

QUARTERLY

For Alumni and Friends of University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health

The Kleins have an

Eye on Beaver Dam



VOLUME 8
NUMBER 4
FALL 2006

QUARTERLY

The Magazine for Alumni and Friends of
the University of Wisconsin
School of Medicine and Public Health

EDITOR

Dian Land

ART DIRECTOR

Christine Klann

PHOTOGRAPHY

Todd Brown

Michael Lemberger

Jeff Miller

Tom McInville

Dan Sears

John Wingren

Doug Wollin

WISCONSIN MEDICAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Karen Peterson

EDITORIAL BOARD

Christopher Larson, MD '75, chair

Kathryn Budzak, MD '69

Russell Lewis, MD '41

Maureen Mullins, MD '79

Sandra Osborn, MD '70

Patrick Remington, MD '81, MPH

Wade Woelfe, MD '95

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

Robert Golden, MD

Dian Land

Sandra Osborn, MD '70

Karen Peterson

Kathleen O'Toole Smith

WISCONSIN MEDICAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2006-2007

Kathryn S. Budzak, MD '69

Philip Farrell, MD, PhD

Donn Fuhrmann, MD '76

Charles V. Ihle, MD '65

Susan Isensee, MD '83

Thomas Jackson, MD '67

Robert J. Jaeger, MD '71

John Kryger, MD '92

Christopher L. Larson, MD '75

Anne Liebeskind, MD '98

Johan A. Mathison, MD '61

William C. Nietert, MD '78

Donald Nowinski, MD '83

Sandra L. Osborn, MD '70

David C. Riese, MD '68

Paul Sienkiewicz, MD '79

Stephen Wagner, MD '98

Harvey M. Wichman, MD '65

Wade Woelfe, MD '95

Quarterly is published four times
a year by the Wisconsin Medical
Alumni Association (WMAA)
and the University of Wisconsin
School of Medicine and Public
Health.

For editorial information,
call (608) 263-9893.

For address corrections and to
reach the WMAA, call
(608) 263-4915.

Contents

Fall 2006

Volume 8, Number 4



4

Small Town, Big Impact

The people of Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, are helping SMPH researchers understand age-related eye diseases.



9

Reaching Out to Rural Regions

The school's new WARM program addresses the state's worsening physician workforce shortage.



18

Welcome to the Class of 2010

A new group of bright, involved medical students has arrived on campus. They are bonding in many ways.



35

Rhine River Cruise

Alumni enjoy spectacular scenery and reconnecting with each other on a WMAA-sponsored tour.

2

Dean's Message

3

President's Message

18

Student Life

28

Alumnus Profile: Christopher Graf, MD '54

31

Spotlight

34

Development News

35

Alumni Notebook

47

My Perspective

On the Cover: Ophthalmologists Barbara and Ronald Klein (standing in front of a projected healthy optic nerve) have studied age-related eye disease in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, for some 30 years.



Robert Golden, MD
Dean, UW School of Medicine
and Public Health
Vice Chancellor for Medical Affairs,
UW-Madison

You may have heard the joke about the pollster who approaches a person on the street and says he has two questions to ask. The first is, "What are the two most important problems facing society today?" After thinking about it a moment, the person answers, "I would say ignorance and apathy." The pollster then asks, "What should we do about that?" The person responds by saying, "I don't know and I don't care."

It's clear from the articles that appear in this issue of the *Quarterly* that activities and people at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) represent the polar opposite of ignorance and apathy. The stories illustrate that the SMPH is deeply committed to expanding new knowledge. It is also obvious that the school enthusiastically embraces the Wisconsin Idea.

The cover story on the Beaver Dam Eye Study is a wonderful example of the Wisconsin Idea in action. For nearly 30 years, ophthalmologists Ronald and Barbara Klein have attacked the lack of population-based information relating to critical eye diseases affecting millions

of people as they age. With the amazing involvement of the people of Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, the Kleins have made important new observations about these diseases at the same time as they have been improving the health of the community.

A story on the Wisconsin Academy of Rural Medicine (WARM) is another example of how the SMPH promotes the Wisconsin Idea. This new program, led passionately by Byron Crouse, is addressing in a very innovative way the problems of physician shortage and maldistribution that threaten our state and nation. Through the WARM program, the school is training the next generation of physicians who will be committed to overcoming healthcare disparities in the rural areas throughout the Badger State.

The Class of 2010 is filled with remarkably bright and eager young people—the very antithesis of ignorance and apathy. They come to us as stellar students with diverse backgrounds and interests who already have received recognition for their activities and accomplishments in many areas. We will take full advantage of their brightness

and eagerness to become doctors by teaching them to be life-long learners.

In the *Quarterly* alumni profile, you will read about Christopher Graf, a retired urologic surgeon whose devotion to sculpture has resulted in a spectacular collection of art on display right here in Wisconsin. Obviously this accomplished surgeon has had a joy for life that goes well beyond the OR. He's a living example of the important interplay between science and art—and the balance of professional and personal pursuits.

As you read the following pages, I think you will be as impressed as I am that the SMPH is making important contributions in many critical areas. Ignorance and apathy are not a part of our vocabulary here.

I have the distinction of being a member of two classes of our medical school. I received my MD degree with the Class of '70 and I was a mentor to the Class of '06. I learned a great deal with both classes—not only about medicine, but also about the incredible amount of energy and support it takes to transform eager students into physicians.

One important source of support and friendship is our Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association (WMAA). Its influence can be felt in many places. The WMAA is obvious on a quick trip to the candy bowl between classes, it provides lunch funds for special extra-curricular noon lectures and it supports TGs as well as formal parties. The WMAA can stimulate a student-alum conversation over a cup of coffee, offers students an opportunity to shadow an alum for hours or days and connects students exploring residency opportunities with alums away from Madison.

The years in medical school pass quickly and the student is soon a member of the WMAA. Our association continues the support and friendship after graduation,

enabling individual classes to meet regularly and all members to participate in regular events during Homecoming and Alumni Weekend as well as to receive personal and professional information in the *Quarterly*.

This past summer many alumni enjoyed a cruise on the Rhine River, which you can read about in these pages. A group of graduates, spouses, family and friends enjoyed 10 days of travel, continuing medical education (CME) and new experiences together. The trip was well managed, the CME was presented in a way that allowed everyone to learn and new and deeper friendships grew. We are exploring the possibility of another WMAA trip in 2008.

Another exploration the WMAA is undertaking is developing a new strategic plan. Much has changed since we wrote our last one: a research building containing gross anatomy facilities is under construction; a new dean, Robert Golden, who will continue the capable leadership of Philip Farrell in new areas and new directions, is now on board; and our school has a new name and expanded mission.

One change I've personally experienced relates to school-sponsored mentors. This change occurred with the completion of the Health Sciences Learning Center, which was planned so that the "learning community" concept could be incorporated into student life. Students remain part of their class but also are assigned to one of five learning communities, which they call houses. Each house has a physician and a staff mentor and in the future physicians in subspecialties may be recruited. An important aspect of the houses is that students will be able to more easily mentor each other as their experience and knowledge develop.

This academic year marks the WMAA's 50th Anniversary and it is obviously a time of celebrating the past and looking forward to the future.



Sandra Osborn, MD '70
WMAA President



Small Wisconsin Town, Large Worldwide Impact

by Sayward Proctor
and Dian Land

Take a walk down the main street of Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, and you will find a typical small, Midwestern town. Kids sit at their lemonade stands, families gather at the local park, life-long residents meet at the corner coffee shop and summer evenings on the porch swing provide the fondest memories.

But Beaver Dam is far from typical. Nearly one-third of the town's 15,169 residents participate in a landmark eye study that many scientists

around the world consider to be the gold standard. Barbara Klein, MD, MPH, and Ronald Klein, MD, MPH, professors of ophthalmology and visual sciences and faculty members in the Population Health Graduate Program at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH), introduced the unique study to the residents of this community in 1987. Since then, all eyes have been on Beaver Dam.

Funded by the National Eye Institute, the study strives

to evaluate the naturally occurring prevalence of eye diseases most often associated with aging—glaucoma, cataracts and macular degeneration—in a large segment of the population over time. Estimated by the National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research to represent \$68 billion in healthcare costs, these diseases are thought to affect some 38 million people in the United States alone, and often lead to blindness.

The commitment of the community has allowed

the Kleins, a husband and wife team, to make key observations about these critical eye diseases and to identify risk factors associated with them.

Building on these successes, the study has expanded over the years to include the Epidemiology of Hearing Loss Study and the Beaver Dam Offspring Study, both directed by Karen Cruickshanks, PhD, an SMPH professor of ophthalmology and visual sciences and of population health sciences.

"Beaver Dam residents are proud to be the center of this eye study and, therefore, are very diligent about coming to the exams."

When they first began their clinical practices, the Kleins saw patients with cataracts, glaucoma and macular degeneration but found very little existing information on how frequent the eye conditions were in the general population or what risk factors were associated with them.

"Mostly what we had was anecdotal clinical impressions, but very little that was population based," says Ronald Klein. This lack of information sparked a desire to design and conduct a study that would clarify how vision changes as people age, why some people acquire the conditions while others don't and what may make the problems arise in the first place and worsen with time.

The Kleins had already developed an interest in population-based studies. Barbara Klein worked with an eminent cardiovascular disease epidemiologist at the University of Miami. They both were trained in epidemiology while they earned master's degrees in public health from the



Emily Moore tested participant Gail Henschel (right), who is also a member of the Beaver Dam Study Advisory Board that provides important feedback to the researchers. Henschel's children are also involved.

University of North Carolina. In 1979, then firmly based at UW-Madison, the Kleins launched one of the first population-based eye studies in the country, the Wisconsin Epidemiologic Study of Diabetic Retinopathy (WESDR).

Their goal was to determine the prevalence and incidence of eye complications associated with diabetes, identify risk factors that may contribute to the development of these complications and examine healthcare delivery for people

with diabetes. Ronald Klein and a team of examiners traveled from Madison in a 40-foot van, stopping at 11 counties in southern Wisconsin to examine participants near their homes. The study, still ongoing, showed correlations between controlling blood sugar and a lowered risk of the incidence and progression of diabetic retinopathy and diabetic kidney disease.

In 1987, using much of what they learned from the WESDR, the Kleins began the Beaver Dam Eye

Study. They chose the town, located 47 miles northeast of Madison, for several reasons. It is representative of many other communities of similar size in terms of age, economic status and occupation distributions. It provides an optimal number of study participants and a relatively stable community with few people moving away.

According to Barbara Klein, Beaver Dam is ideal for this type of study because the residents' very high participation rates allow for population generalizations.

—Continued on next page

The data is rich. During the 5-, 10- and 15-year follow-up exams, more than 80 percent of the initial participants have been tested.

Medical Conditions and Other Factors Associated with Age-Related Eye Disease			
	CATARACT	MACULAR DEGENERATION	GLAUCOMA*
Family History	X	X	X
Age	X	X	X
High Blood Pressure		X	X
Diabetes	X		
Emphysema		X	
Gout	X	X	
Smoking	X	X	
Sunlight Exposure		X	
Ultraviolet-B Exposure	X		
* Glaucoma is relatively rare in Beaver Dam, so it has been difficult to find risk factors that are significant.			

"If you're only judging from what you see in nursing homes or from peoples' anecdotes, then you don't get a feeling for what it's like in the general population that is walking around," she says.

Between 1988 and 1990, the Kleins and their expanding research team surveyed most of the Beaver Dam residents over the telephone—contacting the rest by going door-to-door—and determined that 5,924 residents fell in the desired age range of 43 to 86 years of age. Ultimately, 4,926 people, or about 83 percent of the possible participants, agreed to be involved.

Strong community support has been essential to the study's success. "We got all of the doctors and eye care providers in town involved, and they were supportive, as were the civic organizations, which we talked to at great length," says Barbara

Klein. "We committed to giving participants and their physicians the results of individual eye exams as well as overall study findings before we published them."

The commitment individuals have made also has been invaluable. Gail Henschel, a participant in the study and member of the study advisory board, which provides important feedback to the researchers, sees how much the community embraces the effort.

"Beaver Dam residents are proud to be the center of this eye study and, therefore, are very diligent about coming to the exams," she says. "As a member of the advisory board, I feel privileged to bring the community's voice to the researchers and to know that the community-wide belief is that this study is a positive experience for the residents."

The researchers put Henschel and all of the participants through a comprehensive exam that typically takes one-and-a-half to two hours and consists of vision testing, an examination of the front and back portions of the eye and an evaluation for cataract and macular degeneration. Photographs are taken of the retina and lens. Researchers also take blood pressures, height, weight, waist and hip measurements.

"We ask people to bring in all of the prescription and over-the-counter medications they are taking. We line them all up, write down everything and then we start asking questions," says Barbara Klein.

The questions determine medical events—heart attack, stroke, cancer, hypertension, diabetes, kidney disease, thyroid problems, gout and arthritis—participants may

have experienced, while another set of inquiries aims to determine participants' exposures to smoking, drinking, physical activity, caffeine, sunshine, X-rays and blood pressure medications.

The same questioning, testing and measuring is repeated every five years, sometimes with additions to the examinations. The latest round was completed in 2005. Once all of the information for each round comes back to Madison, team members enter the data into the computer and examine the photos for the presence and severity of all of the eye conditions of interest.

The Kleins and their team of graders assess the eye images. Study statisticians then compare the data from one exam to the next, looking for patterns, associations and relationships suggesting factors that may cause or prevent disease. The data is rich, because during the 5-, 10- and 15-year follow-up exams, more than

80 percent of the initial participants have been tested.

The first information to come out of the Beaver Dam Eye Study indicated that cataracts and macular degeneration are more common than previously believed. Specifically, the prevalence observations showed a high frequency of age-related nuclear cataract, late age-related macular degeneration and visual impairment in people 75 years and older.

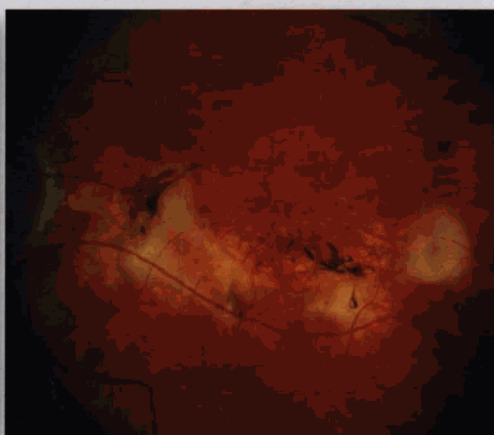
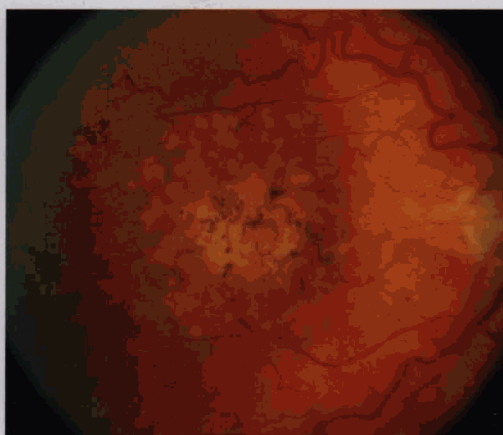
Following the prevalence study, the team of recruiters, coordinators, examiners, data monitors, photograph graders and analyzers has continued to collect and analyze data from the cohort. The work, described in more than 200 original publications, has led to the following key observations:

- Increased risk of falls and fractures is associated with diminished visual acuity
- Poorer vision is related to increased frailty in the elderly

- Cigarette smoking is linked with a higher incidence of age-related cataract and macular degeneration
- Hypertension is related to a higher incidence of age-related macular degeneration (ARM)
- Cataract surgery is associated with a higher incidence of late stage ARM
- Strong familial relationships exist for age-related cataract, macular degeneration and retinal blood vessel diameters
- Genetic factors are associated with cataract, glaucoma and ARM
- Use of statin drugs, usually prescribed for increased serum cholesterol, is related to a lower incidence of age-related nuclear sclerotic cataract

The importance of longitudinal data such as that acquired in the Beaver Dam Eye Study is very clear, say the Kleins, even though it requires a long-term commitment on the part

Many scientists around the world view the Kleins as pioneers, and have turned to them as collaborators who are more than willing to share their methods, experiences and expertise.



Retinal images show early (left) and advanced (right) stages of age-related macular degeneration.



Often seen walking on campus, the Kleins have devoted the bulk of their careers to studying eye disease in the adult population of Beaver Dam.

of investigators as well as participants.

