Wayne State University School of Medicine

supports Hurricane Katrina relief efforts

In the days and weeks following Hurricane Katrina, the faculty, staff and students of the WSU School of Medicine provided medical support, resources and kindness to people whose lives were interrupted by the storm. Following are a few examples of those who provided exceptional support and care.

➤ “This is very rewarding medicine. People are appreciative. They know you are leaving your own home to assist. People reacted very well relative to what they had lost,” said Marc Rosenthal, Ph.D., D.O., assistant professor of emergency medicine, who was deployed to help with hurricane relief efforts at the Garden Park Hospital in Gulfport, Miss. As a senior medical officer for the National Disaster Medical System’s Disaster Medical Assistance Team, Dr. Rosenthal arrived a few days after the hurricane hit, but three-four days before food and water had become widely available in Mississippi. “Luckily, the hospital's emergency room was functioning, so it could have been worse. The doctors we relieved were happy to let us take over. They had been working two days straight, in some cases, with no sleep. Many of the hospital staff had lost their own homes and couldn’t contact their own family members. They were victims, but they were still treating patients. Disaster medicine is rewarding, because you just do what you have to do immediately. You don’t worry about meeting the criteria for a level-4 visit for insurers; you just help people.”

➤ “We saw lots of spider bites and snake bites, which are a considerable problem there,” said Cynthia Aaron, M.D., associate professor of pediatrics and emergency medicine, and toxicology expert, who provided emergency relief through her involvement with the National Disaster Medical System's Disaster Medical Assistance Team. “People were coming in the first day with small red blisters and redness. By the next day, they were developing ulcers. Plus, many of these people were walking to the hospital for many miles through waste and contaminated water. Most were barefoot or were lucky if they had flip flops. They never had a chance to gather supplies, including shoes, from their homes. We saw puncture wounds from stepping on nails, and many kids with gastroenteritis. We were able to triage these people relatively quickly, and we were pretty free with prescribing medications, because people were in dire need at that point. I was deployed during Hurricane Andrew, and although the situations were similar in terms of the amount of devastation, this hurricane didn’t follow a discreet path that you could drive out of. This was a huge coastline and the damage went all the way back another 50 miles, so it was difficult to get supplies in.”

Amazingly, these people were incredibly resilient, said Dr. Aaron

Tents outside this Mississippi hospital served as a satellite emergency room and treatment center.

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Modern OSCE testing sites coming soon to WSU

A major milestone in a medical student’s career is completion of the Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE), the component of the United States Medical Licensing Exam that assesses student skills related to history-taking, physical exams, communication and clinical performance. The OSCE test-taking setting is about to be vastly improved at the Wayne State University School of Medicine, with newly allocated space in the Richard J. Mazurek, M.D., Medical Education Commons to be built near Scott Hall and the Shiftman Library. In the past, space was rented in Detroit Medical Center hospitals to mimic real patient encounters in a clinic.

OSCEs require third-year students to visit eight patient stations where scenarios are presented. Students review the chart, talk to the patient, perform necessary elements of a history and physical, and make an informed assessment of the situation or potential diagnoses. Performance is graded by faculty members or simulated patients using a checklist.

Standardized patients and practice modules help student doctors perfect basic techniques. 

OSCE administrator and director of conjoint teaching services, “Medical education is shaping the future of medical practice, and we are thrilled that our educational programs will now be housed in a modern facility. With new space and equipment at the Medical Education Commons, students’ performances can be videotaped and reviewed; there will be ample space to practice clinical skills like suturing and injection; and we will have incredible teaching tools and resources for medical educators and health care workers across the state.”

In addition to the OSCE, similar testing methods are used specifically to gauge competencies in residencies and clerkships in some specialties like internal medicine, family medicine and pediatrics. The Medical Education Commons will be a resource for physicians or medical students who want to brush up on their skills at any level of their training.

“We provide training that allows physicians to develop and practice patient-centered skills. This is the basis of safe, effective, compassionate, humanistic care. WSU’s Medical Education Commons will reinforce that kind of care at every opportunity,” said Robert Frank, M.D., interim dean of the School of Medicine.

The OSCE testing rooms will be part of a state-of-the-art clinical skills center occupying 13,700 square feet of space and will be housed on floor 1.5 of the building. Near the testing area are planned study and review areas including high-tech computerized patient simulators, mannequins and teaching aids to practice techniques, and consultation services with experienced clinicians who can provide mentoring and assistance. The center will also be used to teach the physical diagnosis course and will accommodate the standardized patient teaching programs.

If you’d like to support this or any other medical education program with a contribution to the Education Commons, please contact the School of Medicine’s Office of Development and Alumni Affairs at (313) 577-1495.

The Richard J. Mazurek, M.D., Medical Education Commons will have space available to help medical students test their clinical skills.
**$13.2 million Cancer Center Support Grant awarded to Dr. Ruckdeschel, KCI**

Supporting the Karmanos Cancer Institute’s dedication to research, the National Cancer Institute (NCI) has awarded Wayne State University (WSU) and the Karmanos Cancer Institute $13.2 million to sustain and grow broad-based, interdisciplinary programs over the next five years. John Ruckdeschel, M.D., director of the institute and WSU associate dean for cancer programs, will receive $2.5 million in 2005, with funding increasing each year to $2.8 million in 2009.

NCI Cancer Center Support Grants are intended to support infrastructure for interdisciplinary cancer-relevant research and to foster studies that would not occur without the climate, facilities and research resources that a designated cancer center can uniquely provide. These funds, which are competitively awarded separately from individual RO1 research grants, will help develop the scientific infrastructure of the cancer center, including such elements as scientific leadership and administration; research resources that give ready access to the state-of-the-art technologies; and flexible opportunities to take immediate advantage of new research opportunities.

“This support grant points to the proven scientific excellence of our research team. It allows our researchers and administrators to explore diverse and integrated approaches to reduce cancer incidence, morbidity and mortality for the population at large,” Dr. Ruckdeschel said. “WSU and Karmanos are important contributors to the field, because we influence and often even set the standards of care for cancer prevention and treatment. We are eager to explore new programs that are currently in their infancy, but may hold great promise in improving quality of life for cancer survivors.”

The grant will support the following specific projects and programs at WSU/Karmanos: bioinformatics, confocal imaging, genomics, informatics, pharmacology and biostatistics.

The Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute is one of only 39 NCI-designated Comprehensive Cancer Centers in the country.

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**Increased exercise induces angiogenesis which reduces brain injury from ischemic stroke, reported Wayne State University’s Yuchuan Ding, M.D., Ph.D., in the journal Current Neurovascular Research.**

His study compared rats who exercised on a treadmill for 30 minutes a day with non-exercised rats. When the rats had an ischemic attack, those who exercised had a significant increase in the density of microvessels, possibly induced by increased expression of vascular endothelial growth factor and mRNA levels of angiopeitoin 1 and 2.

The rats with increased angiogenesis had reduced brain tissue damage and neurological deficits compared with the control subjects.

Beneficial results were seen even in rats that exercised only one week prior to stroke, and robust increases in growth factor and mRNA levels were evident after three weeks of exercise. As exercise was reduced, so was beneficial upregulation; however, neuroprotection continued after three weeks of rest.

According to Dr. Ding, this may have application to humans, providing further evidence of the benefits of regular exercise. People with healthier hearts may have reduced effects of stroke. Since one never knows when a stroke might happen, it is wise to exercise regularly, he said.

Dr. Ding, an associate professor of neurological surgery, is currently supported by several grants from the National Institutes of Health and the American Heart Association to study various elements of neuroprotection related to stroke.

