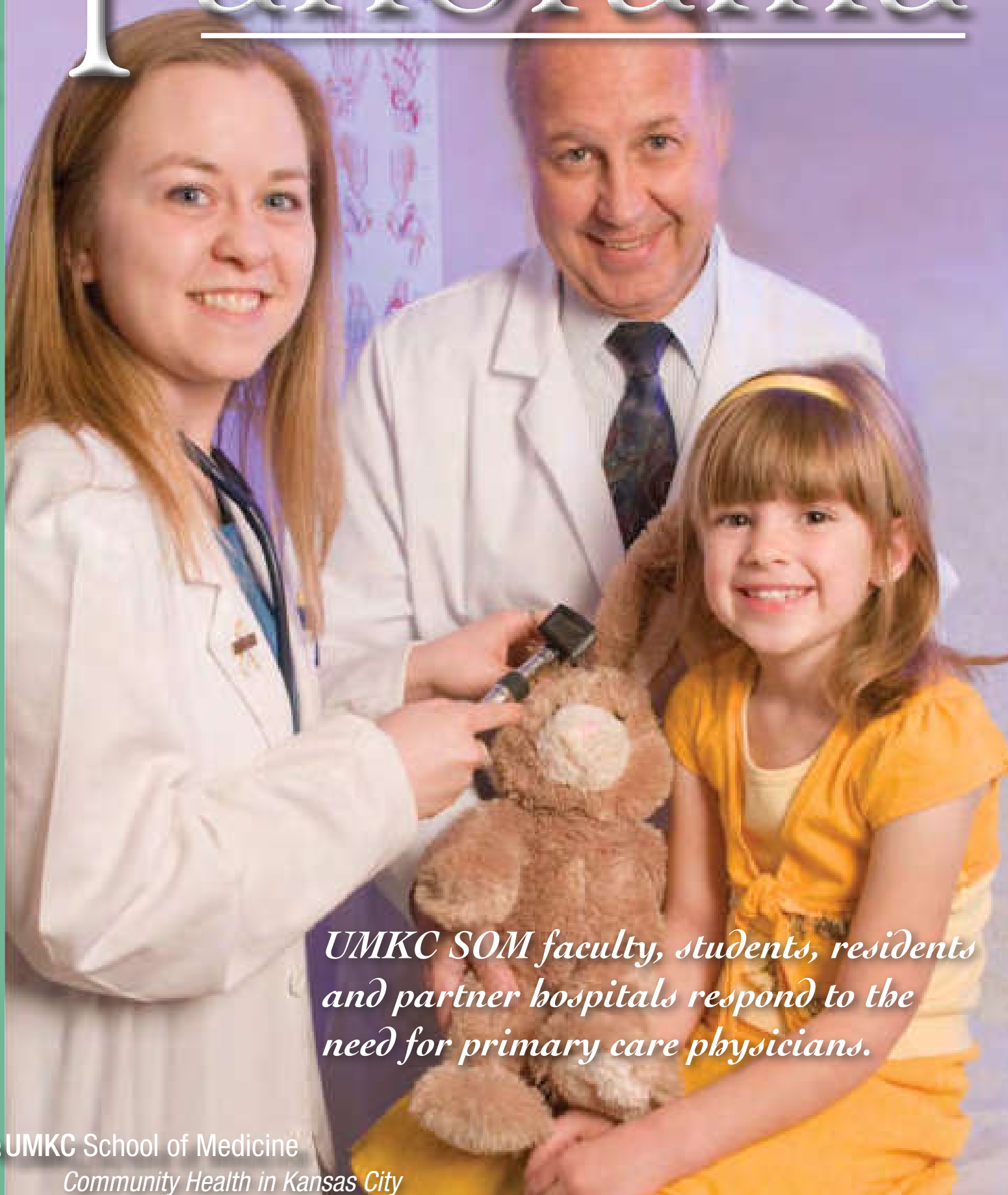


# Panorama



*UMKC SOM faculty, students, residents and partner hospitals respond to the need for primary care physicians.*



## Dean's Message

When our faculty and students took part in the first UMKC Health Sciences Wellness Fair on the Hospital Hill Campus one Saturday this past April, more than 1,000 people from nearby neighborhoods came for free health screenings. Many of those could not have afforded the care they received that day on their own.

At the UMKC School of Medicine, our physicians, residents and medical students provide thousands of volunteer hours of health care services throughout the Kansas City community. But while we are making great efforts to reach out and make a difference in our community, we need more doctors to fill these roles, largely in the area of primary care. Family physicians, internists, and pediatricians are on the front line when it comes to health care and wellness.

The fact that 40 percent of the physicians in the Kansas City area are expected to retire during the next 10 years, according to a survey by the Metropolitan Medical Society of Kansas City, means that we cannot overlook our primary mission of educating a competent, altruistic physician workforce to provide adequate health care for the community we serve.

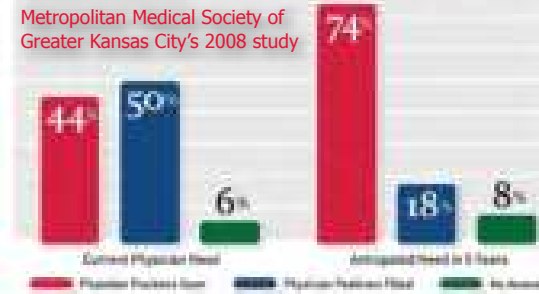
Although there is a shortage of physicians, there is no shortage of need. The SOM is doing what it can to meet those needs. While this year's graduating class has dispersed across the country to begin their medical careers, more than 40 percent chose to stay in Missouri to do their post-graduate residency training. More than one-third of the SOM Class of 2009 is entering a primary care specialty.

To maintain the quality of health care our community needs and deserves, we are committed to educating top-notch physicians and providing the best health care possible through the dedicated work of our faculty and students. This has been our mission since the School of Medicine began nearly 40 years ago. And it will continue to be our focus in the future.

Betty M. Drees, M.D., F.A.C.P.  
Dean and Professor of Medicine

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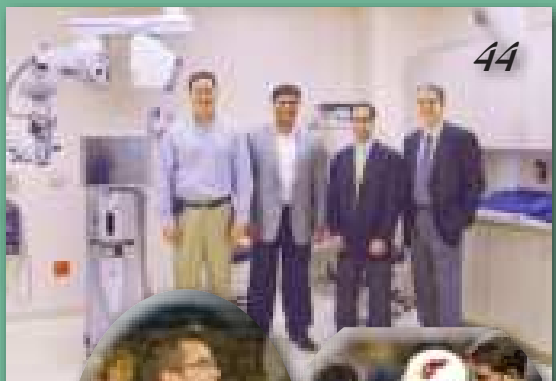
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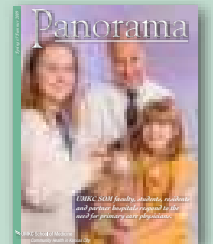


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### University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine

The UMKC School of Medicine offers an innovative, combined B.A./M.D. degree program. A limited number of positions may become available each year for M.D.-only students, who begin their curriculum in the second semester of Year 2 of the program. The School partners with five of the area's leading health care institutions – Children's Mercy Hospital, Saint Luke's Hospital of Kansas City, Truman Medical Centers, Veterans Affairs Medical Center and The Center for Behavioral Medicine.



**On the Cover**  
George Harris, M.D., professor of medicine and assistant dean for Years 1 and 2, and Community and Family Medicine Resident Coleen Davis, M.D., '09, treat a patient at Truman Medical Center Lakewood. See the story on Page 25.

## Panorama

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People with speech or hearing impairments may contact the University by using Relay Missouri at 1 800 735-2966 (TT) or 1 800 735-2466 (Voice).

## Arredondo appointed assistant dean for admissions and recruiting



Arredondo

Alice Arredondo has joined the UMKC School of Medicine as assistant dean for admissions and recruitment.

She spent the past six years in the Office of Admissions and Scholarships at the University of Kansas. During her tenure there, Arredondo was responsible for coordinating the Student Telecounseling Center, developing the

university's scholarship review system, and covering the St. Louis, Mo., area as a recruiter. She also taught undergraduate courses in introduction to leadership studies and freshman transition. Arredondo said she plans

to help streamline the selection process at the School of Medicine.

"The selection department gets a lot of phone calls from students and parents asking, 'When will we hear something?' I think we can streamline that process to let students know when they'll be invited for interviews or when they'll know if they've been accepted," Arredondo said. "Those types of things sound small, but to an incoming student they're significant."

Arredondo received her bachelor's degrees in English and communications from Truman State University. After graduating from Truman State, Arredondo entered the master's program at KU and served as a graduate assistant in the admissions and scholarships office. She was appointed assistant director after one year and began working on her Ph.D. in higher education administration.

"I like research, which has been beneficial coming into this program because experience in research and data-driven information is important," Arredondo said.

## UMKC, Summer Scholars receive Presidential Award for community service

The School of Medicine's Summer Scholars program is one of four highlighted programs for which the University of Missouri-Kansas City has received a Presidential Award for Exemplary Community Service. The award recognizes colleges and universities for creating and implementing community service and service-learning programs that are innovative and effective within their communities.

Summer Scholars began in 1980 to identify underserved high school juniors and seniors in the metropolitan area who have both a scholastic ability and an interest in the health sciences. The program includes experiences from daily didactic lectures to critical skills enhancement and clinical rotations at Truman Medical Center Hospital Hill. An advanced program for students taking their second session of Summer Scholars includes a unit in which students pair with medical school faculty to focus on health sciences research.

UMKC is one of three universities to receive presidential recognition for contributions to community service from the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, announced by the Corporation for National and Community Service. Last year, UMKC was named to the "Honor Roll of Distinction."

The Honor Roll is jointly sponsored by the Corporation, through its Learn and Serve America program, the U.S. Department of Education, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, USA Freedom Corps, Campus Compact, and the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation. This year's award was presented at the American Council on Education's (ACE) annual meeting in Washington, D.C., on Feb. 8.

## Kinder joins SOM as Green 5 docent

Kathy Kinder, M.D., a private practice internal and palliative medicine physician, joined the School of Medicine as the docent for the Green 5 unit on Feb. 1.

Kinder has been in private practice since 2005. For the past year, she has also served as part-time medical director of the Catholic Community Hospice in Overland Park, Kan. She has also been an investigator at Radiant Research in Overland Park, conducting clinical pharmaceutical research primarily involving weight loss, hyperlipidemia, post-menopausal issues, osteoarthritis, psoriasis, male sexual dysfunction and a vaccine study.

Kinder also served as an instructor in the department of medicine at the University of Kansas Medical School. She received her M.D. from the University of Kansas and completed her internal medicine residency training at St. Luke's Hospital in Kansas City.



Kinder

## Former dean honored with painting at Massachusetts General Hospital

Photo courtesy of Massachusetts General Hospital

James Mongan, M.D., dean of the School of Medicine and director of Truman Medical Center from 1987 to 1995, was honored at Massachusetts General Hospital for his senior leadership at the hospital, where he was president from 1996 to 2003.

Mongan and his wife, Jean, joined special guests on Sept. 26, 2008, in the Trustees Room of the hospital to view Mongan's



James Mongan, M.D., former dean of the UMKC School of Medicine, and his wife, Jean, celebrate the addition of his leadership portrait at Massachusetts General Hospital.

portrait. Richard Whitney painted the portrait that joined several other oil paintings of MGH leadership. Mongan has been the recipient of many awards throughout the years; he received Modern Healthcare's CEO IT Achievement Award in 2008.

After his time as president of MGH, Mongan joined Partners HealthCare as the president and chief executive

officer. Partners HealthCare was founded by Brigham and Women's Hospital and MGH in 1994 and is a principal teaching affiliate of Harvard Medical Center. The Partners system includes community and specialty hospitals, community health centers, a physician network, home health and long-term care services, and other health-related entities.

Mongan will retire at the end of 2009, and Gary Gottlieb, M.D., M.B.A., will be his successor.

The James J. Mongan Fellowship in Health Policy at the UMKC School of Medicine awards one student each year the opportunity to shadow Mongan as he tackles prevalent issues in health care.

## UMKC School of Medicine announces key appointments



**Hickman**

The School of Medicine has announced four key academic appointments: Timothy Hickman, M.D., M.Ed., M.P.H., will serve as associate dean for curriculum; Richard Trullinger, Ph.D., as assistant dean for Allied Health Programs; Julie Wright-Banderas, Pharm.D., F.C.C.P., B.C.P.S., as assistant dean for graduate studies; and William Lafferty, M.D., as interim chair of the Department of Informatic Medicine and

Personalized Health.

Hickman, a 1980 graduate of the SOM who has spent the past two years developing and implementing a curriculum in cultural competency for the medical school, will now oversee the School's undergraduate education program and chair the curriculum council. He joined the School of Medicine faculty in 2007 as cultural competency director. He has an extensive background in curriculum development, having taught a variety of disciplines and levels from undergraduate to continuing medical education. He served as coordinator of instructional development at the Saint Louis University School of Medicine before joining the faculty at the UMKC SOM.



**Trullinger**

Trullinger has been director of graduate medical education for the past two and a half years. He previously served at the Kansas City Veterans Affairs Medical Center as a member of the Graduate Medical Education Committee for the Missouri and Kansas region, an advisor on GME initiatives, and a member of the VA/UMKC/KU Dean's Committee. Trullinger earned

his Ph.D. in communicative disorders and sciences at the University of Oklahoma Health Science Center where he specialized in acoustic, physiologic, and perceptual correlates of normal and abnormal voice.

Wright-Banderas, a professor of medicine and member of the SOM faculty since 1993, will serve as chair of the graduate council. She will also have oversight of the development of new graduate degree programs. She has directed curriculum development in preparation for the Anesthesiologist Assistant program and has served as course director for numerous pharmacology courses. She is a member of the Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties, the American College of Clinical Pharmacy, and the MidAmerica College of Clinical Pharmacy. She completed her doctor of pharmacy degree at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, and following her residency at Denver Veterans Affairs Medical Center, completed a pharmacotherapy fellowship at the UMKC SOM.



**Wright-Banderas**

Lafferty joined the SOM in January as the Merl & Muriel Hicklin/Missouri Endowed Chair in Medicine. He will have oversight for the education and research programs in the Department of Informatic Medicine and Personalized Health, including director of the master's degree program in bioinformatics. He is a specialist in internal medicine with subspecialty training in infectious disease. He previously served at the University of Washington School of Medicine in Seattle

as a professor in the Department of Medicine and director of the health care and population health research track. Lafferty received his medical degree from the University of Kansas and completed his internal medicine residency training at the University of New Mexico School of Medicine.



**Lafferty**

as a professor in the Department of Medicine and director of the health care and population health research track. Lafferty received his medical degree from the University of Kansas and completed his internal medicine residency training at the University of New Mexico School of Medicine.

## In Memoriam

### L. Beaty Pemberton, M.D.

L. Beaty Pemberton, M.D., a long-time member of the UMKC School of Medicine faculty, died March 8, 2009, following a long illness.

Pemberton retired from the SOM in 1999 after 25 years as a member of the faculty. He joined the School in 1974 as a docent, teaching both internal medicine and surgery. He was chairman of the curriculum council from 1980 to 1985, during which time he played a vital role in shaping the SOM's academic plan. He stepped down from the curriculum council in 1985 to become chairman of the Department of Surgery, a position he held for 14 years until his retirement. Pemberton also served on the Board of Truman Medical Centers and as president of the medical dental staff.

"Dr. Pemberton was known for his support of students and residents to help them succeed as physicians," Dean Betty Drees, M.D., said.

The epitaph his family chose reflects this commitment:

"The life I touch for good or ill will touch another life and that in turn another, until who knows where the trembling stops or in what far place my touch will be felt." —Frederick Buechner



**Pemberton**

### Virginia Calkins



**Former Dean Harry Jonas, M.D., presents Calkins with a chair in honor of her retirement in 1985.**

Virginia Calkins, who was one of the original UMKC School of Medicine employees and later served as assistant dean for student affairs, died March 1, 2009.

Calkins began her tenure with the SOM in 1971 as the coordinator of selection, overseeing the selection of the School's first class of students. She was appointed assistant dean for student affairs in 1980 and served in that role until her retirement in 1985.

Calkins earned her master's degree in educational counseling and guidance from UMKC. She worked as a history teacher at Sunset Hill School in Kansas City and later with the Kansas Regional Medical Program through the Kansas University Medical Center.

