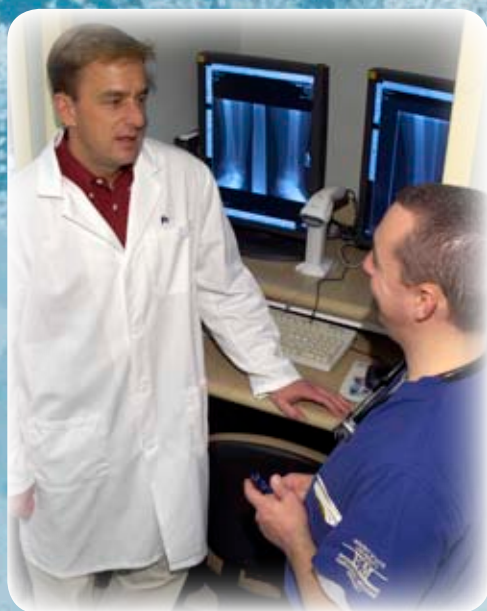


WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY BOONSHOFT SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
SPRING 2006—VOL. 30, NUMBER 1

VITAL SIGNS



**A labor of
LOVE**



Dean's Message

About the Covers:

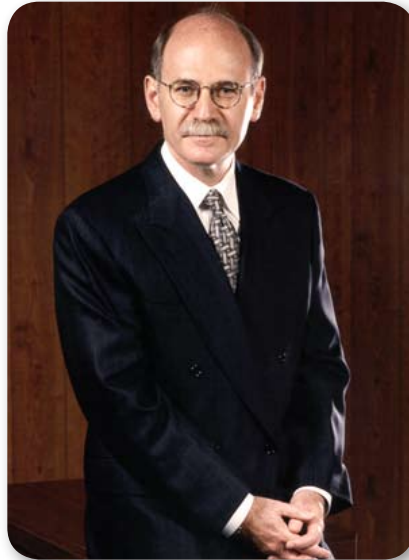
Medicine, that rare mix of art and science, is a profession that requires life-long learning—and life-long teaching. Sharing one's knowledge and skills is nothing new, of course, but medical education often relies upon mentors and preceptors in the training process.

Front cover:

(Clockwise from top) Year IV medical student Carrie Arnold assists Ken Rundell, M.D., in surgery; Don Granger, M.D., shares his extensive knowledge of neonatal pediatrics; Thomas Proctor, M.D., a voluntary faculty member, and Sean Campbell, M.D., a current emergency medicine resident, are both graduates of the Boonshoft School of Medicine; Barry Taylor, M.D., discusses a case with Year IV medical student Matthew Jones. (Center) Evangeline Andarsio, M.D., a voluntary faculty and alumnae, has been actively involved in curriculum development.

Back Cover:

Robert Fink, M.D., (L) and Adam Mezzoff, M.D., (R) care for patients and teach both medical students and residents at The Children's Medical Center of Dayton.



When this medical school's founders conceived the model of community-based medical education, many of the community's physicians worked to make the innovative model a reality. They volunteered as faculty, providing high quality experiences for the charter class of 1980, and worked collaboratively with full-time faculty members in curriculum development and clinical training.

Today, a large pool—1,200 or so—still give back to the medical profession and our community by volunteering to serve as mentors and preceptors to our students and resident physicians. Remarkably, more than 100 have served in this capacity since the school was established in 1973. The role held by voluntary faculty remains invaluable, and the feature story highlights examples of their service.

Another example of faculty who are making a difference in medical education can be found at The Children's Medical Center of Dayton. Here, exemplary patient care and teaching excel across a variety of physician affiliations, from voluntary to full-time status.

Our full-time faculty are also involved in improving patient care through technology. Examples of these efforts in electronic records and clinical research are shared, as well as a new research project using PET imaging to determine drug treatment protocols for schizophrenia.

As we approach graduation for the Class of 2006, this issue highlights the success of our founders' vision for a community-based medical school. This is also an appropriate time to thank everyone—voluntary and full-time faculty members—who helped educate and mold future physicians at Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Howard Part, M.D." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Howard M. Part, M.D.
Dean

Contents

Feature

Volunteers Say it's a Labor of Love

..... 2–5

Research

Brain Imaging to Improve Schizophrenia Treatment

..... 6–7

Patient Care

Partners for Children

..... 8–9

Service

Technology: The Wave of the Future in Medicine

..... 10–11

Departments

Profiles:

Faculty: Jack Gruber, M.D. 12

Staff: Jo Ann Ford 13

Advancement /Alumni

..... 14–15

Class Notes

..... 16–17

Match Day

..... 18–19

Of Primary Interest

..... 20–24

New Faces

..... 20–24



Volunteers say it's a labor of love

Without the physicians and community leaders who volunteered their time and expertise to help establish a medical school at Wright State University in the mid-1970s, Boonshoft School of Medicine wouldn't exist. Today with the continued support of almost 1,200 community health care professionals who serve as voluntary faculty, the school is better able to realize the vision of its founders: to strengthen the region's health care system and train physicians who care deeply for both their patients and their community.

Although most of the 1,186 voluntary faculty serving today are physicians in private practice in the Miami Valley, psychologists, basic scientists, social workers, clinic administrators, and other health care professionals from 19 different states serve as volunteer faculty. They may serve as mentors in a busy private practice, give lectures or lab demonstrations, lead small group discussions, or demonstrate highly specialized procedures in a hospital

operating room. But one thing they all have in common is that they are committed to giving back to their profession.

"Voluntary faculty form a real foundation for our students from two perspectives," says Dean X. Parmelee, M.D., associate dean for academic affairs and professor of psychiatry and pediatrics. "One is that they are actively practicing physicians, so they bring that unique perspective to whatever it is they are teaching, whether it's about pneumonia or certain cardiac conditions they see in practice daily. The other thing is that students really appreciate that these are private physicians who are teaching them and not getting paid. Students think that is a meaningful act. It's a wonderful role model of giving back."

"The first student contact with voluntary faculty is probably in Introduction to Clinical Medicine (ICM) with preceptors in Year I," says S. Bruce Binder, M.D., Ph.D., clinical curriculum coordinator and associate professor of family medi-

cine. "Each student is assigned to a preceptor who drills them in physical exam skills. Several voluntary faculty have worked with ICM for more than 10 years."

"One thing that has served us well is that many voluntary faculty see themselves as an integral part of the medical school."

Some 115 volunteers have served on the faculty since the school was founded; almost 300 have served for 25 years or longer; and at least 134 Wright State medical school graduates are volunteers, according to records maintained by the Office of Faculty and Clinical Affairs.

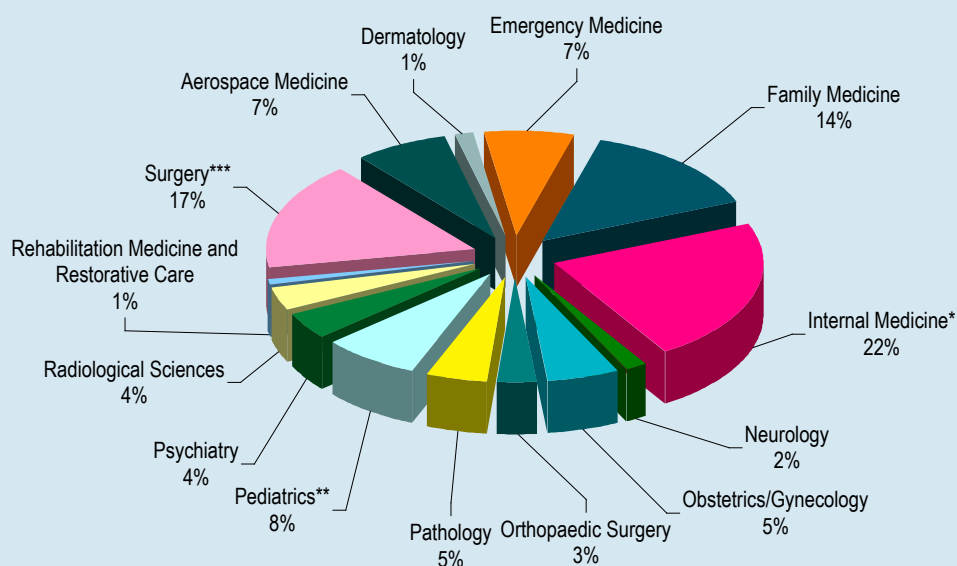
“In the fourth year, most electives are offered via voluntary faculty who open up their offices, their labs, and their patient populations to our students for them to learn about medicine in the real world. ENT surgeons, neurologists, and pathologists, to name just a few, provide a lot of the teaching in the fourth year,” Dr. Parmelee explains. “Many departments greatly rely upon private practitioners donating their time and office areas as a laboratory for our students to learn about clinical medicine.”

Why do they volunteer? Wright State alumni who volunteer say they do it because they remember how much they valued what voluntary faculty offered them when they were in medical school, according to Dr. Binder who recently recruited four alumni right out of their Dayton-area residency programs.

“Some voluntary faculty would probably say they do it because it helps them maintain a sense of meaning in medicine, which is so easily lost in the busy, competitive practice environment,” Dr. Parmelee says.

“One thing that has served us well is that many voluntary faculty see themselves as an integral part of the medical school. In some academic medical center communities, there develops a town and gown division,” he says. “But, by our having a mutual commitment to each other, I think there’s much less of that here. There are so many physicians in the community who see themselves as part of the medical school. Their role in teaching our residents and students is an integral part of their identity as physicians in the community.”