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**WSU physicians rank as top doctors**

Fourteen Wayne State University physicians have been listed in this year’s edition of “America’s Top Doctors,” a publication of Castle Connolly Medical Ltd. “I am proud that our faculty continues to be held in high esteem among their colleagues and peers,” said Dean Robert Frank. “This type of recognition calls to attention the high standards we set for ourselves to deliver the most advanced patient care – patient care that’s informed and enhanced by our commitment to research and education.”

Castle Connolly’s physician led-research team conducts an extensive research and screening process involving surveys of more than 10,000 M.D.s in medical leadership positions and private practice across the country to identify those specialists and subspecialists considered to be clinically outstanding by their peers.

The guide identifies more than 5,000 top specialists throughout the United States in more than 60 medical specialties and subspecialties for the care and treatment of more than 1,700 diseases and medical conditions. These outstanding physicians represent the top 1 percent in the nation, according to Castle Connolly.

**WSU physicians recognized by “America’s Top Doctors” include:**

- Gary Abrams, M.D., ophthalmology
- David Bouwman, M.D., surgery
- Michael Diamond, M.D., obstetrics & gynecology
- Jeffrey Forman, M.D., radiation oncology
- Bernard Gonik, M.D., obstetrics & gynecology
- James Gutai, M.D., pediatric endocrinology
- Robert Lisak, M.D., neurology
- Michael Nigro, M.D., pediatric neurology
- John Ruckdeschel, M.D., oncology
- Ashok Sarnaik, M.D., pediatric critical care
- Charles Schiffer, M.D., oncology
- Jack Sobel, M.D., infectious disease
- Marjorie Treadwell, M.D., obstetrics & gynecology
- Andrew Turrisi, M.D., radiation oncology

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**Further evidence shows that exercise eases stroke injuries**

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Pituitary gland serves as biomarker for OCD

Under normal conditions, the pituitary gland is a small pea-sized organ that sits in the center of the brain and secretes hormones that regulate and stimulate other endocrine glands. Under irregular conditions, it may be correlated with obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD). OCD is characterized by recurrent, unwanted thoughts (obsessions) and persistent behaviors to make the thoughts go away (compulsions).

An article published by Frank MacMaster, M.Sc., and David Rosenberg, M.D., in Biological Psychiatry showed that study subjects with OCD had smaller pituitary glands than control groups. Furthermore, smaller gland volumes were correlated with increasingly more severe compulsive symptoms such as handwashing, cleaning or counting, for example.

The identification of relevant neuroimaging biomarkers may advance our understanding of the pathophysiology of this and other related illnesses.

“Our results suggest that abnormalities in pituitary anatomy may represent a central neurobiological deficit in this illness,” said MacMaster, a postdoctoral research fellow in Dr. Rosenberg’s laboratory. “Since there was no relation between pituitary volume and depression, generalized anxiety or illness duration, we believe that the pituitary might mediate the physical manifestations of stress, but not necessarily the obsessive component.”

Using MRI studies, MacMaster found that pituitary gland volume was an average of 11 percent smaller in patients with OCD compared to controls. He also found a gender specific alteration showing that males with OCD had volumes 20 percent smaller than male controls and they were 31 percent smaller than females with OCD.

Although this study points to the pituitary gland as a marker for OCD, it does not confirm the progressive nature of the disease. “Longitudinal studies as well as studies of offspring and siblings of patients with OCD at increased genetic risk for developing OCD can better address whether pituitary abnormalities in OCD are progressive,” MacMaster said.

In past studies, small pituitary volumes have also been associated with eating disorders, and large pituitary volumes have been noted in people with post-traumatic stress disorder, mood disorders and alcohol dependence. “The identification of relevant neuroimaging biomarkers may advance our understanding of the pathophysiology of this and other related illnesses,” MacMaster said.

Co-authors on the article include: Ailen Russell, Yousha Mirza, Matcheri Keshavan, S. Preeya Banerjee, Rashmi Bhandari, Courtney Boyd, Michelle Lynch, Michelle Rose, Jennifer Ivey and Gregory Moore.

Voices of Detroit Initiative provides access to care

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation recently awarded a $100,000 grant to Wayne State University School of Medicine in partnership with the Voices of Detroit Initiative (VODI) to improve access to care for uninsured people in Detroit.

The Wayne State University School of Medicine is a key partner in the Voices of Detroit Initiative, which is seeking ways to provide cost-effective, high-quality health services to all residents of the city of Detroit and Wayne County, particularly those who are uninsured.

Dr. Robert Frank, interim dean of the WSU School of Medicine, and Dr. Herbert C. Smitherman, interim associate chairman of the Department of Community Medicine, are the co-principle investigators of the new grant.

“This grant will allow VODI to continue its important work in seeking the best ways to care for all of our citizens here in Detroit and Wayne County, specifically the uninsured, while also providing the community with information that will be valuable in planning for expanded health-care access to vulnerable populations,” said Lucille Smith, executive director of VODI.

Since its establishment six years ago, VODI has developed a care model for uninsured patients that focuses on the concept of a “medical home,” which provides primary-care services at 12 Federally Qualified Health Center sites throughout the city of Detroit and directs referrals for secondary and tertiary care through health-system partners.

VODI has developed a three-part strategy for its next phase of development:

- Access to primary care continues to be expanded within VODI’s member service-delivery networks through improving access to the full continuum of care by integrating and expanding primary, specialty and hospital services for uninsured patients.
- Enrollment and service-tracking processes pioneered by VODI continue to advance the Uninsured Health System, an administrative claims process for the uninsured that is equivalent to that of insured populations.
- A planning and policy research agenda will be continued and expanded to establish best practices for services delivered in low-income communities.

“The goal of our strategic planning is to improve access to care, improve quality of care, optimize cost-effective patient care outcomes and ultimately improve the health status of the community,” Dr. Smitherman said. “The enhancements envisioned will create a more robust model of care for uninsured patients.”
Nitric oxide prevents aging of eggs, extends fertility, according to WSU study in *Biochemistry*

Nitric oxide, a signaling molecule in the nervous system, appears to slow or reverse the aging of eggs in mouse ovaries. This important discovery may improve assisted reproduction techniques and allow women’s eggs to remain healthy and viable, and increase their chances for fertility and having healthy babies into their 30s and 40s. The finding was published by Wayne State researchers in the Aug. 30 issue of the American Chemical Society’s journal *Biochemistry.* (vol. 44, pages 11361-11368)

Mammalian oocytes, or eggs, have a limited window of opportunity for optimal fertilization. Eggs removed from the ovaries begin to age rapidly without fertilization. If not fertilized within about six hours, the eggs are more prone to abnormal or insufficient fertilization and have a greater likelihood of chromosomal abnormalities. Exposing these eggs to nitric oxide protects them and may significantly increase their viability for *in vitro* fertilization, intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI) and nuclear transfer.

“In addition to possibly extending fertility in women, our results suggest that nitric oxide could help prevent chromosomal errors even during embryonic development,” said first author Anuradha Goud, Ph.D., research associate in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and at the C.S. Mott Center for Human Growth and Development. Specifically, nitric oxide slowed the hardening of the eggs’ outer shells, halted cortical granule loss, and diminished ooplasmic microtubule dynamics. “These phenomena significantly delay the process of postovulatory aging and improve the quality and health of the egg, leading to better outcomes for reproduction,” Dr. Goud said.

“Eggs from older women may be particularly sensitive to aging after they are released from the ovaries,” said Husam Abu-Soud, Ph.D., associate professor of OB-GYN, and co-author on the study. “As a result, the time available for optimal fertilization of these women’s eggs may be quite a bit shorter than the time frame in younger women. But exposing the eggs to appropriate levels of nitric oxide would extend this fertilizable time window in both old and young women,” he said.

