

Panorama



**The resurgence of
Hospital Hill**

Kansas City's medical campus
poised for progress

From the Dean

As a public medical school, our charge is to serve the community, whether it is Kansas City, the state of Missouri or beyond. We are living up to this promise.

In this issue of *Panorama*, we take a look at what we have been accomplishing on Kansas City's Hospital Hill. Started with a dream more than 30 years ago, Hospital Hill continues to advance, and our school is in the middle of this progress.

Through our participation in the Primary Care Resource Initiative for Missouri, we are easing the doctor shortage affecting our state's rural and lower income populations.

Our life-changing research is making a difference in the area of women's health by better understanding diseases like osteoporosis. We are continuously improving the treatment patients receive in a medical emergency thanks to our shock trauma research lab, and we are providing our students with real-world simulations to augment their medical

training.

Thanks to a new program, our students and residents now have the option to learn about the effectiveness of integrated medicine. By offering a monthly seminar on bone and tooth research, we are helping Kansas City's medical professionals connect and interact with each other.

We examine all of these exciting efforts in this issue of *Panorama*.

As you read, I am sure you will see we are a school that is having an impact. With our 37th year upon us, the UMKC School of Medicine is definitely "alive in Kansas City."



Betty M. Drees, M.D., F.A.C.P.
dean and professor of medicine



Panorama

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On the cover: UMKC's life science deans stand in front of the Health Sciences Building on Hospital Hill. From left to right: School of Dentistry Dean Michael Reed, School of Medicine Dean Betty Drees, School of Pharmacy Dean Robert Piepho and School of Nursing Dean Lora Lacey-Haun.

Opposite page, top, from left to right: Kent Sunderland of The Sunderland Foundation, Missouri Gov. Matt Blunt and Chancellor Guy Bailey celebrate the dedication of the Health Sciences Building by cutting a ribbon for the new facility and The Sunderland Foundation Lobby.



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ROUNDS



School sponsors run

Under abnormally cloudy, cool skies, a record 3,485 runners and walkers participated in the 34th Annual Hospital Hill Run in June, including the UMKC School of Medicine 5K.

The School chose to sponsor part of this legendary Kansas City event to illustrate its motto, "Alive in Kansas City." The run has been a sign of life and vitality in the heart of Kansas City since 1974. Other run events included the half marathon and the 10K.

Finishing first in the UMKC School of Medicine 5K (3.1 miles) was Dale Dexter of Topeka, Kan. in 15:07. Ben Rosario, St. Louis, won the 10K in 31:00. Kory Cool of Manhattan, Kan., took first in the half marathon in 1:12:46.

This year's race was open to all skill levels. The number of participants for the event was the highest since 1991, representing a 112 percent increase from the 2006 race. The half marathon was the most popular event with 1,742 participants, followed by the 10K with 802 and the 5K with 941.

Participants represented 34 states and three countries. Kansas had the most participants, followed closely by Missouri. Other runners and walkers came from Arkansas, Illinois, Nebraska and Oklahoma.





Drees appointed interim Provost

School of Medicine Dean Betty Drees was appointed by UMKC Chancellor Guy Bailey to serve as UMKC interim provost, effective June 1.

Drees will be filling the role until a new provost is chosen in early 2008. She will continue as dean of the medical school during this time. The position became open June 1 after former Provost Bruce Bubacz stepped down to return to teaching full time.

In announcing Drees' new role with the University, Bailey applauded Drees' success as leader of the Medical School, which includes increased research funding and continued collaboration with the school's partner hospitals.

"I am confident that Betty will bring the same level of commitment and quality of leadership to this interim role as she has the office of the dean," Bailey says.

Bailey announced in May the creation of a provost search committee, comprised of University students, faculty and staff. The committee is chaired by Karen Dace, Ph.D., deputy chancellor for the Division of Diversity, Access and Equity.

Christopher Papasian, Ph.D., is representing the School of Medicine on the search committee. Papasian is also an associate professor, Basic Medical Sciences Department Chair and interim director of the Office of Research.

