

# T A B L E O F *Contents*

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*About the covers:*

*(Front)*

Orville Wright pilots the Wright 1904  
Flyer on its 85th flight at Huffman  
Prairie, November 16, 1904.

*(Back)*

Orville and Wilbur Wright standing  
by the Wright 1904 Flyer at Huffman  
Prairie in May 1904.

*(Inside)*

Orville (left) and Wilbur Wright sitting  
on the porch of their family home on  
Hawthorne Street in Dayton.

Photos courtesy of Special Collections and  
Archives, Wright State University.





# THE NEIGHBOR

*Most of us know that neighboring Wright-Patterson Air Force Base (WPAFB) is the largest single site employer in the state of Ohio. We know, too, that Wright-Patterson Medical Center (WPMC) is one of the school's partners in clinical training and research. There is much more. Nearing its first century, the area now known as WPAFB has an illustrious past and amazing community connections, beginning with two of Dayton's most famous families.*

## **Dayton's Brothers**

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Orville and Wilbur Wright were the original developers of the land now occupied by WPAFB when they purchased an 84-acre plot, Huffman Prairie Flying Field, shortly after their test flight at Kitty Hawk in 1903. In 1904 and 1905, they perfected flight in Dayton, performing the first bank and circle in an airplane and inventing the first successful catapult launcher for an aircraft. In 1910, the brothers established the Wright Company School of Aviation, a flight exhibition company that trained the nation's first pilots, a total of 119, through a two-week, hands-on course.

While World War I was a catalyst to the growth in size and complexity of the area, soon after, the deteriorating testing site and short runways had the War Department searching the country for a new place to build aeronautical engineering facilities.

The Patterson family, including brothers John and Frank,

founders of the National Cash Register Company, helped ensure Dayton's place in aeronautical history. In 1924, they spearheaded a 48-hour fundraising campaign that brought in \$425,000 to buy 4,502.47 acres of land. They "gave" the land to President Calvin Coolidge to build the new facilities. Orville attended the ceremonial naming of Wright Field. In 1931, the community designated a portion of Wright Field as Patterson Field in recognition of the family's efforts and in honor of John Patterson's nephew, a test pilot who died in a plane crash at Wright Field.

World War II saw a huge buildup at Wright-Patterson with a workforce over 50,000 and round-the-clock operations for procurement, research and development, and logistics support. From 1940–45, WPAFB supervised the war-time production of 300,000 new aircraft, including bombers, fighters, and transports, which



# THAT FLIES

gave the allies a decisive edge during the war. It was also a major contributor for war efforts in Korea, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf, and the research and testing site for numerous Cold War systems, including the B-2 stealth bomber, F-22 Raptor, and unmanned reconnaissance aerials. In 1945, Wright-Patterson Fields were integrated under one umbrella organization, the Army Air Forces Technical Base.

In 1957, a World War II housing complex, called Skyway Park along Kauffman Avenue, was torn down. The land was donated for the construction of Wright State University.

Wright-Patterson Medical Center in the early '50s and, after several renovations, today.

## Medical Connections

“We believe the first residents in an accredited program arrived at WPAFB in 1961,” notes Colonel James R. Ebert, M.D., associate clinical professor of pediatrics. “This June, we graduated 83 military interns and residents, and we look forward to our 40th commencement next year.” Dr. Ebert is chief of the Medical Staff and director of Graduate Medical Education at Wright-Patterson Medical Center (WPMC).

“Our medical center is fairly unique in the Air Force structure. It trains nurse anesthetists, psychologists, general dentists, PA’s, and physicians, including six medical specialty areas: emergency medicine; internal medicine; obstetrics and gynecology; pediatrics; psychiatry; and surgery,”

explains Dr. Ebert. Each year, approximately 100 military residents rotate through WPMC and community-based hospitals along side 325 civilian residents. The model gives flexibility to both military and civilian programs, offers outstanding clinical training sites, and provides additional patient care to the community.



One of the visionaries for this model was the late John J. Halki, M.D., Ph.D., the first assistant dean for Air Force Affairs at the newly established Wright State University School of Medicine and then commander of WPMC. As early as 1978, when WPMC was in the process of adding a \$75 million expansion, Dr. Halki said, "Integrated residency training endeavors among the medical school, civilian community hospitals, the Dayton VA Hospital, and Wright-Patt Medical Center are a first in the United States. The combined effort can only result in improved quality of health care for the people, civilian and military, of the Greater Dayton area."

"Ten years ago, we were the only area in the country that merged military and civilian medical training programs. It has since become a national model and is the model for the future," says Dr. Ebert. "We have received lots of calls from other military facilities wanting to know, 'How do you guys do this?'"

Another specialty area, aerospace medicine, is closely linked to WPAFB. The Wright State program is the longest-running civilian training program in the nation and has trained many of NASA's top echelon as well as leadership for the world's developing space programs. Residents in this program rotate through the flight surgeon's office and the hyperbaric and centrifuge areas.

For pediatrics, the Dayton model is the only integrated program in the nation involving a military hospital, children's hospital, and medical school. The Psychiatry Residency Program is the nation's only fully integrated civilian/military residency, and there is only one other integrated surgery program in the nation.

## ***Dynamic Clinical Partner***

Wright-Patterson Medical Center brings a whole new dimension to medical education. Approximately 13 percent of Wright State's medical students receive a military Health Professions Scholarship. In exchange for scholarship support during medical school, scholarship recipients commit to serving active military time after residency.

Michael Krier, Year II, is one of these students. His career goal is to be a military officer in the Air Force, a career he refers to as "a privilege and honor." He recently attended a one-month elective provided by the Air Force to help him explore a career as a flight surgeon. "As a flight surgeon, one provides primary health care to

flight personnel and their families," he explains. "A flight surgeon is also required to have about 20 hours of flight time per month in the aircraft to which he or she is assigned. The idea is that a flight surgeon cannot adequately care for the needs of the pilot without having a good understanding of the environmental working conditions."

