Gross Anatomy
A RITE OF PASSAGE

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MARCH 2013
Friday, March 15
Match Day

APRIL 2013
Friday, April 12
Alpha Omega Alpha Banquet

APRIL 25-27 • ALUMNI WEEKEND
Reunions for Classes of 1953, ’58, ’63 and ’68

MAY 2013
Friday, May 17
SMPH Graduation

SEPTEMBER 2013
Friday, September 27
Middleton Society Event at Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center

OCTOBER 2013
OCTOBER 11-12 • HOMECOMING WEEKEND
UW vs. Northwestern University
Gross Anatomy
This first-year tradition cultivates compassion and creates intense bonds among students and faculty.

Dean's Cup
The SMPH proudly displays the traveling trophy earned through this annual, collegial competition among SMPH and UW Law students.

Winter on Campus (above)
On their trek between classes, UW-Madison students carry on—and share some laughs—despite the winter weather.

On the Cover
Professor Emeritus John Harting (second from left) shared his skills and knowledge with students in the neuroanatomy/neuroscience course, which he directed for nearly 35 years. Second-year medical students pictured are Michael Kessler (left), Allison Grace (back right) and Lynsey Watry (foreground right).
For any academic institution, the faculty and staff are pivotal in defining its vision and achieving its goals and missions. This has certainly been the case since the founding of the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) more than a century ago. We have been blessed with creative, innovative and highly productive faculty whose work has touched the lives of our students and patients. Through their outreach, research and national leadership activities, our faculty’s impact has extended beyond Wisconsin’s borders to include the entire country and, increasingly, the global village.

In this issue of Quarterly, we feature the recent renovation of our anatomy teaching laboratories and focus on two stellar anatomy faculty whose work has been momentous for a generation of learners. Drs. Edward Bersu and John Harting have created a strong foundation that will last well beyond their years of active service.

If we are to have the greatest possible impact for the entire diverse population of Wisconsin, our faculty themselves must embody diversity. I am so proud of our Centennial Scholars Program, which in a short time has dramatically increased the size and scope of our faculty who represent those populations in our state for which health disparities remain a serious challenge. As you will read in the feature article, the careers of Drs. Chris Capitini, Tracy Downs and Heather Johnson, as well as the other eight Centennial Scholars, are exceptionally strong and promising. Their work—which spans the spectrum of basic, clinical, translational and population health sciences, as well as medical humanities—will have a direct impact on the lives of all of our students, patients and the people of Wisconsin.

We also are delighted to highlight one of the early Native American graduates of our school, Dr. Faith Ottery, whose remarkable life and career embody the best traditions of the SMPH. Stay tuned for future news in Quarterly about our evolving plans to create a new program that will emphasize the training of Native American physicians.

Our faculty members teach not only through their direct interactions with students but also on a broad national platform through their scholarly works. On page 38, we highlight extremely impressive, recently published books written by three of our star faculty members. It is difficult for anyone to keep up with the remarkably explosive publication record of our collective faculty. But, for the record, I have personally perused these three books and found each of them to be enlightened, thoughtful and stimulating.

Of course, a vibrant school of medicine and public health draws much of its strength from the daily interactions across all components of our academic community. It is a truism that teachers learn at least as much from their students as do the students from their teachers. Based on the highlights of a small sampling of our outstanding faculty teachers in this issue, it is clear that the bar for our students has been set quite high in this regard. Not to worry—our students are rising to fully embrace and meet that challenge. And they have even delivered the proverbial “icing on the cake.” Once again, they defeated their colleagues in the UW School of Law and brought home the Dean’s Cup trophy!

Robert N. Golden, MD
Dean, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health
Vice Chancellor for Medical Affairs
UW-Madison
Greetings medical alumni and friends!

As I reflect on our successful fall semester, I remember many colorful activities for alumni, students, parents and friends.

Beginning with the Gold Humanism Honor Society ceremony that honored many fourth-year medical students and faculty members, and the annual White Coat Ceremony, we moved along to the spectacular Middleton Society gala at the Wisconsin Institutes for Discovery (see fall 2012 Quarterly), and capped off the autumn festivities during University of Wisconsin-Madison's Homecoming. That weekend featured a well-attended open house at our newly renovated Medical Alumni Anatomy Suite, followed by a Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association (WMAA) dinner at the Memorial Union and the next morning's WMAA tailgate party before the Badgers football game. Eight alumni classes came together for reunions amidst the red and white revelry! I hope you enjoy reading about these events in this issue.

We welcomed 2013 with great enthusiasm! The WMAA's new strategic plan is taking our organization in a direction that offers many opportunities for you to connect with our students and the UW School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) in unique ways. To that end, we aim to ensure that every medical student will make a meaningful alumni connection. The Student Host, Wisconsin Shadow and Student Alumni Partnership programs are helping us reach this goal.

Along these lines, the WMAA introduced the Medical Student Ambassador Program, which is managed by a group of volunteer student leaders who foster professional and personal relationships among medical students and SMPH alumni. They will attend all WMAA events, offer tours of our building and talk with alumni about what it’s like to be medical students in this day and age. They would love to arrange a meeting with you, in an informal setting, where you could share your experiences, discuss your specialty and pass on “pearls of wisdom.”

Two outstanding events have helped achieve this same goal. The eighth annual “Operation: Education” brought together 40 alumni, faculty physicians and residents and about 120 students to explore their specialty interests. And the WMAA Winter Event at the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art united more than 100 alumni and students.

We know spring—and Medical Alumni weekend, April 25-27—are next on the horizon. We will celebrate reunions with the SMPH Classes of 1953, ’58, ’63 and ’68, and showcase the work of our medical student ambassadors and the school. The WMAA is arranging tours of the Chazen Art Museum, Union South and the health sciences campus, so mark your calendars.

Additionally, I share a heartfelt thank you to all of you who contributed to the WMAA and the SMPH this past year. Your gifts are the lifeblood of our organization. You have helped us to reduce student debt and provide many opportunities to ensure our students have an excellent experience during their time at the SMPH and emerge fully prepared to enter medical practice.

To learn more about these programs and events, including how to volunteer to share your expertise with our students, please visit the WMAA web site at med.wisc.edu/alumni or visit our Facebook page.

As always, please contact me with your ideas, issues or any concerns. You can reach me via e-mail at kspeters@wisc.edu or by telephone at (608) 263-4913; my mailing address is listed on the back cover. I look forward to hearing from you!

Karen S. Peterson
Executive Director
Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association
Beloved by many, Professor Emeritus Edward Bersu greeted visitors at the October 2012 opening of the renovated anatomy laboratories, which offer an advanced air handling system and high-quality overhead lighting.
A prominently displayed photograph of Charles Bardeen, MD, first dean of the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH), shows him standing in an anatomy class in Science Hall in 1914. With organs in large glass jars and limbs on his podium illustrating muscles, ligaments and nerves, he taught his students, who were seated at long tables before him, about important anatomical structures. Gross anatomy was a fundamental course for future physicians even before the medical school was officially created in 1925.

Roland Liebenow, MD ’48, also taught anatomy classes in Science Hall. During his first year of medical school in 1944, school staff asked if he would take a year off from his studies to be a teaching assistant for anatomy professors Drs. Walter Sullivan, Otto Mortensen and Harland Mossman the following year. As enticements, he received $100 a month and a chimpanzee cadaver on which to practice.

“This was my first teaching experience, and I found it delightful because the medical students were so motivated to learn,” Liebenow notes.

After lectures in the Science Hall auditorium, students took the manned elevator to dissection rooms several floors up, to work on their cadavers, which typically came from “poor farms,” where destitute men of the time lived and died.

“Science Hall was cold in the winter and warm in the summer,” Liebenow recalls.

The gross anatomy laboratories moved in 1957 from Science Hall to Bardeen Medical Laboratories, and again in 1981 to the present location, one floor down and around the corner in the Service Memorial Institute. Those buildings and the old UW Hospital make up today’s Medical Sciences Center.

Now, 30 years and countless anatomy lessons later, the laboratories have been completely renovated.

“Everything—except the cadaver tanks—needed to be replaced or upgraded,” says Karen Peterson, executive director of the Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association (WMAA). “Alumni played a key role in funding the do-over. Donors outside of the alumni group were generous as well.”

Several years ago, plans called for building an entirely new gross anatomy laboratory for the health sciences schools, but the price tag for taking on such an ambitious project from scratch made that plan prohibitive. Instead, modernizing and re-engineering the existing laboratories became the new goal.

To date, more than 140 people have contributed approximately $225,000. To recognize those donors and officially open the new laboratories, the SMPH held an open house on October 26, 2012, during Homecoming Weekend.

Visitors quickly noticed the labs’ clean lines and brightness, with large operating room-style lights over each tank and new white flooring throughout the three rooms. New sinks and student lockers line the walls.

The formaldehyde odor, which was pervasive in the old laboratories, is barely noticeable in the new rooms, thanks to an upgraded ventilation system.

—Continued on next page
Paying Homage to Body Donors and their Families

Each year since 1998, following a semester of gross anatomy, first-year medical students and other health sciences students hold a ceremony at which they express gratitude and pay their respect to the people who donated their bodies to advance the students’ education. Donors’ names and causes of death are anonymous.

Students are deeply touched by this gesture. They recite poems and essays they have written about the person who has been central to their gross anatomy experience. Specially selected music, often performed by a student, plays as each donor’s name is shared and images of that person are displayed. Students may light candles.

“These people have given us a remarkable gift by providing us with the opportunity to learn about the human body in a way that goes far beyond what would be possible from a textbook. They are our first patients. What we learn from them will guide us through all of our future interactions with patients,” says Katie Gradecki, a student who helped organize last year’s event.

Of the roughly 100 people who attended, about half were students and half were family members.

According to Edward Bersu, PhD, former head of the UW Body Donor Program and the faculty member who served as advisor to the student group, “In addition to being extremely meaningful to the students, the ceremony has come to mean a great deal to body donors’ family members and friends, who are invited to the ceremony.”

One donor’s relative wrote, “The memorial service was very moving and appreciated by our family. All elements of a classy and respectful event were included—string music, vocal music, candles, flowers, personal tributes, photos and social time with refreshments. During the social, we actually met friends from La Crosse. Before that time, we hadn’t realized [each other’s] loved ones had donated their bodies, so it was very special to connect that way. Thank you for all the time, talent and generosity shared.”