Krishnan captures top research prize

Fourth-year student Sandeep Krishnan took home two top prizes at the 2007 Student Research Day for his project, "The MEP3 Gene in *Trichophyton tonsurans*."

Krishnan won for having the best presentation and received the School of Medicine Alumni Association's award for best basic science presentation.

"We emphasize the development of critical thinking and deductive reasoning skills."

– Susan Abdel Rahman, M.D.

A record 17 students participated this year in the annual research day in April.

Despite his recent research success, Krishnan said he isn't planning for a lab career, adding he considers his research experience to be an important part of his medical training.

"I wanted to be able to gain a skill-set that would let me be able to work wherever I wanted to," Krishnan says.

Susan Abdel Rahman, M.D., a pediatrics professor from Children's Mercy Hospital, served as Krishnan's mentor on the project. She sees students' research activities as complementing their education.

"We emphasize the development of critical thinking and deductive reasoning skills," Abdel Rahman says. "For trainees pursuing a career in the healing arts, incorporating these very important skills into clinical practice on a daily basis distinguishes practitioners that are good from those with the potential to be great."



Sandeep Krishnan, Year 3, pictured with Agostino Molteni, M.D., director of Student Research.

Other student research awards:

Second place, \$100

Jessica Gillespie, Year 6
Janie Hemphill, Year 5
Betty Herndon, M.D., mentor
"Influence of Steroid or Anti-Inflammatory Treatment on Bleomycin Lung Effects"

Third place (tie)

Nehir Waghela, Year 4

Herndon, mentor
"Effects of Pulmonary Urease on the Cellular Response to *H. pylori* Protein-Coated Beads"

Nick Wassan, Year 4
Herndon, mentor
"The Search for *H. pylori*-Related Antigens in Human Pulmonary Sarcoidosis Granulomas"

Glaser honored with Take Wing Award



Dee Anna Glaser, M.D., poses with her family after winning the 2007 E. Grey Dimond, M.D., Take Wing Award.

Dee Anna Glaser (M.D. '87), has made the most of her time since graduating from the School of Medicine, leading to her winning the 2007 E. Grey Dimond, M.D., Take Wing Award.

A dermatologist in St. Louis, Glaser is vice chairman of the Department of Dermatology at Saint Louis University School of Medicine, where she also serves as professor and director of cosmetic and laser surgery.

Glaser has made hyperhidrosis, char-

acterized by excessive sweating, the focus of her career, and served as a founding board member of the International Hyperhidrosis Society. She has worked with a growing number of organizations, including the American Academy of Dermatology, the American Academy of Cosmetic Surgery and the Cosmetic Surgery Foundation, where she served as a member of the board of directors.

In 2004, Glaser was listed as one of the Best Doctors in America and has been

named one of St. Louis' Top Doctors by the *St. Louis Guide to Top Doctors* several times, the latest being in 2006.

As a UMKC student, Glaser was co-editor and editor-in-chief of *Aesculapian*, the now discontinued School of Medicine yearbook. Recently she served on the editorial board of *Skinmed: Dermatology for the Clinician*, worked as a contributing editor for *Cosmetic Dermatology* and served as a reviewer for several journals, including the *Journal of American Academy of Dermatology*.

Glaser and her husband, David Glaser (M.D. '87), have two teenaged daughters, Katherine and Ella.

First presented in 1988, the Take Wing Award is an annual honor given to a School of Medicine graduate who has demonstrated an ability to follow founder E. Grey Dimond's advice to "take wing" and reach amazing heights in their careers.

Nominations for the award are accepted year round. The deadline is Feb. 1. To nominate someone for the award, contact Mary McCamy at mccamym@umkc.edu.