WPAFB is also the clinical training site for clerkships and electives for all four medical classes. Kathleen Grady, a current Year III in her obstetrics/gynecology clerkship, says that the medical center provides a great learning environment. "You have time to think about what you are doing and read up on cases and

***"Ten years ago, we were the only area in the country that merged military and civilian medical training programs."***

### ***WPMC Facts and Figures***

- ***One of six regional Air Force medical centers***
- ***65-bed hospital with more than 2,000 military and civilian personnel***
- ***\$144 million annual budget***
- ***475,000 out patient visits annually***
- ***5,000 admissions per year, and 3,000 same-day surgeries***
- ***Population served: 600,000 in seven states***
- ***Provides Level-2 emergency room coverage for the Fairborn community as needed***
- ***Large medical contingent deployed in support of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm and primary casualty flow location for both operations***





Michael Krier, Year II, attends Wright State through the military Health Professions Scholarship Program, one of many to do so. Shown here with Emily Denton, Year I.

patients,” she says. Another Year III student, Kimberly Stuckey, has noticed that there is “more formality as far as how you address each other, ‘Sir’ or ‘Ma’am.’ I have enjoyed learning about military medicine where everyone gets the health care they need. There are few insurance problems here.”

*“I have enjoyed learning about military medicine where everyone gets the health care they need.”*

#### **WPAFB Facts and Figures**

- **Largest and most complex base in the Air Force**
- **Foremost aeronautical research and development center in the Air Force**
- **Headquarters of a vast worldwide logistics system supporting the entire Air Force**
- **Second largest medical center in the Air Force**
- **Nearly \$3 million in salaries every day**
- **10,000 scientists and engineers in workforce**
- **8,243-acre military reservation**
- **First time an installation was named for living individuals and for civilians who had never been in military service**



## Collaborations That Soar

Beyond the close working relationships for medical and graduate education are several joint research and patient care projects that impact the community.


A joint research project between the School of Medicine and the base is in the study of Gulf War syndrome, funded through a competitive process from the Department of Defense. The \$7.2 million project is under the leadership 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. The project involves a large team of scientists and clinicians. A major partner is the Tri-Services Toxicology Unit at WPAFB.

Technology developed at WPAFB is frequently transferred to medical uses. For example,

Computer-Assisted Minimally Invasive Surgery (CAMIS) evolved from target recognition research at Wright-Patterson Laboratories. Technology used to custom fit masks and helmets for pilots has been successfully tested to create protective masks for burn patients. Other research is focusing on software that will improve the fit of prosthetic limbs.

A regional resource is also at Wright-Patterson AFB. It houses one of the largest hyperbaric chambers in the world. It has the capability of treating up to 18 patients in the large chamber and five in each of the smaller chambers. Called a multi-place facility, it pressurizes the chamber with compressed air, rather than oxygen. Patients don a rubber hood device to breathe 100 percent oxygen. The facility specializes in wound care, especially for traumatic injury, diabetes, vascular

disease, rheumatoid arthritis, congestive heart failure, arterial or venous ulcers, and radiation tissue damage. In addition, the facility is used to treat scuba divers suffering from decompression sickness and air or gas embolism. In a recent community agreement between the Kettering Medical Center and Wright-Patterson AFB, this facility is available to the entire community for patient care and part of research projects for the School of Medicine.

Like many other Dayton institutions, Wright-Patterson AFB helped Wright State University School of Medicine become nationally recognized for its medical education and community service. Working together, military base and medical school have developed programs for today and models for the future. 

— Judith Engle

Resources: Facts & History, 88th Communications Group Web Team, WPAFB, and *A Century of Growth: The Evolution of Wright-Patterson Air Force Base*, Aeronautical Systems Division, August 1999.

WPAFB and Kettering Medical Center partner in wound healing and hyperbaric medicine. Their 22-foot diameter hyperbaric chamber is one of the largest facilities of its kind in the world and an asset to the region. Mike Milligan, CHT, Program Director for the facility is at the control panel.



In this computer screen view, Thomas Mathews, M.D., demonstrates a neurological exam on a healthy woman as part of the video database that will feature patients in different stages and types of neurological disease.

Patient	Test Conducted	Subcategory 1	Subcategory 1	Symptoms	diagnosis	
Trudy-1	Coordination	Background information	Coordination	none	Normal	
	Clip	Quality	Data Rate	FPS	Size	Alternate View
	▶ Current Clip		12 kb/s	10	270 x 180	No Alternate
	▶ View Clip		25 kb/s	30	356 x 240	No Alternate
	▶ View Clip		50 kb/s	30	356 x 240	No Alternate
<a href="#">Download this movie.</a> (Mac use option + click, Win, use shift + click)						
<a href="#">Patient Profile</a>   <a href="#">Search</a>   <a href="#">Home</a>						

# GOING VIRTUAL ANATOMY CREATES EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES FOR TOMORROW

With support from two National Library of Medicine (NLM) grants, faculty in the Department of Anatomy are creating vast databases of virtual anatomical objects and neurological teaching videos that are likely to be used by educators worldwide for decades to come. Resources from both projects will be available for free download via the department's Web site.



**I**t is an honor to have won such prestigious grants from NLM,” says Jane N. Scott, Ph.D., chair and associate professor of anatomy. “One grant will support a scholarly activity that has already received national recognition. The other will involve close collaboration between a basic scientist and a clinician in creating a new resource that will be of great value to the field of neurology.”

Gary L. Nieder, Ph.D., associate professor of anatomy, and Frank Nagy, Ph.D., associate professor of anatomy and surgery, are principal investigators on Anatomical Resources in the QuickTime® VR (QTVR) Format.

For hundreds of years, the time-honored tools used in teaching anatomy were dissection of anatomical specimens and viewing images of them in atlases, Dr. Nieder explains. Many undergraduates and others studying human anatomy in remote areas don’t have access to human organs. “They have to rely on

looking at atlases and charts alone, trying to mentally create a reality out of that,” he points out.

Using virtual reality technology, the team will photograph hundreds of anatomical specimens to add to a collection of VR images they’ve been building since 1996. “We’re going to build a large database—or library is probably a better term—of virtual anatomical objects that people at other educational institutions can download from the Internet to use in their lectures, tutorial programs, and other teaching activities,” Dr. Nieder explains.

In 1995, Drs. Nieder and Nagy developed “Beyond Vesalius,” a set of interactive programs for teaching sectional and radiological anatomy using images from the NLM’s Visible Human Dataset. With the introduction of VR technology for the personal computer, Dr. Nieder, Dr. Scott, and Mark Anderson, multimedia director in the Interdisciplinary Teaching Laboratories, created “Yorick: The VR Skull,” a

Gary Nieder, Ph.D., prepares the camera at another angle for a picture of a heart. Photos of each object are taken from hundreds of angles to create virtual anatomical objects that become part of a comprehensive database.





program for teaching human skull osteology. Both “Beyond Vesalius” and “Yorick” are still used at Wright State and have been widely distributed to other medical schools and educational institutions through CDs and the World Wide Web.