Gradecki notes, “While many people who attend the ceremony are from Wisconsin, there are always people from around the country who make a much longer trip to be there with us to honor their loved ones.”

“The air handling is much quieter now, and that also makes the space much better acoustically,” says Karen Krabbenhoff, PhD, who has taught gross anatomy at the SMPH since 1992.

Krabbenhoff co-directs the anatomy course for medical students along with Lonie Salkowski, MD, SMPH professor of radiology.

“Anatomy has been, and continues to be, a much-loved, essential component of the curricula for students in health professions training programs,” says Elizabeth Petty, MD ’86, senior associate dean for academic affairs at the SMPH.

“Intense bonds often form among students and faculty as they work together to learn about the relationships of structures and organs important in the diagnosis and management of health conditions. When taught with the compassion that our anatomy educators provide, it creates a foundational grounding in humanism and professionalism that stays with students throughout their lives,” says Petty, noting that the program has evolved in recent years.

Planners have organized the course so that relevant clinical scenarios accompany all dissections.

“We have increased integration with basic and clinical disciplines to enhance understanding, and we have incorporated use of innovative technology to augment learning,” says Petty. “We will continue to embrace educational innovations, when appropriate, to make anatomy education as timely and relevant as possible. We are quite fortunate that we also have newly remodeled laboratory space that will allow us to keep core hands-on dissection learning experiences as a vital part of our anatomy teaching.”

As for funding of the lab renovations, the Classes of 1955 and ’67 took up the cause in earnest. With the help of a lead gift from Edward Kinsfogel, MD ’67, 14 members of the class have contributed.

Kinsfogel decided after the class’ 40-year reunion that he wanted to make a significant gift to the school. The timing of his decision coincided with the beginning of the fundraising campaign for the anatomy laboratories’ renovations, so he took up the charge and encouraged his classmates to follow suit.

A retired diagnostic radiologist who practiced in Milwaukee, Kinsfogel says he has many fond memories about gross anatomy and other basic science classes at the school.

“I see my medical school experience as a very important time in my life,” he says. “My wife, Lois, and I feel it’s important to give back in recognition of the things that have been given to us.”

All contributors to the project are being permanently honored by having their names included on a special engraved-glass “Donor Wall,” located near the entrance to the anatomy laboratories.
The SMPH has a rich history of anatomy instructors of the highest caliber. A handful of highly dedicated teachers always has guided students through their dissections of the human body. Two beloved instructors—Edward Bersu, PhD, and John Harting, PhD, professors of neuroscience—retired and became emeritus professors in December 2012.

**EDWARD BERSU, PHD**

For more than 30 years, Bersu taught gross anatomy for first-year medical students. As one student noted, his “wonderful teaching, humor and dedication to our school” won him the praise of many.

He was recognized for outstanding teaching with the UW Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching, Medical Student Association Pacemaker Award and SMPH Dean’s Teaching Award. He was honored with the McBurney Faculty Awareness Award in recognition of his work for the success of students with disabilities.

Bersu became director of the SMPH Body Donor Program in 2008, following in the footsteps of anatomy professor Edward Schultz, PhD. Donations are the main source of the bodies used in gross anatomy. Bersu’s involvement with the Body Donor Program led him to play a key advisory role with the Body Donor Ceremony, a student-run event that has become one of the most meaningful experiences for first-year students who have completed gross anatomy.

Bersu also taught undergraduate students and physical therapy and occupational therapy students for a cumulative 37 years. He also developed and presented 20 continuing medical education courses for practicing physicians, dentists, physical therapists and occupational therapists.

Outside the realm of teaching, he was a member of the SMPH Admissions Committee, serving on the Wisconsin Academy for Rural Medicine (WARM) admissions sub-committee. He also served for many years, including as chair, on the UW Health Care Advisory Committee, which works with the UW Student Health Services and advocates to the campus for student health care-related needs.

Bersu’s ongoing work with students and wealth of knowledge about issues relevant to medical education made him a logical choice to serve as the interim associate dean for student services in 2003-2004.

**JOHN HARTING, PHD**

Harting has been an iconic figure at the school. For nearly 35 years, he directed the neuroanatomy/neuroscience course, one of the most popular courses in the medical curriculum. He taught the class yearly to approximately 165 first-year medical students, demonstrating an unwavering passion for the pathways that traverse the nervous system. Students who took the course years ago still insist that Harting was among the most unforgettable teachers they had in medical school.

Harting’s abilities earned him 37 teaching-related awards, an all-time record at the school. The awards include the prestigious UW Distinguished Teaching Award, the Gender Equity Award, six WMAB Distinguished Teaching Awards and 17 Pre-clinical Teaching Awards.

Last year, Harting was elected to Alpha Omega Alpha, the national medical honor society; he was the first basic scientist elected to the society in the school’s history. In 2002, he was named the school’s first Distinguished Teaching Professor. He served on more than 10 education-related committees, including two terms on the Educational Policy Council, which he chaired in 1980.

Harting also was chair of the Department of Anatomy for nearly 29 years. During this unusually long tenure, he continued the tradition of excellence in teaching and strengthened the department’s research, especially in stem cell biology. Funded continuously by the National Institutes of Health for 33 years, he is recognized internationally as a leader in understanding central visual pathways.

Robert H. Wurtz, PhD, former director of the Laboratory of Sensorimotor Research at the National Eye Institute, wrote, “John’s neuroanatomy—in my view—has been a key to the flowering of the field of vision and movement neuroscience,” referring to Harting’s publication of studies regarding the connections of visual system structures and centers in many mammalian species.

“We have been extremely fortunate at the SMPH to have exceptionally talented anatomy teachers who are dedicated to and passionate about student learning,” concludes Elizabeth Petty, MD ’86, SMPH senior associate dean for academic affairs.
The Dean’s Cup

The annual Dean’s Cup competition between the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) and the UW Law School may appear fierce at times, but it’s all in the spirit of fun. Building professional and social relationships and raising money for local charities top the list of the 18-year-old tradition’s goals.

Each school forms teams that compete in numerous intellectual, culinary and athletic endeavors, indoors and out. From playing euchre to entering tasty treats in the bake-off, and from hitting the flag football field to shooting hoops, nearly any student can find a way to participate. Donating blood to the American Red Cross earns points, too.

Proceeds from the sale of custom t-shirts—which offer the surest way to identify teammates for whom to cheer—benefit the Dane County Rape Crisis Center and the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Madison.

The fall 2012 competition yielded 223 points for the SMPH and 177 for the Law School.

Grateful for the victory, SMPH Dean Robert Golden, MD, says, “Despite the intense, although collegial, competition, friendships and professional connections are formed, and worthy causes are supported, which are the major aims of the event each year.”

He notes that the schools recently unveiled a combined JD/MPH (juris doctor/master of public health) degree program. Students in that program may have difficulty deciding which 2013 team to join.
Centennial Scholars Tracy Downs (left), Chris Capitini (center) and Heather Johnson are grateful for their protected academic time.
Centennial Scholars

INVESTING IN ROLE MODELS, EMBRACING DIVERSITY

“We should acknowledge differences; we should greet differences, until difference makes no difference anymore.”

This sage advice, spoken by Hispanic educator Adela Allen (1928-2008), rings true for those involved in the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) Centennial Scholars Program. Each scholar exemplifies a group that is under-represented in health care, medical research, population health and related fields.

Like Allen, they are devoting their lives to teaching and mentoring others—some of whom also come from under-represented groups—to bolster the next generation’s educational, academic and research journeys.

While the highly qualified Centennial Scholars are now able to “pay it forward,” they also reflect on the strong supporters who helped them get where they are today.

“I have had phenomenal mentors at UW since I started my undergraduate education, and they have stayed with me throughout my career. This is the biggest factor in my decision to stay at UW,” explains Centennial Scholar Heather Johnson, MD, a Chicago native. “My early mentors helped me in medical school, and they guided my transition to other mentors as I moved into my internal medicine residency and cardiovascular medicine fellowship here.”

After Johnson received an offer to join the SMPH faculty, her primary mentors—Maureen Smith, MD, MPH, PhD, director of the Health Innovation Program, and James Stein, MD, professor in the SMPH Division of Cardiology and director of the UW Hospital and Clinics Preventive Cardiology Program—suggested that she apply to the Centennial Scholars Program due to her strong interest in academic medicine. She gained acceptance to that program and started her appointment as a tenure-track assistant professor in July 2010.

Johnson has clinical responsibilities in cardiology and preventive cardiology. However, the Centennial Scholars Program provides approximately 50 percent of each scholar’s salary in exchange for a commitment from the scholar’s department to protect one-half of his or her time for scholarly work. The funding helps encourage highly qualified individuals, who are committed to academic medicine and who will add to the diversity of the SMPH faculty.

The program supports advanced leadership and academic training to prepare new faculty for successful careers in research and teaching. It helps fulfill the school’s vision to develop faculty, educators and staff whose diversity enhances the quality of education, patient care and research.

“It’s critical for the SMPH to have diverse role models among its students, faculty and staff so that we can fully prepare trainees to enter the health care workforce,” explains program director Patricia Kokotailo, MD, MPH, associate dean for faculty development and faculty affairs at the school. “Especially in our increasingly global environment, today’s learners will care for patients who come from diverse cultures and have varied viewpoints.”

She adds that diversity means different things to different people; it can be related to factors like culture, race, gender and age, and to groups that are under-represented in the science and technology fields.

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Since welcoming its first scholar in October 2009—Dayle DeLancey, PhD—the program has grown to 11 scholars (see next page) whose interests span the continuum of basic, clinical, translational and population health sciences and the history of medicine.

The scholars’ academic responsibilities also vary. Some teach courses; others oversee the work of undergraduate and graduate students, medical residents, fellows and post-graduate researchers.

Each program applicant must assemble a list of mentors, including the chair of his or her department, who will support the scholar’s research; a proposed timeline for scholarly work; and a vision statement for academic progress. A six-person advisory committee, led by Ricardo Lloyd, MD, PhD, professor of pathology and laboratory medicine, accepts scholars on a rolling horizon. Those accepted receive funding annually for three years and may reapply for another three-year term.

“We want to start supporting faculty members quickly after they join the SMPH so they can make use of protected time to launch their academic careers,” Kokotailo explains.

The program aims to help each of these individuals succeed as a scholar. As an example, Kokotailo points to Johnson’s path.