At the UMKC SOM, Calkins did educational research focusing on the School's student selection process and was partially responsible for starting the BA-MD Degree Group that now meets annually at the Association of American Medical Colleges to discuss how to improve combined-degree programs.

A scholarship fund has been established in her memory. (See alumni section for more details.)

## Wilson performs many roles aiding in student success during first year at UMKC SOM

Susan B. Wilson, Ph.D., associate dean for cultural enhancement and diversity, has had a life-long passion to help people and systems change and grow. Her multi-faceted career in health care administration ranges from consulting to clinical work and media.

Wilson earned her B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. from Pittsburgh in clinical psychology. She is also a UMKC alumnus, earning an M.B.A. from the Bloch School of Business and Public Administration.

An inspiration in overcoming adversity, Wilson has been recognized by the Kansas City Globe as one of the 100 most influential African Americans in Kansas City. She was honored with the Up and Comers Award from the Kansas City Business Journal and has been recognized by Who's Who in American Women and Who's Who in the Midwest. Wilson has worked with many notable health care organizations throughout the Kansas City area.

After completing a post-doctoral fellowship at the Menninger Foundation in Topeka, Kan., Wilson worked with area organizations, including Swope Health Services and the Saint Luke's Health System, and provided consulting services to businesses and organizations including the National Football League. A member of the Delta Sigma Theta public service sorority, she has been active in many community endeavors, such as the Jackson County



Wilson

COMBAT Commission, the Missouri Department of Mental Health Cultural Competency Committee, and the statewide African American Mental Health Task Force.

The proud mother and grandmother is also co-host of "KC Currents," a news, culture and diversity show on KCUR 89.3, the UMKC-based National Public Radio affiliate. The show airs Sundays from 5 to 6 p.m. with a repeat on Mondays from 8 to 9 p.m. This, along with other media endeavors, has earned her recognition by the Kansas City Black Journalists Association.

"We are very pleased to have found a candidate of Susan Wilson's caliber," said Betty M. Drees, M.D., dean of the School of Medicine. "She

brings an impressive combination of capabilities and experience to this important position and will play a key role in contributing to the medical school's continuing commitment to cultural diversity and community engagement."

Wilson is able to use her firsthand experience in overcoming adversity in her role at the medical school.

"I can relate to the successes and struggles students share with me," Wilson said. "I stress the importance of reaching out and asking for help. A positive mental attitude is critical to overcoming obstacles and setbacks. The real payoff is what you're eventually able to give back to your community."

Wilson chose the SOM because of her passion for helping students who are in a similar situation to what she has experienced. She has and continues to excel at fulfilling this passion through her work ventures and many facets of support at UMKC through the Summer Scholars and Saturday Academy programs, advising the UMKC chapter of the Student National Medical Association, and leading diversity committees and recruiting efforts.

*"I can relate to the successes and struggles students share with me," Wilson said. "I stress the importance of reaching out and asking for help. A positive mental attitude is critical to overcoming obstacles and setbacks. The real payoff is what you're eventually able to give back to your community."*

## SOM's Porter receives AMA leadership award, Graduate Assistance Fund awards

Gina M. Porter, MS 4, was one of 15 medical students from across the United States selected to receive the 2009 American Medical Association Foundation Leadership Award. In addition to the national award, Porter also received Graduate Assistance Fund awards from the University of Missouri-Kansas City Women's Council.

The AMA Leadership award recognizes medical students, residents/fellows, and early career physicians for strong, nonclinical leadership skills in advocacy, community service, public health and/or education.

The award is part of the AMA Foundation's Excellence in Medicine awards program, which honors those who exemplify altruism, compassion, leadership and dedication to patient care. The awards were presented on March 9, prior to the AMA National Advocacy Conference in Washington, D.C.

"Through actions such as leading a free clinic, changing health policy, conducting cutting-edge research or volunteering on a global level, these men and women have shown tremendous potential for joining the next generation of medical leaders," AMA Foundation President Jean Howard said in an AMA press release. "I am confident that these outstanding individuals will provide the necessary leadership to improve health care delivery in our country."

The Graduate Assistance Fund assists UMKC female students to facilitate studies beyond the classroom and to enrich and encourage educational experiences. Porter received the Barbara Pendleton Award and the Frances I. Bennet Porter Memorial Award for a research project she submitted on the study of adolescent health



*An example of student success, Porter (right) took advantage of the resources available to SOM students, including those offered by the Office of Cultural Enhancement and Diversity and Susan B. Wilson (left), Ph.D., associate dean for cultural enhancement and diversity. "Dr. Wilson is a great example of what it means to truly be here for the students," Porter said. "When students go to her office, she is never too busy to listen and help. Her office is a place of encouragement and guidance, not only for minority students, but for all students."*

education priorities in the black church.

Porter is the president of the School's chapter of the Student National Medical Association (SNMA). She also serves as a trained AIDS peer educator and uses motivational monologues to raise awareness about HIV-testing and sexually transmitted diseases to Kansas City-area students.

As a member of the SNMA, Porter serves as National Voter Registration Drive coordinator, SNMA Regional Political Advocacy liaison, and SNMA chapter president.

She is also co-chair of the community service section of the UMKC Medical Student Advisory Committee and the UMKC Student Success Committee on academic structure/transition, a member of the Kansas City Free Health Clinic Youth Advisory Committee, the UMKC Minority and Retention Committee and the Hospital Hill Diversity Council, and vice president of her UMKC class.



## Gold Humanism Honor Society Inducts '09 Class

Members of the 2009 Class of Gold Humanism Honor Society inductees include (top row, left to right) Megan Varma, Akta Sehgal, Angela Oza, Melody Burns, Brenda Rogers, M.D., '90, Stephanie Schaller; (bottom row) Mark Winston, Will Hotchkiss, Shelley Alexander, M.D., Carol Stanford, M.D., Vineet Jassal, Lee Morris, M.D., '08. Not pictured are Farheen Qurashi, Kushal Shah, Paul Tran, and Jubi Kangas, M.D., '08.

The School of Medicine chapter of the Arnold P. Gold Foundation's Humanism Honor Society welcomed its sixth class of members on April 13 during a reception and induction ceremony at Diastole. This year's membership class included 11 students, two faculty members, and two UMKC School of Medicine residents.

The Gold Humanism Honor Society recognizes medical students, residents and physicians who demonstrate excellence in clinical care as well as leadership, compassion and dedication to service. Members are selected for

their exemplary care for patients and humanistic approach to clinical practice.

The Year 5 student inductees are Melody Burns, Will Hotchkiss, Vineet Jassal, Angela Oza, Farheen Qurashi, Stephanie Schaller, Akta Sehgal, Kushal Shah, Thaison Paul Tran, Megan Varma and Mark Winston.

Shelley Alexander, M.D., assistant professor of medicine and Blue 7 docent, and Brenda Rogers, M.D., '90, associate dean for student affairs, are this year's faculty inductees. Jubi Kangas, M.D., '08, and Lee Morris,

M.D., '08, are the resident inductees.

Maansi Piparia, MS 6, received the 2009 Leonard Tow Outstanding Student in Humanism Award, and William Jennings, M.D., clinical professor of medicine, received the faculty Leonard Tow Humanism Award. The Gold Foundation also sponsors the Humanism Awards, which are given annually to a faculty member and a graduating student who demonstrate the ideals of outstanding compassion in patient care, respect for patients, their families and colleagues, as well as demonstrated clinical excellence.

## SOM inducts new AOA members

The UMKC chapter of the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society welcomed a new class that includes four junior members, 12 senior members, three residents, two alumni and one faculty member during a May 7 ceremony at the School of Medicine.

Faith Fitzgerald, M.D., professor of medicine and associate dean of humanities and bioethics at the University of California-Davis School of Medicine, presented the AOA Lectureship on May 8 entitled, "The Virtual Patient," in which she compared the heavy use of technology in modern medicine with older, more conventional practices and explored the strengths and weakness of that technology.

Senior class inductees include Chris Fitzgerald, Melissa Thomas, Stephen Bresson, Iljana Gaffar, Brandon Gaynor,

Hayley Graue, Brian Kelly, Kate Moreng, Melissa Neuwirth, Amy Nguyen, Shahab Shaffiey and Lindsey Smith. Senior officers were Steve Cohen, president; Michael Amini, vice president; Dawn Charles, secretary; and Nicholas Wasson, treasurer.

The 2009-2010 junior officers are Aarika Menees, president; Mark Winston, vice president; Jill Wallace, secretary; and Jenni Distasio, treasurer.

Resident members include Seshu Rao, M.D., Corey Auch, D.D.S., M.D., and Vinay Shah, M.D. The alumni members are Jonathon Metz, M.D., Ph.D., '90, and Dana Thompson, M.D., '91. Stuart Munro, M.D., associate professor and chairman of psychiatry, was the faculty inductee.

## Exhibit to visit Kansas City

The National Library of Medicine's traveling exhibit, Changing the Face of Medicine: Celebrating America's Women Physicians, will be in Kansas City from Oct. 3 to Nov. 11. UMKC School of Medicine will be one of only 61 selected public, academic and medical libraries throughout the United States to experience this exhibit, which features the lives and accomplishments of American women physicians since they were allowed access to American medical schools 150 years ago.

This exhibit is an effort by four local academic medical libraries: the University of Missouri-Kansas City Health Sciences Library, the Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences Library, the Clendening History of Medicine Library and Museum, and the Dykes Library at the University of Kansas Medical School.

Marjorie Sirridge, M.D., one of the founding docents of the UMKC SOM and a featured physician in the exhibit, will be the keynote speaker for the opening reception at Dykes Library on Oct. 3.

In conjunction with this exhibit, the Metropolitan Medical Society of Greater Kansas City is host of a Web site highlighting local women physicians. In hopes of having a large database by October, members are encouraging local women to visit [www.metromedkc.org/?page=women\\_in\\_medicine](http://www.metromedkc.org/?page=women_in_medicine) and share some information about their medical careers by answering the questions provided and uploading a small photograph. These profiles will be shared with area middle and high schools as a career development tool to inspire young women to enter the medical field.

### 2009 Exhibit Events ([library.kumc.edu/womeninmedicine/events.html](http://library.kumc.edu/womeninmedicine/events.html))

\*Cosponsored by other community organizations

**Saturday, Oct. 3**  
**Opening Reception: an Event of Importance, Marjorie Sirridge, M.D.,** former dean of the UMKC School of Medicine, hematologist and humanist, featured in the exhibit  
**3 p.m.,** KU Medical Center Campus

**Thursday, Oct. 8**  
**KUMC Department of History and Philosophy of Medicine Lecture Series: Women Physicians in the Movies**  
**Patricia E. Gallagher,** senior librarian at The New York Academy of Medicine  
**5 p.m.,** reception, Clendening Foyer, 1000 Robinson, KUMC  
**5:30 p.m.,** lecture, Clendening Theatre, 2nd floor Robinson, KUMC

**Friday, Oct. 9**  
**New Perspectives, New Opportunities: Women Leaders in Medicine**  
**Dean Betty Drees, M.D., along with Sandra Willsie, D.O., and Barbara Atkinson, M.D.** Moderated by Marilyn Pesto, director of the Sirridge Office of Medical Humanities  
**3 p.m.,** UMKC Health Sciences Campus  
Two deans and a former dean of Kansas City medical schools discuss fostering diversity and helping women reach their full potential, breaking glass ceilings, and bringing new perspectives and opportunities to medicine.

**(CANCELLED)**  
**\*Thursday, Oct. 15**  
**Women and the Process of Discovery**  
**Sara E. Walker, M.D.,** rheumatologist and former president of the American College of Physicians and American Society of Internal Medicine, featured in the exhibit.  
**5 p.m.,** Linda Hall Library of Science, Engineering & Technology

**\*Friday, Oct. 16**  
**KUMC Alumni 63rd Annual Peter T. Bohan Lecture**  
**Nancy Wilson Dickey, M.D.**  
**2:30 - 4 p.m.,** G013, SON Auditorium, KUMC  
Dickey, featured in the exhibit, was the first woman elected president of the American Medical Association (AMA). She is the president of the Texas A&M University System Health Science Center and vice chancellor for Health Affairs. She is a member of the Houston-Galveston Medical Board of Advisors.

**A reception honoring Dr. Nancy Wilson Dickey follows the lecture.** (Please contact KUMC Alumni Relations at (913) 588-1255 for complimentary tickets to this event.)

**Tuesday, Oct. 20**  
**Opening the Way for Others: Women and Minorities in Medicine**  
**Diane Buckingham, M.D.,** adolescent psychiatrist, featured in the exhibit and Readers' Theater (*UMKC Theater Students*) will perform readings from the diaries of women physicians.  
**Noon,** UMKC Volker Campus

**Friday, Oct. 30**  
**One Woman's Journey to Becoming Chief Medical Officer of Jackson County, Mo.**  
**Mary Dudley, M.D., M.S., R.N.,** chief medical examiner of Jackson County  
A reception of Halloween treats will follow the presentation.  
**4:30 p.m.,** UMKC Health Sciences Campus, Theater A

**Saturday, Nov. 7**  
**Closing reception**  
**Science Has No Sex: The Life of Marie Zakrzewska, M.D.**  
Arleen Tuchman, Ph.D., professor of history at Vanderbilt University  
**3 p.m.,** KU Medical Center Campus  
**For more information,** go to the national Changing the Face of Medicine Web site, [www.nlm.nih.gov/changingthefaceofmedicine](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/changingthefaceofmedicine).

# Graduation, Match Day mark new beginning for Class of 2009

**R**oseAnn Cyriak and her classmates opened their Match letters on March 19 in the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine's Theater A and erupted in a wave of cheers. Thirty-seven of the 85 students who matched will remain in the state of Missouri to do their residency training with 31 of those in Kansas City, including 27 in UMKC's residency programs.

More than one-third of this year's class matched in the primary care fields of internal medicine, family medicine, pediatrics or medicine/pediatrics. The School of Medicine matched the national trend that each saw 20 percent of the first-year matches coming in internal medicine residency positions.

Cyriak, who will be headed to St. Louis Children's Hospital to do her residency in pediatrics, said the whole process, while exciting, also stirred a bit of anxiety leading up to Match Day. "It was a lot more nerve-wracking than I thought it'd be," Cyriak said. "At the same time, I didn't expect it to go by so fast. Now, looking back, it seems like the whole thing just started and now it's over."

That excitement continued into the spring as those same students strode across the stage of the Kansas City Music Hall on May 28 to receive their BA/MD degrees and begin a new chapter in their journey to becoming physicians. It was the second year in a row that the medical school's graduation ceremony had moved off campus to the Music Hall.

UMKC Chancellor Leo Morton and School of Medicine Dean Betty Drees, M.D., applauded the graduates for their hard work and dedication and reminded them that, with the help of the faculty,

they have been well prepared for their futures in medicine.

A number of other SOM dignitaries offered words of encouragement and their congratulations to the class on the success of realizing their dreams of becoming doctors. Gene D. LeSage, M.D., '77, current chairman of the department of medicine at East Tennessee State University's James H. Quillen College of Medicine, spoke to the class as winner of the prestigious 2009 E. Grey Dimond, M.D., Take Wing Award. Jared Keeler, M.D., '94, assistant professor and docent, spoke on behalf of the faculty, and Matthew McLaughlin, M.D., '09, addressed the audience as this year's class speaker.

Drees and Brenda Rogers, M.D., '90, associate dean for student affairs, also presented 19 students with special awards for their outstanding achievements.



The UMKC School of Medicine Class of 2009 congregate in Theatre A on March 19 for Match Day.

