



WAYNE STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

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## Dr. Robert Mentzer named dean for Wayne State University School of Medicine



**Robert M. Mentzer, Jr., M.D., has been appointed 14th dean of the Wayne State University School of Medicine.**

The announcement was made by WSU President Irvin Reid following confirmation at the meeting of the Board of Governors on November 30, 2005.

Dr. Mentzer, a notable cardiothoracic surgeon, joins WSU from the University of Kentucky College of Medicine where he has served as the Frank C. Spencer Professor and Chairman of Surgery, director of the University of Kentucky Hospital Transplant Center, and president and chair of the Kentucky Medical Services Foundation (the faculty practice group for the University of Kentucky) since 1997.

He is one of four final candidates recommended to President Reid by the search committee. He will begin his term as dean in March 2006.

"I am pleased that Dr. Mentzer will be leading our School of Medicine during a period of exciting opportunity for Wayne State University," said President Reid. "His demonstrated leadership abilities and visionary insight will be a significant asset to the medical school and to Wayne State as we meet the challenges of the 21st century."

Under Dr. Mentzer's leadership at the University of Kentucky, his department expanded surgery electives allowing students to pursue their personal interests, and introduced computer-based testing methods and innovative student evaluations resulting in more students pursuing surgical careers. He established a formal research committee and mentoring program leading to a doubling of departmental grant funding and its emergence as one of the most funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). He created an Office of Clinical Research to oversee Department of Surgery clinical trials and supported development of an NIH-sponsored Interdisciplinary Cardiovascular Training Program.

"The appointment of Dean Mentzer follows a comprehensive, year-long national search that generated an outstanding field of candidates," said Nancy Barrett, Wayne State University provost and senior vice president for academic affairs. "I am confident he will bring exceptional leadership to our medical school as we enter a new phase of enhanced achievement and recognition in basic and translational research, education and patient care."

From 1991-1997, Dr. Mentzer was chairman of the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery and professor of surgery and physiology at the University of Wisconsin (UW), where he also served as co-director of the UW Cardiovascular Research

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**President Reid announces Dr. Mentzer as the Board of Governors' unanimous choice for dean.**

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## Mentzer

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Center and participated in the center's first NIH-funded Program Project Grant. He was vice-chair and tenured professor of surgery, as well as chief of the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery for the State University of New York at Buffalo from 1987-1991. Previously, from 1982-1987, he was an associate professor at the University of Virginia.

Dr. Mentzer earned his B.S. from the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Va., in 1967 and his M.D. from the University of Maryland School of Medicine in 1971. He did a general surgery internship, general surgery residency, thoracic and cardiovascular surgery residency and participated in the NIH Academic Surgical Scholar Training Program—all at the University of Virginia Medical Center. From 1980-1982, he was a thoracic surgeon and major in the Medical Corps, Frankfurt Army Regional Medical Center, Frankfurt, Germany.

A national advocate for organ donation, Dr. Mentzer has performed numerous heart transplant operations. He has

**"I am confident he will bring exceptional leadership to our medical school as we enter a new phase of enhanced achievement and recognition in basic and translational research, education and patient care."**

### Nancy Barrett

Wayne State University Provost  
and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs



**Students Herman Kado and Joshua Dilworth present Dr. Mentzer and his wife with comfortable WSU regalia.**

published extensively on ventricular assist devices, ischemia and reperfusion and pharmacologic preconditioning of the heart and has been a reviewer for more than 15 basic science and clinical journals. He has served on numerous study sections and Special Emphasis Panels for the NIH. His research has been continuously funded by the NIH for the last 21 years. His honors include the Bigger Lehman Award of the Virginia Surgical Society and the John Horsley Memorial Prize for Surgical Research.

He is married to Monika Mentzer; they have two adult sons and recently became the proud grandparents of their first grandson.

Dr. Mentzer succeeds Dr. Robert Frank, who served as interim dean for the past year while the national search was conducted. Dr. Frank will return to the newly created position of executive vice dean. He will continue to be responsible for academic and student programs



**Dr. Maryjean Schenk is delighted to have such a notable researcher leading the medical school.**

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# Keeping cool protects against infant disability and death from oxygen loss, reports Dr. Shankaran

*New England Journal of Medicine publishes results*

Cooling an infant's body temperature to about 92° Fahrenheit within the first six hours of life reduces the chances for disability and death among infants who failed to receive enough oxygen or blood to the brain during birth. The research study findings appeared in the October 13 issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

The study involving 208 infants was led by Seetha Shankaran, M.D., Wayne State University professor of pediatrics and division director of neonatal-perinatal medicine at Children's Hospital of Michigan and Hutzel Women's Hospital. The research was conducted through the 16-site Neonatal Research Network, part of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD).

During the two-year study, researchers randomly enrolled qualifying infants from the NICHD neonatal sites. All infants had experienced oxygen deprivation during the birth process. Of the total 208 infants who took part in the study, 102 underwent the experimental cooling, or hypothermia treatment, and 106 received standard care. Children's Hospital of Michigan and Hutzel Women's Hospital, combined, contributed 34 infants to the study – the most of any site.

Hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy (HIE) occurs when the brain fails to receive sufficient oxygen or sufficient blood before the infant is born. HIE may occur hours before birth, or, in some cases, during labor and delivery. The condition may result from a variety of causes. These include compression of the placenta, tearing of the placenta from the uterine wall before birth, compression of the umbilical cord, and rupture of the uterus.

Standard care for HIE may involve placing the infant on a ventilator to assist breathing, monitoring blood pressure, providing fluids intravenously, and other newborn intensive care supportive therapies.

The infants were cooled by placing them on a soft plastic blanket through which water circulates. The blanket's temperature is regulated by a computer. For the study, the blankets were set at 5° Celsius (41° F). Each infant's temperature was lowered to 33.5° C (92.3° F), as measured by a temperature probe placed in an infant's esophagus. The infants in the hypothermia group were enrolled within the first six hours of birth, and remained on the cooled blanket for 72 hours. After 72 hours had passed, they were gradually warmed to a normal body temperature.

Infants in both the hypothermia group and the control group received standard newborn intensive care, including monitoring of vital signs, and were watched carefully for signs of organ dysfunction.

When the infants were examined at 18 to 22 months of age, 44 percent from the hypothermia group had developed a moderate-to-severe disability or had died compared with 62 percent in the control group. This is a statistically significant



**DR. SHANKARAN'S STUDY RECEIVED MAJOR NATIONAL MEDIA ATTENTION FROM OUTLETS INCLUDING ABC NEWS, REUTERS, THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, DETROIT FREE PRESS, CTV (CANADA), HEALTH DAY, WXYZ-TV, WDIV-TV, AND WPVI-TV (PHILADELPHIA).**

cant difference between groups.

"The experimental cooling of newborns to prevent death and injury from oxygen deprivation during birth is extremely promising," said NICHD director Duane Alexander, M.D. "Yet it would be premature to institute the study results under any but the most carefully controlled and monitored circumstances."

According to Dr. Shankaran, "HIE is estimated to occur from 0.5 to 1 times per every 1,000 births."

The study also indicates that 10 percent of infants with moderate HIE die, as do 60 percent of infants with severe HIE. "Many, if not all, survivors of severe HIE are severely disabled," said Dr. Shankaran.

Previous studies, conducted in laboratory animals, suggested that cooling the brain from 2-5° Celsius after HIE could reduce the chances for the death and disability that often result from HIE, the authors wrote.

Dr. Shankaran noted that the study's results are statistically valid only when all of the infants in the study are considered as one group. When possible outcomes were evalu-

**Dr. Shankaran has improved the quality of life for many newborn babies.**

ated separately, the differences between each outcome in the two groups of infants were not statistically significant.

However, in terms of the number of infants affected, trends in these data indicated fewer infants in the hypothermia group died or experienced moderate or severe disability than was experienced by infants in the control group: 24 infants in the hypothermia group died, compared to 38 in the control group. Similarly, 15 infants in the hypothermia group experienced disabling cerebral palsy, compared to 19 infants in the control group. Five infants in the hypothermia group developed blindness as did nine in the control group. Infants in the hypothermia group also tended to score higher on measures of infant mental and physical development than infants in the control group.

Dr. Shankaran explained that it was not possible to recruit a large enough pool of infants to arrive at statistically significant measures for the differences in the various outcomes between the two groups. Because HIE occurs infrequently, it took three years to enroll a large enough number of infants to conduct the current study from the 16 participating NICHD Neonatal Research Network sites.

"A concern with any therapy that reduces mortality among infants at high risk of death and disability is the possibility of an increase in the number of infants who survive with disabilities," the study authors wrote. "In our study there was no evidence of increased rates of moderate or severe disability at 18 to 22 months of age among infants treated with

hypothermia."

Side effects of the treatment consisted of hardening and drying of the skin in areas of contact with the cooling blanket, Dr. Shankaran said.

"Physicians need to exercise extreme caution in putting the study's results into practice," said Rose Higgins, M.D., program scientist for the NICHD Neonatal Research Network and an author of the study. "Most newborn intensive care units probably don't have the resources to duplicate the carefully controlled conditions of the study."

Dr. Higgins said that the NICHD is currently advising the American Academy of Pediatrics on developing practice recommendations for treating infants with HIE. Moreover, three ongoing studies of hypothermia treatment are expected to provide additional information on the most effective ways to carry out the treatment.

Dr. Higgins added that the NICHD Neonatal Research Network will follow both groups of children until they reach the ages of six or seven, to learn if either group experiences any health problems or learning difficulties.

# Disaster-readiness training is integrated in WSU medical student curriculum

Consider what would happen if a bomb exploded in a downtown building simultaneously injuring hundreds of people. What if a group of government employees reported to the emergency department with suspected anthrax exposure?

When disaster strikes, the public health system shifts into emergency mode. Wayne State University faculty members are making sure future doctors and other health professions students are prepared for such emergencies and follow a planned response. A multidisciplinary team from WSU has received a \$300,000 grant from the Department of Health and Human Services to develop a terrorism, disaster and public health emergency curriculum.

When faced with the threat of bioterrorism or a public health scare, there are three things doctors need to know immediately, said Suzanne White, M.D., project director and professor of emergency medicine and pediatrics:

1. *Is it contagious and can it harm me?*
2. *Where do I call for reliable information?*
3. *What bigger response will go on around me and what's my involvement with law enforcement and public health officials?*



**Dr. White is teaching doctors and health care workers to remain cool when handling public health emergencies.**

"Detroit is high risk for terrorism with a density of vulnerable populations," Dr. White said. "How many students in pharmacy, nursing and medicine go untrained? Yet we look to health care professionals to take the lead when a disaster happens. Recognizing that WSU has a history of expertise in developing competencies for emergency and disaster medicine, we are filling a training gap with a five-module training program."

The undergraduate curriculum focuses on recognizing possible terrorist or public health threats. It emphasizes: basic principles of disaster medicine; bioterrorism and biological agents; mental health and risk communication; nuclear and explosive threats; and chemical agents. These themes are taught throughout the undergraduate medical curriculum by microbiologists, pharmacists, crisis communication experts, radiation researchers and rescue operations teams.

"Preparation will never be wasted," said Dr. Matt Jackson, project co-director and assistant dean for basic science education. "It's not a matter of *if* something happens. It's a matter of *when*. There was heightened awareness of disaster readiness after 9/11, but this applies to nonterrorist issues too: the power outage in Detroit a couple summers ago, tornadoes and floods, large-scale fires, chemical spills, SARS, avian flu, infant abductions and security threats.

"All of these events fit into a larger public health structure," he said. "The recent tsunami, earthquakes and hurricanes in the world provide tremendous examples of the health care system being overrun. Physicians need to be trained to respond."

"The core pieces of information health care workers need are recognition, reporting and response," said Dr. Sharon Popp, assistant director of clinical curriculum development. "We want students to understand the importance of working together with the local health department, law enforcement agencies and emergency management teams, so they are not treating affected patients in isolation."

The curriculum will be integrated into the curriculum for medicine, and shared with the colleges of nursing, allied health and social work. It highlights the importance of the field of public health. "That specialty alone has added 25 years to our life expectancy, through advances in polio, vaccinations and simple reporting of trends," Dr. White said. "Physician educators need to know that this specialty is critical and the role they play in disaster medicine is critical."

While other schools and hospitals offer sporadic training seminars and disaster drills, this is the most comprehensive, curriculum-based training of its kind. WSU and Duke were the only two medical schools to receive funding this round from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration for disaster medicine training.



**Dr. Matt Jackson and Sharon Popp have altered the medical curriculum to train physicians for possible terrorist or public health threats.**

**Key faculty members and consultants for the bioterrorism training and curriculum development program include the following:**

**Dale Brandenburg, Ph.D.**, director of the WSU Institute for Learning and Performance Improvement

**Karen Crist**, vice president for the Association for Education & Laboratory Support in the Health Sciences, director of the medical education support group for BioMedical Communications

**Rosemarie Fernandez, M.D.**, medical director for the Michigan Technical Rescue Operations Team, clinical director of the medical simulation program, assistant professor of emergency medicine

**Matt Jackson, Ph.D.**, professor of immunology and microbiology, assistant dean for basic science education

**Michael Joiner, Ph.D.**, professor of radiation oncology

**Barbara Jordan Moore**, clinical instructor in the College of Nursing

**Howard Normile, Ph.D.**, associate dean of the WSU Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences

**Durrenda Nash Onolemhemen, Ph.D.**, associate professor of social work

**Sharon Popp, Ph.D.**, assistant director of clinical curriculum development, associate director of predoctoral programs in the Department of Family Medicine

**Stephanie Schim, Ph.D., R.N.**, assistant professor of family, community and mental health in the College of Nursing

**Matthew Seeger, Ph.D.**, professor and chair of the WSU Department of Communications

**Suzanne White, M.D.**, professor of emergency medicine and pediatrics, medical director for the Children's Hospital of Michigan Poison Control Center

## Procedure provides simpler alternative to D & C



Dr. Mitwally won a research award for his work last fall.