After joining the Centennial Scholars, Johnson earned a master’s degree in population health at the SMPH. She used her protected scholarly time to build a preventive cardiology research program related to health outcomes data and qualitative methods aimed at improving hypertension management and preventive cardiovascular care delivery to young adults.

Based on Johnson’s successful research record, she recently received a five-year grant from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Because she has this grant, her remaining Centennial Scholars funding has shifted from supporting her salary to providing for other research expenses, such as hiring a statistician or other research staff.

Another advantage of the program relates to knowledge sharing. The full group of scholars meets every other month—often including guest presenters—and each scholar meets annually with the program’s advisory committee to review his or her progress. These oversight groups are among the most beneficial aspects of the program, shares Chris Capitini, MD, who in September 2011 became an assistant professor in the Division of Pediatric Hematology, Oncology and Bone Marrow Transplant, and in January 2012 became a Centennial Scholar.

“When you are hired, it’s very common for your clinical demands to start immediately. Because my department and division heads knew I was interested in basic science research, they encouraged me to apply for the Centennial Scholars Program,” says Capitini, a New Jersey native who earned his medical degree from the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry in New York, and completed his pediatric residency at the University of Minnesota and his pediatric hematologic/oncologic fellowship through a joint program with Johns Hopkins University and the National Cancer Institute.

He elaborates: “Through the Centennial Scholars oversight group, I’ve received many tips about how to successfully navigate the academic system, build effective relationships with colleagues, access internal and external grants, and maximize opportunities that I otherwise would not know about. My mentors provide feedback as I prepare to present my work at professional meetings. I have never heard of any program like this to help under-represented faculty members get established in their laboratory.”

Capitini notes that Paul Sondel, MD, PhD, professor of pediatrics and the head of his division, helped him segue into teaching.

“Without my protected time, it also would have been much more difficult for me to find time to teach,” Capitini says, adding that funding agencies value teaching experience as a means of demonstrating expertise.

Capitini’s research focuses on using preclinical models of allogeneic bone marrow transplant to cure pediatric leukemias and solid tumors. His laboratory includes six undergraduate researchers, a full-time technician and a post-doctoral fellow. Capitini aspires to take the steps to add graduate students to his laboratory.
He spends clinical time on the inpatient service and in an outpatient bone marrow transplant clinic. Capitini’s goal is to rapidly translate research findings into clinical immunotherapies.

His committee encouraged him to join the UW Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine Center’s Molecular and Cellular Hematology Focus Group. This led to Capitini collaborating with Jenny Gumperz, PhD, an associate professor in the Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology.

“We learned that both of our labs are developing models of graft vs. host disease. Her lab uses human hematopoietic stem cells, and mine uses mouse hematopoietic stem cells,” says Capitini. “We now are submitting a research paper together.”

Complementing Capitini’s basic science research and Johnson’s population health investigations, Tracy Downs, MD, FACS, is highly engaged in clinical research.

Downs joined the Department of Urology as an associate professor in April 2010 and became a Centennial Scholar in July 2010. His research focuses on bladder cancer, and he directs the school’s Bladder Cancer and Intravesical Therapy Programs.

The San Diego native earned his medical degree at the University of California-San Diego (UCSD). He completed his residency at Harvard Medical School’s Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston and his urologic oncology fellowship at the University of California-San Francisco. In his first tenure-track role at the UCSD, he was one of two African-American faculty members in the Department of Surgery.

“When I interviewed at UW and learned about Dr. Nakada’s strong leadership, I thought, ‘This is a person I need to work with to reach my full academic potential,’” explains Downs, referring to Stephen Nakada, MD, chair, Department of Urology, and David T. Uehling Professor of Urology. “I was incredibly impressed by Madison, the beautiful lakes and the UW—it’s size reminded me of west coast schools.”

“Although people may think UCSD is more diverse than the UW, that’s not the case. It is clear to me that the UW School of Medicine and Public Health is investing in diversity through recruitment and retention, with programs like Centennial Scholars. It’s remarkable,” Downs exclaims.

“The school’s commitment to the Centennial Scholars makes a huge difference. I have the sense that people want me to succeed,” he says, noting particularly his interactions with Pat Kokotailo, other committee members and guest speakers. “These things give me the tools and connection points to facilitate success.”

Reflecting on his journey, Downs says, “I remember how I felt when I wanted to get into college, medical school, a residency and a faculty position. Now, I can “pass it forward” by helping younger people reach their goals, like others helped me.”

To this end, Downs has mentored students each year in the SMPH Shapiro Summer Research Program, as well as an undergraduate researcher from Atlanta’s Spelman College, with which the UW arranges research experiences for African-American female students. He is interviewing more students who want to work with him.

“When I work with these stellar students, it’s about more than conducting research. It’s about teaching them how to think like a researcher and a leader, and exposing them to different dynamics,” he says.

While Downs recognizes the importance of state-of-the-art surgical treatments, his strong ambition is to eliminate the need for surgery through prevention, detection and novel therapies. His research focuses on chemopreventive agents that reduce recurrence rates of bladder cancer and even prevent bladder cancer development.

When he was interviewing at the SMPH, he negotiated for the UW to adopt Cysview technology, which had been available only in Europe for a few years. UW Hospital and Clinics became the first in Wisconsin to use the newly approved optical imaging agent that improves bladder cancer diagnosis.

Downs’ work likely will move into the population health realm, but, he notes, “First I will have to prove results in a small cohort of my patients, then in multicenter studies.”

Kokotailo concludes, “The Centennial Scholars’ many contributions add another dimension to our school. Their clinical, educational and research work bring innovation and scholarship to the SMPH, and their role modeling is invaluable on many levels.”

**SMPH CENTENNIAL SCHOLARS**

**Angela Byars-Winston, PhD**

Examining cultural influences on career development of under-represented groups in the sciences, engineering and medicine, with the goal of developing evidence-based interventions

**Chris Capitini, MD**

Using preclinical models of allogeneic bone marrow transplant to cure pediatric leukemias and solid tumors

**Dayle B. DeLaney, PhD, MSc**

Exploring, through two book projects, African-Americans’ experiences of inoculation and vaccination since the 18th century

**Tracy M. Downs, MD, FACS**

Researching bladder cancer progenitors

**Pablo F. Gómez, PhD, MD**

Examining the history of medicine and corporeality in the early African and Iberian Atlantic worlds

**Heather M. Johnson, MD, MPH**

Conducting population health research related to cardiovascular risk factors

**Eneida Mendonça, MD, PhD**

Conducting population health research related to the understanding, diagnosis and outcomes of complex diseases

**Ozioma Okonkwo, PhD**

Investigating Alzheimer’s disease-related brain and biomarker changes among at-risk middle-aged adults

**Carla Pugh, MD, PhD**

Using simulation technology for medical and surgical education

**Jesse Roach, MD**

Exploring health policy and outcomes, specifically related to health care financing and health disparities

**Chanel T. Tyler, MD**

Investigating immunologic changes associated with medical complications of pregnancy
ROBERTS RECEIVES NATIONAL HONOR

Richard Roberts, MD, JD, professor of family medicine at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health Department of Family Medicine, was awarded the 2012 John G. Walsh Award by the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP). Established in 1973, the Walsh Award is one of the AAFP’s highest honors and is designed to honor leadership in furthering the development of family medicine.

Roberts served as president of the AAFP in 2000-2001 and was president of the AAFP Foundation from 2010-2011. He now is the president of the World Organization of Family Doctors.

An expert on health system reform and primary care redesign, Roberts has consulted with government and civic leaders in more than 50 countries, as well as international agencies such as the United Nations and World Health Organization.

Roberts has served on numerous national and international guidelines panels and as a consultant to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board.

Fellowships have been awarded to Roberts by the AAFP, American College of Legal Medicine, Royal College of General Practitioners (UK) and Royal Australian College of General Practitioners.

Roberts received his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

He completed his medical degree at George Washington University and his family medicine residency at UCLA-Santa Monica.

KILEY NAMED CHAIR OF BIOMOLECULAR CHEMISTRY

Patricia J. Kiley, PhD, began on February 1, 2013, as chair of the Department of Biomolecular Chemistry at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH). Kiley succeeds Robert Fillingame, PhD, who served as chair for 10 years.

“Dr. Kiley is an outstanding scientist and academician, who is nationally respected,” says Robert Golden, MD, dean of the SMPH, noting her strong scientific achievements, mentoring and leadership skills.

Kiley earned a BS in microbiology from the University of Massachusetts and an MS and PhD in microbiology from the University of Illinois. After a post-doctoral fellowship in the UW-Madison Department of Biochemistry, she joined the SMPH Department of Biomolecular Chemistry as an assistant professor in 1990. She was promoted to full professor in 2002.

Kiley’s research focuses on the signaling pathways and gene expression programs that organisms use to respond to changes in environmental oxygen levels. Her work has been continuously funded by the National Institutes of Health since 1991; she has received competitive research awards from the National Science Foundation (NSF) and private foundations.

Kiley’s honors include a Shaw Scientist Award, an NSF Young Investigator Award, a Vilas Associate Award and fellowship in the American Academy of Microbiology. She has served on the editorial board of the Journal of Bacteriology and on several federal review boards and advisory panels.

“Following a national search, Tricia Kiley emerged as the clear top choice to lead this vibrant department,” says Richard Moss, PhD, senior associate dean for basic research, biotechnology and graduate studies. “Her deep commitment is perfectly aligned with the missions of the department and SMPH.”
David Kindig, MD, PhD, emeritus professor of population health sciences at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH), received the Folkert Belzer Award during the 2012 Middleton Society Celebration in fall 2012. Each year, the school presents the award for the lifetime achievements of one of its faculty members. Kindig is known nationally for his work to improve population health equity and policy.

“Dr. Kindig is one of the most nationally renowned leaders in the field of population health,” says Dean Robert Golden, MD, who presented the award. “Even in retirement, he remains active at the highest levels.”

Kindig joined UW-Madison as vice chancellor for health sciences and professor of population health sciences in 1980. While at the SMPH, he chaired the Federal Council of Graduate Medical Education, was president of the Association for Health Services Research and served as senior advisor to Donna Shalala while she was the Secretary of Health and Human Services. Kindig was elected to the prestigious Institute of Medicine (IOM) in 1996.

Kindig directs the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation’s (RWJF) Roadmaps to Health Prize, which recognizes communities showing the most improvement in public health, and co-chairs the RWJF Health and Society Scholars program. He was named to the board of the new UW Health Accountable Care Organization. He also was named to co-chair an IOM three-year roundtable on achieving better population health in the United States.