"We knew at the beginning that to get the data regarding age-related macular degeneration, which is a slowly evolving condition that is uncommon in young people but very common in older people, we'd need at least 15 to 20 years to understand its natural history," says Barbara Klein. "In addition, some exposures, like the use of statins, were not widespread when we began this study, so we had to wait until there were enough

people taking the drugs and enough people getting cataracts before we could see any effects."

Although a number of important observations have been made through the Beaver Dam Eye Study, the Kleins are quick to underscore the fact that theirs is observational data. "The data give us important clues to the possible risk factors for eye disease, but need to be replicated in other studies," says Ronald Klein.

In fact, many studies in the United States and other

countries have replicated the Beaver Dam Eye Study findings. Furthermore, epidemiologists from Holland, Australia and Denmark have modeled their research programs after Beaver Dam, and scientists in Los Angeles have used the same protocols developed by the Kleins to investigate vision loss in minority populations. Many of the scientists view the Kleins as pioneers, and have turned to them as collaborators who are more than willing to share their methods, experiences and expertise.

Locally, Cruickshanks has directed the Epidemiology of Hearing Loss Study (EHLS), an offshoot of the eye study involving the same cohort of participants, for the past 13 years. Funded by the National Institute on Aging, EHLS studies not just hearing, but also olfaction, cognition, reported physical function and quality-of-life.

The examinations include a hearing test, assessment of middle-ear functioning, a hearing-related health history questionnaire, quality of life and physical ability measures, a carotid artery ultrasound and olfaction testing. Blood samples are also collected to determine blood sugar and cholesterol levels. Comparisons over time have revealed that age-related hearing loss may be associated with a family

history of hearing loss, being male, having atherosclerosis or diabetes, smoking, obesity and head injury.

Cruickshanks also directs the Beaver Dam Offspring Study (BOSS), which investigates vision, hearing, olfaction, taste and vascular health on a multi-generational level. Henschel's eldest daughter was one of the first participants examined in BOSS, and three of her other children are also involved.

"The longevity of all the Beaver Dam studies is due to the examiners and researchers who go out of their way to be friendly, accommodating and provide us with easy to understand results," says Henschel. "These factors made me very comfortable when I was encouraging my children to participate."

Beaver Dam is many things. It is the source of a wealth of important information on age-related eye diseases, an example of a highly unusual collaboration between a community and a team of university researchers, an inspiring tale of thousands of townspeople who have selflessly committed to advancing science and improving healthcare and the place to which Ronald and Barbara Klein have devoted the bulk of their academic careers. Beaver Dam is a small town making Wisconsin proud.

Q

Reaching Out to Rural Regions

New MD Program Aims to Address Shortages

by Dian Land

The University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) is creating a new medical degree program aimed at addressing the serious shortage of physicians in rural areas of the state—a problem that, according

to most experts, will only worsen over time. The Wisconsin Academy for Rural Medicine, or WARM, will be a four-year curriculum that parallels the standard MD curriculum, but with a distinctly rural emphasis—from the admissions process through residency placement.

The first class of the new program, spearheaded by Byron Crouse, MD, the school's associate dean for rural and community health, will matriculate in fall 2007. Five students will be admitted that year with five more each of the following four years for a total of 25 by 2015.

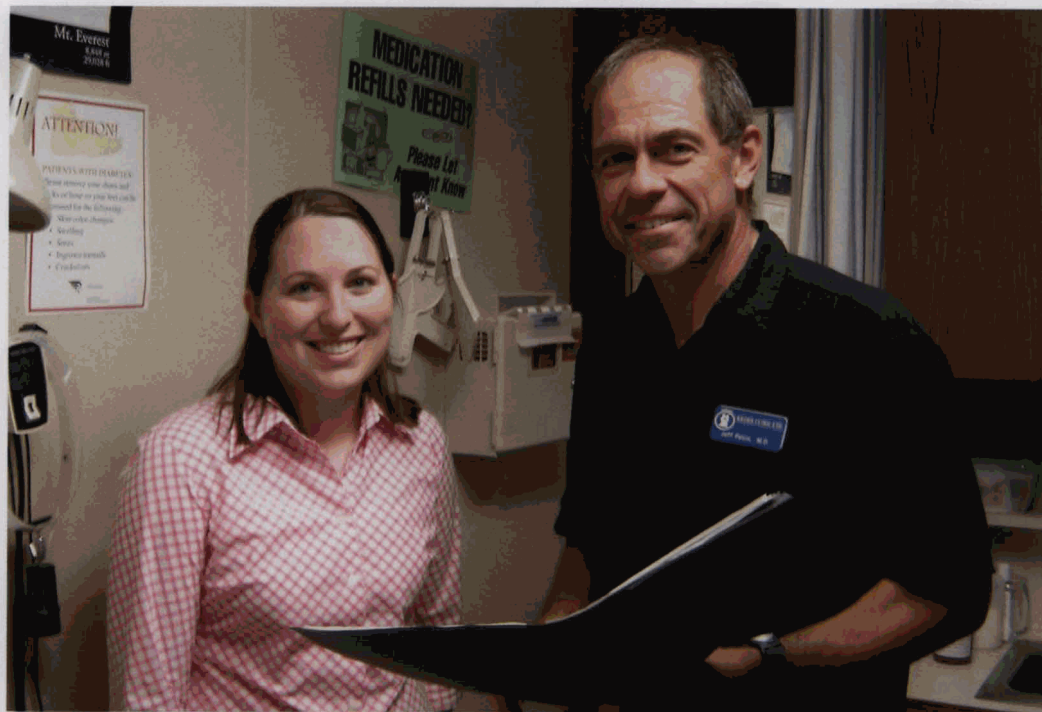
—Continued on next page

“WARM is very student-centered. It is innovative among the growing number of similar programs in that it lays the foundation for work in multiple specialty areas, not just primary care medicine.”

Students specially selected for the WARM program—qualified applicants who have indicated an affinity for rural medicine—will find that the first two years of the program are much the same as the regular curriculum, but they will be encouraged to concentrate on rural medicine-related electives.

WARM educators also will strive to ensure that Med 1 and 2 students do their local initial clinical experiences, which are part of the Generalist Partners Program within the Patient, Doctor and Society course, in smaller agrarian communities close to Madison. Activities in the popular Rural Medicine Interest Group, which students have created, also will be expanded.

The most extensive curricular changes will occur in years three and four, when almost all of the student clinical experiences will take place within a network of rural training sites that the school has built across the state.



Fourth-year medical student Erin Kimball has found her longitudinal rotation in rural medicine with Jeff Polzin, MD, at the Krohn Clinic in Black River Falls, Wisconsin, to be a great educational experience.

With the current curriculum, all Med 3s and 4s participate at one time or another at one of the school's regional campuses, averaging 16 weeks away from Madison in those two years. With WARM, students will be firmly based, for example, in Marshfield, but may possibly spend a block of time at a tertiary-care center in Madison for an occasional rotation in a specialized area, depending on their interests.

“WARM, which is very student-centered, is innovative among the growing number of similar programs in that it lays the foundation for work in multiple specialty areas, not just primary care medicine,”

Crouse stresses. “The result following residency will be well-prepared physicians with a variety of clinical skills who want to live and practice in towns such as Wild Rose, Clinton or Hayward.”

Crouse expects interest in the program to be strong. The school recently created a longitudinal rotation in rural medicine in which a handful of Med 3s and 4s live and train in a rural community for five months. The response to it has been positive.

“This rotation has served as a pilot program of sorts for WARM,” Crouse says. “It has shown us areas we need to strengthen and, overall, has proven to us that an extended period in a rural area can be

appealing to many students. It tells us that the WARM program can be a viable, quality experience.”

Fourth-year SMPH student Erin Kimball eagerly signed on for the rotation. Kimball grew up in City Point, a township of around 250 people in central Wisconsin, where the nearest gas station was 15 miles away and the closest school was 20 miles from her home. “Four generations of my family have lived there,” she says. “It was a terrific place to grow up. I learned a lot about being part of a community and taking care of people there.”

In her rotation, Kimball has been working at Krohn Clinic in Black River Falls, a

town of 3,800 people in west central Wisconsin, for the past several months. As the major outpatient healthcare center for Jackson County, the clinic is staffed by family practitioners, a general surgeon and a psychiatrist.

With Jeff Polzin, MD, as her primary contact, Kimball works mainly with the family practitioners but did spend a month working with the general surgeon. She also works several evenings a week and every other weekend in the emergency department, which is staffed by family practitioners.

"Educationally, it's a great experience. The doctors are more than willing to teach and to answer questions. There are times that, even when I am working with someone else, they will seek me out to show me an interesting case or to have me help with a procedure," she says. "I am given a lot of responsibility. For example, in the emergency room, I am responsible for admitting patients to the hospital. I write the orders, call the

"I have learned so much about clinical decision making and have gained a lot of confidence. I've also learned more about the art of medicine here than anywhere else."

Task Force Calls for Expanding Students' Clinical Learning Experiences with Underserved Populations

Like most states, Wisconsin is burdened by a shortage of physicians in many areas. The result is pockets of people lacking adequate healthcare in inner-city Milwaukee, in predominantly Hmong communities near La Crosse and on tribal reservations, among other locations.

According to Byron Crouse, MD, associate dean for rural and community health, the SMPH is building an educational portfolio that attempts to embrace all of these—an array of clinical learning experiences in underserved rural, urban and even affluent areas. By doing this, the school is dealing with two important, related issues: enhancing its medical curriculum to train culturally-competent providers as well as addressing statewide health needs.

The SMPH has a rich history of offering students clinical opportunities with diverse and underserved communities in Wisconsin. For example, the school has offered fourth-year students a yearlong rotation at its Milwaukee Clinical Campus for decades. Working alongside providers at Walker's Point and other clinics, students are immersed in the clinical care of underserved patients within the predominantly African American and Latino communities nearby (see Fall '03 *Quarterly*).

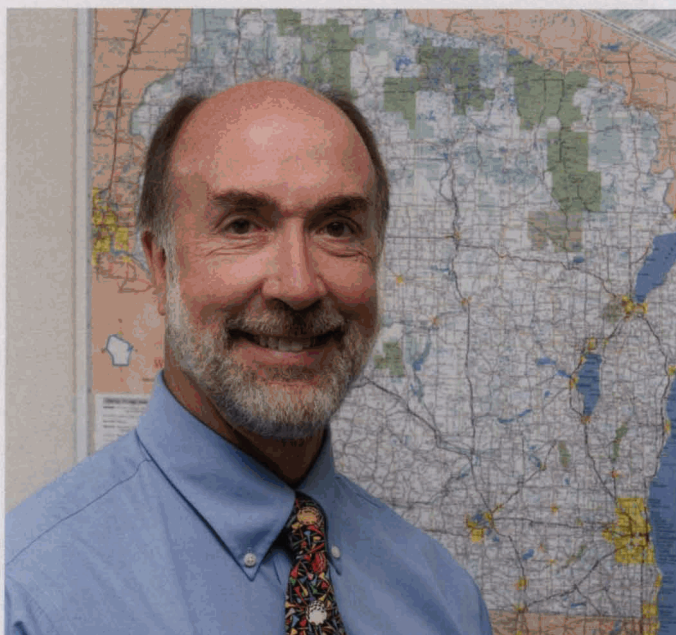
The SMPH recently commissioned a task force to examine all medical student learning experiences with underserved populations. Chaired by Ann Ruscher, MD, professor of anesthesiology, and Robert Fillingame, PhD, professor of biomolecular chemistry, the task force reported that the school must build on its successes at offering students community-based learning experiences.

Specifically, the report called on the school to:

- Introduce students early in the curriculum to material that is relevant to developing cultural competence and understanding health systems
- Create faculty development programs ensuring student learning experiences that include encounters with underserved patients in clinical situations not dedicated to underserved populations
- Document student exposure to underserved populations, making sure that students have an opportunity to reflect on the experience
- Maximize opportunities for students with special interests in underserved populations
- Recognize students and faculty who make outstanding contributions in the areas of care of the underserved and culturally sensitive care
- Ensure that SMPH graduates are able to demonstrate knowledge of healthcare systems, disparities and cultural issues in healthcare at the time of graduation
- Use community partnerships in developing both objectives and curricula regarding underserved populations

"The bottom line is that we want to train students to work in all practice environments," says Crouse. "We want them to help eliminate healthcare disparities in Wisconsin."

"The support of the Wisconsin Partnership Program has been invaluable to the progress we are making with WARM," Crouse says.



Expecting that the SMPH could take a lead role in addressing the state physician shortage, Crouse began working on WARM several years ago.

patient's attending physician to discuss the case and then dictate the admission history and physical. This was hard at first, but I have always had great help from the doctors. I've learned so much about clinical decision making and have gained a lot of confidence. I've also learned more about the art of medicine here than anywhere else."

Kimball has found learning about the whole spectrum of patient care to be rewarding. "I enjoy the challenge of diagnosis, but it goes beyond that. Can we admit them here? Do we need to transfer them? By ambulance? By helicopter? Can we send them home? How far away do they live? These are all questions that need to be considered,"

she says. "Also when you don't have every imaging study or laboratory test available at your finger tips, it makes you consider what is really necessary."

There have been bumps in the road for Kimball. "During my third year in Madison, I worked with other medical students and residents on a daily basis, and I really miss those social contacts," she says. "During the first two months of this rotation, fellow medical students Jenny Wipperman in Mauston, Nadine Nixon in Prairie du Chien and I would meet weekly to discuss cases, which was a great outlet."

As for her future, Kimball is applying to residency programs, looking at traditional family practice

programs that have at least a partial rural focus.

"I do think that I will practice in a rural area someday. Partly because I feel strongly about providing quality and accessible healthcare to rural America and partly because I want to live and work in a small farming community in the Midwest," she says. "Am I sure that I will practice full-spectrum traditional family practice for the rest of my career? Not at all. There are many areas of medicine that I am interested in and hopefully I'll be able to explore them all. Rural communities need physicians with all kinds of specialties."

Before joining the SMPH in 2001, Crouse, a national leader in rural medicine, helped create the rural health school at the University of Minnesota in Duluth and was integrally involved in the Rural Physician Associate Program there. The WARM program will be similar to the Minnesota program and others that are sprouting up across the country in response to a growing concern that healthcare needs in rural areas will be woefully under-met with each coming year.

Crouse points to abundant data—from the Institute of Medicine to the American Association of Medical Colleges to the Wisconsin Medical Society and Wisconsin Hospital

Association—documenting physician workforce shortages and a predicted worsening of the problem. The statistics are grim. Approximately 33 percent of the Wisconsin population lives in rural areas, yet only 11 percent of Wisconsin physicians practice in those areas. Eighty-three percent of Wisconsin counties are designated as totally or partially underserved, and 77 percent of the underserved counties are rural.

“The state and national shortages of rural physicians are projected to increase,” Crouse says. “As current rural physicians retire and the population ages, there will be an even greater need for more physicians. What’s more, the literature shows us that rural citizens are generally sicker, poorer, older and more likely to be uninsured.”

Anticipating that the SMPH could take a lead role in addressing the problem in Wisconsin, Crouse began several years ago to plan the program. Support from the Wisconsin Partnership Program (WPP) has helped in a critical way to advance the planning.

“We benefited from a community application through the Rural Health Development Cooperative for an Oversight and Advisory Committee planning grant,” he says. “We then took the lessons we are learning from that and won funding from the Medical Education

and Research Committee for a detailed planning and implementation grant for WARM. This support has been invaluable to the progress we are making.”

The WARM program clearly meshes well with the goal of the WPP, Crouse notes, which is to improve health and healthcare in every corner of the state through new and existing partnerships. WARM builds extensively on partnerships the SMPH has nurtured for years.

“Our clinical campuses in Marshfield and La Crosse will serve as regional centers, as will Green Bay,” he says. “Administrators at each of these centers have committed to the program and have identified many clinics in rural communities where WARM students will spend years three and four.”

The 35 physicians who currently volunteer in the school’s long-running Preceptorship Program will also play a crucial role in WARM. Since 1926, these volunteer doctors have opened their offices and practices scattered throughout the Badger State to fourth-year medical students in the required six- to eight-week preceptorships.

“Our preceptors are so passionate about their communities and their work in them—that passion is contagious,” says Crouse. “Experiences with preceptors

can redirect where students end up practicing.”

The inspiration of passionate mentors notwithstanding, Crouse and other experts know that it is essential to immerse students in rural communities in order for them to experience the richness of life in a small town. “It’s not just the educational experience that’s necessary, it’s also the social acculturation,” he says. “By having students live in rural communities, they see the quality of life that can be so desirable.”

WARM administrators will recruit prospective medical students from rural towns throughout Wisconsin.

