

UMKC  
School of  
Medicine

ANNUAL  
Report

2017





Generous donations help the School of Medicine add 100-plus physicians to the medical workforce each year.

## LOOKING *to the* FUTURE

**GREETINGS TO ALL** of the alumni, family, friends and supporters of the UMKC School of Medicine. I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for supporting the School of Medicine this past year. We had a solid year and are excited for the opportunities that our future holds.

As all of you know, the UMKC School of Medicine offers an outstanding medical education experience for its students. We at the UMKC Foundation are committed to supporting our faculty and staff as they continue the tradition of educational excellence. Over the past year, this included focusing on our facilities, where improvements were made to enhance the physical amenities here at our medical school. These included adding two new classrooms and one clinical classroom on the third floor; remodeling and expanding the Department of Biomedical & Health Informatics, with a focus on technology and collaborative spaces; renovating our purple docent unit based at Saint Luke's Hospital; and reconfiguring the health sciences library, which increased casual study space from 42 to 115 seats, quiet study space from 28 to 56 seats, and group study rooms from eight to 16.

Of course, as Dean Kanter has noted previously in this magazine, the docent system is at the core of our school's medical

education program. It's ingrained in our history and strategic to our mission, and it sets us apart from other medical schools. Most importantly, graduates tell us that it was key to their success in medical school. Over the next several months, we will be focusing on modernizing more docent units and updating technologies.

How can you help? We will be reaching out over the course of the next 18 months to speak with you individually about this program and how you can support it. We have naming opportunities that allow alumni to name an office (and, in some cases, alums already have named their old offices), as well as more significant sponsorships for naming larger spaces, such as conference rooms and even entire docent units.

I look forward to connecting with you and working together.

Respectfully,

Jay Wilson  
Assistant Vice President – Health Science  
UMKC Foundation





Michael VanDillen, a fourth-year student, makes rounds with his docent, Fariha Shafi, M.D.

## ROOM *to* BREATHE — and SUCCEED

**FOURTH-YEAR STUDENT** Michael VanDillen loves to work hard, a must for students in the UMKC School of Medicine. But early on, his hard work went beyond the hours and efforts typically required of other med students. He also held down outside jobs to earn money to help pay his medical school bills.

While VanDillen was fortunate that his parents helped finance undergraduate school for him and his two brothers, he was on his own to finance the higher tuition and extra years required for medical school.

So he found a job refereeing intramural sports, as in plural. As in football and soccer and volleyball and basketball. It was almost too much.

“I was refereeing anywhere from 8 to 12 hours a week,” he said. “It doesn’t sound like much, but trust me, when you have the class workload that this school demands of you, it was a lot. When I was working those hours, I felt pressured, almost in over my head. Sometimes all my efforts to get everything scheduled and accomplished just didn’t work out.”

Fortunately, scholarship money came to the rescue. VanDillen received the Friends of the UMKC School of Medicine Scholarship and the Razzaque Family Scholarship in his first two years and School of Medicine scholarships for years three and four.

“The scholarships helped reduce my outside workload

immensely,” said VanDillen, who is from Weldon Springs in the St. Louis area. “I was able to dedicate more time to studying. I was able to wrap my head around some of the harder concepts because I had more time. I was relieved.”

Since he now worries less about a paycheck, VanDillen has time to get involved in outside medical programs. He has taken part in faculty research and has served as vice president of the UMKC

chapter of Walk With a Doc, a national organization that encourages physicians to get out and be active with patients. And he is looking into student interest groups to join as he explores specialties.

“This has been possible only because of my decreased financial burden,” he said.

VanDillen is also thankful for people such as Alice

Arredondo, Ed.D., assistant dean for admissions and recruitment, and Robin Patterson, financial literacy counselor. He considers them important resources in his scholarship application process.

Now, with the help afforded by UMKC scholarships, that overwhelmed and anxious first-year student is more than halfway to graduating from medical school, feeling confident and excited.

“I’m at a place where I am able to focus on my studies, look at career options and make a good call on what type of medicine to practice,” he said. “It’s a great feeling.”

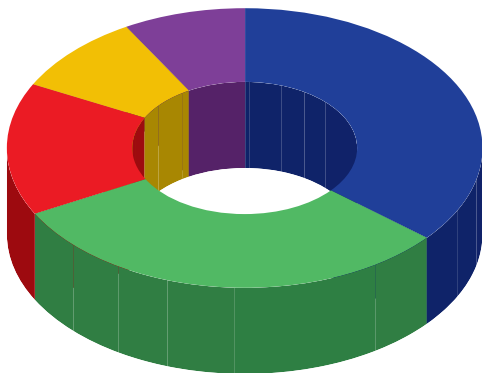
“I’m so grateful for the kindness and generosity of the people who have given guidance and financed my scholarships.”

— *Michael VanDillen*

# CONTRIBUTIONS, COMING *and* GOING

The UMKC School of Medicine recognizes its Honor Roll of Donors, acknowledging gifts received between July 1, 2016, and June 30, 2017. These gifts are essential in advancing the quality of medical education and research conducted at the school. These charts show where the year's contributions came from and what categories they will help finance.

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\$295,976.58

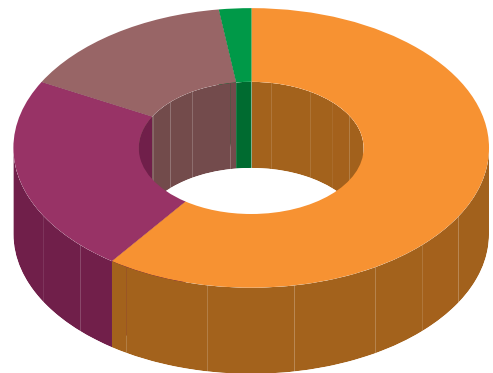
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\$74,288.40

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## DONOR PURPOSE



**Programs:**  
60%

**Scholarships:**  
23%

**Faculty/Staff Support:**  
15%

**Unrestricted:**  
2%

## THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE BY THE NUMBERS

**624**

Six-year  
BA/MD students

**10**

Degree and  
certificate programs

**34**

Residency and  
fellowship programs

**384**

Residents  
and fellows

**3,633**

Alumni

**1,054**

Alumni in  
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*2016-17*  
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*of* **DONORS**

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