The Belzer Award is named for Folkert O. Belzer, MD, a UW physician and medical researcher who developed the “UW Solution,” which significantly improves transplant outcomes.
Bucky Badger brings smiles to Wisconsin fans of any age. The ever-enthusiastic character was on hand for several University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) and Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association (WMAA) events during Homecoming Weekend, October 26 and 27, 2012.

Following a Friday afternoon WMAA board meeting and an open house at the recently renovated Alumni Anatomy Suite, approximately 150 people attended the WMAA-sponsored Friday evening dinner at the Memorial Union, and another 700 participated in the Saturday tailgate party at the new Union South Varsity Hall.

Weekend festivities included reunions for the SMPH Classes of 1967, ’77, ’82, ’87, ’92, ’97, ’02 and ’07 (see pages 18-21).

Many alumni trekked to Camp Randall to cheer as UW played Michigan State University on Saturday.

Even a three-point loss in overtime didn’t dampen the spirits of those who had come together to reunite with former classmates, friends and professors.

“It was great to see so many of our alumni and their families return to Madison on this exciting fall weekend,” says Karen Peterson, WMAA executive director.
Above: This alum and many others enjoy photo displays and capture images as keepsakes of their medical school memories.

Left: Cindy and Michael Bayer ’82 posed with Bucky Badger following the WMAA dinner on Friday evening of Homecoming Weekend.

Below: Front row (left to right): Gregory Jackson, Laura Stanek; back row: Erin Radant, Sarah McHugh, Bucky Badger, Stephanie Olson, Nestor Rodriguez ’07.

Below: Bill Funcke (left) and friend Bill Richards ’52 visited at the tailgate party.
Reunions

1967


1977

Pictured left (left to right): Charles Frinak, Gene Kastenson, Bruce Thompson.
1982


1987

1992


1997

Front row (left to right): Jessica Young, Amy Herbst, Chris Granger, Derek Hubbard. Back row: Jeff Collins, Christopher Regala, Qefi Neziri, Marc Young, Peter Brodick, Oliver Kim.

From Brothertown to MadTown and the City of Brotherly Love:

Ottery’s Passions Make a Difference
People have introduced Faith D. Ottery, MD ’81, PhD, as the mother, godmother, mother superior and even the guardian angel of nutritional oncology. She is widely credited with helping to create the field, calling on her surgical oncology training and nutritional sciences doctorate from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She also helped develop the most widely adopted and internationally translated clinical tool used to assess critical variables for cancer patients—loss of weight and lean tissue, malnutrition and compromised quality of life.

Ottery was the founding president of the Society for Nutritional Oncology and Adjuvant Therapy (NOAT) and has lectured worldwide on nutritional oncology.

Unconventional for a surgeon? Indeed. Physicians typically do not receive much training in nutrition. And nutrition’s role in cancer—as support and as a critically important factor during treatment—has been recognized, thanks in large part to Ottery’s efforts.

If Ottery’s career niche is unconventional, the same can be said for her journey.

“Life rarely gives you a straight line,” she says, adding that many unexpected things have occurred, but they led to the next steps in her career pathway.

Her background and make-up may have prepared her to flow with unanticipated turns of events.

In her youth, her father’s career—first with Aermotor Windmill Company, then with International Harvester—required moves every 12 to 18 months.

The Otterys taught their four children to live life to the fullest by getting involved with new activities in each new “home town.” They also instilled a sense that they could do just about anything they set their minds to.

Ottery’s innate optimism and energy were assets beginning in her youth. She learned to roll up her sleeves to help others get things done. Her first name didn’t hurt.

“Being named ‘Faith,’ one tends to look at the positive side of things,” she says. “This opens a tremendous number of opportunities and makes life a lot more fun.”

This perspective probably leads to the word that clearly describes Ottery professionally, personally and philanthropically: passion.

She is an enrolled member of the Brothertown Indian Nation (BIN), based in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. Through her father, Willis “Will” Ottery—who received an agricultural engineering degree from UW-Madison in 1950—she can trace her roots to Samson (sometimes spelled “Sampson”) Occom, who was critical in organizing the Brothertown tribe from six Algonquian-speaking tribes in the late 18th century, and back to the Mohegan and Pequot tribes in the 1500s through oral and written history.

During her years at UW, Ottery was able to play a more active role in the Wisconsin-based BIN, leading most recently to her election in 2012 to the Brothertown Council.

Ottery believes deeply in higher education, as evidenced by her UW-Madison BS, MD and PhD degrees. By fourth grade, she knew she wanted to become a physician. A pre-med year doing gallstone research piqued her interest in nutritional sciences. While attending the UW School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH), she loved every rotation, but set her sights on surgery.

After two years of a surgery residency at the University of Chicago, she returned to UW for a unique fellowship designed for her—medical and surgical oncology and nutrition. Then it was back to Chicago to finish her surgery residency, serving a year as chief resident. After completing her surgical oncology fellowship at Fox Chase Cancer Center in Philadelphia, she completed her PhD in nutritional sciences at UW in 1989.

Ottery consistently demonstrated that she was a hard-working, intellectually curious person, and many people eagerly took her under their wings.

“I’m very lucky to have worked with and been guided by some amazing people,” she says, pointing to UW surgeon Eberhard Mack, MD; UW pathologist Stanley Goldfarb, MD; UW oncologist Richard Love, MD; UW nutritional scientist Charles Elson, PhD; UW agricultural engineering professor Hjalmar “Ham” Bruhn; and Fox Chase surgical oncologist James Weese, MD.

Ultimately, Fox Chase hired Ottery in 1988 to create and lead its nutritional oncology research and clinical programs as an adjunct to her active surgical oncology practice. For the next decade, she helped advance the new field in a flurry of activities. She developed the assessment tool, grew NOAT, edited new journals and served on councils, boards and committees. She conducted research, gave keynote addresses, taught medical students and residents, created a consulting firm, and during the years won many awards recognizing her pioneering efforts in nutritional oncology.

Today, Ottery is the senior director of global medical affairs at Savient Pharmaceuticals, a small New Jersey-based specialty biopharmaceutical company.

Continued on page 39
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 locations. Photographs are encouraged.

VISIT med.wisc.edu/alumni/share-your-news/874
OR e-mail quarterly@med.wisc.edu

CLASS OF 1949

William Enneking, founding and long-term chair of orthopedics at the University of Florida and a pioneer in bone tumor studies, received the University of Florida College of Medicine Distinguished Achievement Award at the alumni reunion dinner in October 2012. Enneking previously received the Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association’s Medical Alumni Citation Award.

CLASS OF 1967

George F. Drasin has retired from radiology practice in Portland, Oregon. He is pursuing a new career in Hospice and Palliative Medicine. His wife, Dena, continues to practice child psychiatry. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in spring 2012 with a trip to Portugal and Morocco with their whole family. The Drasins thoroughly enjoy living in Portland.

CLASS OF 1969

Harry Gries and Pam Del Duca hosted a “cowboy” mini-reunion that included activities in Phoenix, Jerome and Sedona, Arizona, and at the Grand Canyon in February 2012. Thirteen classmates plus spouses enjoyed the Phoenix Botanical Gardens, a Pink Jeep tour into Red Rock country, dude ranch/trail rides, line-dance lessons, a chuck wagon lunch and a train to the Grand Canyon. They relished the beautiful scenery, fantastic food and wonderful hospitality. The Class of 1969’s next mini-reunion will be in April 2013 in Charleston and Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

CLASS OF 1980

Felix Yip was appointed by California Governor Edmond G. Brown, Jr., to the Medical Board of California in January 2013. Living in San Marino, Yip has been the chief executive officer at Felix Chi-Ming Yip, MD, Inc., Medical Clinic since 1987. The new position requires Senate confirmation.

IN MEMORIAM

Karin Bausenbach (PG ’97)
November 11, 2012
Portland, Oregon

John “Jack” Daniels ’65
November 2011
Arlee, Montana

John Doty ’65
May 11, 2012
Winter: Phoenix, Arizona
Summer: Iron River, Wisconsin

Alden E. Fogo, MD ’44
December 12, 2012
San Luis Obispo, California

Stacy Ann Her, MD (PG ’02)
February 2, 2013
La Crosse, Wisconsin

Terrance Scheid ’75
February 23, 2013
Middleton, Wisconsin

Burton A Waisbren, MD ’46
January 22, 2013
Bayside, Wisconsin

Louis Wilson (emeritus faculty)
October 30, 2012
Eau Claire, Wisconsin

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We received two letters lauding Louis Bernhardt, MD ’63, a Madison cardiologist who was featured in the fall 2012 Quarterly. Here, we share excerpts from those letters:

Gerald C. Grant, MD (PG)
Napa, California

… In that article, Sharyn Alden captured career highlights without sacrificing the human qualities of one of the finest physicians it has been my pleasure to know. I very much appreciated those sometimes difficult, but always worthwhile, days we spent together as residents. [Dr. Bernhardt was] truly an excellent resident. In effect, I used [him] as my role model when selecting partners and associates.

Britton Ward Kolar, MD ’80
Lake Geneva, Wisconsin

… I was privileged to have Dr. Bernhardt as an extraordinary mentor and role model while in residency at St. Mary’s Hospital in the Department of Family Medicine and Practice. … His energy and commitment to his patients were legendary. … He had exceptional command of the science and art of medicine. … My father was fortunate to come under Dr. Bernhardt’s care for emergent open heart surgery, which proved to be both life saving and life sustaining.
Two University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) alumni share stories of their work in New York City hospitals following the disastrous Hurricane Sandy in late 2012.

Shaun Yang, MD ’10, MPH

As a second-year NYU School of Medicine Internal Medicine resident who was at Bellevue Hospital and NYU Langone Medical Center in New York City during Hurricane Sandy, the details of that night are still vivid. I can recall the patient monitors in Bellevue’s emergency ward going black from the power failure; the smell of gasoline in a stairwell, where people had spontaneously formed a brigade to transport gasoline to fuel a back-up generator on the 13th floor; and the physical exhaustion of safely carrying each patient down the staircase.

After the terrible destruction and tragic loss of life caused by the hurricane, people are often surprised that I describe that night as the most rewarding experience of my medical career. But it’s true. The visceral feeling of “This is why I went into medicine” is my most powerful sentiment left behind from the storm. This sentiment has been shared among many of my peers and has made the spirit of NYU stronger than ever.