## 2009 UMKC School of Medicine Match List

**Danna Abdel-Khader**  
U. Southern California  
- Los Angeles  
Internal Medicine

**Mohammad Agha**  
U. Oklahoma COM  
- Tulsa  
Preliminary Med  
Virginia Commonwealth U.  
- Richmond  
Physical Med & Rehab

**Amy Agrawal**  
Mt. Auburn Hospital  
- Cambridge, MA  
Internal Medicine

**Michael Amini**  
U. Tennessee COM  
- Memphis  
Orthopaedic Surgery

**Nevin Arora**  
Georgetown Univ. Hospital  
- DC  
Psychiatry

**Ganesh Asaithambi**  
U. Minnesota Med School  
- Minneapolis  
Neurology

**Corey Auch**  
UMKC SOM/Truman Medical  
Center  
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery

**Matthew Baker**  
UMKC School of Medicine  
Orthopaedic Surgery

**Zachary Boyd**  
UMKC School of Medicine  
Preliminary Med  
U. Kansas School of Medicine  
- KC  
Diagnostic Radiology

**Stephen Bresson**  
Barnes-Jewish Hospital - St.  
Louis  
St. Louis University SOM  
Preliminary Med  
Diagnostic Radiology

**Maria Burke**  
Glendale Adventist Med Ctr.  
- CA  
Family Medicine

**Calvin Cajigal**  
UMKC School of Medicine  
Preliminary Med  
Case Western Med Center  
- Cleveland  
Anesthesiology

**Leah Chapin**  
University Hospitals  
- Jackson, MS  
General Surgery



**Dawn Charles**  
UMKC School of Medicine  
Obstetrics/Gynecology

**Beverly Chen**  
U. Southern California  
– Los Angeles  
Internal Medicine

**Svetha Chunduri**  
Rush U. Medical Center – Chicago  
Internal Medicine

**Kenny Chuu**  
Indiana U. Medical Center  
– Indianapolis  
Internal Medicine

**Steven Cohen**  
St. Francis Hospital  
– Evanston, IL  
Transitional  
U. Texas – San Antonio  
Ophthalmology

**RoseAnn Cyriac**  
St. Louis Children's Hospital  
Pediatrics

**Brandon Davis**  
St. Louis University SOM  
Anesthesiology

**Coleen Davis**  
UMKC School of Medicine  
Family Medicine

**Matthew Edwards**  
UMKC School of Medicine  
Anesthesiology

**Erin Eisenhardt**  
U. Tennessee COM – Memphis  
General Surgery

**Sarah Farman**  
UMKC School of Medicine  
Emergency Medicine

**Allison Farrellsmith**  
U. Utah Affiliated Hospitals  
– Salt Lake City  
Pediatrics

**Christopher Fitzgerald**  
UMKC School of Medicine  
Medicine/Pediatrics

**James Foster**  
UMKC School of Medicine  
Preliminary Surgery

**Iljana Gaffar**  
U. Pittsburgh Medical Center  
– PA  
General Surgery

**Shawn Gao**  
U. Louisville School of  
Medicine  
Internal Medicine

**Brandon Gaynor**  
Jackson Memorial Hospital  
– Miami  
Neurosurgery

**Elizabeth Germinder**  
UMKC School of Medicine  
General Surgery

**Hayley Graue**  
U. Colorado SOM  
– Denver  
Pediatrics

**Anna Grodzinsky**  
UMKC School of Medicine  
Internal Medicine

**Sandeep Guttikonda**  
UMKC School of Medicine  
Emergency Medicine

**Janie Hemphill**  
St. Louis Children's Hospital  
Pediatrics

**Sowmya Kallur**  
Children's Mercy Hospital – KC  
Pediatrics

**Sheetal Karne**  
Rush U. Medical Center –  
Chicago  
Pathology

**Brian Kelly**  
Medical College of Wisconsin  
Pediatrics

**Simon Khagi**  
Dartmouth-Hitchcock MC –  
Lebanon, New Hampshire  
Internal Medicine

**Tina Khosla**  
St. Louis University SOM  
Emergency Medicine

**Jennifer Kramer**  
Swedish Medical Center  
– Seattle  
General Surgery

**Robert Lachky**  
Tripler Army MC – Honolulu  
Orthopaedic Surgery

**George Lewitt**  
U. Texas – San Antonio  
Preliminary Med  
St. Louis University SOM  
Dermatology

**Rex Liu**  
UMKC School of Medicine  
Internal Medicine

**Matthew McLaughlin**  
UMKC School of Medicine  
Preliminary Med  
U. Missouri MC – Columbia  
Physical Med & Rehab

**Rachel Metheny**  
Barnes-Jewish Hospital – St. Louis  
Psychiatry

**Shalini Mohan**  
UCSF/Berkeley School  
of Public Health  
Internal Medicine/Preventive  
Medicine

**Kate Louise Moreng**  
William Beaumont Hospital  
– Royal Oak, MI  
Diagnostic Radiology

**Andrew Mullendore**  
UMKC SOM/Truman Medical  
Center  
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery

**Melissa Neuwirth**  
Children's Mercy Hospital – KC  
Pediatrics

**Amy Nguyen**  
U. Kansas Medical Center – KC  
Otolaryngology

**Ndidi Onyejiaka**  
Tulane U. SOM – New Orleans  
Peds/Psych/Child Psych

**Sapna Patel**  
Vanderbilt U. School of  
Medicine  
Preliminary Surgery

**Suchit Patel**  
UMKC School of Medicine  
Diagnostic Radiology

**Joshua Paul**  
Naval Medical Center  
– Portsmouth, VA  
Psychiatry

**Thuylinh Pham**  
U. Kansas School of Medicine – KC  
Pediatrics

**Maansi Piparia**  
U. Illinois COM – Chicago  
Obstetrics/Gynecology

**Alicia Platou**  
Northwestern/McGaw MC  
– Chicago  
Preliminary Surgery

**William Porter**  
U. of Buffalo-NY  
Pathology

**Anisha Rastogi**  
Cedars-Sinai Med Center  
– Los Angeles  
Internal Medicine

**Natalie Bishop**  
Cincinnati Children's Hospital  
Pediatrics

**Arun Reddy**  
Loyola University MC  
– Maywood, IL  
Orthopaedic Surgery

**Christina Riojas**  
Eisenhower Army MC  
– Fort Gordon, GA  
General Surgery

**Jennifer Rupert**  
UMKC School of Medicine  
Emergency Medicine

**Sheena Sahota**  
Rush U. Medical Center  
– Chicago  
Internal Medicine

**Benjamin Saverino**  
UMKC School of Medicine  
Preliminary Med  
U. Kansas School of Medicine  
– KC  
Diagnostic Radiology

**Shahab Shaffiey**  
U. Pittsburgh Medical Center  
– PA  
General Surgery

**Bhani Singh**  
William Beaumont Hospital  
– Royal Oak, MI  
General Surgery

**Carmen Storm**  
UMKC School of Medicine  
Medicine/Pediatrics

**Ryan Strain**  
U. Kansas School of Medicine  
– KC  
General Surgery

**Sai Sunkara**  
Rush U. Medical Center  
– Chicago  
Internal Medicine

**Anika Tandon**  
Tulane U. SOM – New Orleans  
Preliminary Med/  
Ophthalmology

**Melissa Thomas**  
U. Nebraska Affiliated Hospitals  
– Omaha  
Emergency Medicine

**Priscilla Thomas**  
UMKC School of Medicine  
Preliminary Surgery

**Matthew Thompson**  
U. Utah Affiliated Hospitals  
– Salt Lake City  
Internal Medicine

**Catricia Tilford**  
Medical College of Georgia  
Psychiatry

**Emily Tilzer**  
St. Louis University SOM  
Emergency Medicine

**Debashree Tosh**  
UMKC School of Medicine  
Internal Medicine

**Elizabeth VonderHaar**  
U. Missouri MC – Columbia  
Obstetrics/Gynecology

**Nehir Waghela**  
UMKC School of Medicine  
Preliminary Med  
U. Chicago Medical Center  
Anesthesiology

**Nicholas Wasson**  
Children's Mercy Hospital  
– KC  
Preliminary Pediatrics  
Beth Israel-Deaconess Med  
Center – Boston  
Anesthesiology

**Douglas Weber**  
Rush U. Medical Center  
– Chicago  
Obstetrics/Gynecology

**Adam White**  
U. Arkansas – Little Rock  
Anesthesiology

**Casey Willimann**  
St. Louis University SOM  
Medicine/Pediatrics

**Rebekah Wolak**  
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base  
– Dayton, Ohio  
Obstetrics/Gynecology

**Chi-Hyun You**  
National Institute of Allergy  
and Infectious Diseases  
National Institutes of Health  
– Bethesda, MD  
Research



# UMKC SOM

The University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine opened in 1971 in response to the predicted deficit of physicians and rising health care needs in Missouri. Its innovative six-year, combined-degree program trains future medical practitioners immediately after high school.

# responds

# to community's needs, physician shortage

“UMKC IS A MEMBER OF THE COALITION OF URBAN SERVING UNIVERSITIES AND IS DEEPLY COMMITTED TO THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF OUR COMMUNITY. PART OF THAT ENGAGEMENT WITH THE COMMUNITY IS THE EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF THE WORKFORCE. THERE IS NO GREATER NEED IN HEALTH CARE AT THIS TIME THAN ACCESS TO HIGH QUALITY PRIMARY CARE.”

— BETTY DREES, M.D., DEAN OF THE UMKC SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Written by Hannah Crippen  
Designed by Suzanne M. Gauch  
Photography by Robert Steckmest



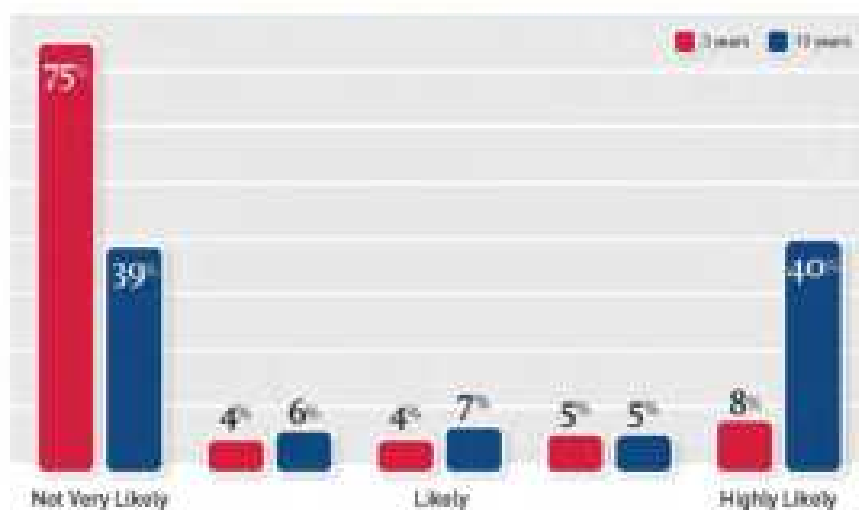
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his section highlights efforts by faculty and students who keep the needs of the surrounding community as the highest priority. They – along with the schools of Dentistry, Pharmacy and Nursing, and local health care professionals – participated in the inaugural UMKC Health Sciences Wellness Fair in April. UMKC SOM’s Community and Family Medicine Residency program is meeting its responsibility to attract graduates, such as Coleen Davis, M.D., ’09, who find their calling in family medicine. Faculty

members Bill Lafferty, M.D. – the Merl & Muriel Hicklin/Missouri Endowed Chair in Medicine and director of the master’s degree program in the Department of Informatic Medicine and Personalized Health – and Shauna Roberts, M.D., professor of internal medicine, are working to develop a new chronic care model to improve primary care, health disparities, and the treatment of chronic diseases. International women’s health expert, Diane Harper, M.D., vice chair of the community and family medicine department for research, has returned to UMKC, and George Reisz, M.D., chairman of the Department of Medicine and Edward H. Hashinger Distinguished Professor, has taken the School’s primary care mission to Mbingo Baptist Hospital in Cameroon to help with its new Internal Medicine Residency.

*Pictured are George Harris, M.D., and Emily Lott, M.D., ’04.*

## More Physicians Likely to Retire in 10 Years



Warnings of a shortage of physicians, especially in the primary care sector, have turned into a national reality. Kansas City is not an exception. The Metropolitan Medical Society of Greater Kansas City conducted a study, “Safeguarding the Quality of Health Care in Kansas City,” in 2008, which found 40 percent of Kansas City’s 4,428 physicians are “highly likely” to retire within 10 years. Forty-four percent of local practices are recruiting for open physician positions, and 74 percent will need to recruit in the next five years. This study stressed the concern that local practices may be short-staffed to deal with the rising demand for health care.

# Health science schools unite to serve community at inaugural Wellness Fair

School of Medicine students and faculty joined those from the schools of Nursing, Dentistry and Pharmacy for the inaugural UMKC Health Sciences Wellness Fair on April 4 in the Health Sciences Building. UMKC SOM students participate in Community Service Day each year. In collaboration with the Kansas City Wellness Network, local physicians and health care providers offered free health screenings, services and education to more than 1,000 members of the surrounding community. The free services included vision, hearing and depression screenings, weight management screening and education, immunizations, and osteoporosis screening and calcium intake counseling, among others.

Ayushi Gupta, MS 4, performed head, eye, ear, nose and throat (HEENT) exams on children at the event and was one of the chairs for the HEENT section. Gupta said she thought the Wellness Fair was a success, and the collaboration of the four health science schools was beneficial.

"I thought the Wellness Fair ran smoothly, and we were able to perform physicals for many children throughout the Kansas City community free of charge," Gupta said. "Every health science school specializes in specific aspects of health care, and bringing them all together offered families and children an opportunity to receive a check-up that was both time-effective and thorough."



Cosponsors included BlueCross BlueShield of Kansas City, Carondelet Health, Cover the Uninsured, Dos Mundos, Fox 4, Kansas City Academy of Family Physicians, Kansas City, Missouri, Health Department, KC Wellness Network, Truman Medical Centers, UMKC Alumni Associations, UMKC Health Sciences Deans, UMKC Student Government Association, University Physician Associates, Univision and the Vietnamese American Community of Greater Kansas City (VACKC). Those involved plan to continue the Wellness Fair each year. "I hope that next year more people in our area take advantage of this great opportunity, and we continue to have many volunteers from all four of the health science schools," Gupta said.



*Students and faculty offer free health services to the community during the inaugural Wellness Fair on April 4 in the Health Sciences Building. Clockwise from left, Anna Yousaf, MS 4, Tessa Klinkhardt, MS 4, Shilpa Parthasarathy, MS 4, Noor Abu Analdi, MS 4, Kristin Kaelke, third-year dentistry student, George Harris, M.D., Sarah Rackers, MS 4, and Chen Thau Chau, MS 4.*



# The Family

# Physician:

## Health Care for the Ages UMKC, partner hospitals respond to primary care physician shortage

**S**tep into the waiting room at the Bess Truman Family Medical Center at Truman Medical Center (TMC) Lakewood on any given day, and you might see a newborn baby with symptoms of “colic,” a teenager needing a sports physical for high school, a middle-aged man complaining of chronic heartburn or an elderly woman with a persistent cough: patients representing every stage of life and the spectrum of health care needs. That is the domain of the family medicine physician.

The men and women treating those patients at the Family Care Center represent the next generation of primary care physicians. They are members of the UMKC Community and Family Medicine Residency program. From prenatal care to geriatrics and everything in between, they occupy an important position on the front line of health care.

“The UMKC family medicine residency is one of the most comprehensive family medicine programs in the country and the largest in the state of Missouri,” said Steve Griffith, M.D., chair of the UMKC School of Medicine Department of Community and Family Medicine. “The role

UMKC residency program reaches out to disadvantaged mothers, newborns

Some mothers and their newborns might get an unexpected, but much appreciated, house call after they are discharged from the Truman Medical Center Lakewood maternity ward. A certain number of home visits are required of residents in the UMKC Community and Family Medicine Residency Program at TMC Lakewood, but this is not one of them.

This house call is part of the Rocking Chair Project and part of the UMKC residency program’s commitment to care for the community, both inside

*“We see a lot of patients who barely have enough money to cover the bare necessities for their children. The Rocking Chair program allows us to give both mom and baby a gift that they couldn’t otherwise afford.”*

*— Todd Shaffer, M.D.*

and outside the clinic. The Rocking Chair Project, promoted nationwide by the American Academy of Family Physicians Foundation, provides glider rocking chairs free of charge to economically disadvantaged mothers.

Inspiration for the Rocking Chair Project came from research showing that holding and rocking, along with other

*UMKC residency program,  
Continued on Page 22*

*Steve Griffith, M.D.,  
and Todd Shaffer, M.D.,  
practice and teach the  
value of family medicine at  
Truman Medical Center  
Lakewood.*

“THE UMKC FAMILY MEDICINE RESIDENCY IS ONE OF THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE FAMILY MEDICINE PROGRAMS IN THE COUNTRY AND THE LARGEST IN THE STATE OF MISSOURI,” SAID STEVE GRIFFITH, M.D., CHAIR OF THE UMKC SCHOOL OF MEDICINE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND FAMILY MEDICINE.

*Written by John Austin  
Designed by Suzanne M. Gauch  
Photography by Robert Steckmest*



UMKC residency program, Continued from Page 21

nurturing and bonding behaviors, is crucial to the normal brain development of babies.

"These are really nice rocking chairs and they make a comfortable and convenient bonding place for mom and baby," said Todd Shaffer, M.D., director of the residency program and a Rocking Chair Project national board member.