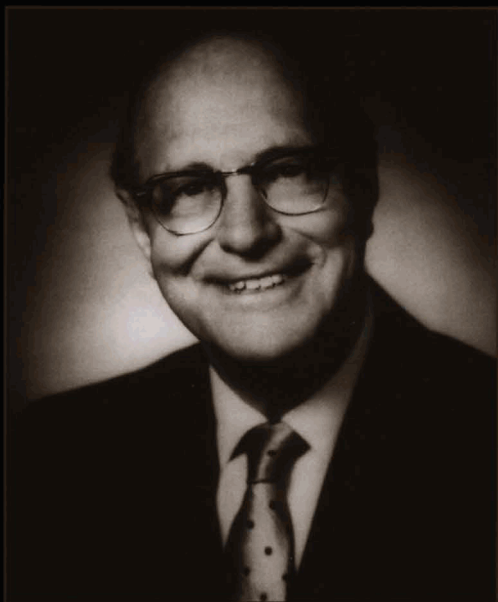
“Evidence suggests that a powerful correlation exists between having a rural background and experience and choosing a future practice in rural medicine,” Crouse says. “However, we also know that living and learning in a rural community can be a life-changing experience even for students who may not have been drawn originally to rural training.”

Crouse expects that WARM students will create an environment that other students in the traditional curriculum will also find intriguing and stimulating. “We want to open other students’ eyes to the opportunities of a rural practice,” he says.

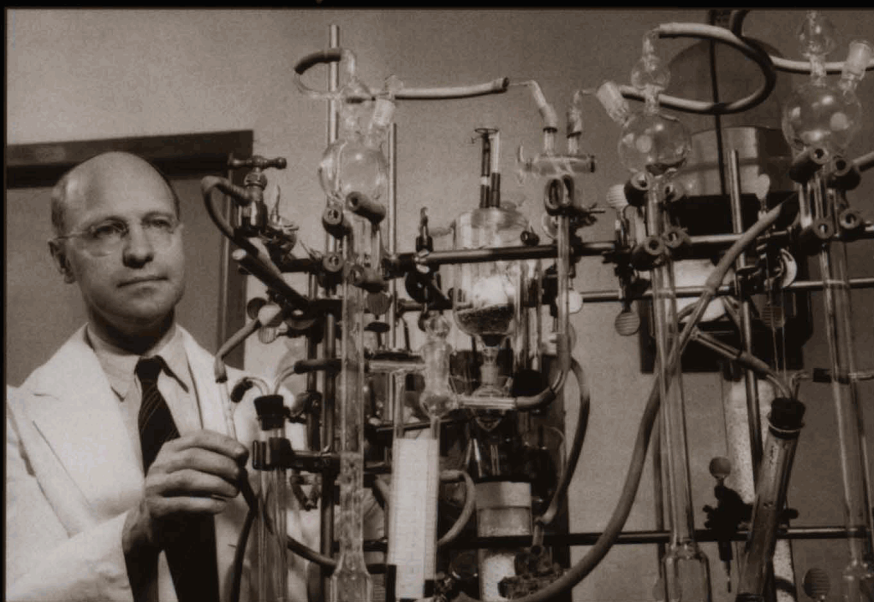
“It’s not just the educational experience that’s necessary, it’s also the social acculturation. By having students live in rural communities, they see the quality of life that can be so desirable.”

Q

Rusch and Carbone Honored



HAROLD RUSCH, MD '33



On September 26, 2006, the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health celebrated its world-renown role in cancer research and treatment by honoring two of its revered leaders, Harold Rusch, MD '33, and Paul P. Carbone, MD. The school renamed the UW Comprehensive Cancer Center (UWCCC) the UW Paul P. Carbone Comprehensive Cancer Center, and the cancer center's central research tower as the Harold Rusch Translational Research Tower.

Both men were prominent leaders in the field. Rusch, an eminent basic scientist, began planning for the McArdle Laboratory for Cancer Research in the 1930s. He became the first director of McArdle and later founded the UWCCC. He was succeeded at the UWCCC by Carbone, a world-recognized cancer pioneer who guided the center for more than two decades, and who was responsible for key innovations in research and patient care. The UW was one of a handful of universities to have had two cancer centers at one time.

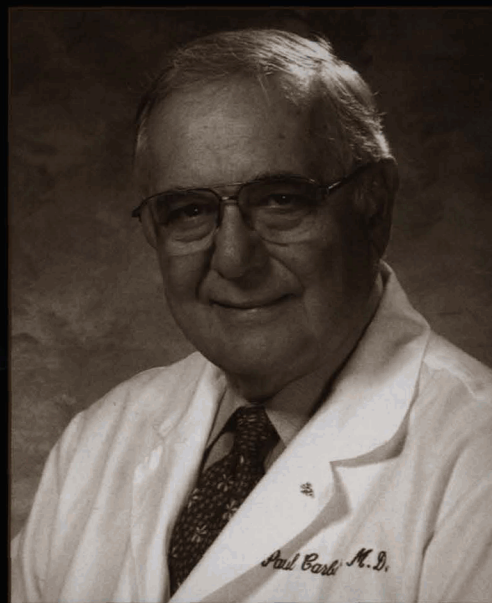
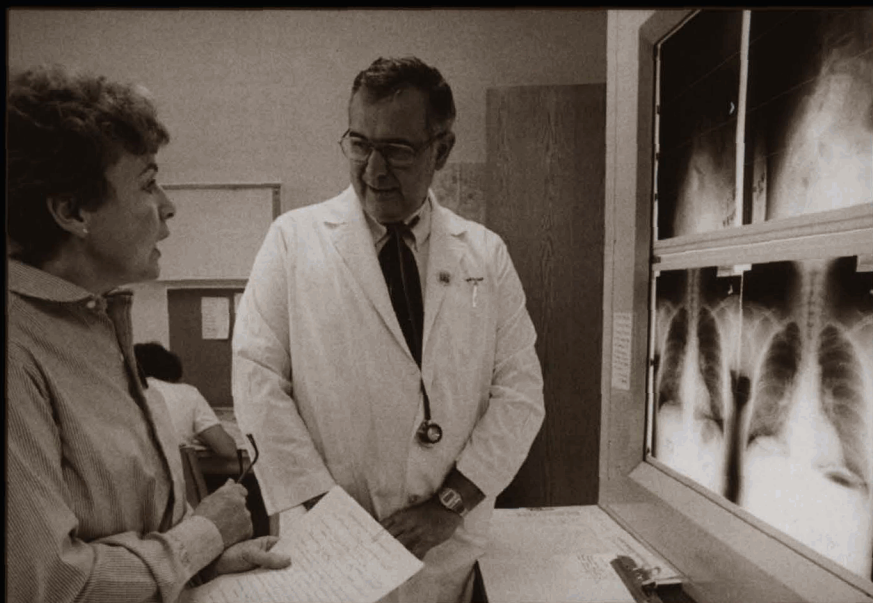
by Linda Dietrich

Harold Rusch, who seven decades ago started a career dedicated to understanding and conquering cancer, left an indelible mark on medical science at the University of Wisconsin and the nation.

A basic scientist first, his contributions to the study and treatment of cancer were balanced by an equal genius in building and administering the first research center in the nation dedicated to studying the causes of and potential cures for cancer. Ultimately, he established two world-class cancer centers on the UW-Madison campus.

"Harold Rusch was a visionary, a man decades ahead of his time," says George Wilding, MD, UW Paul P. Carbone Comprehensive Cancer Center director. "His was a remarkable achievement; he developed not one cancer center, but two. People talk about translational research now, but Rusch was working toward creating complementary research and clinical programs back in the 1930s."

In 1934, the medical school received a bequest of nearly half a million dollars to support "fundamental studies regarding the nature and cure of cancer." The gift, coupled



PAUL P. CARBONE, MD

later with one from the estate of Michael McArdle, funded the school's evolving cancer program, and Rusch's life work.

Rusch became the inaugural director of the McArdle Laboratory for Cancer Research in 1940. It was the nation's first basic science cancer center in an academic institution, and was committed to understanding the causes of cancer and to training exceptional basic science researchers.

"Harold Rusch was a humble yet forthright man who was not afraid to speak his mind," says UW professor emeritus Henry Pitot, MD, PhD, who succeeded Rusch

as McArdle director. "His goal was to significantly advance our knowledge and control of cancer in human patients. To realize his goal Rusch brought together in a single interactive laboratory some of the brightest young minds in cancer research."

A dedicated scientist, he identified the wavelength of ultraviolet light that produces skin cancer. Subsequent studies demonstrated a link between obesity and cancer, and his belief that cancer was caused by a series of biochemical changes became the basis for studies on the stages of tumor formation.

Rusch is also credited with creating an exceptional

intellectual environment at UW, one which encouraged talented researchers and facilitated interactions that sparked new ways of studying a problem. It was Rusch who recognized the potential of young McArdle researchers such as Nobel Prize-winner Howard Temin, PhD.

According to William F. Dove, PhD, UW professor of oncology and medical genetics, Rusch "combined a gentle demeanor with decisive action. This first enabled him to build a rapport as a mentor of many young investigators, each driven by a creative ego. The second allowed him to connect with national leaders, such as Congressman Melvin

Laird, to crystallize legislation that promoted cancer research funding."

Throughout his life Rusch served on panels and commissions designed to set national and international cancer policy. He received numerous professional awards and was active in many cancer-related organizations, including the American Cancer Society.

In 1972, Rusch founded and became the first director of UW Clinical Cancer Center, later known as the UW Comprehensive Cancer Center (UWCCC). The move from basic science research to the treatment side of the cancer fight was

simply a continuation of the same overarching vision. A year later, the National Cancer Institute recognized the UWCCC as one of the nation's first university-based comprehensive cancer centers.

In 1979, Rusch hired his successor at the UWCCC, Paul P. Carbone, MD, and then retired. He continued to be active in professional activities, frequently coming into his office when he and his wife Louise weren't traveling the world visiting family and colleagues.

In 1988, Rusch succumbed to the disease he spent a lifetime trying to understand and conquer.

When Paul Carbone arrived at the UW-Madison in 1976, he was already a well-respected and an award-winning cancer researcher and physician. The UW Clinical Cancer Center—which became the UW Comprehensive Cancer Center—was in transition. It had been created just three years earlier by Harold Rusch, MD '33, founder of UW's McArdle Laboratory for Cancer Research, and Rusch was looking for a successor.

In Carbone, Rusch found an enthusiastic, talented leader with vision, dedication to research and profound respect and concern for people with cancer. In his memoir, Rusch praised Carbone's "excellent credentials and wide experience in both

general medicine and cancer chemotherapy," and his "deep concern for the problems and welfare of patients." Rusch sought to develop an exemplary clinical program to complement the well-established basic oncology research program at McArdle. Carbone was the man he wanted.

Says George Wilding, MD, director of the just renamed UW Paul P. Carbone Comprehensive Cancer Center, "Paul Carbone is recognized as a genius in his field. He was truly a founding father of cancer research and treatment. Here he laid a solid foundation upon which we continue to build."

Carbone came to the UW after retiring from the National Cancer Institute (NCI), culminating an 18-year career in the Public Health Service. While at the NCI, Carbone started his 20-year service as chair of the Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group (ECOG), forming it into one of the nation's most respected clinical research groups, with studies conducted in more than 300 hospitals and medical schools.

"He was very passionate about his work and making lives better," according to his daughter, Kathryn Carbone, MD '83. "He talked constantly about the quality of life and the need for people to fight cancer—even at a time when it was common to send those with a diagnosis

of cancer home to die." As chair of the Breast Cancer Task Force, he promoted a research policy of adjuvant chemotherapy for people with early stage breast cancer.

Throughout his life Carbone received countless national and international awards, including the prestigious Lasker Award for Medicine, generally considered America's Nobel Prize, for combination chemotherapy for Hodgkin's lymphoma, demonstrating that cancer often can be a successfully treated disease.

He helped found and was president of the American Society of Clinical Oncology and president of the American Association for Cancer Research. As the editor-in-chief of major oncology journals and author of nearly 400 publications, Carbone was influential in setting national and international research policy.

In 1994, Steven T. Rosen, MD, then editor of *Contemporary Oncology*, described Carbone as "... a giant in our field, a pioneer in clinical investigation and a role model to scores of academicians involved in cancer research."

Even after he officially retired in 1997, Carbone averaged 35 hours a week back in the UW Hospital and Clinics' "K tower," continuing drug research, guiding young researchers and caring for patients.

Outside of his cancer world, Carbone rode his bicycle, sailed, gardened and liked to travel. But, says daughter Kathy, golf was his passion. "He loved his golf. He confessed one day that the real reason he was late to dinner was that he stopped for nine holes of golf after returning from a trip!"

Carbone and his wife, Mary, had seven children—three are physicians, one is an attorney and three hold MBAs—and 16 grandchildren.

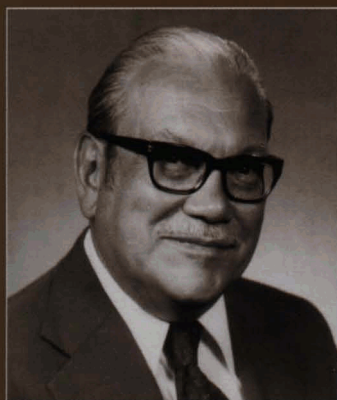
Son Matt describes Carbone's lasting legacies as his students and his children. "Professionally he was a great teacher who left behind wonderful legacies at the UW but also in Taiwan, Singapore, Africa and China. Personally, he was perhaps most proud of the accomplishments of his children."

Kathy's wish for her father is that his lasting memory for his family and the world be that he was an honorable, dedicated, passionate, intelligent, sensitive and visionary man.

When he died unexpectedly in 2002, Carbone was still deeply involved in the subject that shaped his life—he was in the Far East, helping develop a comprehensive cancer program at the National University of Singapore...and playing golf.

Q

UW and National Neurologists Pay Tribute to Francis Forster, MD



by Dian Land

At the gala banquet that was a highlight of the 58th annual meeting of the American Academy of Neurologists (AAN), held in San Diego in April 2006, neurologists from around the country mourned the loss and praised the memory of former University of Wisconsin neurologist Francis M. Forster, MD. Known as one of the "Four Horsemen" who founded the AAN, Forster died on February 23, 2006, less than two weeks after he had celebrated his 94th birthday. The year before, the AAN had honored Forster as one of the "Giants of Neurology."

Among his many achievements, Forster had been dean of the Georgetown University Medical School, during which time he treated President Dwight Eisenhower following a stroke. He came to Wisconsin to chair the Department of Neurology at the School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) between 1958 and 1978. Here, at the height of his academic career, he contributed most significantly to the field.

Current faculty members in the UW neurology department created their own memorial to the man whom

everyone recognized as an inspirational leader and stellar physician. They collected \$20,000 as a tribute, donating it to the AAN Foundation for the Francis M. Forster Leadership Fund.

"The donation was the largest any academic department has ever made to the AAN," says Thomas Sutula, MD, PhD, the Detling Professor and current SMPH chair of neurology. "The decision to make the gift required less than 10 minutes of discussion at a faculty meeting."

Only a few of the current department faculty actually knew Forster, says Sutula, but they honored the legacy of the man who had led the department with such distinction.

"On a personal level, you always felt better after you had a conversation with Frank," recalls Sutula, who met Forster after he had retired in 1982. Like Sutula, Forster specialized in epilepsy; he founded the Francis M. Forster Epilepsy Center at the William S. Middleton Veterans Administration Hospital in Madison.

Forster was particularly interested in reflex epilepsy, a condition in which seizures are triggered by external stimuli. His pioneering

studies of the condition using video and recording techniques, which were technical innovations at the time, advanced understanding about reflex epilepsies and led to video-electroencephalographic methods for locating the site of seizure onset in the brain, techniques that are in widespread use today.

Forster also was in the spotlight when he treated Jack Ruby, who said that epilepsy caused him to shoot Lee Harvey Oswald, alleged assassin of President John F. Kennedy. Forster and other physicians agreed that there was no basis for the claim.

In 1948, along with Drs. A. B. Baker, Russell N. DeJong and Adolph L. Sahs, Forster created the AAN. Forster served as AAN president from 1957 to 1959.

Forster was also president of the American Epilepsy Society, the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology and the Pavlovian Society.

Wisconsin neurologist Kenneth Viste, Jr., MD, also was honored at the 2006 AAN gala. A past president of the association, he was a tireless patient advocate and highly effective leader.

Welcome to the Class of 2010



The three days of orientation in August helped the members of the Class of 2010 understand how to be the most effective medical students and it helped them bond as a group.



The 150 members of the Class of 2010 at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) gathered as a group for the first time on August 16, 2006. The new medical students, now deeply involved in their classes, first met in the Health Sciences Learning Center (HSLC) for three days of orientation.