“Using VR, we were able to create the illusion of holding and turning a three-dimensional object via a computer screen,” Dr. Nieder says. As many as 640 photos of one object taken from all angles can be assembled to make an interactive “object movie” controlled by the computer user.

“The neurological physical exam can reveal so much about nervous system function that it is an absolutely critical tool in making a neurological diagnosis. Neurologists have traditionally taught the exam through demonstrations using real patients or by video recordings of them. But these teaching methods have their limits based on patient availability and videotape distribution. Our objectives are to produce digital source videos and prepare them for computer network distribution to avoid the limitations of traditional teaching methods,” he explains.

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“Material recorded today will have next generation potential. . . . This is a resource that will be useful well beyond our time. ”

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In spite of the fact that VR technology has been available for several years, few people are creating similar anatomical resources. “This work is incredibly time consuming and requires a level of technological sophistication few educators have,” Dr. Nieder explains.


“Computer technology has greatly enhanced the students’ learning experience,” Mark Anderson reports. “Many students have said that using ‘Yorick’ was more beneficial than using an anatomical atlas.”

John C. Pearson, Ph.D., associate professor of anatomy, is principal investigator, and Thomas Mathews, M.D., chair and professor of neurology and professor of pathology, Dr. Nieder, and Mark Anderson are co-investigators for the other NLM-funded project, Neurological Teaching Resources in the QuickTime Streaming Format.

“The long-term objective of this project is to establish a searchable database of digital videos depicting neurologic disorders and distribute them as a neuroscience resource to health care educational institutions. A lot of people in neuroscience have been asking for such a resource,” explains Dr. Pearson.

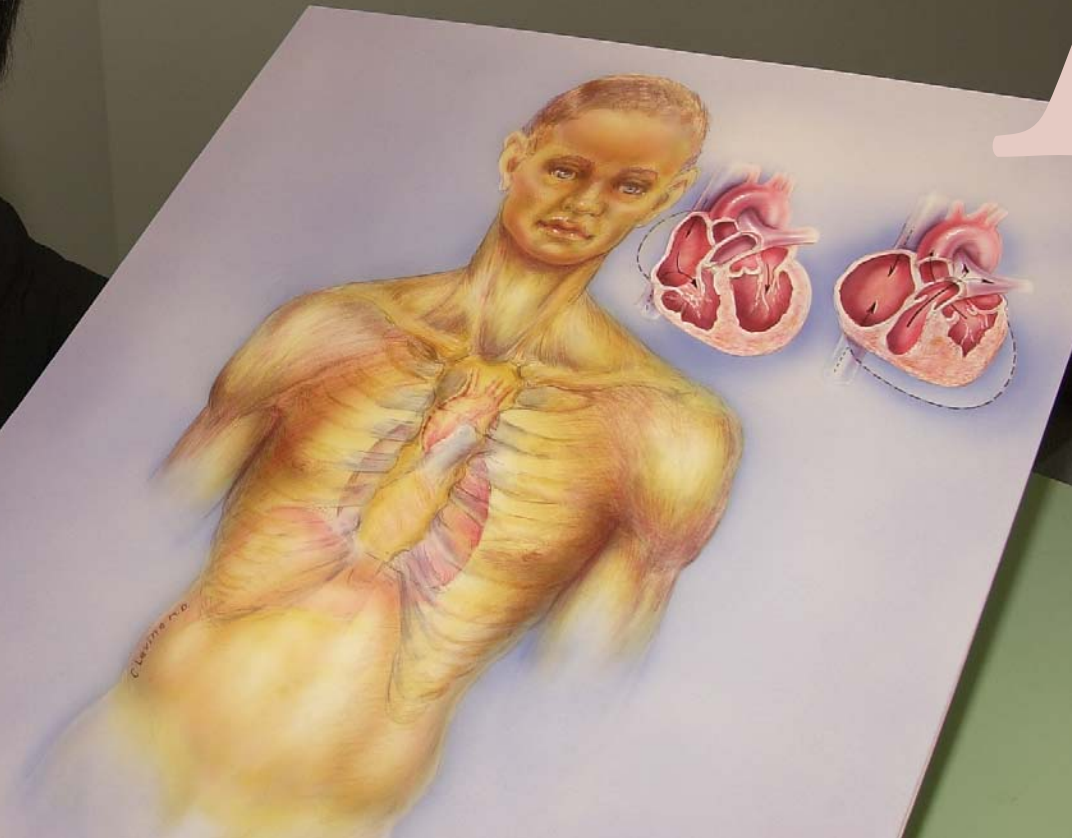
“We are developing a storehouse of digital videos of Dr. Mathews, who has taught neurology for more than 25 years, conducting physical exams on patients with neurologic disease,” continues Dr. Pearson. The videos will be compressed in a QuickTime streaming video and stored in the database with patient records. “Users will be able to search the database for specific diseases or symptoms, review video clips, and, when they find the information they are looking for, they’ll be able to download files they can distribute on a local area network accessed by their students. They can customize the materials to suit their curricular objectives.”

Patients participating in the exams will represent all significant neurological disorders across a wide range of ages and both genders. Real names will not be used and the database will be password protected so that detailed medical records can be included.

“Material recorded today will have next generation potential—that is, it will be available to be repurposed and used with technology that has yet to be developed. This is a resource that will be useful well beyond our time,” Dr. Pearson maintains. 

— Robin Suits

# THE HEALER AS



Carol Levine, M.D. ('94), displays an illustration she created to teach medical students.

**F**or Carol Levine, M.D. ('94), one unique facet to being a doctor is communicating medical information through artistic illustration. Whether she is teaching medical students, meeting with patients, or working alongside internal medicine residents, Dr. Levine uses “visual mapping” to present ideas and information in a graphical way. This helps others to understand, remember or “map” information.

“Medical illustration has a two-fold effect,” Dr. Levine states, “the patient sees that you are interested enough to go through details with them, and visual aids help when trying to explain how things work.” As both a doctor and

a medical illustrator, she seeks to communicate a clear message, looking for accuracy in scientific data that visual details can display.