New tuition rate lowers cost of UMKC School of Medicine

Beginning this fall, a new regional tuition rate will make the Medical School more affordable for newly admitted students from a five-state area surrounding Kansas City. Illinois, Kansas, Oklahoma, Nebraska and Arkansas are included in the regional rate. The move, approved by the University of Missouri Board of Curators in April, makes the School of Medicine the only academic unit at UMKC to offer a regional rate for out-of-state students. Regional tuition is one-and-a-half times the resident rate.

| Total for Academic Year | | |
|-------------------------|----------|----------|
| | Year 1-2 | Year 3-6 |
| Missouri | \$23,152 | \$26,933 |
| Regional | \$34,728 | \$40,402 |
| Nonresident | \$46,304 | \$53,866 |

Morrison receives Mayo award

School of Medicine professor David Morrison, Ph.D., received the 2007 Faculty Service Award from the Mayo Center for Translational Sciences Activities earlier this year, the first time the award has been given.

The honor recognizes Morrison's work with the Mayo Center on behalf of his organization, Grant Writers' Seminars and Workshops, LLC. Morrison has hosted

two workshops for Mayo faculty annually since 2002, "Writing for Biomedical Publication" and "Write Winning Grants." About 3,000 Mayo faculty have attended Morrison's workshops.

Along with his workshops, Morrison is a visiting professor at Baker University (Baldwin City, Kan.) who succeeded as a molecular biology researcher before joining the school's faculty in 2001 as a basic

medical research professor. He is a former Sosland Endowed Chair and has served as director of medical research at Saint Luke's Hospital in Kansas City.



Gratton named chairman of emergency medicine



Matthew Gratton, M.D., F.A.C.E.P., has been appointed chairman of the department of emergency medicine for the School of Medicine and Truman Medical Centers. A staff physician and associate professor of emergency medicine since 1997, Gratton has been interim chairman of the department since January 2007. He has also been medical director for the Kansas City Emergency Medical Services system since 2006. Gratton served in 2005 as a battalion surgeon in Al Anbar Province, Iraq, for which he received the Bronze Star for heroic or meritorious achievement and the Combat Action Ribbon. He also served at U.S. Naval Hospitals in Yokosuka, Japan, and Long Beach, Calif. Gratton is a graduate of the St. Louis University School of Medicine.

Graduation 2007

Class speaker Robin Kamal (M.D. '07), called it "the day that our dream has come true" as 82 students received their M.D. degrees on May 25 during the School of Medicine's annual graduation exercise at UMKC's Swinney Recreation Center. Kamal, who was selected to speak on behalf of his classmates, was one of 16 students who graduated with honors.

The ceremony included a special tribute to Mina Gayed, a classmate who died May 25, 2004, during his fourth year of medical school.

Dee Anna Glaser (M.D. '87), vice chairman and professor of dermatology at Saint Louis University School of Medicine, spoke to the graduates about their future. Glaser received the

Take Wing Award earlier in the day. David Wooldridge (M.D. '94), associate professor and docent, spoke on behalf of the Medical School faculty.

More than 2,600 physicians have received their medical degrees from the school.



Cindy Hird, Jacquelyn Sturm and Arthur Jason Vaught take in the commencement ceremonies.



Robin Kamal, 2007 class speaker, and Sweta Tarigopula enjoy graduation day.



PERFECT MATCH

Students celebrate Match Day 2007

Ready, set, open. All together the 81 UMKC medical students participating in Match Day 2007 learned where they would complete their residencies.

Tears dropped, cries went out and when the dust settled, 94 percent of the 2007 class had found their match.

Thirty-four students will stay in Missouri for their residencies, with the rest scattered across 22 other states, as well as the District of Columbia. Of those staying in the Show-Me State, 20 matched with programs in Kansas City, nine in St. Louis and two each in Springfield and Columbia.