After earning his medical degree from the SMPH in 2010, Yang earned a master of public health degree from Harvard School of Public Health. He is completing an internal medicine residency at NYU School of Medicine.

Matthew Augustine, MD ’12

The night of Hurricane Sandy was much of a blur; however, as I reflect on the night, time slows and evidence of the commitment and heroism from my fellow residents and the entire NYU Langone medical staff and students becomes more apparent.

On October 29, 2012, I started my morning earlier than scheduled and was not expecting the situation that I was about to encounter. Putting on my hiking headlamp, scrubs and boots, I headed out into the desolate, pre-dawn darkness, which was odd for this rather vibrant part of Manhattan. As I turned the corner from my apartment, I realized the situation was more than I had imagined. Ambulances lined up in two lanes, bumper to bumper for two long city blocks. The hospital—NYU Langone Medical Center—was completely dark, except for a few emergency lights strung along the walls.

I climbed to the seventh floor, where we had moved most of our patients the previous day. Entering the dark floor, I saw my fellow residents—sweaty and exhausted, yet determined—evacuating patients. Within minutes, I was directed to participate. One by one, charts were gathered and the patients were packed into evacuation sleds. Along with medical students, fellow residents, nurses, firemen and police officers, we carried the last of the patients down the seven flights of stairs. Patients were systematically placed in the ambulances and transferred to another hospital. This work that I did just for a few hours, most of my fellow residents had done all night. With their adaptability and perseverance, more than 300 patients—including those requiring mechanical ventilation and continuous intravenous medications—were safely evacuated.

While I was amongst the group at NYU Langone Medical Center, the other residents were down the block at Bellevue Hospital or working tirelessly at the Brooklyn VA to ensure that the patients transferred a day earlier from the Manhattan VA had continuity of care. By morning, all of the internal medicine residents had reported to work.

By Friday, November 2, all the NYU-affiliated hospitals had been evacuated, and for the first time since its opening in 1736, Bellevue Hospital was closed. After the storm, our residents were deployed to hospitals throughout the city to care for transferred NYU patients and assist with the rapidly growing patient censuses. I cared for our patients who were transferred to Lennox Hill Hospital. I also volunteered at Coney Island and the Rockaways.

As of early January, the residents of NYU’s program remain dispersed at hospitals throughout the city. During this time, when we have never been so far apart physically, I believe we have never been closer, united by the mutual commitment that the storm brought out in all of us.

Augustine is an intern in the NYU School of Medicine Primary Care Internal Medicine Residency Program. His training locations include NYU Langone Medical Center, Bellevue Hospital Center and Veterans Affairs New York Harbor Healthcare System.
JOHN ENG, MD ’90

I am an associate professor of radiology and health sciences informatics at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore, Maryland. I practice diagnostic radiology at Johns Hopkins Hospital, serving mostly hospitalized and emergency department patients.

As a Wisconsin native who attended UW-Madison for my undergraduate and medical degrees, I always have been interested in scientific research. During medical school, Dr. Robert Schilling was one of my mentors. With his encouragement, I applied for a research training program at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in Bethesda, Maryland, and was able to spend two years working in a cardiac imaging laboratory on the NIH campus. I realized that imaging is a great way to combine clinical medicine with my interest in research.

After completing my residency and research fellowship at Johns Hopkins, I joined the Johns Hopkins faculty. My academic interests relate to evidence-based radiology, statistical analysis of imaging tests and radiology informatics.

I am the past president of the Association of University Radiologists. I also am active in radiology’s largest professional organization, the Radiological Society of North America, for which I have organized refresher courses in radiology informatics and planned programs to introduce residents to academic radiology; I also serve as associate editor of a peer-reviewed journal.

My most gratifying professional experiences include times when I help a resident, fellow or junior faculty member with a project and see that project become a published paper or successful grant application.

I encourage trainees to consider careers in academic medicine. Research is about asking questions in your field, doing something systematic to answer those questions and sharing the information with others. While contributing to the care of individual patients is a fundamental motivation for physicians, academic medicine extends this by offering opportunities to affect the care of patient populations.
Kika DudiaK, MD ’86

Because my father was a radiologist and loved his work, I had an early, positive exposure to the field. My older sister and I both followed in his footsteps. I have had the good fortune of working in the Department of Radiology at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, since 1991. Before that, I completed a radiology residency and abdominal imaging fellowship at the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine. Training there was like walking into a textbook. I knew that if I read up on the wide variety of cases I saw, I could easily gain the breadth of knowledge necessary to begin my career. My husband, Henry Pitot, MD ’86, joined the Division of Medical Oncology in 1992. The Mayo Clinic has been an ideal place for a dual-physician family to practice.

In my subspecialized department, each radiologist has an area of interest and expertise. Although my primary focus lies in gynecologic imaging, I spend much of my time covering a broad-based, cross-sectional body imaging practice that includes diagnostic and procedural ultrasound, CT and MRI. During the years, I have seen many interesting and diagnostically challenging cases. My most memorable cases are those in which the disease processes presented unusual or confusing imaging features, which occasionally elude recognition by me or my colleagues. While humbling, these experiences are educational. The old saying “the more you know, the more you see” is true for a radiologist. There is always something to learn, particularly given the field’s rapid technologic advances that allow us to “see” diseases in new ways. Continued innovation also has made new image-guided treatments possible.

Being a visually oriented person, what most intrigues me about radiology is the vast amount of information one can glean from an imaging study. The potential to make or suggest a diagnosis based predominantly on visual clues, pieced together with available clinical history, still amazes me.

Nathan Maertz, MD ’05

When I started medical school, I wasn’t sure which specialty I’d eventually choose. However, I have always been a visual learner, and I found myself drawn to specialties that emphasized this aspect of medicine. In the end, I chose radiology, which requires knowledge of the ailments encountered in many specialties and is based upon the visual diagnosis of disease. I am a member of Indiana Radiology Partners at Indiana University in Indianapolis. The majority of my time is spent at the Roudebush VA Medical Center.

As a general radiologist with subspecialty training in musculoskeletal radiology, I handle a wide variety of cases. Most of my cases involve gastrointestinal/genitourinary and musculoskeletal radiology. I also perform many fluoroscopic, ultrasound and CT-guided procedures.

The cases I find most rewarding are those in which I am able to follow a patient from presentation through symptom resolution. For example, a tentative diagnosis is made on an imaging study, after which a discussion and plan is formulated with the referring physician. Then I meet the patient to perform either a therapeutic or diagnostic procedure and subsequently monitor the patient for improvement on follow-up exams.

I enjoy the interaction I have with other physicians, the use of cutting-edge technology for diagnosis and treatment, and the ability to help a wide range of patients with a diverse spectrum of problems.

Radiology practice requires hard work and dedication to keep up with a field that remains at the forefront of medical technology. It is a rewarding field, and although we are predominantly “doctors’ doctors,” many radiologists have a fair amount of patient contact through diagnostic and therapeutic procedures.
Cells from Skin Create Model of Blinding Eye Disease

For the first time, University of Wisconsin researchers have taken skin from patients and, using induced pluripotent stem cell (iPSC) technology, turned them into a laboratory model for an inherited type of macular degeneration. The study appeared in the February 2013 issue of Human Molecular Genetics.

David Gamm, MD, PhD, director of the McPherson Eye Research Institute, said that while Best disease is relatively rare, having a patient-specific model of the disease—which can begin destroying the macula of the retina at an early age—could increase understanding of common eye disorders such as age-related macular degeneration.

“This model helps us understand the effects of human gene mutations on critical retinal cells, with the goal of crafting treatments,” says Gamm, associate professor of ophthalmology and visual sciences.

Gamm and lead researchers Ruchira Singh, PhD, and Wei Shen, PhD, of the UW’s Waisman Center, took skin samples from members of two families with Best disease.

In such families, children of affected individuals have a 50-percent chance of inheriting the causative gene. Using samples from affected and unaffected siblings, they turned skin into stem cells, then into retinal pigment epithelium, the eye cells that are affected by this disease.

The model—which holds promise for other conditions—revealed cellular and molecular factors that contribute to the disease. It also lets researchers test therapies before trying them on patients.

“Family members told me they do not expect to get treated directly as a result of this study,” Gamm says. “They’re doing it for the next generation.”

Researchers Identify New Spinal-Nerve Growth Pathway

African clawed frog embryos and tarantula venom helped University of Wisconsin-Madison researchers discover that mechanical forces within nerve cells—not just chemical cues—influence nervous system development, a finding that could have important implications for spinal cord regeneration.

Many neurological disorders are linked to defective nerve cell (neuron) growth and connections.

The UW School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) team, headed by neuroscience professor Timothy Gomez, PhD, published its findings in the January 2, 2013, Journal of Neuroscience.

Neurons transmit electrical signals along axons that transmit chemical messages. In the developing nervous system, growth cones guide axons toward target cells. Chemical cues help determine growth cone movement and carry nerve impulses. But the Gomez team tested whether the environment’s physical properties also direct axon growth. They focused on mechanosensitive (MS) channels—proteins involved in calcium and sodium ion movement in cell membranes.

Using spinal cord neurons, frog embryos and a small peptide from tarantula venom, known to block MS channels, graduate student Patrick Kerstein showed that blocking the MS channels promoted movement toward a stimulus. Calcium influx through MS channels activated a chain reaction that inhibited neuron growth.

By using a rigid substrate, researchers demonstrated that mechanical forces within the growth cone activated the channels. The neurons grew faster on flexible material with less calcium coming through the channels.

“We have identified a calcium channel involved in sensing how rigid the underlying material is,” says Gomez. “This suggests that mechanical and chemical cues work together to assemble the developing nervous system.”
New Form of Cell Division Found

University of Wisconsin Carbone Cancer Center researchers have discovered a new form of human cell division, as presented in December 2012 at the American Society for Cell Biology annual meeting. They believe it serves as a natural back-up mechanism during faulty cell division, preventing some cells from causing cancer.

“If we could promote this new form of cell division, klerokinesis, we may be able to prevent some cancers,” says lead researcher Mark Burkard, MD, PhD, an assistant professor of hematology-oncology in the UW School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) Department of Medicine.

Burkard studies cancers in which cells contain more than the usual two sets of chromosomes. Some cancers have three or more sets of chromosomes or defective chromosomes.