Second-year residents identify expectant mothers who might most benefit from the program, and once they are discharged, the residents personally deliver the rocking chair to their home and assemble it for them.

"We see a lot of patients who barely have enough money to cover the bare necessities for their child," Shaffer said. "The Rocking Chair program allows us to give both mom and baby a

Continued on Page 23

From left to right: Residents Beverly Almajera, M.D., and Jamil Santos, M.D., research at Truman Medical Center Lakewood. Steve Griffith, M.D., and Laura Hempstead, D.O., discuss their findings.

of the family physician has seen tremendous change in the last decade. What has not changed, however, is our commitment to provide our residents with the knowledge and skills they need to practice family medicine in a variety of settings and environments."

That commitment is founded on the strong relationship between the UMKC School of Medicine and TMC Lakewood, which is one of only a few teaching hospitals in the country dedicated to training family medicine physicians. The residents are taught by family physicians with the appropriate support of

consulting specialists and allied health care providers.

"In fact, the residency program comprises the majority of the physician staff at the hospital," Griffith said. "UMKC and Lakewood have a unique, symbiotic relationship. We make each other strong."

That relationship began in 1980 with the founding of the program and the acceptance of the program's first residents.

"There were four residents in the program that first year," said Todd Shaffer, M.D., M.B.A., director of the residency program. "Today, we've grown to 38 residents and added fellowships in geriatrics,

*"In fact, the residency program comprises the majority of the physician staff at the hospital. UMKC and Lakewood have a unique, symbiotic relationship. We make each other strong."*  
— Steve Griffith, M.D.



(clockwise) Ben Wilkerson, M.D., Kelly O'Brien, M.D., Jennifer Groner, M.D., and Valerie Duff, D.O., study obstetrics and gynecology.

surgical obstetrics and sports medicine."

Considering current and projected physician shortages, particularly in the area of primary care, Griffith and Shaffer agree that the number of medical students entering family medicine residencies needs to grow.

"The specialty of family medicine will provide the majority of future primary care physicians," Griffith said. "To meet projected needs, statistics suggest that we should be producing 5,000 family medicine specialists annually nationwide. Currently, we (as a nation) are maybe producing half of that."



### Do the math

Fewer medical school graduates going into family medicine. Family medicine physicians retiring. An aging baby boomer population.

"It adds up to an impending health care crisis in this country," Shaffer said. "Shortages in primary care physicians are here now, and they are going to get worse."

Indeed, a 2008 University of Missouri-Columbia study suggested that the U.S. could face a shortage of up to 44,000 family physicians and general internists in less than 20 years.

"As more and more medical school graduates continue to opt for other, more focused specialties, what we wind up with down the

*"It adds up to an impending health care crisis in this country. Shortages in primary care physicians are here now, and they are going to get worse."*  
— Todd Shaffer, M.D.

UMKC residency program, Continued from Page 22

gift that they couldn't otherwise afford."

But it's not just the moms and babies that benefit from the program, Shaffer noted.

"It's a great learning experience for the residents," he said. "It's an important lesson in understanding where our patients live and an opportunity to reinforce the importance of a safe and nurturing environment."

To further enhance the program, the staff of TMC Lakewood donated the money they raised last year from their annual raffle to the Rocking Chair Project.

"That money is being used to provide a gift basket of baby items to accompany each rocking chair," Shaffer said. "That really says a lot about the people here at TMC Lakewood. When there's an opportunity to give, they find a way to give a little bit more."

road is a glut of specialists, for example, but no one who can treat a strep throat,” Griffith said. “Family medicine physicians can address more than 90 percent of the problems patients have. And, if further consultation is needed, they can help guide the patient through the maze of specialists and be an advocate and adviser for what is the best treatment for the individual patient.”

*“Family medicine is the number one recruited specialty right now. Physicians completing their family medicine residencies can pretty much write their own tickets as to where they want to practice. There are opportunities everywhere.”*

— Todd Shaffer, M.D.

#### What’s the answer?

“The most obvious challenge is in attracting more medical school graduates to family medicine residencies,” Shaffer said. “And that is no small challenge when medical school graduates know they can make twice or three times the money if they sub-specialize.”

But there are benefits and rewards to pursuing a career in family practice that cannot be assigned a dollar value, he noted.

“Family medicine is the number one recruited specialty right

now,” Shaffer said. “Physicians completing their family medicine residencies can pretty much write their own tickets as to where they want to practice. There are opportunities everywhere.”

The ultimate reward, Griffith added, speaks to the very heart of the doctor-patient relationship and why, for many, the choice to pursue a career in medicine is more a “calling” than a pursuit.

“Because of the growing primary care shortage, more and more patients are seeing specialists for things that a family medicine physician should be treating,” he said. “Patients want to develop a relationship with their doctor. They are more comfortable with a doctor they feel like they know and who knows them. They want a doctor who will hold their hand, so to speak.”

That is the domain of the primary care physician.

#### Did you know?

Out of eight surrounding states in the Midwest region, the UMKC Community and Family Medicine Residency is one of only 11 programs (out of 68 total) that have had 100 percent passage rates over the past four years for all graduates who took the American Board of Family Medicine (ABFM) certification exam.

In the immediate region, including the states of Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska, UMKC is one of only three family medicine programs that have 100 percent board passage rates on the ABFM exam over the past four years.

The ABFM is a non-profit, independent physician organization that certifies physicians who practice in family medicine. It is the second largest medical specialty board in the United States.

# Family Medicine Physicians

## Working on the front line of patient care

Coleen Davis found her calling early in life. “I knew ever since I was little that I liked taking care of people,” said Davis, a 2009 graduate of the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine. Her first inclination was to become a nurse. Then her high school counselor suggested she look into the six-year program at the UMKC School of Medicine.

The more she explored medical school, the more she liked the idea. This summer, Davis is joining UMKC’s Community and Family Medicine Residency program as a first-year resident.

It’s a specialty that offers Davis the flexibility to do what she enjoys, taking care of people. One day she may be treating a child with a recurring cough. The next, she could be handling a minor surgical procedure, seeing an expectant mother, or taking care of an aging adult with pulmonary disease.

“I like seeing the same patient over and over, but I also like having some variety,” Davis said.

As a family medicine doctor, Davis is stepping into a field with a growing need as reports across the country are signaling a shortage of primary care physicians. Davis said the idea of helping fill an increasing void didn’t sway her decision to go into family medicine as much as the idea of being on the front line of patient care.

“I THINK OUR ROLE AS FAMILY PRACTITIONERS IS AT THE FOREFRONT OF MEDICINE, AND BY DOING A GOOD JOB OF WHAT WE DO, WE CAN PREVENT A LOT OF THINGS BEFORE THEY GET STARTED.” — COLEEN DAVIS, M.D., '09

Written by Kelly Edwards  
Designed by Suzanne M. Gauch  
Photography by Robert Steckmest

*Coleen Davis, M.D., '09, helps treat a patient with George Harris, M.D., as she begins her family medicine residency at Truman Medical Center Lakewood.*

"I don't think that influenced my decision at all, but it's good to know there's job security out there," she said.

More than 100 full-time family medicine and internal medicine physicians on faculty with the SOM see and treat patients at the school's various teaching hospitals and clinics. Some maintain their own private practices while serving as teaching faculty. Steve Griffith, M.D., associate professor and chairman of community and family medicine, said the way those faculty split their time between seeing patients and teaching varies from person to person.

"Some say, 'I'd like to see more of my own patients.' Some say, 'I've seen enough patients, I'd like to spend more time teaching,'" Griffith said.

George Harris, M.D., professor of medicine, is assistant dean for Years 1 and 2 medicine and serves as director of the family practice preceptorship. He instructs students in their family practice rotation at Truman Medical Center Lakewood in Lee's Summit, Mo., where they experience the many different facets of primary care medicine.

Harris had his own private practice before joining the faculty at the SOM in 2003. Now, he spends a greater amount of his time teaching and no longer sees his own patients. But as the adviser for the School of Medicine's Family Medicine Student Interest Group, Harris is still firm in his belief that family medicine is the cornerstone of health care, calling it, "the specialty all physicians idealize but few pursue."

"Family medicine establishes the foundation for a solid patient-doctor relationship nurtured through years of medical care, compassion, and continuity," Harris said.

Davis echoes those ideals and takes them a step further, saying the best medicine is preventative medicine. As a family practice physician, Davis will be in a position to work with patients to prevent the onset of a disease before it becomes a major issue.

"I think our role as family practitioners is at the forefront of medicine, and by doing a good job of what we do, we can prevent a lot of things before they get started," Davis said.

It is a common, collective goal that Davis said she has seen from primary care physicians at the UMKC SOM throughout her various rotations as a medical student.

"One thing I noticed about the family physicians I've

worked with is that everyone focuses a lot on health maintenance," Davis said. "They emphasize good blood pressure control, cholesterol control, lifestyle changes and things that are important to prevent diseases."

Primary care physicians often come face to face with other hidden concerns beyond a patient's physical symptoms that contribute to their health care needs as well.

Truman Medical Center is one of the primary teaching hospitals for the UMKC SOM's docent units. Family medicine and internal medicine physicians lead their teams of students in out-patient continuity clinics — as well as through regular in-patient rotations — and provide direct care to patients or supervise residents and students who provide that care. At TMC Hospital Hill, those physicians and medical students typically treat the underserved population of Kansas City.

"Often they have less access to things that they need, and I like being able to help with that — things like transportation or money issues," Davis said. "Some of the social issues that some of the patients I've worked with have faced have also been problematic to their health care and created extra problems for them to overcome."

At the TMC Lakewood campus in Lee's Summit, where the School of Medicine's Community and Family Medicine program is based, family medicine physicians offer a vast array of services from obstetrics, to pediatrics, sports medicine, and private out-patient clinics, to long-term geriatric care.

That variety of patient care is largely what drew Davis to a career in family medicine.

"I chose family medicine because there are so many options," Davis said. "I can practice obstetrics if I want. I could specialize in geriatrics if I want, or sports medicine."

And with a husband and a 2-year-old baby boy at home, Davis said she figures family medicine will also allow her the time she desires to spend with her own family while working at a job she loves.

"Working in the outpatient clinics with patients that I have had for several years and getting to know them really well, that has been one of my favorite things about medicine," Davis said. "And (obstetrics) was one of my favorite rotations, so I figured what better than to combine the two." ❀

*"Family medicine establishes the foundation for a solid patient-doctor relationship nurtured through years of medical care, compassion, and continuity."*

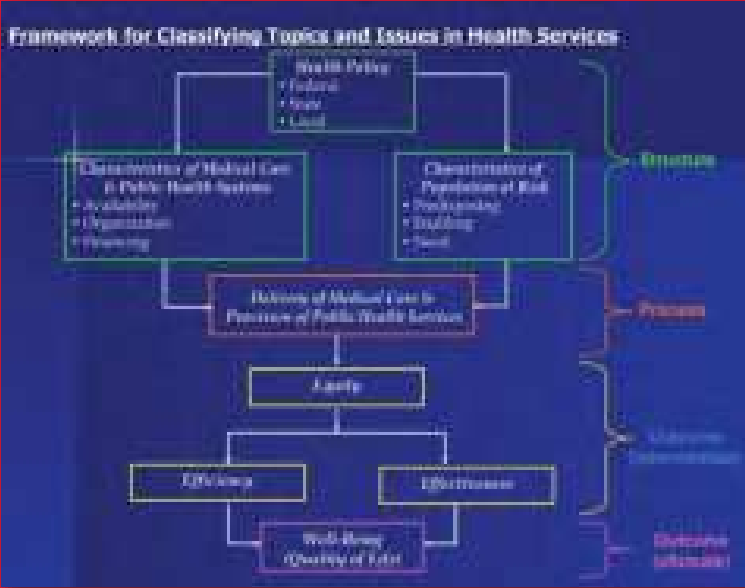
— George Harris, M.D.

# Endowed chair brings chronic disease care, health services research expertise to UMKC, Kansas City community

Written by Hannah Crippen  
Designed by Suzanne M. Gauch  
Photography by Robert Steckmest

Primary care aims to treat the whole patient, not simply certain symptoms or diseases at a time. This is essential in chronic disease care. For more than a decade, researchers and physicians have tried to reform the health care system through chronic care model-based interventions to improve the management of chronic diseases and health care delivery. Social and environmental factors can determine the prevalence and severity of chronic diseases, such as heart disease, cancer, and diabetes.

*Bill Lafferty, M.D., Merl & Muriel Hicklin/Missouri Endowed Chair in Medicine, and Shauna Roberts, M.D., '84, professor of internal medicine, collaborate to design a new model for chronic disease treatment and management.*



This slide, presented at the Inaugural Meeting for the UMKC Office for Health Services and Public Health Outcomes Research, outlines the framework of the Guided Chronic Care model.



Lafferty and Roberts strive to pick up where other chronic disease care models left off to improve care, especially in an underserved population.



This describes the driving force behind the ideas that Shauna Roberts, M.D., '84, and William Lafferty, M.D., are developing to create the Guided Chronic Care (GCC) model to benefit patients at Truman Medical Center (TMC). Lafferty joined the UMKC School of Medicine in January as the Merl & Muriel Hicklin/Missouri Endowed Chair in Medicine, and he is now the director of the master's degree program in the Department of Informatic Medicine and Personalized Health, for which he oversees the education and research programs.

Lafferty's commitment to serving the underserved attracted him to Kansas City and UMKC because of the diverse, unique population and the dedication of its faculty and administration.

"I was impressed that 100 percent of my colleagues had the core values to serve those (community members) who have been forgotten or those who have had 'the short end of the stick' in life," Lafferty said. "The commitment of this medical center to these groups of people was a magnet for me. The public-spirited underlying attitude is miles ahead of most other academic medical centers."

Roberts returned to UMKC a year ago as an associate professor of internal medicine and is a cardiothoracic surgeon and the corporate medical director of Quality at Truman Medical Centers. She is working with Lafferty in efforts to reduce disparities, provide care in a more culturally competent manner and better serve patients in the community. Roberts said she is thankful to be in the academic sector of medicine, as she wanted to do later in her career, and has benefitted from Lafferty's hands-on approach to mentoring and sharing information. Lafferty and Roberts are working together to improve quality of life, quality of service, and self-management for those with chronic diseases.

Roberts has been interested in data integrity her entire career and is aware of the issue of underlying chronic illnesses and the complexity of care for these patients.

"It isn't just about caring for the one disease or whatever they have come in for; the treatment affects the chronic underlying disease as well," Roberts said.

Under Lafferty, the mission statement of the UMKC Office for Health Services and Public Health Outcomes Research's new program charter is "to establish and promote research projects, health program evaluations, health policy analyses, and professional training programs that will improve the health outcomes of individuals and population groups subject to health disparities."

Chronic diseases are the most common and costly health problems. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, chronic diseases are the leading 70 percent of causes of death in the United States and cause major limitations in daily living for approximately one out of 10 Americans. These diseases are also preventable by practicing healthy behaviors, such as eating nutritious

foods, being physically active, and avoiding tobacco and alcohol use.

"Broadening the research agenda to focus on public and population health is a refreshing direction," Lafferty said. "This school is the perfect place to do so. Revising existing chronic care models to be

more relevant to low income, ethnically diverse populations is an important step in that direction. There are current deficiencies in coordinated care, and new models for care aim to correct these deficiencies."

The 2000 Health Assessment – part of Ford Motor Company's

Community Health Assessment – found Kansas City's health status is comparable to national benchmarks but with profound racial disparities between African American and white residents. Racial disparities are most pronounced in the urban areas of Kansas City. Roberts said two-thirds of the patients on the Hospital Hill campus are members of ethnic, racial, cultural or linguistic minority groups. Other victims of disparities are those working one or more jobs but still lacking resources such as health care coverage.

"The UMKC School of Medicine faculty are the attending physicians of Truman Medical Centers and are uniquely positioned in their daily management of this unique patient population," Roberts said. "They have an opportunity to bring everyday scholarship to the bedside as they care for these individuals and do outcomes research."

The unique approach to the GCC model builds on the idea of improving health care to patients coping with one or more chronic

diseases. In addition, it will focus on serving populations affected by health disparities and poor social determinants – such as low income – that influence patients' participation in treatment programs.

Patients with chronic diseases need ongoing care, and new research must ensure that people who are affected receive quality health care. Orchestrating this care in an efficient and cost-effective way is critical to the U.S. health care system

given the enormous expenditures on health care.