Forty-four percent of students matched in the primary care specialties of pediatrics, family medicine, OB/GYN or internal medicine. Of these, internal medicine had the largest number of students matched

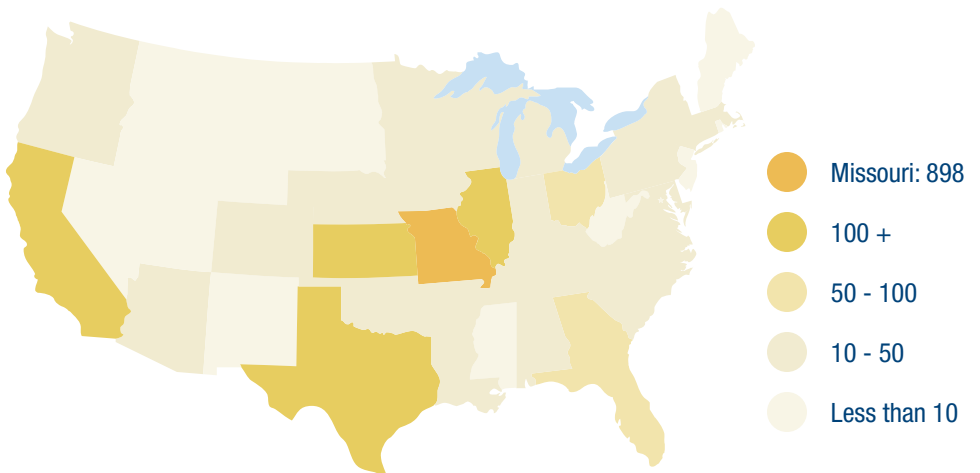
to a first-year program at 18. Ten students matched in pediatrics, eight in family medicine, seven in general surgery and six in emergency medicine.

Above left: Theresa Andrews hands out match day results as (from left to right) Robin Kamal, Rob Otto, Leyat Tal and Amy Couch wait with anticipation.

Above right: Carol Stanford, M.D., and Jenny Maglure share the Match Day excitement.

Where are they today?

Our graduates are serving patients in 48 of the 50 United States.



REMEMBERING SIRRIDGE

On April 14, William Sirridge, M.D., passed away, leaving behind generations of physicians whose careers stand as a testament to his vision and dedication. He was 86.

One of the founding docents of the School of Medicine, along with his wife Dr. Marjorie, Dr. William was a fixture on Kansas City's Hospital Hill for more than 30 years. He saw practicing medicine as his way of bettering the world, and he instilled in his students this same passion.

A son of Kansas City, Kan. (KCK), Dr. William attended St. Joseph's Military Academy in Hays, Kan., for one year before attending and graduating from St. Louis University. He earned his medical degree from the University of Kansas (KU) School of Medicine in 1944.

It was at KU that Dr. William met Marjorie Spurrier. The two married the day after graduation, beginning a personal and professional relationship that would help change the face of medical education in Kansas City and beyond.

After completing his residency in Cleveland, Dr. William returned to KCK and began practicing as a primary care physician.

While in private practice, Dr. William served as a clinical faculty member along with Dr. Marjorie at the KU School of Medicine and as president of the medical staff at Providence Hospital in KCK.

It was in 1971 that Dr. William and Dr. Marjorie left private practice at the invitation of E. Grey Dimond, M.D., to join the faculty of a new medical school at UMKC.

In 30 years at UMKC, Dr. William worked ceaselessly as a docent and mentor to his students. Armed with a love of people and of medicine, Dr. William demonstrated the power of this unique combination to his students.

"Dr. Sirridge taught more than medical



information," says Gary Salzman (M.D. '80), professor and docent at the Medical School. "He taught how to connect with patients through physical touch, humor and honesty. He enjoyed making his patients and students laugh to reduce tension and open paths for communication."

"He taught how to connect with patients through physical touch, humor and honesty."

– Gary Salzman, M.D.

Along with serving as a docent, Dr. William was also a physician at Truman Medical Center, Longfellow Clinic and Kansas City's old General Hospital.

In 1992, Dr. William and Dr. Marjorie help found and initially fund the Sirridge Office of Medical Humanities to educate future physicians about the human side of practicing medicine.

Dr. William retired from the school in 2001. A recipient of numerous awards, he and Dr. Marjorie were most recently honored this year with the Vision to Action Award by the Center for Practical Bioethics, an organization they helped create.