Following an informal dinner on Tuesday evening, the new medical students heard enthusiastic welcomes from Dean Robert Golden, MD, Senior Associate Dean Susan Skochelak, MD, MPH, and Associate Dean for Students Patrick McBride, MD '81, MPH. Rachel Uttech, president of the Medical Student Association, also greeted them.

During special sessions, students learned about OASIS, the online academic record that the school maintains for each of them, received their gross anatomy tank assignments and were told about histology procedures.

Information was also presented on research and community service

opportunities, choosing careers, financial aid and other student support options.

The students warmed up with each other and were introduced to members of the academic affairs staff with several interactive, get-to-know-you games.

School leaders also organized exercises designed to build collaboration and cooperation among the students.

"Students must be competitive to get into medical school," says McBride, "but once they are here with us, they need to learn to be collaborative and cooperative. These qualities are critically important to the success of the healthcare team of today and the future."

In one of the team-building exercises, the entire class had to pull together on a

rope, otherwise the whole circle of them would have collapsed.

Students were also assigned to their learning communities, "houses" named in honor of SMPH luminaries Charles Bardeen, MD, William Middleton, MD, Adolph and Gunnar Gundersen, MDs, Alice McPherson, MD, and Betty Bamforth, MD.

Students will remain affiliated with their houses, each of which consists of groups from each of the four classes, their entire time at the SMPH. During orientation, activities were geared to building house spirit as well as class spirit, McBride notes.

The students will be challenged by their education at the SMPH, but members of the Class of 2010 bring skills, talents and qualities that should help them succeed as medical students and physicians alike.

Class Profile

The Class of 2010 consists of 52 percent males and 48 percent females. This is the first class in several years in which females have not comprised the larger percentage.



Students heard from the school's leaders and learned about tools such as OASIS, the online academic medical record that the school maintains for each of them.

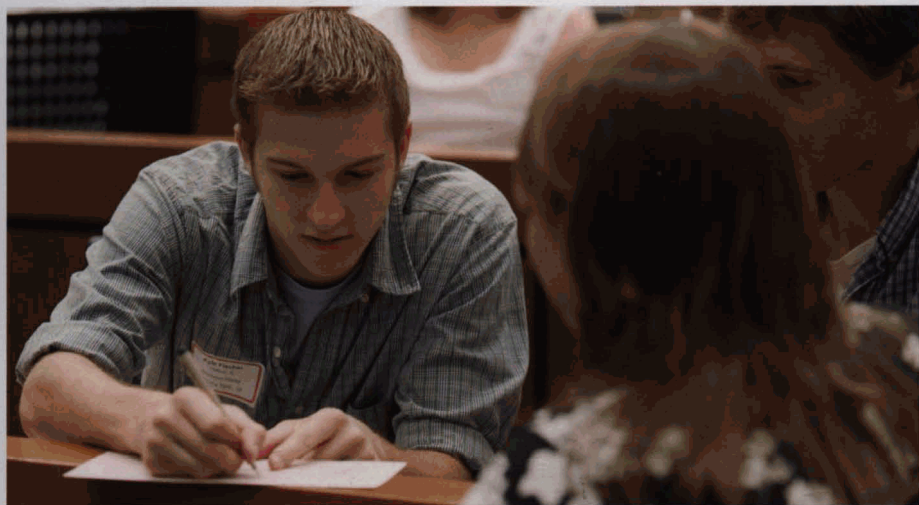
The age distribution is as follows:

18-20 years	2 class members
21-23 years	101 class members
24-27 years	33 class members
28-31 years	12 class members
32-34 years	0 class members
35 - 37 years	1 class members
38+ years	0 class members

Nine of the students are combined MD/PhD students in the SMPH Medical Scientist Training Program.

A majority of the class holds Bachelor of Science degrees (vs. Bachelor of Arts). As undergraduates, members of the Class of 2010 majored in biology/zoology (43), biochemistry (14), molecular biology (13), engineering (8), genetics (7), psychology (5), chemistry (2), fine arts (2) and other health professions (2). The rest of the class completed a variety of majors, including philosophy, political science, sociology, religion, business, computer science and education.

Fifty-six percent of the class members earned their undergraduate degrees at UW-Madison; 6 percent at other Wisconsin system universities; 4 percent at other Wisconsin colleges, for a total of 66 percent from Wisconsin colleges and universities. Class members also graduated from the University of California-Berkeley, -San Diego, -Davis, Air Force Academy, the University of



Students, now immersed in their studies, got to know each other quickly during orientation.



Florida, the University of Georgia, the University of Illinois Chicago, the University of Kansas, Carleton College, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and others.

The class has demonstrated high academic performance. The mean science grade point average (GPA) is 3.70 and mean cumulative GPA is 3.74. MCAT scores average 31.4 with 9.9 for verbal reasoning, 10.5 for physical science and 11.0 for biological science.

Members of the class have worked at an array of jobs including: nursing assistant, pharmacy technician, research assistant, medical records intern, phlebotomist, retail sales person, factory worker, garden designer, school teacher, intramural sports referee, kitchen designer, cheerleading instructor, training room intern, student

newspaper writer, wildland fire fighter, pipefitter, video transcriber, day trader, horse trainer, office assistant, jujitsu teacher, janitor, missionary, health unit coordinator, water safety instructor, community news project manager, marketing analyst, grant editor, campus tour guide, rehabilitation aide and camp and youth counselor.

Members of the Class of 2010 have provided much service to others. They have worked with: Habitat for Humanity, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Red Cross, AmeriCorps VISTA, Special Olympics, Upward Bound, Urban/Mountain Forestry Leader Program, Global Medical Relief, Combat Blindness Foundation-India and the Atlanta Harm Reduction Center. They have served as family advocate volunteer, foreign language translator/tutor,



adaptive ski leader, mentor for youth and adults with disabilities and community center volunteer.

The new UW students have many hobbies and are involved in a variety of recreational activities: music (piano, guitar, violin); water sports (swimming, sailing, surfing); outdoor activities (snowboarding, skiing, camping, fishing), tennis, travel, building race cars, ballroom dancing, disk jockeying and visual arts (painting and drawing).

Members of the class have received many awards and honors. These include: Eagle Scout, Dean's List, Golden Key Honor Society, Marine Corps Leadership Award, Phi Beta Kappa, Fulbright Grant, Sigma Delta Pi, Commandant's List, Hughes Undergraduate Research Fellowship, Concerto competition winner, Ganser Fellowship, Oracle Society, Outstanding Student in Biology, Summa Cum Laude, Phi Kappa Phi and Presidential Scholar.



Several exercises built team spirit (top). Information was presented in a variety of ways (above).

AMA Honors Two SMPH Students

Two School of Medicine and Public Health students were honored at the annual meeting of the American Medical Association (AMA) on June 9, 2006.

Nyama Sillah was named a 2006 AMA Foundation Minority Scholars Award recipient. She will receive a \$10,000 scholarship in recognition of her excellence as a medical student and her outstanding promise as a future physician. She was one of only 10 medical students in the country to be given the prestigious award.

From Milwaukee, Sillah just started her second year as a medical student. She completed her undergraduate work at St. Louis University. She has won many academic honors and has worked for four years on research relating to sickle cell disease and other hematology issues.

Sillah, a member of the student organization MEDiC, volunteers at six clinics in the Madison area, providing primary healthcare services and education to underserved individuals. She served as president of her first-year medical school class.

The Minority Scholars Award recognizes scholastic achievement and promise for the future among students in groups defined as "historically underrepresented" in the medical profession. Less than 7 percent of U.S. physicians fall within these groups, which



UW SMPH medical students John Vasudevan (fourth from left) and Nyama Sillah (sixth from left) recently were honored by the American Medical Association.

include African American/Black, American Indian, Native Hawaiian, Alaska Native and Hispanic/Latino.

The AMA Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the AMA, has contributed more than \$90 million in educational, research and public health grants. The Minority Scholars Awards are given in collaboration with the AMA Minority Affairs Consortium, with support from the Pfizer Medical Humanities Initiative.

John Vasudevan, a third-year SMPH student, received the 2006 AMPAC Student Membership Recognition Award. The bipartisan AMPAC, or American Medical Association Political Action Committee, represents its members in Washington by endorsing political candidates

who support the policies of the AMA.

The Wisconsin Medical Society (WMS) nominated Vasudevan for the award for his efforts in connecting students and physicians through WMS and AMA meetings and events such as the Crazylegs student/physician team (see story in Fall '05 *Quarterly*). Like AMPAC, WisMedPAC represents Wisconsin physicians at the state capitol in Madison by endorsing candidates who support WMS policies. Both AMPAC and WisMedPAC include medical students on their boards of directors, allowing for input from future physicians.

Vasudevan has been an active member of the AMA-Medical Student Section (AMA-MSS) and WMS since

his first year of medical school. He feels that AMPAC and WisMedPAC help meet the challenge of finding politicians who will fight for physicians and public health.

In June, Vasudevan also was honored by being elected to serve as At-Large Officer on the Governing Council of the AMA-MSS. His year-long duties will include increasing membership, advocating AMA policy through organizations such as AMPAC, and coordinating community service projects nationwide among the organization's 150 plus chapters and approximately 50,000 student members.

Summers Around the Globe

This past summer, 18 UW School of Medicine and Public Health students traveled all around the world, some studying, some doing fieldwork and some working in clinics. Their destinations spanned the globe from Asia to Africa to Europe to South America. But regardless of where they went, the students say that their experiences abroad changed the way they look at their chosen field. Three representative students shared their experiences.

Sibyl Siegfried, Med 2

**In the Himalayas
May 23 to June 23, 2006**

Fellow UW medical students Analisa Calderon, Ellie Chen and I spent part of our summer in the Himalayas as participants in the Himalayan Health Exchange Program. Arriving in Delhi, India, on May 23, 2006, Ellie and I spent a few days shadowing a physician in the rural village of Bir. He was wonderful and always made sure to take the time to translate, explain his interactions with his patients and answer our questions. From Bir, Ellie and I headed to Shimla, the starting point of the expedition. There we joined Analisa, as well as 30 other medical students from the United States, Canada and Ireland.

We traveled with this team for three weeks through the Spiti Valley, which is located in the Trans-Himalayan

region along the western edge of the Tibetan Plateau. For three weeks, we traveled through the mountains by jeep, setting up four clinics and treating more than 2,200 patients! The villages were remote and as such the residents had very limited access to healthcare facilities. Armed with only a stethoscope, penlight and oto-ophthalmoscope, we assessed each person.

The first challenge was taking the patient history with the help of a translator. In very remote regions we required two translations: first from the local dialect to Hindi, then Hindi to English. The next challenge was creating a treatment plan using our limited supply of medications.

We treated Buddhist monks, Tibetan refugees, an elderly man who

recently suffered a stroke, expectant mothers and a man with suspected epilepsy, just to name a few. Although occasionally frustrated with the limitations that are only natural to a traveling free clinic, I had countless rewarding and memorable experiences.

One such moment was trying on reading glasses with an elderly man. We kept trying until we found a pair that was strong enough. Even though we could not communicate through words, his wide smile and sincere gratitude were more than enough to remind me of my motivations for becoming a doctor.

Sarah Gale Wyrick, Med 2

In England, May 18 to July 14, 2006

I arranged to spend six weeks in Nottingham, England, becoming





properly acquainted with the United Kingdom's National Health Service (NHS). I divided my time among the Institute of Genetics, Biorisks and Society at the University of Nottingham and a placement at Rushcliffe Primary Care Trust. Primary care trusts are the most local unit of the English NHS; I worked principally within their Public Health Department. At the University, I spent time reading and discussing the history of the NHS; at the primary care trust I was able to observe the NHS in action.

The time I spent at my internships was wonderful, though I find it impossible to pinpoint a single uniting theme. What I can say is that I had a plethora of fascinating experiences. I attended meetings at various levels of the NHS. I contributed to the local public health annual report and I spent an afternoon at a medium-security prison. I toured the local sexual health clinic and shadowed in a general practice surgery. I was able to answer a stack of my questions, and in the process generated many more.

Of course, not every moment concerned the NHS. Being in the UK was also a wonderful excuse to explore some nooks and crannies of the British Isles and Europe. I ate some glorious chocolate, indulged my love of history and saw many beautiful places. And, for me, the joy of travel is the conversations. Of course, I talked with many people about healthcare, but conversations inevitably wound around to families and experiences. We spoke of religion, philosophy, tolerance and politics. I found myself explaining the three branches of the United States federal government and the Bill of Rights. In return, I gained a great deal more insight into the British parliamentary system. Ultimately, I could have learned much about the English healthcare system in a library at home, but I simply would not have been enriched in the same way.

De Anna Friedman, Med 2

In Uganda, May 12 to July 30, 2006

Having never left the United States before, I was nervous about committing my entire summer to living

in Uganda. I didn't know what to expect or if I would be able to adjust to the culture shock. Luckily, there were three other UW-Madison students with me during my first three weeks. We took a course called "Health and Disease in Uganda."

It was nice to be able to share our experiences along the way, and we saw many interesting health facilities during the class. Two students and one of the professors stayed a week longer to do some research, but for the last seven weeks I spent in Uganda, I was the only student from UW.

During this time, I met medical students and graduate students from all around the world. I traveled with some of them during the weekends and so I was able to see much of the country, which is incredibly beautiful. I also learned a lot about pediatric HIV during the week while working on my research project. I am so pleased that I was able to have this experience and, because of it, I am motivated to stay involved with international health throughout my career as a physician.



MAP SOURCE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS GEOGRAPHY AND MAP DIVISION WASHINGTON DC.

Students Excel at Running

by Meghan Conlin

Between their demanding class schedules and hours of studying, most medical students can hardly find time to fit a weekly trip to the gym, but for two students at the School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH), athletics and fitness are not something that just gets fit in. They are a huge part of their lives.

After competing in track and cross country racing during his undergraduate study at the University of Wisconsin La Crosse, Dan Sutton, a third-year medical student originally from West Bend, Wisconsin, decided he wasn't quite ready to stop competitive running when he came to Madison.

"I had planned to abandon my running career and start running on more of a recreational basis, but I just couldn't give it up yet! I am too competitive, and I couldn't stand to go to races without thinking that I would have a chance to do well in them. I guess old habits die hard. I have been running competitively for so many years now, it is a part of my lifestyle," Sutton says.

During the past two years, along with completing his coursework at the SMPH, Sutton has continued to run more than 90 miles a week and compete in local and regional races such as Madison's Crazylegs race and La Crosse's Chileda Classic.

Sarah Kolpin has been winning races around the globe. A nationally recognized triathlete, she also is very interested in the duathlon, a run, bike, run race.

"These students are extraordinary in their ability to balance their academic work and their high level of athletic achievement."

Starting in November 2005, Sutton also began to train for his first marathon, the Austin Freescale Marathon in Austin, Texas.

"I just figured that it could be a long time before I could properly train to try to run a fast marathon again, and I always have wanted to visit Austin," Sutton says.

All of the training paid off. At his first marathon, last February 19, Sutton clocked in at two hours, 17 minutes and 54 seconds; which averages about 5:16 a mile for 26 miles. This time makes him eligible to enter the 2008 Olympic marathon trials.

Another UW SMPH third-year student, Sarah Kolpin, originally from River Falls, Wisconsin, also manages to fit a difficult and time-consuming training regimen and competition schedule into her medical school life.

Kolpin is a nationally recognized triathlete who is particularly interested in the less common duathlon, a run, bike, run race. She began racing competitively two years ago, and since then has been winning races across the globe, most recently finishing



Medical student Dan Sutton, shown above winning the 2005 Crazylegs race in Madison, also has qualified to enter the 2008 Olympics marathon trials. Both he and Kolpin carefully balance their running and studying.

with the fastest female time at the World Championships of Short Course Duathlons in Newfoundland, Canada.

Kolpin began racing in the Twin Cities area in the summer of 2004, competed in 10 races in 2005 and nine races in 2006. She won several awards from the Minnesota triathlon community, such as Rookie of the Year and Duathlete of the Year. She also earned a spot on Minnesota's "All Star" team and races with a triathlon club called Team Ortho based out of Hennepin County Medical Center. The team invited her to join when they discovered that she was a medical student.

"By chance, I did some of my first races in the Twin Cities area," Kolpin says. "The atmosphere around their races is so friendly and supportive that now I do most of my races in Minnesota."

While it has been a challenge, both Sutton and Kolpin have managed to continue to train and compete at a high level in their sports while fulfilling their academic requirements at the SMPH.

