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CHILDREN

Benefit from Joint Efforts



Mukund Dole, M.D.,
associate professor of
pediatrics (L), and **Dave
Bowlin, Jr., M.D.,** a fourth-
year Internal Medicine/
Pediatrics resident,
examine a child at
Children's Medical Center.

The discipline of pediatrics emerged from the public health issue of sanitary milk in New York City in the late 19th century. At the time, milk was unpasteurized and often contaminated with bacteria. Bottle-fed infants born in urban ghettos died from diarrhea at rates as high as 30 percent each summer. Programs that established milk stations throughout the city where fresh, clean milk was available for pennies a bottle dropped the death rate dramatically. Early in the 20th century, well child advice was dispensed along with safe milk. The small group of physicians that fought for the ongoing funding of similar programs across the U.S. founded a new discipline—pediatrics.

Today’s pediatricians are coming back to those roots, says Jack Pascoe, M.D., M.P.H., professor of pediatrics and past president of the Ambulatory Pediatric Association. Combining the tenets of public health and medicine, community pediatrics is concerned about “all children in the community. Not just the ones who live in families with the resources needed to see that their children get to the pediatrician’s office,” he says.

Roughly 20 percent of a child’s overall health is attributable to visits to a doctor, immunizations, and medications, and often the children who do not make it to the pediatrician’s office are those at increased risk for poor health. The large majority of child health care involves other factors, such as loving families, consistent discipline, adequate nutrition, adequate exercise, and a safe environment. High-quality clinical care cannot compensate for the lack of these factors.

“Community pediatrics is really a round table,” says Dr. Pascoe, who will lead the Division of Child Health Research. “We can add our expertise to others

in the community who are dealing with issues that affect families. Perhaps in this community we need to collaborate more closely with Head Start or the public schools to improve the health of our children.”

Art Pickoff, M.D., chair and professor of pediatrics, sees the Dayton community as a unique place where community partnerships can change the health status of children. “Dayton is small enough that we can truly study the whole thing, yet big enough that we have both urban and rural problems to address.

Research is often published from large ‘ivory tower universities’ that are a little bit out of touch with the entire community. Here, we are far more connected with community.

“We are interested in the epidemiology of pediatric problems in the community, how pediatrics health care is organized and delivered in the community and what factors influence, positively or negatively, the overall health of children in our community. We can then formulate strategies for improving the health status of all of our children.”

Rural Louisiana was Dr. Pickoff’s training ground in community pediatrics. “We saw wonderful families and children with almost insurmountable barriers to

care. People were put into terrible dilemmas: decide, for example, whether their child’s belly ache was serious enough to make the 55-mile trip, by bus, into an emergency room in New Orleans

with an 8 to 10 hour wait. There’s a difference between intellectually understanding this kind of scenario and seeing it firsthand,” he says.

The application of community pediatrics is complicated. It requires integration and coordination with other medical disciplines, such as family medicine and psychiatry; schools; human services; and



“Our goals are local. Community pediatrics is not a ‘cookie cutter’ model, but a specific approach that reflects the community’s values and beliefs to improve the care and well-being of our community’s children.”



A Children's Medical Center health care team, including (from L to R) a nurse, second-year pediatric resident, a medical student, and third-year pediatric resident, visits an ill child at Children's Medical Center.

community resources to meet the needs of children. It requires community outreach programs and an understanding of psychosocial, environmental health, and safety issues. And, perhaps least understood, it involves the fields of epidemiology and community-based research methodologies that allow clinicians to query databases.

The new pediatric effort will also partner with the Division of Human Biology in the Department of Community Health and is already sharing a post-doctoral position. The division is home to the Fels Longitudinal Study. Established in 1929, the study is nationally recognized as the longest and largest study of growth and body composition.

The collaboration will help answer critical questions of childhood development and health. "The strength of the Fels Study is decades of data. I think their large database and experience in pediatric epidemiological statistical research will be a valuable resource," says Dr. Pickoff.

"With the Fels Study, we are uniquely positioned to look back decades into childhood and try to find subtle predictors that might influence the development of adverse cardiovascular markers of disease."

The data allows researchers to test theories that may impact health care in unique ways. Among the Fels Study's most recognized contributions are the pediatric growth charts, originally developed in 1977. Its most recent contribution may be the

addition of BMI (body mass index) data to the newly released growth charts from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Data reveals that there are two critical times in a child's growth that predict adult obesity. Between the ages of four and eight, children are at their leanest, reflected in a low BMI. BMI is a number calculated from a person's measurements and can determine whether an individual's weight is appropriate for his or her height.

Being overweight during these ages tracks directly into adulthood with an increased percentage of total body fat. And, the earlier a child begins to add fat during these years is also an indicator of weight problems as an adult. The same tracking occurs for girls in another critical period, adolescence.

These patterns of BMI have stronger effects on adult overweight than birth weight and adult lifestyle variables, such as smoking, drinking alcohol, and the amount of physical activity.

Shumei Guo, Ph.D., professor of community health, is currently studying childhood obesity and has recently published an article in *Pediatrics* that gives both pediatricians and parents a new way to examine a child's health. "BMI patterns are vital information," says Dr. Guo. "We have not been very successful at reducing obesity in adults. Adult overweight should be prevented early when it starts to develop in childhood."

"Pediatricians in their daily practice can now chart a child's BMI along with his or her height and weight."