Dr. William is survived by Dr. Marjorie, their daughter Dr. Mary Sirridge and her husband, Dr. Eric Mack, of Baton Rouge, La.; son Dr. Stephen Sirridge and his wife, Linda, of Overland Park, Kan.; son Patrick of Prairie Village, Kan.; and son Dr. Christopher Sirridge and his wife, Lisa, of Olathe, Kan.

Also surviving are 10 grandchildren and countless physicians, patients and future medical students who either have or will benefit from the gifts of Dr. William Sirridge.



THE RESURGENCE OF HOSPITAL HILL

UMKC is now one of 26 universities in the country to have four life science schools on one campus. This, and other achievements, is proof that Kansas City's Hospital Hill is ready for the 21st century.

You could almost hear the click of a puzzle piece falling into place as nursing and pharmacy students arrived for their first day of class at the new Health Sciences Building (HSB).

The \$50.2 million building sits face to face with the School of Medicine on Kansas City's Hospital Hill, housing the Schools of Pharmacy and Nursing and representing another step toward the Hill becoming a center of biomedical research.

The opening brings all of UMKC's health science schools, nursing, dentistry, medical and pharmacy, to one campus, but what's taking shape on Hospital Hill involves more than a building's opening.

The HSB is only physical evidence of what's unfolding as the Hill experiences a rebirth. This rebirth could breed new research, improved patient care and enhanced medical education, all of which bodes well for Kansas City and Missouri.

More than a building

Great research can't take place in isolation. It requires fresh ideas, new areas of effectiveness, other findings to build upon and so forth.

With all UMKC health sciences schools now just feet from one another and from part-

ner institutions Children's Mercy Hospital, Western Missouri Mental Health Center and Truman Medical Center (TMC), physical isolation has been crossed off as an obstacle to Hospital Hill achieving the vision behind its creation.

UMKC is now one of 26 universities in the United States with four health science schools on one campus.

"It means UMKC has brought the family together," says E. Grey Dimond, M.D., former UMKC health sciences provost.

Lora Lacey-Haun, R.N., Ph.D., nursing school dean, sees the present as a pivotal time for health sciences at UMKC.

"We need to take advantage of this uniqueness to enhance interdisciplinary research that addresses health issues in our community, state and country," Lacey-Haun says.

Mineralized tissue research, such as bones and teeth, is one example of an area that has prospered as a result of cross-pollination between various academic units and partner hospitals. Women's health research is another example, as is inflammation and infectious diseases.

"It is hard to overstate the impact of having all of the health science schools on one campus," says UMKC Chancellor



Guy Bailey. “The concentration of health science researchers in one place will facilitate the development of research strengths across disciplinary boundaries, will promote instructional efficiencies and provide students with the opportunity to work with first-class researchers who approach similar problems with different perspectives.”

As dean of the pharmacy school, Robert Piepho, Ph.D., FCP, emphasizes the impact the Health Sciences Building will have on students.

There’s a growing need for students to better understand other health science fields and having the University’s health science schools next door to each other will make this increasingly possible.

“The opportunities for students, faculty and staff from all the health science schools to interact socially and professionally is exciting and long overdue.”

– Betty Drees, Medical School dean

“Having the Schools of Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy and Nursing allows for an interdisciplinary education environment,” says Randall O’Donnell, Ph.D., president and CEO of Children’s Mercy Hospitals and Clinics. “Having schools clustered on Hospital Hill keeps our faculty on top of the latest in research and treatment, so we can pass it along to students.”

Because of the increased capacity for interaction between faculty, physicians and researchers on the Hill, students will be able to see how medical professionals work together and feed off of each other’s expertise, “which is the health care team model of the future in our country,” Piepho says.

“The opening of the Health Sciences Building really marks the establishment of Hospital Hill as a campus,” says Betty

Drees, Medical School dean. “The opportunities for students, faculty and staff from all the health science schools to interact socially and professionally is exciting and long overdue.”

