Helping hands in anesthesia care
Michael Ferrante, M.S.A., '13
HEALTH CARE IS a team profession. And at the School of Medicine, we are training future physicians and members of the health care team to deliver the highest quality of patient care.

A new research initiative for the School is the rapidly growing field of patient safety. Students, residents and faculty participated in the inaugural Vijay Babu Rayudu Quality and Patient Safety Day on April 11, and we were honored to have Dr. Tejal K. Gandhi, president of the National Patient Safety Foundation and associate professor of medicine at Harvard School of Medicine, as the keynote speaker for the event.

High functioning teams are imperative for patient safety. The School’s Master of Science in Anesthesia is preparing anesthesiologist assistants to be vital members of the anesthesia care team. This program is one of only 10 accredited anesthesiologist assistant programs in the U.S. and the only anesthesiologist assistant program housed in and administered by a medical school. While the MSA program celebrates its fifth graduating class, we welcome the first class of the Master of Medical Science Physician Assistant program. Our master’s programs cater to members of the health care team and researchers who are making discoveries that improve our ability to effectively treat patients.

Physicians are leaders in health care, which is why the School of Medicine and the Henry W. Bloch School of Management have joined forces to offer the Physician Leadership Program (PLP). Exceptional clinical skills are sometimes not enough. More and more, physicians are not only expected to practice medicine but also to perform administrative duties, run a business and lead a health care team. The PLP gives physicians in Kansas City and the surrounding areas an opportunity to gain business and leadership skills.

Featured in this issue are a few of our graduates who have pursued entrepreneurial ventures in addition to practicing medicine. Gurpreet Padda, M.D., ’88, Skip Sallee, M.D., ’85, and Cliff Cokingtin, M.D., ’87, have honed their management skills through experience and have created innovative businesses in the medical field and beyond.

We also congratulate our 2014 alumni award winners: Michele Kilo, M.D., ’84, School of Medicine Alumni Achievement Award, the family of Steven Waldman, M.D., ’77, and Corey Waldman, M.D., ’12, who received the UMKC Alumni Legacy Award, and the Take Wing Award winner, Doug Zweig, M.D., ’80.

The School of Medicine is producing high quality members and leaders of the health care team in many disciplines and roles: from physicians to anesthesiologist assistants and from physician assistants to biomedical researchers. We congratulate all of our graduates on your accomplishments.
Patient safety, quality improvement opportunities abound

One in 20 hospitalized patients in the United States contract healthcare-acquired infections, according to the National Patient Safety Foundation. These occur after treatment begins and lead to extended hospital stays and longer recovery times.

This is just one of the top patient safety challenges identified by the foundation. Others include wrong-site surgery, medication errors, health care-acquired infections, falls within and outside of health care settings, readmissions and diagnostic errors.

Patient safety, quality outcomes and improvement programs have become a major topic in today’s healthcare world, and experts expect it to continue to be a growing area of focus. The School of Medicine is dedicated to the education of physicians who will provide the highest quality patient care. Through increased effort in patient safety and quality outcomes research, the School is staying in stride with the growing field of patient safety – ensuring patients receive safe, effective and efficient care.

“You could look at different quality outcomes in different patient populations and that’s very important because a lot of quality outcomes published by CMS or Medicare or the government are based on populations that are potentially very different from the ones we take care of,” said Lawrence Dall, M.D., professor of medicine.

Dall returned to the School of Medicine faculty in the fall with a dual role. While serving as docent on the Red 3 unit, he mentors student projects in patient safety and quality improvement. Just six months into the program, those efforts are already producing fruit.

Dall said that more than 30 students are involved in starting or conducting research projects. Four docents—Dall, Carol Stanford, M.D., ’79, Gold 5 docent; Jennifer Bequette, M.D., ’00, Blue 1 docent; and Reem Mustafa, M.D., Blue 3 docent—are currently serving as faculty mentors for these projects.

“The reception of the student population has been outstanding,” Dall said. “They’re very hungry.”

The inaugural Vijay Babu Rayudu Quality and Patient Safety Day took place on April 11 at the School. Tejal K. Gandhi, M.D., M.H.P., C.P.P.S., president of the National Patient Safety Foundation, was the keynote speaker. Following her lecture, students, residents, fellows and faculty presented their projects.

In 2007, the School lost one of its own when a student, Vijay Babu Rayudu, died the summer after his third year of medical school. The Vijay Babu Rayudu Endowed Chair in Patient Safety was established in 2011 through a gift from the Rayudu family and matching funds from the School of Medicine and Saint Luke’s Hospital.

Peter Almenoff, M.D., was appointed the inaugural Vijay Babu Rayudu Endowed Chair in Patient Safety and will advise the School in developing medical education programs and research programs that incorporate patient safety. He brings expertise to the patient safety advisory committee through his administrative research efforts in the area.

Other members of the committee include Shauna Roberts, M.D., ’84, associate professor of internal medicine, and Mamta Reddy, M.D., ’98, assistant professor of pediatrics.

Mark Hoffman, Ph.D., director of the School’s Center for Health Insights, is assisting students and their mentors with the collection and interpretation of data. Almenoff will also serve an advisory role to Saint Luke’s Hospital on the development of a clinical outcomes analytic program.

“Unless a safe, high quality healthcare environment is our main priority, we will never make progress in improving health care outcomes,” Almenoff said.

“It is critical to engrain this into educational institutions, post graduate training programs and post graduate education to advance this critical health care imperative.”
A new Clinical Training Facility now houses the Youngblood Medical Skills Laboratory and includes spaces for a mock operating room, separate exam rooms and classrooms.

The skills lab will continue to provide paramedic, emergency medical technician, and emergency medical service instructor training and serve as an American Heart Association training site, providing training in both basic and advanced cardiac life support. The new Master of Medical Science Physician Assistant program uses the Clinical Training Facility for patient-based assessment work and physical exams.

The Master of Science in Anesthesia and Advanced Cardiac Life Support. The new Clinical Training Facility is work- ing to become a regional site for vascular access training, using a curriculum developed by nationally recognized experts in cooperation with Teleflex.

The Clinical Training Facility boasts two new products, adding to its qual- ity of training. Its new Laerdal SimMan 3G and SimView system can be used to capture audio and video of simulation scenarios, improving debriefing after simulations and standardized patient encounters.

"It's a more flexible space," Ganss said. "Instructors can use the new tools to actually teach at the bedside."

In response to the national graduate medical education initiative of improved patient safety and risk management, Annette Quick, M.D., '84, associate professor internal medicine, provides central line training for all residents. The Clinical Training Facility is work- ing to become a regional site for vascular access training, using a curriculum developed by nationally recognized experts in cooperation with Teleflex.

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Researchers print human body parts

Medical researchers across the country are using 3-D printers to construct actual human body parts.

Cornell University biomedical engineers and physicians completed a study, which was published in PLOS One, describing their process for creating ears that function the same as a human ear. They began with a digitized 3-D image of a human subject’s ear and converted the image into a digitized “solid” ear using a 3-D printer to assemble a mold. They injected the mold with collagen from rat tails, and then added 250 million cartilage cells from the ears of cows. Cartilage could then grow on the collagen. Learn more at http://www.news.cornell.edu/stories/2013/02/bioengineers-physicians-3-d-print-ears-look-act-real.