In addition to Lafferty and Roberts, the UMKC Office for Health Services and Public Health Outcomes Research has engaged a local health planner, Jane Crigler, M.S.W., to facilitate a series of meetings on how UMKC and TMC can collaborate to improve chronic care delivery. The ultimate goal will be to secure funding from a foundation for TMC, so patient care can achieve the best outcomes possible for people with chronic diseases.

Social aspects of chronic care management will be important to address problems the patients may be having in their homes and how their environment affects their behavior and health. The relationship between the nurses and social workers is a missing piece in other models.

"In order to make improvements in health care, we need to create the change," Lafferty said.

*"Broadening the research agenda to focus on public and population health is a refreshing direction. This school is the perfect place to do so. Revising existing chronic care models to be more relevant to low income, ethnically diverse populations is an important step in that direction."*

— Bill Lafferty, M.D.

## Kansas City's key chronic disease facts

- 37.7% of Missouri adults are overweight and 29.1% are obese – 2007 Missouri County-Level Survey

- By 2006, 6.5% of adults in the Kansas City metropolitan area were diabetic – Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) data for 2006

- The majority of heart disease deaths in the KC area (77.8%) occurred among residents of Jackson County – Kansas City Health Department's Community Health Assessment 2009

- In 2007, heart disease was the second leading cause of death in KC, behind cancer; stroke was the fourth, behind chronic lower respiratory diseases and infectious diseases – Community Health Assessment 2009

- Among all KC males who died in 2007, 22.6% died from heart disease and 3.9% from stroke. For females, 19% died from heart disease and 6.9% from stroke – Community Health Assessment 2009

- 7.7% of adults in the bi-state metropolitan area have asthma – BRFSS data for 2006

- Approximately 400,000 adults and 150,000 children in the state of Missouri are currently living with asthma – The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services' Missouri Asthma Surveillance Report 2006

- In KC, chronic lower respiratory disease was the third leading cause of death in 2007 (fifth among men, fourth among women) – Community Health Assessment 2009

- In Missouri, it is estimated there will be nearly 1.6 million persons with arthritis and 631,000 persons with arthritis-attributable activity limitations in 2030 – a 2007 Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report from the CDC

*“I have absolutely loved my work. I have felt like I have really made a difference in kind of putting my foot in cancer’s face.”*

*— Diane Harper, M.D., M.P.H., M.S.*



*Written by Hannah Crippen  
Designed by Suzanne M. Gauch  
Photography by Robert Steckmest*

# International cervical cancer, HPV prevention expert returns to UMKC

DIANE HARPER, M.D., M.P.H., M.S. — VICE CHAIR OF THE COMMUNITY AND FAMILY MEDICINE DEPARTMENT FOR RESEARCH, PROFESSOR IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF COMMUNITY AND FAMILY MEDICINE, OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY, AND BIOINFORMATICS AND PERSONALIZED MEDICINE, AND DIRECTOR OF FACULTY DEVELOPMENT IN CLINICAL RESEARCH — WAS A UMKC SCHOOL OF MEDICINE FACULTY MEMBER FROM 1990 TO 1996 AND SPENT THE FOLLOWING 12 YEARS AT DARTMOUTH MEDICAL SCHOOL BEFORE RETURNING IN 2008.

“When Diane was here in the early 1990s – the early part of her career – it was clear she had the focus and knowledge to have a significant impact on the health of women,” said Steve Griffith, M.D., chair of the Department of Community and Family Medicine. “Although we were very saddened when she left, at Dartmouth she was able to pursue her work surrounded by others who had experience and could act as mentors and advisers as she developed her career. How great her achievements became undoubtedly pleased everyone but surprised no one.”

Between 2003 and 2007, thousands of Kansas City women were treated for cervical cancer precursors, 27 died from cervical cancer, and 62 percent of these women were younger than age 65.

Before 1955, cervical cancer was one of the most common causes of cancer death for American women. According to the American Cancer Society, the cervical cancer death rate has declined by 74 percent since 1955 because of the Pap test, which can find curable changes in the cervix before cancer develops.





The fight against cervical cancer continues. Diane Harper, M.D., has dedicated the past 20 years to human papillomavirus and cervical cancer research. As lead researcher for both HPV vaccines, Harper serves as an international grant reviewer for future HPV research in South Africa, the United Kingdom, and the European Union in study sections similar to the National Institutes of Health. She is a consultant for the ABC Medical News Unit for review of medical topics covered in the ABC news reports, including Good Morning America. An international expert and spokesperson for HPV and cervical cancer screening and prevention, she spent the 2006-07 academic year on sabbatical advising the World Health Organization (WHO) and helped develop and implement vaccine policies in the United States and abroad.

A Kansas City native, Harper said she is happy to be back working with the UMKC School of Medicine faculty and community.

“UMKC has had a strong tradition of incredibly wonderful clinicians who have been excellent teachers,” Harper said. “Traditionally,

academic faculty in medicine have a sort of three-horned hat we wear: one is your clinical activities, one is your teaching activities, and one is usually your research activities. My hope is to be able to introduce the concept of research and make it available to faculty who decide

*“I think it’s important for us as a community to be happy and proud of what we can participate in and what we can offer because some of the studies we do will be implemented worldwide. It’s no longer that Kansas City is just a receiver of good health care, but it is also part of crafting what the next kind of health care will look like for people everywhere. We serve such a great population with so many different needs that I think we’ll really be able to make a difference locally and internationally.”*

— Diane Harper, M.D.

they want to try on the tricorner hat.”

Since returning to the SOM, Harper has been working on a new project with the departments of Pathology, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Community and Family Medicine, and Children’s Mercy Hospital’s Adolescent Gynecology. A chromosomal

variation that occurs in women with HPV infections may predict which women will progress into having cervical cancer. They are setting up a trial to prospectively measure how well this test performs. Harper has already implemented a similar study at several sites globally and in the U.S.

“This test will offer cutting edge clinical care to our population, as well as give our physicians an opportunity to participate in a trial where they are helping to establish the evidence for a test that could be considered for incorporation into national screening guidelines,” Harper said. “The hope is that its widespread use would improve the way we screen women for cervical cancer from two perspectives: better disease protection and better utilization of health care resources.”

High-risk types of HPV cause cervical cancer, and types 16 and 18 cause approximately 70 percent of cervical cancers worldwide. Although high-risk types lead to the development of cervical cancer, this does not mean women with a high-risk HPV infection will develop cancer. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported that

about 10 percent of women with high-risk HPV will develop long-lasting infections, putting them at risk for cervical cancer, which usually does not have symptoms until it is advanced. This 10 percent of persistent infections causes nearly half a million new cases of cervical cancer globally every year with more than 270,000 deaths.

According to the WHO, more than 90 percent of cervical cancer cases are in developing countries. During her travels – she has been around the world three times – Harper has seen how vital this vaccine is to the developing world.

“In South Africa, I saw people with severe, ravaging diseases,” Harper said. “You see how powerful and important these vaccines can be. I have met young girls in multiple countries who are in tears about what’s happened to them. I feel so lucky, so blessed, so honored to have been able to see people in their own cultures and figure out how best to help them.”

Before 2006, regular Pap screening, confirmation of abnormalities by colposcopic biopsy and the treatment of precancerous lesions were the course of action for cervical cancer prevention. In 2006, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved a quadrivalent HPV vaccine, which protects against two cancer-causing types, HPV 16 and 18, and two genital warts types, HPV 6 and 11, for at least five years with a probable need for a booster dose within 10 years. Additional protection against HPV 31 allows the vaccine to prevent about 78 percent of cervical cancers. This year, the FDA will finish proceedings on the second HPV vaccine, which covers four cancer-causing types of HPV – 16, 18, 45 and 31 – and could eliminate up to

88 percent of all cervical cancers. A high-profile reference for major national and international media sources, Harper speaks publicly about the misleading marketing of the initial vaccine, saying the efficacy of the vaccine is only proven in women from

*“You do (research) because you can’t help but do it. You’re just driven.”*  
— Diane Harper, M.D.

ages 16 to 26 and, at this point, the duration of the protection is unknown after five years.

Both vaccines have been targeted to young adolescents because they are most likely uninfected. A fact often left out of media reports is that 10 percent of all females at any age have already been infected with high-risk HPV types from an unknown method. The good news is both vaccines make antibodies regardless of exposure to past high-risk HPV infections, and they make these antibodies in quantities much larger than the quantities made in 11 to 12-year-old girls or women who have never been infected with the types covered by the vaccines, Harper said.

Data on the efficacy of the first vaccine’s use in men 16 to 26 years old is currently being collected. The preliminary results indicate that it protects men uninfected with HPV 6 and 11 at almost 90 percent efficacy from developing genital warts for 30 months after vaccination. There is no supporting data that the vaccine will prevent the transmission of the cancer-causing types for women, nor the development of cancers in men.

The second vaccine has been approved around the globe, except for the U.S. and Canada. Harper anticipates it will be FDA-approved by the end of 2009. Its company

includes women from ages 10 to 55 in its trials, giving it an extended age range compared to the first vaccine. This vaccine is designed against strains 16 and 18 with cross protection against HPV 31 and 45. HPV 16, 18 and 45 cause 98 percent of all adenocarcinomas, a cancer that grows in the canal of the cervix and is almost impossible to detect with Pap tests and colposcopic examination.

Approximately 20 million Americans are currently infected with HPV, and another 6.2 million people become newly infected each year. At least 50 percent of sexually active men and women become infected with HPV in their lifetimes, according to the CDC. Fortunately, the body’s immune system clears 90 percent of both high-risk and low-risk type infections within two years.

Harper said she believes in the importance of working with these patients and staying clinically active while doing research. She spends 50 percent of her time as a clinician, and the rest of her time is spent on research and working with faculty.

“Diane’s return to the Department of Community and Family Medicine will be transformative,” Griffith said. “She brings national and international prominence to the table and is serving as a mentor and adviser to the department’s faculty members and residents. She has been working with physicians who have an aptitude for and an interest in research, but who heretofore had no one to guide them in the process. It would be difficult to overestimate the importance her presence brings to the department and its evolution into a more academic enterprise.”

# UMKC extends outreach across the globe;

## Faculty, students aid development of new IM residency in Cameroon

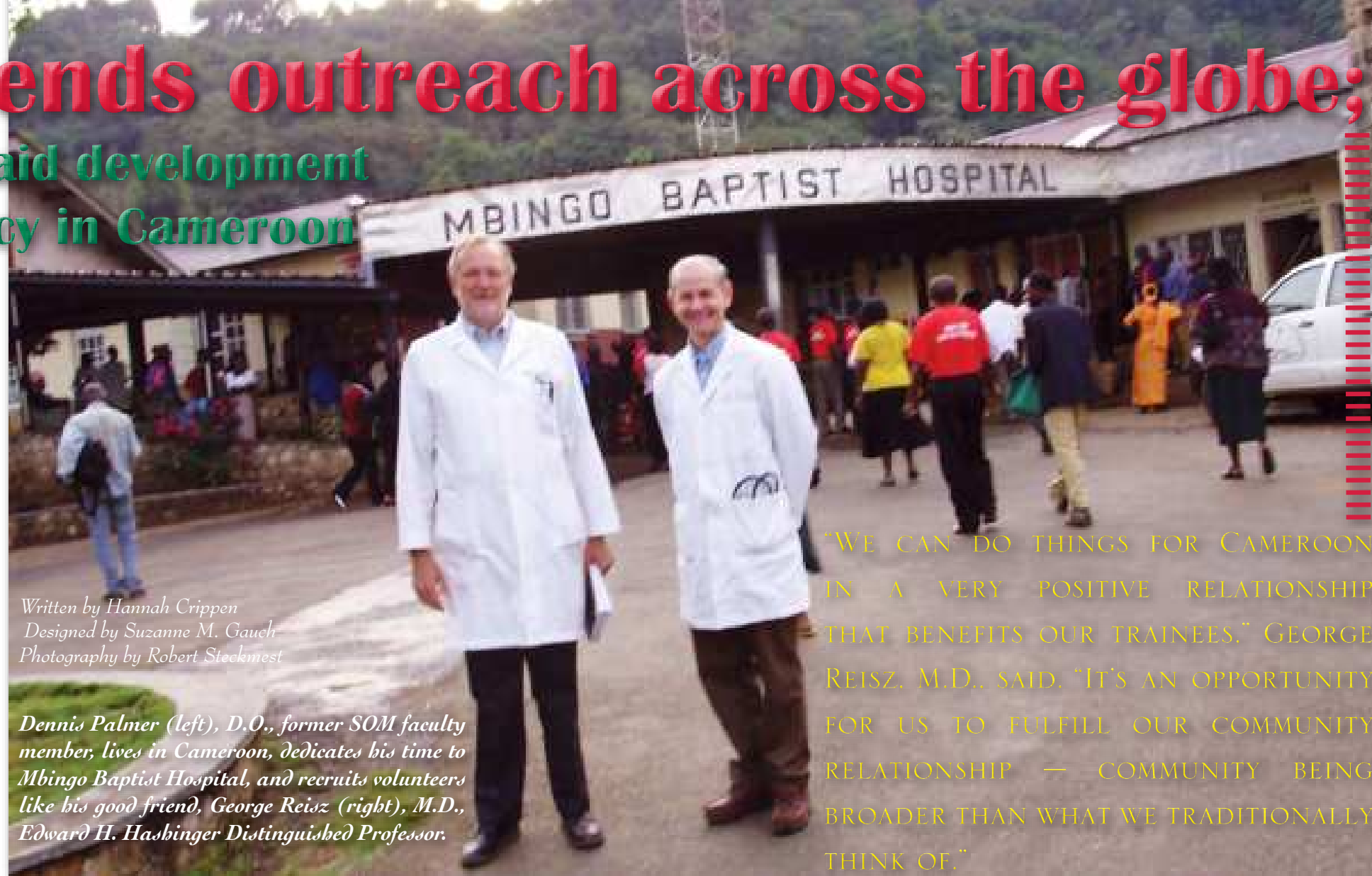
**S**erving the community is a pillar of UMKC's foundation. Current and former UMKC School of Medicine faculty members and students have taken the Internal Medicine Residency program's core values – patient safety, educational and patient care excellence, and professionalism in practice – across the globe.

“UMKC prides itself on being a community institution,” said George Reisz, M.D., chairman of the Department of Medicine and Edward H. Hashinger Distinguished Professor. “It’s part of its composition and core makeup, and I would suggest that our community is not just Kansas City, Mo., but is truly global.”

In the fall of 2008, Reisz visited Mbingo, Cameroon, where he instructed the new internal medicine residents at Mbingo Baptist Hospital (MBH) on pulmonary medicine, structured bedside teaching and rounding on the inpatient internal medicine patients. He also established a basic pulmonary function laboratory, for which they had the equipment but not the training to operate.

“I ran their morning report, which is a case-based, interactive conference,” Reisz said. “I think teaching the residents how to think critically has a more long-lasting effect than the actual care of an individual patient. These residents are bright people. They have access to the same books that we do; they’re not ill informed.”

Reisz’s long-time friend, Dennis Palmer, D.O., former SOM faculty member and deputy assistant dean, moved back to Cameroon in May 2008 with his wife Nancy Palmer, Ph.D., a former UMKC clinical assistant professor, to begin working at the



Written by Hannah Crippen  
Designed by Suzanne M. Gauch  
Photography by Robert Steckmest

*Dennis Palmer (left), D.O., former SOM faculty member, lives in Cameroon, dedicates his time to Mbingo Baptist Hospital, and recruits volunteers like his good friend, George Reisz (right), M.D., Edward H. Hashinger Distinguished Professor.*

hospital and preparing for its first internal medicine residency class in August of the same year. Palmer’s close relationship with Cameroon began nearly 30 years ago when he made his first tour of duty. After joining the SOM in 1991, he took groups of students to Cameroon and has continued to recruit support for its people.

The Cameroon Baptist Convention Health Board decided in July 2007 to support the development of an internal medicine residency program, the Christian Internal Medicine Specialization Program, at MBH under Palmer’s supervision. Fortunately, the general surgery residency, established in 2006 in Cameroon, has been successful. Palmer said the general surgery residents made the internal medicine program easier to develop.

“We have a much more academic atmosphere at the hospital as a result of their presence here,” Palmer said. “We are able to cover all the wards

with residents so that the hospital functions as a teaching hospital. We are using parts of the surgical administrative structure as well.”

Palmer and his team have selected two residents from the Cameroon Baptist Convention (CBC) physicians and three faculty members, along with volunteers, to assist in resident training. They are working on laboratory and imaging capabilities, and there is interest in developing a dialysis unit. An echocardiography lab and a fully equipped GI endoscopy lab are already available at the hospital.