The illustration of science has a rich history. From the early drawings of Hippocrates, DaVinci, Galen, and Vesalius to the 20th century perfection of Max Brödel, medical illustration has helped transform vital information into effective graphic format. Although tools and techniques have changed since these medical forefathers first began recording information, an artist’s viewpoint remains a great benefit to science and medicine.

Dr. Levine’s career began with a fine arts major and a

degree in medical illustration.

After working as a medical illustrator and free-lance artist, she decided to become a doctor. Being a medical student, resident, attending physician, and teacher has given her a unique perspective on communicating the art of medicine.

“As a medical student at Wright State, I realized that it was not that medical school was so hard, but that it is so much, in so short a time,” says Dr. Levine. So she began developing visual aids to help her remember different systems, functions, and processes. Now, using “pearls” of information she discovered through study, along with her illustrative capabilities, she has assembled learning



# ARTIST

tools for students and patient information packets for use in her practice.

Language barriers, whether they are educational, societal, or cultural, can present hurdles to any physician trying to communicate specific information. By creating easy-to-understand drawings, along with very simplified directions, Dr. Levine is able to overcome some of those hurdles for her patients.

One of her patients—a bright, elderly man—was facing the ramifications of kidney failure. A farmer with a third-grade education, he found the patient information pamphlets hard to read and understand. Dr. Levine drew a picture for him of a home septic system and related this purification process step-by-step to his situation. He then understood the steps of intervention that could help slow down his kidney failure and its consequences.

Dr. Levine, an assistant professor in the Department of Internal Medicine, combines computer-enhanced illustration, traditional drawing tools, and her own insight to produce organized charts and visual aids that explain complex information for her students and patients.

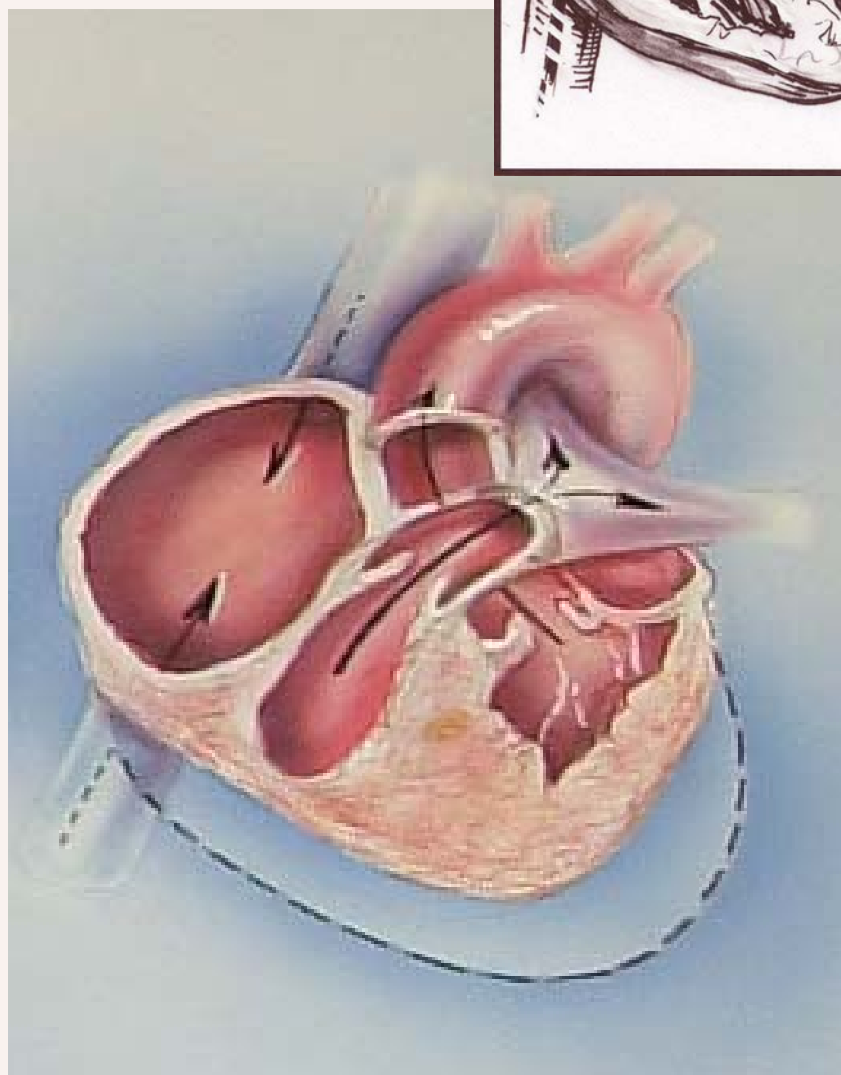
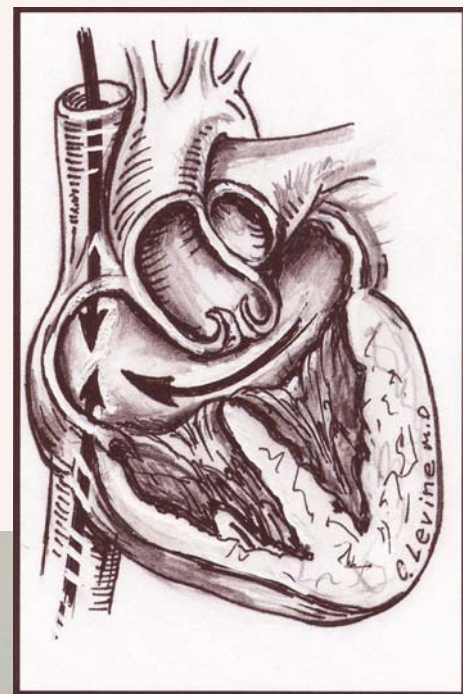
One such aid is a beautifully detailed illustration of a human body that Dr. Levine designed, to-scale, for use in conjunction with a visual teaching aid provided by a pharmaceutical company. The teaching aid is a breast self-examination model made of latex and embedded with several abnormalities. It is much easier to understand when placed on Dr.

Levine's reference illustration than if it is examined alone. For Dr. Levine, this is a better way of showing the patient or medical student how to learn and follow the examination process.

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**“For many people, combining either the spoken or written word with an illustration helps to consolidate the message.”**

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(Right) Dr. Levine, precepting with third-year medical students, Charity Wip, David Juang, and Alton Marcello. (Below) Dr. Levine showing some of the illustrations she uses while instructing patients and students.