Voluntary Faculty by Medical Specialty



**General Internal Medicine & subspecialties: Cardiology, Endocrinology, Gastroenterology, Hematology-Oncology, Infectious Disease, Nephrology, Neurology, Nuclear Medicine, Pulmonary/Critical Care Medicine, Rheumatology*

***General Pediatrics & subspecialties: Cardiology, Endocrinology, Gastroenterology, Hematology-Oncology, Infectious Disease, Medical Genetics, Neurology, Pulmonary Medicine*

****General Surgery & subspecialties: Anesthesiology, Cardiovascular/Thoracic, Neurosurgery, Ophthalmology, Otolaryngology, Pediatric Surgery, Plastic Surgery, Trauma Surgery, Urology*

+ An additional 38 voluntary faculty are basic scientists in a wide range of fields

Evangeline C. Andarsio, M.D. ('84)

Dr. Andarsio, clinical assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology, has been a volunteer faculty member since 1992. She completed a family practice residency at Miami Valley Hospital and a residency in obstetrics and gynecology as well as her M.D. at Wright State. She believes helping students and residents learn how to nurture the doctor/patient relationship is one of the most valuable things she can offer.

"When we had the malpractice insurance crisis back in 2000, I got a little disillusioned with medicine as a profession. In an effort to rejuvenate my calling and dedication to medicine, I got involved with a group at the medical school that was interested in starting a new course for first year students called Healer's Art."

She is now one of the lead teachers in the noncredit course offered for the first time this year. The Institute for the Study of Health and Illness at Commonweal developed the course, which is now offered at 40 medical schools nationwide.

"In today's health care environment, physicians can get burned out and lose joy in their work," Dr. Andarsio says. "The purpose of this course is to help students learn how to maintain and nurture their wholeness and to value the things they can bring to the table."

Developing the course has been "one of the most significant births I have assisted in," she says. "I enjoy teaching the technical aspects of my work, but this course has been one of the greatest experiences I've had as a voluntary faculty member. I feel I've been blessed."



"I feel I've been blessed."

Thomas S. Proctor, M.D. ('93)

Dr. Proctor, clinical assistant professor of emergency medicine, has been a voluntary faculty member since 1996. He earned his undergraduate and medical degrees and completed his residency in emergency medicine at Wright State.

"As a resident, I found that one of the strengths of the educational component was the diverse styles of practice among the many emergency physicians I worked with in the community," he says. "I was fortunate to have many mentors in the field who helped me develop my own style of practice. I felt it was important to, in turn, provide the same thing to residents and students."

Dr. Proctor is gratified by the experience of working with students who choose to go into emergency medicine as a result of their experience in the fourth-year emergency

"They continue to revitalize me and my practice style."



medicine clerkship. "Although it's been romanticized by television shows over the last decade, I think that students and residents are compelled by the reality of emergency medicine and find their first-hand experience exciting."

He also enjoys working with residents in what he sees as "one of the premiere programs in emergency medicine" in the nation. "The hands-on experience in patient care in the surrounding area is second to none. The spectrum of patients, acuity levels and pathology, hospital composites, etc., prepares all of our residents to be successful anywhere in the country," he says.

"I always find the residents top notch, competent, and enthusiastic. They continue to revitalize me and my practice style."

William “Ken” Rundell, M.D.

Dr. Rundell, clinical professor of surgery, has served on the voluntary faculty since 1977. He earned his medical degree at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School and completed a residency in surgery at St. Paul Hospital in Dallas and a vascular surgery fellowship at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit. Now in private practice with Dayton Surgeons, he says most of his teaching duties involve residents in the General Surgery Residency Program at Miami Valley Hospital.

“I teach them the day-to-day routine with patients as well as letting

“It’s a labor of love. I get a great deal of satisfaction out of seeing them learn and grow.”

them assist in surgery,” he says. “I also give regular lectures on vascular surgery that are attended by residents and students. When students rotate through, I generally have two at a time.”

Dr. Rundell sees his role as providing insight into the profession. “The vast majority of physicians practicing today are in private practice. Students who spend time with us get a perspective on what they’re going to be doing for the rest of their lives. Their experience interacting with hospital staff and patients is different from their interactions in the classroom. It’s more germane to what they’re going to do in the profession. We teach them not only the technical side of medicine, we can help them figure out how to manage the work day,” he says.

“I love it. I enjoy teaching. I love being involved with young people. I sometimes learn more from them than they do from me. They push me to keep up to date. It’s a labor of love. I get a great deal of satisfaction out of seeing them learn and grow.”



Barry Taylor, M.D.

Dr. Taylor, clinical associate professor of medicine, has served on the voluntary faculty since 1986. In private practice with Associated Specialists of Internal Medicine in Dayton, he is a graduate of Indiana University School of Medicine and completed his residency in internal medicine at Miami Valley Hospital.

“Most of my contact with students and residents is at Miami Valley, although students sometimes tag along in my office to get the experience of what it’s like to see patients in that setting,” he says. “My role is to teach them the real life part of being a physician. New students face a steep learning curve. The ones who get to me early in their medical school years are usually intimidated by the interaction with patients, but those who have had more experience handle it much better.”

“Every once in a while I’ll work with a student who really lights my fire.”



Dr. Taylor has two daughters who are planning to go to medical school. In spite of some of the difficulties physicians face in the current health care environment, he’s inspired them to see the profession as a worthy calling.

“I truly like what I do in spite of the tremendous time demands. I feel very fortunate to be able to do something I like so much,” he says.

Given the time demands of a busy practice, why does he volunteer? “Every once in a while I’ll work with a student who really lights my fire,” he says.

—Sue Rytel and Robin Suits

Photos of Drs. Andarsio, Rundell, and Taylor for this story provided by Cindy Ratermann, Miami Valley Hospital. Photo of Dr. Proctor for this story provided by Lee Anne Yahle, Kettering Medical Center.

Brain Imaging to Improve *Schizophrenia* Treatment

Research undertaken by Doug Lehrer, M.D., and his colleagues at the Boonshoft Schizophrenia Center at the Wallace Kettering Neuroscience Institute (WKNI) aims to take the trial and error out of the treatment of schizophrenia by using modern brain imaging techniques to predict the effectiveness of psychotherapeutic drugs on patients suffering from this debilitating mental illness.

“In the very early stages of illness, the subtle signs may be difficult to discriminate from normal behavior.”



Dr. Doug Lehrer (R) reviews brain scans taken at the Wallace Kettering Neuroscience Institute.

Dr. Lehrer, medical director of the center and associate professor of psychiatry at Wright State's Boonshoft School of Medicine, has been interested in schizophrenia since medical school. "These were the people who most deeply impressed me—the depth of their suffering and the tragedy this disease brings to a family," he says.

According to Dr. Lehrer, nearly one percent of the world's population, including more than two million Americans, suffers from schizophrenia. This disabling mental illness typically strikes males during their mid-teens through their late 20s; onset is usually a few years later in females. Eighty percent of schizophrenics have experienced symptoms by their mid-30s.

"In the very early stages of illness, the subtle signs may be difficult to discriminate from normal behavior," Dr. Lehrer says. Symptoms may include withdrawal and moodiness, a change in habits, and an interest in unusual value systems. Cognitive defects range from reduced motivation, social withdrawal, and paucity in thinking—symptoms that family members may interpret as laziness rather than a direct result of biochemical changes in the brain.

Schizophrenic behavior has been described throughout history, but it wasn't until the 1920s that Swiss psychiatrist Eugen Bleuler coined the term. Scientists in the late 19th century used postmortems to try and unlock the secrets of the

disease. With the advent of MRI and PET imaging, however, a better understanding of the morphology and physiological causes of the disease was finally reached. Morphologically, cells tend to be smaller with less complex branching between neural networks.

Dr. Lehrer and his colleagues use WKNI's state-of-the-art brain imaging tools to comprehend what takes place at the neurological level. "At WKNI we were one of only three groups in the world to use newer PET imaging techniques to identify significant abnormalities in the dopamine system—a key neurotransmitter system—in the thalamus of people with schizophrenia," he says. "The thalamus is the only region of the brain that does show

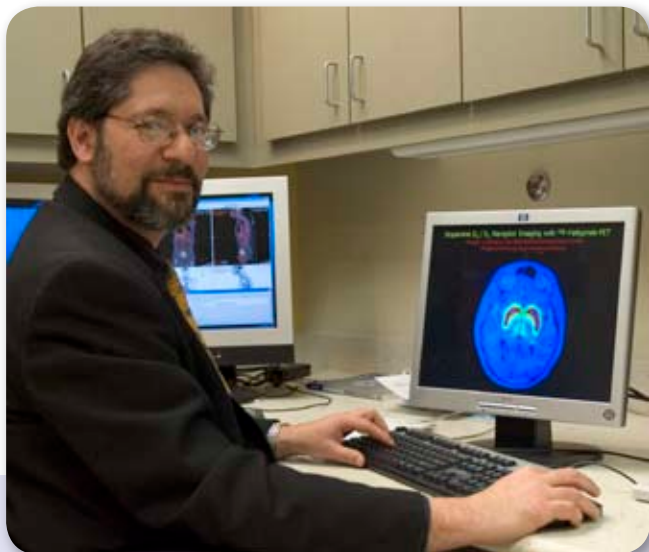
significant—25 to 30 percent—loss of brain cells.” The thalamus is the major switching station of the brain through which all communications within the cortex pass.