Additional co-authors on the study include Pravin Goud M.D., Ph.D., and Michael Diamond M.D., who note that although it is unclear how nitric oxide produces these effects exactly, nitric oxide shares phosphodiesterase inhibition and antioxidant properties similar to those of caffeine. An earlier study also suggested that caffeine can delay the aging process of eggs and plays a contributory role as an antioxidant molecule.

**Veggies fight breast cancer**

Recent studies show that diets high in cruciferous vegetables, such as broccoli, cabbage, and cauliflower, offer protection against several types of cancer, including breast cancer. WSU researcher K.M. Wahidur Rahman, Ph.D., is sorting out the mechanism behind the vegetables’ ability to fight carcinoma of the breast, and hopes his findings may one day help to boost the effectiveness of conventional treatments for the disease, which is the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths among American women.

In a study published in the January 2005 issue of *Cancer Research,* Dr. Rahman, who is assistant professor of pathology, showed the pathway that one of the compounds in the vegetables uses to inhibit the cell-signaling molecules known as nuclear factor-κB and a serine/threonine kinase called Akt. Nuclear factor-κB regulates the genes participating in the activation and proliferation of cells, while Akt controls cell survival and programmed cell death, or apoptosis. Dr. Rahman placed his focus on the vegetable compound indole-3-carbinol, or I3C. He explained, “I3C goes into the stomach and makes a dimeric product that is called 3,3’-Diindolymethane, or DIM.” With the study, he hoped to learn more about the signaling pathway that DIM employs to ultimately battle the disease.

“We purchased human fetal bone, which has bone marrow, and implanted it under the mouse’s skin,” he said, recounting his project. A month after the human fetal bone implant, he and his research group—Sanjeev Banerjee, Ph.D., Joshua Liao, Ph.D., and Fazlul Sarkar, Ph.D.—injected breast cancer cells into the fetal bone, and the tumor grew. “We then added our compound, I3C and DIM, and saw some effect. We found that the compound could inhibit breast cancer bone metastasis.” His findings were the first to shed light on the pathway and described how DIM restrains phosphorylation, and in turn, inactivates both Akt and nuclear factor-κB during apoptosis.

He has just received a new grant from the Department of Defense to continue his study, and is now planning to investigate the effects of DIM in a cell line. “We will apply the results of this *in vitro* model to our animal model.”

He believes that DIM may be helpful in making the cancer cells more receptive to the effects of chemotherapeutic drugs, and therefore provide a new way to kill especially hardy cancer cells. “Our hypothesis is that if we sensitize the cells by inhibiting Akt and nuclear fac-
A Wayne State University School of Medicine researcher has published a clinical practice guideline in the journal Neurology stating that there is scientific evidence to support that carotid endarterectomy is useful in preventing future strokes. The guideline, which appears in the Sept. 27, 2005, issue of the scientific journal of the American Academy of Neurology, updates a 1990 statement on carotid endarterectomy.

Stroke affects more than 700,000 people in the United States per year. A blockage of a blood vessel is responsible for about 80 percent of strokes. Carotid endarterectomy is the most frequently performed operation to prevent stroke with about 150,000 to 200,000 procedures taking place each year.

“The evidence of this guideline points out an effective method of stroke prevention in certain people,” said Seemant Chaturvedi, M.D., guideline author and director of the Wayne State University Stroke Program. “Carotid endarterectomy is beneficial for those with severe to moderate narrowing in their carotid artery.”

Carotid endarterectomy is a surgical procedure that removes plaque and fatty deposits from blocking the carotid arteries which are the main suppliers of blood for the brain. There is strong evidence recommending carotid endarterectomy to prevent stroke in people who have severe (70 percent to 99 percent) blockage in their carotid artery. Nearly 25 percent of people who recover from their first stroke will have another stroke within five years. The guideline authors reviewed all of the scientific evidence on carotid endarterectomy.

The guideline found that carotid endarterectomy is effective for patients with severe stenosis (narrowing in a carotid artery) and recent symptoms of stroke or transient ischemic attack (TIA or mini-stroke). Carotid endarterectomy may also be considered for patients with moderate (50 percent to 69 percent) stenosis and recent symptoms of stroke.

For people between the ages of 40 and 75 with moderate to severe narrowing, but presenting with no symptoms of stroke or disease, carotid endarterectomy may be considered if the patient has at least a five-year life expectancy and if the surgery can be done with a low complication rate.

For patients with less than 50 percent stenosis, medical treatment is preferred over carotid endarterectomy.

People who undergo carotid endarterectomy should receive low-dose aspirin therapy (81 to 325mg per day) prior to surgery and for at least three months following surgery, according to the guideline.

There is not enough evidence for or against having a carotid endarterectomy within four to six weeks of a moderate to severe stroke.

“We recommend further high-quality studies to evaluate the evidence/practice gap in the future,” said Dr. Chaturvedi, an associate professor in the WSU Department of Neurology.

The guideline has been endorsed by the American Stroke Association and is available online at http://www.aan.com/professionals/practice/guideline/index.cfm.
Wayne State University School of Medicine supports Hurricane Katrina relief efforts (continued from page 1)

“It’s just very heartwarming that people are willing to put their lives on hold for any unknown period of time and just go and help,” said Jenny Atas, M.D., associate professor of emergency medicine, who heads the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services public health emergency team in the region. Dr. Atas coordinated medical aid to evacuees through a temporary processing center set up at Detroit City Airport and mobilized volunteer medical personnel in partnership with the Michigan Department of Community Health.

Melissa Barton, M.D., assistant professor of emergency medicine, was one of more than 100 WSU volunteers providing medical assessment and care to hurricane evacuees who made it to the Detroit area.

“Heartwarming” was the word that Dr. Atas used to describe the experience of helping hurricane evacuees. “It is a testament to the wind and water forces of the hurricane.”

WSU sororities and friends helped furnish Brittney Van Buren’s campus apartment with essentials.

“I would like to say thanks to Dr. Herbert Smitherman who eloquently offered the support of the university under the direction of Dean Robert Frank in a manner that would have been hard to refuse; to Dr. John Malone, Jr., identified as the principal contact for WSU and facilitated efforts to identify resources within the university; and finally, to those of you who, without hesitation, responded to the call to lend a helping hand. Your generosity is truly inspiring,” said James Blessman, M.D., M.P.H., assistant professor of family medicine and medical director for the city of Detroit.

Hurricane winds destroyed this house that was located about a half mile from the water.

WSU assistant professor of emergency medicine, Dr. Robert Dunne, was also providing disaster medical assistance. These tents functioned as emergency rooms and treated 300-400 people per day.
## Welcome to the newest students at Wayne State University School of Medicine

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Class of 2009

Welcome to the newest students at the Wayne State University School of Medicine
Michigan residents, 11% from other states
Evolutionary tree suggests that three globin lineages evolved from an ancestral globin, according to PNAS

The globin superfamily encompasses more than a dozen and a half separate families, ranging from the familiar a- and b-globins constituting vertebrate hemoglobin, myoglobin, neuroglobins and cytoglobin of vertebrates, to symbiotic and nonsymbiotic plant hemoglobins and globins found in invertebrates, fungi, algae, protozoa, archaea and bacteria. Although the evolutionary relationships between vertebrate globins have been established recently, the relationships between the remaining globins have remained unclear.

In order to clarify this issue, Serge Vinogradov, Ph.D., professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, has examined globins identified in genomes from three kingdoms of life: 1) eukaryota (plants, animals, fungi), 2) bacteria, and 3) archaea (class of bacteria able to survive under extreme conditions). All the known globin sequences, including those found in the survey of over 200 bacterial, 24 archael and 20 fungal genomes, can be divided into single domain globins, such as a- and b-globins, and chimeric globins, wherein a globin domain, generally N-terminal, is covalently linked to a C-terminal domain, which is either a flavin reductase in flavohemoglobins, or a gene regulator in globin-coupled sensors.