Researchers at the University of Pennsylvania and M.I.T. have used 3-D printers to produce blood vessels, while scientists at Wake Forest University’s Military Research Center have developed a method of bioprinting new skin cells onto burn wounds. A laser scans the patient’s burn, and that information gets translated into a personalized plan for filling the wound with cells. Then the printer lays down the cells individually, one layer at a time until the burned area is completely covered.

Researchers are not slowing down. A San Diego company named Organovo says it will print a human liver this year. The artificial organ would be used only in a lab for drug research… for now.

Local researchers and entrepreneurs have UMKC’s Innovation Center available to them. The Center provides vital information and resources for technology ventures and start-ups.

Stats

Master of Science in Anesthesia Quick Facts

- 36 UMKC Graduates
- 92% Missouri placement rate
- 24 clinical rotation sites in 9 states (and the District of Columbia)
- 5 training sites in the Greater Kansas City area
- 11 hospitals in Missouri employ anesthesiologist assistants (AAs)

States with MSA clinical rotations. See story on Page 8.

Capsule

Medical researchers at Cornell University (top) and Wake Forest University (bottom) are using 3-D imaging and printing devices to create actual human body parts.

Nursing and medical staff pose in front of Kansas City’s old General Hospital circa 1908. This is the view looking northeast. The facade on the original building now stands on the east side of Truman Medical Center Hospital Hill (inset).
Six months before he graduated from the UMKC School of Medicine’s Master of Science in Anesthesia (MSA) program, Michael Ferrante interviewed for a position as an anesthesiologist assistant (AA), a highly skilled anesthesia provider who works under the direction of a licensed anesthesiologist. He was offered the job at Mercy Hospital in St. Louis a week later.

As new technology and medications make it possible for people with complex medical conditions to live longer, a growing number of patients is in need of surgical procedures and that translates into an increased need for anesthesia services and anesthesiologist assistants.

Ferrante earned his undergraduate degree at the University of Utah. He had worked as an anesthesia technician for five years. So with a desire to become an anesthesiologist assistant, Ferrante came to UMKC immediately after receiving his undergraduate degree. He said he had no problem finding the job he sought or fitting in with an anesthesia team after completing the MSA program at UMKC in May 2013.

“I began working one week after graduation and from day one on the job I felt prepared to provide safe, quality anesthesia services,” Ferrante said. “As an anesthesia provider now, I have students from other AA programs rotate with me, and I can honestly say that UMKC, all around, has the best clinical year AA students of any AA program. I have full confidence that future UMKC MSA graduates will continue to be prepared to enter the field upon graduation.”

This spring, the seven-semester program will graduate its fifth, and largest, class of 12 anesthesiologist assistants. As of May 2014, the School’s MSA program will have produced 36 graduates, the majority of whom are providing anesthesia services in Missouri.

Since launching the MSA program six years ago, the School has expanded its allied health offerings to meet a broad spectrum of pressing local and regional health care needs. In 2012, the School appointed Julie Banderas, Pharm.D., as assistant dean for graduate studies and allied health to oversee those programs. This past January, the School began a Master of Medical Science Physician Assistant program.

“As time goes on, I think it’s critical for us to have these programs in the medical school because with the changes in the health care delivery system, more and more health care is going to be done in teams, not just by individuals,” School of Medicine Dean Betty Drees, M.D., said. “And making sure that we have the educational programs here for the whole team to meet the workforce needs in our own state is critically important.”

The MSA program, one of only 10 accredited anesthesiologist assistant programs in the country, is the only AA program housed in and administered by a medical school. Missouri is one of just 18 states in which anesthesiologist assistants are allowed to practice. Likewise, accredited AA programs are limited throughout the country. In fact, until recently when the University of Colorado started a program, all of the country’s other MSA programs were located east of Kansas City.

Ferrante said he knew from his time as an anesthesia technician that this

HELPING HANDS FOR QUALITY CARE

Anesthesiologist assistant program provides new players for health care team

BY KELLY EDWARDS
was the field of practice he wanted to enter. But Utah, where he graduated from college, is one of the many states that still do not license anesthesiologist assistants to practice. So Ferrante came to Kansas City to interview for the MSA program and spent a day shadowing Lance Carter, M.S.A., A.A.-C., assistant director of the program.

“It was everything I expected and more,” Ferrante said. “I had already decided to become an AA at that point, but shadowing Lance reinforced my decision to pursue this career. Going this route versus becoming a physician and doing an anesthesia residency, I felt, would allow me to make a more immediate impact on patients who need anesthesia services and allow me more time to focus on my family.”

Melanie Guthrie, M.S.A., A.A.-C., a licensed anesthesiologist assistant serves as director of the School’s MSA program. Guthrie said the UMKC program is close to reaching the planned maximum class size of 15 students, but is still growing from an educational standpoint. With three full-time anesthesiologist assistant faculty on hand, students have more one-on-one learning time with faculty. Enhanced time in the Clinical Training Facility and year-two course content are helping students better prepare for their certification exams, she said. Evidence-based medicine and professions-based courses were added to the MSA program this year as well as being included in the curriculum for the physician assistant students.

“I am a little older than the traditional medical or veterinary student,” McCue said. “The AA program allowed me to finish my education and fulfill my professional goals on a timetable better suited to my personal situation.”

McCue said she quickly determined her real passion was to be an anesthesiologist assistant when the School of Medicine program got off the ground with five affiliate institutions where students could conduct their clinical rotations. Today, the MSA program works with 24 clinical affiliates that include hospitals in Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah, Wisconsin and Washington, D.C. Five hospitals in the Kansas City area offer clinical training sites, including three of the School of Medicine’s affiliate hospitals — Children’s Mercy Kansas City, Saint Luke’s Hospital, and the Kansas City Veterans Administration Medical Center.

“Obviously, we’ve evolved,” Guthrie said. “At the time, there was a great shortage of anesthesia providers in Missouri and this legislation was designed to help fill that need and allow AAs to practice in Missouri,” Page said.

The next step, Page said, was to establish a program in Missouri to educate and bring more of these critical members of the anesthesia care team into the state’s health care facilities. With financial backing from the state legislature, the UMKC School of Medicine program got off the ground with five affiliate institutions where students could conduct their clinical rotations. Today, the MSA program works with 24 clinical affiliates that include hospitals in Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah, Wisconsin and Washington, D.C. Five hospitals in the Kansas City area offer clinical training sites, including three of the School of Medicine’s affiliate hospitals — Children’s Mercy Kansas City, Saint Luke’s Hospital, and the Kansas City Veterans Administration Medical Center.

“Beginning this year, students in the program have an added experience of conducting a portion of their clinical training shoulder-to-shoulder with anesthesiologist residents in the Youngblood Medical Skills Lab at the new School of Medicine Clinical Training Facility (SEE STORY ON PAGE 4). It’s a training environment that follows the medical care team model that is becoming prominent in today’s health care world, and promotes an understanding and the ability to work within the health care team.

“We’ve shown that there is a need in the fact that most of our graduates have taken jobs within the state, primarily in Kansas City and St. Louis. There are a lot of other places where we can expand.” The anesthesiologist assistant practice has existed for almost as long as physici
Across the country, UMKC School of Medicine graduates are stepping outside their traditional caregiver roles to take on a new title: entrepreneur. Some have designed medical devices, developed health care software and launched startup applications to empower patients to better manage their health at home. Others have gone outside their medical training to open restaurants and other small businesses. Some operate successful private practices.

