degree Entrants: 13

Male/Female: 45%/55%

Underrepresented
Minorities: 10%



Dr. David Little coats Brian F. Imbrogo of the Class of 2009.

Team-Based Learning

Medical educators from 50 schools across North America attended a Team-Based Learning Conference hosted by Wright State University School of Medicine in early June.

Team-based learning is an educational strategy that enhances student problem-solving skills; replaces or reduces lecture time for teaching faculty; ensures that students are prepared and on time when they come to class; creates a remarkable amount of energy in the classroom; and promotes learning to work as a team.

Health Education Grant Received

Dayton's *Know Your Numbers* coalition recently received a \$65,000 grant from the Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Foundation. The grant will be used to continue the coalition's mass media campaign, which encourages middle-aged women to know their "numbers"—blood pressure, blood sugar, waist size, and cholesterol—and to visit their physician.



Earl H. Morris Endowed Lectureship

Internationally recognized scientist Dr. Salvador Moncada, from London, England, was the invited guest speaker for the Earl H. Morris Endowed Lectureship. The work of Professor Moncada has revolutionized our understanding of cardiovascular function and pathology through his research on the role of nitric oxide as a signaling molecule.



"Health Care Heroes" Honored

Several members of the school were recently honored as Health Care Heroes by an awards program developed by the *Dayton Business Journal*:

Lifetime Achievement Award

Howard M. Part, M.D., dean of the medical school

Provider Award

Robert Brandt, M.D., a graduate of the Charter Class of 1980

Community Outreach Award

Hans Berkel, M.D., Ph.D., director of the Cancer Prevention and Control Division of the Department of Community Health.

New Faces

Paul F. Hanley, M.D.

Assistant Professor, Psychiatry

M.D.: University of South Florida College of Medicine

Residency: Wright State University School of Medicine (psychiatry)



Roland Jones, M.D.

Instructor, Internal Medicine

M.D.: University of South Florida College of Medicine

Residency: Wilford Hall USAF Medical Center (neurology)

Gurjeet S. Kahlon, M.D.

Assistant Professor, Internal Medicine

M.D.: GGS Medical College, Faridkot Punjab, India

Residency: Albany Medical Center (internal medicine)

Fellowship: Albany Medical Center (geriatric medicine)

Shannon C. Miller, M.D.

Associate Professor, Psychiatry

M.D.: The Ohio State University College of Medicine

Residency: Wright State University School of Medicine (psychiatry)

Paul D. Newman, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Psychiatry

Ph.D.: University of Cincinnati (clinical psychology)



Sarah M. Page, M.D.

Instructor, Obstetrics and Gynecology

M.D.: Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences

Residency: Wilford Hall USAF Medical Center/ Brooke Army Medical Center (obstetrics and gynecology)

Of Primary Interest

New Faces



William D. Po, M.D.
Assistant Professor,
Obstetrics and Gynecology
M.D.: University of Texas
Medical Branch
Residency: David Grant
Medical Center, Travis AFB
(obstetrics and gynecology)



Michael Rice, M.D.
Assistant Professor, Internal
Medicine
M.D.: Wayne State
University
Residency: University of
Virginia Health Sciences
Center (internal medicine)
Fellowship: University of
Virginia Health Sciences
Center (gastroenterology)

Mark M. Rich, M.D., Ph.D.

Associate Professor, Neuroscience, Cell
Biology, and Physiology
M.D., Ph.D.: Washington University School of
Medicine
Residency: Johns Hopkins Hospital
(neurology)
Fellowship: University of Pennsylvania
Hospital (neuromuscular diseases)



**Richard J. Sherwood,
Ph.D.**
Associate Professor,
Community Health
Ph.D.: Kent State
University (biomedical
sciences)



Geoffrey D. Towers, M.D.
Assistant Professor,
Obstetrics and Gynecology
M.D.: University of Utah
School of Medicine
Residency: Keesler USAF
Medical Center (obstetrics
and gynecology)
Fellowship: Madigan
Army Medical Center
(female pelvic medicine and
reconstructive surgery)

Faculty Notes

Francisco J. Alvarez, Ph.D., associate professor of neuroscience, cell biology, and physiology, has been appointed to the Sensorimotor Integration Study Section of the National Institutes of Health.

James E. Brown Jr., M.D., assistant professor and residency program director of emergency medicine, has received the “Physicians Making a Difference” award given annually by Good Samaritan Hospital.

Glenn Hamilton, M.D., professor and chair of emergency medicine, received the Award for Outstanding Contribution in Education from the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) at its annual meeting. The award recognizes a career of more than 30 years in education and his role in emergency medicine residency and department development for more than two dozen hospitals and universities here and abroad. ACEP is a medical specialty society representing nearly 23,000 physicians.

Thomas G. Olsen, M.D., clinical professor of dermatology, received the Clark W. Finnerud Award from the Dermatology Foundation. The award recognizes commitment to the specialty as both teacher and clinician.

Amita Patel, M.D., associate clinical professor of psychiatry, was named the “Clinician of the Year 2005” by the American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry.

Richard Reiling, M.D., F.A.C.S., clinical professor of surgery, was recently elected to the AMA Council on Medical Education and also received the prestigious Distinguished Service Award from the American College of Surgeons.