The comprehensive survey carried out by Dr. Vinogradov provides evidence that all globins are distributed among three lineages, and that all three lineages evolved from an ancestral globin, as reported in the August 9, 2005 issue of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS). The three lineages consist of: 1) flavohemoglobins and related single domain globins; 2) globin-coupled sensors; and 3) single domain globins that have a 2-over-2 fold instead of the usual 3-over-3 fold.

"My main proposal is that animal and plant globins are related to bacterial and fungal flavohemoglobins," Dr. Vinogradov said.

Dr. Vinogradov examined the relatedness of the amino acid sequences from various families of globins. He found to his surprise, that bacterial single domain globins that were similar in sequence to yeast and bacterial flavohemoglobins, had sequences also similar to vertebrate neuroglobins, followed by plant globins and other vertebrate and invertebrate globins. In contrast, the 2-over-2 globins and the globin-coupled sensors recognized only themselves and the flavohemoglobins and not any other globin family. Bayesian phylogenetic trees constructed in collaboration with biochemists and biologists in Belgium and France, based on globin sequences representing all the known globin families, clearly showed three major branches, one consisting of 2-over-2 globins, another of globin-coupled sensors and the third, encompassing all the flavohemoglobins and related single domain globins as well as plant globins and all the metazoan globin families, ranging from vertebrates to algae, annelids, crustaceans, insects, nematodes, nemerteanis, molluscs and platyhelminths.

In contrast to the very well studied functions of oxygen and nitric oxide transport by human and other vertebrate hemoglobins and myoglobins, much less is known about the functions of vertebrate neuroglobins and cytoglobins, the eukaryote and bacterial flavohemoglobins and 2-over-2 hemoglobins, and the bacterial globin-coupled sensors. These remain the focus of substantial research effort worldwide.

Dr. Vinogradov and his collaborators speculate that the early evolution of a globin ancestor able to react with diatomic gaseous ligands was accompanied by the acquisition of several functions, comprising the detection, sequencing and detoxification of oxygen and oxygen-derived species, such as nitric oxide (NO). The principal role of extant flavohemoglobins and 2-over-2 hemoglobins is considered to be in NO detoxification, aerobically as NO oxidases or anaerobically as NO reductases. The function of globin-coupled sensors appears to be that of an oxygen sensor active in gene regulation.

According to Dr. Vinogradov, the majority of extant globins appear to be enzymes. Thus, he says, “It appears likely that the familiar function of oxygen transport is a specialized development that accompanied the evolution of metazoans, subsequent to the rise in atmospheric oxygen content to present day levels, approximately 600 million years ago.”

The full PNAS article can be viewed online at: http://www.pnas.org/cgi/content/abstract/0502103102v1.

Elected to Wayne State University’s prestigious Academy of Scholars in 2003, Dr. Vinogradov has spent four decades studying the physical and chemical properties of nonvertebrate hemoglobins, which, unlike vertebrate hemoglobins, exhibit a wide variation in their covalent and subunit structures as well as several orders of magnitude greater variation in ligand binding affinities and kinetics.

In memoriam

Dr. Kathryn Cramer
Kathryn E. Cramer, M.D., associate professor of orthopaedic surgery, died July 16 at the age of 44, following a valiant battle against breast cancer.

Dr. Cramer graduated from Wayne State University School of Medicine in 1986. She joined the WSU faculty in 1998 as a clinical specialist in orthopaedic trauma. As a member of University Orthopaedics, she practiced at Detroit Receiving Hospital and Children’s Hospital of Michigan until illness forced her retirement in 2003.

“Throughout the Detroit Medical Center, she was known for her boundless energy, her unswerved work ethic, her devotion to patient care, and by no means least, her engaging sense of humor,” said Steve Petersen, M.D., acting chair of orthopaedic surgery.

In addition to being an outstanding clinician and educator, Dr. Cramer was an inspirational role model to female medical students, and especially to those considering a career in orthopaedic surgery. Dr. Cramer achieved preeminence in this specialty during an era when female orthopaedists were a rarity.

Dr. Cramer is survived by her brother, her sister and two step-children. The family has asked that donations in Dr. Cramer’s name be made to Karmanos Cancer Institute, or to Hospice of Michigan.

Dr. Bennie Zak
Bennie Zak, Ph.D., a WSU professor of pathology who retired in 1990, died July 29. He was 85.

Dr. Zak was an internationally renowned clinical chemist, especially in the area of lipid analysis and spectrophotometry. He had the rare honor of having two of his research papers recognized as citation classics by Current Contents.

As an educator, Dr. Zak helped develop courses in clinical chemistry and instrumentation that were a vital part of the graduate curriculum. He completed both his bachelor’s and doctorate degrees at WSU after serving as an officer in the Air Force during World War II. He was a prisoner of war for 15 months after being shot down over Germany.

Dr. Zak, who spent his entire career at WSU, was awarded the School of Medicine’s Distinguished Service Award in 1983. He also received the Ames Award of the American Association of Clinical Chemists and the Faculty Research Award of Sigma Xi at Wayne State University.

Dr. Zak is survived by his wife of nearly 59 years, Doris Zak; son and daughter-in-law, Steven and Jackie Zak of Sunland, Calif.; daughters and son-in-law, Deborah Zak and Tom Tataranowicz of Malibu, Calif.; Dr. Marsha Zak of Redlands, Calif.; sister and brother-in-law, Sarah and David Score of Pleasant Hills, Calif.

Contributions may be made to Women’s American ORT, 6735 Telegraph Road, Suite 150, Bloomfield Hills, Mich., 48301, or to a charity of one’s choice.
Dr. Brooks retiring from a continuously funded, successful career

Although Sam Brooks, Ph.D., has worked at Wayne State for more than 30 years, he never felt that he worked for Wayne State. “Wayne has given me the facilities and support which allowed me to do what interests me and I’ve been able to get funding for it,” Dr. Brooks said. With a scientific interest that grew out of his education and a confidence that grew out of his Army experience in Korea, Dr. Brooks decided as a young man that he wasn’t going to work for anybody.

He will retire at the end of this year, at age 77, after an unbroken record of research funding since his first grant in 1968. His present RO1s will terminate the day he retires. Dr. Brooks holds one of the longest records of continuous funding in the university’s history and is a member of WSU’s elite Academy of Scholars.

Gloria Heppner, Ph.D., Wayne State University’s associate vice president for research, worked with Dr. Brooks for the past several decades and through several evolutions of what is now the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute. In fact, they were both part of the organization in the 1970s when it was the Michigan Cancer Foundation, and from 1978 when it operated the Meyer L. Prentis Comprehensive Cancer Center of Metropolitan Detroit. He is now the interim leader of the Karmanos Breast Cancer Research Program. Drs. Heppner and Brooks have both spent their careers studying breast cancer.

“Sam has made some major contributions to the field of breast cancer research,” Dr. Heppner said. “He was an early pioneer in the development of the MCF7 cell line, which was the first human breast cancer cell line ever produced. He and the late Herb Soule, among others, characterized the line and in so doing became instrumental in recognizing the importance of the estrogen receptor (ER) in regulation of breast cancer growth. This research led to the development of a clinical laboratory test for ER which is used to determine which breast cancer patients are eligible for treatment with anti-estrogen drugs, including tamoxifen. Sam also worked with Herb to characterize the MCF10 cell line which led to the first, continuously growing line of human preneoplastic breast cells. These cells allow investigators to study the earliest events in breast cancer progression, as well as to test strategies to interfere with those events. Sam is a very modest man, not one to brag about his achievements or take undue credit. He is truly a model for young investigators,” she said.