Because there are still no laboratory or brain imaging tests that can be used to render a diagnosis of schizophrenia, clinicians must rely on trial and error to determine what drugs to use in treating the disease. “We’ve started a neuroimaging study to look for brain characteristics that predict a good response to antipsychotic medications,” explains Dr. Lehrer. WKNI’s research over the next three years is designed to reduce the time and increase the safety of determining the most efficacious drug to treat a patient’s illness.

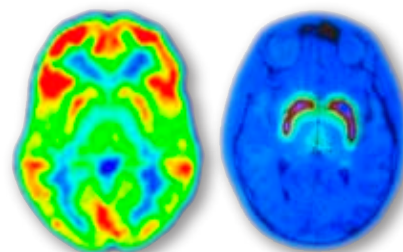
The Boonshoft Schizophrenia Center is recruiting 100 patients who are not presently on antipsychotic drug therapy for a 16-week trial of two FDA-approved medications currently used for the treatment of schizophrenia. Using MRI and PET scans, genetic analysis, neuropsychological tests, and other information, Dr. Lehrer and his colleagues will seek to identify imaging characteristics and other traits associated with preferential responses to one or the other drug.

“We hope future doctors will be able to do a test, look at a predictive variable, and use that information to select the best treatment for a given patient right from the start, avoiding months of frustrating trial and error,” says Dr. Lehrer.

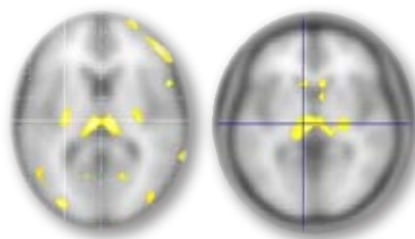
—Pamela Ferris-Olson



Dr. Doug Lehrer, medical director of the Boonshoft Schizophrenia Center, is researching drug treatments for schizophrenia. Individuals who are interested in participating may reach him at (937) 395-8251, or the study coordinator, Ms. Elise Rielage, at (937) 298-3399, extension 55415.



FDG PET image showing relative glucose metabolism in the brain. Red-orange-yellow areas have increased activity, while green-blue areas are less active. The right image uses a compound developed at WKNI (18F-fallypride) to map dopamine receptors in the brain. The paired structures in the middle are the striatum, under which (in a greenish tone) is the thalamus. (Images courtesy of WKNI)



The statistical image on the left highlights areas in which schizophrenics show decreased glucose metabolism, while the right image indicates areas of abnormal dopamine receptor binding in schizophrenics. The most prominent region of abnormality with each PET method is the thalamus (butterfly-shaped area in the center). From: Lehrer et al, American Journal of Psychiatry, 2005.

“We were one of only three groups in the world to use newer PET imaging techniques to identify significant abnormalities in the dopamine system.”

Partners for Children



Tiny fingers, now warm and pink with health, flex and grip the larger finger. A smile and tears of relief on the mother's face reflect the tension slowly dissolving after the physician's comforting assurances of life and health for her baby.

Pediatrics is the branch of medicine that concentrates on the care and development of children and the prevention and treatment of childhood diseases. In Dayton, a seamless partnership of pediatricians, both specialists and generalists, work together to provide the best possible care to children.

Arthur Pickoff, M.D., professor and chair of the Departments of Pediatrics and of Community Health, explains, "The physicians who comprise the faculty in this department include three basic circles of affiliation: those hospital-based and community-based physicians who are in private practice; those employed by Children's Care Group, a subsidiary of The Children's Medical Center of Dayton; and those who are employed through Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine." All work together for the good of the children in this community, and "all teach our students because they want to, and it happens seamlessly."

Dr. Pickoff also notes major accomplishments in pediatric clinical research efforts. "The recent spastic cerebral palsy study grant, the development of the nationally known Lipid Clinic at Dayton Children's, and the Dayton Area Practice-Based Research Network all show an increasing interest throughout the entire pediatric community for research and related scholarly activities," he says.

Private Practice Physician:

Don T. Granger, M.D.

"I want to make a difference in the lives of each of the babies who begin life here."

The Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at The Children's Medical Center of Dayton is internationally acclaimed and award winning. Within the warm, hushed atmosphere of the specially designed NICU, newborns are provided with state-of-the-art medical care, and their



Dr. Don Granger, a neonatologist at the NICU at Dayton Children's, is in private practice.

families receive counseling and training needed to take them home. Some infants have special lifelong needs; others show no lingering effects of the strain of birth.

"I want to make a difference in the lives of each of the babies who begin life here," says Don T. Granger, M.D., clinical assistant professor of pediatrics and medical director of neonatology and the NICU at Dayton Children's. He is one of a group of four neonatal-perinatal specialists in private practice who direct the medical care of newborns in Children's NICU. They handle countless facets of neonatal pediatrics in the Greater Dayton area, including acting as regional transport coordinators and team members for babies who need tertiary level of care within Region II—a 20-county area defined by the Ohio Department of Health. They hold voluntary academic appointments with the Boonshoft School of Medicine, teaching medical residents in three one-month rotations and medical students in pediatric electives and clerkship rotations. Members of the group also serve as regional consultants to other pediatricians and are on staff at most of the region's hospitals.

Children's Care Group Physician:
Robert J. Fink, M.D.

"I find teaching medical students and residents important, and I came here because of the university affiliation."

Leading pediatric pulmonary care at Dayton Children's is Robert J. Fink, M.D., professor of pediatrics at the Boonshoft School of Medicine, the William B. and Hazel Gorman Newkirk Pulmonary Endowed Chair,



Dr. Robert Fink, a pulmonologist, is employed by the Children's Care Group.

and the director of the Regional Cystic Fibrosis Center at Dayton Children's.

Pulmonary medicine is staffed by pediatric specialists who serve infants, children, and adolescents with both acute and chronic pulmonary diseases. In this comprehensive environment, "we are working together for the health of children," says Dr. Fink. "One of the biggest incentives here is that Dayton Children's is just a nice place to work," he continues, "and everybody has the same positive attitude," that of participating in and being a caretaker of an institution where we "strive to leave it a better place than when [we] became a part of it."

From community support to administrative and support staff, all work toward the goal of providing excellent care to children. This also includes teaching. "I find teaching medical students and residents important, and I came here because of the university affiliation," says Dr. Fink, and "because of the relationship between the hospital and the university and the encouragement toward academic and clinical research efforts."

Wright State Physician:
Adam G. Mezoff, M.D.

"We all work together as colleagues."

A member of Wright State's faculty for more than 15 years, Adam Mezoff, M.D., is professor of pediatrics and assistant professor for internal medicine, and heads pediatric gastroenterology and nutrition at Dayton Children's. He is also president and CEO of Wright



Dr. Adam Mezoff, a gastroenterologist at Dayton Children's and president and CEO of Wright State Physicians, Inc.

State Physicians, Inc., the medical school's faculty practice group.

"We all work together as colleagues," he says. The flow as to affiliation is, "transparent and an ingrained part of the culture here. We are all very clinically based with our primary focus on patient care, patient satisfaction, and good access to patients, and the emphasis on teaching is integral because we teach and work side by side with residents every day."

The remarkable interwoven unity that is pediatrics here in Dayton is based in a love for children. "It's these kids," says Dr. Mezoff. "We love to work with and focus on kids. For them, our differences are set aside. We work together, and do it better for the kids."

—Nancy Harker and Gwen Sloas



Photos for this story provided by Thomas Suttman, Dayton Children's.



Technology: The Wave of the Future in Medicine

While technological advances are quickly changing the world around us, how can they be a tool to reduce administrative burden on both the doctor and the patient? Electronic transfer of information is widely recognized as critical to quality improvement and cost reductions in both the health care industry and the social services arena.

Faculty in the Boonshoft School of Medicine are working on a variety of projects that will enable physicians to access information that will help them provide high quality care for patients and help patients quickly access the care and information they need.

Community Record for Health and Social Services Data

HIEx™ is a new web-based regional health information exchange, which allows for secure transmission of protected information. The exchange was developed over a five-year period by HealthLink Miami Valley, a community collaborative of health and human services organizations. Initially funded with a federal grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, HIEx™ is designed to provide a low-cost solution for small physician practices and for health and human services organizations.

“On average, a patient has at least seven sets of similar data in different locations.”

Katherine Cauley, Ph.D., director of the Center for Healthy Communities, explains, “On average, a patient has at least seven sets of similar data in different locations: the primary care physician’s office, medical specialists’ offices, pharmacies, urgent care facilities, emergency departments, and perhaps various social services. Although much of this data is duplicative, each provider also has unique data.”

“We work with a very diverse population who get asked the same questions over and over again,” says Karen Doty, a community health advocate with the Center for Healthy Communities’ Sinclair Community College office. “But, with HIEx™, they only have to give the whole story once and then update if things change—so this really helps.”

HIEx™ is currently funded by subscriptions. Current users include community health advocates working

in Medicaid outreach and kinship care, Montgomery County Children Services, and the nursing staff for the Dayton Public Schools.

With more than 20,000 records, the HIE[™] system provides real-time access through a common shared record, while complying with state and federal laws, as articulated through HIPAA regulations.

Patient Records

Moving from charts to electronic patient records is something only 5 to 7 percent of the nation's medical practices have been able to accomplish. Wright State's Department of Family Medicine will be a pioneer in this change and has contracted to beta test a web-based application through Athena. One of only a dozen or so practices selected nationally, the department had a site visit this spring to assess terminal location and implementation strategies.

“We will be better able to retrieve data for our patients, to practice preventive medicine, and to document the care we provide.”