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**“This, combining medicine and art, is something I have always wanted to do, and it is very rewarding.”**

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“People have different capacities for learning information. Both children and adults learn visually, auditorially, and experientially, but individuals have significant preferences,” suggests Barbara Schuster, M.D., professor and chair of the Department of Internal Medicine. “Non-readers, or those literate in a language other than English, have much more difficulty in following instructions written by local physicians. Dr. Levine’s gift of illustration offers another avenue for communication and learning. For many people, combining either the spoken or written word with an illustration helps to consolidate the message.”

“Internal medicine is wonderful. I thoroughly enjoy my work. You have continuity of care and intervention at various stages, and ideally, prevention,” says Dr. Levine. “This, combining medicine and art, is something I have always wanted to do, and it is very rewarding.” 📄

— Nancy Harker



In the recent Inaugural Art Exhibit, “The Healer as Artist,” held for School of Medicine faculty, staff, and students, Dr. Levine displayed her artistic talent in medical illustration, painting, and ceramics. (Right) A couple of her ceramic pieces with crystalline glaze.



# ADVANCEMENT

## *Alumni Directory Update!*

Have you ever tried to get in touch with an old classmate, only to find that you lost track of his or her current address? Well, your troubles are over. Soon a directory of our alumni will be available to help you locate all your friends.

All 1,813 Wright State University School of Medicine alumni were recently notified of our upcoming new alumni directory and were asked for input. Please return your questionnaire today, if you have not already done so. This will ensure that your personal information will be accurately included in this great new reference book.

Within two to three months, the verification phase of this project will begin. Alumni will receive a telephone call from Bernard C. Harris Publishing Company, Inc., the official publisher of our directory. Please give the representative who calls you a few moments of your time to verify your listing. To reserve a copy of the alumni directory, please advise the Harris representative during this conversation, since this will be the only opportunity for alumni to order the book.

Scheduled for release in the spring of 2002, the Wright State University School of Medicine alumni directory promises to be the definitive reference of more than 1,800 alumni. This comprehensive volume will include current name, address and phone number, academic data, plus business information (if applicable), bound into a classic, library-quality edition. Don't miss the opportunity to be a part of it!

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School of Medicine alumni, staff, and friends enjoy a Dayton Dragons baseball game one evening this summer. The Medical Alumni Association sponsored the event, which included a picnic before the game. If you have an idea for an alumni event in your city, please contact the Office of Advancement by phone at (937) 775-2972 or by e-mail at [som\\_adv@wright.edu](mailto:som_adv@wright.edu).



Paula Zahn

## *Academy of Medicine Dinner*

The Academy of Medicine's Annual Distinguished Guest Lecture and Dinner Meeting provides the Academy with a unique opportunity to thank its members and to recognize distinguished medical students, residents, and faculty. At this year's dinner on Wednesday, April 25, at the Dayton Marriott, the Academy proudly featured guest lecturer Paula Zahn, national award-winning journalist.

The Academy also took the opportunity to recognize departing Board members, Drs. Cynthia Olsen and Henry Maimon, for their service and dedication. The membership approved Drs. John Rudisill and Richard Schuster for six-year terms on the Academy Board, and Dr. Chris Danis was elected to serve as chair of the Board of Trustees. This was an outstanding year for the Academy; membership was at a record-high and the loan program issued low-interest loans to 31 medical students.

For more information about the Academy of Medicine, please call (937) 775-2972 or visit [www.med.wright.edu/aom/](http://www.med.wright.edu/aom/).



## 1981

James H. Bay, M.D., has a family practice in Wooster, Ohio. He and his wife Cynthia have two children, Jessie and Ross.

Gregory A. Bergman, M.D., practices in Minster, Ohio. He and his wife Betty have three children, Erin, Emily, and Anthony.

Janet A. Cunningham, M.D., is currently the program director at Glendale Adventist Medical Center's Family Practice Residency Program in Glendale, California. She is married to Carlos Calderon and the couple has four children, Annie, Charlie, Julie, and Tony.

## 1985

Anthony F. Titus, M.D., holds his medical degree in honor of his father, Frank A. Titus. He practices emergency medicine at the Bluefield Regional Medical Center in Bluefield, West Virginia. His wife Lisa White, Ph.D., founded a nonprofit organization, ROCK AGAINST CANCER. The organization's purpose is to bring the healing power of music to children with cancer and other illnesses. The couple and their sons, Nicholas, Graham, and Gabriel, recently traveled to Europe for an 18-day hiatus.

## 1986

Rochele D. Beachy, M.D., and her husband Nathan Beachy, M.D. ('87), practice at Metro Health Lee Harvard in Cleveland, Ohio. The couple has three children, Jared, Carita, and Caleb.

Gary C. Brown, M.D., practices cardiology at Ohio Heart Health and Middletown Regional Hospital in Middletown, Ohio. He and his wife Debra have two children, Matthew and Melissa.

Debra A. Miller, M.D., has her own obstetrics/gynecology practice in Dayton, Ohio.

Margaret DePiere Neiheisel, M.D., practices pediatrics in San Antonio, Texas. She and her husband Steve Neiheisel, Ph.D., have three children, Jane, Steven, and Emily. Her greatest accomplishment is "striving to find balance in life between career and family and helping her patients to do the same."

Timothy J. Pirnat, M.D., practices at the Greenfield Area Medical Center in Greenfield, Ohio, Highland District Hospital in Hillsboro, Ohio, and Southern Ohio Sports and Physical Medicine in Peebles, Ohio. He and his wife Judy have one son, Andy.

## 1987

Nathan R. Beachy, M.D., and his wife Rochele Beachy, M.D. ('86) practice at Metro Health Lee Harrard in Cleveland, Ohio. The couple has three children, Jared, Carita, and Caleb.

## 1990

Dennis A. Williams, M.D., practices physical medicine and rehabilitation in Augusta, Georgia. He and his wife Julie Williams, M.D. ('91), have three children, Cassie, Carly, and Carter.

## 1991

Irene Lesica Druzina, M.D., practices internal medicine in Willoughby Hills, Ohio. She and her husband David have twins, Thomas and Erika, and were expecting a second set in July. As a resident, she was named Graduate of the Year, earning top honors among all specialties at her residency.

Anne C. Dillon Griseimer, M.D., practices with Anderson Family Medicine in Cincinnati, Ohio. She and her husband Ben have two children, Drew and Macie.