Although his title will soon be emeritus, Dr. Brooks has been a professor of biochemistry and molecular biology since 1974. During that time, he has been interested in two important gene regulatory proteins in breast cancer—the estrogen receptor and the tumor suppressor p53. With three patents and invaluable discoveries about the estrogen-related mechanisms of breast cancer, Dr. Brooks has contributed immensely to his field and has expanded his basic premise and explored it thoroughly through protein-protein interactions, crystallography and molecular genetics.

In addition to a fulfilling career in the laboratory, Dr. Brooks has been a great value to graduate students and junior scientists. He heads the WSU graduate program in cancer biology and served as director of education at Karmanos. He has taught numerous courses to medical students and graduate students and has mentored more than 20 scientists who have gone on to successful careers. Additionally, he has great pride in retaining an NCI training grant that is currently finishing its 18th year of funding. It will be taken over by Dr. Larry Matherly, who, Dr. Brooks said, “will do a great job with it.”

“I’ve already given up my lab and am ok with stopping the research part of my career, but it will be strange not giving my biochemistry lecture to this year’s new medical students. It’s become such a tradition for me and I really enjoy teaching. I’ve never considered students a burden,” Dr. Brooks said.

Now that he’s built a solid research and education program in cancer biology, Dr. Brooks is ready to build something else: his retirement home in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado. “I grew up in the mountains of the Shenandoah Valley. All the time I’ve been here in Michigan, it feels like I’m living in two dimensions. It will be good to get back to the mountains.”

He’s also going back to his engineering roots from his Army and Carnegie Tech days, and he’s formed a small land and solar energy company with his son. Together, they are going to build custom, green, energy-efficient structures. “It’s time to do something different,” he said. But Wayne State will always remember what he did here: advance the integrity and training of the faculty, students and institution he touched.
Dr. Morris Goodman publishes cover article

Morris Goodman, Ph.D., had his work featured as the cover story in the September issue of Trends in Genetics (vol. 21, issue 9, pages 511-517). His article, “Moving Primate Genomics Beyond the Chimpanzee Genome,” again provides DNA evidence showing genetic similarities among members of the great ape clade. Co-authors are Drs. Lawrence Grossman and Derek Wildman. The full article can be viewed online at: http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/01689525.

Dr. Bonnie Sloane gets prestigious NCI appointment

The National Cancer Institute has invited Bonnie Sloane, Ph.D., professor and chair of pharmacology, to serve as a liaison for imaging and the tumor microenvironment. This is a great honor for both Dr. Sloane and the Wayne State University School of Medicine, said Dr. Robert Frank, dean.

Dr. Sloane will take a year-long leave of absence. Beginning Sept. 1, Anun Wakade, PhD, professor of pharmacology, will serve as acting chair. Dr. Wakade’s research is primarily focused in understanding the peripheral autonomic nervous system and the expansion of our knowledge of the control of neurosecretion, which plays a vital role in human diseases, such as Parkinson’s, Alzheimer’s, mental depression and hypertension.

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

For more information or to register for conferences, please call Wayne State University’s Division of Continuing Medical Education at (313) 577-1180.

6th Annual University of Detroit Mercy Medicolegal Investigation of Death

April 26-28, 2006
The Dearborn Inn
Dearborn, Michigan

Regional Anesthesia

May 5-7, 2006
Detroit, Michigan

Medicolegal Investigation of Death

April 26-28, 2006
The Dearborn Inn
Dearborn, Michigan

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Issues in Aging

May 15-16, 2006
Troy Management Center
Troy, Michigan

6th Annual Update in Internal Medicine

July 28-30, 2006
The Inn at Bay Harbor
Bay Harbor, Michigan

6th Annual University of Detroit Mercy Medicolegal Investigation of Death

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6th Annual Update in Internal Medicine

July 28-30, 2006
The Inn at Bay Harbor
Bay Harbor, Michigan
Dean hosts party to thank Anthony Wayne Society donors

More than 100 alumni gathered at the home of Dean Robert Frank, M.D., and Sharon Popp, Ph.D., on July 28 in Bloomfield Hills, Mich. The reception served as a special thank you to Anthony Wayne Society members among School of Medicine faculty and staff. The event, dubbed “Summer’s Delight,” featured a mariachi band and a Mexican fiesta.

The evening also served as an opportunity for Dr. Frank and others to speak about the importance of the faculty and staff campaign and for Wayne First: The Campaign for Wayne State University.

“I feel that the Wayne First campaign illustrates that we’re moving in the right direction as a school,” explained Dr. Frank. “It’s our first campaign of this magnitude and it will greatly enhance how we educate students, conduct research and care for patients.” He went on to say, “We need the community, both internal and external, to know that we proudly support the school. We must inspire others to follow our lead.”

In a display of his support for the school, Dr. Frank announced that he was doubling his previous gift to the Wayne First campaign and designated his funds toward the new Richard J. Mazurek, M.D., Medical Education Commons. Melanie Hanna-Johnson, M.D., ’85, was also inspired to give at the event and presented the dean with her own gift to the campaign. “My husband, Cornell, and I appreciate the hard work that the dean and President Reid have done on behalf of the Wayne First campaign and wish to contribute.”

“You have given so much of yourselves to educate students, further research and provide world class care to this community,” Dr. Frank expressed to his guests. “We are most definitely making a difference; what we do is important. You have wisely invested in a vital part of the metropolitan community and the worldwide medical community.”

Dean Robert Frank welcomes guests.

Stephen Lerner, M.D., associate dean for faculty affairs, Melanie Hanna-Johnson, M.D., ’85, Barbara Pieper and David Pieper, Ph.D., assistant dean for continuing medical education, pose for a picture.

Sharon Popp, Ph.D., Dean Robert Frank, M.D., ’73, and Melanie Hanna-Johnson, M.D., ’85, enjoy “Summer’s Delight.”

Robert N. Frank, M.D., arrives with his wife Karni Frank, M.D.

The Mariachi Nuevo Zappopan performs at the Anthony Wayne Society reception.
President’s greeting

Greetings on behalf of the Wayne State University School of Medicine Alumni Association Board of Governors.

The lazy days of summer are now over and fall has arrived with its usual flurry of activity. It is an exciting time for the School of Medicine. The Wayne First campaign is making progress and we need the support of our alumni now, more than ever.

The Medical Alumni Association is also fully back in swing with lots of new benefits and exciting events planned. I have been impressed at how many people are now participating in alumni events. This really shows how our organization continues to provide tangible benefits to members and students. Our goals are accomplished through fund raising, networking, continuing education, community service, and also by practicing good medicine. It’s a great time to be a WSU School of Medicine alum.

I am pleased to announce the recent launch of the Harris Online Community. It’s the newest way to keep in touch with colleagues. As a registered member of the Harris Online Community, you are connected with more than 9,200 WSU School of Medicine alumni. Also, you will eventually have access to information on upcoming events, member benefits, alumni news and more. It is free and secure, so you can feel safe knowing your information remains private. Please contact the Alumni Affairs office at (313) 577-3587 if you have questions concerning the Harris Online Community.

I was honored to represent the alumni association at Family Day for our incoming year 1 students on August 6, 2005. The highlight of the program was the Welcoming Ceremony at which time students were coated with their short white coats and took the Oath of Commitment. On this momentous occasion, I truly enjoyed having the opportunity to tell new students and their families about the alumni association and its mission.

Please mark your calendar for the 2006 Medical Alumni Reunion Day, which will take place on Saturday, May 13, 2006. Reunion Day has been an overwhelming success in recent years with nearly 300 people in attendance. The CME program will take place at Scott Hall and the special receptions and dinner will be held at the Somerset Inn.