The entrepreneurial and leadership shift is likely to become more pronounced as the health care landscape continues to change with the Affordable Care Act. UMKC is making some changes of its own to reflect the changing marketplace. The University has launched the Physician Leadership Program, an executive certificate program that helps bridge the gap between science and business management.

The conditions are ideal, many believe, for innovative thinkers to step up as leaders within their health care organizations or launch a business of their own.

“In medicine, you’re losing a lot of revenue. You’re going to see a huge shift in revenue and so people are going to come up with innovative ways to deal with that,” said Gurpreet Padda, M.D., ’88, a St. Louis anesthesiologist. “As reimbursement drops, you’re going to see real innovative (ideas).” Necessity, he believes, is the mother of all invention.

Regardless of what entrepreneurial path physicians have chosen, graduates say they regularly come back to the basic principles learned at UMKC.

“UMKC prepares you by giving you an amazing fundamental basis,” said Padda.

Padda credits his medical school degree for much of his success. He has relied on the skills of critical thinking, intense study and observation to create 38 companies ranging from barbecue restaurants to software development. He established the Padda Institute in 2001 and serves as the medical director of the agency, which provides services across five states and employs more than 250 people. He runs a variety of businesses but has never stopped practicing medicine.

Padda, who is board certified in pain medicine and anesthesiaology, still practices medicine about 62 hours a week despite a hectic schedule. He specializes in surgical and interventional pain management procedures, often trying to help his patients learn why they are having pain. He said that throughout the years he’s learned his sub-speciality is not such a narrow field and finds himself using many of the skills engrained in him at the School, especially when it comes to treating diabetes, hypertension and obesity.

Padda said he likes to think that he leveraged his degree to become an entrepreneur.

“You can’t stick yourself into a pigeon hole just because you went to medical school,” he said. “The world is changing and if you can’t change with it, you’re going to be at the wrong end.”

He’s constantly coming up with new ideas and recently created a company that develops mobile applications. A trained heart surgeon with experience running transplant divisions, Kim Gandy, M.D., Ph.D., adjunct associate professor of biomedical and health informatics, has dedicated her career...
“These are not concepts that should be foreign to medical students.”

Cliff Cokingtin

Kim Gandy, M.D., Ph.D., adjunct associate professor of biomedical and health informatics, and Steve Roatch, president and CEO of TwentySeven Global — a software engineering company — work on Play-it Health’s mobile application, Plan-it Med.

TwentySeven Global — a software engineering company — work on Play-it Health’s mobile application, Plan-it Med.
New program equips physicians with leadership skills

The Physician Leadership Program (PLP) was founded by Ahmed and Eugene Fibuch, M.D., professor emeritus and former chair of the Department of Anesthesiology, and Arif Ahmed, Ph.D., associate professor of health administration at the Henry W. Bloch School of Management for help. Rather than go it alone, the schools forged a unique partnership to create the PLP. It was started after two medical groups simultaneously approached the School of Medicine and the Bloch School of Management. The program was started in 2012-2013. The program takes place over the course of six weekends spread throughout seven months. Executives come in on a Thursday afternoon and are immersed in 26 hours of training through Saturday. “There’s a lot of concentrated activity that goes on in that timeframe,” Fibuch said.

“We came up with a pretty consistent desire for very specific skill sets and we then built the curriculum around those skill sets,” Fibuch said.

Ahmed and Fibuch brought on faculty that included a mix of medical leaders and business faculty. It also included scholars from across the country to provide a national perspective. The founders believe the program has something that no other university can boast: two strong university schools pulling together their expertise to create a premier program for physicians.

“One of the things that I think this program demonstrates is a very successful model of cross-campus collaboration. We need more of these in this particular area,” Ahmed said. “That is a shining point.”

Fibuch said the program has benefitted from the award-winning reputation of the Bloch School of Management. Executive MBA program started in 1980 is No. 6 ranking in the 2014 Leadership & Global Executives Awards presented by HEC.com. The undergraduate and graduate entrepreneurship program consistently ranks in the top 25 nationally by Princeton Review, and have been single out as models for others to imitate. UMKC is one of 155 colleges that made the list in the Midwest’s best in The Princeton Review’s “2004 Best Colleges: Region by Region.”

Ahmed said the Physician Leadership Program was a good fit because the Bloch School of Management already provides specialized executive programming for companies like H&R Block and Cerner. Program graduates have not been shy in describing their feelings about the program. Ahmed said the word they hear the most is “transformational.”

The course is designed much like that of an executive MBA program. Classroom discussion is relaxed, presentations are varied with visual and auditory portrayals, and teamwork is stressed.

This year’s class of 16 students includes physicians and two clinical psychologists. “We have two extraordinarily supportive duos who want to make this program run,” Fibuch said. “Really, there has been no difficulty in doing this. I think the two schools have worked very well together.”

The founders took a unique approach to develop the content of the training program. They spent two months with employers, chief executive officers, chief operation officers and members of the overall medical community before developing the curriculum.

“Part of that coursework takes place outside the classroom. Assignments call for teams of participants to develop plans for a new center of health excellence. It could be a cancer center, women and children’s facility or other medical site. But the participants must create a thorough proposal and justify it to a team just as they might eventually have to should they report to a board of directors or group of investors. The proposal must include an environment assessment, marketing concepts, a budget, construction and much more.”

“Because they have to go out and acquire a lot of information that they wouldn’t necessarily get in class,” Fibuch said.

It also gives participants a safe place to ask questions and experiment. That’s key, Padda said.

Instructors at the Physician Leadership Program guide that type of thinking during the seven-month program. Part of that coursework takes place outside the classroom. Assignments call for teams of participants to develop plans for a new center of health excellence. It could be a cancer center, women and children’s facility or other medical site. But the participants must create a thorough proposal and justify it to a team just as they might eventually have to should they report to a board of directors or group of investors. The proposal must include an environment assessment, marketing concepts, a budget, construction and much more.

“That gives them real live experience because they have to go out and acquire a lot of information that they wouldn’t necessarily get in class,” Fibuch said.

It also gives participants a safe place to ask questions and experiment. That’s key, Padda said.

Padda’s first entrepreneurial experiment came at UMKC when he convinced a free health clinic that he could run an STD clinic at night. He recruited retired physicians who quickly taught him about compliance, regulations and operational management.

“I made my little mistakes along the way,” he said. He remembered every mistake years later when he opened an obesity management clinic.

It also taught him to understand that mistakes might be catastrophic in medicine, but can lead to new ideas, better strategies and stronger companies in the business world.

“In medicine, you don’t want to lose. You don’t want to make a mistake. It’s very important for you to learn from your failure than from your success. I encourage all of my staff to have spectacular failures and then share them with each other because we’ll never do that again.”

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics also has good news for those considering taking the jump. Health care and social assistance continually ranks as an industry with one of the highest survival rates over time for small business. Also, there are several tools to get physicians started. The Small Business Administration, with offices across the country, offers several free programs that have helped kick-start several companies.

Padda said he believes he’s made a big difference in the world by practicing medicine on a patient-by-patient basis. However, when he looks to his entrepreneurial work, he knows that the overall outcomes have led to health changes for a broader audience. That, in turn, has led to greater financial success for him.