The advantages are numerous, according to David Little, M.D., associate professor of family medicine, who is helping to implement the system and will help train other physicians within the faculty practice plan. “We will be better able to retrieve data for our patients, to practice preventive medicine, and to document the care we provide,” he says.

The analogy of banking is how he explains the importance of electronic recordkeeping to medical students. “If you ask the bank teller, ‘What are the last five checks that cleared my account?’, you will get your answer in seconds. But, asking your doctor ‘What were my last five blood pressure readings?’ will take several minutes of chart review.” With electronic records, the physician could easily query the database and track blood pressure readings against weight loss or medication. And, preventive medicine would be much easier with alerts to notify the physician when the patient needs a mammogram or colonoscopy.

The new system will also have a patient portal—a password-protected web site where he or she can access personal files and share data electronically. For example, blood glucose monitors could electronically transfer

daily readings into a file for review by health care providers. The system would also provide a convenient way to get lab results, order prescription refills, and find accurate patient education information.

Clinical Research

“When some clinicians hear the word research,” says John Pascoe, M.D., M.P.H, professor of pediatrics and chief of the Division of General and Community Pediatrics, “they immediately think of white lab coats. Our members, however, are clinicians who spend much of their time seeing patients.”

Clinical research using aggregate data is the central focus of the Dayton Primary Care Practice-Based Research Network. The network includes a large group of primary care practices, including pediatricians and family medicine physicians associated with The Children's Medical Center of Dayton and the Boonshoft School of Medicine.

“Our research network supports its members in formulating clinical questions and provides support in study design and statistical analysis of data.”

Greg Eberhart, M.D., assistant professor of pediatrics and the community coordinator for the network, is responsible for recruiting new members. “Pediatricians and family physicians are in a unique position to formulate and research clinically relevant questions about diagnosis, prevention, and intervention strategies in common childhood illnesses,” he explains. “Our research network supports its members in formulating clinical questions and provides support in study design and statistical analysis of data.”

A recent survey conducted by the network and the Ohio Academy of Pediatrics examined the management of ADHD with a 23-question survey to 762 pediatricians. With a 25 percent response rate, the survey yielded valuable information about the standard of care.

This type of research requires little interruption of patient flow or involvement of support staff, according to Dr. Pascoe. The ability to submit aggregate data through an electronic survey holds great promise for gathering, sharing, and analyzing information, as well as providing an early alert system for emerging diseases.

—Judith Engle

Faculty Profile:

Jack Gruber, M.D.

Listening to Dr. Gruber since his recent retirement, it's easy to hear in his voice the contentment of someone whose life has come full circle. Dr. Gruber was born and raised in the rural areas of Marion, Ohio, where as a youth, he was active in 4H. He was initially interested in working as a veterinarian, but didn't like the lifestyle that went with that career. "I didn't like being cold and wet," he says. "So, it was an easier choice for me to give up that rough life."

Instead, Dr. Gruber decided to attend medical school and specialize in infertility. "Women always seemed to feel comfortable talking to me and asking me questions," he says, "and so I went to school to seek out answers to their questions." After completing his obstetrics and gynecology residency in Dayton in 1974, Dr. Gruber completed a fellowship in gynecological endocrinology and infertility at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan. In

1976, he came to Wright State as a faculty member. He has since seen many medical students develop into talented physicians and has helped numerous couples realize their dreams of parenthood.

He has held a variety of roles during his tenure, serving as chair of the university's Institutional Review Board (IRB), chair of the Miami Valley Hospital IRB, division director for Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility, director of teaching associates, and clerkship director. In the year prior to his retirement, he served as vice chair of the department. Looking back on his many accomplishments, Dr. Gruber seems most pleased with the impact his work had on students: "It was amazing to see how much

they progressed in their third-year clerkship. The transformation from a beginning third-year to a fourth-year mature student was just awesome."

Soon after retiring, Dr. Gruber—now professor emeritus—moved to a 35-acre farm in the Smoky Mountains of North Carolina, where he plans to keep busy with landscaping and woodworking. "I've returned to my roots of self sufficiency and living off the land," he says. In honor of Dr. Gruber's lifetime of service and dedication, the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology has established the Jack Gruber Endowed Scholarship in Obstetrics and Gynecology.

—Robert Boley



Staff Profile:

Jo Ann Ford

When Jo Ann Ford joined the Substance Abuse Resources and Disability Issues (SARDI) staff in March of 1990, about a month after the program was started, she arrived with plenty of experience working with disadvantaged populations. She had already taught English as a second language and educational psychology in a teacher-training college in west Africa, and had also worked with Goodwill Industries doing work adjustment for the disabled.

One of the first projects she tackled at SARDI was a study that examined barriers to employment of people living with HIV-AIDS. About two years later, she began work on the PALS (Prevention for Alternative Learning Styles) program. "It was originally a two state—Ohio and Michigan—teacher-training model," explains Ms. Ford. "We trained special-ed teachers and drug-free-school coordinators."

A trend towards mainstreaming in schools has since expanded PALS' focus to teachers of various subjects at the sixth to eighth grade level. "What we're trying to do is give the teachers enough information and activities that they can present prevention in a variety of ways, to try to get all the different learning styles that they can in each lesson, and then provide them extra materials that they can use repeatedly."

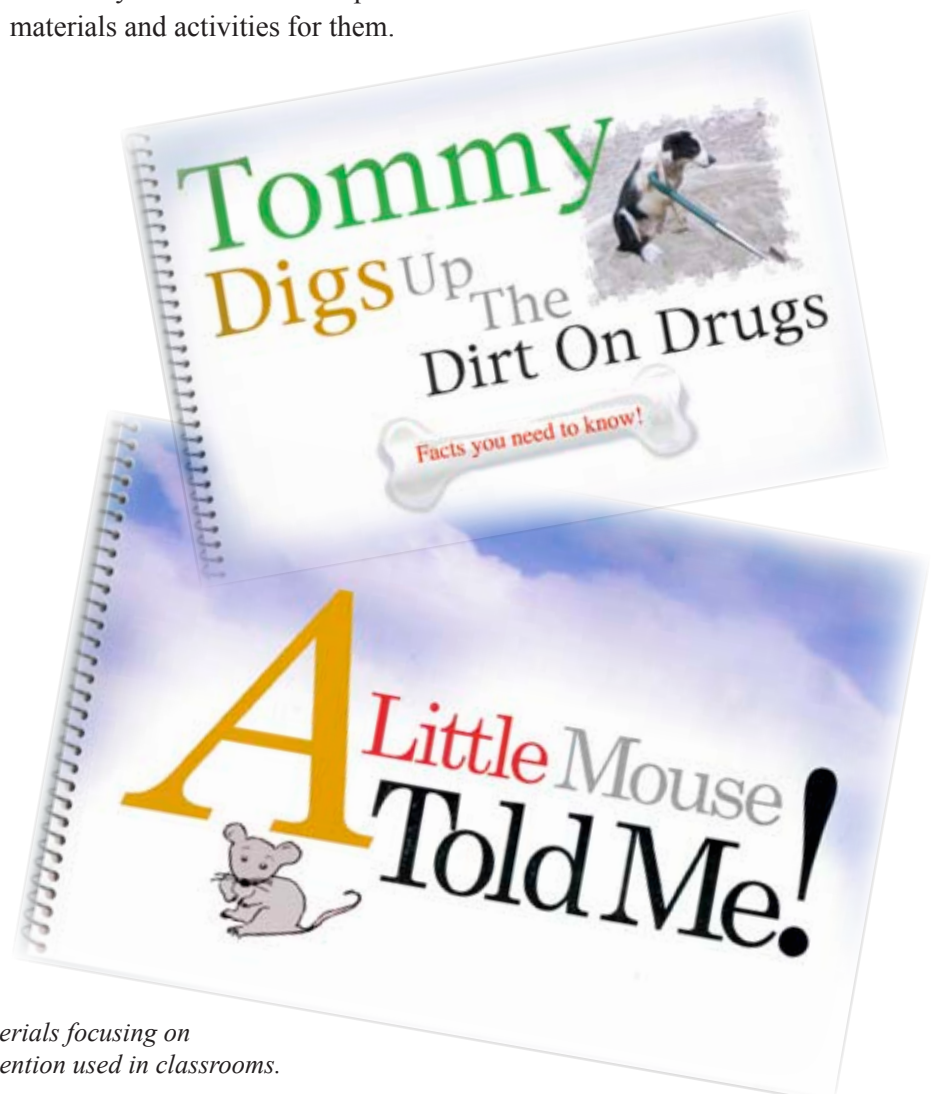
One of the great aspects of PALS is that it provides a model applicable for all students, regardless of mental, physical, or cognitive disabilities. "All kids, not just those in special ed, benefit from different learning styles," says Ms. Ford. "Students start to get the idea that if I learn differently, it doesn't mean I'm stupid."

To keep PALS running, she coordinates teachers in four school districts and six different schools and constantly revises and develops new materials and activities for them.

This field work involves teaching classes, observing participant teachers, and providing teacher feedback. "Our hope is that they'll like the materials and activities enough that they'll just keep using them year after year."

Ms. Ford is an assistant director and the human subjects coordinator for SARDI, so she completes each subject's application and coordinates all the research projects.

—Robert Boley



Samples of PALS materials focusing on substance abuse prevention used in classrooms.



John Czachor, M.D., (center) is congratulated by Howard Part, M.D., dean (left), and Kim Goldenberg, M.D., president of Wright State University.