Women who suffer an early pregnancy failure may opt for a simpler procedure that eliminates the pain, cramping and bleeding associated with a traditional D & C, the surgical procedure that suctions or scrapes the tissue from the walls of the uterus following a miscarriage. Gestational sac aspiration has been tested as a minimally invasive alternative that uses fine needle aspiration to poke the gestational sac and remove it in approximately two minutes.

This procedure was the research subject of Mohamed Mitwally, M.D., from the WSU Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and the Division of Reproductive Endocrinology & Infertility, who presented an award-winning abstract at the Global Congress of Minimally Invasive Gynecology's AAGL 34th annual meeting in Chicago in November. Dr. Mitwally was the first-place winner for the Jerome J. Hoffman research competition for his abstract titled "Gestational Sac Aspiration: A Novel Alternative for D & C for Management of Early Pregnancy Failure."

According to Dr. Mitwally, a study of 61 women with failed early pregnancies compared 20 women who underwent gestational sac aspiration with 41 women who opted for traditional D & C management. In both groups, doctors were able to clear the tissue and obtain noncontaminated samples for follow-up chromosomal studies to test for genetic causes of miscarriage. "The difference was in the side effects and complications," Dr. Mitwally said. "Those who chose gestational sac aspiration experienced less vaginal bleeding and cramping. Plus, it requires only mild sedation, which is generally beneficial compared to general anesthesia. The procedure is safe and effective."

Co-authors listed on his abstract were: WSU's Michael Diamond, M.D., and IVF-Michigan's Hafsa Albuarki, M.B.B.S., Mostafa Abuzeid, M.D., and Michael Fakh, M.D.

## Epilepsy genes discovered

**F**or the first time, researchers have identified genes in the human brain that could be responsible for most forms of pediatric epilepsy.

The findings, reported in the *Annals of Neurology*, the official journal of the American Neurological Association, may lead to new methods of diagnosing and treating the disease which affects an estimated 2 million Americans – about one out of every 100 people. Jeffrey Loeb, M.D., Ph.D., associate professor in neurology and the Center for Molecular Medicine and Genetics at the Wayne State University School of Medicine, is senior author on the study.

Epilepsy occurs in both children and adults. The disorder is marked by excessive electrical signals in the brain causing sudden, involuntary seizures that can mimic anything the brain does normally. Seizures range from changes in emotions and senses, such as taste, smell, vision, and hearing, to violent whole-body convulsions.

In the study, investigators monitored the brain activity of 17 patients, ages 6 months to 15 years, during seizures. Using electroencephalography, they identified the seizure's epicenter and compared it with adjacent, nonepileptic regions exhibiting more normal activities.

Because the patients had not responded previously to antiepileptic drugs, each required surgery to remove epileptic brain tissue and adjacent regions – standard practice to curing the seizures.

To determine differences between the epileptic and nonepileptic brain tissue, the researchers compared the genetic information of both. Of thousands of possible genes, only 11 consistently characterized the epileptic brain.

These included four genes, EGR-1, EGR-2, c-fos and MKP-3, associated with heightened levels of learning and memory in animals. This finding suggests that epileptic brain regions

are "too smart" – that they perform normal brain functions, but to an extreme degree.

Because the study compared seizure location and changes in gene expression within each patient, the results ignore confounding effects of biological and genetic differences among patients and likely apply to most forms of the disease.

"One of the major limitations in developing effective treatments for patients with epilepsy is the lack of specific targets to prevent or stop the disease," Dr. Loeb said.

"We've only opened the door," he said, "but the results are clearly relevant in developing new diagnostic and treatment approaches. These genes can help us define more precisely the specific area of the brain requiring surgery and guide us toward developing new, highly-effective, targeted drug therapies."

While epilepsy is more common than Parkinson's disease and multiple sclerosis, it receives less public attention. For its victims, however, seizures can occur hundreds of times a day, last several minutes at a time, and can result in a life-long disorder often beginning in childhood.

For some 70 percent of its victims, the cause is unknown. Rare forms of epilepsy run in families, though, because most result from brain insults including even minor sports-related head injuries, anyone can develop the debilitating disease.

In others, seizures are caused by brain scarring, infections such as meningitis, tumors, surgery, stroke, and Alzheimer's and related diseases. They can be triggered by stress, lack of



sleep, infection, alcohol, certain medications and, in children, fevers.

Dr. Loeb notes that, as with most illnesses, prevention is key. Children and their parents should wear seatbelts in automobiles and helmets when riding bicycles, skiing and engaging in other physical activities.

Most of the patients who participated in this research study improved significantly following surgery at the Comprehensive Epilepsy Program at Children's Hospital of Michigan.

The work involved researchers from Wayne State University School of Medicine departments of neurology, pediatrics, computer science, radiology and neurosurgery, its Center for Molecular Medicine and Genetics, and the Michigan Center for Biological Information.

It was supported financially by the Ralph Wilson Medical Research Foundation, the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, and the Epilepsy Foundation of America.

## Pharmaceutical exec takes faculty position at WSU

He's been a pharmaceutical and biotech vice president in charge of 600 employees doing drug discovery and clinical development. He's run research and development at a start-up company completing a successful IPO. He's been a professor at various University of California campuses – and now he's landed at Wayne State University, ready to become the course director for pathobiology and pathophysiology and to lend his perspective on the relationship between academia and private industry.

Thomas Ulich, M.D., newly recruited professor of pathology, joined WSU in October and is happy to be back in academia. Most recently, he was senior vice president of research and development at Alnylam Pharmaceuticals; vice president of preclinical development and protein therapeutics at Amgen for two years; and vice president of preclinical development at Amgen for eight years.



**Dr. Ulich has spent his career making translational research a reality.**

Some of the successful therapies that progressed from the lab bench to market under his watch are: Neulasta (pegylated granulocyte colony stimulating factor) to prevent chemotherapy-associated neutropenia; Aranesp (hyperglycosylated erythropoietin) to treat chemotherapy- and renal failure-associated anemia; Palifermin (keratinocyte growth factor) to prevent chemotherapy-associated oral mucositis; and Sinecalcet (a calcimimetic) for the treatment of hyperparathyroidism. "It's very gratifying to see a novel drug move from the lab into animal studies, into the clinic, through early phase I trials and finally to full FDA approval," Dr. Ulich said.

"I see some of the strengths and weaknesses of the private sector and academia. It's nice to be back in a university setting where the focus is to improve the quality of life for patients and to contribute to the body of scientific knowledge," Dr. Ulich said. "It's refreshing to take a break from the unrelenting focus on commercialization."

Dr. Ulich's personal research interest has focused on the *in vivo* effects of recombinant hematopoietic growth factors such as G-CSF, thrombopoietin, and SCF; pro- and anti-inflammatory proteins such as the IL-1 receptor antagonist and soluble TNF receptors; and tissue growth factors such as keratinocyte growth factor. He was among the first to elucidate many of the *in vivo* effects of these growth factors.

Since his arrival, Dr. Ulich has been impressed by the integration of technology into the curriculum. "The PDAs, streaming video and education related electronic patient records are all pleasing and productive," he said.

Joan Dunbar, Ph.D., director of the Office of Biomedical Innovation at the School of Medicine, said that as the translation of basic research discoveries to clinical practice becomes a critical focus for the School of Medicine, the perspective and expertise of Dr. Ulich will be a great asset for students and faculty.

## Race and gender affect clinical trial participation

A new study finds significant disparities by race and gender among patients enrolled in lung cancer clinical trials. Published in the January 15, 2006 issue of *CANCER*, a peer-reviewed journal of the American Cancer Society, the study indicates that women and African Americans were least likely to enroll in treatment trials for lung cancer. It also identifies the need to improve educational and outreach efforts to make clinical trials available to a wider range of patients.

To evaluate the enrollment rate and the factors predicting enrollment, Wei Du, Ph.D., and her colleagues from Wayne State University reviewed data from 427 lung cancer patients (175 African Americans and 252 from other races) who were eligible for clinical trials between 1994 and 1998 at the Karmanos Cancer Institute in Detroit.

Of this group, 21 percent (91 patients) participated in a lung cancer treatment clinical trial. The researchers found that patients who did not participate were more likely to be African American (45 percent versus 25 percent of enrollees), female (43 percent versus 32 percent of enrollees), and over the age of 70 (24 percent versus 10 percent of enrollees).

The researchers say their results should be viewed with caution given that the study looked at enrollment at a single medical center, and did not study other factors that may play a role in clinical trial participation – including a lack of trust in the medical establishment, lack of knowledge about clinical trials and the effect of religious belief or spirituality on the willingness to participate.



**A recent study by Dr. Wei Du shows that women and African Americans are less likely to enroll in lung cancer clinical trials.**

Still, they conclude: "New recruitment strategies targeting specific patient subgroups might be helpful in ensuring equal representation of women and minority groups in cancer clinical trials."

While clinical trials are important because they test the efficacy of the next generation of potentially lifesaving treatments, only 5 percent of cancer patients participate in these studies. Reports demonstrated that systemic factors in the health care system, such as cost, patient education and physician biases may explain the low accrual rates.

But gender and racial inequalities also are apparent, forcing lawmakers in 1993 to direct the health care system to encourage women and minority participation. Not only does lack of participation by minorities and women shut them out of the next generation of potentially lifesaving treatment, but it also complicates clinicians' ability to translate treatment benefits and risks found in a clinical trial to these underrepresented patient populations.

The title of the *CANCER* article is: "Predictors of Enrollment in Lung Cancer Clinical Trials." Co-authors include Shirish Gadgeel, M.D., and Michael S. Simon, M.D.

## WSU part of multi-center study finding evidence for new genetic influence on MS

A study published in the October issue of *Nature Genetics* has found evidence for a new genetic influence on multiple sclerosis (MS) using a computational strategy designed to find risk variants that differ strikingly in frequency across human populations. Omar Khan, M.D., professor of neurology, participated in the study with the Harvard Medical School, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the University of California-San Francisco.

"This is the first time that a potential gene has been identified on a specific chromosome, which appears to be related to MS," Dr. Khan said. "The implications are huge."

The study compared genetic regions in African-American individuals with MS with healthy individuals in a control group. Although a dozen centers participated in the study, WSU School of Medicine recruited nearly one-third of the patients.

The new computational approach used showed greater power to detect weak factors contributing to disease risk than traditional methods. This method could be useful for identifying risk factors for other common diseases, such as lupus, end-stage renal disease and type 2 diabetes.

The study, "A Whole-Genome Admixture Scan Finds a Candidate Locus for Multiple Sclerosis Susceptibility," appeared with another study presenting a high-resolution map of a genetic region previously associated with MS susceptibility in Canadian and Finnish people with MS. The authors of that study refined the boundaries for genetic association and found that the primary risk is associated with a class of genes involved in mediating immune reaction to foreign proteins that cells take up from their environment.

## Golf course offers ideal treatment environment for schizophrenia patients



**Dr. Leonard Lachover and Dr. Dziuba share their love of golf with patients who are benefiting from the game's complementary health benefits.**

Golf can be a frustrating sport – even for professionals. Yet, the sport may offer a therapeutic setting to teach people about concentration and focus. Acknowledging this secondary benefit of the historic game, John Dziuba, M.D., an assistant professor of psychiatry and behavioral neurosciences and a golfer, himself, is teaching golf to some of his patients who suffer from schizophrenia in an effort to improve their self-worth.

Seeing its prospect as an effective rehabilitation tool and as part of its ongoing work to promote the benefits of golf for people with disabilities, the United States Golf Association (USGA) has awarded a \$9,100 grant to Wayne State University for research into the potential impact of the game on individuals with mental illness. "We believe golf can benefit people from all walks of life and can positively affect participants in many different ways," said USGA President Fred Ridley.

Schizophrenia is a debilitating disease that often interferes with a person's ability to think clearly, to distinguish reality from fantasy, to manage emotions and to relate to others. Hallucinations and delusional thinking are common symptoms that typically persist throughout a person's life. Dr. Dziuba believes that golf can enhance traditional treatments and relieve bothersome symptoms.

"We hope this project will show that golf can help our patients' self-esteem and self-confidence, their ability to concentrate and socialize and improve their overall quality of life," Dr. Dziuba said, emphasizing that golf would be used to supplement, not replace, traditional medication and psychotherapy treatments.

Wayne State's program involves adults diagnosed with schizophrenia. Participants learn the rules and etiquette of golf in addition to proper swing techniques. They spend five weeks at the driving range and three weeks on the golf course. Participants are tested with various psychiatric scales measuring their symptoms at the outset and conclusion of the program.

Golf instruction is coordinated by Joe Portfilio, co-head professional at Carl's Golf and in Bloomfield Hills, Mich. The cost of the participants' equipment, instruction and greens fees is paid through the USGA grant.



**Schizophrenia patients are learning the rules, techniques and benefits of golf.**



**Relaxation and self-esteem are therapeutic outcomes of golfing.**

## Dr. Noreen Rossi appointed assistant dean for clinical research



**Dr. Rossi wears many hats and is well-suited to support faculty members doing clinical research.**

**N**oreen Rossi, M.D., has been named assistant dean for clinical research at the Wayne State University School of Medicine. She will assist the associate dean for research in facilitating translational research collaborations, developing an infrastructure for investigators to secure maximum support, and re-engineering the school's clinical research enterprise according to the National Institutes of Health Roadmap for Medical Research.