“If you want to make a massive change in society and not just an individual, patient-by-patient change, then you’re going to have to innovate your way into it,” Padda said. “The people that become innovative will become wildly successful.”

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When Kansas City’s Hospital Hill community began a campaign to establish a School of Medicine at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, it zeroed in on one man to spearhead the endeavor. E. Grey Dimond, M.D., was a 43-year-old cardiologist and former chair of the University of Kansas Medical School Department of Medicine. He had one demand when Homer Wadsworth and Nathan Stark, two principals of the Kansas City Area Hospital Association, approached him with the idea in 1962.

“Only if you make some fun out of it,” Dimond said.

A visionary who became the architect and founder of the UMKC School of Medicine, Dimond poured more than 30 years of service into the School. Nearly 15 years after stepping aside from all commitments with the School he built, Dimond died peacefully at his home on Nov. 3, 2013. He was 94.

Dimond helped revitalize Kansas City’s Hospital Hill, serving as the engineer who designed all aspects of the School of Medicine from its original academic plan down to the very building that housed it. Colleagues and alumni alike remembered him as a friend, mentor and an inspiration.

Richardson K. Noback, M.D., the School of Medicine’s founding dean, described Dimond as a man of large accomplishments who challenged prevailing views and responded to unexpected and inevitable crises. He said Dimond possessed the qualities of determination, stamina, self-control, good humor, high energy, reliability, mastery of communication, an ability to work with others and a zest for problem solving, all “in full measure.”

Dimond’s idea to create a non-traditional, six-year medical school at UMKC, based on his own accelerated medical school experience during World War II, was met with early resistance in medical education circles. Today, more than 3,200 physicians have graduated from the UMKC School of Medicine’s six-year program and medical schools across the country have copied many of its basic tenants such as small learning groups, early and continual patient encounters, and teaching a humanistic approach to doctoring.

Former School of Medicine Dean Harry Jonas, M.D., said Dimond’s creative intellect brought UMKC the “good fortune” of a new model of medical education that has proven extremely successful.

“Grey was the ultimate model of a creative and inspiring individual,” Jonas said. “What a treat for me to be so inspired...”
by such a person. Fortunately, his presence and legacy will live on forever in Kansas City and throughout the world.”

Jerald Burton, M.D., ’73, first encountered Dimond as a young graduate student in pharmacology and Dimond, then a renowned cardiologist, was lecturing at the University of California-San Diego. The two reconnected four years later when Burton entered the new UMKC School of Medicine as a student and struck a friendship that lasted a lifetime, long after Burton became the School’s first graduate.

“His handshake was always so firm and later in his life, so were his hugs,” Burton said. 

Many of the School’s graduates talked about the life lessons they absorbed from Dimond that went beyond the clinical skills they learned in a hospital setting.

“Thank you for teaching me the difference between knowledge and wisdom,” wrote Harriet Lungley, M.D., ’78, in a tribute to Dimond. “This may be the greatest lesson of all.”

Dimond’s friendship reached beyond the borders of his own country. In 1971, on the same day the School of Medicine opened, Dimond was part of the first delegation of American doctors to visit Communist China in 25 years. He was largely responsible for bringing the first delegation of Chinese physicians to the United States a year later, opening the door to relations between the Chinese and American peoples.

Dimond made 40 trips to Asia, including more than two dozen trips to China, often taking groups of students from the School of Medicine with him.

Zhao Weiping, Consulate-General of the People’s Republic of China in Chicago, met Dimond at his home in Kansas City in early 2013. Weiping said Dimond made a great number of Chinese friends during his lifetime.

“E. Grey Dimond worked hard to promote the mutual understanding and friendship between the Chinese and American people,” Weiping said.

Cindy Chu, M.D, ’96, said that Dimond was instrumental in setting up her first international medical rotation to Shanghai, China, nearly 20 years ago. Chu said she remembered Dimond questioning her “about my aims and goals for doing an international rotation and how inadequate I felt my answers were and thinking that there must be much more to international work than what I thought I was capable of.”

For the past six years, Chu has worked for a malaria research unit near Thailand.

Timothy Martin, M.D., M.B.A., a professor of anesthesiology and endowed chair in pediatric anesthesiology at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) College of Medicine, said Dimond clearly had an impact on the lives of medical students, practicing physicians and through them, millions of patients.

Martin said he was reminded of Dimond’s lasting connection with those who had been a part of the School of Medicine a little more than two years ago when he was awarded an endowed faculty position at Arkansas Children’s Hospital and UAMS.
Dimond received the University’s highest non-academic honor, the Chancellor’s Medal, in 2011. An award given at the chancellor’s discretion, the medal recognizes those who have shown unwavering support and volunteer service. UMKC Chancellor Leo Morton, who presented the award to Dimond, called him a man with immense gifts of intellect, imagination and insight. “He put those gifts to work to benefit his community, his university, his profession and the world at large,” Morton said. “Many of us at UMKC feel his loss deeply and personally. All of us are the beneficiaries of his vision, and the years of intense effort he put into the realization of that vision.”

School of Medicine Dean Betty Drees, M.D., said Dimond possessed an acute sense of relationships and continued to provide significant guidance even after his retirement from all University committees and formal activities. “As the School grew and evolved, his advice was priceless regarding those aspects of the medical education program that were essential in putting into the realization of that vision,” Drees said.

Marjorie Sirridge, M.D., served as dean of the medical school from 1997 until 1999. It was Dimond who recruited Sirridge and her husband, William T. Sirridge, M.D., and tools; had he retained the University of Kansas School of Medicine to serve as two of the UMKC School of Medicine’s three founding deans.

“Gree Dimond has been a great friend, wise adviser and a challenger,” Sirridge said. “His leadership and inspiration has kept the ship afloat and his presence will be missed.”

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**Children’s Mercy Hospitals and Clinics**

Children’s Mercy received a $1.2 million gift to establish the Frederick J. McCoy Cleft and Craniofacial Clinic and the Dr. Frederick J. McCoy Endowed Fund for Plastic Surgery and Craniofacial Research. “Dr. McCoy’s donation will provide ongoing support for research, education and pave the way for new, improved treatments for children we see in the cleft and craniofacial clinic,” Shao Jiang, MD, medical director of the Cleft Lip and Palate Program at Children’s Mercy. “With this gift, we are able to expand and advance our pediatric medical research that will transform our patients’ lives through breakthroughs in treatment and diagnosis.”

**Kansas City VA Medical Center**

A new outpatient annex opened on April 14 as a focus on primary care, women’s health and specialized mental health programs such as the treatment of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). KCVAFC is a teaching hospital, providing a full range of patient care services and programs with state-of-the-art technology. Residency training is offered in all major medical and surgical specialties and subspecialties. Associated Health Training is offered in nursing, psychology, audiology, social work, dietetics, pharmacy, chaplaincy, health care administration and optometry.

**Research Medical Center**

Research Medical Center, among the few tertiary care centers in Kansas City and a Level 1 Trauma Center, opened the Grossman Burn Center in Kansas City in late 2013. The Grossman Burn Center has a worldwide reputation as the innovative leader in burn care. The center offers 24-hour inpatient care, along with outpatient appointment. Services range from acute care and reconstruction to rehabilitation and psychological counseling in a nurturing, personalized environment, often resulting in less patient discomfort, speeder recoveries, and better results.