William Randy Marriott, M.D., practices emergency medicine at Miami Valley Hospital in Dayton, Ohio. He and his wife Lynda have three children, Ricky, Lauren, and Leanna.

Dale S. Snead, M.D., is currently an orthopedic surgeon in Indianapolis, Indiana. He has been the team surgeon for the Indianapolis Firebirds, Purdue University, Manchester College, and Warren Central High School. He and his wife Shelley have one child, Sydney.

Patrick E. Stout, M.D., currently practices at the Urology Clinic of Northeast Oklahoma in Miami, Oklahoma. He and his wife Jessica have five children, Oliver, Wesley, Madeleine, Charlotte, and Fiona.

Renate W. Thomas, M.D., practices internal medicine with Group Health Associates in Mason, Ohio. Her greatest accomplishments since graduation are becoming a Fellow of the ACP, learning to play the bass fiddle, and driving a Corvette. She and her husband Anthony have two grown children, Stephanie and Erica.

Christ J. Ticoras, M.D., practices with Advanced Dermatology of North Central Ohio in Mansfield. He and his wife Annette S. M. Ticoras, M.D. ('92), have three children, Hannah Marie, Mariella Elise, and Mitchell Athan.

Vivian E. Von Gruenigen, M.D., currently practices with Summa Health System, Akron General Medical Center, and Mercy Medical Center in Canton, Ohio. She and her husband Dominic Bagnoli, M.D. ('90), have two children, Dominic and Elise.

Julie M. Williams, M.D., practices internal medicine in a private practice with over 2,000 patients in Augusta, Georgia. She specializes in sclerotherapy, minor surgical procedures, and cosmetic skin care. She and her husband Dennis Williams, M.D. ('90), have three children, Cassie, Carly, and Carter.

## 1992

Daniel M. Ebert, M.D., recently joined the group practice, Hand and Reconstructive Surgeons, Inc., in Kettering, Ohio. He also completed two fellowships, Plastic Surgery/Reconstructive Microsurgery at Eastern Virginia Medical School and an Orthopaedic Fellowship at the University of Pittsburgh. His fiancée is Janet Fitzhenry, R.N.

Laura J. Tibbe, M.D., and her husband, Michael Caudy, M.D., have recently moved to Bright, Ohio, in Dearborn County. The couple will be practicing family medicine at the Bright Medical Center. For the past five years, both doctors practiced with Brown County Family Physicians in Georgetown, Ohio.

Annette S. M. Ticoras, M.D., practices internal medicine in Mansfield, Ohio. She and her husband Christ J. Ticoras, M.D. ('91), have three children, Hannah Marie, Mariella Elise, and Mitchell Athan.



# OTES

## 1993

Michael D. Caudy, M.D., and his wife, Laura Tibbe ('92), recently moved to Bright, Ohio, in Dearborn County. The couple will be practicing family medicine at the Bright Medical Center. For the past five years, both doctors were practicing with Brown County Family Physicians in Georgetown, Ohio.

Son H. Nguyen, M.D., recently joined the medical staff at MedCentral Health System in Shelby, Ohio. Specializing in anesthesiology, he will be practicing primarily at Shelby Hospital. Dr. Nguyen completed residencies at the University Hospital of Cleveland and Case Western Reserve University.

## 1995

Armand A. Bermudez, M.D., just completed three years of pulmonary and critical care at the Lahey Clinic in Burlington, Massachusetts. He is staying one more year for additional training in interventional pulmonology, which entails training with rigid bronchoscopy, lasers, medical thoracoscopy, percutaneous tracheostomies, and airway stents. He plans to return to Ohio next year to join his father's pulmonary practice and is getting married in October 2001.

## 1996

Tiffani E. Clark, M.D., practices obstetrics and gynecology at the Carle Clinic in Urbana, Illinois. She considers surviving residency at Cook County Hospital her greatest accomplishment since graduation.

Michelle S. Dayton, M.D., practices with Emergency Medicine Physicians of Guernsey County in Cambridge, Ohio. She and her husband Lee have two children, Abigail and Faith.

Jacob Litwinczuk, M.D., currently practices cardiology at MetroHealth Medical Center in Cleveland, Ohio. He and his wife Etith Tolnai have one child, Alexander-Jacob.

Dinh Q. Pham, M.D., recently left New York City for sunny Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He will be practicing at the Internal Medicine/Geriatric Practice of South Florida.

Negar Sheibani, M.D., practices at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. Since graduating, his greatest professional accomplishment is completing a fellowship in pediatric critical care. His greatest personal accomplishments are traveling to strange places and surfing.

Judy A. Sigmund, M.D., recently achieved board certification in psychiatry from the American Board of Medical Specialties. She completed Wright State University's psychiatry residency training program in June 2000. She is currently medical director at the Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Programs at the VA Medical Center in Dayton, Ohio, and assistant professor of clinical psychiatry at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. Her focus in psychiatry is on the spiritual aspects of mental health and illness. Dr. Sigmund is currently a graduate student in specialized ministry at United Theological Seminary in Dayton with a concentration in pastoral counseling.

Lori C. Vavul-Roediger, M.D., is the medical director for Forensic Pediatrics at the Pittsburgh Children's Hospital in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Her greatest accomplishment since graduating is "maintaining a close relationship with my husband Michael Roediger and our families while continuing to advance professionally and personally."

*The School of Medicine wishes to extend its deepest sympathies to the family of Stephen E. Klosterman, M.D., Class of '96. A resident of Tampa, Florida, Dr. Klosterman died suddenly at the age of 37 on August 20th. The family requests that anyone wishing to express sympathy please send memorial contributions to the Roger Bacon Scholarship Fund, c/o Roger Bacon High School, 4320 Vine St., St. Bernard, OH 45217.*

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## ATTENTION ALL ALUMNI!

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*Submit your class notes online at:*

*[www.med.wright.edu/alumni/alumnotes.html](http://www.med.wright.edu/alumni/alumnotes.html) or mail to:*

*Angela MacLellan  
Assistant Director  
School of Medicine  
Office of Advancement  
Wright State University  
3640 Colonel Glenn Hwy.  
Dayton, OH 45435-0001*

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## 1997

Jessica L. Falvo Lang, M.D., was recently appointed to join the associate medical staff at Massillon Community Hospital in Massillon, Ohio. She is affiliated with the Massillon Family Practice and completed her residency at Aultman Hospital in Canton.