"It is sometimes rather tricky to balance school and training," Sutton says. "I just try to be very strict with the scheduling of my time. I don't really have a ton of

time to do other things, but when running is going well, it makes me very happy."

According to SMPH Associate Dean for Students Patrick McBride, MD '80, MPH, the school encourages students to have diverse interests.

"These students are extraordinary in their ability to balance their academic work and their high level of athletic achievement," McBride says. "They put their priority on their training as physicians first. We are very proud of their accomplishments."

TGs Under Way As New Year Begins

by Meghan Conlin

A recent Saturday evening filled with sand volleyball and socializing kicked off this year's series of "TGs," events planned to help medical students at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) escape the grind of classes and connect with their classmates away from classrooms, laboratories and the library.

"TGs" are short for TGIF, or Thank God It's Friday, and typically are held once a month on dates coordinated with the school schedule. The SMPH 2006-2007 academic year began August 15, 2006, for first- and second-year students while third- and fourth-year students have been busy in clinic since July and even earlier.

The Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association (WMAA) helps sponsor the events by providing food and refreshments at no cost to the students. Events range from ice skating to haunted house trips to sand volleyball.

"The TGs and other social events sponsored by the WMAA provide an opportunity for students to relax in a non-academic setting," says Karen Peterson,

WMAA executive director. "The WMAA has a goal to assist in making the student's medical school experience as enjoyable as possible. We want all students to feel a positive connection to the school."

This year's inaugural TG at the Stadium Bar and Grill near campus featured a sand volleyball competition between the school's learning communities: Bamforth, Bardeen, Gundersen, McPherson and Middleton houses. Students came decked out in their house T-shirts—and ready for some friendly competition.

No matter what the event, students all say that TGs are a great time and give them a chance to get to know one another outside of school and to let off steam.

"The TGs provide a great opportunity for students to socialize and unwind outside the academic setting," said Rachel Uttech, Medical Student Association President, and Crystal Weis, a Med 2, who organized the event.

TGs in years past have also included a tromp through a corn maze and a gymnastics party.

Students all say that TGs give them a chance to get to know one another outside of school and to let off steam.



Grants Support Allied Drive Projects

Two student projects centered on Allied Drive, an underserved, over-burdened and health challenged neighborhood in Madison, recently gained local and national recognition and support.

One project, called "Reaching Out for Health and Wellness on Allied Drive," won a "Caring for Community" grant award from the American Association of Medical Colleges. The grant program provides funding for service projects initiated, developed and administered by medical students in collaboration with existing community agencies. Supported by the Pfizer Medical Humanities Initiative, the grants range from \$12,000 to \$30,000 over a period of one to four years. The UW School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) project, one of only eight funded nationally, received the maximum award offered—\$30,000 over four years.

The project is being led by MD/PhD student Travelle Franklin-Ford, in collaboration with second-year medical students Yemisi Adeyemi and Odinakachukw Ehie. The medical students and other volunteers will use door-to-door interviews, neighborhood programs, community dinners, health



From left: Students Alexandra Stanculescu, Sharon Younkin (Community Service Programs director), Travelle Franklin-Ford, Daphne Chandler, Frances Russell and Odi Ehie participated at a recent Allied Drive event.

fairs and festivals to conduct health-related assets and needs assessments and provide targeted health education to Allied Drive residents. The program kicked off on Saturday, July 29, 2006, with a celebration of health and fitness for children, hosted at the Boys & Girls Club of Dane County, Allied Center.

This project builds on the partnership established in 2004 between the Allied Wellness Center, Inc. (AWC), and the SMPH Community Service Programs Office, directed by Sharon Younkin, PhD. Earlier programming efforts have included HIV education and prevention campaigns healthy heart programs and resource fairs. Susan Skochelak, MD, MPH,

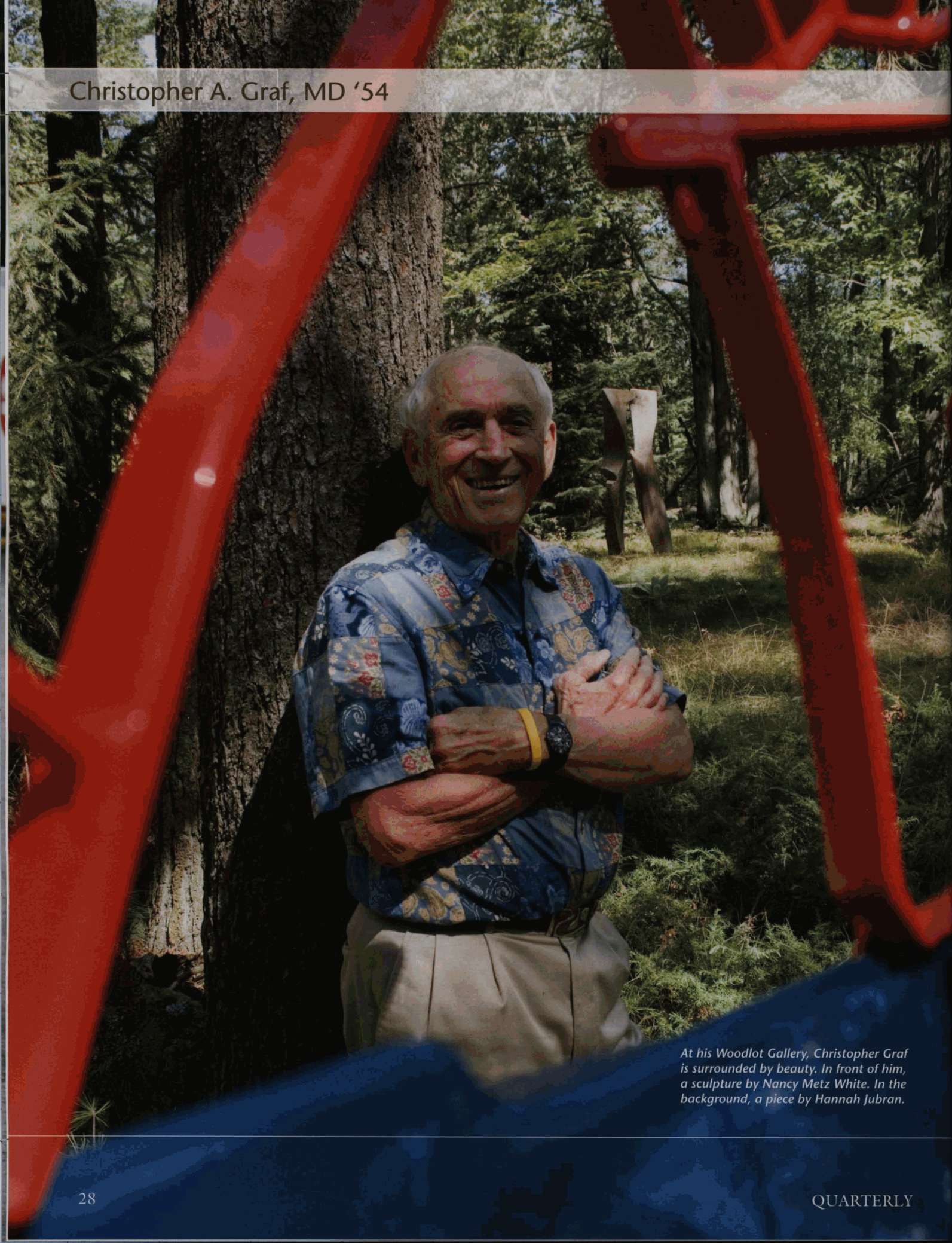
associate dean for academic affairs, is the principle investigator for the grant and is supplying matching funds to support program activities over the next four years.

Three students in the UW medical scholars program, a special UW undergraduate program that gives stellar students conditional acceptance to SMPH, also earned recognition for their "Community Wellness Project." Under Younkin's direction, Kirsten Austad, Saurabh Saluja and Sean Spencer won a "Wisconsin Idea Undergraduate Fellowship" (WIF) Program grant from the UW's Morgridge Center for Public Service.

With a total of \$5,000, the WIF project will run

from September 2006 through April 2007, and will provide health outreach programs addressing oral health, nutrition, fitness and communication to residents in the Allied Drive neighborhood.

WIF fellowships support innovative projects in which undergraduate students, faculty/ instructional staff and community organizations collaborate in service activities and/or research designed to meet a community need while enhancing student learning. The AWC will serve as the community partner for the grant program. Younkin supervises this project, while Byron Crouse, MD, associate dean for rural and community health, serves as the principle investigator for the grant.

A photograph of Christopher A. Graf, MD '54, an elderly man with white hair, smiling and standing in a forest. He is wearing a blue patterned short-sleeved shirt and khaki pants. His arms are crossed, and he is wearing a yellow wristband and a black watch. In the foreground, a large, abstract red sculpture made of thick, curved beams frames him. The background shows a dense forest of tall evergreen trees. The lighting is bright, suggesting a sunny day.

Christopher A. Graf, MD '54

At his Woodlot Gallery, Christopher Graf is surrounded by beauty. In front of him, a sculpture by Nancy Metz White. In the background, a piece by Hannah Jubran.

Of Sculpture and Surgery

by Masarah Van Eyck

Sometimes inspiration comes in the most unexpected ways. For retired urologic surgeon Christopher A. Graf, MD '54, an enduring passion for sculpture started after graduating from UW School of Medicine and Public Health, during his two years as a medical officer for the U.S. Army in Karlsruhe, Germany. There he and his wife, Janet, first toured Europe's great museums: the Louvre, Tate, Prado, Uffizi and many others. That European tour left a deep impression.

Returning to Wisconsin, Graf set up his medical practice in Sheboygan and purchased the home where he still lives. Soon after that, the Grafs' interest in collecting sculptures and prints began.

"We collected what we loved," Graf says, emphasizing this as his preferred approach to art collection. "You shouldn't pay attention to what you think is a good investment, you should choose art that you appreciate. You enjoy it more."

Some 50 years later, this love and appreciation of art has translated into the Woodlot Gallery, which boasts the largest collection of outdoor contemporary sculpture in the Midwest. Situated adjacent to the Graf home on three and one-half wooded acres on the shores of Lake Michigan, the collection displays the works of some of today's finest European and American artists.

Playing upon the relationship between what Graf calls "the organic and the industrial," a walk along Woodlot's paths among the trees reveals works by such sculptors as Richard Hunt, Anthony



After graduating from medical school in 1954 (left), Graf was sent by the U.S. Army to Europe. He visited many great art museums, including the Tate in London, and developed a passion for art.



Caro and Lynn Chadwick. Milwaukee artist Narendra Patel is one of the few who uses brightly painted colors on his creations.

What Graf appreciates most, he says, is the dialogue between plant life, the deer and the sculptures—the way a piece by, say, David Middlebrook or Stephen Fischer can both contrast and compliment the natural shapes that surround it. Some sculptures employ natural materials like wood and stone and mimic the organic lines of the branches and leaves they are tucked among. Others, towers of cement and metal, appear more abruptly—surprising abstract statues around a corner.

Though some pieces are for sale or on consignment, this is Graf's personal collection. He thinks of himself as a liaison between artists and buyers rather than a salesman. "Art isn't something you sell," he says. "The buyer must appreciate the piece, otherwise someone will be unhappy."

In addition to the sculptures out of doors, numerous framed contemporary

prints hang on the walls inside Graf's home.

When asked if he is an artist himself, Graf simply replies, "My own art form was surgery."

And, as with any talented artist, a few natural skills set him on his path. For one, he says, he has always been very visual. "I have had excellent vision all of my life—20/13 in my left eye and 20/15 in my right—and I also have marvelous peripheral vision and depth perception."

Graf also admits to having excellent manual dexterity—hands that are still steady at age 77. "I ran the print shop in high school, which required quick hands," he quips.

What's more, he says, good surgeons do well to hone the kind of creative problem solving that's often attributed to artists. "A lot of times there are things that come up in surgery that you don't expect and you have to adjust and compensate for it immediately," he says.

Graf grew up on a farm near Platteville, Wisconsin. His father died



Graf and his wife, Janet, "collected what we loved" to display at Woodlot Gallery. The collection includes the work of (from left) Stephen Fischer of Sullivan, Wisconsin; Richard Hunt of Chicago and David Middlebrook of San Jose, California.

when he was two, leaving his mother to raise four children. Though the circumstances were difficult, Graf learned to value education. "I knew that I wanted to help people," he says of his earliest career dreams.

Following in the footsteps of his older brother, George (MD 1951), Graf went first to the University of Wisconsin-Platteville and then on to UW medical school. Graf's best friend, Milton Stuessy, the son of a doctor in Platteville, also chose that path. Graf says that it felt only natural that he, too, attend UW medical school.

He remembers that many of his childhood friends went on to get advanced degrees in professional fields. "One got a PhD in chemistry, one in physics, one is a chemical engineer," he recounts. "We all did well academically."

Given his natural abilities, Graf felt sure that surgery was his forte, but it wasn't until his surgery internship at

Marshfield Clinic that he settled on urology.

"I found out during my internship that I don't work well without sleep," he laughs.

Not only did urology offer him a daytime schedule, it also gave him the personal rewards he sought. "There were so many older men who had prostate trouble who were really grateful when I helped them," he says.

In fact, among his first grateful patients was one of General Custer's men—a former stable boy who was treated in 1958 at the age of 94 at the William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital in Madison, where Graf was a surgery resident.

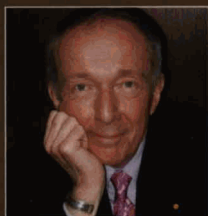
Throughout his career, Graf also performed vasectomies and operated on cancers of the bladder and other urological organs. "I loved taking care of my patients," he says, "I can't think of anything else I would have rather done."

Woodlot Gallery became a reality as the four Graf children gradually went off to college. It gave Chris and Janet a renewed sense of purpose and allowed them to pursue their passion for art in a whole new way. Beyond Woodlot, they were involved with Landfall Press, the Milwaukee Art Museum and later on Graf served on the board of the John Michael Kohler Art Center in Sheboygan.

These days, Graf, who retired from surgery 10 years ago, continues running the gallery on his own. Janet died in 1999 after a 12-year battle with lymphoma. An avid bike rider, sailor and skier, he enjoys sharing his enthusiasm for art with his grandchildren on their visits to "Papa's sculptures."

Anatomists Honor Fallon for Notable Research Career

John F. Fallon, PhD, the Harland Winfield Mossman Professor of Anatomy in the School of Medicine and Public Health, was



recently presented the 2006 Keith L. Moore/Lippincott, Williams and Wilkins Award by the American Association of Clinical Anatomists (AACA). The award, presented annually to an anatomist for a notable career in research, recognizes Fallon's contributions to understanding the molecular and genetic basis of vertebrate limb development.

The award honors Moore, renowned for his textbooks in anatomy, embryology and the clinical correlations for both disciplines. Moore, 80, presented the award to Fallon at the AACA annual meeting.

Fallon joined the UW anatomy department in 1969. He was director of the histology course for 10 years and as assistant dean for graduate studies, he led the school's successful effort to reinvigorate the MD/PhD program that resulted in Medical Scientist Training Program funding from the National Institutes of Health.

Fallon is active in graduate student education and currently teaches in the UW Biocore Undergraduate Honors curriculum. The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development funds his research program.

Carnes and Sollinger Named Wisconsin Academy Fellows

Two UW School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) faculty members—Molly Carnes, MD, and Hans Sollinger, MD—have been named fellows of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters.

The formal recognition is conferred annually on men and women of extraordinary lifetime accomplishment in the sciences, arts and letters. Fellows are recognized for their qualities of judgment, perceptiveness and knowledge of how literature, art and science contribute to the cultural life and welfare of the state. They also have careers marked by an unusually high order of discovery; technological accomplishments; creative productivity in literature, poetry or the fine or practical arts; historical analysis; legal or judicial interpretation or philosophical thinking.

The fellows will be formally inducted and celebrated in a ceremony on Sunday, October 22, 2006, at the Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center in Madison.

Carnes, a professor of medicine, devotes herself to studying and implementing programs that will increase the participation and advancement of women and underrepresented minorities in academic medicine, science and engineering. She has pioneered programs in geriatrics, women's



health research, women in science and engineering, underrepresented minority workforce development in science and engineering, and clinical research career development.

Carnes knows that a healthy society requires diversity among its leaders. To that end, she directs the UW Center for Women's Health Research, the Women Veterans Health Program and other career development programs. She co-founded the Women in Science and Engineering Leadership Institute and the Wisconsin Alliance for Minority Participation.

Sollinger is a professor of surgery and chair of the Division of Transplantation at the SMPH. For the past 11 years he has led the UW's Organ Transplantation program—the most successful organ donation program in the country.