Finally, please remember that the Alumni Annual Telefund will take place in October and November. Our goal this year is $600,000. We are counting on your support as donors and volunteers. Please contact Lisa Ramos in Medical Alumni Affairs at (313)-577-3587 if you would like to volunteer to make calls or make a donation.

The alumni association looks forward to another productive year of improving our students’ educational experience and strengthening the school’s alumni network.

Paul Chuba, M.D., ’92
President
Wayne State University
Medical Alumni Association

Harris online community

The Wayne State University School of Medicine Alumni Association is proud to announce the newest way to keep in touch with fellow alumni. As a registered member, you are connected with more than 9,200 alumni and have access to information on upcoming events, member benefits, news and more. It is free and secure. Only Wayne State University School of Medicine alumni will be able to join this community, so you can feel safe knowing your information remains private.

In order to register, you will need your membership ID number, which has been sent to you. (If you did not receive it, please contact the Alumni Affairs Office toll free at (877) WSU-MED1 or (313) 577-3587.) Go to http://www.alumniconnections.com/wsumed/ to register. Once you have registered, you will create your own username and password to enter the online community regularly.

The information you approve for display in your personal profile is accessible only by password to authorized Wayne State University School of Medicine Alumni Association officials and to registered Wayne State University School of Medicine alumni who, as a condition of registration, have agreed not to use the directory information for any purpose other than private, individual non-commercial communication. The entire directory is protected by Secure Socket Layering (SSL) technology.

In memoriam

The Office of Alumni Affairs in the School of Medicine has received notification of the deaths of the following alumni. On behalf of the university community, we extend sincere sympathy to family and friends.

Earl Kieffer, M.D., ’48
Madeleine Lipson, M.D., ’50
Morris Frumin, M.D., ’58
Ronald Hamaker, M.D., ’65
Kathryn Cramer, M.D., ’86

Editor’s note: We know that timely reporting of alumni deaths is important to our readers. At the same time, we must ensure that our reports are accurate. Therefore, we ask that friends and family send us either an obituary or a letter of confirmation notifying us of someone’s death. Please write to the WSU Medical Alumni Association, 101 E. Alexandrine, Detroit, MI 48201 or e-mail alumni@med.wayne.edu.
The Wayne State University Medical Alumni Association’s 12th Annual Freedom Festival Fireworks Spectacular and Pool Party has become a tradition for many alumni and friends of the School of Medicine. More than 270 people attended this event, which took place on the west terrace of the Hotel Pontchartrain on June 29, 2005.

Everyone knows that the Detroit fireworks show is one of the best in the country and this year a new and exciting element was added to the already spectacular show with the introduction of three-dimensional special effects. Onlookers were supplied with 3-D glasses to view the fireworks and despite the cloudy skies, the explosions of light and sound were more breathtaking than ever.

Prior to the fireworks, families enjoyed a fabulous buffet dinner, Bobo the Clown, magic and entertainment, face painting, balloons and use of the terrace pool.

To obtain details on upcoming alumni events, please contact the WSU Medical Alumni Affairs Office at (313) 577-3587 or via email at alumni@med.wayne.edu.

Nearly 1,000 new students, parents, relatives, faculty and staff attended Family Day for the class of 2009. This noteworthy event symbolizes the beginning of a challenging and enriching journey through medical school. The first-year students participated in the traditional white-coat ceremony and took their Oath of Commitment.

Dr. Maryjean Schenk, interim associate dean for academic and student programs, Dr. Kertia Black, assistant dean for student affairs, and Dr. Paul Chuba, president of the Alumni Board of Governors, were included among the many speakers who welcomed students and their families to the school.
Wayne State University
Medical Alumni Association officers

Honorary President
Carol Clark, M.D., ’85
Dr. Clark holds a bachelor’s degree in zoology from Michigan State University and a master’s of business administration in health care management from Oakland University. She completed a general surgery residency at Wayne State University and an emergency medicine residency at William Beaumont Hospital.

President
Paul Chuba, M.D., ’92
Originally from the Detroit area, Dr. Chuba attended Farmington High School and Kalamazoo College before pursuing a medical career. He has benefited from WSU training in basic science (Ph.D. in immunology and microbiology, ’86) and medicine (M.D., ’92). He completed his transitional year of residency at St. John Hospital and Medical Center and his radiation oncology residency at Harper Hospital. He also completed specialty training in radiosurgery at the University of Pittsburgh and Boston Children’s Hospital.

Dr. Chuba has received awards from the ASCO/AACR Methods in Clinical Cancer Research and the ASTRO/ESTRO exchange program. His main clinical and academic efforts have focused on general radiation oncology, pediatric radiation procedures, brachytherapy and radiosurgery. He has published widely in these areas.

After spending five years on staff at the Gershenson Radiation Oncology Center, Dr. Chuba joined the Radiation Oncology Specialists group in January 2000. Shortly thereafter, he became medical director for radiation oncology at the Webber Cancer Center at St. John Macomb Hospital in Warren, Mich. In 2004, he was inducted into the Detroit Academy of Medicine. He is active in clinical trials research, especially with the Children’s Oncology Group. Recently, he became the radiation oncology principal investigator for two national clinical trials for childhood bone and brain tumors.

He remains active in teaching medical students and residents.

Treasurer
Donald Muenk, M.D., ’68
Dr. Muenk is an ophthalmologist in private practice and a clinical assistant professor of ophthalmology at Wayne State University. He is a past-president of the Wayne State University Medical Alumni Association. In 2005, he was the recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award. He now serves as chief of ophthalmology at St. John Macomb Hospital.

Dr. Muenk is a member of the board of directors of the Michigan State Medical Society, having served in the past as chairman of the Health Care Delivery Committee and currently serving as chairman of the Third Party Committee. He is also on the board of directors of the Macomb County Medical Society. He enjoys tennis, golf, skiing and sailing.

President-Elect
Kevin Sprague, M.D., ’80
Dr. Sprague completed his orthopaedic residency at Wayne State in 1985 and has been in practice in Wyandotte for the past 20 years. He has served on many hospital committees and has served as president of the medical staff for Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital. He is currently co-chairman of the Quality & Safety Committee at Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital.

After graduating from Michigan State University, Dr. Sprague entered the Wayne State University School of Medicine in 1976 and married his wife, Carolyn, just before his second year of medical school. She completed a master’s in physiology, then entered the School of Medicine, graduating in 1984. They have three children: Kevin, Philip and Jennifer.

Dr. Sprague is enthusiastic about the alumni association, “I foresee continued growth for our association, expanded participation, and continued partnership with the Wayne State University School of Medicine.”

Resident Alumni Member
Yalamanchi Ramalingeswara, M.D., ’79

Advisory Board
Bruce Deschere, M.D., ’77
Thomas Ditkoff, M.D., ’71
Donald Muenk, M.D., ’68
William O’Neill, M.D., ’77
Michael Sandler, M.D., ’71

Regional Representatives
California
Carl Marusak, M.D., ’59
David Priver, M.D., ’70

Massachusetts
John Briggs, M.D., ’48

Honorary Members
George Mogill, M.D., ’42
Sidney Stone, M.D., ’51

Medical Alumni Association Board of Governors

Term Ending 2006
Renee Dwaily, M.D., ’00
Michael Maddens, M.D., ’80
Ernest Yoder, M.D., ’78
Alks Zingas, M.D., ’70

Term Ending 2007
Jewell Hamner, M.D., ’87
Brian O’Neil, M.D., ’82
Michael Piper, M.D., ’81
Sheila Ray, M.D., ’87
Gregory Zemenick, M.D., ’71

Term Ending 2008
Leland Babitch, M.D., ’95
Denise Gray, M.D., ’75
Gary Gustafson, M.D., ’82
Sharon Schafe, M.D., ’75
L. Murray Thomas, M.D., ’52

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George Mogill, M.D., ’42
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L. Murray Thomas, M.D., ’52

Massachusetts
John Briggs, M.D., ’48

Wayne State Alumni Board of Governors for six years. She enjoys sailing and spending time in Northern Michigan.