As part of the national panel that developed the charts, Dr. Guo believes that this information is an important public health message. "Pediatricians in their daily practice can now chart a child's BMI along with his or her height and weight," she explains. "This will allow for early intervention by changing the physical activity and eating habits of children."

Ensuring that information derived from epidemiological studies quickly moves to clinical care is a major goal of community pediatrics. An example is the new echocardiography studies beginning at the Division of Human Biology with help from the Department of Pediatrics. "What we are trying to do is link the large data set of the Fels Longitudinal Study with cardiovascular outcomes that were previously not measured in Fels. With the Fels Study, we are uniquely positioned to look back decades into childhood and try to find subtle predictors that might influence the development of adverse cardiovascular markers of disease," explains Dr. Pickoff.

Echocardiography is a clinical tool that can measure the thickness of the heart and arteries, elasticity of the blood vessels, and cardiac function. Applied to long-term data and the Fels research subjects, it will enable researchers to better determine when adult cardiovascular diseases actually begin in the lifespan, what risk factors are evident in childhood, and whether childhood obesity is one of those significant factors.



Shumei Guo, Ph.D., professor of community health, served with Alex F. Roche, M.D., Ph.D., professor emeritus, on the national panel that developed the new growth charts recently released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Another example is the study of sexual maturity. Dr. Guo is researching the national prevalence estimate of sexual maturity. She recently received an NIH grant to answer a basic question: Are children maturing earlier? And, if so, why? This four-year grant has implications for everything from pediatric care to social services and will closely examine the correlation between a high BMI and sexual maturity in children.

"Our goals," adds Dr. Pascoe, "are local. Community pediatrics is not a 'cookie cutter' model, but a specific approach that reflects the community's values and beliefs to improve the care and well-being of our community's children. When pediatrics was a new discipline, the emphasis was on hunger, sanitation issues, and infectious diseases. Today's children face other issues, such as violence, substance abuse, and learning problems. Effective approaches to address local problems must build upon local resources."

"In the past," notes Dr. Pickoff, "pediatric literature might describe 14 children who had a certain medical condition. That was interesting and important. But I think questions based upon epidemiology impact the population as a whole. It's this population-based approach that is a key focus of community pediatrics." 📧

— Judith Engle

The Weekend Intervention Program: A Ticket for the Road to Recovery

Get caught driving under the influence and you might get sent to . . . school?

Given the choice between spending the weekend in jail or at a university-based residential intervention program, most people would opt for the educational route. That is the choice many area judges are giving people charged

“I’m more prepared to address alcohol and drug use issues with my patients and be on the lookout for these problems as well.”

with alcohol- and drug-related driving offenses: spend their time at the Weekend Intervention Program (WIP) in lieu of jail. WIP, a program of Wright State’s Center for Interventions, Treatment and Addictions Research, is an intensive, three-day program of lectures, films, and small-group and individual counseling sessions.

Since its inception in 1978, WIP has won strong support from area courts for motivating people to take the steps needed to get help. More than 40,000 people have participated in the program. Offenders who attend are more likely to stay sober on the road than those who spend the time in jail,

and are 20 to 30 percent less likely to be re-arrested for DUI.

The program’s founder, Harvey Siegal, Ph.D., professor of community health and of sociology at Wright State, saw that by working with the criminal justice system, WIP could provide early intervention for people either in trouble or getting into trouble. WIP’s professional substance abuse counselors

help offenders examine their consumption habits, realize if there is an abuse problem, docu-

ment its severity, and make recommendations to the individual and to the referring court about the best way to address any problems noted. Some form of professional assistance, such as counseling, is recommended for more than half of all participants.

The university-based program has an added benefit: it gives medical students concentrated, up-close experience with substance abusers. During their first two years of study, students are required to spend one weekend at WIP. There, they witness firsthand how the counseling, evaluation, and referral process works.