Internationally recognized as one of the world's leading transplant surgeons, his research focuses on testing new immunosuppressive agents and gene therapy for cell transplantation. More than 300,000 patients are benefiting from an immunosuppressive drug he developed, and survival of kidney-pancreas recipients around the world has more than doubled thanks to a surgical technique that he pioneered.

Sollinger and Carnes join five others who have been named Wisconsin Academy fellows in 2006.





Construction Cranes Abound

Construction is booming on the west end of the UW-Madison campus surrounding the red-bricked UW Hospital and Clinics, as the photo above clearly illustrates.

The American Family Children's Hospital, seen at the right, recently celebrated a "topping out," during which the final 20-foot steel beam was ceremonially placed. Scheduled to open for business in August 2007,

the 252,000 square-foot, state-of-the-art facility will significantly enhance the hospitalization experience for young patients and their families. Among the many improvements are: larger inpatient rooms, expanded outpatient facilities, two school rooms, bigger play spaces and a distinct identity and healing environment that is unique for children and their families.

Construction on the Interdisciplinary Research Complex (IRC), shown at the bottom of the picture, also is proceeding nicely. During this first phase of the project, the east tower (under the lower orange crane) will be built up eight floors while the center tower will go up two levels, with completion planned for the second phase. School leaders expect the IRC to be open in spring 2008.

Other structures in the picture include the curve-walled Ebling Library and Health Sciences Learning Center with its bridge leading to the Pharmacy School's Rennebohm Hall (not shown), the Waisman Center at bottom right and the William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital at the top. A new School of Nursing is also planned.

RESEARCH Digest

University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health
July, 2006

www.med.wisc.edu/research/

This newsletter is published quarterly.
For subscription info, contact
researchdigest@hosp.wisc.edu.

IN THIS ISSUE

Features

1-3

Scientists Discover a Master Key
to Microbes' Pathogenic Lifestyles

Diet and Aging Study
Gains \$7.9 Million Grant

New Clues Found to the
Biochemistry of Anti-Aging

Scientists Reveal how
Deadly Toxin Hijacks Cells

Cardiovascular Researchers
Hope to Grow New Heart Tissue

Osteoporosis Drug as Effective as
Tamoxifen in Preventing Breast Cancer

Study Shows Brain can Manipulate Taste
Cadmium Exposure Linked to
Breast Cancer

Patents

3

UW's Patent Ranking Rises

New Research

3

A Nicotine Vaccine?

Event of Interest

4

Human Biology Symposium

Metrics

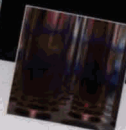
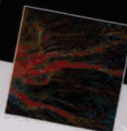
4

IRC Update

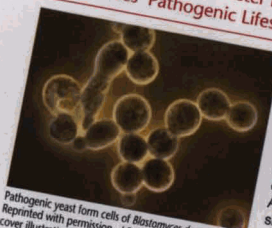
4



University of Wisconsin
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
AND PUBLIC HEALTH



Scientists Discover a Master Key to Microbes' Pathogenic Lifestyles



Pathogenic yeast form cells of *Blastomyces dermatitidis*.
Reprinted with permission. *J Exp Med* 1999; 189:
cover illustration

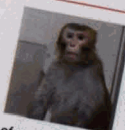
For some microbes, the transformation from a benign lifestyle in the soil to that of a potentially deadly human pathogen is just a breath away.

Inhaled into the lungs of a mammal, spores from a class of six related soil molds found around the world encounter a new, warmer environment. And as soon as they do, they rapidly shift gears and assume the guise of pathogenic yeast, causing such serious and sometimes deadly afflictions as blastomycosis and histoplasmosis.

But how these usually bucolic fungi undergo such a transformation to become serious pathogens has always been a puzzle. Now, however, a team of scientists from the UW School of Medicine and Public Health reports the discovery of a master molecular sensor embedded in the spores of the fungi that triggers the transformation. The finding was reported in the April 28 edition of the journal *Science*.

Read more

Diet and Aging Study Gains \$7.9 Million Grant



A pioneering long-term study of the links between diet and aging in monkeys will continue through 2011 with the help of a new \$7.9 million grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

First initiated at the National Primate Research Center at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1989, the study examines the effects of a reduced-calorie diet on the aging process and health of 76 rhesus monkeys. It is one of only two long-term studies of its kind, and during the course of 16 years has shown that a nutritious but reduced-calorie diet has multiple benefits for health and aging.

Read more

New Clues Found to the Biochemistry of Anti-Aging



Researchers at University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) have found that sirtuins, a family of enzymes aging in humans, may orchestrate the activity of other enzymes involved in metabolic processes in the body.

Published in the June 19-23, 2006, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, the study is the first to show that sirtuins directly control specific metabolic enzymes--called AceCSs--in mammalian cells.

The finding has attracted the interest of biotechnology companies seeking to make drugs that delay the aging process and age-related diseases.

Read more

Research Digest Now Available

The University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health recently launched *Research Digest*, an online newsletter describing research advances and related programs and activities at the school.

The newsletter can be accessed at http://www.med.wisc.edu/research/research_news.php.

Published quarterly, the newsletter includes feature stories on research findings, summaries of patents,

descriptions of new clinical trials, notices about events of interest and other relevant information. To be placed on the mailing list, please send an e-mail to researchdigest@hosp.wisc.edu.

Athletes Group Supports SMPH

Childhood Cancer Research

by Michael Felber

Midwest Athletes Against Childhood Cancer, also known as the MACC Fund, has funded six childhood cancer research grants at the University of Wisconsin totaling \$300,000.

The Milwaukee-based MACC Fund, which was created in 1976 by former Milwaukee Bucks player Jon McGlocklin and former Bucks radio voice Eddie Doucette, has been an important source of research funding for three decades.

"The MACC Fund has been a very proud sponsor of childhood cancer research at the UW, having awarded more than \$2 million in grants during the past 22 years," says MACC Fund chair Bill Steinberg, who is also co-chair of the UW Paul P. Carbone Comprehensive Cancer Center Advisory Board. "Many of the advances made in helping kids fight cancer stem from work done at the UW, and the MACC Fund is honored to play a role in making these efforts possible."



From left: John Cary, Jon McGlocklin and Bill Steinberg of the MACC Fund, with Paul Sondel and Ellen Wald of the SMPH Department of Pediatrics and Patty Porter of the UW Foundation.

Paul Sondel, MD, PhD, head of the UW Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Division, says the six grants being funded in 2006 are based on laboratory, translational or clinical research that impacts directly on the treatment of children with cancer.

"We are very grateful to the MACC Fund for supporting our work in Madison," Sondel says. "As funding for this type of research has been reduced by

the National Cancer Institute, support from organizations such as the MACC Fund is all the more meaningful."

The six grants funded by this year's MACC Fund include research being done by the following researcher-physicians: Kenneth DeSantes, MD; Sinisa Dovatz, MD, D.Sc.; Jacquelyn Hank, PhD; Alexander Rakhmilevich, MD, PhD; Christine Seroogy, MD; and Sondel.

"The MACC Fund has been a very proud sponsor of childhood cancer research at the University of Wisconsin, having awarded more than \$2 million in grants over the past 22 years."

Alumni Cruise *the Rhine River*

A beautiful 10-day Rhine River cruise that took Wisconsin travelers from Basel, Switzerland, to Amsterdam in the Netherlands was the perfect setting for making many new friendships and rekindling alumni connections.

Sponsored by the Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association (WMAA) and the Wisconsin Alumni Association (WAA),

the cruise took place June 9 through 19, 2006 on the river vessel the *Rembrandt*. Nearly 50 alumni, faculty and friends of the UW School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) and guests of the WAA enjoyed a sweep of European culture and landscapes. Famous cities and little-known towns were showcased along the river tour.

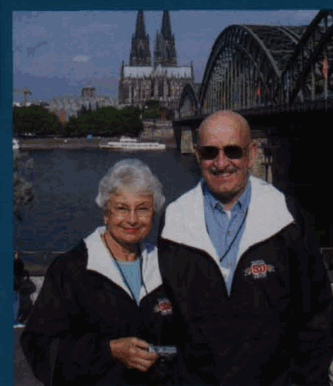
"It was so rewarding to meet new alumni who feel such a strong connection to the SMPH and the UW," says Karen Peterson, WMAA executive director. "It was fun to watch the instant camaraderie among the UW guests. The leisurely cruise was a perfect opportunity to learn about alumni who have had such impressive careers."

—Continued on next page

Rhine River Cruise



The Wisconsin Spirit was strong. At the end of the trip, the group gathered for a UW farewell (top). James and Wanda Schmidt (top right) and Kathe and Archie Budzak (bottom right) enjoyed the sights on land.



The cruise began with a captain's reception during which wind jackets sporting the WMAA's 50th anniversary logo were distributed to all UW guests. Former Dean Philip Farrell, MD, PhD, reminded everyone of the SMPH's coming centennial next year and the WMAA's 50th anniversary this year. "Let the celebrations begin," he said.

Highlights included a tour of the Renaissance city of Basel, a trek through the magnificent Black Forest, medieval churches and houses along the Route du Vin as well as a stop for a taste of the

famous vintages of the surrounding wine country. Cruisers also enjoyed a day in Strasbourg, France, known for its Old Town and the Petite France area.

Heidelberg, Germany, also was a popular stop, providing travelers an opportunity to explore beautiful castle ruins. The Gutenberg Museum in Mainz and the famous cathedral in Cologne were also featured.

A 50-mile stretch between Koblenz and Cologne was considered by many to be the most beautiful scenery along the Rhine. Here vineyards cling to steep hills



Brian and Yolanda Becker brought their children, Ian and Anna.



The entire Herb Sandmire family was on the cruise.



The Beckers, Pat McBride and former Dean Phil Farrell led CME sessions.

and are crowned by towering castles. The trip ended in the Netherlands with a visit to Arnhem, famous for the Kroller-Muller Museum, and Amsterdam, where alumni enjoyed cheese and wooden clog making demonstrations.

This cruise was also a continuing medical education (CME) opportunity for alumni. Physicians who participated earned 0.6 CME credits. The lecture series, "Healthcare for the New Millennium: the UW Transformation," included topics such as cholesterol

control, nutrition, hypertension and organ transplantation.

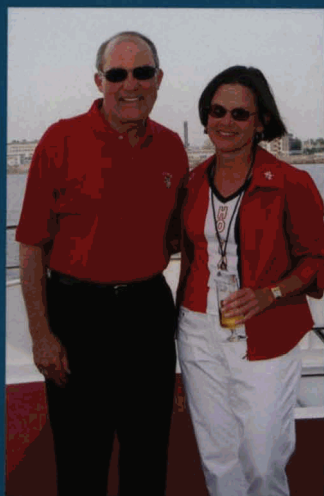
Faculty members presenting CME lectures included UW Health transplant surgeon Yolanda Becker, MD, an assistant professor of surgery; nephrologist Bryan Becker, MD, associate professor of hematology; and cardiologist Patrick McBride, MD '80, MPH, the SMPH associate dean of students. The sessions were presented while the *Rembrandt* was under way.

For Anne Schierl, MD '57, of Stevens Point, Wisconsin, the cruise offered a great chance to meet alumni of different ages and learn how things have changed at the school since she was a student. The relaxing pace of the trip was ideal for visiting with classmate and friend Bruce Stoehr, MD, and his wife, Jane. They are looking forward to the class' 50th reunion next year.

"I also enjoyed meeting people from Auburn University, and had fun teasing them about Wisconsin beating them in



Above: Marian and Ben Schuster enjoyed delicious regional cuisine. Right: Phil Farrell and Karen Peterson hosted a SMPH-WMAA reception on the final night of the cruise.



Top: Anne Schierl accepted an Auburn cap given playfully by Bill Bowling. Bottom: Dirk and Maureen Fisher celebrated their 30th anniversary on the trip.

football in 2005," she says. Her new friends playfully gave Schierl an Auburn hat as a souvenir at the end of the cruise.

For Dirk Fisher, MD '79, and his wife, Maureen, the trip was special on many levels. "My wife and I celebrated our 30th wedding anniversary on the cruise. We had never been to Europe and thought this trip would be a great way to first see the countries," says Fisher. "I attended the CME lectures, which were directed at a more general audience than being narrowly focused. The entire experience was excellent.

Karen did a wonderful job of organizing everything!"

On the last night of the cruise, the SMPH hosted a reception at which Farrell thanked the alumni for their participation. Many said the school should "do it again." The WMAA events committee will work with the WAA to explore options for medical alumni in the future, Peterson reports.



African American Medical Alumni

Reconnect During Reunion

On July 21, 2006, the Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association (WMAA) hosted African American alumni of the UW School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) for the first time. Held in the Health Sciences Learning Center, the event was spearheaded by Reverend Ronald Myers, Sr., MD '85. In conjunction with the WMAA, Myers planned the day to bring together alumni from across the country.

In addition to Myers, who has a family practice in Belzone, Mississippi, attendees included Salah Abdur-Rahman, MD '82, who practices internal medicine in New Bedford, Massachusetts; Ada Fisher, MD, '75, MPH, family practice, Salisbury, North Carolina; Jasper Fullard, Jr., MD '74, internal medicine, Kansas City, Missouri; Dial "Bucky" Hewlet, MD '76, internal medicine (infectious disease), Chappaqua, New York; Cassandra Wanzo, MD '78, psychiatry, Atlanta, Georgia; and Janie Washington, MD '83, obstetrics-gynecology, Milwaukee.

The group met the new SMPH Dean, Robert Golden, MD, and heard from

Ada Fisher, who is now a Congressional candidate from North Carolina (see story in Summer 2006 *Quarterly*). In addition, Gloria Johnson-Powell, MD, director of the SMPH Center for the Study of Cultural Diversity in Healthcare, described the center's mission, goals and programs.

Alumni also met with Gloria Hawkins, PhD, director of the SMPH Office of Multi-Cultural Affairs, as well as WMAA leaders Karen Peterson, executive director, and Sandra Osborn, MD '70, president.

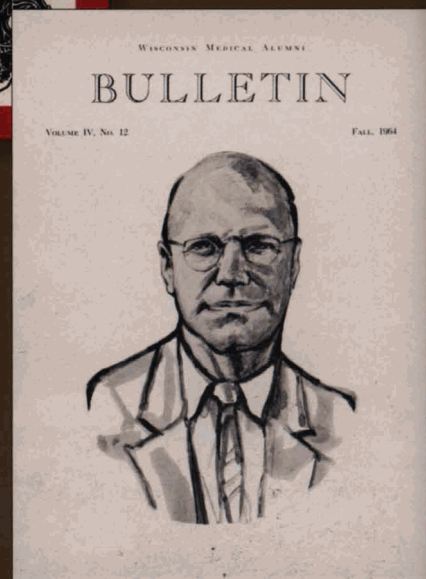
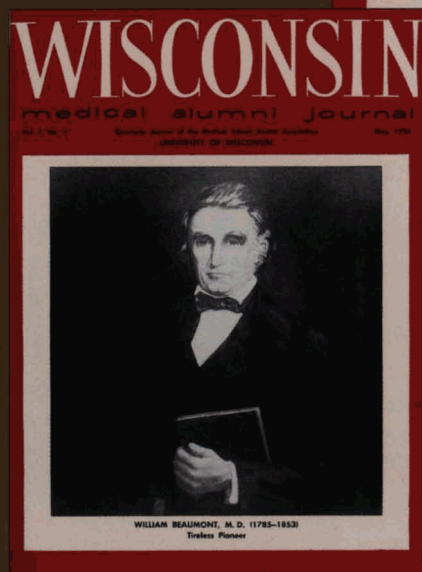
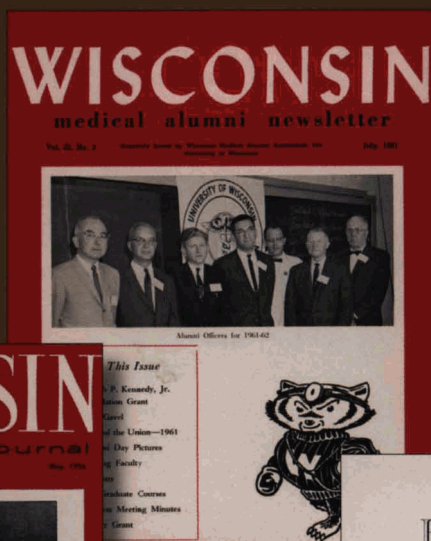
At the end of the day, alumni enjoyed a musical presentation by Myers and Madison musicians who played with him while they were college and medical students.

"The music was spectacular and a great way to end such a productive day for our alumni," says Peterson. "We thank Dr. Myers for his leadership."