**Saint Luke’s Hospital**

Saint Luke’s Mid America Heart Institute interventional cardiologists are on the forefront of perfecting new minimally invasive approaches to treat chronic total occlusions (CTOs) – completely blocked arteries – which previously were deemed untreatable. J. Aaron Grantham, M.D., director of the Cardiovascular Disease Fellowship Training Program, is a member of the pioneering team, which has developed an innovative hybrid angioplasty approach to CTOs. The approach has achieved a 90 percent success rate in restoring blood flow. Dr. Grantham and the Saint Luke’s interventional cardiology team have now performed more than 2,000 procedures and trained interventionalists from nine countries.

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**Center for Behavioral Medicine**

Center for Behavioral Medicine (CBM), formerly Western Missouri Mental Health Center, is an agency for the Missouri Department of Mental Health. Located on Hospital Hill, the center, along with Truman Medical Center, serves as the UMKC Department of Psychiatry. Students, residents and post-doctoral fellows are trained to deliver integrated physical and behavioral health care.

**Truman Medical Center Hospital Hill**

The Richard and Annette Bloch Cancer Center at Truman Medical Centers opened in February. A $3.3 million gift by the R.A. Bloch Cancer Foundation created the first cancer center in Kansas City, Mo., to bear the family’s name. The center features 10 exam rooms and one procedure room, along with 16 chemotherapy infusion rooms equipped with recliners for patients and individual TV/entertainment centers, an on-site pharmacy with specially trained oncological pharmacists, patient navigator staff, education and a social worker to help address patients’ ongoing medical and home-life needs.

**Truman Medical Center Lakewood**

TMC Lakewood primary care clinics achieved Level 3 recognition from the National Committee for Quality Assurance PCMH 2011 program, which emphasizes evidence-based, patient-centered processes focused on coordinated care and long-term relationships. TMC met the requirements through the use of written standards for patient access and continuity of care, patient feedback materials and charting tools; responsive care management, emphasizing preventive care; use of information technology for prescriptions, test and referral tracking and coordination among health care providers; and use of evidence-based guidelines.

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*Information for this section was provided by our affiliate hospitals.*
ADVANCEMENT

Campaign begins for endowed faculty position honoring Dr. Dimond

A group of School of Medicine alumni and friends have organized a drive to permanently endow a faculty chair at the School to honor E. Grey Dimond, M.D., who died in November.

A committee of alumni and longtime friends of Dimond is seeking to raise funds to endow the chair. Jerald A. Burton M.D., ’73, serves as committee chairman. Other members are Steve Waldman, M.D., ’77, Ralph Hall, M.D., one of the School’s first Year 1 docents, and Nancy Hall, managing director of the Diastole Scholars’ Center. Jerald and Patricia Burton donated a leadership gift of $500,000 to launch the drive. The committee hopes to raise the rest by Dec. 8, 2014, which would have been Dimond’s 96th birthday.

Additional information about the endowed chair and fund drive is available by contacting Jay Wilson, director of development for the School of Medicine, at 816-235-5565 or wilsonjay@umkc.edu.

Scholarship endowment continues to grow

Through the generosity of alumni and friends, the School of Medicine has experienced an increase in scholarship and endowment giving.

During the past five years, the scholarship total has risen nearly 40 percent, increasing from approximately $3 million in Fiscal Year 2009 to more than $5 million in Fiscal Year 2013.

A $923,395 gift from the Edward E. Baumhardt Trust to the curators of the University of Missouri will establish a scholarship endowment for the UMKC School of Medicine and the School of Medicine at the University of Missouri in Columbia. At the UMKC School of Medicine, one or more annual scholarship awards, to be known as the Edward Baumhardt Scholarship, will be given to enrolled students. In addition, the gift will fund a $2,000 award to a student or resident who writes the best paper on a subject related to schizophrenia.

A group of School of Medicine alumni and friends, including Jerald and Patricia Burton, have pledged a leadership gift of $500,000 to launch a scholarship and endowment giving.

The Diastole Scholars’ Center, now in its 25th year, is a part of the SOM Office of Advancement.

ON THE HILL

Observations

Health sciences schools unite for interprofessional education

Quality patient care in today’s world is becoming a team effort. Health care educators are taking a team approach to teaching it as well.

More than 540 students from the UMKC health sciences schools of Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing and Health Studies, and Pharmacy participated in an afternoon of interprofessional education on Feb. 21 with synchronized classes in classrooms throughout the Hospital Hill Campus. Classes included teleconferencing with UMKC School of Pharmacy students on the University of Missouri campus in Columbia.

During the classes, pre-assigned groups of students from seven disciplines — dentistry, dental hygiene, medicine, physician assistant, nursing, graduate nursing, and pharmacy — learned about patient safety and worked together to solve problems in small and large groups.

Stefanie Ellison, M.D., associate dean for curriculum at the School of Medicine, was one of the curriculum organizers.

Hospital Hill SOM 5K moves to Friday night

Changes are coming to the annual Hospital Hill Run this June that will make the UMKC School of Medicine-sponsored 5K run a bigger, family-friendly event with a new night and time, and even a new course.

The Hospital Hill UMKC School of Medicine 5K will still start and finish on Grand Boulevard in front of Crown Center but this year, for the first time, the run takes place on a Friday night at 7 p.m. on June 6, the evening before the Hospital Hill Run’s half marathon and 10K races.

Race organizers say the changes to the 5K run will enhance the experience and make it more family friendly by allowing parents with young children to participate while pushing strollers, which are not allowed in the half marathon or 10K runs.

Those races will take place on the morning of June 7.

Visit http://www.hospitalhillrun.com for more information.

Stephanie Ellison, M.D., associate dean for curriculum, helped organize and lead a day of interprofessional education with synchronized classes on the Hospital Hill and University of Missouri-Columbia campuses.
December Graduation

Mary Gerkovich, Ph.D., associate research professor; Stephanie Koch, MS, Bioinformatics; Richard Butin, M.D., Gold 2 Docent; Anush John, M.D., ’13; Carol Stanford, M.D., ’79, Gold 5 Docent; Adi Akhtar, M.D., ’13; Marilene Neway, M.G., ’03; Richard Lustig, M.D., Purple 1 Docent; and Beverly Graves, M.D., ’83, adjunct assistant professor of Allied Health, took part in the December graduation ceremony.

For the Record

Boutros named academic chair for Psychiatry

Nash Boutros, M.D., is the new academic chair of the Department of Psychiatry. He also serves as medical director for the Center for Behavioral Medicine.

Boutros previously served as associate chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences at Wayne State University School of Medicine. He also served as professor of psychiatry and neurology and director of Psychiatric Clinical Electrophysiology and Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation Laboratories.

Boutros succeeds Stuart Munro, M.D., who became chair of the School of Medicine’s new Department of Medical Humanities and Social Sciences in March 2013.

Sullivan appointed associate dean for Graduate Medical Education

The School of Medicine has announced the appointment of Christine Sullivan, M.D., ’85, F.A.C.P., as associate dean for Graduate Medical Education. Sullivan began assuming her new duties following her appointment in April and will fully transition into the role on July 1.

Sullivan, an associate professor of emergency medicine, has served as program director of the UMKC Emergency Medicine Residency program since 2004. Sullivan said that as associate dean, she would serve as an advocate for the more than 500 residents and fellows in the School of Medicine’s ACGME-accredited 13 core residency and 30 fellowship programs.