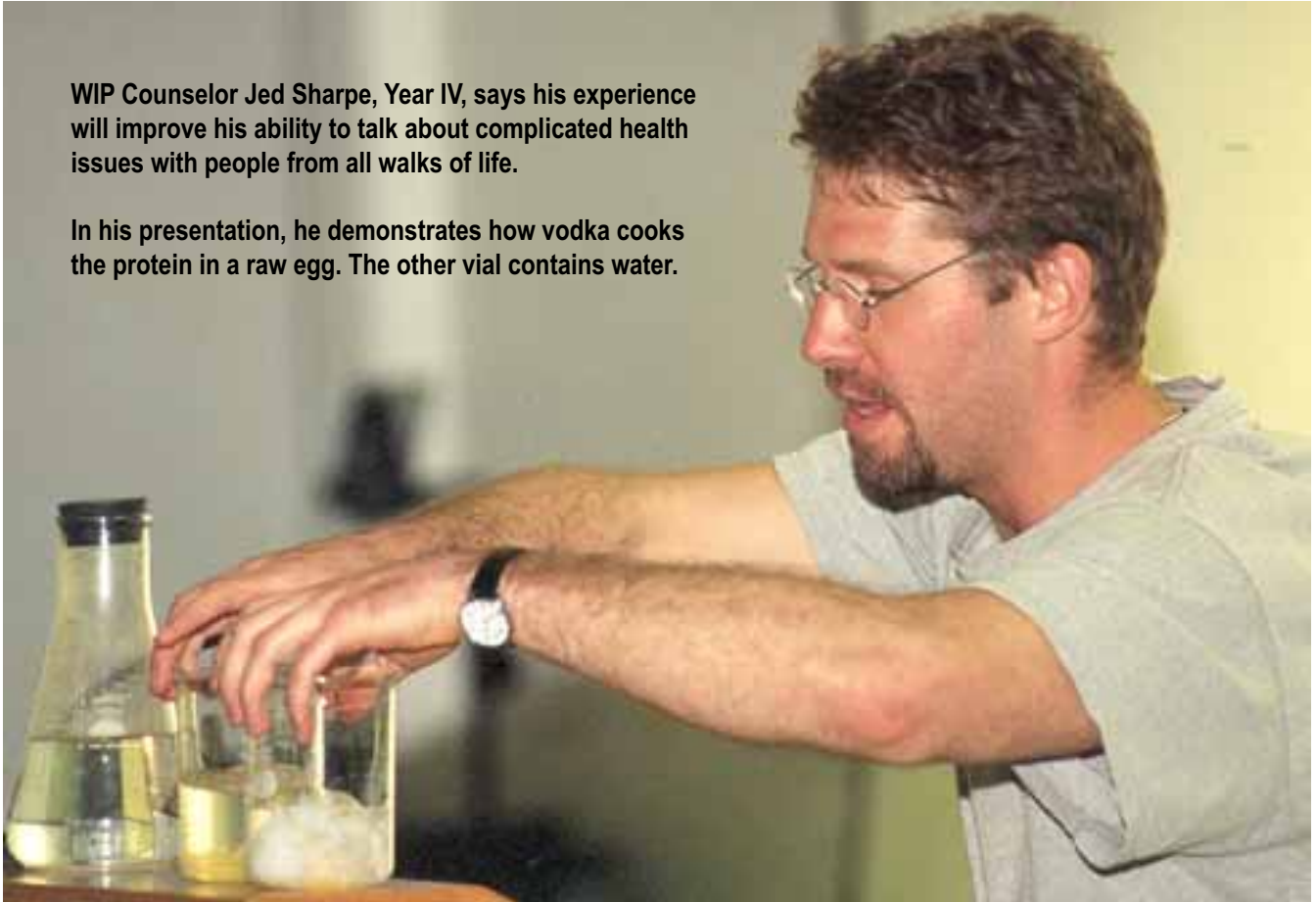
“WIP gives students experience with many of the same issues they’ll need to address with their patients,” says Phyllis Cole, WIP program manager. “It’s a real cross section of society that comes through WIP. These kinds of people problems can affect everyone. Occupational, educational, or social status doesn’t necessarily protect someone from a drinking or drug problem. Students get an awareness that they really need to look for substance abuse problems with each patient and, more importantly, that these problems can be addressed very early on, even with very resistant patients.”

David Rogers, Year III, works for WIP conducting interviews and lecturing on the effects of alcohol. “The first time I participated in the program,” he says, “it was kind of awkward trying to be sensitive to these people and their situations. Now, it’s become second nature. I’m more prepared to address alcohol and drug use issues with my patients and be on the lookout for these problems as well.”

Rogers feels his experience with WIP will greatly enhance his skills as a physician. “I see now that alcohol isn’t just a disease of the liver; it’s a disease of every body system, so it doesn’t matter

WIP Counselor Jed Sharpe, Year IV, says his experience will improve his ability to talk about complicated health issues with people from all walks of life.

In his presentation, he demonstrates how vodka cooks the protein in a raw egg. The other vial contains water.



what specialty of medicine a person finds himself in. They are going to encounter the effects of alcohol and drugs.”

Louis Pilati, M.D., couldn’t agree more. As a medical student, Dr. Pilati worked as a WIP lecturer and counselor. Now, as an attending physician at Kettering Medical Center in emergency medicine and the director of the Kettering Hyperbaric and Wound Care Center, he feels strongly that his WIP experience has been an asset to his work. “I’m able to recognize a drug or alcohol problem quicker and recognize the need for treatment faster,” he says.

Like Rogers, Dr. Pilati feels the small-group counseling sessions taught him a lot about human nature. “I saw how people initially were in great denial and anger about their problem,” he remembers, “but by the end of the week-

end many were in full acceptance of the process or at least open to look at how it’s impacting them. It was an amazing transformation to see.”

David Brittingham personally experienced that transformation.

Thirteen years ago, he received a DUI and was referred to WIP.

“It was a real eye-opener for me,” he explains. “Prior to that, I never gave a thought to what alcohol can do to you and how it affects your life.” Not only did the program help him quit drinking, but it also inspired him to become a certified chemical dependency counselor. Today, Brittingham is a WIP counselor and certified Employee Assistance Program (EAP) counselor at Delphi Harrison.

“When someone’s sent to jail, they just write it off, do their time, and go right back to drinking and driving,” Brittingham explains. With WIP, participants “get a knowledge base about why things happen to them when they drink

“When someone’s sent to jail, they just write it off, do their time, and go right back to drinking and driving.”

and what it can do to them. That doesn’t happen when you just go to jail.”

Wright State is proud of the program’s accomplishments over the years and the impact it has made on the lives of both participants and medical students. WIP has received national attention and has been widely replicated throughout the United States. 📌

— Ann Biswas

WRIGHT STATE RECEIVES \$5.8 MILLION FOR RESEARCH ON GULF WAR SYNDROME

In a joint press conference held on campus this summer, Congressman David Hobson, 7th District, announced that the U.S. Department of Defense awarded Wright State University School of Medicine a \$5.8 million contract to study the enigmatic medical problem known as Gulf War Syndrome.