Outstanding Alumni Award

John Czachor, M.D. ('83), professor of internal medicine, was selected to receive this year's Boonshoft School of Medicine Outstanding Alumni Award. The Wright State University Alumni Association gives the award annually to alumni from each college who achieve significant professional accomplishments, demonstrate continued service to their alma mater, and possess high standards of integrity.

Dr. Czachor earned his bachelor's in biology as well as his M.D. degree at Wright State. He completed his residency in internal medicine at Wright State in 1987 and, after completing a fellowship in infectious diseases at St. Vincent's Hospital in Worcester, Massachusetts, returned to Wright State to join the medical school faculty in 1989. He was named chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases in 1999 and promoted to full professor in 2003. He is board certified in internal medicine and infectious diseases.

Dr. Czachor practices internal medicine with Wright State Physicians, Inc., the school's multi-specialty practice plan. "There's a real big misconception of what

people think an academic practice is," Dr. Czachor says. "They think you work nine to five and teach a couple classes and do nothing else. We basically run a true private practice that we use as a teaching model, and on top of that we do research, writing, and our other administrative duties."

Beside his faculty and practice commitments, he also serves as co-medical director of the Montgomery County Combined Health District's Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic and director of Wright State's Travel Medicine Center. His efforts have been recognized by numerous awards: the Wright State University Service Medicine Award in 1992; A. Robert Davies Award for Teaching Excellence in 1992 and 1993; Miami Valley Hospital Housestaff Teaching Award in 2001; and Master Teacher Award—Ohio Chapter ACP, to name a few.

To nominate a graduate for next year's Outstanding Alumni Award, call the Office of Advancement at (937) 775-2972 or visit the Medical Alumni Association on the web at: www.med.wright.edu/alumni/outstanding.html.



Charter Class with spouses, friends, and faculty members, at the 25th anniversary reunion.

Charter Class Establishes Founders' Hall

In 1980, 31 students graduated from Wright State University School of Medicine and began their careers. Since that time, members of the Charter Class have discussed making a major gift to the medical school. These plans were realized last year in conjunction with their 25th anniversary reunion when class members organized a fundraising effort for the renovation of the Frederick A. White Center.

"We wanted to do something as a class to represent what the school meant to us," says John Lyman, M.D. ('80). "It evolved into something to honor the people who started the school, the whole group of people who were there in the beginning." Funds raised by the class will transform the existing 6,270-square-foot lobby of the building into Founders' Hall, a centralized location for student and prospective student activities.



Reunion Weekend 2006

July 14-16

Cincinnati, Ohio

Celebrating the Classes of '81, '86, '91, '96, and '01

Register online, complete the Alumni Survey, and learn more by visiting www.med.wright.edu/alumni



Alumni Night with the Cleveland Cavs

On Saturday, April 1, medical alumni from across the state turned out to see LeBron James and the Cleveland Cavs host the Miami Heat.

Alumni

Class Notes

1980s

Fred R. Haussman, M.D. ('84), was presented with the Premier Health Care Services 2005 Physician of the Year Award in recognition of his commitment to service and dedication to patient care. He has served as medical director of the Wilson Memorial Hospital emergency medicine department for seven years, was elected as chief of staff in 1996, and served on the hospital's board of trustees from 1996 to 1998.

Derek K. Bair, M.D. ('86), practices neonatology at Oakwood Hospital and Medical Center in Dearborn, Michigan, where he is in his sixth year as corporate director of neonatology. He also serves as the chair of the State of Michigan Advisory Committee on Newborn Screening. He and his wife Christina have two children: Emily, 14, and Nicholas, 12.

Gary C. Brown, M.D. ('86), practices cardiology at the Ohio Heart Health Center in Middletown. He and his wife Debra have two children: Matthew and Melissa.

Kenelm F. McCormick, M.D. ('88), has been named medical director of Hospice of Medina County and Barberton Hospice & Palliative Care. He was board certified by the American Board of Hospice and Palliative Medicine in 2001. Before coming to Hospice of Medina, he spent 14 years in private practice in Wadsworth, Ohio.

**Submit your Class Note
online at:**

**[www.med.wright.edu/
alumni/classnotes.html](http://www.med.wright.edu/alumni/classnotes.html)**

**From this site, you can also
search for class notes by name,
specialty, or class year.**

1990s

Robert L. Mott, M.D. ('90), M.P.H., F.A.C.P.M., was named director of the Division of Preventive Medicine at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research in August 2005. The division has more than 40 employees, including 10 physicians, and programs including the Preventive Medicine Residency and Global Emerging Infections Surveillance and Response Program, as well as epidemiology programs in the Caucasus that support the Defense Threat Reduction Agency. Lieutenant Colonel Mott also worked as a humanitarian assistance policy analyst at the Pentagon and traveled widely while assigned to a civil affairs unit based at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He served with the Coalition Provisional Authority in Iraq, working on public health programs with the Ministry of Health. He and his wife Cathy have two children: Robert III, 22, and Stephanie, 16.

Cynthia L. Pickens, M.D. ('90), and Terri W. Riddiford, M.D. ('91), recently opened a new practice, The Healing Place, in Beavercreek, Ohio. The practice offers patients traditional medicine integrated with alternative therapies. Dr. Pickens is board certified by the American Board of Family Practice; Dr. Riddiford is board certified in both family medicine and sports medicine.

Renate W. Thomas, M.D. ('91), practices internal medicine with Group Health Associates in Mason, Ohio. She reports that her greatest accomplishments since graduation were becoming a Fellow of the American College of Physicians, learning to play the bass fiddle, and driving a Corvette. She and her husband Anthony, an auto worker, have two grown children: Stephanie and Erica.

Merry Ann De Leon, M.D. ('94), married Christopher Krueger, an engineer and estimating manager of Owen Steel Co. of Columbia, South Carolina, on New Year's Eve. The newlyweds live on Lake Murray in Lexington, South Carolina, and have six children combined: Isabella, 8; Sean, 8; Valerie, 12; Ryan, 13; Andrea, 17; and Glenn, 18.

Stephen B. Evans Jr., M.D. ('96), recently joined the staff of St. John West Shore Hospital, where he will be specializing in hand and microsurgery. He completed residencies in internal medicine and general surgery at Akron General Medical Center, followed by a fellowship in microsurgery at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine. He and his wife Tracey have three children.

Harold W. Goforth, M.D. ('98), is an assistant professor of psychiatry at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. He is co-director of the consult-liaison psychiatry service at the adjoining Durham Veterans Affairs Medical Center, and is the liaison psychiatrist at the HIV Clinic. Dr. Goforth has published in multiple journals and pursues research in topics related to psychiatric disorders in the medically ill, including neurologic disease, chronic pain, and HIV-AIDS psychiatry.

Charles M. Hendricks, M.D. ('98), was honored by Dayton's Good Samaritan Hospital during its second annual Physicians Making a Difference program. Dr. Hendricks specializes in behavioral health.

Melissa A. Clark, M.D. ('99), practices family medicine with MJ Medical Group in Chicago. She and her husband Daniel Clark, an urban planner, recently adopted a son. The couple also has two other children.

Ardis C. Martin, M.D. ('99), is working as a child and adolescent psychiatrist in the Community Mental Health Sector in Canon City, Colorado. She has completed board certification in adult, child, and adolescent psychiatry and has published an article on using media to learn about cultural competence and African Americans in *Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Clinics of North America*.

Rick M. Wiecek, M.D. ('99), practices general surgery in Fremont, Ohio. He and his wife Karen are the proud parents of four children: Alyssa, 12; Victoria, 8; Aaron, 4; and Ryan, 7 months.

2000s

Sherri L. Morgan, M.D. (00), M.P.H., was recently appointed associate director of the Mt. Carmel Family Medicine Residency Program, which provides family medicine hospital and outpatient services as well as obstetrical services.

Robert A. Pohlmeier, M.D. ('00), is the chief fellow at Wake Forest University Baptist Hospital. He will finish in June 2006 and join a private practice in Pinehurst, North Carolina.

Jonathan D. Hollister, M.D. ('01), recently joined Licking Memorial Health Systems, where he will specialize in geriatric medicine. He and his wife Lanie have two children: Meridian and Jaxon.

Jennifer Kitzel, M.D. ('01), practices anesthesiology at St. Joseph's Hospital in St. Petersburg, Florida. She and her husband Matthew Weidner, an attorney, live in Tampa.

Jodi D. McCartney, M.D. ('01), recently completed her residency training in obstetrics and gynecology at East Tennessee State University. She is now practicing with Family Health in Greenville, Ohio.

Amy S. Taneja (Daehnke), M.D. ('01), has joined the staff of St. John Hospital and Medical Center's Women to Women Health Center in St. Clair Shores, Michigan.

Michael S. Ady, M.D. ('02), lives in Akron, Ohio, with his wife Amanda and his daughter Gabrielle, 2. He practices emergency medicine at Summa Health System and Wooster Community Hospital.