The goal of their internal medicine residency program is to provide high quality postgraduate

medical training for African physicians so they can provide high quality, compassionate care for the patients.

“We are always needing more help with the teaching, especially in the sub-specialties of IM,” Palmer said. “So far, we have had a good number of people like Dr. Reisz come out. It is a great help to us and hopefully a good experience for the volunteers as well.”

Reisz encourages a continuing relationship between the UMKC SOM and MBH. Commitment to international programs draws on the strength of UMKC’s clinical teaching and prepares physicians to practice in their own communities. Because of the

## MBH’s beginning, community

Originally a leprosy settlement in 1952, Mbingo Baptist Hospital has developed into one of the referral hospitals in Cameroon and the West African sub-region. Because of its roots, the hospital is miles away from the surrounding towns, making it a community-based hospital. Mbingo was built around it. During her visit in winter 2008, Jennifer Kramer, M.D., ’09, said the people around the hospital invested genuine attention to its visitors. She was not lonely during her stay because of the many welcoming gestures of Mbingo’s people, whether it was inviting her over for dinner or to play a game of volleyball.

A day in the internal medicine residency includes a morning report conference, daily attending ward rounds, outpatient consultation, hospital grand rounds weekly conference, internal medicine teaching conference, and a biweekly journal club.

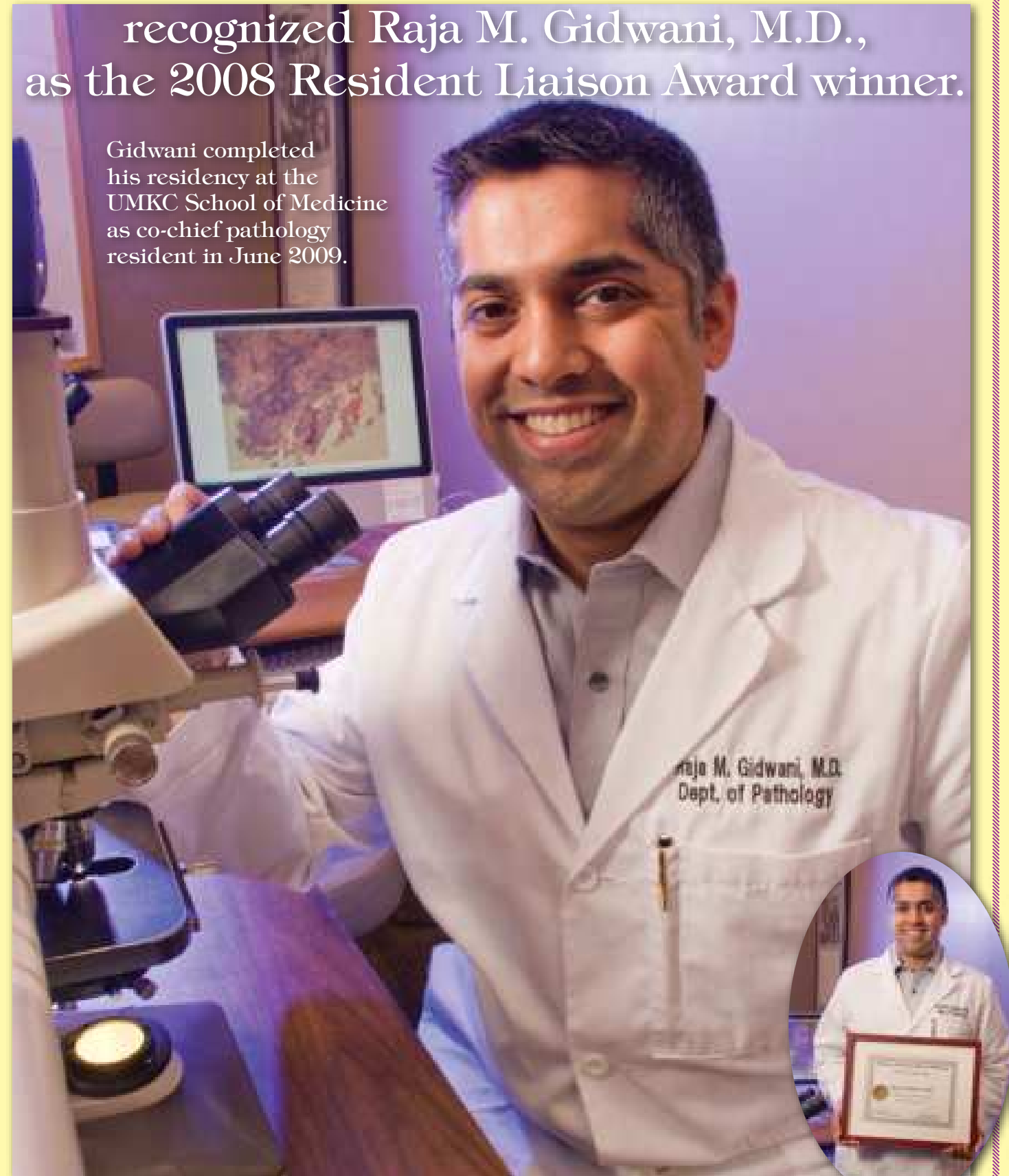
The Cameroon Baptist Convention is comprised of five hospitals, – including MBH – 23 integrated health centers, 43 primary health centers, a pharmaceutical procurement and distribution department, a private training school for health personnel, a center for clinical pastoral education and social services, assistance for people with disabilities, and more. 🇳🇬

Photo Courtesy of George Reisz, M.D.

# The American Society for Clinical Pathology

recognized Raja M. Gidwani, M.D., as the 2008 Resident Liaison Award winner.

Gidwani completed his residency at the UMKC School of Medicine as co-chief pathology resident in June 2009.



(Above) George Reisz, M.D., teaches residents at Mbingo Baptist Hospital how to think critically and apply their knowledge. (Right) Jennifer Kramer, M.D., '09, shares the Cameroonian culture and lifestyle with its people during her time working as an internal medicine resident at the hospital.



School's association with Palmer, Reisz said he has great confidence in the high quality education offered to students who take an elective rotation in Mbingo.

"Dennis uses all of the qualities of teaching there that he used as a docent here," Reisz said. "We've always been an outstanding teaching institution, and I think the docents are the core of that unique teaching program. The advantage for UMKC is that we know our trainees will receive an outstanding educational experience."

Jennifer Kramer, M.D., '09, spent two months in Cameroon at the end of 2008, where she was treated as an internal medicine resident. Kramer worked closely with about five internal medicine residents, some of whom rotated around CBC's other hospitals. Her interest in international medicine and global health care has taken her to multiple destinations abroad, but she said she treasures her Cameroon experience.



Residents, doctors at Mbingo Baptist Hospital in Cameroon, use equipment, such as this X-ray drying rack, in their clinics.

History taking and physical exams were the main skills Kramer was able to improve during her stay, but the knowledge she gained went even further. "Learning physical diagnostic skills is not the

selling point for choosing to do a rotation overseas or in Cameroon," Kramer said. "It is learning another way of life, another culture; meeting people that have seen life like we could never imagine; understanding that what we choose to do with our career in medicine is important to humanity; seeing diseases we have never seen in Kansas City; and having the opportunity to work with and learn from dedicated, amazing doctors who are committed to serving the underserved."

Since returning to the states, Reisz said he continues to ponder the issue of global health care and ways he and his colleagues can do their parts to help.

"I truly believe that members of our community have a heightened sense of social responsibility and social awareness, just because of who we are," Reisz said. "We practice at a safety net hospital, so I presume that is why people come here, because that's part of who they want to be. I think we start out with a population – our residents, faculty and students – that has a good sense of social awareness."

Lower Photos Courtesy of Jennifer Kramer, M.D., '09

Photo Courtesy of George Reisz, M.D.



Winner of the 2009 Student Research Day, Sapna Patel, M.D., '09, researches with Agostino Molteni, M.D., Ph.D., director of student research.



Student Research Day Judges, Winners

### Faculty Judges

Bob Yang, Ph.D., John Foxworth, Pharm.D., Bibie Chronwall, Ph.D., Julie Wright-Banderas, Pharm.D., Shauna Roberts, M.D., '84, and Terence McLiff, Ph.D., M.P.P.M. – director of the Kansas University Medical Center Orthopedic Research Laboratories and research assistant professor in the Department of Orthopedic Surgery with an adjunct appointment in the UMKC School of Dentistry Department of Oral Biology.

### Faculty's Winners

Second place: Berekeeteab Haileselassie, MS 6 (faculty mentors were Agostino Molteni, M.D., Ph.D., professor of pathology, pharmacology and director of student research, and Betty Herndon, Ph.D., research associate professor in internal medicine and basic medical science) Third place: Matthew McLaughlin, M.D., '09 (faculty mentor, Robert White, Ph.D.)

### Alumni Judges

Angela Myers, M.D., '01; Jennifer Svetlecic, M.D., '99; Julie Brown, M.D., '00; and Mary Anne Jackson, M.D., '78.

### Alumni's Winners

First-place tie: Berekeeteab Haileselassie, MS 6, and Adnan Zaidi, MS 5 (faculty mentor, Donna Pacicca, M.D.) Second place: Ramandeep Babbra, MS 5 (faculty mentor, Herndon) Third-place tie: Emily Penick, MS 5 (faculty mentor, Tyler Muffly, M.D.) Paul Tran, MS 6 (faculty mentor, Herndon) Neal Mangalat, MS 5 (faculty mentor, Geetha Raghuveer, M.D.) Christina Naumovich, MS 6 (faculty mentor, Herndon)

# Student Research Day: 11 years established

## 2009 level of participation sets record, Patel wins first place

Research is the groundwork for medical breakthroughs, and students at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine have the opportunity to experience the process first-hand. Sapna Patel, M.D., '09, earned first place at UMKC SOM's annual Student Research Day with her work on the topic "Provider Practice Patterns for Emergency Contraception in a Pediatric Emergency Department" with Melissa Miller, M.D., assistant professor of pediatrics, and M. Denise Dowd, M.D., M.P.H., as her faculty mentors. A record-setting 30 students participated in this year's event with 25 presentations. Patel said she was aware of the significance of gaining research knowledge through Student Research Day.

"I think it is important for all students to participate in research because it is an integral part of medicine," Patel said. "New discoveries, innovations, etc., could not have been possible without it, and much of our basis for diagnosis, treatment, and management of conditions stems from research studies."

Her topic sparked an interest with her and presented an opportunity to expand her knowledge on an issue relevant to her concentration. The

Pediatric Emergency Care journal has accepted Patel's work for its publication.

"I have always been interested in public health, and this project allowed me to combine my own interest with that of my mentor," Patel said. "It is a new age topic that sparks quite a bit of controversy, so it was interesting to note the variations in provider practice patterns. I learned a lot about the need for education at all levels, for both the patient and the physician."

Not only was working on her own project enlightening, but she said she also learned from the different theories of her classmates. "It is interesting to see the variety of students' interests presented at UMKC research day," she said.

The number of student participants, along with the quality of the students' research, made this Student Research

Day a proud moment for Agostino Molteni, M.D., Ph.D., professor of pathology, pharmacology and director of student research, who was the moderator of the event.

Out of the multitude of students Molteni has guided along the research process, one still sticks out in his mind as one of his best: Marie Reichle, M.D., '06, the winner of the 2006 Student Research Day. This annual event presents the opportunity to practice defending one's research findings and presenting in front of an audience, along with the possibility of obtaining a coveted residency or fellowship.

Reichle participated twice in Student Research Day and various other research activities during her time at the SOM. Since the summer after her first year at UMKC, she spent a couple of hours a week in a lab with Betty Herndon, Ph.D., research associate professor in internal medicine and basic medical science.

As a year-four student, Reichle was published in the Journal of Investigative Medicine, which was only one of the five times she was published during her time as a

**"I think it is important for all students to participate in research because it is an integral part of medicine. New discoveries, innovations, etc., could not have been possible without it, and much of our basis for diagnosis, treatment, and management of conditions stems from research studies."**  
— Sapna Patel M.D., '09  
First-place winner

medical student. In collaboration with Molteni, Herndon and Kansas State University faculty and students, she participated in a study titled, "Effects of dietary calorie restriction or exercise on the PI3K and Ras signaling pathways in the skin of mice," which was published in the Journal of Biological Chemistry.

"She did and does extremely interesting work," Molteni said. "It was a pleasure working with her. She has been published in one of the most prestigious journals and has been a part of the most prestigious residency programs."

Proof that participating in student research can lead to other accomplishments and have benefits beyond graduation, her research endeavors eventually led to a highly selective dermatology residency at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Previous to her residency, she completed an internal medicine internship at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis, one of the top ten hospitals in the United States.

"Most research involves numerous faculty members, whether it's

residents, Ph.D.s or M.D.s," Reichle said. "The more people involved, the more ideas that come about. The different attendings and mentors have different perspectives that are very helpful."

Reichle said Herndon and Molteni, were more than helpful with her research accomplishments. Herndon agrees with Molteni in the quality of Reichle's work. She said Reichle's success is a testament to the advantages of student research. After being published as a medical student and beyond, Reichle has advice for SOM students considering research projects and Student Research Day.

"It's best to be involved in research for a longer period of time," Reichle said. "It gives you a better understanding of what you are researching. You're more likely to eventually be published. Also, if you have experience, you can add to it later instead of starting from scratch. My research experience at UMKC helped prepare me for my research fellowship at UIC."

**For more information on the next Student Research Day in March of 2010, contact Agostino Molteni, M.D., Ph.D., at (816) 235-5604 or MolteniA@umkc.edu.**



Dean Betty Drees, M.D., Peter Witte, dean of the UMKC Conservatory of Music and Dance, and Bobby Watson

# UMKC School of Medicine JAZZ NIGHT



Amy Patel, MS 5, Himanshu Banda, MS 4, Melody Burns, MS 6, Marjorie Sirridge, M.D., Neha Dhingra, MS 5, Kristen Smith, RoseAnn Cyriak, M.D., '09, Maansi Paparia, M.D., '09, Nick Wasson, M.D., '09, Iljana Gaffar, M.D., '09, and Jonathan Staton

"Wherever the art of medicine is loved, there is also a love of humanity." Hippocrates said it, and it remains true at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine. About 200 alumni, faculty, students and friends of the School of Medicine gathered to celebrate the mission and accomplishments of the Sirridge Office of Medical Humanities and Bioethics on February 21 at Hallbrook Country Club. Guests enjoyed the entertainment of the Bobby Watson Quartet while dancing and mingling with old friends and new acquaintances.

The night honored Lynda Payne, Ph.D., R.N., the first endowed Sirridge professor of medical

humanities and bioethics. This event raised more than \$20,000 after expenses to support medical humanities and bioethics. This is a record high for the Jazz Night event.

"The Sirridge Office of Medical Humanities and Bioethics is overwhelmed by the generosity of the donors and by the support and goodwill of all who attended Jazz Night 2009," Payne said. "We sincerely thank everyone who made the evening such a success. The funds raised will be used to expand and enrich the curriculum in medical humanities at the School of Medicine."

## UMKC School of Medicine Grand Benefactors

Dr. Marjorie Sirridge  
University Physician Associates  
Dr. Steven and Kathy Waldman

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| Cullan Law Firm                                       | Phalen Law Firm                                     |
| Dean Betty Drees, M.D.                                | Dr. Chris and Lisa Sirridge                         |
| Department of Medicine                                | Sirridge Office of Medical Humanities and Bioethics |
| Departments of Surgery and Oral Maxillofacial Surgery |   |



Dean Betty Drees, M.D., Steven Waldman, M.D., '77, Bruno Zwerenz, M.D., and Rose Zwerenz, M.D., '82

"Wherever the art of medicine is loved, there is also a love of humanity."

— Hippocrates



Kathy Waldman and Peggy Keith



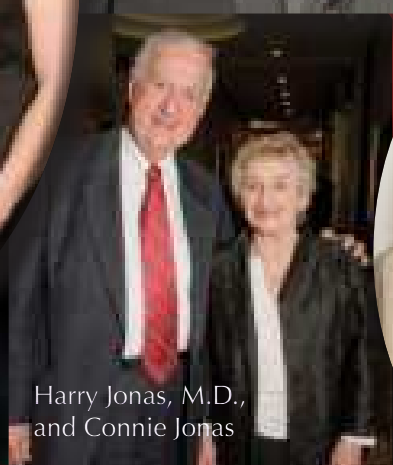
Chancellor Leo Morton and Stuart Munro, M.D.