Wright State researchers, under the direction of Mariana Morris, Ph.D., chair and professor of pharmacology and toxicology, and Daniel Organisciak, Ph.D., chair and professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, will investigate how stressful conditions combined with low-level chemical exposure may damage the body's systems in subtle ways that have eluded diagnosis. The researchers also want to determine whether chemical sensitization to toxins in military and civilian populations could result from genetic inheritance.

"This an exciting project that is the result of the combined efforts of our scientists and supporters," says Dean Howard Part. "We appreciate the assistance of Congressman Hobson and long-term supporter Mary Petticrew throughout the competitive process."

Several cutting-edge research tools will be applied to the studies. Gene array technology will allow the researchers to analyze genetic factors associated with low-level chemical sensitization and toxicity.



(Above) Dean Howard Part congratulates the partners at the press conference. To his right is WSU President Kim Goldenberg, Dr. Mariana Morris, and Mary Petticrew. To his left is Congressman David Hobson, who noted, "This project and the potential it offers to our citizens will put Wright State on the map for the Department of Defense."



(Above) Some of the scientists involved in the project are recognized at the press conference.



(Left) The new gene array equipment is demonstrated by biochemistry faculty, (L to R) Drs. Steven Berberich, John Turchi, Dan Organisciak, and Gerald Alter.

A state-of-the-art imaging facility will be used to determine the location of damage within cells.

Partners in the three-year research project include: Wright State's Departments of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Community Health (Division of Human

Biology), Emergency Medicine, and Pharmacology and Toxicology. The project will also include collaboration with the Tri-Services Toxicology Unit at Wright-Patterson AFB and the Dayton VA Medical Center. ☐

— Judith Engle

Truth and Consequences

Standing before the clerk in the upscale tobacco store in suburbia, the two neatly dressed boys, though young-looking for 15 and 16 and obviously nervous, boldly stood and asked the clerk about the cost of purchasing a cigar. They had only \$12. When the clerk said that the least expensive was \$15, the boys looked at each other and replied, “Well, we don’t have enough. We can’t afford that.” The vendor said, “How much money do you have and how many cigars do you want?” He neglected to ask for identification.

This is one experience local teens had during a recent study called Compliance Check, launched to observe vendors’ willingness to sell tobacco products to young people. Compliance Checks was sponsored by the American Lung Association in cooperation with the Combined Health District of Montgomery County, the Montgomery County Tobacco Control Task Force, local school districts, law enforcement agencies, and various community organizations.

Medical students in the Student National Medical Association (SNMA) recently assisted in two community-wide projects on the issue of teens and tobacco. Derek Fletcher, a second-year medical student, said the two projects were chosen because, “The projects address one of the significant health issues of our time and in our community—preventing teens from using tobacco.”

Selling Tobacco to Minors

Teamed with two or three young people and an adult driver, teens were taken to stores in several neighborhoods to attempt to purchase tobacco products and evaluate the vendors based on a list of criteria: Did the vendor request an I.D.? Did the vendor read the I.D.? Did the vendor sell the tobacco or not?



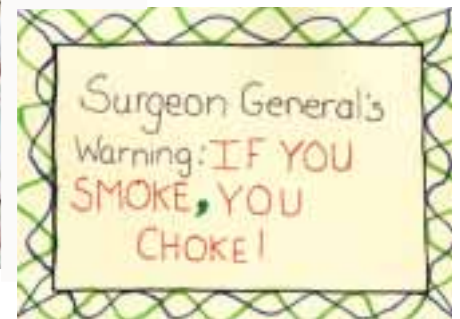
Derek Fletcher, Year II, admires the posters for tobacco warning labels at the Dayton Public Library, where they were on display.

The legal age for purchasing tobacco is 18, and the law specifies that a vendor of tobacco products must check the identification of anyone who appears to be less than 27 years old. The teens were instructed not to lie about their age and to show proper identification if asked.

The results were eye-opening. Close to 40 percent of vendors sold tobacco to the teens involved, sometimes even after checking their I.D. cards. Even though the vendors involved were not cited, they did receive letters about the event and its results.

Poster Contest for Tobacco Warning Labels

Dayton area teens within the Teen Waves Wellness Coalition (TWWC) were challenged by U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher in his visit to Wright State’s School of Medicine last year. TWWC, a media literacy project for teens on how to analyze, think critically, and produce effective media messages about health issues that concern teens, helped organize a contest for Miami Valley students on what they thought tobacco warning labels should say.



Student ideas included: “Tobacco Makes You Look Whacko, So Don’t Do It!” “If You Smoke, You Choke!” “Smoking Will Steal Your Soul!” and even, “Ashes to Ashes, Dust to Dust!” The overall winning poster was submitted by an 8th grader from Fairview Middle School. His message was clear: “Die Smoking.”

The poster contest entries were viewed by more than 200 enthusiastic judges, Daytonians eating their lunches in downtown Dayton’s Courthouse Square. All entries were submitted to the U.S. Surgeon General, and entrants received certificates for their participation. 📧

— Nancy Harker

Fordham Health Sciences Library: Treasures from

leeches. Scarificators. Tape worms. Bone drills. Poisons. Civil War scalpels. All were part of an exhibit of 18th–20th century medical relics, “*The Cutting Edge: Cut Me, Poison Me, Bleed Me.*” The exhibit was developed and assembled by Wright State University archivist John Sanford, Fordham reference librarian Karen Schneider, and anthropology student Kelly Couper. Sanford says the display served two purposes, “To have fun, and to help students in the School of Medicine and College of Nursing get an idea of where their professions have come from.” Archivists assemble a variety of special displays on a continual basis in concurrence with special events and gatherings at Wright State. *The Cutting Edge* was displayed at the Fordham Health Sciences Library, then moved to the Earl H. Morris Inaugural Lectureship and also to the school’s Mini-Medical Lab and Lecture series in May.