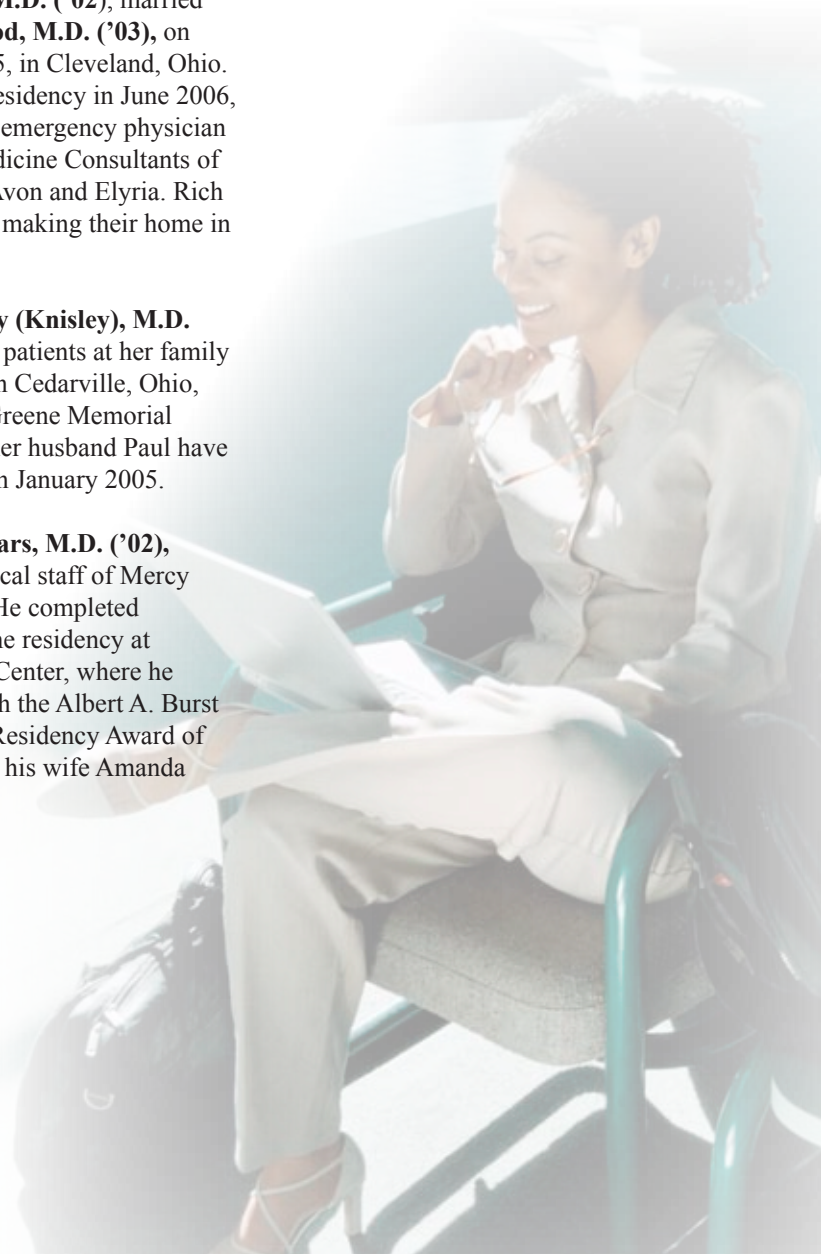
Brooke E. Hohn, M.D. ('02), married **Richard V. Hausrod, M.D. ('03)**, on September 10, 2005, in Cleveland, Ohio. Upon completing residency in June 2006, Rich will be a staff emergency physician for Emergency Medicine Consultants of Lorain County, in Avon and Elyria. Rich and Brooke will be making their home in Avon Lake, Ohio.

Denise R. Kennedy (Knisley), M.D. ('02), began seeing patients at her family medicine practice in Cedarville, Ohio, in affiliation with Greene Memorial Hospital. She and her husband Paul have one child, Mia, born January 2005.

Christopher D. Sears, M.D. ('02), has joined the medical staff of Mercy Hospital of Tiffin. He completed his internal medicine residency at Kettering Medical Center, where he was recognized with the Albert A. Burst Internal Medicine Residency Award of Excellence. He and his wife Amanda have two children.

Kathryn J. Burkhardt, M.D. ('05), married Jeff Goeke in April 2006. She is in a family medicine residency at St. Anthony Hospitals in Denver, Colorado.

Emily J. Johnson, M.D. ('05), received the Ohio Academy of Family Physicians Foundation's Senior Student Award, given each year to an outstanding senior medical student entering an Ohio family medicine residency program. She is completing her residency at Riverside Methodist Hospital in Columbus.





Match Day 2006

Joseph Allen
Family Medicine
WSU Boonshoft School
of Medicine
Dayton, OH

Shannon Armstrong
Plastic Surgery
Grand Rapids Medical
Education
Grand Rapids, MI

Nathaniel Arnone
Emergency Medicine
University of Arizona
Affiliated Hospitals
Tucson, AZ

Carl Backes
Pediatrics
Ohio State University/
Children's Hospital
Columbus, OH

Shomir Banerjee
Family Medicine
University of
California-Davis
Sacramento, CA

Daniel Bebo
Internal Medicine
Kettering Medical
Center
Kettering, OH

Milos Beljin
Internal Medicine
Ohio State University
Medical Center
Columbus, OH

Melissa Betz
Pediatrics
Ohio State University/
Children's Hospital
Columbus, OH

William Brady
Emergency Medicine
WSU Boonshoft School
of Medicine
Dayton, OH

Seuli Brill
Internal Medicine/
Pediatrics
University of North
Carolina Hospitals
Chapel Hill, NC

William Brocklehurst
Emergency Medicine
Allegheny General
Hospital
Pittsburgh, PA

Caroline Castleforte
Pediatrics
Children's Hospital of
Los Angeles
Los Angeles, CA



Thomas Coffelt
Internal Medicine/
Pediatrics
Indiana University
School of Medicine
Indianapolis, IN

Kathy Cornelius
Family Medicine
Hospital of the
University of
Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, PA

Nicholas Davis
Family Medicine
WSU Boonshoft School
of Medicine
Dayton, OH

Kara Denny
Internal Medicine/
Pediatrics
University of Minnesota
Medical School
Minneapolis, MN

Julie Dierksheide
Surgery-General
Grand Rapids Medical
Education
Grand Rapids, MI

Donald Dumford
Internal Medicine
Case Western/University
Hospitals
Cleveland, OH

Kenny Edwards
Orthopaedic Surgery
WSU Boonshoft
School of Medicine
Dayton, OH

Jamie Elifritz
Radiology
University of Southern
Alabama
Mobile, AL

Stephen Escue
Emergency Medicine
Synergy Medical
Education Alliance
Saginaw, MI

Azadeh Fayazi
Pediatrics
Virginia Commonwealth
University Health
System
Richmond, VA

Jonathan Gant
Orthopaedic Surgery
Ohio State University
Medical Center
Columbus, OH

Rifquat Giwa
Internal Medicine
UMDNJ
Newark, NJ

Mike Griesser
Orthopaedic Surgery
Ohio State University
Medical Center
Columbus, OH

Johanna Hadley
Family Medicine
University of North
Carolina Hospitals
Chapel Hill, NC

Rabih Halabi
Internal Medicine
Virginia Commonwealth
University Health
System
Richmond, VA

Rebecca Hammer
Emergency Medicine
Akron General/
NEOUCOM
Akron, OH



Ryan Hammock
Family Medicine
Miami Valley Hospital
Dayton, OH

Deepti Hemrajani
Neurology
Georgetown University
School of Medicine
Washington, D.C.

Crystal Hill
Pediatrics
Ohio State University/
Children's Hospital
Columbus, OH

Kavita Iyengar
Orthopaedic Surgery
Ohio State University
Medical Center
Columbus, OH

Jonathan Jacobs
Pediatrics
University of Tennessee
College of Medicine
Memphis, TN

Liesl Jacobs
Psychiatry
WSU Boonshoft School
of Medicine
Dayton, OH

Matthew Janik
Dermatology
WSU Boonshoft School
of Medicine
Dayton, OH

Matrika Johnson
Obstetrics and
Gynecology
Barnes-Jewish Hospital
St Louis, MO

Matthew Jones
Orthopaedic Surgery
William Beaumont
Hospital
Royal Oak, MI

Erica Kessler
Family Medicine
Grand Rapids Medical
Education
Grand Rapids, MI

Albert Klaski
Internal Medicine
Staten Island University
Hospital
Staten Island, NY

Kathy Kobraei
Dermatology
University of Florida-
Shands Hospital
Gainesville, FL

Valerie (Cook) Kuenzli
Family Medicine
Mount Carmel Health
Columbus, OH

James Lee
Pediatrics
Cleveland Clinic
Foundation
Cleveland, OH

Jeremy Lewis
Surgery-General
University of Texas
Southwest Medical
School
Dallas, TX



Dovilan Logan

Ophthalmology
Jewish Hospital
Chicago, IL

Kathryn Lorenz

Family Medicine
WSU Boonshoft
School of Medicine
Dayton, OH

Christopher Louck

Family Medicine
St. Francis Hospital
Center
Beech Grove, IN

Elizabeth Lucas

Internal Medicine/
Pediatrics
Case Western/
MetroHealth Medical
Center
Cleveland, OH

**Kelly McCluskey-
Erskine**

Obstetrics and
Gynecology
WSU Boonshoft School
of Medicine
Dayton, OH

Stacy Meyer

Pediatrics
Ohio State University/
Children's Hospital
Columbus, OH

**Christopher Meyer**

Pediatrics
Brooke Army Medical
Center
Fort Sam Houston, TX

Raafia Mir

Family Medicine
Summa Health
NEOUCOM
Akron, OH

Ashlee Moore

Surgery-General
WSU Boonshoft School
of Medicine
Dayton, OH

Charles Myer

Otolaryngology
University Hospital
Cincinnati, OH

**E. Oluwakemi
Ogunjimi**

Obstetrics and
Gynecology
University of Texas
Medical School
Houston, TX

Marc Orlando

Surgery-General
Oregon Health &
Science University
Portland, OR

Tiffany Owens

Pediatrics
Wright-Patterson
Medical Center
Dayton, OH

Elizabeth Paesch

Internal Medicine
Beth Israel Medical
Center
New York, NY

Stephen Parada

Orthopaedic Surgery
Madigan Army Medical
Center
Tacoma, WA

Albert Pham

Internal Medicine
Michigan State
University
East Lansing, MI

Michelle Potts

Physical Medicine &
Rehabilitation
Ohio State University
Medical Center
Columbus, OH