“I consider my appointment an honor and a responsibility. I look forward to the challenges,” Sullivan said. “My job is to work for the residents and fellows to make certain they have the most broad and appropriate learning experience possible as they’re transitioning from residents to practicing physicians.” Sullivan succeeds Jill Moormeier, M.D., professor of medicine and new chair of the Department of Medicine.

“At UMKC, we are extremely fortunate to have such strong leadership in Graduate Medical Education, as the physicians we train here are the doctors of the future for our community,” said School of Medicine Dean Betty Drees, M.D., F.A.C.P. “Dr. Jill Moormeier leaves a legacy of commitment to the highest standards of medical education. Dr. Christine Sullivan will carry on that commitment to educate and train outstanding physicians who are well prepared clinically and professionally.”

Sullivan said that as residency program director, she had witnessed first-hand the foundation Moormeier has set to enhance the learning environment in the School’s Graduate Medical Education programs and that one of her goals is to continue building on that.

“I think it’s a wonderful time to be residents and fellows in medical education,” Sullivan said. “The focus is on improving the environment for learning and for improving patient care. The focus is not on the service aspect as much, but on the education of the residents and fellows.”

After earning her medical degree from the School of Medicine, Sullivan completed her emergency medicine residency at Truman Medical Center. She worked at Overland Park Regional Medical Center, St. Joseph Medical Center and the University of Kansas Medical Center prior to returning to UMKC in 2003.

She currently serves on the Graduate Medical Education Council, Faculty Development Committee, and the Initial Academic Appointment and Physician Promotion Committee for the School of Medicine and will begin a two-year term as vice chair of the national Residency Review Committee for Emergency Medicine this July.

Moormeier appointed Department of Medicine chair

The School of Medicine has appointed Jill Moormeier, M.D., professor of medicine, as the new chair of the academic Department of Medicine.

Moormeier has served as associate dean for Graduate Medical Education since 2006. She joined the School of Medicine faculty in 1990 and has served as a senior docent and as section chief and fellowship director for hematology and oncology. She has also been vice chair for clinical affairs in the Department of Medicine and served as the associate director of the Internal Medicine Residency program.

Student Research Summit

Twenty-one BA/MD students including Jacob Voelkel, MS 4, (above), Janessa Pennington, MS 4, (top right), Amit Nanda, MS 3, (bottom right) and six graduate students from the School of Medicine participated on April 17 in the 2014 Health Sciences Student Research Summit at the UMKC Student Union on the Volker Campus.

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**Residents/Students**

Radiology presentations earn five national awards

Department of Radiology students, residents and faculty combined to bring home four Certificates of Merit and one Magna Cum Laude Award for their poster exhibits at the 99th Scientific Assembly and Annual Meeting of the Radiological Society of North America that took place Dec. 1-6 in Chicago. Nearly 40,000 scientists attended the meetings with more than 1,200 exhibits presented.

Two School of Medicine students, Malay Bhatt, M.S. 6, and Michael Collard, M.S. 6, were among the award recipients.

Melissa Rosado de Christenson, M.D., professor of radiology, and Santiago Martinez-Jimenez, M.D., associate professor of radiology, received a Magna Cum Laude Award for their presentation, “Hemorrhagic & vascular complications in lung infections: High-resolution CT & pathological findings.” The award was given for only 30 of the posters presented.

Those who received Certificates of Merit and their posters include the following:

- Malay Bhatt, M.S. 6, Kalid Adler, D.O., radiology resident, and Brandt Wible, M.D., associate professor of pediatrics and faculty mentor, for "Sacroplasty: "A Remedy for pains in the butt."

- Michael Collard, M.S. 6, Christopher Keup, M.D., pediatric radiology fellow, Joshua Knowlton, M.D., assistant professor of radiology, and Lisa Lowe, M.D., chair of radiology, for “MRI of Pediatric Liver Masses: Diagnosing Benign and Malignant Liver Tumors.”


- Martinez-Jimenez, Rosado de Christenson, Kunin, and Wible for “Thoracic Metastases from Gynecological Neoplasms: How They Differ from Other Metastases, Specific Patterns of Spread, and Pitfalls in Imaging Interpretation.”

**Check out the alumni award winners on Page 33.**

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**Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors installs Todd Shaffer as president**

The Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors (AFMRD) appointed Todd Shaffer, M.D., M.B.A., F.A.A.F.P., professor and director of the School of Medicine’s Community and Family Medicine Residency Program, as president on March 30 during its annual business session at the National Program Directors Workshop at the Sheraton Crown Center in Kansas City, Mo. AFMRD is the national membership organization of family medicine residency program directors.

**Fibuch retires after 35 years of service**

Eugene Fibuch, M.D., professor and long-time chair of the School of Medicine’s Department of Anesthesiology, has retired from his position as chair. The department has been fortunate to have his leadership since 1997.

He has served as only the second chair in the history of the department, and was the program director for the residency for 35 years. Under Fibuch’s leadership, the residency program flourished, graduating more than 125 residents, most of whom remain and practice in this region. Fibuch recruited the first Westport/Missouri Endowed Chair in Anesthesiology, John Wang, M.D., Ph.D., Together, they enhanced the research and scholarship in the department.

His leadership has extended beyond the department to include quality initiatives at Saint Luke’s Hospital and Saint Luke’s Health System. His efforts were instrumental in the recognition of Saint Luke’s Hospital as a Malcolm Baldrige Quality Award winner in 2004. Most recently, Fibuch participated with the School of Medicine and the UMKC Bloch School of Management in the development of a Physician Leadership Program that is now in its second year. (See story on Page 16.)

He served as vice-chair of the Department of Anesthesiology from 1985 to 1997 and was appointed chair of anesthesiology at UMKC in 1997, overseeing a program with faculty and residents at Saint Luke’s Hospital, Truman Medical Centers and Children’s Mercy Hospital.

**Cattaneo named assistant dean for Years 1 and 2 Medicine**

Raymond Cattaneo, M.D., ‘03, M.P.H., F.A.A.P., SOM Alumni Association president, is the new assistant dean for Years 1 and 2 Medicine. Cattaneo, a Kansas City pediatrician, will help students foster the skills needed to succeed in the medical school and the profession. He will help create a cohesive environment for the students and introduce the docent concept to students. The assistant dean works with Years 1 and 2 support staff to educate students about academic support resources available within the medical school and the Volker Campus.

“I am truly humbled the administration at the School of Medicine has trust in me for this position,” Cattaneo said. “With the wonderful support system that the school has assembled, my job will be to help those students become more professional, more dedicated, more educated on the fundamentals of medicine, and prepare those students to become efficient and effective upper level medical students.”

Cattaneo has been a general pediatrician with Priority Care Pediatrics since 2006. He will continue his private practice in addition to his new role. He is also a volunteer and medical director of a wellness clinic at Community LINC, a Kansas City organization that works with the community’s homeless and impoverished families.

“I am so excited to be joining the staff at the UMKC School of Medicine,” Cattaneo said. “After graduating from residency at Children’s Mercy, I knew that I wanted to do more than clinical medicine. My partners at Priority Care Pediatrics, LLC, have always been generous enough to allow me to have outside responsibilities.”