Top to bottom: Talented musician and reunion organizer Ron Myers entertained the group. Salah Abdur-Rahman visited with medical student Oluyemisi Adeyemi. Jasper Fullard, Jr., and his wife, Patricia, enjoyed the reception.



History of the Quarterly



As *Quarterly* readers know, 2006 marks the 50th anniversary of the Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association (WMAA). Since the beginning, the WMAA has used a periodic publication as a tool to communicate with members of the organization, and so the *Quarterly* also marks its golden anniversary this year.

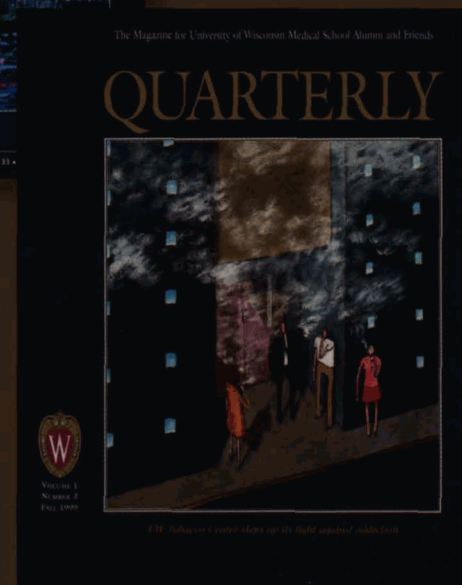
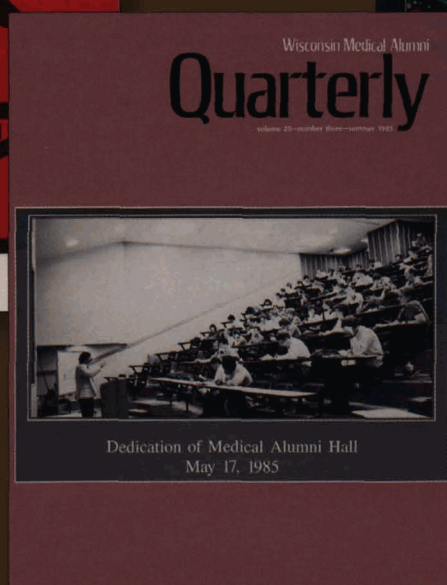
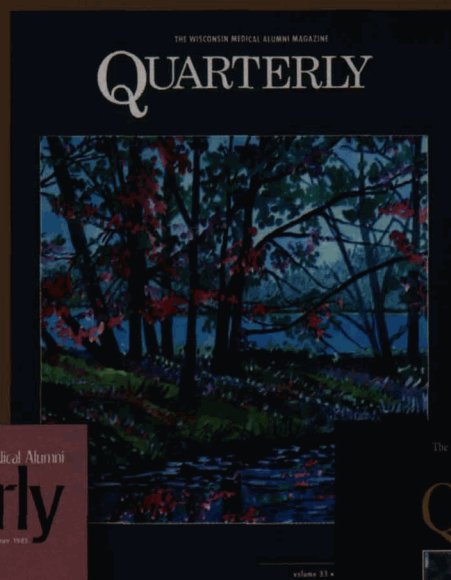
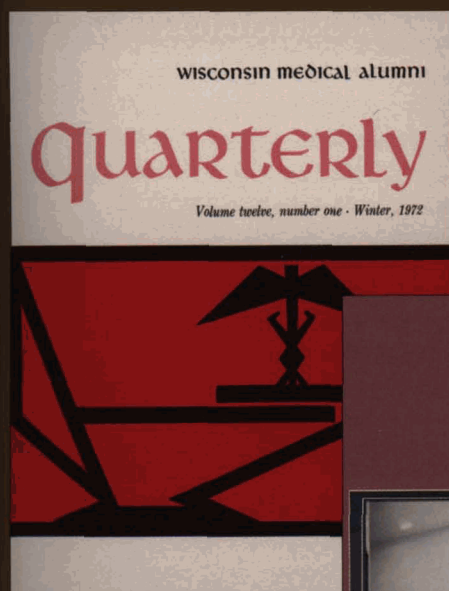
The *Wisconsin Medical Alumni Journal* was the first version of the magazine. The inaugural issue, published in 1956, was a rather scholarly publication that featured a piece on an unusual historical case of a gastric fistula that Dr. William Beaumont

treated. That issue also featured a field report on the Monroe and Marshfield Clinics, both of which were examples of some of the first group practices in Wisconsin. Faculty honors were also described, as was the diagnosis and treatment of atrial septal defects.

Two years later, the *Journal* was transformed into the *Wisconsin Medical Alumni Newsletter*. With Richard Samp, MD '31, serving as the editor, the 11-page July '61 issue featured a "State of the Union" address by Dean John Bowers. A spread on Alumni Day included many black and

white photographs, and a news item announced that Harry Waisman, MD '47, professor of pediatrics, had won a Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation grant for an experimental program in mental retardation research.

Later in 1961, the publication took the name *Medical Alumni Bulletin*. With Mischa Lustok, MD '35, as editor, the 27-page Fall '64 issue consisted of features on the McArdle Laboratory for Cancer Research and the UW-Madison student health service. The expanded magazine included editorials, letters to the editor, alumni and school news and a



questionnaire that formed the foundation of the first WMAA directory.

In 1965, the magazine became the *Wisconsin Medical Alumni Quarterly*, a name it has kept ever since. With Lustok still the editor, the 32-page Winter '72 issue featured the primary care summer externship. A gathering in which emeritus dean William Middleton presented a portrait of librarian Helen Crawford to the school upon her retirement was highlighted.

By 1985, the *Quarterly* (the magazine's shortened name) included

lists of continuing medical education opportunities, letters to the editor and the Dean's and President's columns. The summer issue that year listed names of the graduating class and residencies to which they had been accepted, as well as a feature on the Department of Physiology.

By fall 1993, Victor Falk, MD '39, was the editor and the magazine sported colorful, artistic covers. The issue had articles on ability-based assessment of medical students, the need to train more generalist physicians, and a national AIDS

meeting co-sponsored by the school. Richard Stiehm, MD '57, contributed an essay titled "In Search of the Renaissance Man."

In 1999, the WMAA and the school joined forces to co-sponsor the magazine. The additional funds brought four colors to the publication. The magazine has been growing steadily in size, currently at 48 pages per issue. As always, an editorial board consisting of alumni representing several classes remains actively involved.

WMAA New Strategic Planning Process is Under Way

Member Input to be Sought

At its fall meeting on October 13, 2006, the Board of Directors of the Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association (WMAA) will come together to plan for the WMAA's future. As in the past, the WMAA Strategic Planning Committee will be integrally involved in this process.

Chaired by WMAA president-elect, John Kryger, MD '92, the committee will present a draft strategic plan for discussion with the entire board. As the board finalizes the plan and begins to think about implementing it, alumni will be asked to provide input and suggestions on ways to best achieve the goals and address the needs of School of Medicine and Public Health alumni and students.

Alumni will be asked to provide input by talking with their class representatives or through the WMAA Web site: www.med.wisc.edu/alumni/. Look for notices from the WMAA as this process moves along.

Call for Nominations Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association Awards

The Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association (WMAA) awards committee invites you to nominate your colleagues and classmates for consideration for the 2007 Medical Alumni Association Awards listed below. School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) alumni, faculty and staff, as well as other professional colleagues, may submit nominations. Complete nominations should include:

- ^ A letter stating for which award you submit the nomination, outlining in detail the nominee's qualifications
- ^ The nominee's curriculum vitae, including address and phone number
- ^ Secondary letters or materials in support of the nomination if available

Deadline: Nominations for the 2007 WMAA Awards must be postmarked no later than **December 1, 2006**.

Submit nominations to address below or via email to kspeters@wisc.edu
Karen S. Peterson, Executive Director
Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association
750 Highland Avenue
Madison, WI 53705

MEDICAL ALUMNI CITATION AWARD

The award honors a SMPH alumnus who has achieved distinction in medicine. Achievement is recognized through excellence in the practice of medicine, academic activities and research accomplishments.

MEDICAL ALUMNI SERVICE AWARD

The award recognizes outstanding service to the WMAA. It is offered to an alumnus who has exhibited exceptional commitment to the association over a period of years.

RALPH HAWLEY DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

The award is conferred on an alumnus who has made outstanding contributions to the local community through medical practice, teaching, research or other humanitarian activities.

MEDICAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP

This award honors a SMPH or UW Hospital and Clinics employee who has been particularly supportive of and helpful to students and alumni.

Class Notes *compiled by Meghan Conlin*

1944

Mary Helen Chamberlin lives in Westfield, N.J. In her retirement she started writing about the big bang theory, quantum mechanics and the brain. Her writing focuses on the left brain and its role in religion and evolutionary development.

1947

Norman Makous of Brandywine, Penn., retired from patient care in 2001 and from medical legal consulting in 2006. His wife of 54 years died in 2003, and he remarried in 2004. His memoirs were published in June 2006 and are called *The Road Taken, My Life and Times*.

1948

Roland Liebenow of Lake Mills, Wis., recently composed and had printed a limited edition book of his wife's artwork. He has written and published two other books on local history subjects and has been writing historical articles for the *Lake Mills Leader* newspaper for the last 10 years.

1958

Sheldon Burchman of Milwaukee, recently retired from teaching anesthesiology and pain management at the Medical College of Wisconsin and Froedtert Hospital. Now a professor emeritus, he teaches medical ethics to second-year students at the college.

1970

Paul Wertsch and his wife, Kay Heggestad, were recently appointed chairs of the newly formed American Medical Association Advisory Committee on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Issues and the Wisconsin Medical Society's Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs. Both are active in the Madison Chapter of PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays).

1978

Malcom Snider and his wife, Kathie Melhuse, live in Salem, Ore., where Malcom practices orthopedic surgery. The couple met while he was completing medical school through the independent study program and playing for the Green Bay Packers and Kathie was working for the Wisconsin Alumni Association. Malcom was also the team doctor at his high school and the local college.

1981

David Aughey and his wife, Jill, live in St. Paul, Minn., with their two children, Anders and Jack. David is working for the Teenage Medical Service at the Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota.

Marjorie Bass and her husband, Leroy, live in St. Petersburg, Fla., in the winter. She enjoys cross-stitching, reading and gardening, and recently went on a tour of Europe with a group from Washington Island, Wis. She also sings in the Music

Festival chorus in Wisconsin every summer.

Thomas Church and his wife, Kathy, have lived in Lima, Ohio, for the last 21 years. Thomas works in interventional radiology. The Churches are raising two adopted special-needs children. Their three other children are all grown and out of the house. Thomas recently went on a medical mission trip to Nicaragua with one of his daughters, who is a physician assistant.

Robert DeMott and his wife, Susan, live in Green Bay, Wis. Robert just completed 19 years in obstetrics-gynecology practice in Green Bay and is teaching obstetrics to family practice residents while writing clinical research about Cesarean deliveries, labor management, shoulder dystocia and brachial plexus deficits. He is also doing legal obstetrical defense work on these subjects. In his spare time, Robert likes to golf, camp and cross country ski. He is caring for his father, who has Alzheimer's disease.

Andreas Doermann and his wife, Barbara, live in Mequon, Wis. Andreas is working in a private plastic surgery practice that does mostly reconstructive work. He and Barbara enjoy international mission travel, working with Operation Smile in Kenya and Nicaragua, and also traveling to Switzerland and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Their two children both attend UW-Madison. In their spare time, Andreas and Barbara enjoy gardening and other outdoor activities.

Barbara Fetters and her husband, Patrick Russell, live

in Hot Springs, S.D. Barbara is working at the VA as the clinical director of the compensation and pension program. Their daughter, Molly, is a sophomore at Colorado University in Boulder, and their son, Wayne, is a high school senior. In her spare time, Barbara likes to train for marathons and the Ironman triathlon.

Lynn Friedman and her husband, Stephen Bernot, live in Portland, Ore. Lynn is in her 20th year of solo private practice in adult psychiatry. They have two children, Adam, a sophomore at Western Oregon University majoring in premed-computer science who runs on the cross country team, and Erin, an eighth grader at the Arts and Communication Magnet Academy, who participates in ballet and Hip Hop dancing. Lynn is an avid runner who also enjoys yoga, swimming, weights and tennis.

Steven Nichols and his wife, Judy, settled outside Waco, Tex., after Steven retired from 23 years of service in the U.S. Navy. His Navy career included world-wide travel for overseas assignment and sea duty. He also served as a flight surgeon aboard a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, department head of family medicine at several clinics and hospitals and medical director at two major Naval hospitals. He now works in a semi-rural family practice outside Waco. The family lives on 25 acres, where they enjoy horseback riding and going to rodeos and cattle sales. The couple has three children: Susan, Billy and Becky, and one grandchild, Hannah.

Susan Nondahl and her husband, David, live in

Middleton, Wis. Susan practices general pediatrics at Associated Physicians Clinic in Madison, and is on the leadership team for the children's ministry at her church. Dave is a statistician with the UW Department of Ophthalmology. Their two children, twins Eric and Tiffany, are heading to college this year—Eric to Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Mich., and Tiffany to Indiana University in Bloomington.

Scott Peschke and his wife, Mary, live in Plymouth, Wis., where Scott practices family medicine at the Aurora Sheboygan Clinic. The couple has three children and spends a lot of time attending the children's events, particularly theatre, scouting, soccer, tennis and swimming. Mary is a school nurse, which keeps the family very involved with the school district, and they enjoy spending time swimming, boating and ice skating at their cottage near their home.

Richard Rozran and his wife, Kris, live in Mequon, Wis., where Richard practices radiology. The couple has two children, Brad and Lindsey. The Rozrans enjoy European travels and watching their children participate in sports.

James Smrecek and his wife, Shelley, live in Sherwood, Wis. James has worked for 21 years in an urgent care setting. The couple

has four children, Jenni, Tara, Christina and Heidi, and also two grandchildren, Rose and Lydia. They live next to High Cliff State Park and enjoy many outdoor activities.

Gail Wellenstein and her husband, Nicholas de Chadenes, live in Everett, Wash., with their two children, Mark and Brett. Gail is in her fourth year teaching high school life sciences at a private high school, and her husband is continuing the pediatric practice they started in 1986. The couple enjoys skiing, gardening and hiking.

Kevin Wienkers and his wife, Cindy, live in Green Bay, Wis., with their four children, Brianne, Aaron, Britt Marie and Madeline. Kevin practices ophthalmology in an 11-person group in Green Bay and is part owner of the Aurora Bay Care Hospital (the first for-profit hospital in the state). The family keeps busy with soccer, which all four kids play. Last year, they went on a bareboat trip to Tortola and spent two weeks in Europe.

Mary Zimmer and her husband, Jon, live in Milwaukee. Mary is working at Advanced Healthcare in Pediatrics. The couple has two children, Clara, who they adopted from China in 2001, and Katherine. They are kept busy with the kids, but

do enjoy going to the opera in Chicago a few times a year. Mary also teaches students and residents at the Medical College of Wisconsin as part of the volunteer clinical faculty, which she enjoys very much.

Arnold Krubsack and his wife, Judie, live in Sun Prairie, Wis., where Arnold does consulting in medical marketing. The couple is very involved with the Sun Prairie Civic Theatre, where Arnold has acted, and Judie has been involved in the music for productions of "The Sound of Music," "Fiddler on the Roof" and "Oliver." Their daughter is living in Alexandria, Virginia, where she is a research and instructional librarian, and their son is a partner in a post-production studio in Los Angeles.

Wanda Miller-Hance lives in Manvel, Texas. She is an attending physician at Texas Children's Hospital in Houston, where she practices pediatric cardiology and cardiovascular anesthesiology. She is also a faculty member at Baylor College of Medicine.

Jami Walloch and his wife, Carolyn, live in Lemont, Ill., where Jami practices pathology and cytopathology at Advocate Christ Medical Center for the Midwest Diagnostic Pathologists. His main focus is on oncology and women's health. The couple has been married for five years and has a blended family with four children. They enjoy golf, running, biking and the culinary arts.

Frederick Wamboldt and **Marianne Wamboldt** live in Denver, Colo., where Frederick works in psychosocial medicine and Marianne works in child and adolescent psychiatry. The couple has two children, Krystyna, who is a senior at Pomona College, and Alexander, who is a freshman at Brown University. The Wamboldts are celebrating their 30th wedding anniversary this fall.

1985

In December, **John Gosbee** was awarded a Cheers award from the Institute for Safe Medication Practices. The award recognizes those who have set a standard of excellence in preventing medication errors and adverse drug events. John leads the development of patient safety resources for the Veterans Health Administration for the Veterans Administration's National Center for Patient Safety in Ann Arbor, Mich.