Wright State University’s Fordham Health Sciences Library and Special Collections began as part of the development of the School of Medicine in 1974. The library’s foundational beginnings, boxes of materials and artifacts donated by the Greene County Historical Society and the Montgomery and Greene County Medical Societies, were originally housed at the downtown Dayton Public Library. In 1977 the library was transferred to its permanent home on three floors within the Medical Sciences Building.

One aspect of the library is the interesting variety of medical, surgical, and pharmaceutical artifacts, and the rare books contained in the Special Collections at Fordham. More than 10,000 individual pieces and 2,000 rare books of medical history comprise this extensive collection.

Originally endowed by philanthropist Thelma Fordham Pruett, the Fordham Health Sciences Library is a local treasure that has evolved into one of the area’s premier medical resources. 📖

— Nancy Harker



4



5

the *10*ast



1



2



3

Top Row

1. Wood-cased surgical and amputation sets and an ivory-handled surgical set
2. A variety of blood-letting devices from 18th and 19th centuries—scarificators, lancets, and cupping devices
3. WWII surgeon's uniform and pocket surgery tool kits from WWI and WWII

Bottom Row

4. Doctor's medical bag, early Bausch & Lomb binocular, early medicine bottles, and a tongue holder
5. Wood-cased surgical and amputation set
6. Early portable, leather-encased pharmaceutical kits
7. Books from Fordham's extensive rare book collection



6

7



Staff Profile

Joyce Baver

She reminded Dr. Paul Carlson of a meeting he had this afternoon. She completed a report for the Liaison Committee for Medical Education (LCME). She talked with a student about scheduling a USMLE examination. She met with the Orientation Committee to finalize plans.

All of this Joyce Baver does with ease. With almost 20 years in the School of Medicine and five years as administrative assistant, she has had plenty of experience. Joyce began at Wright State in the secretarial pool in 1971. She worked in Admissions, the Registrar's Office, and the School of Nursing prior to moving to the School of Medicine in 1981.

Currently, Joyce is administrative assistant to Dr. Carlson, associate dean for student affairs and admissions. Among her many responsibilities, Joyce is responsible for coordinating orientation for incoming students, the National Resident Matching Program (NRMP), and the National Board USMLE Examinations.

The use of computers in daily tasks has been the most significant change during her tenure, according to Joyce. "When I started in Student Affairs, I calculated GPAs



Jacob Jones, Year II, meets with Joyce Baver, administrative assistant in student affairs and admissions.

"Joyce is a tremendous asset to the Office of Student Affairs and the medical school. She has an excellent grasp of student issues, manages the office effectively, keeps me on task, and works well with everyone."

— Dr. Paul Carlson

manually with calculators. It would take hours to prepare information for the Promotions Committee. We even had to type labels for transcripts. We chose selectives by pulling them out of a hat! Computers have simplified the process." The computer and the Internet continue to change the business of student affairs, as seen recently in the use of computer-based testing for USMLE examinations and the Internet for residency matching.

Away from Wright State, Joyce is very involved with her granddaughter's life. Playing soccer and hiking are two of their favorite activities. Joyce

also enjoys spending time with her husband, gardening, and reading. She always has a book nearby.

Students find Joyce always willing to assist with a smile, able to help with the most difficult or the simplest request. When asked why she stayed in the office for 20 years, Joyce replied, "I like being able to help people. I have a great job. I like being trusted by Dr. Carlson. I like all the students I have met throughout the years. It is wonderful when I talk with them years later and catch up with their lives. The people here are great!"

— Gwen Sloas

Charting the Next Frontier: The Center for Brain Research

At its June meeting, Wright State's Board of Trustees approved the creation of the Center for Brain Research. Located on Wright State's campus in the Biological Sciences Building, this new center will be a multi-disciplinary effort to further the work of scientists studying how the brain functions in health and disease.

Encompassing departments like anatomy, physiology and biophysics, neurology, and psychiatry, the center will offer shared laboratories and technical staff as well as the latest imaging technology with facilities necessary for processing anatomical samples and analyzing microscopic images. The departments will use their complementary specialties to work together as they explore the inner workings of the human brain.

Robert E. W. Fyffe, Ph.D., the first director of the center,

comments, "No single laboratory or experimental approach can solve the technical problems presented by the diversity of structures and functions in the brain and central nervous system. Interdisciplinary collaboration is essential for the future of brain research."

Faculty members have been making advances in this field for years, and several Wright State scientists have national reputations for their work. Their research has tackled such ailments as brain edema and hypertension, and the possible benefits for further work seem endless.

"It's a very exciting time for brain research at Wright State," says Howard M. Part, M.D., dean of the School of Medicine. "A generous gift from the Kettering Fund enables us to focus on a growing center of research excellence here and reach for even broader collabo-

rations." The Kettering family has been a strong supporter of the school since its inception. Mrs. Virginia W. Kettering's dedication to the health of Dayton's communities will be recognized at the inaugural School of Medicine Gala on Saturday, October 7, 2000.

"The family hopes this gift will open up new horizons for brain research at Wright State that will someday benefit the health of everyone."