## 1999

Laurie Bankston, M.D., is starting her third year of family medicine residency at Clinton Memorial, a rural training center affiliated with the University of Cincinnati. Most recently she traveled to the Amazon in Brazil with an international health mission from UC. Melissa Clark, M.D. ('99), also participated in this trip. They started their international health experience with a trip to Panama while still medical students. Dr. Bankston hopes to practice in the Wilmington/Lebanon area after next year and to continue international health work as well.

## 2001

Laura E. Burns Boehmer, M.D., is starting her residency training in family practice at Miami Valley Hospital here in Dayton, Ohio. She recently married Joel Boehmer and the couple has moved to a new home in Kettering.

# O F *i* N T E R E S T

## Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Named



Dean X. Parmelee has been named associate dean for academic affairs for the School of Medicine. Dr. Parmelee earned his undergraduate degree from Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio, and his M.D. degree from the University of Rochester School of Medicine. He completed his psychiatry residency at the Massachusetts General Hospital and child and adolescent psychiatry at the MGH's McLean Hospital. He is board certified in both adult and child and adolescent psychiatry.

Prior to joining Wright State, Dr. Parmelee was tenured professor of psychiatry and pediatrics at Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine, chairman of child and adolescent psychiatry, and director of the second year medical school curriculum. He has received several teaching awards at Virginia Commonwealth University, including the School of Medicine's nomination for the University's Distinguished Teaching Award of 2000.

His areas of scholarship have included research in pediatric psychopharmacology, pediatric head injury, children's mental health services, autism, and the genetics of childhood depression. He is an author of 18 scientific articles and eight book chapters, and has edited two books, one on psychoanalysis and the other on child psychiatry.

## Wright State Leads Nation in Family Medicine Ranking

Wright State University School of Medicine ranked first in the nation in the percentage of its graduates (32.5 percent) entering family medicine residencies in 1998–2000. Wright State was one of only two medical schools nationwide to be awarded the prestigious Family Practice Gold Achievement Award from the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) in 2001. This is the fourth consecutive year that Wright State has received the Gold Achievement Award.

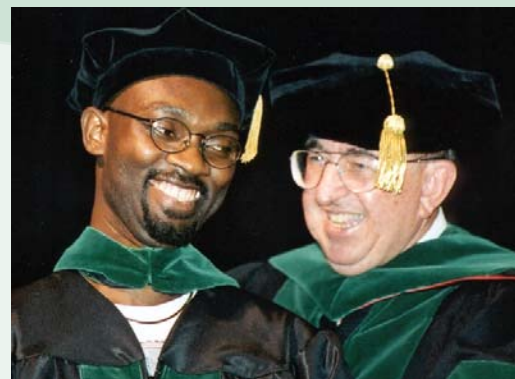
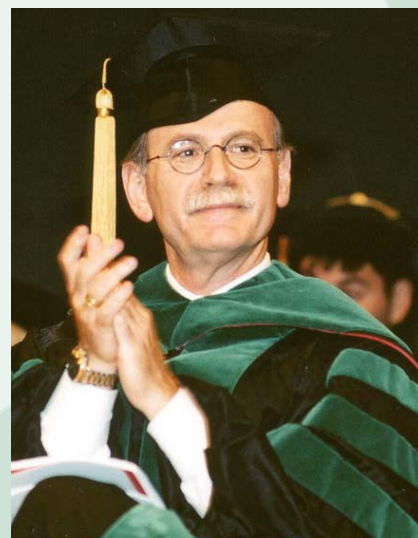
## New Master's Degree Program

The Ohio Board of Regents has approved a new Master of Science (M.S.) degree program in pharmacology and toxicology at Wright State University School of Medicine. The new program will be offered in collaboration with the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Navy Toxicology Laboratories located at the Air Force Research Laboratory at Wright-Patterson AFB.

The entire program of study will require 50 quarter hours of credit. Robert D. Grubbs, Ph.D., associate professor of pharmacology and toxicology, will serve as program director.

## Scholarships Announced

The Montgomery County Medical Society Alliance recently awarded \$25,500 in scholarships to 13 medical students: Rannie Al-Samkari, Joseph Leibold, Wendy Soto, Harry Vanderwal, Francis Castellano, Melanie Nelson, Aaron Pennell, Jonathan Tuttle, Gretchen Lorenz, Mary Rodes, Katherine Lambes, Jennifer Rinehart, and Brian Syska.



(Above) Dean Howard Part.  
(Below) Joseph Okolo and Robert Turk, M.D., clinical professor of surgery and director of undergraduate medical education for surgery, share a moment of celebration.



## Class of 2001 Graduation Notes

The founding dean of the nation's newest medical school, Joseph E. Scherger, M.D., M.P.H., delivered the commencement address at graduation ceremonies for the Class of 2001. Dr. Scherger assumed full-time responsibilities this summer as dean of the Florida State University College of Medicine in Tallahassee. It is the first new allopathic medical school to be established in the U.S. in more than 20 years. Dr. Scherger was born in Delphos, Ohio, and is a 1971 graduate of the University of Dayton.

Class of 2001 graduate Matthew Crowe, received the annual Dean's Award, which is given to a graduate who exemplifies the goals of the School of Medicine and who has made important contributions to the school during his or her medical education.

The Class of 2001 honored the late John J. Halki, M.D., Ph.D., with the medical school's annual Appreciation Award. The award recognized Dr. Halki's "outstanding leadership" as one of the medical school's founders. His wife Betsy and children, Jay Halki and Carla Halki Mathews, accepted the award.

The Teaching Excellence Award from the Class of 2001 was given to Thomas Mathews, M.D., professor of neurology and pathology and chair of the Department of Neurology.



(Above) Thanya Chinakarn is hooded by her father.



(Above) Maria Thomas-John celebrates graduation with family members.

(Left) John Salter checks out the latest issue of *Vital Signs*.



# O F *i n t e r* e s t



## Class of 2004

The Class of 2004 had an active year. It developed three new academic clubs: OB/GYN Club, Global Health Initiative, and POP-Med. The OB/GYN Club is up and running because of dedicated student leadership. The Global Health Initiative is designed to encourage and support medical students on overseas trips to provide health care. The group meets for programs and class discussions on global health issues. The POP-Med focuses upon medical law, business, and policy information.