After completing his residency and internship at Children’s Mercy Hospital, he also completed his Master of Public Health degree from the UMKC and MU collaborative program.

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<td>Nooreen Ahmed Baig</td>
<td>University of Texas Medical Branch – Galveston, TX: Internal Medicine</td>
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<td>Devin Bass</td>
<td>University of Louisville SOM – Louisville, KY: Anesthesiology</td>
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<td>Caleb Baugh</td>
<td>Research Medical Center – Kansas City, MO: Family Medicine</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Bergamin</td>
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<td>Beaumont Health System – Royal Oak, MI: Diagnostic Radiology</td>
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<td>Michael Boin</td>
<td>Wright State University Boonshoft SOM – Dayton, OH: Orthopaedic Surgery / Research</td>
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<td>Christopher Brett</td>
<td>Mayo School of Graduate Medical Education – Jacksonville, FL: Internal Medicine</td>
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<td>Rima Chakraborty</td>
<td>University of Minnesota Medical School – Minneapolis, MN: Internal Medicine</td>
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<td>Vikram R. Chakravarty</td>
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<tr>
<td>Devin Bass</td>
<td>University of Louisville SOM – Louisville, KY: Anesthesiology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caleb Baugh</td>
<td>Research Medical Center – Kansas City, MO: Family Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Bergamin</td>
<td>St. Louis University SOM – St. Louis, MO: Pediatrics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Malay Yogesh Bhatt</td>
<td>Beaumont Health System – Royal Oak, MI: Diagnostic Radiology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Boin</td>
<td>Wright State University Boonshoft SOM – Dayton, OH: Orthopaedic Surgery / Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christopher Brett</td>
<td>Mayo School of Graduate Medical Education – Jacksonville, FL: Internal Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rima Chakraborty</td>
<td>University of Minnesota Medical School – Minneapolis, MN: Internal Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vikram R. Chakravarty</td>
<td>Loma Linda University – Loma Linda, CA: Neurological Surgery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sara Chalfoux</td>
<td>Olive View-UCLA Medical Center – Los Angeles, CA: Internal Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kevin William Gray</td>
<td>University of Missouri-Kansas City: Family Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paul Joseph Guidos</td>
<td>University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics – Iowa City, IA: Preliminary Surgery; University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics – Iowa City, IA: Urology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Claire Hakan-Hickey</td>
<td>University of Missouri-Kansas City: Oral Surgery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emily M. Kahn</td>
<td>University of Missouri-Kansas City: Obstetrics-Gynecology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anush John</td>
<td>University of Missouri-Kansas City: Oral Surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathaniel Hayward III</td>
<td>Banner Good Samaritan Medical Center – Phoenix, AZ: Medicine-Pediatrics; University of Missouri-Kansas City: Oral Surgery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prasanthi Kandula</td>
<td>Children’s Mercy Hospital – Kansas City, MO: Preliminary Pediatrics; Indiana University School of Medicine – Indianapolis, IN: Dermatology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rucha Nikunj Khared</td>
<td>Barnes-Jewish Hospital/ Washington University – St. Louis, MO: General Surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owen Shannon Lonergan</td>
<td>Rutgers-New Jersey Medical School – Newark, NJ: General Surgery</td>
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</tbody>
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The Class of 2014 celebrated Match Day on March 21 on the School of Medicine courtyard.
Recognizing Alumni Excellence

2014 School of Medicine alumni award winners

School of Medicine graduates have been recognized for their dedication to their careers, their community and to UMKC. Michele Kilo, M.D., ’84, is the recipient of the 2014 School of Medicine Alumni Achievement Award and the family of Steven Waldman, M.D., ’77, and Corey Waldman, M.D., ’12, is the winner of the 2014 UMKC Legacy Award. The Alumni Achievement Award recognizes a graduate who has achieved notable success in his or her professional field and rendered outstanding service to the community. Kilo, associate professor of pediatrics and chief of the Section of Developmental and Behavioral Sciences at Children’s Mercy Hospitals and Clinics, has dedicated her career to special needs children. Her specialty areas are Autism Spectrum Disorders, Mental Retardation and Related Disorders and Attention Deficit Disorders.

A past recipient of the Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award, Kilo has served as president of the SOM Alumni Association and chairman of the School of Medicine’s Board of Visitors. She was appointed by Governor Jay Nixon to a term on the Missouri Autism Commission and has served on the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Board. She also served as chair of the Jellybean Conspiracy, a group of high school performers from both regular and special education classes who perform together to show peers throughout the region how to recognize similarities, respect differences and celebrate one another’s talents and gifts.

For the second year in a row, the UMKC Legacy Award — given to a family chosen for its professional achievements, community service and tradition of attending and supporting UMKC — honors the Waldmans. The Waldmans have followed the Roo family tradition. Steven Waldman received his M.D. degree from the SOM in 1977 and his juris doctor degree from the law school in 1996. Waldman is the director of Statewide Outreach Services at the School of Medicine, a deacon for M.D. students, and clinical professor of anesthesiology and medical humanities and bioethics. All four of Waldman’s and his wife, Kathy’s, children have attended or are currently attending the University: David attended the College of Arts & Sciences, Corey is a 2012 graduate of the SOM and an ophthalmology resident at Harbor Hospital in Baltimore, Md., Reid is a current SOM student and Jennifer attended the School.

Doug Zweig, M.D., ’80, a private practice pulmonary and critical care specialist, has been selected as the 2014 E. Polek Wing Award winner. He currently serves as co-director of the Department of Respiratory Therapy and Pulmonary Function at St. Louis Christian Hospital.

Zweig is one of the first physicians to perform endoscopic bronchial ultrasound to diagnose lung cancer and one of the first physicians in the St. Louis area to do navigational bronchoscopy. The two procedures have largely improved the ability to non-invasively diagnose and stage lung cancer.

Zweig completed his internal medicine residency training and fellowship in pulmonary and critical care medicine at the University of South Florida College of Medicine.
David L. Smith, M.D., ‘76, joined the Podiatry Faculty Medical Clinic in Alabama. He previously practiced in the emergency department of St. Vincent’s Hospital in Pell City, Ala. Smith was born in Carrollton, Mo., and grew up in Kansas City. After receiving his medical degree, he began practicing as a general medical officer while on active duty at Noble Army Hospital, Fort McClellan.

Christopher Sirridge, M.D., ‘78, returned to the School as the William T. Sirridge, M.D., Annual Medical Humanities Lectureship speaker on March 13. Sirridge’s lecture, “Reflections on Moby Dick,” explored the prominent themes and symbolism in the novel and how they relate to the art of medicine. Sirridge said he was honored to be the featured speaker for his late father’s lectureship and mentioned storytelling as one of his father’s greatest talents. The first graduate of the School’s combined, six-year program to also major in English, Sirridge shares his father’s appreciation of literature’s insights on humanity.

Denise Davis, M.D., ‘81, is the senior author of a chapter on “Feedback in Remediation” in a new, 375-page book, Remediation in Medical Education: A Mid-Course Correction, published Dec. 13 by Springer. The book looks at ways to help those struggling with the fundamentals of medical competencies, how the competencies are defined, and the fundamental changes in the delivery and assessment of medical education. Davis is an associate clinical professor of medicine at the University of California San Francisco, a member of the core faculty for the Center of Excellence in Primary Care, San Francisco VA Medical Center and a member of the American Academy on Communication in Healthcare.