A tenured professor of internal medicine, noted nephrologist and well-funded researcher, Dr. Rossi has experience and expertise in designing and conducting clinical trials. With joint appointments at Wayne State University and the John D. Dingell Veterans Administration Medical Center, Dr. Rossi continues to see patients, conduct critical research, and educate medical students and graduate students in biomedical studies.

"Dr. Rossi is a well-rounded academic physician who has credibility with our basic scientists and clinical faculty, alike," said Robert Frank, M.D., interim dean. "She is perfectly positioned to build research teams and efficiently guide them through the translational process."

"Scientific discovery is dynamic and always evolving, but it's important to apply a systematic infrastructure that allows scientists to be poised to accelerate their findings into real outcomes that can improve health," Dr. Rossi said. "This is an invigorating undertaking at the school and I'm pleased to lend my support to Wayne State's world-class investigators."

Dr. Rossi's research interests include neurohumoral regulation of systemic circulation in health and disease states and exercise training effects on systemic hemodynamics and renal sodium handling. She has been continuously supported through countless grants since 1983, before she even had a faculty title. Most recently, she was awarded a five-year \$1,653,829 grant titled "Neural Control of Na Balance in Hypertension: Exercise" from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health. She is studying how regular exercise decreases blood pressure by changing how the brain sends nerve signals to the heart and kidneys to respond to the changes in blood pressure.

Dr. Rossi earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry from the University of Detroit and medical degree from Yale. She completed an internship and residency at Vanderbilt and did nephrology fellowships at the University of Colorado. She joined WSU as an instructor in 1985 and was named a tenured professor in 2001.

She has won numerous research, teaching and service awards including the Distinguished Service Award for Research from the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan; she was named a fellow of the American College of Physicians in 1997. She has directed the theses of 10 graduate students and has personally mentored and advised more than 40 others. Dr. Rossi has 88 original publications and more than 100 invited presentations to her credit.

"We are pleased to have such an exemplary researcher as a champion for her School of Medicine colleagues," Dr. Frank said.



# OUR CAMPAIGN

Wayne First: The Campaign for Wayne State University is the first capital campaign in the university's history. Achieving its goal of \$500 million in private gifts from alumni, corporations, foundations, and other friends will transform both the university and its School of Medicine.

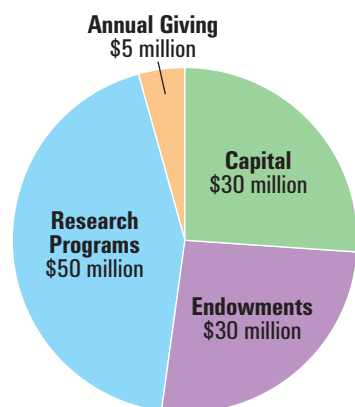
This campaign will greatly improve our ability to educate students, conduct the most advanced research, and provide the most exceptional care for those in need. The School of Medicine aims to raise \$115 million by September 31, 2008.

The campaign funds will provide the school with the resources necessary to:

- *Strengthen the student education experience;*
- *Enhance the medical campus environment through new construction and renovations;*
- *Expand lifesaving medical research and outreach programs; and*
- *Increase the number of endowed positions, scholarships funds and research funds.*

You are an important part of this effort. Your support is essential. It ensures that the school will continue to grow.

The campaign encompasses four categories: capital projects, endowments, research and programs, and the school's annual fund. Each represents a broad area in which philanthropic support is needed; specific initiatives or programs within academic departments are also critical philanthropic opportunities.



## CAPITAL PROJECTS

The major project to be funded through the campaign is the Richard J. Mazurek, M.D., Medical Education Commons. This new facility, which includes the renovation of the Shiffman Library, will greatly enhance the school's ability to educate students utilizing the most advanced technology available.

## ENDOWMENTS

One of the most significant ways in which a donor can contribute to the transformation of the School of Medicine is by establishing endowments in research, education and clinical care. Endowment earnings provide annual revenues that ensure the quality of faculty and students and the continued growth of programs and research. Endowments are also legacy gifts – they exist in perpetuity, continually supporting the school according to the donor's wishes, such as a faculty position, a research initiative, or a scholarship fund.

## RESEARCH & PROGRAMS

The School of Medicine is proud to sponsor myriad nationally recognized research and outreach programs, typically focused on a specific area of medicine or a particular family of diseases. Philanthropy enables researchers to develop brilliant hypotheses into groundbreaking results. Donors who support research have satisfaction of knowing that they are part of the team saving lives.

## ANNUAL FUND

The Annual Fund includes two components – the Alumni Annual Telefund and unrestricted gifts from alumni.

The Alumni Annual Telefund is managed by the school's Alumni Association. Funds raised from alumni through the Telefund are used for scholarships, student activities, summer research fellowships and other educational initiatives.

The school's annual fund for friends of the school raises unrestricted gifts from non-alumni donors. These funds support the school's needs as determined by the dean and faculty leadership. Because these funds may be used to meet the ever-changing needs of an academic institution, they are the foundation for the school's activities.

## CREATIVE WAYS OF GIVING

Every effort is made to help donors meet their philanthropic goals in terms of the scope of project available for support and gift structure. Gifts to the campaign may be made as a single contribution or a pledge with payments over a period of years. A planned gift is another important and flexible way to support the school. Donors often discover that a creative planned giving strategy allows them to fulfill their personal philanthropic objectives. Planned giving enables donors to support the school through their estate while receiving immediate tax advantages and recognition while providing for their heirs. There are planned giving strategies that may include bequests, life insurance, real estate, or gift annuities.

## Campaign Goal - \$155 million

As of November 30, 2005, \$77,094,025 has been raised – 67 percent of our goal.

## GENEROUS ENDOWMENT SUPPORTS DEPRESSION RESEARCH

**An estimated 19 million American adults suffer with depression. Unfortunately, many people suffer in silence, prompting a treatable chemical imbalance to balloon into a life-threatening condition.**

The weight of depression is one that can be lifted, thanks in part to tested therapies and novel antidepressant medications. An anonymous couple committed \$1 million to support depression research through the establishment of the Elliot D. Luby, M.D., Endowed Professorship in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences at the Wayne State University School of Medicine.

The donor has known Dr. Luby professionally for 35 years and felt compelled to acknowledge him for his critically important work as a researcher and clinician. Dr. Luby, professor emeritus of psychiatry and professor of law at Wayne State University, is a past president of the Michigan Psychiatric Society and a noted mental health expert, particularly in schizophrenia and depression.

"Dr. Luby and his Wayne State colleagues are already widely recognized in this area, but there is much more to be done. There are many more people who can be helped by advanced research for depression and antidepressant medications," the donor said.

The Luby professorship will be held by Manuel (Manny) Tancer, M.D., professor and chair of psychiatry and behavioral neurosciences at the WSU School of Medicine. Dr. Tancer accepted this honor at a ceremony in October at the Whitney Restaurant in Detroit attended by colleagues, faculty and supporters. Since his arrival at WSU in 1994, Dr. Tancer has built the psychiatry program into one of the largest and most productive research areas for the school. He says that, although the stigma of mental health is beginning to diminish, there remain major problems such as parity in coverage and public policy issues.

The donors originally planned to leave the money to WSU in their will, but changed their minds. "We decided to do it now, and do it in the name of somebody we respect and admire. Hopefully, we will start to see the benefits of this research soon."



**Drs. Robert Frank (left) and Elliot Luby (right) pose with Dr. Manuel Tancer (center), holder of the newly established Elliot D. Luby, M.D., Endowed Professorship in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences.**

# CAMPAIGN DONOR LIST

This list reflects donors recorded as of January 2006. We make every effort to ensure the accuracy of our reporting. If you have any questions please call the Wayne State University School of Medicine Office of Development and Alumni Affairs 313-577-4195.

<p><b>\$10 Million+</b> Nicholas Labedz</p> <p><b>\$1 Million+</b> David Barron, M.D. '54 The Susan G. Komen Cancer Foundation Robert M. Ligon Medical Alumni Association National Multiple Sclerosis Society S. Dennis &amp; Leslie Rogers Lawrence Stocker, M.D. '41</p> <p><b>\$500,000 - \$999,999</b> American Cancer Society American Diabetes Association Estate of Robert C. Fraser Estate of Frank Iannelli Estate of Mary S. Irwin Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Dr. Anthony Kales, M.D. '59 &amp; Dr. Joyce Kales, M.D. '60 Virginia A. Mehregan Muscular Dystrophy Association, Incorporated Elsa U. Pardee Foundation Research to Prevent Blindness Teva Neuroscience</p> <p><b>\$250,000 - \$499,999</b> American Heart Association David Barsky, M.D. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation Children's Research Center of Michigan Eileen Alpert Trust Ethel and James Flinn Family Foundation Jampel Family Foundation Jeanne M. Lusher, M.D. Pfizer, Inc. The Ravitz Foundation The Thomas Foundation Ralph C. Wilson, Sr. and Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Medical Research Foundation</p> <p><b>\$100,000 - \$249,999</b> Academic Radiation Oncologists American Brain Tumor Association American Institute for Cancer Research, Inc. American Tinnitus Association James Andre, M.D. '64 Arthritis Foundation Aventis Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Brooks F. Bock, M.D. '69 The Carls Foundation Charcot-Marie-Tooth Association Child Neurology Foundation Children's Hospital of Michigan</p>	<p>George and Patsy Eby Foundation Fildew Hinks, P.L.L.C. Ford Motor Company Fund The Alfred &amp; Hanna Fromm Fund General Motors Foundation The Gerber Foundation Guilford Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Herrick Foundation Johnson &amp; Johnson The W.K. Kellogg Foundation Willy Korzan Leukemia &amp; Lymphoma Society National Institute for Research on Schizophrenia Mary Webber Parker The Heinz C. Prechter Fund for Manic Depression Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Schering Sales Corporation The Shin Foundation Sinai Medical Staff Foundation Judith A. Van Raaphorst Veterans of Foreign Wars Joann Webber Eileen V. Williams Wyeth-Ayerst Pharmaceuticals</p> <p><b>\$25,000 - \$99,999</b> Affiliated Internists Allstate Life Insurance Company ALS of Michigan American Association of the Study of Liver Diseases American Board of Family Practice, Inc. American Brachytherapy Society American Institute for Cancer Research, Inc. American Lung Association amfAR: The Foundation for AIDS Research Arizona State University AstraZeneca LP Nancy Balick Bank One Biomide Investment Limited Partnership Black United Fund of Michigan Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals William Brusilow, Ph.D. Centricity, LLC The Children's Heart Foundation Florence M. Cook Estate Trust Crash Avoidance Metrics Partnership John D. Crissman, M.D. Cure Autism Now Foundation The Dana Foundation Suann M. 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Marketing and Publicity LLC Karen and David Skjaerlund Society of Critical Care Medicine Roberta and Robert Sokol, M.D. St. John Health System Joan C. Stryker, M.D. The Children's Heart Foundation L. Murray Thomas, M.D. '52 United Cerebral Palsy Research &amp; Educational Foundation University of Chicago University of Physician Services, Inc. Narayan P. Verma, M.D. Michael A. Wainstock, M.D. William Beaumont Hospital Jeffrey Wilner, M.D. '78 William C. Wyte, M.D. '43 John H. Zeiter, M.D.</p> <p><b>\$10,000 - \$24,999</b> Abbott Laboratories Gary W. Abrams, M.D. ACCP Research Institute Advanced Tissue Sciences Affiliated University Nephrologists Alcon Laboratories, Inc. Aline Underhill Orten Foundation, Inc. Allergan Pharmaceuticals American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists American Medical Association Foundation Pierre C. Atallah, M.D. M. Safwan Badr, M.D. Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute Theodore &amp; Mina Bargman Foundation Anne &amp; John G. Bielawski, M.D. '43 Kertia Black, M.D. Rudrick E. Boucher, M.D. '65 Bristol-Myers Squibb Company Brotman Communications Kenneth Burnley, Ph.D. Cancer Research Foundation of America Rula B. &amp; Elie Joseph Chidiac, M.D. Paul J. Chuba, M.D. '92 CIBA Vision Corporation Leslie Cole Julius V. Combs, M.D. '58 Communique, Inc. Compuware Cordis CTRC Research Foundation DaimlerChrysler Corporation George S. &amp; Helen G. Defenbaugh Foundation</p>	<p>James A. DeHaan, M.D. '81 Bruce R. Deschere, M.D. '77 Stephen P. DeSilva, M.D. Peter Dews, M.D. '86 Mitchell P. Dombrowski, M.D. '79 Doris J. Giddey Trust/Foundation Walter E. Douglas Dr. William F. and Mabel E. Nill Foundation, Inc. Stephen J. Driker, M.D. '98 Eli Lilly and Company Elsevier Emergency Medicine Foundation Estate of Marjorie Peebles-Meyers Estate of Ragnhild Valentine John M. Flack, M.D. Forest Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Jeffrey D. Forman, M.D. Mary K. Galloway Gilead Sciences, Inc. 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Lee Moffitt Cancer Center &amp; Research Institute Donald B. Muenk, M.D. '68 Janet &amp; Milton Mutchnick, M.D. '67 National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia National Down Syndrome Congress Silas Norman, M.D. '76 Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation Novo Nordisk Pharmaceuticals, Inc. William W. O'Neill, M.D. '77 Michael A. Patt, M.D. '77 Tammy Patton Carol E. Pearson, M.D. Perrin Family Foundation Pharmacia &amp; Upjohn Company Pharmacia Speakers Bureau Pinkus Dermatopathology Laboratory, P.C. Plainsboro Marketing Group Professional &amp; Scientific Associates, Inc. Jose A. &amp; Lourice M. Rafols, M.D. RGK Foundation Richard T. Robinson, M.D. '78 Sigmund and Sophie Rohlik Foundation Sage Foundation Michael K. Samson, M.D. '67 Hershel Sandberg, M.D. '53 David L. Fry &amp; Maryjean Schenk, M.D. '83 Scios, Inc. The Seligman Family Foundation Les I. Siegel, M.D. '80 Siemens Medical Solutions, Inc. 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## CAMPAIGN CONTINUES FOR EDUCATION COMMONS

Fundraising is underway for the Richard J. Mazurek, M.D., Medical Education Commons (MEC), the new facility expected to become the nucleus of the school's programs for undergraduate, graduate and continuing education in medicine.