Last year, the Kettering Fund provided seed grants to develop new biomedical research at Wright State, and in 1996, the family endowed a scholarship for Wright State medical students committed to geriatric care.

"The Kettering family is pleased to continue its support of Wright State University School of Medicine," says Al Leland, executive vice president of Bank One Trust Company in Dayton and representative of the Kettering Fund. "The family hopes this gift will open up new horizons for brain research at Wright State that will someday benefit the health of everyone." 

— Rob Boley



Dr. Fyffe presents information on the brain to participants in the Mini-Med Lecture Series.

Announcing the Elizabeth Berry Gray Endowed Chair of Surgery

The School of Medicine is proud to announce the Elizabeth Berry Gray Endowed Chair of Surgery—the result of a \$2 million gift from Mrs. Gray.

A childhood neighbor of Orville Wright, Mrs. Gray is a vital and active member of the Dayton community. Both she and the Berry family have played a pivotal role in the Miami Valley's well-being for multiple generations. The Berry family's support has aided a number of important local causes: preserving Dayton's history, conserving its culture, and expanding health care, to name a few. Mrs. Gray has ensured an honorable and lasting legacy with the endowment of the Elizabeth Berry Gray Chair of Surgery.

Dr. Robert K. Finley, Jr., clinical professor emeritus in the Department of Surgery, first approached Mrs. Gray about supporting the department through an endowment. When just a young man, Dr. Finley held his first job working for the Berry Company, and he was a classmate of Mrs. Gray. That childhood relationship has

remained and helped result in this gift to the field that Dr. Finley has served so well.

The new chair in surgery will provide academic and institutional prestige for the School of Medicine and will be a major factor in attracting the best and brightest faculty to the Miami Valley. The Berry name will be carried across the world, as the chair-holder serves as a university and community ambassador in attending international conferences and activities. In addition, this impressive endowment will provide a steady source of funds allowing us to plan for the future with confidence and security.

According to Surgery Chair James B. Peoples, M.D., Mrs. Gray's gift will meet a major need for the department, providing a "source of funding for faculty salary support not available through conventional channels." The Department of Surgery already has plans for the new funds made available by Mrs. Gray's gift.

"The first thing we plan to do is to hire a director of basic science research," says Jan L. Austin, past administrative

director of the Department of Surgery. "This person will begin collaborating with our current faculty and members of the basic science faculty to get research projects up and running. Our faculty members provide the clinical data and relevance for research projects, but the new director will do all the daily legwork to keep the project going, including grant funding. Our residents are very active in research, but because of their educational requirements, they cannot spend a long period of time in the laboratory. Once a project gets going, the researcher will oversee it and help numerous residents."

Dr. Peoples adds, "By linking our research with that in other departments, extramural grant support can be developed across multiple fronts, thus extending the impact of the gift throughout the entire school."

Mrs. Gray's gift is not just an investment in the School of Medicine, but also is a long-lasting commitment to the health and well being of the entire Miami Valley and beyond. 📖

— Rob Boley

Of Primary Interest



William W. Hurd, M.D., has been appointed the Nicholas J. Thompson Professor and Chair, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, effective August 1.

Dr. Hurd brings a wealth of experience and expertise to the school. He comes to the position from Indiana University School of Medicine, where he served as associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology and as director of the Division of Reproductive Endocrinology.

A native of Minnesota, Hurd received a B.S. degree in chemistry from the University of Alabama at Huntsville and holds an M.D. degree from the University of Alabama School of Medicine, Birmingham. He completed an obstetrics and gynecology residency at the University of Cincinnati Medical Center and a fellowship in reproductive endocrinology at the University of California at San Francisco.



Guest lecturer at the Earl H. Morris Inaugural Lectureship and Dedication Ceremony, Suzanne Oparil, M.D., visits with Herbert C. Morris. Mr. Morris, along with his wife Marion Danforth Morris, endowed the lectureship in memory of his father, a physician who practiced in the Dayton area for more than 50 years. The annual lecture series will be hosted by the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, chaired by Mariana Morris, Ph.D., who is granddaughter to Dr. Earl Morris.

Edward Sperber, M.D., is the new chief of staff at the Dayton Veterans Affairs Medical Center and will serve as assistant dean for Veterans Affairs, effective August 10.

Dr. Sperber received his M.D. degree from the University of Kentucky and completed pathology, neurology, and neuropathology residency and fellowship programs at The Johns Hopkins Hospital. He served as chief of pathology and laboratory medicine at the Huntington, West Virginia, VAMC, as well as professor of pathology at Marshall University School of Medicine.

He is a fellow in both the American Society of Clinical Pathologists and the College of American Pathologists and a diplomate in the International Academy of Cytology.



Faculty Notes

Marshall Kapp, J.D., M.P.H.,



received the President's Award of the American College of Legal Medicine (ACLM) for 2000. Dr. Kapp was recognized for his service as

chair of the ACLM Ethics Committee. ACLM is the official organization for professionals who focus on the important issues where law and medicine converge.

Sidney F. Miller, M.D., profes-



sor of surgery, was American initiator of the Judaism, Ethics and Health Care Multidisciplinary Conference that convened last fall in Israel. Dr.

Miller spent two years organizing the event, which brought together medical ethicists and Jewish, Muslim, and Christian doctors to exchange ideas. More than 250 international medical professionals and rabbis attended. Dr. Miller was also

elected to the national board of directors of the Jewish Community Association of America. In addition, he is co-editing the first national report of the National Trauma Databank for the American College of Surgeons.