Secretary
Louis Hoffman, M.D., ’50
Dr. Hoffman, his wife, Florence, and their four children, are native Detroiters. Following discharge from the U.S. Army Infantry, Dr. Hoffman attended the Wayne State University School of Medicine and graduated in 1950. After an internship at Grace Hospital and a psychiatric residency at the Pontiac State Hospital, he became director of its outpatient clinic. Since 1965, he has been in private psychiatry practice.

Dr. Hoffman serves as the class representative for his graduating class and for several years, has served on the board of the Medical Alumni Association as well as liaison member of the board of directors of the Wayne State University Alumni Association. He is a diplomat of the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, and a member of the Michigan Psychoanalytic Council, American Psychiatric Association, and the Michigan Psychiatric Society. He is involved in studying new research on the neurosciences as well as the other evolving concepts in psychoanalysis.

“I sincerely feel that the faculty, student body and medical school are more outstanding than ever and inspire great loyalty and pride in those who are a part of it.”

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Accepting Nominations

Please contact us if you are aware of individuals whom you believe are worthy of consideration for the Distinguished Alumni Award, Recent Alumni Award or Lawrence M. Weiner Award. These awards will be presented on reunion day. We will also be considering any previously submitted nominees.

The criteria for the three awards is as follows:

- The Distinguished Alumni Award is presented to alumni who have made outstanding contributions to humanitarian causes, whose contributions to the health field in the broader sense is outstanding and for service to the School of Medicine.
- The Lawrence M. Weiner Award, established in 1979, honors outstanding contributions of non-alumni to the School of Medicine through the exceptional performance of their teaching, research and/or administrative duties.
- The Recent Alumni Award, established in 2002, is presented to alumni who received a medical degree from WSU School of Medicine within the last 15 years and have demonstrated outstanding professional achievement, community contributions or service to WSU School of Medicine.

Please submit a cover letter of explanation along with your nominee’s CV to the Medical Alumni Association, 101 E. Alexandrine, Detroit, MI 48201 by October 31, 2005.

Missing in Action

The Medical Alumni Association is missing valid addresses for the following special reunion class alumni. Please notify the alumni affairs office if you know the whereabouts of a classmate so that he or she can be kept informed of reunion activities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Names</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1946</td>
<td>Harold E. Isaacson, M.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1956</td>
<td>William C. Cooper, M.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>Michael Kaprielian, M.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1966</td>
<td>Lionel J. Hurd, M.D.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Russell M. Kirk, M.D.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>May Lim-Siang, M.D.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>James Meeks, M.D.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Louis S. Myers, M.D.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Robert A. Rose, M.D.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Robert Steinberger, M.D., FACS</td>
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<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>Howard A. Gerena, M.D.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lorry J. Larson, M.D.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Duna Penn, M.D.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>William L. Silkstone, M.D.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Richard Williams, M.D.</td>
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<td>1976</td>
<td>Ronald S. Hoffman, M.D.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Nathan O. Jackson, M.D.</td>
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<td>Brian T. Maywood, M.D.</td>
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<td>Joseph Washnock, M.D.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Howard S. Wolok, M.D.</td>
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<td>1981</td>
<td>Mark J. Drapek, M.D.</td>
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<td>David W. La Rose, M.D.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Harry E. Lewis, Jr., M.D.</td>
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<td>1986</td>
<td>Brian K. Hoban, M.D.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>William G. Lyle, M.D.</td>
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<td>Ramona C. Marsh, M.D.</td>
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<td>Carol E. Parker, M.D.</td>
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<td>Leslie A. Spencer, M.D.</td>
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<td>Thomas H. Swanson, M.D.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Catherine A. Wonski, M.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Sunita Przybylo, M.D.</td>
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<td>1996</td>
<td>Jennifer L. Ayres, M.D.</td>
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<td>Kristyn K. Heiserman, M.D.</td>
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<td>Karen L. Hicks, M.D.</td>
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<td>Norman J. Kakos, M.D.</td>
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<td>Wayne W. Liou, M.D.</td>
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<td>Carolyn J. Martin, M.D.</td>
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<td>Michael T. Owczarzak, M.D.</td>
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<td>Christopher P. Raggio, M.D.</td>
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<td>Elaine A. Sandler, M.D.</td>
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<td>Gregory T. Seymour, M.D.</td>
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<td>Matthew P. Steffes, M.D.</td>
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<td>Brian R. Sygietl, M.D.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Alex L. Tran, M.D.</td>
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<td>Sunila Valam, M.D.</td>
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<td>Irene A. Young, M.D.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Christopher J. Zaugra, M.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Stephanie M. Dennis, M.D.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Natalie J. France, M.D.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mark S. Girgious, M.D.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Viet M. Lam, M.D.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Anoop Q. Majhoo, M.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Karen R. Russell-Little, M.D.</td>
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Alumni share their opinions

This spring, the WSU School of Medicine conducted a survey of its alumni via e-Update. Of 3,600 recipients, the school received more than 500 responses.

Questions focused on the reasons why alumni chose to attend Wayne State University’s medical school (cost/value, location and reputation scored the highest); how the school prepared them for their medical career (clinical training, interpersonal/patient communications and basic science were the leading answers); aspects of the school about which they are most proud (depth of clinical training was the near universal response); current activities they find most helpful (publications ranked highest on the list which included the school’s Web site, CME events and alumni events); and opinions on the most important issues facing them in medicine today.

A complete summary of the survey responses is available online at www.med.wayne.edu/alumni.

“We learned a great deal about how our alumni think and feel about the school,” said David Lepper, executive director of development and alumni affairs, “and we were most encouraged by the volume of responses and the breadth of qualitative information.” Expect to hear from us regularly as we continue to seek your input and opinions on matters affecting health care, in general, and the school.

In the meantime, please send your comments to us or subscribe to our monthly e-mail to alumni at: alumni@med.wayne.edu.
33rd Alumni Annual Telefund gets underway

Medical alumni and students will begin making phone calls in October asking for gifts to the Medical Alumni Association’s Alumni Annual Fund. Contributions support a variety of programs for students at the School of Medicine:
- Medical student scholarships and loans
- Student activities such as: community outreach programs, Match Day, Student Senate retreat, Career Day, Family Day, Welcome Ceremony, the Honors Program, and maintenance of the student fitness center
- Summer research fellowships
- An investment fund to support academic and student programs
- Student research projects

We hope you will consider donating to the Alumni Annual Fund. For more information on Telefund, to make a donation, or to volunteer to make calls, please contact Lisa Ramos, alumni officer, at (313) 577-3587.

Calls will be made on the following days:
Monday, October 10
Tuesday, October 11
Wednesday, October 12
Tuesday, October 18
Wednesday, October 19
Thursday, October 20
Monday, October 24
Thursday, October 27
Wednesday, November 2
Thursday, November 3
Monday November 7
Tuesday, November 8
Wednesday, November 9

Dinner and refreshments will be served from 5:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. on all dates.