A view of the walkway that will connect the Shiffman Library and the Medical Education Commons to Scott Hall.



Aerial view of the new Wayne State University School of Medicine campus including the Richard J. Mazurek, M.D., Medical Education Commons.



Street-level view of the proposed Richard J. Mazurek, M.D., Medical Education Commons from Canfield.



Classrooms will feature the latest technologies.



The atrium and new Shiffman Library service center.

## Dr. Weitz celebrates radiology career



**Ninety-six-year-old Harry Weitz, M.D., '34, is honored.**

Ninety-six-year-old Dr. Harry Weitz started his 40-year medical career in a basement office at Traverse City State Hospital, which has become the Munson Medical Center in northern Michigan. He was Traverse City's first radiologist and now he has five relatives who have followed in his footsteps. His son, Chuck, is a radiologist in Traverse City, in addition to three nephews and a grandson.

A recent reception honored Dr. Weitz who earned his degree from the Detroit College of Medicine (WSU) in 1934. He recalls starting his career with the basics: a diagnostic radiology unit, a therapeutic unit, a portable unit, a darkroom and a small office equipped with a typewriter. He was a one-man show for 18 years before partnering with his first associate. He earned \$2,900 during his first year of practice in 1938 and retired in 1978 from the Munson Medical Center, which today employs 22 radiologists.

Colleagues recently surprised Dr. Weitz with a lifetime achievement plaque from the Michigan State Medical Society, the Grand Traverse-Leelanau-Benzie County Medical Society and the Michigan Radiological Society. The plaque reads: "When friends and colleagues think of Dr. Harry Weitz, they think of an outstanding radiologist, an outstanding physician and a true gentleman." He also received a special tribute signed by Gov. Jennifer Granholm, state Sen. Jason Allen and state Rep. Howard Walker.

"I got into radiology quite by accident," he said in a local newspaper article. "As I got into it, I became more and more interested in it. No two cases are the same."



**Radiation residency graduation photo circa 1937-38. On the far left is chief resident in radiology, Dr. James Lofstrom. In the middle is Detroit Receiving's chief of radiology, Dr. Kenning. Dr. Weitz is on the far right.**

## Landmark Kastle gift celebrated

When T. Ben Kastle bequested money for cancer research at Wayne State University in 1979, and until the recent launch of the Wayne First capital campaign, it was the largest individual gift ever made to the university. In November of that year, the Ben Kastle Laboratories for Experimental and Clinical Cancer Research were constructed in the Lande Research Building. The gift was worth \$6.4 million.

Kastle was a private man who had long been treated for cancer. He was a patient under the care of Dr. Vainutis Vaitkevicius (Dr. Vee), the storied and now retired cancer physician and researcher at WSU and the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute. Kastle was so moved by Dr. Vee's professionalism and kindness that he earmarked his gift to further Dr. Vee's research at the medical school.

In October, the Kastle family was honored at a reception at the Meyer L. Prentis Cancer Center during which a portrait of Mr. Kastle was unveiled in its lobby.

WSU President Irvin Reid said, "The Kastle bequest came during a crucial time in cancer research and was an important foundation for the School of Medicine's research programs. He invested in the future when the protocols that are now in current use for cancer treatment were just at the experimental stages. Today our cancer research continues to grow at the university. Our portfolio of active cancer-related projects totals over \$46 million across the entire university."



**Family and friends stand with a portrait of donor T. Ben Kastle. From left to right are Gilda Birmingham, Jackie Downey, Devin Downey, Hecky Kastle Lazar and Dr. Morton Lazar.**



**Valdor Haglund, Jr., a certified registered nurse anesthetist, guides students through proper intubation.**

## Mini Med School offers mini lessons for would-be doctors

WSU got teen-age students interested in medical careers through its program titled Mini Med School: An Exploration of Health Sciences. The program is coordinated by the Wayne State University School of Medicine and the Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. Each year, the program caters to a slightly different audience. This year, the program focused on students, age 16 or older, with an interest in health sciences to provide them with a first-hand look at what it takes to pursue a career in medicine.

Held on four successive Tuesday evenings in September, Mini Med School experiences included pharmacy, gross anatomy and even a graduation ceremony. Perhaps participants will find themselves as part of the medical school application process in the future. This was a great opportunity for doctors-in-the-making to see what type of career they might envision.



**Students participate in a variety of workshops.**

# Pathfinders honored for vision, leadership



Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm was among the honorees at the Wayne State University School of Medicine's Pathfinders in Medicine Awards on October 8 at Ford Field.

Established in 2000, the black-tie dinner honors outstanding vision and leadership

in medicine, progressive scientific research and efforts that promote the availability of quality health care within the community. Amyre Makupson, a longtime Detroit anchor on UPN-50 and CBS-62, was mistress of ceremonies.

Gov. Granholm was honored for her role in ensuring that the state's vital health-care safety net remains viable despite economic hardships that threaten access to quality care. In 2004, she played a leading role in guiding the establishment of the Detroit Wayne County Health Authority. She also was instrumental in forming a temporary oversight committee that provided a \$50 million infusion to bolster the Detroit Medical Center.

#### *The following were also honored:*

**Larry Fleischmann, M.D.**, is past president of Children's Hospital of Michigan and a WSU professor of pediatrics and a pediatric nephrologist. Dr. Fleischmann founded Children's Hospital's Renal Dialysis and Transplant Program and was director of the Nephrology Service. Dr. Fleischmann has received the March of Dimes Humanitarian of the Year Award and the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan Champion of Hope Award.

**Henry McKinnell, Ph.D.**, is chairman and CEO of Pfizer Inc., the world's largest research-based pharmaceutical company. He was appointed to the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS by President George Bush and is the recipient of the United Nations Association of the United States of America's Global Leadership Award and the Woodrow Wilson Institute for International Scholars Corporate Service Award.

**Tina Kelley, M.D.**, (posthumous), a WSU School of Medicine resident dedicated to serving children who was killed in a car accident Feb. 4, excelled both academically and spiritually. She received her undergraduate degree from Michigan State University and her medical degree from Wayne State University School of Medicine. Dr. Kelley shared her many gifts with others through her volunteer endeavors. She was a youth interpreter for I Zandla, Hartford Memorial Baptist Church's deaf ministry. The young woman was also a member of the Michigan State University Gospel Choir and the Just for Christ campus ministry, through which Dr. Kelley traveled on a mission to Jamaica.

**Winners of the 2005 Pathfinders in Medicine Awards (left to right): Dr. Roberto Romero; Dr. David Canter, accepting on behalf of Henry McKinnell, Ph.D.; Eugene Kelley, father of Dr. Tina Kelley; School of Medicine Interim Dean Dr. Robert Frank; Dr. Sophie Womack; Alice Kelley Booker, mother of Dr. Tina Kelley; Dr. Larry Fleischmann; and Ebony Rucker.**

**Roberto Romero, M.D.**, leads the National Institutes of Health's Perinatology Research Branch at the WSU School of Medicine, which conducts studies into maternal and infant health and disease. A world renowned lecturer, Dr. Romero is one of the most prominent intellectual leaders in modern obstetrics. During the past 20 years, his work has focused on the prenatal diagnosis of congenital anomalies and the study of the mechanisms responsible for the onset of premature labor.

**Ebony Rucker**, a fourth-year student at the WSU School of Medicine, was born and raised in Detroit. She attended Detroit public schools until she received a scholarship to Cranbrook Kingswood in Bloomfield Hills which motivated her to attend college on the East Coast. Awaiting the arrival of twin siblings in the labor and delivery suite ignited her interest in a medical career. After receiving her bachelor's degree from Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., Rucker spent three years studying genetics at Harvard Medical School before applying to medical school. Since returning home, Rucker was involved with numerous community endeavors including serving as a co-coordinator at the Cass Clinic and being involved with the Black Medical Association.

**Sophie Womack, M.D.**, is the division chief of neonatology for Sinai-Grace Hospital, an assistant professor in the WSU Department of Pediatrics and a member of the Detroit Medical Center's board of trustees. This physician and humanitarian tirelessly promotes children's health and safety through her volunteer efforts, including The Coalition Inc. – Circle of Hope, which she formed with her husband, Rev. Dr. Jimmy Womack. Dr. Womack has been honored with the "Caring for Children Angel Award" from Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan and the "Image Award in Medicine" from the Women's Justice Center.



**Governor Jennifer Granholm inspires guests.**

The event hosted 320 people and raised \$130,000. Proceeds support the Pathfinders in Medicine Scholarship Fund, the Black Medical Association of Wayne State University Endowed Grant Fund and the Charles F. Whitten, M.D., Post-Baccalaureate Fund.

The event featured Eugene Kelley, father of Tina Kelley, posthumous Pathfinder recipient, reading his daughter's words, written shortly before her death, about what it meant to become a doctor.

Governor Granholm summarized the spirit of the night, saying: "When we die, we will be asked two questions. 'How did you take care of those who needed your help?' And 'How did you use the gifts given to you?'"

"Thank you," she said, "for having good answers to both those questions."



# Embracing diversity

Celebrating one of the most diverse student bodies in the country, the Wayne State University School of Medicine held its annual Ethnic Week in October.

"Although Ethnic Week was only over a span of several days, the unity which we all displayed holds lifelong implications," said Houssein Zorkot, second-year medical student and president of the Board of Student Organizations. "Becoming aware of cultural and ethnic issues is essential to a career in medicine. Thankfully, the WSU School of Medicine has a very diverse student body. The more diverse the body, the richer the experience. We had fun, too — it was great."



Proudly celebrating their heritage are Alvin Thompson, Odinaka Akunne and Joseph Powell.



Eugenia Politis, Angela Yue and Diana Barbu bring cultures together.



Guest performer Aziza demonstrates ancient dance styles.



Vibrant colors and styles celebrate the diversity of Wayne State students.

## Dr. Mathur appointed director for programmatic grants

**D**aniel Walz, Ph.D., associate dean for research and graduate programs, recently announced the appointment of Dr. Ambika Mathur, as the School of Medicine's director for programmatic grants

Dr. Mathur will provide administrative leadership in initiatives involving training grants, program project grants and center grants for submission to federal funding agencies. She will also serve as the School of Medicine's liaison to the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Dr. Mathur received her Ph.D. in microbiology and immunology with Dr. Richard Lynch at the University of Iowa. After a postdoctoral fellowship at the Institute of Human Genetics at the University of Minnesota with Dr. Brian Van Ness, she was subsequently appointed assistant professor and then tenured associate professor of tumor

immunology at the University of Minnesota, where she developed a strong interest in research training. She mentored postdoctoral fellows, doctoral students, master's students and undergraduate students, as well as medical fellows, medical residents, medical students and dental students.

Dr. Mathur was associated with developing and implementing a number of NIH-funded training grants, including the Clinical Scientist Training Program, T32 training grants, summer research training grants and training grants to support minority high-school students.

She served on the University of Minnesota's Medical School admissions committee as well as on the Education Policy Committee of the School of Dentistry and was responsible for overseeing curriculum development. After

serving as professor at West Virginia University, Dr. Mathur has been on the faculty of The Carman & Ann Adams Department of Pediatrics at Wayne State University and the Children's Hospital of Michigan, where she is currently associate director of the Institute of Medical Education, Scientific Faculty Development. Since January 2005, she has also served as director of the newly created combined M.D./Ph.D. degree program.

Dr. Mathur and her husband, Dr. Deepak Kamat, professor and vice chair for education in the Department of Pediatrics, have 15-year-old twins. Dr. Mathur is also a published author of a series of books for children, and her passion is promoting literacy among children.

## Dr. Lusher wins Ability is Ageless Award

Jeanne Lusher, M.D., distinguished professor of pediatric hematology-oncology and Marion I. Barnhart, Ph.D., Endowed Chair in Thrombosis Hemostasis Research, was honored with Operation ABLE of Michigan's Ability is Ageless Award.

Dr. Lusher is a legend in the study and treatment of bleeding disorders. In a career spanning more than 30 years at Wayne State University, she has conducted groundbreaking research, pioneered new treatments and received countless honors and awards.

In the research arena, Dr. Lusher has been at the forefront since 1966 when she was among the first to describe the antibody nature of factor VIII inhibitors (in most people with hemophilia, the disorder results from an inability to produce either factor VIII or factor IX clotting agents). Dr. Lusher's leading-edge research continued into the 1970s, when she was the first to fully describe the circulation of the spleen; the 1980s, when she organized and led a multi-center study of factor VIII concentrate potency; and through the 1990s and into the 21st century as she continues to work on state-of-the-science gene therapies. To date, Dr. Lusher has

authored nine books, 56 book chapters and 156 total original publications.