Lynda Payne, Ph.D., and Marjorie Sirridge, M.D.



Tom Syverson and Sandra Willsie, D.O.



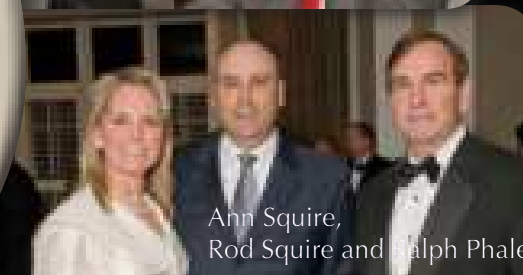
Harry Jonas, M.D., and Connie Jonas



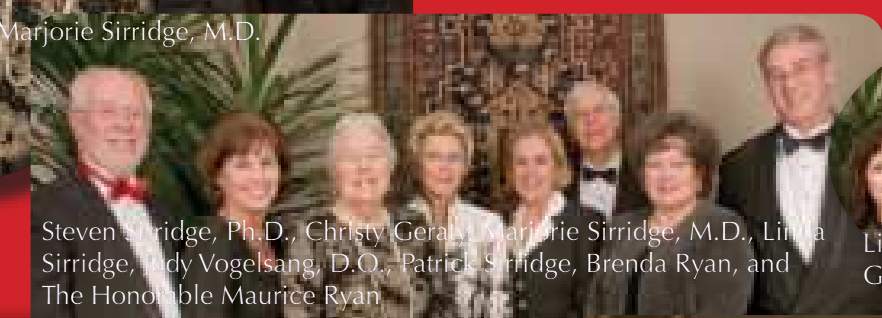
Marilyn Pesto



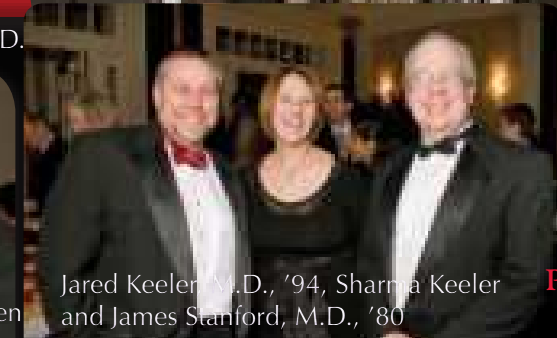
Brett Ferguson, M.D., and Glenn Talbot, M.D.



Ann Squire, Rod Squire and Ralph Phalen



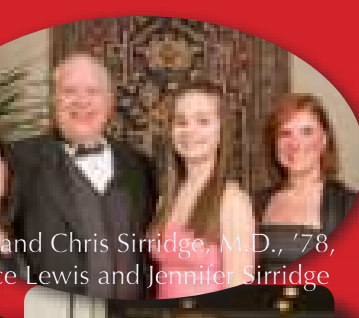
Steven Sirridge, Ph.D., Christy Gerals, Marjorie Sirridge, M.D., Linda Sirridge, Judy Vogelsang, D.O., Patrick Sirridge, Brenda Ryan, and The Honorable Maurice Ryan



Jared Keeler, M.D., '94, Sharna Keeler and James Stanford, M.D., '80



Rose Zwerenz, M.D., '82, and Bruno Zwerenz, M.D.



Lisa and Chris Sirridge, M.D., '78, Grace Lewis and Jennifer Sirridge



Graham Pollock, MS 6

## An update from the Office of Development

Greetings from UMKC School of Medicine! Since September, we have spoken with many of our alumni who have expressed a sense of appreciation and gratitude to the School for the quality of education they received and how well prepared they felt heading off to their residency. As we soon approach the School's 40th Anniversary in 2011, our 2,700+ graduates have gone on to become exceptional clinicians, altruistic healers, innovative scientists and leaders in their respective fields of expertise.

The most valuable resource impacting the future of medicine is the medical student. Unfortunately, many aspiring students won't have the opportunity to fulfill their dreams of becoming physicians because of the heavy financial burden of medical student debt. Scholarship support for students is our top priority at UMKC School of Medicine...it is our greatest single need!

UMKC School of Medicine is responding to this challenge by establishing a substantial endowment fund to help ease the financial burden. The Power of One Scholarship Campaign will benefit our medical students while also directly addressing the challenge we face in attracting, cultivating and retaining the most exceptional medical students.

The greatest gift you can give is to inspire and empower others to greatness. We are asking you to seize this opportunity to give back by gifting a scholarship to The Power of One Scholarship Campaign. Your generosity has the power to impact and transform the life of one student as he or she pursues the dream of becoming a physician. Your generosity can change the future for a student, a community, and the health care industry as a whole.

We want to extend our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to each of the alumni and friends who have contributed to scholarships and awards on behalf of the students who will benefit because of your support and leadership.

The ramifications of your generosity will be far-reaching and long-lasting. Your investment in Your UMKC will touch the lives of many students. To accept this challenge or to learn more, please contact us at 816.235.5283 or via e-mail at [development@umkc.edu](mailto:development@umkc.edu).

Thank you for supporting  
**The Power of One Scholarship Campaign!**

Office of Development  
UMKC School of Medicine

## Dimond summons Ginny's Thousand

News of Virginia Calkins' passing, mentioned in the Rounds section of this issue, saddened many alumni, faculty, staff and friends of the UMKC School of Medicine. To honor her contributions to the School's integrity, E. Grey Dimond, M.D., founder of the School of Medicine, suggested the establishment of the **Ginny's Thousand** fund. He and Dean Drees are urging the thousand alumni whom Calkins selected for admission into the School to send a \$1,000 check for a student financial help fund in her memory.

### Alumnus responds to School's request in encouraging letter

Dear Dr. Dimond,

My wife [Mia Nagy, '89] and I were saddened to hear the news of Ms. Calkins' passing. We both have fond memories of her, having been admitted to the six-year program in 1982 and 1983. Your moving words about her life and importance to UMKC motivated me to send the School of Medicine my "thousand." I first spoke to Virginia Calkins in the summer of '82 after hearing the voice message she left on my mom's phone in St. Louis, Mo. At the time, I was on the waiting list at UMKC and was planning to go elsewhere on a scholarship. When she notified me that I had a spot, I called her back immediately and accepted. Having heard from her personally about my selection, I feel especially proud to have been one of the thousand given a thumbs up.

After UMKC, I went on to do an internship, residency and fellowship in internal medicine and gastroenterology at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. My wife, Mia, did her OB/GYN residency at the same. We've lived in Omaha, Neb., for 16 years. Mia is on the faculty at Creighton University. I am in a group practice in GI. We have three beautiful girls. It would not surprise me if one of them someday requests an application form from the six-year program, which they have heard so much about.

And finally, thank you, Dr. Dimond. What an amazing journey the UMKC six-year program set us on, which – for me – started with that phone call from Virginia Calkins. I hope you hear from many of your thousands.

Sincerely,  
Tom McGinn, M.D.  
Class of 1988

## BCBSKC gives annual scholarship to UMKC SOM



*Chancellor Leo Morton, Maria B. Burke, MS '6, Tom Bowser, president and CEO of BCBSKC, Dean Betty Drees, M.D., Larry Rues, M.D., '75, and Peter Yelorda, vice president and CAO of BCBSKC, gather to celebrate the donation of its annual scholarship.*

President and chief executive officer of BlueCross BlueShield of Kansas City, Tom Bowser, presented a \$25,000 annual scholarship gift on behalf of BCBSKC to UMKC School of Medicine's Dean Betty Drees, M.D., on March 9 at the UMKC Administrative Center on Volker Campus.

Each year, the scholarship will be awarded to as many as five year-six students in up to \$5,000 increments.

"The future of health care lies in the hands of today's students of medicine and science," Bowser said. "As a community and a nation, we are faced with numerous health care challenges, including a declining population of physicians. Hopefully, by providing this \$25,000 scholarship to UMKC's School of Medicine, we can ultimately make a difference in the health of our community. As citizens ourselves, we consider this scholarship just one step in making sure health care in Kansas City remains affordable and accessible."

The largest not-for-profit health insurer in the state, providing health coverage to approximately 900,000 Greater Kansas City and Northwest Missouri residents, BCBSKC is an independent licensee of the BlueCross BlueShield Association. **Larry Rues, M.D., '75**, a practicing family physician and faculty member of UMKC

SOM's Research Family Medicine Residency, serves on the BCBSKC Board of Directors.

"BlueCross BlueShield of Kansas City wants affordable, high quality health care for our community," Rues said. "We wanted to help with the substantial (UMKC) medical student debt that many physicians will struggle to repay – especially if they choose primary care."

The scholarship gives preference to students with financial needs who are interested in locally practicing family medicine. Rues said as baby boomers age, along with the anticipated success of the Patient Centered Medical Home model of primary care, there will be a shortage of adult generalists.

"They are the foundation of any good health care system," Rues said. "Since the data shows nearly 100 percent of those who complete a family medicine residency will continue to provide general adult care, and since Family Medicine, in particular, is a proven 'best value' for the health of a community, BCBSKC is pleased to provide partial scholarships for senior medical students who have demonstrated a strong interest in practicing family medicine in the KC area."

## Alumni form St. Louis Eye Surgery and Laser Center



Photo courtesy of Shayna Simon

From left to right: Alumni Joe Gira, M.D., '95; Ranjan Malhotra, M.D., '95; Navin Tekwani, M.D., '97; David Glaser, M.D., '87; Kevin Blinder, M.D., '85 (not pictured) and Kenneth Bluestone, M.D., '87 (not pictured) collaborate to form the St. Louis Eye Surgery & Laser Center.

Six UMKC School of Medicine alumni came together to create a state-of-the-art ambulatory surgical center specializing in all ophthalmology procedures. The St. Louis Eye Surgery and Laser Center opened in October 2007. Kevin Blinder, M.D., '85; Kenneth Bluestone, M.D., '87; Joseph Gira, M.D., '95; David Glaser, M.D., '87; Ranjan Malhotra, M.D., '95; and Navin Tekwani, M.D., '97, brought their ophthalmology practices together under one roof to cover multiple subspecialties, including cataract, cornea and external disease, glaucoma, retina, oculoplastics, LASIK refractive surgery and presbyopic correcting intraocular lenses.

Blinder, Gira and Malhotra have all been "Best Doctors" in St. Louis Magazine, and the United States Food and Drug Administration chose Gira, Malhotra, Glaser and Blinder as principle investigators in FDA pharmaceutical and surgical trials.

"Ophthalmology is a very small and young specialty, and the UMKC bond with my partners has made us and kept us friends," Gira said. "I felt lucky to have Dr. Larry Dahl as my docent (at UMKC) because he taught me how to think about why I was doing what I was doing and how to take care of that patient in front of me. All

patients are different, even though they may have the same disease."

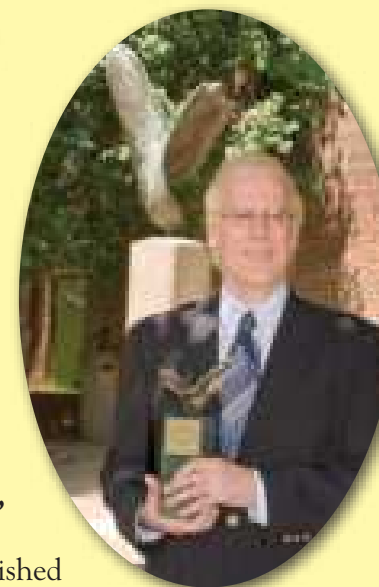
The center offers cutting edge surgery, equipment and knowledge including the corneal transplantation technique, DSAEK – Descemet's stripping automated endothelial keratopl – in which a doctor transplants one layer of the cornea, allowing a safer and 75 percent faster visual recovery compared with standard corneal transplantation.

Gira said, with the lack of time-tested protocols and other historical data and outcomes, it becomes very important to treat the problem at hand and develop new ways to tackle new problems. These, along with their desire to work with the latest technology, are major focuses of the surgery and laser center. Constantly developing new procedures and using new technology, these alumni have combined resources to build a unique ophthalmology care opportunity. A common factor: their UMKC education.

"The most influential person from UMKC, in my mind, was my docent on Blue 8, Anstella Robinson, M.D.," Malhotra said. "She taught me many pearls in developing rapport with patients and clinical practices I use today."

## LeSage wins 2009 Take Wing Award

The E. Grey Dimond, M.D., Take Wing Award honors one of the UMKC School of Medicine alumni who has demonstrated excellence in his or her field in the practice of medicine, academic medicine or research. Gene D. LeSage, M.D., '77, portrays all of these qualities as an established researcher.



Gene D. LeSage, M.D., '77

LeSage is the new chairman of the department of internal medicine at East Tennessee State University's James H. Quillen College of Medicine. Prior to his recent appointment, he was the director of the gastroenterology training program and the division of gastroenterology, hepatology, and nutrition at the University of Texas at Houston, where he was the holder of the Dan and Lillie Sterling Professorship in Gastroenterology. Before UT-Houston, LeSage was a faculty member at Texas A&M University College of Medicine. He is a member of a multitude of organizations, such as the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society, American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases, American Gastroenterological Association, American Physiological Society and the American Medical Association.

A diplomate of the National Board of Medical Examiners, he has written more than 150 articles, abstracts, book chapters and reviews that have been published in such prestigious journals as the Journal of Biological Chemistry and the Journal of Clinical Investigation, among many others. His extensive research topics include the development outcome and economic models in Hepatitis C-infected patients, regulation of bile acid transport in bile ducts, and development and application of light microscope techniques to cell biology.

After graduating from the UMKC SOM, he completed an internal medicine residency and gastroenterology fellowship at the Mayo Clinic, where he served as a postdoctoral research fellow funded by grants from the American Liver Foundation and the National Institutes of Health.

LeSage addressed the graduating class of 2009 with a lecture titled, "Hepatitis B: On the wane or getting ready to explode?" during the Take Wing Noon Conference on May 29.

## UMKC names Stanford SOM Alumni Achievement Award winner

The Alumni Achievement Award recognizes one alumnus from each of the University of Missouri-Kansas City's twelve academic units who has achieved notable success in his or her professional field and provides outstanding service to the community. The 2009 UMKC School of Medicine Alumni Achievement

Award winner is James Stanford, M.D., '80, an associate professor of internal medicine and docent since 1985, who has dedicated his career to the research and treatment of HIV. He is nationally known for his expertise and as a leader in the medical field.

Many organizations in the fields of research and teaching have recognized the 1993 Take Wing Award winner with multiple awards. He has been studying HIV since the first case was diagnosed in Kansas City. Not only has he administered superior medical care to hundreds of patients with HIV, he has participated in key clinical research studies to advance the knowledge of this devastating disease.

"Treatment has become more effective, so in many patients we truly have changed from a fatal disease to a chronic, manageable disease," Stanford said. "That doesn't mean we can't get better and better at managing HIV or co-existing with the virus."



Dean Betty Drees, M.D., celebrates with James Stanford, M.D., '80, during the alumni award luncheon on April 15 at Bernstein Rein.

Photo Courtesy of Bob Greenspan Photography

Stanford has provided 24 years of outstanding education to fellows, residents and medical students, always stressing the importance of compassion when treating patients.

“Seek to understand the patient, not just their chief complaint but who they are, what makes them tick, what past experiences or personal philosophies might underlie their actions, inactions, habits, and methods

of coping or understanding their illnesses and their life situations,” Stanford said.

He continues to take his own advice for the graduating class as they pursue their careers in medicine. “Listen to your inner voice, but also take time to step away and reflect on your strengths and weaknesses,” Stanford said. “Allow yourself to get excited about learning something new every day.”

## Stevens earns UMKC’s Spotlight Award, WomenHeart’s Wenger Award

Called a local legend by the National Library of Medicine, **Tracy Stevens, M.D., F.A.C.C., ’90**, won the 2009 UMKC Spotlight Award, which recognizes one alumnus, faculty member, student and/or constituent leader whose accomplishments, leadership and public service have attracted regional and national attention for the University and Kansas City area. A more than deserving candidate, this 2005 Take Wing Award winner is a nationally known advocate for cardiovascular health and women’s awareness of heart disease.

Stevens, professor of medicine at the UMKC School of Medicine, is also the medical director of Saint Luke’s Hospital’s Muriel I. Kauffman Women’s Heart Center, the first women’s heart center in the United States. In response to Stevens’ request, former first lady Laura Bush visited Kansas City in 2003 to promote the Heart Truth Campaign. Stevens was invited to the White House in 2004 to attend President Bush’s signing of a proclamation to support the Campaign.