Student Notes

Nine medical students participated in the United States-Brazil Biotech Training Consortium Program, Translational Physiology: From Benchtop to Bedside this past summer: **Elena Caraman, Megan Dines, Aris Kalnins, Ben Kohnen, Joseph Meranda, Ethan Mezoff, Dipika Patel, and Lindsey Westerfield.**

Abby Reineck, Year IV, received the Annual Senior Medical Student Travel Award to attend the 22nd Annual Pittsburgh Schizophrenia Conference.



The Class of 2007 reaffirmed its dedication to the ethics and professionalism of medicine in the annual Student Clinician's Ceremony. Organized by students, this rite of passage celebrates entry into the third year of medical school, a year of rotations through Dayton's "teaching community."

Calendar

Faculty Meeting

January 19, 2006
4:30 p.m.
232J Frederick A. White
Health Center
For more information,
contact: (937) 775-3010

Match Day

March 16, 2006
Noon
Medical Sciences Auditorium
For more information,
contact: (937) 775-2934

Faculty Meeting

May 18, 2006
4:30 p.m.
232J Frederick A. White
Health Center
For more information,
contact: (937) 775-3010

Medicine Ball

May 24, 2006
For more information,
contact: (937) 775-2934

Graduation

May 26, 2006
Schuster Performing Arts
Center
6:30 p.m.
For more information,
contact: (937) 775-2934

Reunion Weekend

July 14–16, 2006
Classes: '81, '86, '91, '96, '01
For more information,
contact: (937) 775-2972



This year marks the 25th anniversary for the annual memorial services of the Anatomical Gift Program. More than 1,200 family members and friends of donors attend these services each fall. Wright State was the first in the state to hold a memorial service for its Anatomical Gift Program, and its program has become the largest of its kind in Ohio.

Vital Signs is published twice a year for alumni, faculty, staff, and friends of Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine.

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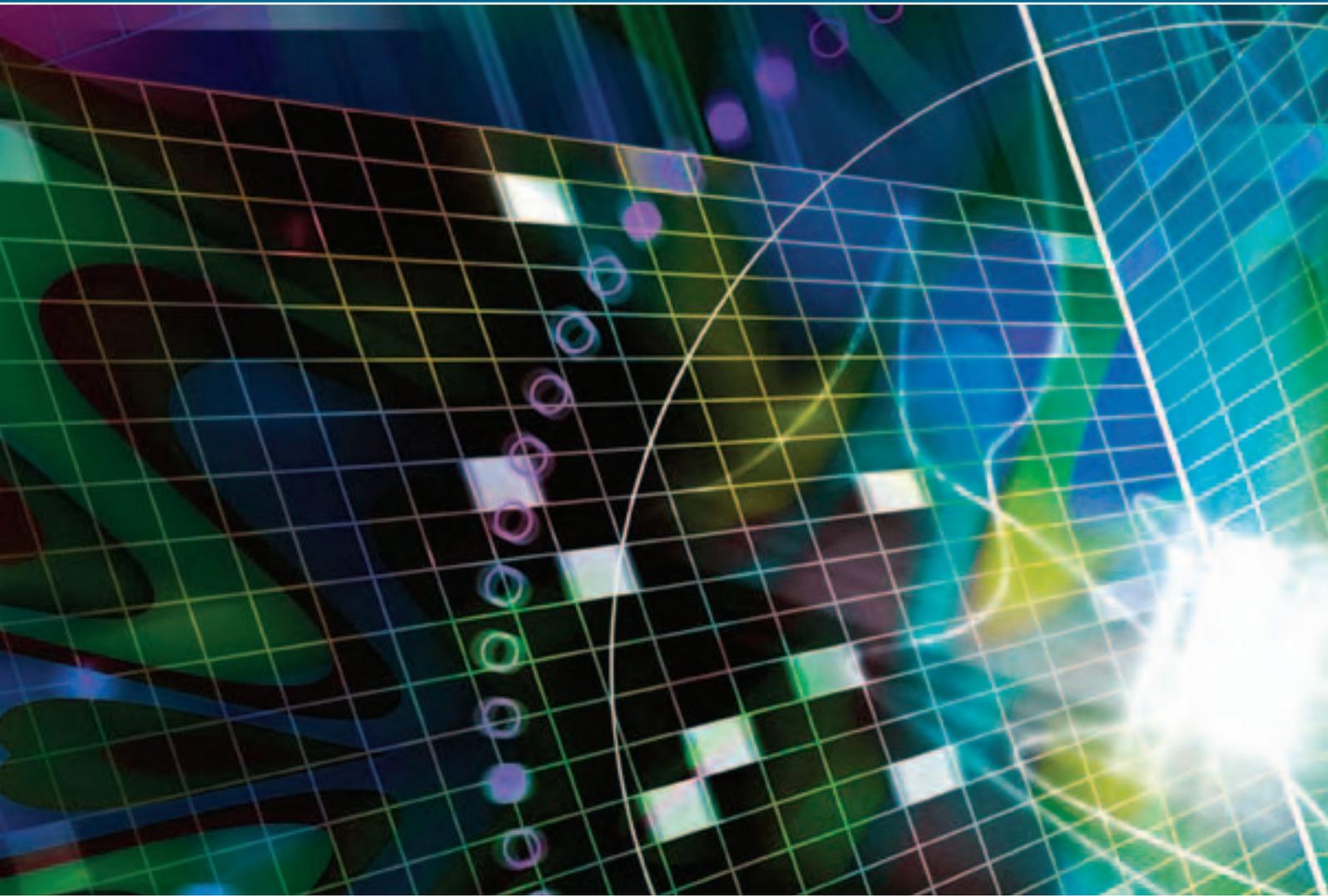
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