A graduate of the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, Dr. Lusher came to Wayne State in 1964. She has been honored by the university countless times for teaching and research excellence, receiving the WSU Faculty Merit Award every year since 1975 and, in 1997, becoming only the 10th WSU faculty member to earn the title distinguished professor. She has also served as president of the WSU Academy of Scholars.

Dr. Lusher's commitment to her work is perhaps best described by Mark W. Skinner, president of the National Hemophilia Foundation's Board of Directors:

"[Dr. Lusher] has impacted all of our lives through her groundbreaking research, her tireless advocacy, and her selfless commitment to improving the lives of people with bleeding disorders. Her leadership and commitment has improved the quality of care and advanced the prospects for a cure. Besides these impressive achievements, she is cherished and adored by the countless families with bleeding disorders that have depended on her remarkable compassion and care."



**Dr. Lusher has improved the lives of countless people with bleeding disorders.**



**Guests mingle in the Adam Strohm Hall in the Detroit Public Library.**

## School year kicks off with welcome reception

The annual Welcome Back Reception, the official launch of the school year, was held at the Detroit Public Library in September. Guests were awed by the magnificent yet seldom seen Adam Strohm Hall – a grand venue befitting "a building," wrote the library's founders in 1900, "whose architectural splendors should be one of the chief beauties of this city."

Among the guests were Drs. Alan Hudson and Judith Whittum-Hudson who came to the university in 1997 and 1998 following faculty positions in Philadelphia and Baltimore, respectively.

They observed that the hall, like many of Detroit's gems, deserves greater appreciation. Of note, they said, Detroit's Chamber Music Society program is as good or better than any they've heard in New York or Paris.



**Jira Coumarbatch, M.D., '01, Thomas Roe, M.D., '80, and Lawrence Schwartz, M.D., '75**



**Florence Hoffman and Louis Hoffman, M.D., '50**

# Michigan med school deans address physician shortage

In November 2005, after more than a year creating a comprehensive strategy to address a projected national physician shortage, the Blue Ribbon Physician Workforce Committee launched its campaign to educate state and federal policymakers on the issue. The group conducted an advanced briefing for Michigan's Congressional delegation.

Dr. Robert Frank, WSU School of Medicine interim dean, serves on the committee – in addition to the deans of the state's other medical schools, and several statewide health groups.

Because previous reports examined the national shortage of physicians, the committee focused on Michigan, commissioning New York State University's Albany Center for Health Workforce Studies to conduct a study of physician supply and demand. Preliminary results:

- Currently, Michigan has 30,000 "active" physicians (those delivering patient care). By 2020, it will need 38,000.
- After adjusting for new physicians, the state will face shortages of 900 physicians by 2010; 2,400 by 2015; and 4,500 by 2020.
- Michigan will experience a more severe shortage of doctors than the nation – 11.9 percent compared with the national average of 7.9 percent.
- After graduation, Michigan medical students leave the state at a rate similar to many other northern states. New York, the largest producer and trainer of physicians in the U.S., is experiencing a similar problem.
- While Michigan projections indicate an adequate supply of primary care physicians until 2018, a shortage of specialists will begin this year.

The Blue Ribbon Committee's recommended strategy (see Highlights of Plan) is supported by the state's four medical schools, the State of Michigan represented by the Michigan Department of Community Health, the Council on Graduate Medical Education, and statewide associations and organizations affected by physician shortages.

This comprehensive advanced briefing is the first step in the committee's efforts to prepare an appropriate health care workforce for Michigan. For more information, or to participate in this effort, please contact Carol Parker Lee, MSU Institute for Health Care Studies: (517) 432-8385.



## HIGHLIGHTS OF PLAN

- Allow Michigan's teaching hospitals to train more physicians in the state by raising the cap by 10 percent on the number of residents and fellows eligible for Medicare reimbursement.
- Maintain commitment to Medicare indirect medical education financial assistance to support the nation's teaching hospitals.
- Maintain federal commitment to the Medicaid program to prevent further cost shifting to already overburdened states.
- Adopt the Senate version of Title VII funding allocations to support programs that encourage distribution and diversity of our nation's health care workforce.

## Blue Ribbon Physician Workforce Committee Members

Council on Graduate Medical Education  
(represented by Henry Ford Hospital)

Council on Graduate Medical Education  
(represented by Ingham Regional Medical Center)

Michigan Association of Health Plans

Michigan Department of Community Health

Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth

Michigan Health and Hospital Association

Michigan Health Council

Michigan Osteopathic Association

Michigan Primary Care Association

Michigan State Area Health Education Center

Michigan State Medical Society

Michigan State University College of Human Medicine

Michigan State University College  
of Osteopathic Medicine

Michigan State University Institute  
for Health Care Studies

University of Michigan Medical School

Wayne State University School of Medicine

**Michigan's four medical school deans (from left): William Strampel, D.O., Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine, Allen Lichter, M.D., University of Michigan Medical School, Robert Frank, M.D., Wayne State University School of Medicine, Marsha Rappley, M.D., MSU College of Human Medicine, and Dr. Michael Sandler, chairman, Michigan State Medical Society.**



## Drs. Schuster and Sloane named distinguished professors

President Irvin Reid and the Wayne State University Board of Governors named seven faculty members to the rank of distinguished professor. Among them are the School of Medicine's Charles Schuster, Ph.D., professor of psychiatry and behavioral neurosciences, and Bonnie Sloane, Ph.D., professor and chair of pharmacology.

Dr. Schuster joined Wayne State University in 1995. He is the founding director of the Substance Abuse Research Division and director of the Addiction Research Institute within the School of Medicine. He served as the director of the National Institute of Drug Abuse and accompanied the U.S. Attorney General on presidential trips to Asia and Europe to curtail drug abuse and illegal smuggling of opiates.

He received several National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)/National Institutes of Health (NIH) grants including one to establish the Great Lakes Regional Node of the NIDA Clinical Trials Network. This program involves research to determine efficacy of treatment interventions. He is a mentor for the Robert Wood Johnson project for leadership development in the area of substance abuse, and is a founding member of the International Network for Drug Policy Analysis. Dr. Schuster is co-author of three books and has published in leading journals including the *American Journal on Addictions*, *Drug and Alcohol Dependence* and *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*.

Dr. Bonnie Sloane joined Wayne State University in 1980. As chair of the Department of Pharmacology, she also has appointments with the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute and the Cancer Biology and Toxicology Graduate Programs at WSU. She is an inaugural host awardee of the Avon Foundation/American Association for Cancer Research International Scholar in Breast Cancer Research (a national competition awarded to only four individuals in 2004). She has a distinguished history of 25 years of research grant support that includes four current grants from the NIH and the Department of Defense.

She has served on national planning committees including the National Cancer Institute Think Tank on Inflammation and Cancer. She has 112 peer-reviewed articles published or in press.

The university provides a stipend of \$5,000 to each distinguished professor to recognize his or her scholarly contributions.

Other newly named distinguished professors are: Philip Abbott, professor of political science in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; Melba Boyd, professor of Africana studies in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; Charles Stivale, professor of romance languages and literatures in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; Dennis Tini, professor of music in the College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts; and Sean Wu, professor of mechanical engineering in the College of Engineering.

## In Memoriam: Dr. John Waller



Dr. John B. (Jay) Waller, Jr., one of the nation's first researchers to treat interpersonal violence as a public health issue and a committed member of the WSU faculty for more than 20 years, died Jan. 5. He was 69.

Dr. Waller, a former chair of the WSU Department of Community Health, established the WSU Center for Prevention and Control of Interpersonal Violence, the first center of its kind in the United States.

He was widely considered a pioneer in the treatment of interpersonal violence as a public-health issue.

"Jay defined the words 'principal' and 'humanity' and 'academic excellence,'" said Dr. Herb Smitherman, associate chairman of the WSU Department of Community Medicine, who had known Dr. Waller since 1986 and worked with him since 1996. "But his loving heart was his truest wisdom."

During the 1980s, Detroit and other urban centers around the country were experiencing violent crimes in record numbers. Dr. Waller redefined the phenomenon as a true health epidemic, rather than a societal problem intrinsic to poor, inner-city areas. His work had lasting impact within both the medical community and public policy arena.

Dr. Waller filled many other important roles within the WSU School of Medicine and Detroit Medical Center, including senior vice president for urban and community health for the Detroit Medical Center/WSU Community Health Institutes and director of the Wayne State University Institute for Maternal and Child Health.

A former director of the Detroit Health Department, Dr. Waller played a critical role in forming the partnership that created Detroit Receiving Hospital and the University Health Center. Ed Thomas, who served as president of DRH at the time, said in 1991 that the enterprise "to a great extent ... owes its inception and survival to his stewardship."

Dr. Waller earned a master's degree in public health and a doctorate from the University of Michigan School of Public Health. From 1999 through 2000, he was vice president of the American Public Health Association. He served as chairman of the Detroit Empowerment Zone Corporation and president of the Council of Graduate Programs in Preventive Medicine. He also held several voluntary board memberships, including chairman of the board of Greater Detroit Area Health Council and chairman of the board of the Detroit Community Health Connection, which operates several community health centers.

Dr. Waller was the recipient of many honors and awards, including the WSU Distinguished Service Award and the Pathfinders in Medicine Award.

Donations may also be forwarded to Dr. John B. Waller, Jr., Student Award for Academic Excellence in Public Health Practice, Department of Community Medicine, Wayne State University School of Medicine, 4201 St. Antoine – 9D UHC, Detroit, Mich., 48201.

## In Memoriam: Piero P. Foa, M.D., Ph.D.



Piero P. Foa, M.D., Ph.D, lauded as one of Wayne State University's most influential teachers and a trailblazer in diabetes research, died on Nov. 11, 2005. He was 94 years old.

A professor emeritus of the Department of Physiology, Dr. Foa's long and distinguished association with the School of Medicine began in 1962 when he came to Detroit as chairman of the Department of Research at Sinai Hospital and professor of physiology at WSU. He served as acting chair of physiology in 1980-81.

In the span of his career, Dr. Foa celebrated many scientific accomplishments and accolades, including presenting evidence to establish that glucagons is a pancreatic hormone and documenting the mechanism of drugs used for the oral treatment of diabetes. Dr. Foa's primary research focused on glucagons and insulin secretion and their role in the utilization of nutrients and the regulation of blood sugar levels.

As a teacher, Dr. Foa mentored graduate and medical students, fellows and visiting scientists from around the world. Many of his former students went on to leadership positions throughout the field of physiology. Among them is Joseph Dunbar, Ph.D., who completed his dissertation with the guidance of Dr. Foa.

"An advocate and practitioner of quality of opportunity, Dr. Foa has been the mentor of new generations of medical scientists, based solely on promise, talents and achievements. I have been proud to have been among them," Dr. Dunbar said.

Dr. Foa is the recipient of the School of Medicine Lamp Award bestowed by the medical students on their most influential teachers. He has been recognized internationally with numerous professional awards of merit, and was the recipient of the WSU Medical Alumni Association Weiner Award for distinguished achievement and the School of Medicine 1983 Distinguished Service Award. In 1999, the School of Medicine established the Piero P. Foa, M.D., Ph.D., Endowed Lectureship in the Department of Physiology.

Born in Torino, Italy, Dr. Foa received both a medical degree and doctorate in chemistry from the University of Milano, Italy, where he served internships in medicine and surgery. He joined the University of Michigan as a research fellow in surgery and medicine, and then served on the faculty of the Chicago Medical School before coming to WSU.

Dr. Foa is survived by his wife of 54 years, Naomi, along with children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He lived in West Bloomfield.

Memorials to the Piero P. Foa Endowed Lectureship Fund will be accepted by the School of Medicine Office of Development.

## Real science explored

State-of-the-science research continues to provide exponential leaps in understanding the ways in which the human body works – and, given disease, fails to work.

Investigators must overcome scientific, technological and ethical obstacles in translating this information into new, effective treatments for the serious conditions affecting mankind.

"Hot Topics in Molecular Medicine" is a new monthly forum dedicated to exploring these sometimes controversial, always exciting issues in the branch of medical research that reveals how genes influence – and how they can sometimes be used to treat – disease.

Hosted by Wayne State

University's Center for Molecular Medicine and Genetics (CMMG) and Jeffrey Loeb, M.D., Ph.D., associate professor in neurology and the CMMG, presentations will feature such topics as: making new drugs, new approaches in gene therapy, and bugs in all of us.

John Kamholz, M.D., Ph.D., professor of neurology, began the series in January 2006 with "Genes, race, and disease: Are we really that different?"

The sessions are free and open to the public. Each is followed by a catered reception at which participants can continue discussions with the speaker and other members of the center. For more information, please contact Mary Grant, program coordinator: [mgrant@med.wayne.edu](mailto:mgrant@med.wayne.edu)



**When:** Last Friday of each month beginning in January  
Lecture & Discussion: 4 p.m. – Reception: 5 p.m.

**Where:** Jaffar Auditorium, Scott Hall – 540 E. Canfield, Detroit  
Complimentary Valet Parking: University Health Center Garage, 4201 St. Antoine

### Winter/Spring Schedule

February 24, 2006

**"How to make a new drug: Using brains to treat breast cancer."** Jeffrey A. Loeb, M.D., Ph.D.

March 31, 2006

**"New approaches in treating human disease with gene therapy."** Michael Shy, M.D.

April 28, 2006

**"There are bugs in all of us: Mitochondria in health and disease."** Lawrence Grossman, Ph.D.



# graduate programs

## Dear Graduate Students and Alums,

It's been nearly a year since I last updated you on the progress of our formal M.D./Ph.D. program, so allow me to take this opportunity to tell you where we are.