Bryant Ramirez

Neurology
University Hospital
Cincinnati
Cincinnati, OH

Abby Reineck

Psychiatry
Dartmouth-Hitchcock
Medical Center
Lebanon, NH

Michael Riggenbach

Orthopaedic Surgery
Ohio State University
Medical Center
Columbus, OH

Ana Rodriguez Fahrni

Internal Medicine
Northwestern McGaw/
NMH/VAMC
Chicago, IL

Erica Roesch

Family Medicine
Miami Valley Hospital
Dayton, OH

Ashley (Barber) Rosko

Internal Medicine
Case Western/University
Hospitals
Cleveland, OH

Andrew Russ

Surgery-General
University of Wisconsin
Hospital/Clinics
Madison, WI

Andrew Sampson

Internal Medicine
University of North
Carolina Hospitals
Chapel Hill, NC

Stacey Savage

Obstetrics and
Gynecology
Ohio State University
Medical Center
Columbus, OH

**Dana Schelble**

Anesthesiology
University Louisville
School of Medicine
Louisville, KY

Howard Sepp

Pediatrics
University of Tennessee
College of Medicine
Chattanooga, TN

Sara Sexson Tejtzel

Pediatrics
WSU Boonshoft School
of Medicine
Dayton, OH

Sanya Siraj

Ophthalmology
University of Maryland
Baltimore, MD

Laura Slivka

Emergency Medicine
SUNY Health Science
Center Brooklyn
Brooklyn, NY

Jeremy Slone

Pediatrics
Phoenix Children's
Hospital/Maricopa
Medical Center
Phoenix, AZ

Jennifer Smith-Garcia

Emergency Medicine
Resurrection Medical
Center
Chicago, IL

Alicia Stewart

Pediatrics
WSU Boonshoft School
of Medicine
Dayton, OH

Kimberly Stockmaster

Obstetrics and
Gynecology
Case Western/
MetroHealth Medical
Center
Cleveland, OH

J. Riley Stringham

Anesthesiology
University of Iowa
Hospitals & Clinics
Iowa City, IA

Joseph Summers

Family Medicine
Scottsdale Healthcare-
Osborn
Scottsdale, AZ

Lindsay Warren

Transitional Year
Grand Rapids Medical
Education
Grand Rapids, MI

Kevin Ziegler

Emergency Medicine
University of Louisville
School of Medicine
Louisville, KY

**Erin McConnell**

Internal Medicine/
Pediatrics
WSU Boonshoft School
of Medicine
Dayton, OH

Rahul Mehan

Urology
Indiana University
School of Medicine
Indianapolis, IN

Kattie Meranda

Family Medicine
Miami Valley Hospital
Dayton, OH



Of Primary Interest

New Faces

Chowdry Mujahid Bashir, M.D., M.B.A.

Assistant Professor, Internal Medicine
M.D.: Punjab Medical College
Faisalabad, Pakistan

Residency: Allied Hospital, Faisalabad,
Pakistan (medicine/surgery)

Residency: Detroit Psychiatric Institute/
Wayne State University (psychiatry)

Residency: Jewish Hospital of
Cincinnati (internal medicine)

Christopher H. Brown, M.D.

Assistant Professor, Internal Medicine
M.D.: University of Kentucky College
of Medicine

Residency: Wright State University
School of Medicine (internal medicine)



Mark S. Campbell, M.D.

Assistant Professor,
Obstetrics and
Gynecology

M.D.: F. Edward Hebert
School of Medicine

Residency: Robert L.
Thompson Strategic

Hospital, Carswell AFB (family
practice)

Residency: Wright State University
School of Medicine (obstetrics and
gynecology)

Hanaa Elhefni, M.D., M.S., M.P.H.

Assistant Professor, Community Health
and Internal Medicine

M.D.: Alexandria University, Egypt

Internship: Alexandria University
Hospitals

Fellowship: University of Alabama
at Birmingham (National Spinal Cord
Injury Group)

New Appointments



William Hurd, M.D., has been named assistant dean for military affairs. Dr. Hurd is regarded as a national expert in military evacuation of wounded soldiers and his military service and expertise will be an asset as we work to integrate a large influx of talent to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base as a result of the Base Realignment and Closure process.

Arthur Pickoff, M.D., has been named chair of the Department of Community Health in addition to his current appointment as chair of the Department of Pediatrics. The Department of Community Health ranked 17th out of 125 medical schools for its total research awards granted by the National Institutes of Health in FY 2004 for the area of "Public Health and Preventive Medicine."



Gary Ventolini, M.D., has been named chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Dr. Ventolini is currently director of the Division of General Obstetrics and Gynecology for the department and director of obstetric services at Miami Valley Hospital.

Faculty Notes

Howard Abromowitz, M.D. ('82), clinical associate professor of surgery, has been named president of the Montgomery County Medical Society. He is the first Wright State alumnus to serve in this capacity.



Lynn Crosby, M.D., professor and chair of orthopaedic surgery, has been named a North American editor for the international *Journal of Shoulder and Elbow Surgery*.



Farhad Sahiar, M.D., (Front row, fourth from the left) assistant professor of aerospace medicine and assistant director of the Aerospace Medicine Residency Program, has been inducted as a fellow into the Aerospace Medical Association.



Glenn Hamilton, M.D., M.S.M., professor and chair of emergency medicine, has been named one of three McCann Scholars by the Joy McCann Foundation. This prestigious award honors outstanding mentors in science and medicine. Dr. Hamilton was recognized for efforts in both undergraduate and graduate medical education, editorship for three textbooks in emergency medicine, consultations to establish emergency medicine residency programs nationwide, and co-founding the Association of Academic Chairs of Emergency Medicine.



Alonzo Patterson, III, M.D., clinical professor of pediatrics, was nominated for the Association of American Medical Colleges Humanism in Medicine Award for 2005.

Elisabeth Richter, M.D. ('89), assistant professor of family medicine, is serving as president of the Ohio Academy of Family Physicians.



Tarek Sabagh, M.D., assistant clinical professor of internal medicine, has received the 2006 Leadership Award from the American Medical Association Foundation. Recipients of the award demonstrate outstanding non-clinical leadership skills in advocacy, community service, and/or education.



Courtney Sulentic, Ph.D., assistant professor of pharmacology and toxicology, received a \$40,000 Colgate-Palmolive Grant for Alternatives Research from the Society of Toxicology.



Dawn Wooley, Ph.D., associate professor virology, is the first scientist in Ohio to become a Certified Biosafety Professional through the American Biological Safety Association. Dr. Wooley conducts her research on HIV-1 mutation and hemorrhagic fever virus in Wright State's BSL-3 facility.

Theodore Wymyslo, M.D., clinical associate professor of family medicine, received the 2006 Pride in the Profession Award from the American Medical Association Foundation. The award is made to four physicians who aid in underserved populations in the United States. He was recognized for his efforts in establishing Reach Out of Montgomery County.

New Faces

Julia L. Fashner, M.D., M.S.

Assistant Professor, Family Medicine

M.D.: Wright State University School of Medicine

Residency: Dayton Community Family Medicine Residency

Fellowship: Michigan State University (primary care faculty development)



Matthew I. Goldblatt, M.D.

Assistant Professor, Surgery

M.D.: Medical College of Wisconsin

Residency: Medical College of Wisconsin

(general surgery)

Fellowship: The Ohio State University College of Medicine (advanced laparoscopy)

Catherine R. Harrison, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Psychiatry

Ph.D.: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (psychology)



Michael P. Heffernan, M.D.

Associate Professor, Dermatology

M.D.: University of Michigan Medical School

Residency: Stanford University Medical Center (dermatology)

Peter C. Iverson, M.D.

Assistant Professor, Psychiatry

M.D.: Wright State University School of Medicine

Residency: Wright State University School of Medicine (psychiatry)

Of Primary Interest

New Faces

Bradley S. Jacobs, M.D., M.S.

Assistant Professor,
Internal Medicine
M.D.: The Ohio State
University College of
Medicine

Residency: Albert Einstein College of
Medicine (neurology)

Fellowship: Columbia University
College of Physicians and Surgeons
(stroke and neuroepidemiology)



Gogi Kumar, M.D.

Assistant Professor, Pediatrics
M.D.: Patna Medical College, India
Residency: GSVM Medical College,
CSM University, India (pediatrics)
Residency: The Brooklyn Hospital
Center (pediatrics)
Fellowship: Schneider Children's
Hospital (pediatric neurology)

Bradley A. Lloyd, D.O.

Assistant Professor, Internal Medicine
D.O.: Ohio University College of
Osteopathic Medicine
Residency: Wright-Patterson Medical
Center (internal medicine)
Fellowship: Wilford Hall USAF
Medical Center (infectious disease)

Janet F. Rickabaugh, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, Community Health
Ph.D.: University of Cincinnati
(environmental engineering)

Mark E. Rowin, M.D.