In line with the study’s original goal, Burkard and his team were making cells with too many chromosomes to mimic cancer. Using techniques related to the accepted, century-old hypothesis of cell division—that faulty division leads to cells with abnormal chromosome sets and unchecked cell growth—they unexpectedly observed the new form of cell division. The group used a video-enabled microscope to see how human cells recovered normal sets of chromosomes.

“We started with two nuclei in one cell,” Burkard says. “To our surprise, we saw the cell pop apart into two cells without going through mitosis.”

He now thinks cytokinesis sometimes fails during an organism’s many rounds of cell division, adding that this newly discovered process allows cells to recover and grow normally.

Road Map to Metabolic Reprogramming for Aging

In efforts to understand what influences life span, cancer and aging, a team of University of Wisconsin-Madison researchers has created a “roadmap” of more than 1,500 landmarks within mitochondria. These landmarks could provide clues to metabolic connections between caloric restriction and aging. This work could lead to a better understanding of how metabolism is rewired in cancers, age-related diseases and metabolic conditions, such as diabetes.

“It’s a dynamic atlas for regulatory points in mitochondrial function,” says John Denu, PhD, professor of biomolecular chemistry at the UW School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH). “It could take years to understand, but at least we have a list of the most important players.”

Previous experiments have shown that consuming less food increases life span and health in organisms, including non-human primates. While the exact metabolic reprogramming process remains elusive, mitochondrial proteins—the molecules that command actions in the organelle—are at center stage.

Earlier research by Denu and colleagues on the mitochondrial protein Sirt3 suggests a link between caloric restriction and prevention of age-related hearing loss.

The new research, published in the November 29, 2012, issue of Molecular Cell, by Denu and Joshua Coon, PhD, SMPH professor of biomolecular chemistry, identifies potential mitochondrial pathways behind maintaining mitochondrial health, controlling fat and amino acid metabolism, and stimulating antioxidant responses.

By studying mice with and without the ability to produce Sirt3, some on a normal diet and others on a calorie-restricted diet, they determined that Sirt3 was essential for many metabolic adaptations during calorie restriction. This indicates that therapies to enhance Sirt3 function may fend off age-related illnesses.
Let’s Talk about the Flu

by Mike Klawitter

While influenza is responsible for thousands of deaths and hospitalizations every year, some people may not understand the importance of getting vaccinated due to a lack of education or reading skills.

Heather Lukolyo, a fourth-year medical student at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH), helped develop a booklet that uses simple language to make it easier for people with low literacy to grasp the importance of getting immunized.

The booklet, entitled Let’s Talk About the Flu, earned first place in the national ReadsEasy™ Publication Award competition for its commitment to excellence in printed information for consumers.

The competition was part of the 2012 Leonard G. Doak Health Literacy Innovator Award contest, sponsored by Health Literacy Innovations, a Maryland-based company that creates tools to reduce medical mistakes and confusion caused by low health literacy.

Lukolyo collaborated with community partner Health Literacy Wisconsin during her required third-year Primary Care Clerkship. She says she garnered a greater understanding about the importance of bridging the communication gap between physicians and patients while studying at the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health in Baltimore. She earned her master of public health degree in 2008 before entering the SMPH in 2009.

“I learned about health literacy and its link to health outcomes during graduate school,” she explains. “Nearly one-half of U.S. adults have trouble understanding health information, and low health literacy has been linked to increased hospitalizations and increased mortality. This enhanced my awareness of the basic principles of presenting health information for people with low literacy. This project was a way to apply that training to prevent influenza, a serious and widespread community health problem.”

According to David Deci, MD, director of the SMPH Primary Care Clerkship, “Heather’s work on this project is an excellent example of medical students learning in and from the community. Through the clerkship’s partnership with the Area Health Education Center’s regional sites, students like Heather are able to apply community engagement skills learned in the classroom to the real-world setting.”

The booklet was part of Health Literacy Wisconsin’s larger efforts to address influenza in vulnerable populations across the state. Health Literacy Wisconsin facilitators used the booklets as part of influenza prevention workshops across the state targeting adults with low literacy. The program was funded by the Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Foundation.

Lukolyo says the booklet resembles a magazine with features to help people with low-literacy backgrounds.

“It uses simple language with easy-to-read text, pictures and graphics to complement the text, and interactive features—such as fill-in-the-blank sections—among other strategies for adult learners,” she explains.

“I worked with Health Literacy Wisconsin to pretest the materials with adult learners, community organizations and physicians. The final version was distributed throughout Wisconsin to agencies that teach adults how to read and to institutions that teach ESL (English as a second language) courses,” she says.

According to Lukolyo, the simplified style of the booklet has had a positive effect so far, as evidenced by the number of workshop participants who were encouraged to get their flu shots.

—Continued on page 39
A fictitious patient—with extractable bones and a nose that lights up following any “surgical” mistake—served as a conversation starter among University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) students, faculty and alumni on January 16, 2013. The eighth-annual “Operation: Education,” co-sponsored by the Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association (WMAA) and Wisconsin Medical Society Foundation, drew approximately 120 students and more than 35 faculty members, residents and alumni, who dined together, discussed various types of medical practice and shared laughter as they played the circa 1965 game.

According to Karen Peterson, WMAA executive director, “The event was an overwhelming success and beneficial for all involved. This type of activity reinforces our strategic goal of ensuring that each medical student is able to have meaningful contacts with alumni and faculty.”

First-year medical student Phill Mercier attended the event, in which medical students could rotate among tables staffed by various medical specialists to learn more about future career choices.

Mercier notes, “The meaningful discussions that I had with alumni during dinner were excellent! We talked about many aspects of medical life beyond the clinics, and I learned a great deal about what drove them to pursue their specific careers in medicine.”
Su-Chun Zhang shows a sample of stem cells in his laboratory, which has a bird’s eye view of the under-construction second tower of the Wisconsin Institutes for Medical Research.
from his sixth-floor laboratory in the University of Wisconsin Waisman Center, Su-Chun Zhang, MD, PhD, has a unique vantage point on the second tower of the Wisconsin Institutes for Medical Research (WIMR II), which is nearing completion.

Having watched the tower’s construction, he looks forward to the day when faculty from the UW School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) Department of Neuroscience become his neighbors.

Zhang is a professor in that department and in the SMPH Department of Neurology. His laboratory will remain in the Waisman Center, where he directs the Molecular and Genetics Sciences Group and is integrally involved in other services that benefit health sciences researchers, including those who will move to WIMR II. For instance, he launched the induced Pluripotent Stem Cell (iPSC) Core Facility, housed next to his laboratory.

“In this facility, we can take a little bit of skin or blood from a patient or research model that has the condition we are studying. We turn those cells into IPS cells, and we can return the IPS cells to the same patient or model,” explains Zhang, referring to models such as mice or non-human primates. “This allows us to study diseases and develop treatments in a cellular context that are appropriate to the host, without the risk of rejection.”

He adds, “In the future, we may be able to use patient-derived cells to screen drugs to determine the most effective treatments for a range of diseases.”

Before cells are safe for use in humans, the cells must be processed by another entity: the Waisman Biomanufacturing Facility, where a special “cell cleaning” technique makes processes such as cellular therapy safe for humans.

Zhang—who serves on the executive committee for the UW Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine Center, which will be housed in WIMR II—is seen by many as a strong collaborator.

“Collaboration will be much easier when the Neuroscience Department moves to WIMR II, just across the street from me. For now, I am collaborating with my colleagues in the Medical Sciences Center on central campus, so we have to travel back and forth a lot,” he says.

Zhang admits that the travel time sometimes makes him and others choose to miss seminars and meetings that they otherwise would wish to attend. Due to limited central-campus parking, he sometimes rides the bus. More often, he dons running shoes for the two-mile trek to the Medical Sciences Center.

“The WIMR concept is really positive because it draws together the medical sciences campus,” he exclaims.

Lauding WIMR’s centralized areas for people to gather, he says, “I think daily, face-to-face interactions are critical to keeping researchers and clinicians connected.”

His new neighbors in WIMR II also will benefit from proximity to Ebling Library and the School of Pharmacy, in addition to the Waisman Center, which provides a weekly seminar featuring highly sought guest speakers.

The Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine Center also features a monthly, interdisciplinary Neuroscience Focus Group that meets in the Waisman Center. It includes members from the UW Engineering and Pharmacy Schools, UW Departments of Biochemistry and Genetics, and various SMPH departments.

Participating in the group’s activities led to collaboration between Zhang and Tim Gomez, PhD, professor in the Department of Neuroscience, who will move to WIMR II upon its completion in late 2013 or early 2014. Gomez analyzes nerve growth and how to regulate the growth to a specific target. (See more about Gomez’s research on page 28.)

“Recently, we have begun examining the development of normal human forebrain neurons and motoneurons differentiated from IPSCs by Su-Chun’s laboratory. Our hope is to one day use human IPSCs to identify developmental defects in neurons derived from patients with neurodevelopmental disorders,” says Gomez.

Zhang’s laboratory—which is able to differentiate stem cells into many different kinds of neurons—includes three graduate students, seven post-doctoral fellows, and many undergraduate and summer researchers.

Having joined the SMPH in 2001 as an assistant professor in the Departments of Anatomy and Neurology, Zhang was promoted to associate professor in 2007 in those departments and to professor in 2008 in his current departments.

Zhang earned his medical degree from the Wenzhou Medical College in Wenzhou, China, and his doctorate from the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, Canada.

He completed his post-doctorate work with Professor Ian Duncan, BVMS, PhD, FRSE, in the UW School of Veterinary Medicine when—in collaboration with Professor James Thomson, PhD, VMD, from the Department of Cell and Regenerative Biology—Zhang led the first effort to successfully differentiate and isolate neural progenitor cells from human embryonic stem cells in 2001.

Zhang’s robust list of publications includes co-authors from around the UW-Madison campus.

“The power of the WIMR model is to create an environment for collaboration among basic and clinical scientists,” says Zhang, noting that reviewers of grant applications see value in this interaction.

“How many campuses can do this type of multi-level work and integrate it into one study?”
Poetry Advocating for Public Health Policies

by Melanie Scharrer

Moab’s Bargain
Petitioning favor we bring our sacrifice
If industry’s Moloch requires, we will offer up our firstborns.
When our children thirst
We press to their small lips
Acidic liters full
Of empty calories
Of emptier promises.
Compelling them to swallow
Purchased idols of sport and song
Sell corn syrup-sweet lies.
Our sons and daughters drink them in,
Unslaked,
Until their bodies bloat and sicken.
Exhausted organs give up.
We prescribe a thousand tiny stabs to abdomen and thigh.
Is the cost of blessing satisfied?
The children stop playing
And we pray the market recovers.