Having just completed offers to the entering class for fall 2006, we now have 17 medical scientist trainees participating in the dual-degree program – on our way to approximately 32 when the program is fully populated.

This has become a very active group of students, both academically and socially! Their excitement evolves, partly, from the strong sense of community they have developed as a class. Monthly research and career development seminars organized by the students have helped foster this sense of identity. Peer advising and tutoring activities, provided by some of the senior students, have helped cement relationships among participants as well.

## Goals and Objectives of the New Integrated M.D./Ph.D. Curriculum:

*The primary goal of the new curriculum for the M.D./Ph.D. combined degree program is to provide our students with an integrated training format that will facilitate their pursuit of careers as physician-scientists, simultaneously practicing clinical medicine and scientific research. The integrated curriculum has been designed in a manner that will permit our students to integrate and maintain both research and clinical experiences throughout all years of their program.*

This excerpt from the curriculum goals and objectives summarizes the path we have taken in the development, approval and implementation of the M.D./Ph.D. Integrated

Clinical Curriculum. The stewardship of program director, Dr. Ambika Mathur, and melding of basic science research activities with continuity of clinical care experiences, during the research years, places WSU's combined program among the few M.D./Ph.D. programs, nationally, to offer such integrated training to its students. Members of Academic and Student Programs administration, especially interim associate dean, Dr. Maryjean Schenk, and the School of Medicine Curriculum Committee were invaluable in providing solid suggestions and guidance as this innovative curriculum was being designed. Future articles will focus on curricular detail and the students' view of their integrated experiences.

My enjoyment never ceases! I had the privilege of presenting Certificates of Recognition to 13 of our current graduate students for their outstanding academic and research achievement at our annual Faculty/Student Honors Convocation ceremony. Students were selected carefully from the many strong nominees offered by their advisors and departments. To accompany the certificates, a cash prize of \$500 was issued to each student. The accompanying sidebar lists this year's recipients and their home programs. Congratulations to each honoree and their graduate programs!

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*

**Kenneth C. Palmer, Ph.D.**  
Assistant Dean for Graduate Programs

## Graduate Student Honorees

2005 ANNUAL STUDENT/FACULTY HONORS CONVOCATION

<b>Rania Abu-Hamdah</b>	Physiology
<b>Thomas Beaumont</b>	Molecular Biology and Genetics
<b>Aviva Fridman</b>	Cancer Biology
<b>Sriram Krishnamoorthy</b>	Cancer Biology
<b>David Krolewski</b>	Anatomy and Cell Biology
<b>Kristin R. Landis-Piwowar</b>	Cancer Biology
<b>Jaron Lockett</b>	Pathology
<b>Guy M. Lenk</b>	Molecular Biology and Genetics
<b>Rui Martins</b>	Molecular Biology and Genetics
<b>Stefanie Roshy Mullins</b>	Cancer Biology
<b>Ramaswamy Sharma</b>	Molecular Biology and Genetics
<b>Beimeng Sun, Ph.D.</b>	Pharmacology
<b>Prachi Trivedi</b>	Immunology/Microbiology

## Graduate Student Research Day winners recognized

Graduate Student Research Day celebrated excellence in the scientific process. The daylong event in September featured keynote speaker Dr. Arthur Horwich, professor of genetics and pediatrics at Yale University School of Medicine, Howard Hughes Medical Investigator, and member of the National Academy of Sciences. Dr. Horwich's address was titled "Chaperonin Mediated Protein Folding."

### Nine students were recognized for their outstanding work:

- Session No. 1, First Place: Kristin Landis-Piwowar (Cancer Biology) for "Molecular Studies for the Regulation of Green Tea Polyphenol Biological Function by the Polymorphic Gene Product Catechol-O-Methyltransferase"
- Session No. 2, First Place: Thomas Beaumont (Center for Molecular Medicine and Genetics) for "Activity-Dependent Gene Expression Profiling in Human Neocortical Epilepsy Implicates Modulators of Synaptic Strength"
- Session No. 3, First Place: Nitya Chandran (Cellular and Clinical Neurobiology) for "Sp3 May Play a Significant Role in the Regulation of GTP Cyclohydroxylase (GCH1) Gene Expression"

### Poster Session No. 1

- First Place: Anthony Cimini (Pharmacology) for "Proteomic Analysis of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* Palmitoyl-Proteins Identifies Yeast Sphingosine Kinase Lcb4"
- Second Place: Amelia Quayle (Center for Molecular Medicine and Genetics) for "Large Scale Identification of Matrix Attachment Regions"
- Third Place: Ramaswamy Sharma (Center for Molecular Medicine and Genetics) for "Minor Role for Atf3 in Animal Models of Neurodegenerative Disease"



**Graduate Student Research Day winners meet with keynote speaker Dr. Arthur Horwich. From left to right, Kristin Landis-Piwowar, Anthony Cimini, Stacey Sakowski, Amelia Quayle, Dr. Horwich, Ramaswamy Sharma, Nitya Chandran and Thomas Beaumont.**

### Poster Session No. 2

- First Place: Stacey Sakowski (Center for Molecular Medicine and Genetics) for "Differential Tissue Distribution of Tryptophan Hydroxylase Isoforms 1 and 2 as Revealed with Monispecific Antibodies"
  - Second Place: Kaushik Parthasarathy (Electrical Engineering) for "Biocompatibility of Sapphire and Borosilicate Glass for a Cortical Neuroprosthesis Using MRI and Histopathology"
  - Third Place: Jia Yin (Anatomy & Cell Biology) for "Role of Rho in Regulating Human Corneal Epithelial Wound Healing"
- The event's organizing committee included Sanjay Rakhade, Stacey Sakowski, Guy Lenk, Henry Yang, Jeremy Cook, Debbie Leicht, Najla Kfoury, Shannon Wills, Ameila Quayle, Ramaswamy Sharma, Raquel Ritchie, Sandhya Muralidharan, Janice Whinter and Bernadette Palazzolo.



# Honors and Achievements

**Kenneth Bergsman, M.D.**, professor of internal medicine, was honored with a 2005 Laureate Award from the American College of Physicians, Michigan Chapter.

**Russell Blair, M.D.**, internal medicine resident, won third place for his poster presentation-case report at the American College of Physicians, Michigan Chapter, Scientific Meeting held in September. The presentation was on "Sarcoidosis of the Upper Respiratory Tract."

**Saroj Chowdhury, M.D.**, resident in internal medicine, presented "Multifocal Segmental Renal Infarction in the Setting of a Patent Foramen Ovale and Thromboembolic Disease" at the Second Annual American Medical Association Resident, Fellow and Student (AMA-RFS) Research Poster Symposium in Dallas in November. Co-authors included Drs. Paul Bozyk and Wayne Whitwam; Dr. Judith Andersen mentored residents and fellows.

**Bhavin Dalal, M.D.**, internal medicine resident, was honored as a finalist for an oral presentation on "Multiple Hydatid Cysts in the Heart" at the 2005 scientific meeting of the American College of Cardiology, Michigan Chapter.

**Joseph Dunbar, Ph.D.**, professor and chair of physiology, presented a seminar, "The Brain: Its Role in Obesity and Hypertension," at the University of North Carolina's SPIRE Postdoctoral Fellowship Program. Dr. Dunbar's lab concentrates on the relationship between diabetes and obesity and the cardiovascular complications of diabetes. In addition to his research, Dr. Dunbar is involved in increasing diversity in the sciences and has contributed many years of service to organizations including the Minority Opportunities in Research division of the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, the Minority Access to Research Careers review committee and the board of directors for the American Diabetes Association.

**John Flack, M.D., M.P.H.**, interim chair of internal medicine, was the keynote speaker at a conference in September hosted by the Maya Angelou Research Center on Minority Health. The conference focused on different groups of people, as defined by race, ethnicity, gender, geography and socioeconomic status, and how those differences affect cardiovascular health. Dr. Flack's topic was "Unraveling the Tangled Web of Race, Genes, Disease and Therapeutics."

**Richard Gallagher, Ph.D.**, professor of family medicine, chaired a National Cancer Institute Special Emphasis Panel in Washington, D.C., in October 2005. This panel reviewed two types of R25 grant applications (cancer education and training) and faculty career development awards (K05s, K12s and K24s).

**Pooja Gupta, M.D.**, fellow in pediatric cardiology, received the first prize award for cardiology fellows for her research presentation, "Pacing-induced Cardiomyopathy," at the annual scientific session of the American College of Cardiology, Michigan Chapter, held in Traverse City. Dr Gupta's work was mentored by Dr. Karpawich.

**Kenneth Honn, Ph.D.**, distinguished professor of radiation oncology and pathology, was the chairman of the 9th international conference on Eicosanoids & Other Bioactive Lipids in Cancer, Inflammation and Related Diseases, held in San Francisco in September. The event hosted 1982 Nobel laureate, Dr. Bengt I. Samuelsson, who delivered the keynote address to an audience of 300 attendees. Dr. Honn is a founding scientist of the group that has been holding this conference biennially since its inception in 1989.

**Bhanu Jena, Ph.D.**, George E. Palade University Professor and distinguished professor in the WSU Department of Physiology, received the Sir Aaron Klug Distinguished Award Lecture from Mississippi State University for his pioneering discovery of the molecular machinery and mechanism of cell secretion. The award lecture was established in honor of Dr. Aaron Klug, a Nobel Prize-winner in chemistry, to recognize groundbreaking discoveries in molecular structure-function, both in biology and chemistry. He also received his sixth honorary doctorate degree, this time from Carol Davila University in Romania.

**Deepak Kamat M.D., Ph.D.**, professor of pediatrics, will serve as co-editor of a pediatrics textbook to be published by the American Academy of Pediatrics by 2007.

**Stephen Krawetz, Ph.D.**, Charlotte B. Failing Professor of Fetal Therapy and Diagnosis, had his research highlighted in an article called "The New Sperm" published in the *NRC HANDELSBLAD*, a Dutch newspaper.

**Ashok Kumar, Ph.D.**, a Wayne University researcher in the Department of Ophthalmology at the WSU Kresge Eye Institute, received a \$20,000 postdoctoral research award from Fight for Sight. Awards were selected by a prominent scientific panel chosen by the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology. Dr. Kumar is among the 10 individuals who received 2005-06 postdoctoral fellowship awards. The grant will fund the project on "Innate Immune Response of Corneal Epithelium to Candida Albicans Infection: Role of Toll-like Receptor Signaling." Dr. Kumar is a research fellow working in the laboratory of Dr. Fu-shin Yu, professor and director of research at Kresge Eye Institute and professor in the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology. Drs. Yu and Kumar recently described the role of Toll-like receptors in providing innate immunity against *Staphylococcus aureus* and HSV-1 infection in the cornea. Their findings appear in the journals *Microbes and Infection* and in *Immunology*.

**Sabeena Misra, M.D.**, internal medicine resident, won a third place research award at the American College of Physicians Michigan Chapter Scientific Meeting held in September. The presentation was "High Dose Folic Acid Supplementation Inhibits Recurrence of Colorectal Adenomas."

**Dorothy Nelson, Ph.D.**, professor of internal medicine, has been appointed assistant vice president for research compliance at Wayne State University.

**Sudha Reddy, M.D.**, a geriatrics fellow, received the 2005 Advancing Cancer Care in the Elderly Young Investigator Merit Award for her presentation, "Age-related Rise in Colorectal Adenomas is Associated with Increased Egf-receptor Expression," at the ACCE meeting late last year. The work has been selected for presentation at the International Society of Geriatric Oncology meeting in Switzerland as well. She also presented "Curcumin Sensitizes Human Colon Cancer Cells to ERFP-mediated Apoptosis" at the International Society of Gastrointestinal Oncology meeting. Dr. Adhip Majumdar, WSU professor of internal medicine, was the research mentor on this project.

**David Rosenberg, M.D.**, Miriam L. Hamburger Endowed Chair of Child Psychiatry, has been invited to chair and moderate a symposium titled "A Translational Approach to Neural System Abnormalities in Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder: From Structure to Function" at the Society of Biological Psychiatry's 61st annual Scientific Convention and Program in May 2006. The research involves several WSU students, residents and postdoctoral fellows and junior faculty that Dr. Rosenberg mentors. They are:

- **Dr. Kate Fitzgerald**, a former WSU medical student in Dr. Rosenberg's lab and now a child psychiatry fellow;
- **Dr. Andrew Gilbert**, a former WSU medical student in Dr. Rosenberg's lab and now a National Institute of Mental Health post-doctoral research fellow;
- **Dr. Philip Szeszko**, an assistant professor whom Dr. Rosenberg has mentored on his National Institutes of Health K23 Career Development Award in OCD; and
- **Dr. Paul Arnold**, a post-doctoral fellow and child psychiatrist whom Dr. Rosenberg mentors on several foundation grants, including those from the National Alliance for Schizophrenia and Affective Disorders and the Obsessive Compulsive Foundation.

**Mohamed Siddique, M.D.**, associate professor of internal medicine, was honored with a 2005 Laureate Award from the American College of Physicians, Michigan Chapter.

**Bonnie Sloane, Ph.D.**, professor and chair of pharmacology, was named co-investigator on a National Institutes of Health grant to develop a national resource for medical researchers on the way proteins behave. The grant, which establishes the Center on Proteolytic Pathways at The Burnham Institute, will consolidate all known and emerging knowledge into the Protease Pathway Integration Platform. Proteolysis, or how proteins break down, regulates the four fundamental aspects of cell behavior: division, death, differentiation and motility. Understanding this process is critical to designing new therapies based on promoting or inhibiting cellular behaviors. The principal investigator on the grant is Dr. Jeff Smith, who works with Dr. Sloane on her Breast Cancer Center of Excellence grant.