1990

Daniel Zimmerman recently returned to Wisconsin to accept the position of assistant medical director at the home office of the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company in Milwaukee. His primary responsibilities will include morbidity and mortality analysis, case consultation, corporate education and underwriting standards development. He previously practiced internal medicine and pediatrics at Tampa General Hospital in Tampa, Florida.

1993

Aysha Shaikh Schaper is a new staff physician at the Sunnyslope Health Center as well as an assistant clinical professor of medicine at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee.

1999

Timothy Fenske has joined the staff at Froedtert Hospital and has been made assistant professor of medicine in the division of neoplastic diseases and related disorders at the Medical College of Wisconsin.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently established an editorial board for its journal *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)*, and SMPH alumni **Dennis Maki, MD '67**, and **Patrick Remington, MD '81, MPH**, have been named to it. *MMWR* contains data on specific diseases and reports on diseases, environmental hazards, natural or human-generated disasters, occupational diseases and injuries and intentional and unintentional injuries. Maki is an expert on nosocomial infections, and studies novel agents to treat septic shock and the epidemiology and prevention of infections caused by antimicrobial-resistant pathogens. Remington is an expert on cancer surveillance and public health approaches to tobacco and cancer control. He is director of the UW Population Health Institute and the SMPH Master in Public Health degree program. Both Maki and Remington are graduates of the CDC's Epidemic Intelligence Service.

2000

Allen Last is the new assistant director of the family medicine residency program at All Saints Healthcare and has become an assistant professor of family and community medicine at the Medical College of Wisconsin.

2001

Salman Ahmad and his wife, Bushra, live in Sacramento, Calif., where Salman is doing a trauma and surgical critical care fellowship at University of California at Davis.

Jason Baker and his wife, Kimberly, live in Minneapolis, Minn., where Jason is finishing an infectious disease fellowship and completing a master's of science in clinical research at the University of Minnesota. He is now transitioning to a faculty position and Hennepin County Medical Center to focus on HIV clinical research. The couple has a two-year-old son, Colin, who keeps them very busy. The Bakers love to travel. They fell in love with the Pacific Northwest during a residency there and hope to move back someday.

Peter Bissonnette and his wife, Lara, live in Eugene, Ore., where Peter works with Northwest Anesthesia Physicians. The couple has two children, four-year-old Philip and two-year-old Nora. They enjoy disc golfing, crabbing and hiking.

Tony Borba and his wife, Lupita, live in Tucson, Ariz., where Tony practices anesthesiology. The couple has one child, 15-month-old Joaquin, and is expecting their second son in October. In their free time, the family likes to swim.

Sara Dennis and her husband, Eugene, live in Fond du Lac, Wis., where Sara practices obstetrics-gynecology at the Fond du Lac Regional Clinic. The couple has two children, three-

year-old Miles and one-year-old Henry. In her free time, Sara likes to run, golf and garden.

Chris Eberlein and his wife, Kelly, live in La Crosse, Wis., where Chris practices emergency medicine. The couple has three children, and they like to canoe, bike and fish.

Amy Kind and her husband, Brian, live in Madison, where Amy practices geriatrics and is pursuing a PhD in population health sciences. The couple enjoys camping and curling. They are expecting their first child in August.

Maria Mandt (Klein) and her husband, Bruce, live in Denver, where Maria practices pediatric emergency medicine. She is also a PALS instructor and an EMS liaison. Her hobbies include backpacking, snowshoeing, skiing, biking, hiking and anything else in the mountains.

Charles Meredith and his wife, Janet, live in Seattle, where Charles practices psychiatry. The couple has three children, six-year-old Alexandra, three-year-old Luke and eight-month-old Isaac. They enjoy bird watching and hiking.

Benjamin Pofahl lives in Minneapolis, Minn., where he practices family medicine with Park Nicollete. He enjoys biking, running, soccer, hiking and traveling. He just completed his first triathlon and is traveling to the Hillside Clinic in Belize to volunteer.

Matthew Sager and his wife, Julie, just returned to Madison, after living in Providence, R.I. Matthew is the psychiatry inpatient and consultation liaison at St. Mary's in Madison. The Sagers are expecting their first child in August. They enjoy running, traveling and fixing up their 100-year-old home.

Brian Schreiber lives in Menomonee Falls, Wis., and practices with Summit Anesthesiology Ltd. He has one son, Luke, who is 12 months old. He is a member of several quality review and improvement committees and is a preceptor for transitional residents. In his free time, he likes to golf and spend time with his family.

Heather Toth and her husband, Ryan Festerling, live in Pewaukee, Wis., where Heather works for the Medical College of Wisconsin. The couple has one child, Lydia, and is expecting another.

David Vanschyndel and his wife, Britta, live in Minneapolis, Minn., where David finished a residency at Hennepin County Medical Center and is now practicing internal medicine at a Minneapolis clinic. He enjoys fly fishing and traveling.

Marie Walker and her husband, Tom, live in Rockford, Ill., where Marie has a private practice at the Rockford Spine Center. The couple is expecting their first child in March 2007.

Meghan Walsh and her husband, Charles, live in St. Paul, Minn., where Meghan practices internal medicine at Academic Hospitalist. Meghan is on the teaching faculty for the University of Minnesota/CDC Tropical Medicine certificate course. The couple has one child, Maura, who is 17 months old.

Susanna Mac (photo at right) and her husband, Mark Sandberg, live in San Diego, Calif., where Susanna is a medical writer for Amylin Pharmaceuticals. The couple has one son, Peter, who is two years old. They enjoy gardening.

Megi Morishita lives in Eugene, Ore., and practices as an obstetrician/gynecologist at the Oregon Medical Group's Center for Women's Health. She has traveled extensively throughout the third world and worked on projects in Vietnam, China, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Ghana, Tanzania and El Salvador.

In Memoriam

Mark Gilmore, '63
November 2005
San Diego, California

Aaron Kaplan '48
January 2006
West Orange, New Jersey

Carol Tomlinson Matthey '40
July 15, 2006
Madison, Wisconsin

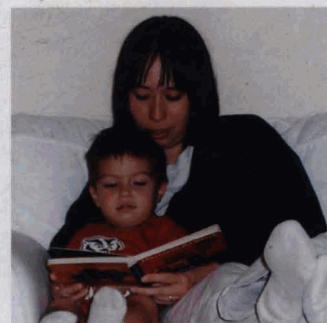
Laurie A. Noll '86
August 5, 2006
Middleton, Wisconsin

Richard Pawsat '61
Fond du Lac, Wisconsin

Marvin Roesler '54
February 2006
Clearwater, Florida

Robert Schuyler '46
June 12, 2006
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

James Sheehy '61
December 2005
Flint, Michigan



Class Representatives

DON SELZER **CLASS: 1996**

TYPE OF PRACTICE:

General and bariatric surgery at an academic medical center, a private community hospital and a VA hospital.



FONDEST MEMORY OF MEDICAL

SCHOOL: During our third year, my roommate, Tony Weiss, and I walked over a mile in temperatures below -20 degrees to a pub called the Blue Moon. We thought it might be closed or completely empty. To our surprise, it was packed with people, including several medical students and residents.

HOBBIES/INTERESTS: I try to stay active jogging and working outdoors around our home. In the fall, I watch the Packers and Badgers football. In summer, I attend the Indianapolis 500 and the US Grand Prix in Indianapolis. My wife and I enjoy trips to New York, San Francisco and Chicago.

OTHER NEWS: I finished my general surgery residency at Indiana University (IU) and a laparoscopic surgery fellowship at Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York. I married Cindy, a Butler University clinical pharmacy professor. I'm an assistant professor at IU School of Medicine and director of the Center for Surgical Technology.

FACULTY MEMBER REMEMBERED THE MOST AND WHY: Folkert Belzer. I was fortunate to have rotated on the surgical services before his departure from practice. His seemingly limitless knowledge of all surgical subjects led to my interest in general surgery.

MESSAGE TO YOUR CLASSMATES:

Medical education has changed significantly and many of you are an important part of educating future physicians. Despite the passage of time, I can't imagine having had a better experience than that offered to us at UW. Although I will admit idealism is an endangered species, I hope each of you can keep a little bit of it alive for the next 10 years.

PLANS FOR A REUNION: I hope everyone enjoys the reunion. My presence at the reunion may have to be in spirit alone, since we are expecting our first child in October.

DAVE HENNINGSEN **CLASS: 1991**

TYPE OF PRACTICE:

Family Practice

FONDEST MEMORY OF MEDICAL SCHOOL:

Paul Rou in a tutu in the sperm dance at third year skits.

HOBBIES/INTERESTS: Family, hunting, fishing, wakeboarding, water skiing and downhill skiing, camping.

FACULTY MEMBER REMEMBERED THE MOST AND WHY: Ed Bursu of the anatomy department because I just loved his little nude fetal mice.

MESSAGE TO CLASSMATES: Hey, 15 years! That's long enough that a reunion should be more of a challenge to our memories and a look back through rose-colored glasses rather than a painful reminder of what we put ourselves through. My memory is admittedly poor but I look forward to catching up with some of you whom I think about occasionally, and reacquainting myself with others. I hope you all can make it back!

PLANS FOR A REUNION: If things go well, I will see a lot of former classmates, meet the new Dean of the school, and watch the Badgers beat the Gophers. There will be several opportunities to meet up with others from our Class of '91, especially at the tailgate brunch at Union South at 9 a.m. on Saturday, October 14.



MARC S. WILLIAMS **CLASS: 1981**

TYPE OF PRACTICE:

Director, Clinical Genetics Institute, Intermountain Healthcare Salt Lake City, Utah. I also run a genetics clinic one day a week that focuses on adults with mental retardation, birth defects and genetic syndromes.

FONDEST MEMORY OF MEDICAL

SCHOOL: Sitting in the back of the old lecture hall (227 SMI) with my group of friends to "discuss" the lecture, our classmates and news of the day.

HOBBIES/INTERESTS: Singing: I am the bass section leader of the Utah Symphony Chorus; playing trombone: I play in the Orchestra of Sandy City, the Ultimate Utah Trombone Ensemble and did a solo recital this spring; art: I have a business, Diverse Ayres Fine Art, specializing in American Art from 1900-1940 (www.originalprints.com, click on dealers and then on Diverse Ayres to see more); enjoying the Utah outdoors.

OTHER NEWS: I was recently elected to the Board of the American College of Medical Genetics. Janet is working with me in the Clinical Genetics Institute taking leadership in implementation of family history projects and developing oncology genetic services. Daughter Alyson, 23, graduated from UW-Madison in 2005 with majors in music history and Spanish literature. Christiana, 21, is starting her third year at the University of Minnesota in choral music education.

FACULTY MEMBER REMEMBERED

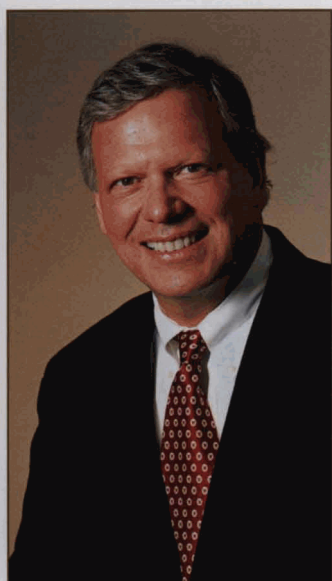
THE MOST AND WHY: Richard Friedman of internal medicine. He had innovative ideas about medical education that I've incorporated in my teaching throughout my career.

MESSAGE TO CLASSMATES: Can't wait to see you this fall to catch up on what everyone is doing.

PLANS FOR A REUNION: Cheer Bucky against the invading Gophers from the north. Celebrate the victory at dinner later on Saturday (or drown our sorrows, if necessary).



Staying Connected, Working Together



Christopher Larson, MD '75
Editorial Board Chair

Pride in the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health has never been greater among alumni and friends. And connections with the school have never been stronger.

The connections have been growing since the Affiliation Agreement, a major part of the strategic plan adopted by the Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association (WMAA) in 2000, brought together the school, the UW Foundation and the WMAA. This partnership fulfills our mission of increased alumni involvement in the school's teaching, rural outreach and internationally renowned research activities.

Much of what we see in our state today is the result of a philosophy adopted in 1904, when Charles Van Hise, then president of UW-Madison, outlined the Wisconsin Idea. He declared "...that the boundaries of the university should be the boundaries of the state, and that research conducted at the University of Wisconsin should be applied to solve problems and improve health, quality of life, the environment and agriculture for all citizens of the state."

This issue of the *Quarterly* features the work of Drs. Ronald and Barbara Klein, groundbreaking research involving the residents of Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, that exemplifies the fruitful synergies that can exist between the university and the state. Such connections reinforce the Wisconsin Idea.

With strong backgrounds in preventive medicine, epidemiology and public health, the Kleins joined the medical school in the late 1970s. As a senior resident at the time, I heard of their plans for what seemed like an implausible undertaking: traveling to remote locations to study the eye complications of diabetes.

The UW faculty shared the Kleins' vision of a population-based study with obvious translational research

possibilities. Their plan, which included purchasing a 40-foot van from the state for \$1 and adding \$10,000 worth of upgrades, created a traveling research examination facility capable of visiting distant locations to stage the disease over time in a stable population. The Wisconsin Epidemiological Study of Diabetic Retinopathy has done much to define the natural history of this disease, highlighting the influence of blood sugar, blood pressure, lifestyle and other factors.

The research earned the Kleins a nearly perfect score from the National Institutes of Health for the last protocol they submitted to examine the diabetic cohort for a 25-year follow-up, placing them among the elite of federally-funded researchers. Barbara praises the university for being a "perfect gem," while Ron credits those who made resources available at the start of the project, as well as the people who were involved in the study who showed extraordinary commitment by promoting participant enrollment and compliance for follow-up visits.

Beginning in 1988, the Kleins spearheaded the Beaver Dam Eye Study, a large population-based study that involves the whole Beaver Dam adult population between the ages of 43 and

86. The study addresses risk factors affecting the most common eye diseases in a stable population base, looking at far-reaching, quality-of-life issues going beyond just eye disease. Due to the efforts of many, the recruitment phase reached a high level, enrolling 82 percent of eligible adults. These subjects have been examined and tested at 5-year intervals, with researchers measuring correlates of morbidity. The full cooperation of community leaders, primary care physicians, ophthalmologists and optometrists helped this program's recruitment phase to reach a level of success far exceeding that of the venerable Framingham Heart Study.

It's my hope that friends and alumni who live many miles from the UW-Madison campus stay abreast of these and other UW initiatives through our efforts at WMAA. I am grateful for letters written by class reps, mailings from medical school departments to friends and constituents, an active *Quarterly* editorial board, and our newly updated WMAA Web site, all of which keep friends and alumni connected to the school, its work and its many successes.

Calendar of Events

October, 2006

OCTOBER 13-14 HOMECOMING WEEKEND

Reunions for the classes of 1961, 1969, 1971,
1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996 and 2001

Friday, October 13

10-11:30 a.m. *Quarterly* Editorial Board Meeting
1:30-3:30 p.m. WMAA Board of Directors Meeting
5 p.m. HSLC Tours for Alumni
Presidents Homecoming Celebration
Monona Terrace Convention Center
6 p.m. Reception, Dinner and Program
8 p.m. Music and Dancing

Saturday, October 14

UW vs. Minnesota football game
9 a.m. tailgate
11 a.m. game

November, 2006

Friday, November 3

Alpha Omega Alpha Banquet
6 p.m. HSLC Atrium

Thursday, November 16

Middleton Society Dinner
6 p.m. Monona Terrace Convention Center

May, 2007

MAY 10-12 ALUMNI WEEKEND

Friday, May 18

Graduation

October, 2007

OCTOBER 26-27 HOMECOMING WEEKEND

We Want to Hear From You

Please send us information about your honors received, appointments, career advancements, publications, volunteer work and other activities of interest. We'll include your news in the Alumni Notebook section of the *Quarterly* as space allows. Please include names, dates and location. **Photographs are encouraged.**

Name _____ Year _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail Address _____

Recent Activities _____

Have you moved?

Please send us your new address.
Mail to: Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association
Health Sciences Learning Center
750 Highland Ave.
Madison, WI 53705

Rather connect by computer?

Please send your information to us at:
www.med.wisc.edu/Alumni/stayconnected.asp

■ Observations



The UW Marching Band starts practicing during late summer, a sure sign that fall and football are on their way. Mark Albanese, PhD, SMPH professor of population health sciences, took this picture in 2004 from his tenth floor office in the WARF Building.

Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association
Health Sciences Learning Center
750 Highland Avenue
Madison, WI 53705

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Madison, WI
Permit No. 2117