Seeking Submissions
Healer’s Journey showcases the creativity of the SMPH family through reflecting personal experiences in our world of healing. We seek pieces that are moving, humorous or unusual.

Our guidelines are as follows:
Manuscripts, subject to editing, can be no longer than 1,200 words. Photos must be high resolution. Subject matter should relate to any aspect of working or studying at the SMPH or in the medical field generally.

Send submissions to:
Quarterly
Health Sciences Learning Center, Room 4293
UW School of Medicine and Public Health
750 Highland Ave.
Madison, WI 53705
Or e-mail quarterly@med.wisc.edu

Ignition Lock
Setting her burden on the conveyor belt,
She walked through the metal detector,
Apprehensive of what she would encounter beyond the guard.

Rather than indifference and contempt,
The two exchanged stories, grief, hopes and promises.
Old wounds were carefully debrided, exposed to light and air.

When the meeting was nearing its close,
She pressed the gift into his palm
“It’s the same as the one I have now.”

After his release, he attended his meetings.
Supporting the small weight in his pocket
Reminded him of a relationship and a promise.

And when the weakness took him,
Fumbling for his keys, he found first
The three-inch orthopedic screw.

“You can choose to carry this,” he remembered her say softly.
“I don’t get that choice, you made it for me that night.”
Her bones carry his memory forever.

Gently, reverently he returned the gift to its place
And pulled out instead,
A cell phone to call his sponsor.

Melanie Scharrer is a second-year medical student at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health. She wrote these poems as part of the M2 Health Policy Advocacy Integrative Case, in which students learned to use communication tools to advocate for public health policies. Scharrer drew on her poetry-writing talents to address two policy issues: the negative effects of sugar-sweetened beverages and the influence of restorative justice practices, namely victim-offender mediation, and their impact on reducing repeat drunk-driving offenses.

Visit med.wisc.edu/40411
Gold Humanism Honor Society

In fall 2012, the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) inducted the following fourth-year medical students—as its seventh annual group—into the Gold Humanism Honor Society (GHHS):

- Alison Bauer
- Anne Becker
- Gabe Berendes
- Stephanie Booms
- Sean Duffy
- Kelly Egan
- Amber Hertz
- Katelin Krystowiak
- Heather Lukolyo
- David Rebedew
- Mike Regner
- Ian Stormont
- Arianna Sundick
- Michael Wauters
- Anna Yan
- Jasmine Zapata

The SMPH Class of 2013 also elected these faculty members into the society:

- David Deci, MD, director of medical student education, Department of Family Medicine
- Kjersti Knox, MD, resident, Department of Family Medicine
- Patrick McBride, MD ’80, MPH, professor, Departments of Medicine and Family Medicine, and SMPH associate dean for students
- Rebecca Sippel, MD, associate professor, Division of General Surgery, and chief, Section of Endocrine Surgery

Created by the Arnold P. Gold Foundation, the GHHS lifetime achievement award recognizes fourth-year medical students who demonstrate exemplary characteristics of the most humanistic physicians. According to Associate Dean for Students Patrick McBride, MD ’80, MPH, who advises the group, it showcases the type of people you would choose to care for your loved ones. The foundation also provides a “Humanism in Medicine” pin for incoming medical students to remind them of the pledge they make during training for their future as caring physicians.

Announcing the Winner of the “I Know You” Contest

Nearly 40 University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health alumni wrote to say they recognized the mystery character in the fall 2012 “I Know You” contest.

Sherman M. Holvey, MD ’49, won the contest through a random drawing of correct submissions.

“For those of us of a “certain vintage,” it is easy to identify Herman “Murph” Shapiro. He was a memorable man, not only for his outstanding educational skills, but for his gentleness, humor and smile,” shares Holvey.

Shapiro was born in Garadia, Russia, in 1904 and came to the U.S. in 1913. He sold newspapers to earn money to attend school. Shapiro earned a UW-Madison bachelor’s degree in 1924 and medical degree in 1932. A distinguished cardiologist and emeritus professor of medicine, Shapiro taught at UW-Madison for more than 40 years. He and his wife created the Herman and Gwen Shapiro Foundation to provide scholarships in the fields of medicine and nursing at the UW.

Holvey’s Class of ’49 classmate, Everett Johnson, MD, notes, “During my internal medicine residency at UW Hospital, I sat at Dr. Shapiro’s elbow when he read the ECGs each day. It was a very important part of my time on the cardiovascular service.”

Another trainee from the late 1940s, Harry T. McPherson, MD, was an intern at the State of Wisconsin Medical Center. “That was the era before cell phones and beepers, so we were paged by bells. My number was 1-1-5, and before a week, I heard only my bells, not those of hundreds of others,” he reminisces. “Murph Shapiro was often around instructing, befriending the house staff and telling tall tales.”

Shapiro also was known for his fashion sense. As Neil A. Hoffman, MD ’67, recalls: “Dr. Shapiro was a magnificent dresser. Perfectly tied silk bow ties and French cuffs covered to just the right length by beautifully fitted jackets, accompanied by matched slacks. And then there were the shoes!”

Many alumni shared connections with friends and relatives. Neil D. Pivar, MD ’68, wrote, “As a student, I recall being introduced to [Dr. Shapiro] by a fellow medical student/friend, Michael Salinsky, who coincidentally was Dr. Shapiro’s nephew. Also, my medical school roommate and still close friend, Dr. Jim Fox, told me that his father, Dr. Max Fox, and Dr. Shapiro were good friends.”
Stephen Damiani (left) reunited with Edward Ehlich, for whom he named a scholarship, at an alumni dinner during Homecoming Weekend.
Alum Honors His Mentor
WITH A SCHOLARSHIP

by Ann Grauvogl

His own post-graduate years showed Professor Emeritus Edward Ehrlich, MD, how good mentors create a sense of family for their students. He was determined to establish that environment for his fellows in the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health’s (SMPH) Division of Endocrinology, within the Department of Medicine.

“I didn’t hide myself from the laboratory,” he says. “I was really engaged with the fellows. The door was always open.”

He didn’t know that—decades later—one of those fellows would honor his dedication by establishing a Great People Scholarship in his name. Former endocrinology fellow Stephen Damiani, DO, called Ehrlich a great teacher and leader who touched his students’ lives.

“I’m very grateful and was honored to be Ed’s student and fellow,” explains Damiani, who is in private practice in endocrinology and metabolism in Apple Valley, California.

Ehrlich, who earned his medical degree at the University of Michigan, was inspired to mentor during post-graduate studies at the University of Chicago.

Post-graduate medical training can be a daunting experience with a heavy workload and responsibilities, always subject to critical appraisal by supervisory staff, Ehrlich notes.

“In my case, these burdens were lessened by the amiable environment created by an empathetic, supportive section head,” he adds. “(Dr. Richard Landau) fostered close interpersonal relationships amongst fellow trainees and other section members.”

Landau also was the reason Ehrlich became an endocrinologist. “Chance plays a lot in your choices,” Ehrlich says.

Ehrlich’s choice became clear when a faculty member introduced him to Landau, head of endocrinology.

“The minute I met the guy, I wanted to work with him,” Ehrlich remembers. “I wanted to put myself in that person’s hands.”

With that decision, he landed in a section that felt like family, and knew he wanted to provide that environment for his students.

“Endocrinology is an intellectual type of practice,” says Ehrlich, who taught at UW-Madison from 1974 until he retired in 1995, then returned as a mentor to the SMPH Class of 2000.

He explains that endocrinologists do not do invasive work, such as insert catheters or perform surgery, but they can measure any hormone by analyzing a blood sample.

“With endocrinology, each hormone has its own system, its own regulatory mechanism, directed at a particular organ or function,” Ehrlich notes.

Much like Landau helped foster Ehrlich’s training and career, Ehrlich did the same for Damiani. As a fellow from 1988 to 1990, Damiani appreciated how much the departmental professors nurtured learning.

“I felt I could grow any way I wanted to and nobody was going to set any boundaries or make any definitions,” he explains. “I was free to learn and discover and experience.”

In establishing a Great People Scholarship in Ehrlich’s name, Damiani addresses a critical need at the SMPH, notes Karen Peterson, executive director of the Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association (WMAA).

“Our students graduate with an average of $145,000 of debt,” she exclaims. “We’re doing all we can to increase the scholarship dollars and decrease student debt.”

The WMAA board designated $200,000 to match every Great People contribution 50 cents for each dollar; UW Foundation did the same. That made a one-to-one match for every Great People gift, Peterson says.

The WMAA has worked with classes and individuals to establish 14 named Great People Scholarships. A $25,000 gift plus the matching funds establishes a named, endowed scholarship. Alumni can make individual gifts.

WATSON HELPS DONORS FULFILL THEIR PHILANTHROPIC GOALS

While “house calls” have become rare, they are a practice that Jill Watson offers for those interested in making charitable contributions to the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH). She cannot cure physical ailments. Instead, her specialty is listening, and her expertise lies in matching donors to causes that matter most to them in advancing the mission of the school.

A UW Foundation director of development who works on behalf of the SMPH, Watson is happy to meet with people who are passionate about the SMPH at their homes or wherever it’s most convenient for them to talk.

She travels from coast to coast, often pairing her visits with alumni reunions, professional meetings or other special events, some involving Bucky Badger.

“I enjoy hearing about how and why people want to give back to their alma mater,” she says. “I love working with them to further the school’s mission and help the next generation of students.”

Such was the case when Stephen Damiani, DO, had a vision to honor Edward Ehrlich, MD (see article above).

Watson has lived in Honolulu, Tokyo, San Francisco and Chicago. She has called Madison home for 20 years. For more information, please call (608) 263-3173.
Phi: A Voyage from the Brain to the Soul

Here, Giulio Tononi, MD, PhD, professor of psychiatry at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) and Distinguished Chair in Consciousness Science, weaves together science, history and many art forms in a unique exploration of different facets of consciousness. In one section, Tononi describes why certain parts of the brain are important and others not, and why consciousness fades with sleep. In another, he presents his theory of consciousness, called integrated information. When the brain integrates, or shares, information from single neurons or networks of neurons, consciousness occurs. As more integration of information occurs among more networks of neurons, more consciousness arises. In the third part, he ponders how consciousness is an evolving, deepening awareness of ourselves in history and art. Tononi tells the story through imaginary dialogues in which Galileo, the famous 16th-century scientist, talks in his dreams with Francis Crick, Alan Turing, Charles Darwin and many other scientists.