**Robert Swanborg, Ph.D.**, professor of immunology, presented "Regulation of Adaptive Immunity by Cells of the Innate Immune System: Bone Marrow Natural Killer Cells Inhibit T Cell Proliferation Via p21-mediated Cell Cycle Arrest" at the conference "Crossroads between innate and adaptive immunity," in Greece in October.

**Keqin Tang, M.D., Ph.D.**, assistant professor of radiation oncology, was honored with a Young Investigator's Award at the 9th international conference on Eicosanoids & Other Bioactive Lipids in Cancer, Inflammation and Related Diseases, held in San Francisco in September.

**Jane Thomas, Ph.D.**, former assistant dean for student affairs at the WSU School of Medicine, was awarded the Association of American Medical Colleges' Group on Student Affairs Exemplary Service Award. She is the third person to receive the honor, which "recognizes a current or former GSA representative who has demonstrated exemplary service to GSA."

**Julie Wright, M.D.**, internal medicine resident, won first place for her oral presentation-case report at the scientific meeting of the American College of Physicians, Michigan Chapter, held in September. Her presentation was titled "A Rare Case of Primary Mediastinal Non-semiautonomous Germ Cell Tumor Presenting with SVC Syndrome."

**Mark Zilberman, M.D.**, assistant professor of pediatrics in the WSU Division of Pediatric Cardiology, recently presented "Select Site Atrial Pacing in the Young: Optimizing Lead Position Using Electrocardiography and Tissue Doppler Indices," at the 2005 scientific session of the American Heart Association, in Dallas. The presentation was co-authored by Dr. Peter Karpawich, WSU professor of pediatrics, and published in the scientific journal *Circulation*.



# Honors and Achievements

## Scholars, teachers, students recognized

On December 1, 2005, excellence was applauded at the WSU School of Medicine's Honors Recognition Program. Leading teachers, researchers and students were noted for standing out in the crowd and putting forth extra effort in their careers. Congratulations to the following:

### Lifetime Awards

Samuel Brooks, Ph.D., Biochemistry  
John Phillis, Ph.D., Physiology  
David Fromm, M.D., Surgery  
Blaine White, M.D., Emergency Medicine  
Jerome Horwitz, Ph.D., Cancer Institute

### College Teaching Awards

Sharon Ackerman, Ph.D., Biochemistry  
Timothy Stemmler, Ph.D., Biochemistry  
Phillip Levy, M.D., Emergency Medicine  
Bruce Deschere, M.D., Family Medicine  
Richard Gallagher, Ph.D., Family Medicine  
Roy Sundick, Ph.D., Immunology/Microbiology  
Robert H. Swanborg, Ph.D., Immunology/Microbiology  
Nelia Afonso, MBChB, Internal Medicine  
George Alangaden, M.D., Internal Medicine  
Pranartharathi Chandrasekar, M.D., Internal Medicine  
Jonathan Cohn, M.D., Internal Medicine  
John Ensley, M.D., Internal  
Medicine/Otolaryngology/Cancer Institute  
Felix Fernandez-Madrid, M.D., Ph.D., Internal Medicine  
Joseph Fontana, M.D., Ph.D., Internal Medicine  
Shirish Gadgeel, M.D., Internal Medicine/Cancer Institute  
Raymond Hilu, M.D., Internal Medicine  
Dana Kissner, M.D., Internal Medicine  
Michael Kleerekoper, M.B.B.S., Internal  
Medicine/Obstetrics-Gynecology/Pathology  
LiLi, Ph.D., Internal Medicine/Center for Molecular  
Medicine & Genetics  
Tammy Lundstrom, M.D., Internal Medicine

Ramzi Mohammad, Ph.D., Internal Medicine  
Madhumita Mohanty-Jena, M.B.B.S., Internal Medicine  
Dorothy Nelson, Ph.D., Internal Medicine  
Noreen Rossi, M.D., Internal Medicine  
James Rowley, M.D., Internal Medicine  
Linea Rydstedt, M.D., Internal Medicine  
Louis Saravolatz, M.D., Internal Medicine  
Firdous Siddiqui, M.B.B.S., Internal Medicine  
Dale Sillix, M.D., Internal Medicine  
Joel Steinberg, M.D., Internal Medicine  
Deepak Thatai, M.D., Internal Medicine  
Martin Tobi, M.D., Internal Medicine  
Jeffery Zonder, M.D., Internal Medicine/Cancer Institute  
Jagdish Shah, M.B.B.S., Neurology  
Renee Bailey Van Stavern, M.D., Neurology  
Gregory Van Stavern, M.D., Ophthalmology/Neurology  
Raja Rabah, M.D., Pathology  
Richard VanderHeide, M.D., Ph.D.  
Jeff Clark, M.D., Pediatrics  
Thomas Forbes, M.D., Pediatrics  
Sabrina Heidemann, M.D., Pediatrics  
Abubakr Imam M.D., M.B.B.S., Pediatrics  
Nadya Kazzi, M.D., Pediatrics  
Sharon Marshall, M.D., Pediatrics  
Kathleen Meert, M.D., Pediatrics  
Michael D. Pettersen, M.D., Pediatrics  
Ashok Sarnaik, M.D., Pediatrics  
Lynn Smitherman, M.D., Pediatrics  
Rosemary Shy, M.D., Pediatrics  
Ronald Thomas, M.D., Pediatrics  
Rudolph Valentini, M.D., Pediatrics  
Nicholas Davis, Ph.D., Pharmacology  
Stanley Terlecky, Ph.D., Pharmacology  
Arthur Robin, Ph.D., Psychiatry/Pediatrics  
David Lawson, Ph.D., Physiology  
James Rillema, Ph.D., Physiology  
Debra Skafar, Ph.D., Physiology

### Academic Teaching Awards

James Tybursky, Ph.D., Staff Award  
James Hazlett, Ph.D., Lamp Award

### Trillion Award

Samuel Brooks, Ph.D., Biochemistry

### Research Excellence Awards

Russell Finley, Ph.D., Center for Molecular Medicine and  
Genetics/Biochemistry and Molecular Biology  
Sandra Jacobson, Ph.D., Psychiatry and Behavioral  
Neurosciences  
Jun Li, M.D., Ph.D., Neurology  
Dezhong Liao, M.D., Ph.D., Pathology/Cancer Institute  
Jason Mateika, Ph.D., Internal Medicine/Physiology  
Larry Matherly, Ph.D., Cancer Institute/Pharmacology

### Academic Achievement Awards

Class of 2006: Rachel Friedman and Jessica Liggitt  
Class of 2007: Mohamad Kenaan  
Class of 2008: Lauren Sheill

### Graduate Students Academic and Research Awards 2005

Rania Abu-HaM.D.ah, Physiology  
Thomas Beaumont, Molecular Biology and Genetics  
Aviva Fridman, Cancer Biology  
Sriram Krishnamoorthy, Cancer Biology  
David Krolewski, Anatomy and Cell Biology  
Kristin R. Landis-Piwowar, Cancer Biology  
Jaron Lockett, Pathology  
Guy M. Lenk, Molecular Biology and Genetics  
Rui Martins, Molecular Biology and Genetics  
Stefanie Roshy Mullins, Cancer Biology  
Ramaswamy Sharma, Molecular Biology and Genetics  
Beimeng Sun, Ph.D., Pharmacology  
Prachi Trivedi, Immunology/Microbiology

## CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

For more information please call Wayne State University's Division of Continuing Medical Education at (313) 577-1180.

### 30th Medicolegal Investigation of Death

April 26-28, 2006  
The Dearborn Inn  
Dearborn, Mich.

### Advanced Regional Anesthesia 2006

May 5-7, 2006  
The Courtyard Marriott & Scott Hall (WSU)  
Detroit

### 19th Annual Issues in Aging

May 15-16, 2006  
Troy Management Center  
Troy, Mich.

### 18th Annual Great Lakes Family Medicine Update

June 5-9, 2006  
Bps Corporate Training and Conference Center  
Beverly Hills, Mich.

### 6th Annual Update in Internal Medicine

July 28-30, 2006  
The Inn at Bay Harbor  
Bay Harbor, Mich.

### 2nd Annual Update in Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine

August 11-13, 2006  
Boyne Mountain  
Boyne Falls, Mich.

### 7th Annual Norman N. Krieger, M.D., Lecture in Geriatric Medicine

November 1, 2006  
Sheraton Detroit Novi  
Novi, Mich.

### Medicolegal Investigation of Death

November 29-December 1, 2006  
Mandalay Bay Resort & Casino  
Las Vegas



# alumni

## notes

Winter 2006

Volume 17, No. 1

## WSU alumni elected to Institute of Medicine

Two Wayne State University alumni were named to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences. Michael Fleming, M.D., '74, and Gerald Shulman, M.D., Ph.D., '79, have been elected to an elite group of fewer than 1,500 scholars and scientists who are recognized as among the most distinguished in the country. Drs. Fleming and Shulman are two of 64 new members this year.

Dr. Fleming is professor and director of research in family medicine at the University of Wisconsin Medical School. His research and advocacy relate to substance abuse screening and treatment in the primary care office. He has built a substantial federally funded clinical research program in primary care and has distinguished himself in the field of alcohol and addiction. He has consulted on research projects with WSU's own Dr. Robert Sokol, distinguished professor of obstetrics and gynecology and director of the C.S. Mott Center for Human Growth and Development, who said of Dr. Fleming, "He's first rate and has made seminal contributions in the field of brief intervention for behavioral modification. His work is creative and has now been replicated by others. He more than deserves this honor."

Dr. Fleming recalls his training days at Detroit General Hospital that were "filled with wonder and awe." He said, "I mostly remember the chaos on a busy night with so many sick patients and so much going on at the same time, but also the sense that patients were getting good care and the residents and staff were inspiring. It was really an amazing place to be a medical student. Wayne State taught me to be curious, to ask questions, to base my patient decisions on the evidence, to be skeptical of new treatments until the science was strong. This curiosity and the need to know is what led me to my career as a physician-scientist and led me to the Institute of Medicine."

Dr. Gerald Shulman, who earned both his medical and doctoral degrees at WSU, is now a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator and also a professor of medicine and cellular and molecular physiology at Yale. He has distinguished himself in the field of diabetes and obesity and in particular has utilized nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy (NMR) to demonstrate molecular predictors of insulin resistance and to examine molecular effects of a variety of therapeutic approaches to diabetes.

For example, his research indicates that a decreased ability to burn sugars and fats efficiently is an early and central part of the diabetes problem, and that elderly people may develop insulin resistance because "power plants" in their muscle cells decline or fail with age. Because diabetes and obesity are major problems in our country, Dr. Shulman's



Dr. Fleming



Dr. Shulman

line of work has huge implications for public health.

Membership in the Institute of Medicine is both an honor and an obligation to work on a broad range of studies related to health policy issues. Members contribute their knowledge and professional judgment to the formulation of public policy recommendations.

Drs. Fleming and Shulman now join WSU faculty members Blaine White, M.D., and Charles Schuster, Ph.D., who are also members of the Institute of Medicine.

Established in 1970 as a unit of the National Academy of Sciences, the Institute of Medicine is concerned with the protection and advancement of the health professions and sciences, the promotion of research and development pertinent to health, and the improvement of health care. The National Academies are comprised of: the National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, Institute of Medicine, and National Research Council.

**Membership in the Institute of Medicine is both an honor and an obligation to work on a broad range of studies related to health policy issues.**

**Members contribute their knowledge and professional judgment to the formulation of public policy recommendations.**

## Inside



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Telefund goes live



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Dr. Dulchavsky's  
traveling ultrasound



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Class notes

## Approaching \$600,000 Telefund goal

More than 100 students, alumni, faculty and staff kicked off the 33rd annual Alumni Telefund in October and ran through November, raising money for the Alumni Annual Fund.

The fund supports student scholarships, fellowships, advanced research and educational programs.

"This is a great opportunity for us to come together for a great common goal," said Jason Rodney, '07, one of more than 50 students who volunteered to make calls.

In addition to raising \$449,456, it also provided a chance for alumni to chat with today's students. The program also engendered some healthy fundraising competition among the callers.

"We're each trying to raise more than the students next to us," said Mark Juska, '07.

Most important, it allows students who receive scholarships to champion more support for others to follow.

"The alumni association does so much for the students. Many of us wouldn't be here without the scholarships," said Millicent Traylor, '07.



Millicent Traylor solicits support for student scholarships.



Ariel Majhoo, '07, and Carl Lauter, M.D., '65, celebrate a successful fundraising session.

### Telefund student volunteer winners

#### GREATEST DOLLAR TOTAL RAISED

**First Place:** Millicent Traylor (\$11,700): Complimentary evening at the Hotel Pontchartrain and two tickets to the Freedom Festival Fireworks event hosted by the WSU Medical Alumni Association.

**Second Place:** Herman Kado (\$10,175): "Chef's table" dinner for two at Crumpets at the Somerset Inn.

**Third Place:** Kianoosh Fallahi (\$9,900): Lunch for two at the Rattlesnake Club.

#### MOST PLEDGES

**First Place:** Jasmine Oliver (38 pledges): Evening at Omni Detroit Hotel River Place.

**Second Place:** Lindsay Smania (26 pledges): \$50 Target gift card.

#### LARGEST SINGLE GIFT

Stephanie Diamond (\$1,000): Dinner for two at Majestic Café, two tickets to the Fisher Theater and complimentary shuttle service.