The Office of Alumni Affairs would like to recognize new Medical Alumni Association life members

3/24/05 - 8/10/05

Thomas J. Anan, M.D. Kevin C. Kyle, M.D.
Mark A. Burt, M.D. Gregory G. Messenger, M.D.
Dan L. Curtis, M.D. Seema S. Mishra, M.D.
Sharon A. Esau, M.D. Michelle L. Monticello, M.D.
J. Michael Fenlon, M.D. Debasish Mrdha, M.D.
Nancy E. Gregory, M.D. Dr. Nour-Eddine Raleeb
Carl M. Karoub, M.D. Bruce C. Richards, M.D.
David L. Kaufman, M.D. Richard N. Valentine, Jr., M.D.
Omer Kucuk, M.D.

Thank you to those who have signed up for the life installment plan. We look forward to you becoming full-fledged life members in the near future.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE YOURMEMBERSHIP RENEWAL VIA E-MAIL?

If you would like to receive future membership renewal notices via email, please send an email note containing your name, graduating class, and e-mail address to:

Lisa Ramos
Alumni Officer
WSU, School of Medicine
E-MAIL: Ramos@mail.wayne.edu

Please type “Membership Renewal” as the subject of your note. Thank you!

Class Notes

1947
Frederick J. Cady, Jr., M.D., is 83 years old and is still working two days each week in ophthalmology in Saginaw, Mich. He was honored in May 2003 for 50 years of excellence in ophthalmology by the city, township and state. He is also past-president of the Saginaw County Medical Society; St. Mary’s hospital staff; Saginaw Kiwanis Club; and associate editor for Michigan State Medical Society Magazine. He is currently practicing with Dr. Kamran Shokoohi, ’96, and Dr. John O’Grady, ’89, both Wayne State University graduates.

1963
M. Gary Robertson, M.D., has been on the board of directors of the Michigan State Medical Society for the past eight years and was elected chair of the Legislative Policy Committee this year. He was also elected to the board of directors of the Michigan State Medical Society Foundation which directs the MSMS Center for Physicians Education and Leadership and provides grants for a variety of worthwhile community-based health projects. Dr. Robertson continues a full-time gynecology practice and is serving his second term as chief of staff at North Ottawa Community Hospital in Grand Haven, Mich.

1972
Michel A. Sucher, M.D., was recently appointed acting medical director of the Division of Behavioral Health for the Department of Health Services of the state of Arizona.

1976
Jerry Marty, M.D., recently joined Associated Pathologists Chartered, Quest Diagnostics in Las Vegas as director of the Cytopathology-Fine Needle Aspiratory Service and head of the School of Cytotechnology. The pathology group is comprised of 26 pathologists who oversee over 105,000 surgical procedures.

1979
John Boccaccio, M.D., has joined the general surgery staff at St. Joseph Mercy Macomb in Clinton Township, Mich.

1983
Donn Schroder, M.D., has joined the general surgery staff at St. Joseph Mercy Macomb in Clinton Township, Mich.

1987
Brien Smith, M.D., has joined the neurosurgery staff at Henry Ford Medical Center in West Bloomfield, Mich.

1991
Amy DuBois, M.D., will complete a two-year fellowship with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention with the Epidemic Intelligence Service. She will then take a post as a medical epidemiologist with the Global AIDS Program in Georgetown, Guyana. She and her fiance, John Zak, will be leaving for Guyana in September 2005. She can be contacted by email: awd3@cdc.gov.

1995
David Lorelli, M.D., has joined the vascular surgery staff at St. Joseph Mercy Macomb in Clinton Township, Mich.
Dear Graduate Alums,

As you may know, the School of Medicine is well-along in the process of searching for a permanent dean. Interim Dean Dr. Robert Frank firmly believes the school can advance only if we recruit a quality individual from outside our walls. A short-list has been generated by the search committee and each candidate offers impressive credentials for the position. Hopefully, we will have chosen a new dean by the time you read this note.

I have had the privilege to participate in the dean selection process and have been able to discuss with each individual how proud the school is of our graduate training programs, the impressive academic quality of our students and the faculty’s dedication to providing the best biomedical training possible. The interviews have also afforded me an opportunity to identify for the candidates some of the challenges we face as our programs grow.

Among these challenges is our need to provide an improved environment for postdoctoral career development. The following text is taken from the 2001 WSU Postdoctoral Committee report focused on helping the university identify and implement “best practices” for postdoctoral career development.

“Compared to other leading universities, WSU is sorely lacking in the area of formal institutional support for postdoctoral training and career advancement. The gap between WSU and other institutions is wide and continues to expand rapidly. In order to move forward at a respectable pace and capture a portion of the very competitive cadre of postdoctoral fellows, WSU should institute and prioritize a strategic plan to enhance post doctoral research and training.”

Unfortunately, the university has been slow to respond to the report, and postdoctoral training has suffered, especially at the School of Medicine. Many of the best and brightest postdoctoral scholars choose not to train at Wayne State, producing a major deficit in this critical body of scientific talent. I have voiced these concerns to each of the dean candidates. The School of Medicine should consider taking the lead in establishing a Center for the Career Development of Postdoctoral Scholars – perhaps within the existing Research and Graduate Programs Office or jointly with the Faculty Development Office. As the WSU report states, “The office should facilitate creation of a plan to utilize the strategies and successes of other institutions that have established specific academic and training guidelines for postdoctoral scholars in an effort to foster the independence of these new biomedical science investigators and, in turn, serve as a powerful recruiting tool. In the coming year, I will be exploring ways in which the school may be able to initiate such a program for our postdoctoral scholars. If you have suggestions or comments on this issue, I would be pleased to hear from you. Feel free to contact me at 313-577-1455 or kpalmer@med.wayne.edu.

As always, your keen interest in WSU School of Medicine and the progress of our graduate biomedical science training is warmly appreciated.

Kenneth C. Palmer, Ph.D.
Assistant Dean for Graduate Programs
WSU School of Medicine t-shirt/sweatshirt order form

Name ____________________________________________________________
Address _________________________________________________________
City __________________________ State ______ Zip ________________
Phone __________________________

CHECK STYLE
☐ GOLF SHIRT ...........................................$28
☐ L/S PROUD PARENT ........................................$20
☐ L/S PROUD GRANDPARENT ................................$20
☐ L/S WSU SOM LOGO ONLY ................................$20
☐ L/S WSU SOM LOGO (CENTERED) ......................$20
☐ S/S (LOGO CENTERED) T-SHIRT ......................$18
☐ S/S (LOGO CENTERED) ALUMNI T-SHIRT ...........$18
☐ WSU SOM LOGO (CENTERED) SWEATSHIRT ......$30

CIRCLE SIZE AND ENTER QUANTITY
M ____ L ____ XL ______ XXL (add $2) _______________________

Total amount due (add $6 per item for shipping and handling): _______________________

Method of payment:
☐ VISA ☐ Mastercard ☐ Check Enclosed
Name as it appears on card _____________________________________________
Credit Card Number ____________________________
Expiration Date ____________________________

Send us your news
Let your classmates know what you’ve been doing.

Name _____________________________________________ Year _______
Address _____________________________________________
City __________________________ State ______ Zip ________________
Phone __________________________ E-Mail _________________________
☐ My news for class notes is attached

Do you know an alum whose accomplishments should be highlighted in alum notes? If so, please provide us with their contact information.

Name ___________________________ Phone ______
Accomplishment _____________________________

Name ___________________________ Phone ______
Accomplishment _____________________________

Mail this form to: Wayne State University School of Medicine, Alumni Affairs, 101 East Alexandrine, Detroit, MI 48201
Or call toll-free: (877) WSU-MED1, Or email information to: alumni@med.wayne.edu

Make checks payable to WSU Medical Alumni Association
Send order form and payment to:
WSU Medical Alumni Assoc.
101 E. Alexandrine
Detroit, MI 48201
Or call the Medical Alumni Affairs Office at 313 993-4070 to place your order