Integrative Medicine, 3rd edition

In this book, David Rakel, MD, associate professor of family medicine at the SMPH and director of UW Health Integrative Medicine, provides practical information on ways to safely and effectively integrate complementary and alternative treatment modalities into traditional practice. A key textbook in the field, it draws on solid scientific evidence to match the most effective therapy to the uniqueness of the individual with a goal toward symptom resolution. The book explains how integrative therapies can help fight diseases that do not respond readily to traditional treatments and presents therapeutic guidance on a full range of diseases and conditions, including autism, stroke, chronic fatigue syndrome and various forms of cancer. The text is divided into three sections: 1) The philosophy and application, 2) Integrative therapy for common conditions, and 3) Practical tools for the clinician that explore how to advise patients on an efficient path toward health and wellness. It offers advice on topics such as meditation, diet and exercises for back pain. The book comes with a code to access the text electronically online.

Sleep Disorders: The Clinician’s Guide to Diagnosis and Management

Despite the importance of sleep deprivation, education in the diagnosis and treatment of sleep disorders is often neglected in undergraduate and post-graduate medical training. As a result, many physicians are uncomfortable assessing or treating even common sleep problems. In this concise, portable book, Ruth Benca, MD, PhD, professor of psychiatry at the SMPH and director of Wisconsin Sleep, provides an essential reference on current, evidence-based medical approaches for effective diagnosis and long-term management of common sleep disorders. The volume includes chapters on all major sleep disorders; each chapter describes a disorder and its symptoms, suggests diagnostic criteria and recommends methods of evaluation and treatment options. In addition, it features useful tools and resources, such as a sleep diary, instructions for commonly used behavioral techniques and guidelines for the implementation of sleep disorder behavioral treatments. The book is part of the Oxford American Neurology Library.
OTTERY  Continued from page 23

She joined Savient in 1998, originally heading research on an oral anabolic steroid that is used as a therapy for catabolic conditions. When the agent went generic, Ottery helped to support the development, launch and medical education support of a PEGylated uricase enzyme indicated for patients with advanced chronic gout.

Ottery says, “Both of these unique drugs positively impact patients and their lives. I am remarkably lucky to have played a role in helping support patients’ access to them.”

Traveling for work—and to it—is part of her gig. From her downtown Philadelphia condominium overlooking the Delaware River, Ottery drives 90 miles to and from Savient in Bridgewater, New Jersey, in a red hardtop convertible that helps make the trip seem much shorter.

“I do my best thinking in that car,” she jokes.

She also flies frequently to Europe to connect with her medical team and attend scientific meetings, and she makes a monthly trip to Fond du Lac, about 14 miles from the Brothertown land in Calumet County.

“My identity and legacy as a Brothertown Indian is integral to who I am,” says Ottery.

She had great role models in her aunt, a long-time tribal council chair, and in her father and Norwegian mother, Rudi, who served as a tribal genealogist for decades. Her parents published a book, A Man Called Sampson: The Ancestry and Progeny of Sampson, a Mashantucket Pequot Indian.

The Brothertown, who have been in Wisconsin for 180 years, have been working through the arduous process of petitioning the U.S. government to restore the official recognition that would allow them access to much-needed federal health care, education and other programs. It’s been a 30-year administrative exercise fraught with frustration and disappointment, but one that Ottery and others have faced with stoicism, persistence and hope. They now are active in the next steps of addressing federal legislative restoration activities.

Her philanthropic efforts extend beyond Brothertown through her ongoing support of American Indian students in college and medical school. Ottery has been donating to the SMPH to support American Indian students for years.

Now a member of the Middleton Society, she recently sought to honor her ancestor by creating the Samson Occom Legacy Award, which is a companion to the award created by her father, the Rudi and Will Ottery Fund for UW-Madison undergraduates.

“This is another part of my legacy, and I’m passionate about it,” Ottery says.

“Education is the key to moving forward.”

In addition to the gift of scholarships, Ottery offers students a few words of advice.

“If you want to make a difference, try to find a niche for yourself and be open to opportunities that come along,” she says. “Try to understand how they will work in the future,” she says. “Most importantly, ask yourself, ‘What am I going to learn from this experience that will help me be better at the next thing I plan to do.’”

LET’S TALK ABOUT THE FLU  Continued from page 30

“Our hope was that participants would be more likely to get vaccinated if they had access to information that was easy to understand and addressed their concerns,” she explains.

Lukolyo believes medical professionals need to continue to improve the ways they communicate with patients.

“I think physicians often are not aware that they are talking in technical terms,” she says. “A blend of art and skills is required to distill complex information into messages that patients can understand. Physicians may not realize that some patients do not understand them. Each patient is different, and many are reluctant to question their doctors. Providing accessible explanations and checking for understanding need not take a lot of extra time or effort.”

Lukolyo predicts her involvement in this project will have a positive impact on her future medical career.

“It helped me recognize the importance of health literacy,” she says. “In medical school, we spend four years learning to talk in ‘medical-speak’ and rattling off things that most patients would not understand. This project kept fresh my awareness that—when dealing with patients—we need to use simple language that patients can understand and digest. This awareness will stay with me throughout my career.”
I recall in my youth, Hollywood portrayals where adversaries would overcome barriers related to their differences. In Westerns and war films, they swore to become brothers who would work together to defeat common enemies.

Ceremonies of acceptance in ethnic and religious societies around the world continue to be used to mark the arrival of earned respect. They, as a rite of passage, signal the transition from one stage of responsibility to another.

I’ve looked at the first-year anatomy class as such a transition. I see it as an introduction to the medical profession. I also see the Hippocratic Oath as a promise to be guided by the moral and ethical principles of those who have preceded us in the medical profession. Like the blood brother ceremonies featured in Western films, the Hippocratic Oath is a connection to ancient times and a call to humans to exhibit honorable behaviors.

During its fall meeting at the Medical Sciences Center, the Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association (WMAA) Board of Directors visited the new anatomy laboratories. Guided by Drs. John Harting, Edward Bersu and James Petterson, we were shown the new suite of rooms that has replaced the hallowed Bardeen Anatomy Lab.

In 2006, the WMAA embraced a fundraising campaign to re-engineer the anatomy laboratories to become state of the art. Recent upgrades to the gross anatomy laboratories include new sinks, insulation and appropriate air handling systems. The tanks, which are unchanged, are situated neatly in their bright new surroundings and are illuminated by new surgical overhead lighting. It was through the generosity of alumni, an effort led by the Classes of ’55 and ’67, that the anatomy laboratories’ face-lift was made possible.

Many University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) Med 1s honor the tradition of the Hippocratic Oath by participating in a class reading of their adaptation of it. However, according to an episode of the public television series Nova, “A growing number of physicians have come to feel that the Hippocratic Oath is inadequate to address the realities of a medical world that has witnessed huge scientific, economic, political and social changes … unheard of in Hipppocrates’ time. Some doctors have begun asking pointed questions regarding the oath’s relevance: In an environment of increasing medical specialization, should physicians of such different stripes swear to a single oath? With governments and health care organizations frequently demanding patient information, how can a doctor maintain a patient’s privacy? Are physicians morally obligated to treat patients with such lethal new diseases as AIDS or the Ebola virus?”

According to Mary Erickson of the Wisconsin Academy for Rural Medicine (WARM) Class of 2015 at the SMPH, her class wrote its own “Hippocratic Oath” during the first week of orientation.

“Different sections were written by each house,” she notes.

The students then read it aloud at their fall White Coat Investiture Ceremony. Mary adds that this practice is being adopted by each class.

Interestingly, the original Hippocratic Oath addresses the issue of privacy. “What I may see or hear in the course of treatment or even outside of treatment in regard to the life of men, which on no account one must spread abroad, I will keep to myself, holding such things shameful to be spoken about.”

An updated version could read, “I will ensure confidentiality of medical records.”

Does it matter which oath our medical students swear to uphold? A survey of 2,000 U.S. physicians showed that only one in four believe the oath they took in medical school influences them “a lot,” and only 16 percent think that the American Medical Association Code of Ethics has influenced their practices (R.M. Antiel et al., JAMA, Internal Medicine, March 14, 2011).

From my perspective, whether we take the oath or have it read as part of a separate ceremony, I prefer the same beautiful words that were recited by physicians thousands of years ago.

I invite you to ponder with me as we reflect on the old and accept the new.

Christopher L. Larson, MD ’75
Quarterly Editorial Board Chair
SUBJECT: CANCER RESEARCH
Caroline Alexander, PhD, a researcher at the McArdle Laboratory for Cancer Research and University of Wisconsin Carbone Cancer Center, studies the pathways that govern tumors. By gaining a better understanding of these pathways through basic research, she hopes to help clinicians develop targeted treatments for patients. Learn more about Alexander’s research by watching a video at med.wisc.edu/alexander.

SUBJECT: WIMR
If you’ve been around the health sciences campus lately, you’ve probably noticed that the second tower of the Wisconsin Institutes for Medical Research (WIMR) is rapidly taking shape. What’s unique about WIMR? Perhaps most importantly, it provides an open environment in which scientists and physicians can work side-by-side to develop new therapies that will ultimately improve patient care. Richard Moss, PhD, senior associate dean for basic research, biotechnology and graduate studies, discusses the importance of collaboration at med.wisc.edu/wimr.

SUBJECT: WAISMAN’S 40TH ANNIVERSARY
This year, the Waisman Center celebrates 40 years of research, teaching and outreach in the interest of developmental disabilities. The center has helped gather new knowledge on the basic biology, developmental course, prevention, treatment and social context of a highly complex set of human conditions. Learn more about Waisman’s 10 signature accomplishments at med.wisc.edu/40006.

SUBJECT: HEALTH CARE HERO
MEDIC got its start more than 20 years ago when a group of students approached Ted Goodfriend, MD, about addressing the health care needs of underserved populations in Madison. He was instrumental in establishing the network of clinics that provide valuable service and education experiences. Watch a video to learn more about Goodfriend’s work and his role in MEDIC at med.wisc.edu/medic.
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 locations. Photographs are encouraged.

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