#### MOST HOURS VOLUNTEERED

Lindsay Smania, Tim Liao and Chad Coe: Brunch for two at the Whitney Restaurant.

#### RAFFLE WINNERS

Ariadne Lie: Detroit Red Wings 2001-2002 Stanley Cup Champions Photo (8x10).

Nena Stanley: Individual-plus-membership for the Detroit Historical Society.

Alexander Stoffan: \$30 AMC Movie Theatre entertainment card.

Joe Seymour: \$25 Blockbuster video gift card.

Aashish Shah, Cherie Phillips, Leo Lamsen, Judy Borovicka, Sharief Taraman: \$10 Starbuck gift card.



Students hit the phones for WSU support.

**alum**notes

alum notes is published quarterly for the faculty, staff, students and alumni of the Wayne State University School of Medicine. Your comments, suggestions and submissions are encouraged.

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Alumni Officer, Alumni Affairs  
Lisa Ramos  
lramos@med.wayne.edu

## Psychiatry establishes annual educational forum

Kicking off what organizers promise to be an annual event, the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences hosted its first Psychiatry Alumni Educational Symposium in October.

It was held at the Eugene Applebaum School of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. Topics ranged from schizophrenia to obsessive-compulsive disorder to substance abuse.

With strong research and funding, Wayne State University is emerging as a frontrunner in the field of neurosciences. The forum welcomes faculty and alumni to work collaboratively and celebrate the number of psychiatrists, psychologists and social workers trained within the department who are providing exceptional clinical care throughout Michigan.



**Drs. David Rosenberg and Samuel Gershon among the celebrated presenters.**



**Manuel Tancer, M.D., (right) presents Joseph Fischhoff, M.D., with the first Annual Joseph Fischhoff Distinguished Service Award.**

## Statewide alums connect at MSMS meeting



**Drs. Taylor Lewis, '78, Paul Chuba, '92, and Louis Hoffman, '50**



**Rhonda and Dr. Charles Main, '64**

Wayne State University alumni were well represented at the Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS) reception on October 26. Dr. Paul Chuba, president of the Wayne State University School of Medicine Alumni Association, welcomed doctors with WSU roots. Dr. Maryjean Schenk presented an insightful state-of-the-school update.

The MSMS mission is to promote a health care environment that supports physicians in caring for and enhancing the health of Michigan's citizens through science, quality and ethics in the practice of medicine. Some 14,000 physicians Michigan are members.

## WSU presence is strong in Grand Rapids

Did you know that Grand Rapids, Mich., has more than 600 alumni from the Wayne State University School of Medicine?

With such a strong WSU concentration, an alumni reception was held in the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park in the midst of tranquil botanical gardens and artistic sculptures. Alumni reunited and reminisced at a great venue, proving once again how well alumni serve patients throughout the state of Michigan.



**Sharon Ottens and Henry Ottens, M.D., '68**

## 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.

**Martin Strand, M.D., '40**  
**Malcolm Kelson, M.D., '43**  
**Edward Kowaleski, M.D., '45**  
**Stanley Barton, M.D., '46**  
**Robert Class, M.D., '46**  
**John Corbett, M.D., '51**  
**Frank Bredau, M.D., '52**  
**James Watson, M.D., '54**  
**R. John Bradfield, M.D., '62**  
**Ira Gordon, M.D., '73**

**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, 6F University Health Center, 4201 St. Antoine, Detroit, MI 48201or, via e-mail, to: [alumni@med.wayne.edu](mailto:alumni@med.wayne.edu).

## Alumni gather at AAMC meeting

Wayne State University School of Medicine faculty and alumni gathered at the annual meeting of the Association of American Medical Colleges in Washington, D.C., to enjoy company and share ideas on growing research and education at the school. Interim Dean Dr. Robert Frank hosted an alumni dinner and cocktail reception on behalf of the School of Medicine.



Interim Dean Robert Frank, M.D., '73, and Wayne State University President Irvin Reid, Ph.D.



Assistant Dean of Academic and Student Programs Matt Jackson, Ph.D., and Assistant Dean of Continuing Medical Education David Pieper, Ph.D.



Robert Levine, M.D., '68, Chef Michelle Bommarito and her younger sister

## Alums get cooking

Thirty-five WSU alumni enjoyed an informative private cooking lesson and scrumptious results with Chef Michelle Bommarito, a culinary artist who has been featured on the Food Network.

"Life is too short to have to suffer through a bad meal. For those of you who have sampled Michelle's cooking, you will never again have to suffer," said Dr. Robert Levine from the class of 1968 who served as Chef Bommarito's assistant.

Guests created butternut squash soup with cinnamon sugared croutons, Sicilian breaded chicken with fig and golden raisin chutney, toasted basmati rice, ginger infused carrots and rutabaga, and rich chocolate lava cake with candied walnuts.

Organized by Linda Ditkoff, Renee Dwaihy, M.D., '00, and Jain Lauter, the event was held at Specialties Showroom in Berkley, Mich.

Bommarito says her philosophy is: "Tell me, I may forget. Show me, I may remember. Involve me, I will understand."

## UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS/MEETINGS

### March 3, 2006

Department of Dermatology Alumni Reception  
San Francisco

### March 24, 2006

Department of Orthopedic Surgery Alumni Reception  
The 410 Club  
Chicago

### March 26, 2006

Detroit Pistons vs. New Jersey Nets  
Palace of Auburn Hills  
50 tickets available

### April 28, 2006

Spring Fling  
Scott Hall Cafeteria  
WSU, Detroit

### May 8, 2006

Department of OB-GYN Alumni Reception  
Washington, D.C.

### May 13, 2006

Medical Alumni Reunion and Clinic Day  
Scott Hall: 8 a.m.-3 p.m.  
Somerset Inn, Troy, Mich.: 5:30-11 p.m.

### June 2006

13th Annual Alumni Fireworks Event  
Hotel Pontchartrain  
Detroit

### August 5, 2006

Family Day  
Scott Hall  
WSU, Detroit

### September 2006

Department of Internal Medicine Alumni Reception  
Grand Traverse Resort  
Acme, Mich.

For more information about upcoming events, please contact Sue Helderop at (313) 993-4179 or e-mail: [sheldero@med.wayne.edu](mailto:sheldero@med.wayne.edu)



Millicent Traylor, '07, Lindsay Smania, '06, Saba Maroof, '07, and Christina DeSousa, '06

## Class Notes

**1953**

**Dwight Slater, M.D.**, retired in the Upper Peninsula in 1992, after 40 years in Africa (Congo and Ivory Coast).

**1958**

**Marshall Blondy, M.D.**, was named pediatrician of the year for 2004 by the Michigan Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

**1962**

**Michael J. Geoghegan, M.D.**, was elected to chair a new physician advisory group for the orthopedic service line at Oakwood Hospital in Dearborn, Mich.

**1962**

**Eugene Gelzayd, M.D.**, was named by *Hour Detroit* magazine as one of Detroit's Top Docs 2005 in gastroenterology.

**Clare Johnson, M.D.**, was appointed president of the Oakland County Medical Society for the 2005-2006 term.

**1969**

**Lawrence Brilliant, M.D.**, was honored with a Community Peacemaker Award from the Wayne State University Center for Peace and Conflict Studies. The award honors those who have made a difference for peace and social understanding.

**1974**

**George Shade, Jr., M.D.**, was appointed vice president of medical affairs at Sinai-Grace Hospital. Dr. Shade will lead the affairs of the medical staff, including monitoring and ensuring quality of care and acting as an intermediary between medical staff and the hospital. Additionally, Dr. Shade will provide administrative oversight of the off-site, hospital-based physician groups. He maintains his position as chief of the Sinai-Grace obstetrics and gynecology department and continues to see patients. Dr. Shade is an associate professor and full-time faculty member of the Wayne State University School of Medicine and national faculty member of the Women's Health Research Institute.

**1976**

**Ralph Edward DiLisio, M.D.**, moved to Santa Rosa, Calif. He is in private pulmonary and critical care practice and was appointed medical director for critical care and respiratory care at Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital/ Petaluma Valley Hospital.

**1979**

**Gene Pesola, M.D.**, associate attending in medicine (pulmonary/critical care medicine) at Harlem Hospital/Columbia University in New York City, was selected as one of America's Top Physicians for 2004-2005 by the Consumer Research Council of America.

**Marcus J. Zervos, M.D.**, has been appointed division head of Infectious Diseases at Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit. Dr. Zervos joins Henry Ford after serving as an infectious diseases consultant at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak.

**1980**

**Gail A. Abraham, M.D.**, joined the staff at St. Joseph's Mercy of Macomb, in Clinton Township, Mich., as a neonatal-perinatal medicine specialist.

**1983**

**Marc Feldman, M.D.**, joined the staff at St. Joseph's Mercy of Macomb in Clinton Township, Mich., as an internal medicine specialist board certified in geriatric medicine.

**Joseph Kaczor, M.D.**, and wife Shirley Dixon-Kaczor, M.D. (MSU, '84), welcomed their second daughter, Sophia Grace, on August 5, 2005. She joins older sister, Stephanie, age 2 1/2 yrs. Dr. Kaczor is practicing radiation oncology with West Texas Cancer Center in Odessa, Tex.

**1986**

**Carol van der Harst, M.D.**, was elected to the Michigan State Medical Society board of directors.

**1987**

**Bradford Gelzayd, M.D.**, was named by *Hour Detroit* magazine as one of Detroit's "Top Docs 2005" in hepatology. He also accepted preceptorship training for advanced inflammatory bowel disease with the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America.

**1990**

**Pat Friedli, M.D.**, is in family practice and is the medical director for Munson Medical Center's comprehensive weight management program.

**Randall Shoemaker, Ph.D., J.D.**, joined the law firm of Dickinson Wright PLLC to expand the firm's intellectual property practice. Dickinson Wright is now one of the largest full-service providers of intellectual property and patent services in the state. Dr. Shoemaker holds a Ph.D. in pharmacology from WSU and concentrates his practice in patent, copyright and trademark law. He has prepared and prosecuted patent and trademark applications, freedom to operate and infringement opinions worldwide covering a wide variety of technologies including: chemical inventions, especially polymer chemistry, biochemical applications, materials coating technology and processes, biotechnological applications, surgical and medical devices, food processing equipment and technology, and a wide variety of basic mechanical technologies. Dr. Shoemaker received his J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School in 1996 and his B.S. in biology from Calvin College in 1983. He is a member of the American Bar Association, State Bar of Michigan and the Michigan Intellectual Property Law Association.

**1993**

**Anil Gupta, M.D.**, joined the gastroenterology staff Oakwood Annapolis Hospital in Wayne, Mich.

**1995**

**Michael S. Euwema, M.D.**, recently returned from an eight-month deployment to Fallujah, Iraq, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. While away, his wife, Danielle, gave birth to his third child, a daughter named Haley. Currently stationed in Jacksonville, Fla., Dr. Euwema is an emergency physician who has been serving in the United States Navy for over 10 years. He plans to rejoin the "civilian" world next year.

**Hussein Huraibi, M.D.**, has joined the anesthesiology staff at Oakwood Annapolis Hospital in Wayne, Mich.

**1997**

**Shawn Tittle, M.D.**, finished a cardiothoracic surgery residency at Yale. He has stayed on as a faculty member there in cardiothoracic surgery, is an attending surgeon at the West Haven VA Hospital, and serves as director of thoracic surgery at Saint Mary's Hospital in Waterbury, Conn.

**1998**

**Lane Beatty, M.D.**, is medical director for the hospitalist program at Wentworth-Douglass Hospital in Dover, New Hampshire, and is "re-energized by the change." He completed an internal medicine residency at Henry Ford and did both inpatient and outpatient work concentrating on hospital medicine.

**2000**

**Fasahat Hamzavi, M.D.**, joined the dermatology staff at St. Joseph's Mercy of Macomb in Clinton Township, Mich.

**2002**

**Mariya V. Suchyta, M.D.**, is practicing at the Oakwood Healthcare Center in Dearborn Heights.



**Dr. Dulchavsky with an early version of a portable ultrasound machine.**

### **Dr. Dulchavsky aids athletes and astronauts**

Scott Dulchavsky, M.D., is taking his portable ultrasound invention on the road these days. This machinery, that can give instantaneous results regarding the severity of an injury, has made its way to Torino, Italy, for the 2006 Winter Olympics, and to the International Space Station.

As chair of the department of surgery at Henry Ford Hospital, Dr. Dulchavsky has always seen the value in a compact, portable ultrasound machine. His ingenuity allowed him to design a machine that can be used on-the-spot at sporting events and in space and to design a simplified training program that allows non-radiologists to assess and manage an emergency medical condition. It can diagnose injuries including: fractured bones, trauma to the shoulder or knee, collapsed lungs, hemorrhaging and atrophy of the muscles and bones.

Although he hasn't personally escorted the machine into space, he is accompanying it to the Olympics, where he will provide medical assistance to the women's hockey team. Additionally, Dr. Dulchavsky was honored by *Crain's Detroit Business* for "outstanding advancement in health care" for developing new uses for portable ultrasound machines.

Dr. Dulchavsky earned his medical degree from WSU in 1983 and his doctoral degree in 1997.



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6F University Health Center  
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Detroit, MI 48201

**Or call the Medical Alumni Affairs Office at 313 577-3587 to place your order**

## Send us your news

Let your classmates know what you've been doing.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

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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, 6F University Health Center, 4201 St. Antoine, Detroit, MI 48201  
**Or call toll-free:** (877) WSU-MED1, **Or email information to:** alumni@med.wayne.edu

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