Assistant Professor, Pediatrics
M.D.: University of Texas Health
Science Center
Residency: Duke University Medical
Center (pediatrics)
Fellowship: University of Utah School
of Medicine (pediatric critical care and
infectious diseases)

Student Notes

Several members of the Class of 2006 completed international rotations in their fourth year:

Jeremy Slone

Papua, New Guinea, two months

Tiffany Owens

Philippines, two weeks

Kemi Ojunjimi

Nigeria, one month

Drew Russ and Andy Sampson

Ecuador, one month

Melissa Betz, Kathy Cornelius, and

Matrika Johnson

Guatemala, one month

Azadeh Fayazi

Iran, one month

Rifquat Lande Giwa

Nigeria, one month

Kara Denny, Laura Slivka, and

Lindsay Warren

Bolivia, one month

Sanya Siraj

Pakistan, two months



Tiffany Owens, Year IV, accompanied a local surgeon to the Philippines. Her time was divided between assisting him in surgery and health screenings in several villages.

New Projects

The Substance Abuse Resources and Disability Issues program in the Center for Interventions, Treatment and Addictions Research has been awarded a five-year, \$1.2 million grant to address three interconnected health issues within Dayton's minority community: hepatitis C, HIV/AIDS, and substance abuse. The grant brings together a wide range of community organizations to work collaboratively on these issues.

The Department of Emergency Medicine has received a \$2.2 million contract in support of medical readiness and disaster preparedness from the Ohio Department of Health. In the contract, the Homeland Emergency Learning and Preparedness (H.E.L.P.) Center, a community-wide effort to better prepare our community for large-scale emergencies, will have a significant role. Established by the department last year, the H.E.L.P. Center will lead the development of a region-wide disaster preparedness plan and the establishment of a new medical operations facility with the capacity to treat 1,000 individuals.

Student and Faculty Recognition

At the Annual Boonshoft School of Medicine Awards Ceremony, the following students and faculty were recognized:

Student Awards

ICM I Award

Seth McAfee

Human Structure Award

Benjamin L. Kohnen

Molecular Basis of Medicine

Gayatri Patel

Cells and Tissue Organ Systems

Deborah M. Amann

Principles of Disease Award

Joseph A. Meranda

Term I Award

Michael W. Mariscalco

Term II Award

Paul E. Lagler

ICM II Award

Emily J. Vannorsdall

John C. Gillen Award for Family Medicine

Erica L. Kessler

Medicine Clerkship Award

Andrew J. Sampson

Pediatrics Clerkship Award

Kara N. Denny

Women's Health Clerkship Award

Charles M. Myer IV

James B. Peoples Silver Scalpel Award

Shannon D. Armstrong

Abraham Heller Psychiatry Clerkship Award

Abby L. Reineck

McGraw-Hill/Appleton and Lange Award

Kavita Kuchipudi

Christine N. Pham

Faculty Awards

Teaching Excellence Awards

Stuart J. Nelson, Ph.D.

John F. Donnelly, M.D.

Paul Koles, M.D.

Jerome J. Schulte, M.D.

Faculty Mentor Award

Paul Koles, M.D.

Mariana Morris, Ph.D.

Excellence in Medical Education Award

Michael J. Markus, M.D.

Dean X. Parmelee, M.D., associate dean for academic affairs, presents the Excellence in Medical Education Award to Michael J. Markus, M.D., assistant professor of internal medicine.



New Faces

Michael J. Ruff, M.D.

Assistant Professor,
Family Medicine

M.D.: Medical College of Ohio

Residency: Dayton
Community Family
Practice Residency



**Corey B. Russell,
D.P.M.**

Assistant Professor,
Orthopaedic Surgery
D.P.M.: Ohio College
of Podiatric Medicine
Residency: Millcreek
Community Hospital

(podiatric surgery)

Eugene J. Simoni, M.D.

Assistant Professor,
Surgery

M.D.: MCP Hahnemann
University

Residency: Henry Ford
Hospital (surgery)

Fellowship: Henry Ford
Hospital (vascular surgery)



**Thavam C. Thambi-
Pillai, M.D.**

Assistant Professor,
Surgery
M.D.: National
University of Ireland,
Galway Graduate
Hospital (surgery)

James V. Tobin, M.D., FACOG

Assistant Professor, Obstetrics and
Gynecology

M.D.: University of Louisville School
of Medicine

Residency: Medical College
of Pennsylvania (obstetrics and
gynecology)

Residency: University of Louisville
(radiology)

Of Primary Interest

New Faces

Gregory J. Toussaint, M.D.

Associate Professor, Pediatrics

M.D.: Medical College of Virginia

Residency: Wilford Hall USAF Medical Center (pediatrics)

Fellowship: Children's Hospital Boston (general pediatrics)

Janet W. Velasco, M.D., M.P.H.

Assistant Professor, Pediatrics

M.D.: Loma Linda University School of Medicine

Residency: Wright State University School of Medicine (internal medicine/pediatrics)



Dennis F. Zagrodnik II, M.D.

Assistant Professor,
Surgery

M.D.: Medical College of Wisconsin

Residency: Keesler USAF Medical Center (general

surgery)

Fellowship: Gulf Coast Veterans Health Care System (general thoracic surgery)



(L-R): (Back Row) Shannon Armstrong, Crystal Shaffer, M.D., Michael Duffy, M.D., Andrew Russ, William Brady III, Darnell Ladson, D.O., (Front Row) Crystal Hill, Stacey Savage, Seuli Brill, Mike Griesser, Kimberly Stockmaster, and Kattie Meranda. Not included in the photo: Donald Dumford III, Carl Backes Jr., Siar Basharmal, M.D., Toby Genrich, M.D., and Meghann Nelles, M.D.

Gold Humanism Honor Society

The Gold Humanism Honor Society at Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine celebrated its second annual inductee ceremony with 17 new members. The society honors those who demonstrate "excellence in clinical care, leadership, compassion, and dedication to service." Sponsored by the Gold Foundation, and under the direction of faculty advisor Mary White, Ph.D., the society seeks to elevate the values of humanism and professionalism within the field of medicine. Eleven fourth-year medical students and six resident physicians, who were recognized as outstanding role models by the students, were inducted.

Alpha Omega Alpha

At the school's 26th Annual Initiation Ceremony for Alpha Omega Alpha, the national medical honor society, these individuals were inducted into the Epsilon Chapter of Ohio:

Students

Shannon D. Armstrong
Seuli M. Brill
Kara N. Denny
Jonathan A. Gant
Matthew P. Janik
Matthew D. Jones
Kathy B. Kobraei
Paul E. Lagler

Michael W. Mariscalco
Kristen P. Massimino
Alex T. Porter
Ashley E. Rosko
Andrew J. Russ
Stacey L. Savage
Sanya Siraj

Residents

Jayson C. Dock, M.D.
Matthew T. Gorman, M.D.
Curtis J. Wozniak, M.D.

Faculty

Mark E. Gebhart, M.D.

Calendar

Medicine Ball
May 24, 2006
Dayton Racquet Club
For more information,
contact 775-2934

SNMA Banquet
May 25, 2006
6:30 p.m.
Crowne Plaza Hotel
For more information,
contact 775-2934

Graduation
May 26, 2006
6:30 p.m.
Schuster Performing Arts
Center, Mead Theater
For more information,
contact 775-2934

**Center for Healthy
Communities Annual Meeting**
June 21, 2006
10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Dayton Cultural Center
For more information,
contact 775-1125

Reunion Weekend
July 14-16, 2006
Cincinnati
For more information,
contact 775-2972

Student Clinician's Ceremony
July 19, 2006
6:00 p.m.
WSU Student Union Apollo
Room
Reception will follow in the
formal lounge
For more information,
contact 775-2934

Convocation for Class of 2010
July 30, 2006
3:00 p.m.
Schuster Performing Arts
Center, Mead Theater
For more information,
contact 775-2934

Faculty Meeting
September 21, 2006
4:30 p.m.
232J Frederick A. White
Center
For more information,
contact: 775-3010

On a cool day in early April, 122 runners joined a 5K Walk/Run benefit to support the organization, Solidarity and Action Against the HIV Infection in India (SAATHII.org). Organized by medical students affiliated with Physicians for Human Rights and the American Medical Student Association, the on-campus benefit raised more than \$4,000 for the cause. [Photos provided by Year II student Kuang Chang]



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

Direct all correspondence to:
Editor, Vital Signs
Wright State University
Boonshoft School of Medicine
Office of Public Relations
P. O. Box 927
Dayton, OH 45401-0927
Fax: (937) 775-3366
Phone: (937) 775-2951
E-mail: som_pr@wright.edu
www.med.wright.edu/

Editorial Planning Group and Contributing Authors

Robert Boley
Debbie Deichler
Judith Engle
Nancy Harker
Sue Rytel
Gwen Sloas, Ed.D.
Robin Suits

Guest Authors

Sarah Dorsch
Pamela Ferris-Olson

Advisory Group

Judith Engle
Paul Carlson, Ph.D.
Mark Clasen, M.D., Ph.D.
Robert Fyffe, Ph.D.
Jerald Kay, M.D.
Barbara Schuster, M.D.

Managing Editor

Judith Engle

Copy Editor

Robin Suits

Design

Debbie Deichler

Photography Coordinators

Debbie Deichler
Nancy Harker
Sue Rytel

Photography

Roberta Bowers
Pamela Ferris-Olson
William Jones
Chris Snyder

© 2006 Wright State University
Boonshoft School of Medicine

Printed on recycled paper



BOONSHOFT SCHOOL *of* MEDICINE

WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY

3640 Col. Glenn Hwy., Dayton, OH 45435-0001

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
DAYTON, OH 45401
PERMIT NO. 551