Frank Nagy, Ph.D., Director of the Anatomical Gift Program and associate professor of anatomy and surgery, received the prestigious Presidential Award for Faculty Excellence in Professional Service at the University's Convocation. The award is given as part of the annual "Three Legs of the Stool" award to recognize individuals who excel in teaching, research, and service.

The National Medicine-Pediatrics Residency Association (NMPRA) has created the Gary Onady Award in recognition of his "notable, extraordinary, lasting contributions" to the specialty of medicine/pediatrics,

which provides medical care for both children and adults. **Gary Onady, M.D. ('87),** is associate professor of medicine and pediatrics



and director of the Combined Medicine/Pediatrics Residency Program at Wright State. Dr. Onady has served as president of the Med/Peds Program Directors Association and this year became the first national advisor of the NMPRA, which represents the needs and interests of Med/Peds residents across the country.

Elisabeth Righter, M.D. ('89),

assistant professor of family medicine, will plan the House of Delegates meeting for the Ohio Academy of Family Physicians (OAFP). She is



currently Vice Speaker of the OAFP and is active on the OAFP Board of Directors, Research Planning Committee, and Education Commission.

Student Notes

Graduation 2000

Nathan Piovesan won the Dean's Award and Amy Keebler the Academy of Medicine's Outstanding Senior Medical Student Award for the Class of 2000. Nathan, the son of missionary parents, grew up in Papua New Guinea and plans to return there as a medical missionary after completing a five-year surgery residency at Wright-Patterson AFB Medical Center.

Amy graduated first in her class and earned the American Medical Women's Association Janet M. Glasgow Memorial Award. Amy entered a pediatric residency at the University of Cincinnati.

The Class of 2000 presented John F. Donnelly, M.D., associate professor of family medicine, with its Teaching Excellence Award, and John O. Lindower, M.D., Ph.D., professor emeritus, with the medical school's annual Appreciation Award. The award recognizes Lindower's "outstanding leadership and sustained service" as one of the school's founders.

Convocation

The School of Medicine welcomed the Class of 2004 at Convocation on August 6. The afternoon consisted of a family orientation and the White Coat Ceremony, where each student receives a personalized white laboratory coat. Timothy J. Drehmer, M.D., assistant professor and clerkship director in the Department of Medicine, served as the guest speaker. The class had one week of orientation before classes began on August 14.



Susie L. Nguyen, M.D., and Hung T. Nguyen, M.D., at Graduation 2000.



The Class of 2004 recites the student's Oath of Professional Responsibility at the White Coat Ceremony.

Class Notes

1981

David H. Prescott, M.D., practices family medicine in Worthington, Ohio. He is married to Nancy, a substitute teacher. The couple lives in Columbus and has three children: Matt (19), Jeff (15), and Brian (13).

1983

Neal Barney, M.D., is married to Christine, a nurse anesthetist. The couple has two children: Erin and Patrick, ages 8 and 6. Dr. Barney is program director for the ophthalmology residency and chief of Cornea Service at the University of Wisconsin.

1985

Anita Wantz, M.D., has been practicing in Marysville, Ohio, for almost 12 years, and has grown very close to the families she cares for. She finds family practice to be rewarding work, and says, "Marysville is a great place to practice and to live." She serves on the Board of Health and is an active member in her church, where she is helping to establish a parish health ministries program.

1988

Robert Edwards, M.D., was featured in the East Liverpool, Ohio, local newspaper, *The Review*. The story recounted the move of his obstetrics and gynecology practice from Cleveland to East Liverpool. The switch from life in a big city to a small town wasn't that hard for Dr. Edwards: "The traffic is nonexistent and the cost of living is cheaper . . . East Liverpool seems to be a nicely kept secret."

1989

Lee E. McCrillis, M.D., began working as a college health physician at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington in the fall of 1999. She says, "I enjoy my job greatly as it gives me more time to spend with each individual patient compared to private practice plus it enables me to have a more traditional lifestyle to spend with family." She and her husband, Thom Porter, welcomed their first child on August 2—it's a girl!

1990

Laurel Roach-Armao, M.D., lives in Fairlawn, Ohio, with her husband, Joseph Armao. The couple has two children: Erin and Anna, ages 11 and 4 respectively.

1993

James W. Jarvis, M.D., lives in Greenwood, South Carolina, with his wife, Diane, and their daughter Nicole, age 3. He became full-time faculty at the Montgomery Center for Family Medicine Residency Program in Greenwood. He holds an assistant professorship with the Medical University of South Carolina and was recently awarded the Faculty Teacher of the Year by the residents. He is currently writing a book chapter on pregnancy complications while settling in as the new residency curriculum director for obstetrics and gynecology.

1994

Scott J. Arnold, M.D., was featured in the *Dayton Daily News* as the newest staff pathologist at the Greene Memorial Hospital Medical Laboratory. A native of Centerville, Dr. Arnold completed a residency at Vanderbilt University and a surgical/pathology fellowship at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center.

Attention All Alumni!

Let us know your news. You can submit online at www.med.wright.edu/alumni/alumnotes.html or mail to Judi Engle, *Vital Signs* Editor, School of Medicine Public Relations, Wright State University, 3640 Colonel Glenn Hwy., Dayton, OH 45435-0001.

1995

Brent Lehman, M.D., was recently featured in the *Akron-Beacon Journal*. Dr. Lehman returned to his hometown of Mount Eaton to take over the practice of his father, Dr. Elton Lehman. The elder Lehman has practiced medicine in Wayne County for 36 years.