Stevens, a founding member of the Association of Women’s Heart Programs and past president of the American Heart Association – Greater Kansas City Chapter, has become a nationally adorned leader in the areas of preventative cardiology and heart



*Chancellor Leo Morton joins Tracy Stevens, M.D., F.A.C.C., ’90, during the alumni awards luncheon on April 15 at Bernstein Rein.*

transplantation. WomenHeart: The National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease awarded Stevens the 2009 Wenger Award in the health care category for her commitment and significant contributions to quality heart care for women. She received the award May 18 at the Embassy of Italy in Washington, D.C. Mayo Clinic – where she completed a cardiology fellowship and was the National Institutes of Health Cardiovascular Research Fellow – recognized her with the

Outstanding Achievement Award in Cardiovascular Disease and the Mayo Clinic Alumni Association Donald C. Balfour Award for Meritorious Research.

She serves on the Heart Health Advisory Board for Woman’s Day Magazine, which named Stevens the Red Dress Award winner. A member of Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society, the American Medical Association, WomenHeart, and the Mayo Alumni Association, she is also a Fellow in the American College of Cardiology.

Stevens continues to build relationships with patients on a foundation of trust and reliability. She told UMKC’s Perspectives magazine, “I try to challenge those I train not to treat a patient as a number or a disease, but as a person with a family and a history.”

Photo Courtesy of Bob Greenspan Photography

## Mike Weaver, M.D., ’77

The 1997 Take Wing Award winner and vice president of clinical diversity at Saint Luke’s Hospital, continues making breakthroughs in sexual assault victim care. From 2006 to 2009, Weaver worked with Dartmouth Medical School and the United States Department of Justice on a state-of-the-art training DVD on providing care for victims of sexual assault. During the first three months of its release, it sold more than 5,000 copies.

Weaver finished his cultural competency fellowship training, sponsored by the American Hospital Association (AHA), Health Research Educational Trust (HRET) and the Institute for Diversity (IFD). He is one of only 53

cultural fellows in the United States.

In February 2008, Weaver was invited as the emergency medicine physician specialist to participate with a team comprised of emergency paramedics, EMTs, nurses and ground and air ambulance operators to consult with the city of Dubai in the United Arab Emirates.

“The city is growing so fast that they are having problems addressing all of their emergency care issues, especially regarding the diverse populations they serve,” Weaver said. “I had about 10 days to ride on their ambulances, tour their hospitals/trauma centers and meet their physicians.”

## William Reynolds, M.D., F.A.C.S., ’88

“Empowerment is knowledge.” – William Reynolds, M.D. This is the premise behind the Wound Care One, LLC, training program Reynolds founded to teach wound care techniques in an easy-to-follow format. A 1988 graduate of the School of Medicine and a 1979 graduate of the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Dentistry, Reynolds has spent most of his career caring for burn victims. Immediately following his fellowship in burn surgery at Kansas University Medical Center and residency training, he became medical director of the burn unit in his hometown, Springfield, Mo., where he is also in private practice as a plastic surgeon.

Now available online, the Wound Care One program benefits caregivers and patients from New York to California. It began 10 years ago when Reynolds was training his nurses in Southwest Missouri and noticed the benefit of consistent training.

The program has been implemented in rural hospitals, home health agencies and nursing homes. Reynolds, a diplomat of the American Board of Plastic Surgery, has taken the training to various rural and underserved areas in Missouri.

Online lectures and videos on woundcareone.com provide visual learning along with clear instructions. Caregivers, such as nurses, nurses aides, family members and even patients themselves are just as important, if not more important, as the surgeon when it comes to wound care, Reynolds said.

“Trainees can usually master dressing and closing wounds in five attempts,” he said. “It’s consistent and affordable to train large numbers of people. Enabling home caregivers and patients with this knowledge helps reduce health care costs and improve quality, consistent care.”

## Catherine Y. Spong, M.D., ’91

Spong, the chief of the pregnancy and perinatology branch at the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development is co-author of the study, “Timing of Elective Repeat Cesarean Delivery at Term and Neonatal Outcomes,” published in the January 8 issue of the New England Journal of Medicine. Spong, the 1999 Alumni Achievement Award winner, works at NIH, sees high-risk obstetrics/perinatal patients at INOVA Alexandria hospital and lives in Arlington, Va. In January, National Public Radio’s Michelle Norris interviewed Spong on NPR’s “All Things Considered,” during which they discussed the study, which concluded that elective, repeat cesareans before 39 weeks of gestation lead to adverse neonatal outcomes.

## Hannah Zimmerman, M.D., ’06

Zimmerman has been appointed by the American Medical Association to the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education Institutional Review Committee. In addition, the Association of Surgical Education (ASE) has awarded her the Surgical Education Research Fellowship. She is finishing her residency in general surgery at the University of Arizona.



## Alumnus inspires next generation

### Andrew Moore, M.D., '07



*Andrew Moore, M.D., '07, sings the "The Star Spangled Banner" at the UMKC Roos basketball game in February 2008. "Singing helps me with medicine as being an outlet for stress and a good way to regroup and refresh myself for the next day," he said. "It's a form of communication, and it's helped me become a better listener and communicator."*

Moore's interest in medicine escalated after his rotator cuff tore during a baseball game in high school. He went to a surgeon at Washington University in St. Louis to repair his shoulder.

"The surgeon was so influential in his professionalism and the way he interacted with me and my mom,"

Moore said. The surgeon was Matthew Matava, M.D., '87. After going back and forth to WU over the following six to eight months after his injury, Moore shared his interest in medicine with Matava, who encouraged him to consider the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine. Twenty years after Matava received his degree, Moore experienced the same right of passage.

Moore is in his second year of internal medicine residency at St. Luke's Hospital and is applying for hematology/oncology fellowships around the Midwest. He said he was thankful he stayed with UMKC for his residency and for the quality of his training.

*"Our clinical skills coming out of medical school prepare us, I would say, better than anyone else in the country," Moore said.*

*"That's especially important in the first three and four months of residency that are usually the most difficult."*

In addition to medical training, Moore is also a trained singer. He was the featured vocalist during multiple milestones and ceremonies of his UMKC SOM class, including White Coat ceremonies, convocation, an event at John Knox Village, and even sang "The Star Spangled Banner" at UMKC Roos basketball games. He continues to sing at Old Mission United Methodist Church and at weddings. All this practice led to his new title of St. Luke's Hospital Idol – a contest the hospital modeled after the TV show "American Idol."

"When you sing, there's a vulnerability that goes along with it," Moore said. "This helps a lot with patient communication, since there are times you need to be vulnerable with your patients. It's helped me to feel more comfortable in doing that."

Moore exudes passion for his profession and compassion for his patients.

"You're constantly learning," Moore said. "No two people are the same. These people entrust every part of their lives to you. That's a huge responsibility, but it's so fun and gratifying being able to encourage them and make them healthier mentally, physically and emotionally."

Moore said he is enjoying life with his wife of four years, Legan, and their American Bulldog, Sami.

### Matthew Matava, M.D., '87

A torn anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) ended Matava's collegiate basketball career with UMKC's Fighting Kangaroos but began his path to orthopaedic medicine and extensive research on the knee.

Matava is co-chief of the Sports Medicine Section, associate professor of orthopaedic surgery and physical therapy, and medical director of athletics at Washington University in St. Louis. His involvement in sports only begins there; he has served as medical director for the National Football League's St. Louis Rams since 2000 and as assistant attending physician for the National Hockey League's St. Louis Blues since 1997.

Some of his other athletic experiences include medical director of the NCAA Women's Final Four Division-I basketball tournament, medical director of the 2008 Missouri Valley Conference Women's Basketball Tournament, the 2007 NCAA Men's Division-I Basketball Midwest Regional Tournament, and the 2006 U.S. Figure Skating Championships, which was a new level of competition to Matava.

"It was an eye-opening experience at the Olympic level: the international competition and the way they are trained and treated," Matava said. "The winners went on to the Olympics. It's a whole different dynamic than the collegiate and professional sports."

Like Andrew Moore, M.D., '07, Matava acknowledged the advantage of UMKC School of Medicine education in regards to patient care and interaction.

*"You're made to feel comfortable with all kinds of patients: babies, elderly patients, adults and children," Matava said. "You don't treat every patient the same way, and we learn this communication at UMKC. The immediate exposure to patient care and training given to our students make them head and shoulders above the rest when they leave for residency."*



*Matthew Matava, M.D., '87, medical director for the St. Louis Rams since 2000, escorts Marc Bulger off the field to treat an injury.*

Matava encourages students interested in orthopaedic surgery to contact him if he can help in any way. He and his wife, Michelle, have three children: a 16-year-old daughter and two sons, ages 11 and seven. His most recent awards include Leadership Fellow of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, 2008-2009, and the 2007 Journal of Knee Surgery Reviewer of the Year.

# Alumni Updates Alumni

## Niyati Mehta Winn, M.D., '00, and John Winn, M.D., '00



Alumni couple Niyati Mehta Winn, M.D., '00, and John Winn, M.D., '00, enjoy family time with their daughter, Naya Lei, and son, Kaser, at their Sacramento, Calif., home.

The Winns celebrated the birth of their daughter, Naya Lei, in December 2008. She joins her 2-year-old brother, Kaser. Niyati and John are both in private practice in Sacramento, Calif.; Niyati is a pediatric anesthesiologist and John, a neuroradiologist. After Niyati finished her residency and fellowship at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis and John finished his residency at Saint Louis University, the Winns headed to Sacramento, where they have lived for almost two years.

"We love traveling with the kids, playing with the dogs and enjoying all that California has to offer: wine country, the San Francisco Bay, Tahoe and the weather," Niyati said. "Our new adventures include planting our first vegetable garden and learning to ski, for Kaser and me."

## Recently Deceased Alumnus

### Alumni create humanitarian scholarship in deceased alumnus' name

Joseph "Mikey" DeUngria, M.D., '95, died from massive head injuries after a falling accident in Florida Jan. 26, 2009. His specialty was general anesthesiology, and he was employed at the Cleveland Clinic. In his memory, Belinda Sun, M.D., '93, called upon DeUngria's friends and family to establish the J. Michael DeUngria, M.D., Humanitarian Scholarship almost immediately after his death. Classmates will choose a peer who exemplifies compassion, dedication and concern to be the winner of the scholarship. The founders of this scholarship encourage alumni who knew DeUngria, or who would like to invest in these traits for future doctors, to contribute. Send a check or contact the Office of Alumni and Development at (816) 235-5281 to give by credit card.

## Correction

Dr. Ken and Sheila Sonnenschein were \$100+ donors in The Roster of Honor in the Fall 2008 issue of Panorama.

Please share your news with us! Contact the Panorama editor, Hannah Crippen, at [crippenh@umkc.edu](mailto:crippenh@umkc.edu) or (816) 235-1706.

## JOIN US FOR THE 2009 ALUMNI REUNION OCTOBER 2-3, 2009

It's an exciting weekend in Kansas City! Our alumni reunion coincides with UMKC's campus-wide homecoming and the American Royal BBQ, so come spend a weekend vacation with us!

Hotel Accommodations:  
Hurry and make your reservation today!  
Holiday Inn at the Plaza  
One E. 45th Street  
Kansas City, MO 64111  
816-753-7400

<http://www.holidayinn.com/hiattheplaza>

Rate: \$179/night with a two-night minimum. Must reserve room by August 20, 2009.

Please ask for UMKC School of Medicine's rate.

Visit [www.med.umkc.edu/alumni](http://www.med.umkc.edu/alumni) for more information.

## A Note From Our Alumni Association President

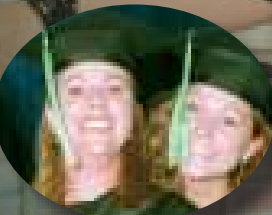
Summer has arrived, along with blossoming UMKC School of Medicine graduates who we welcome as our newest alumni.

Congratulations to the Class of 2009 from all of us who have preceded you! I can vividly remember my own graduation day and the excitement mixed with the nervous anticipation of what was to come. You graduates represent the newest link in a chain that connects the past to the future, and I urge you to join us officially, keep in touch and remain involved. I want to remind you that the Alumni Association wants to recognize the marks you will continue to make in the years to come.

Most of us know Docent James Stanford, M.D., '80, the 2009 Alumni Achievement Award winner for his work with HIV and AIDS patients. He holds a special place in my heart, as he was my docent on Blue 4. There were many late nights after most everyone was gone from the school that Dr. Stanford would come strolling back to his office after finally seeing all of his patients for the day to surprise those of us who were on call for DoRo. He took pride in spending quality time with each patient, and he taught me compassion and dedication: for that, I am truly grateful.

We admire our award winners and their contributions to the community and the School of Medicine, but ALL alumni can contribute in their own way. Clearly, monetary contributions are sought, encouraged and needed. Keep those coming and, if you have not yet begun to give, please start . . . donate now!

In addition to donations, there are "hands-on" opportunities to contribute to your SOM. Several alumni recently helped judge the annual Student Research Day. An unprecedented number of students presented their ongoing research projects. It was inspiring to see their excitement about their work. We are working to formalize processes for alumni to connect with student organizations, which will result in more opportunities for alumni to mentor individual students, serve as organization co-advisers, speak to interest groups about residency and medical specialties, and be involved in student leadership training. Not long ago, you were deciding your path and could have used the input of someone with experience, expertise and an understanding of the process.



If you are in the Kansas City area, you could lend a helping hand to the incoming class of 2010 on Move In Day, August 20th, as they move into the dorms. On a day filled with much emotion, a kind gesture from someone who has been there may be far more important than could be imagined.

Involvement in the present life of the SOM can take many forms. In every case, you can make a difference.

While we look forward to welcoming the new class of students, we are eager to welcome all of you back! The biennial UMKC SOM Reunion on October 2-3, 2009, is right around the corner, so plan to return to campus this fall. The SOM reunion weekend has been planned to coincide with UMKC's Homecoming and the American Royal BBQ, so there will be many exciting events to choose from for the whole family, as well as Friday and Saturday evening get-togethers for SOM alumni.

Mark October 2 and 3 on those calendars, and I look forward to seeing you in Kansas City!

Julie Brown, M.D., '00  
President, UMKC School of Medicine  
Alumni Association

**UMKC School of Medicine**  
**2009 Events**

**July 30-Aug. 1**

American Academy of Family Physicians  
Family Medicine Residents and Students  
National Conference  
Kansas City Convention Center – Bartle Hall

**Aug. 15, 2 p.m.**

Year III White Coat Ceremony  
White Recital Hall

**Aug. 20, 7 p.m.**

Year I Convocation, Pierson Auditorium

**Sept. 1**

Application deadline for Sarah Morrison  
Fellowships

**Sept. 18, noon**

Marjorie S. Sirridge, M.D., Annual  
Outstanding Women in Medicine Lectureship  
Speaker: Nancy Dickey, M.D.  
Theatre A

**Sept. 25, noon**

Professor RJ Hankinson  
Theatre A

**Oct. 1, 7 p.m.**

Starr Symposium  
Featuring: Mae C. Jemison, Ph.D.  
University Center, Pierson Auditorium

**Oct. 2, 5:30 p.m.**

Scholar/Donor Reception  
Theatre A

**Oct. 2-3**

SOM Alumni Reunion Weekend  
(Also, UMKC homecoming weekend)

**Oct. 3, 3 p.m.**

First day of six-week Changing the Face of  
Medicine traveling exhibit  
Keynote speaker: Marjorie Sirridge, M.D.  
Kansas University Medical Center  
(Please see Page 11 for the  
exhibit's complete schedule.)



**UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-KANSAS CITY**

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**Oct. 23, noon**

William T. Sirridge, M.D., Annual Humanities  
Lectureship  
Speaker: Lynda Payne, Ph.D., R.N.  
Theatre A

**Nov. 13, noon**

Goodson Lectureship  
Speaker: Jack Ende, M.D.  
Theatre A

**Dec. 18, 4 p.m.**

UMKC SOM graduation  
Swinney Recreation Center

**For special event**

**information, please contact**

Ruth Grimsley at 816-235-5281.

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Dean Betty Drees, M.D., Bobby Watson, Yvette Morton, Chancellor Leo Morton and Peter Witte, dean of the UMKC Conservatory of Music and Dance, join UMKC School of Medicine alumni, faculty and friends for the 2009 Jazz Night, benefitting the Sirridge Office of Medical Humanities and Bioethics. Pages 40-41.