During the past year, the class also created a couple of unique entities, an *a cappella* singing group and weekly Spanish classes. Medi-Sing has performed at several student gatherings, beginning with caroling at the Dayton VA. Conversational Spanish classes evolved out of the need students witnessed during their volunteer hours at Reach Out. Student tutors are Vanessa Madrigal and Amanda Holbrook.

In intramural sports, the class had teams in softball, rowing, and soccer. In community service activities, the class worked at soup kitchens, homeless shelters, and free health clinics for the underserved. They purchased Christmas gifts for children of incarcerated parents and performed stroke assessments within the community.

At the end of Year I, the class held the Inaugural Parents' Day, bringing families and friends to campus for an informative and enjoyable day.



(Top) Oluchi Ozumba, Mariko Helton, Jamie Byler, and Sarah McElwee helped plan the Inaugural Parents' Day this past spring. The day included faculty presentations, student entertainment, and a cookout.

(Center) Approximately 200 family members attended Parents' Day.



Medi-Sing, an *a cappella* singing group, performed at the Student Talent Show and Parents' Day.





## Student Clinician's Ceremony

Bridging into the third year of medical school, Sayyida Martin and Gurpal (Jerry) Ahluwalia recite a new professional oath with the Class of 2003. The inaugural ceremony was the brain-child of class members who believed it would celebrate the halfway point and emphasize clinical professionalism of the third and fourth years.



## Class of 2005

The School of Medicine welcomed the Class of 2005 on August 5. Approximately 500 family and friends joined the entering class for the "White Coat Ceremony," where students recite their first professional oath in medicine. The day also included family orientation and a welcoming brunch and tours, courtesy of the Class of 2004. Margaret Dunn, M.D., associate dean for faculty and clinical affairs, was the guest speaker for the Convocation ceremony.

After the ceremony, class members attended a week-long orientation. One day they tackled the ropes and orienteering courses of Camp Joy. The week is designed to help students gain team building and problem solving skills they will use throughout medical school.



(Above Left) Bruce Binder, M.D., Ph.D., helps Kristen Beck of the Class of 2005 into her white coat.

(Above) The Class of 2005 recites its first professional oath.



Class members at Camp Joy, part of orientation week.

# NEW faces



**Jeffrey E. Askew, M.D.**  
Major,  
USAFMC  
Assistant  
Professor,

**Internal Medicine**  
**M.D.:** Georgetown University  
School of Medicine  
**Residency:** Wright-Patterson  
USAF Medical Center (internal  
medicine)



**Tony R. Aventa, M.D.**  
Major, USAFMC  
Assistant  
Professor,  
Internal

**Medicine**  
**M.D.:** University of Texas Health  
Science Center  
**Residency:** University of  
Pittsburgh Medical Center  
(internal medicine)



**Johannes Berkel, M.D., Ph.D.**  
Professor,  
Community  
Health

**Director, Division of Cancer  
Prevention and Control  
Research**  
**M.D.:** University of Utrecht  
Medical School  
**Specialist Training:** University  
of Amsterdam Medical School  
(internal medicine)  
**Ph.D.:** University of Amsterdam  
Medical School (epidemiology)



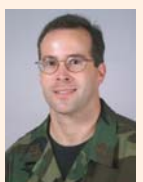
**Patrick B. Dennis, Ph.D.**  
Assistant  
Professor,  
Biochemistry  
and Molecular

**Biology**  
**Ph.D.:** University of North Texas  
(biochemistry)



**Peter K. DeRussy, M.D.**  
Major,  
USAFMC  
Assistant  
Professor,

**Internal Medicine**  
**M.D.:** University of South  
Florida School of Medicine  
**Residency:** Wright-Patterson  
USAF Medical Center (internal  
medicine)



**John M. Duch, M.D.**  
Major, USAFMC  
Assistant  
Professor,  
Internal

**Medicine**  
**M.D.:** Thomas Jefferson Medical  
College  
**Residency:** Wilford Hall USAF  
Medical Center (internal  
medicine)



**Steven J. Durning, M.D.**  
Major,  
USAFMC  
Assistant  
Professor,

**Internal Medicine**  
**M.D.:** University of Pittsburgh  
School of Medicine  
**Residency:** Wright-Patterson  
USAF Medical Center (internal  
medicine)

**Stephen M. Garramone, M.D.**  
**Colonel, USAFMC**  
**Assistant Professor, Internal  
Medicine**  
**M.D.:** S.U.N.Y.H.S.C.  
**Residency:** Good Samaritan  
Hospital, Phoenix, AZ  
(Pediatrics)  
**Fellowship:** Walter Reed Army  
Medical Center (allergy-  
immunology)



**Matthew W. Lawless, M.D.**  
Assistant  
Professor,  
Orthopedic  
Surgery

**M.D.:** University of Louisville  
**Residency:** Wright State  
University (orthopedic surgery)



**Ernest C. Lewis, M.D.**  
Major,  
USAFMC  
Assistant  
Professor,

**Internal Medicine**  
**M.D.:** University of Kansas  
School of Medicine  
**Residency:** Keesler USAF  
Medical Center (internal  
medicine)  
**Fellowship:** Wilford Hall USAF  
Medical Center (hematology/  
oncology)



**Thomson C. Pancoast, M.D.**  
Major,  
USAFMC  
Assistant  
Professor,

**Internal Medicine**  
**M.D.:** George Washington  
University  
**Residency:** NYU Medical  
Center (internal medicine)  
**Fellowship:** NYU Medical  
Center (pulmonary and critical  
care)



**Anja A. Patton-Evans, M.D.**  
Major,  
USAFMC  
Assistant  
Professor,

**Internal Medicine**  
**M.D.:** Uniformed Services  
University of the Health  
Sciences  
**Residency:** Wright-Patterson  
USAF Medical Center (internal  
medicine)  
**Fellowship:** Wilford Hall USAF  
Medical Center (pulmonary and  
critical care)



**Hari M. Polenakovik, M.D.**  
Assistant  
Professor,  
Internal

**Medicine**  
**M.D.:** Kiril & Metodij University,  
Macedonia  
**Residency:** Wright State  
University (internal medicine)  
**Fellowship:** Wright State  
University (infectious diseases)



**David M. Powell, M.D.**  
Major, USAFMC  
Assistant  
Professor,  
Internal

**Medicine**  
**M.D.:** Eastern Virginia Medical  
School  
**Residency:** Keesler USAF  
Medical Center (internal  
medicine)  
**Fellowship:** Wilford Hall USAF  
Medical Center (hematology  
and oncology)