Doug Asch, M.D., ’86, and his wife, Sha-ron, were honored at The Marfan Founda-tion’s 6th Annual Heartwalks gala on March 1 at the Four Seasons Hotel St. Louis for their years of philanthropic ded-ication. The two have been working with Alan Braverman, M.D., ’85, 2010 Take Wing Award winner, in an effort to treat and someday cure Marfan’s syndrome — a connective tissue disorder.

Robert Rao, M.D., ’90, has joined the Northwest Community Healthcare Med-ical Group in Arlington Heights, Ill., as a board-certified general surgeon. Rao completed his residency at Loyola Uni-versity Medical Center. He serves on the Physician Advisory Board for the NCH Breast Center. NCH Medical Group is the physician group for Northwest Com-munity Healthcare and annually treats approximately 60,000 patients from the northwest suburbs of Chicago.

Divya Shroff, M.D., FMH, ‘00, was appointed chief medical officer of the Tri-Star Central Medical Center, a 657-bed comprehensive medical facility in Nashville, Tenn., on Dec. 2. Shroff previously served as the chief clinical transformation officer and vice president in the clinical services group for the Hospital Corporation of America (HCA). She oversaw the clinical imple-mentation of the electronic health record system across the HCA enterprise and provided clinical leadership for mobile health technology development and tele-health deployment for patient and pro-vider engagement. Before joining the HCA staff, Shroff worked for the Veterans Health Administration as the associate chief of staff – informatics at the Washington, D.C., VA Medical Center. Shroff completed her residency training in internal medicine at Barnes-Jewish Hospital and Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. Board certified in internal medicine, Shroff is a Fellow of Hospital Medicine from the Society of Hospital Medicine (SHM) and a member of the American Medical Informatics Association (AMIA). She sits on many boards including, the Nashville Adventure Science Center, IntermedHx LLC, Nashville Public Radio WPLN Community Advisors, TN HIMS Chapter, and UMKC School of Medicine Board of Visitors.

William Dixon, M.D., ‘01, joined the fac-ulty at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine as an assistant professor in the Department of Family and Com-munity Medicine in Quincy. He is also a member of SIU HealthCare, the medical school’s practice group. He previously served as a hospitalist for CogentHMG at Blessing Hospital in Quincy and before that, worked in family medicine and the emergency department at ScottCounty Memorial Hospital in Memphis, Mo.

Dixon completed his residency in family medicine at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine. He is certified in basic life support/advanced cardiac life support, advanced trauma life support, pediatric advanced life sup-port, neonatal resuscitation, S.T.A.R. E.L. Neonatal Transport, and is board certi-fied in family medicine. Dixon and his wife, Anne, live in Mendo, Ill., with their three children.

Stacey Wolfe, M.D., ‘01, board certi-fied neurosurgeon at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center, is the second neurosur-geon to begin seeing patients at a satel-lite practice on the campus of Lexington Medical Center. An officer in the United States Navy, Wolfe completed a sur-gical internship at the Naval Medical Cen-ter in San Diego and residency training in neurosurgery at the University of Miami’s Jackson Memorial Hospital.

In Memoriam

Hans W. Uffelmann, Ph.D., a long-time UMKC School of Medicine faculty mem-ber and co-founder of the Center for Practical Bioethics, died Dec. 7. Uffelmann joined the UMKC faculty in 1963 and served as chair of the UMKC Department of Philosophy. When the School of Medicine opened in 1971, he became one of the first philosophers in the United States to hold a faculty position at a medical school, teaching clinical medical ethics.

His efforts pioneered an emerging sub-specialty field of philosophy and medicine as he taught biomedical ethics to faculty from various scientific fields for the National Science Foundation and the American Association for the Advancement of Science at 18 universi-ties throughout the country. Uffelmann co-founded a commu-nity-based, free-standing organization in 1984, now the Center for Practical Bioethics, that has developed advance directives and supporting federal legisla-tion and helped create the Hospital Ethics Committees used in health care organi-zations throughout the world.

Uffelmann served on the UMKC fac-ulty for 36 years, retiring as emeritus pro-fessor of philosophy and medicine. He was preceded in death by his wife, Marilyn. They had two sons and four grandchildren.

Catherine Dean Burris, M.D., ’83, M.P.H, a private practitioner of Obstetrics & Gyne-coLOGY in St. Louis, died on Dec. 28. Fol-low her graduating from the UMKC School of Medicine, she completed an internship at Truman Medical Center and then completed her residency training at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She is survived by her husband, William Burris; children Carlyn, Christine, Benja-min and Connor Burris; parents, Theresa and William Dean; and sister, Teri Morris.

William “Bill” Walters, M.D., ‘92, died Oct. 8 in Boonville, Mo. He and his wife of 26 years, Cynthia Kenney, have four children: Heather Anderson, M.D., ’92, Alexandra Walters, Jacob Walters, and Emily Walters. Walters completed his ophthalmology residency at the Medical College of Wisconsin and advanced spe-cially training at the University of Iowa. He then moved to St. Louis where he began his first practice before settling in Columbia. For more than 12 years, Wal-ters served patients throughout Missouri in Columbia, Mobley, Macon, Bonneville and Bowling Green.

Phillip Rowden, M.D., ’99, died April 19 in Herculaneum, Mo. Rowden opened a medical practice in Hillbend in 2002 and eventually expanded into DeSoto. He was the resident physician for local nursing homes and medical director of Ambassador Hospice. He also coached the Blue Thun-der baseball team and was district quiz director at his church. Rowden was mar-ried to his wife, Shannon, for 16 years, and they have four children: Jordan, Trenton, Braden and Kaci.

Irfan Adel, M.D., ’04, died Sept. 18 in Avon, Ind. He completed his family med-iicine residency at the Jewish Hospital of Cincinnati and practiced critical care medicine at Hendricks Regional Health Immediate Care.
MUCH HAS CHANGED in the medical field over the decades, and the School of Medicine has stayed relevant and innovative in its approach to medical education.

The School now offers a variety of programs for health care providers, not just future physicians. The Master of Science in Anesthesia and the Physician Assistant Program are just two examples of how the School is helping foster the health care team.

As the new Assistant Dean for Years 1 and 2 Medicine, I am excited to help guide students in the beginning of their medical journey – a journey we all share as alumni of the UMKC School of Medicine. Every year, we get to celebrate those of us who have gone above and beyond the call with the annual alumni awards. Congratulations to Michele Kilo, the Waldmans and Doug Zwieg for being recognized with this year’s awards.

There is a group of alumni and friends of Dr. Dimond who are looking to raise money for an endowed faculty chair in his honor. The goal is to raise $3-5 million by December 2014. If you would like to contribute, please call Jay Wilson, the SOM’s director of development, at 816-235-5565.

In the best of health,

Raymond A. Cattaneo, M.D., ’03, M.P.H., F.A.A.P.
President, UMKC School of Medicine Alumni Association
Orthopaedic interest group sports physicals

Seenu Abraham, MS 3, was one of School of Medicine student volunteers who participated in the RBI Sports Physicals program at the Boys and Girls Club of Kansas City on April 26. Medical students provided health screenings and physical exams for community youths who are participating in Kansas City’s Reviving Baseball in Inner Cities (RBI) program.