Roya Zarraby Kazemi, M.D., lives in Dublin, Ohio, with her husband, Amir, and their two children, Ayla and Tara. She has been practicing general internal medicine in the Columbus region for two and a half years. A hospitalist for two years, she is now transitioning into the outpatient setting.

1996

Drs. Lou and Michele Ralofsky were featured in the Fremont, Ohio, *News Messenger* last July. The article recounted the story of how the couple met at medical school and how Lou proposed to Michele on stage during the graduation ceremony. The couple recently started their own practice in Bellevue called Life Stages Family Care Specialists.

1997

Michelle M. Milic, M.D., is chief resident at the Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center in Chicago, Illinois. She recently received the Pharmacia Corporation Achievement Award 2000 recognizing her dedication and excellence in teaching. In July 2001, she looks forward to starting a fellowship in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at Boston University Medical Center.

Robert E. Newman, M.D., recently completed his family practice residency at Dayton's Good Samaritan Hospital. He received the Volunteer Physician of the Year Award from REACH OUT of Montgomery County and has joined the medical staff at Southern Ohio Medical Center. He, his wife Pam, and his daughters, Abby and Hannah, are happy to be back in southern Ohio.

Jennifer Snyder, M.D., was featured in an article in the *Ada Herald* announcing that she would soon be practicing medicine in Kenton, Ohio. She recently completed her residency at Good Samaritan Hospital where she was chief

resident. She and her husband, Larry Laird, will be moving to Kenton with their daughter, Jordan, age 3; son, Parker, age 18 months; and her mother, Madelene Snyder. "We are very excited to be returning to a small town to raise our family," said Dr. Snyder.

1999

Noah Jones, M.D., is currently working as an intern at the University Hospitals of Cleveland. He was awarded the Willard A. Bernbaum, M.D., Award for outstanding performance as a medical intern—the equivalent of an intern of the year award.

2000

Michael Barnett, M.D., was recently featured in the Loveland, Ohio, *North Clermont Community Journal*, because of his graduation from WSU's School of Medicine. During his time here, he earned the Lange Medical Publication Award, the WSU School of Medicine Award, and the Wand B. Schneider Scholarship Award, and was nominated as the Outstanding Fourth Year Student.

New Faces



Jeffery Allen, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Family Medicine/School of Professional Psychology
Ph.D.: University of Mississippi

Fellowship: Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan

Naomi Bloom, M.D.

Assistant Professor, Psychiatry
M.D.: University of Rochester
Residency: University of Cincinnati (psychiatry)
Fellowship: University of Cincinnati (child and adolescent psychiatry)

Jordan Brooks, M.D.

Assistant Professor, Neurology
M.D.: Hahnemann Medical School
Residency: Case Western Reserve University—University Hospitals of Cleveland (neurology)
Fellowship: University of Alabama (EMG and neuromuscular diseases)



Lynn Crosby, M.D.
Professor, Orthopaedic Surgery
M.D.: Ohio State University
Residency: Creighton University (general

surgery)
Fellowship: Mid-America Orthopaedic Association Traveling Fellowship (USA)



Ellen Demerath, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Community Health
Ph.D.: University of Pennsylvania



Janice Duke, M.D.
Instructor, Obstetrics and Gynecology
M.D.: Wright State University School of Medicine
Residency: Wright State University (obstetrics/gynecology)



Akpofure Ekeh, M.D., M.P.H.
Instructor, Surgery
M.D.: University of Ibadan, Nigeria
M.P.H.: University of Miami (epidemiology)
Residency:

Brooklyn Hospital Center (surgery)
Fellowship: University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Hospital (surgical critical care/trauma)

Mary Newman, M.D.

Assistant Professor, Psychiatry
Captain, USAF, MC
M.D.: University of Indiana School of Medicine
Residency: Wright State University (psychiatry)



John Pascoe, M.D., M.P.H.
Professor, Pediatrics
M.D.: University of Michigan
Residency: University of

Michigan (pediatrics)
Fellowship: University of Michigan, Towsley Child Advocacy Fellow



Darshan Singh, M.D.
Assistant Professor, Psychiatry
M.D.: Royal College of Physicians of London/Royal College of Surgeons of

England
Residency: Wright State University School of Medicine (psychiatry)
Residency: GSVM Medical College (internal medicine)

John Stea, M.D., M.P.H.

Assistant Professor, Psychiatry
Major, USAF, MC
M.D.: University of Guadalajara
Residency: Albert Einstein College of Medicine (general psychiatry)
Residency: Maimonides Medical Center (internal medicine/general psychiatry)
Residency: University of Kentucky (general preventive medicine)

Christina Weston, M.D.

Assistant Professor, Psychiatry
Captain, USAF, MC
M.D.: State University of New York at Buffalo
Residency: Wright State University (psychiatry)

Thanks, Readers

Almost one-third of full-time faculty and staff and about one out of nine voluntary faculty responded to the *Vital Signs* readership survey. Respondents expressed an interest in seeing more stories about alumni, school events, faculty research, community outreach, and students. They also expressed a preference for one- to two-page stories as well as brief updates and photos.

More than four out of five of the 546 people who responded rated the magazine's information value as good or excellent. Almost 90 percent rated the content as good or excellent; 96 percent rated the appearance as good or excellent.

Based upon the responses, the *Vital Signs* Editorial Planning Group is adding alumni class notes, expanding coverage of residents and staff, minimizing long feature stories, and developing additional ways of soliciting story ideas.