Home away from home

With the HSB, Hospital Hill is closer to becoming a more cohesive campus, which benefits students.

The new building not only houses classroom, office and research space, it also includes areas for students on the Hill to eat and take care of business.

“Given that there will be 1,800 students in that area, we thought it would be a good idea to provide them with an increased level of services,” says

Mel Tyler, UMKC vice chancellor for student affairs and enrollment management.

Beginning this semester, a full-time financial aid representative is on the Hill to assist students in

the health science schools. Students can now also utilize a full-time on-site psychologist.

The goal is not to create a second main campus for UMKC, Tyler says, but to provide the same level of services for students on the Hill that students on the Volker campus enjoy. It can be nearly impossible sometimes for health science students to take care of a financial aid issue at the Volker campus.

“Although the Volker campus is not a long distance (from Hospital Hill), it is cumbersome to arrange for time to visit the Volker offices during a full day of classes and patient care,” says Brenda Rogers (M.D. ’90), associate dean for student affairs at the medical school.

Arguably the most welcomed change

by students is the addition of food service on Hospital Hill. The University’s food service provider, SodexHo, has opened a subsandwich shop in the HSB.

Furthering Hospital Hill’s advancement toward a more cohesive atmosphere will be student housing and a physical recreation facility, both of which were included in a plan unveiled by Bailey.

The plan calls for apartments for up to 250 students, a \$10 million conference and wellness center, a \$50 million clinical research and professional office building and a \$70 million extension to the Health Sciences Building for more research capacity.

To pay for the construction of these buildings, Bailey said the University would seek a private-public partnership similar to what is funding the construction of new student apartments on the Volker campus. In that arrangement, a private company develops and manages the student apartments located on University-owned land on the campus’ west side.

The first step toward more construction on Hospital Hill is a feasibility study to discover what the campus and its surrounding community can sustain.

“We definitely want to be a good neighbor with whatever we do,” Tyler says. One possibility is for the wellness center to be open not to just UMKC students and faculty, but to hospital staff on the Hill, as well as the community at-large.

There is no timeline for these projects, but next steps will be determined once the feasibility study is complete.

Teaching, training and research

Not all of the progress at the School of Medicine revolves around the HSB.

An addition to the Medical School’s curriculum is Angela Barnett, M.D., teaching integrative medicine. (See story on page 14).

Another new kid on the block is the

James P. Youngblood, M.D., Medical Skills Laboratory. The lab provides medical students with advanced training by using simulation as a teaching tool, which includes high-fidelity simulators and standardized patient encounters.

“The laboratory allows our students and residents to learn by practicing in a safe environment before they work with patients,” says Drees.

The simulators react to illness and treatment just as the human body does, giving students an opportunity to learn from a real-world experience without affecting a real-world patient.

“So the beauty of this high fidelity simulator is you can kill it a thousand times to teach a student how to save a life,” says Jason Wilkins (M.D. ’96), medical director of the lab.

The standardized patient encounters bring in actors who act-out scripted scenarios and illnesses to give students experience in treatment.

Combined, both the simulators and the patient encounters can provide a complete training exercise for students. The simulator can be used as the patient, while actors behave as the simulator’s, or patient’s, family members, giving students experience in not only the medical side of treatment, but the human side as well.

In research, the school has increased its funding capacity 250 percent since 2001, when it seriously began building its research programs.

One addition to the school in the past six years has been the Shock Trauma Research Center, which investigates ways to prevent patient deaths from trauma injuries, hemorrhaging and shock.

In June 2006 the center received a \$1.8 million grant from the U.S. Department of Defense to research hemorrhagic and septic shock. An estimated 200,000 people die each year in the United States from both kinds of shock.

Another area of research success for the

School has been in women’s health.

UMKC and TMC have been designated a National Center of Excellence in Women’s Health by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the only such center in a four-state region and just one of 21 nationwide.

Some areas of focus include obesity, osteoporosis, tobacco cessation, preeclampsia, and more. The school’s work in women’s health involves partnering with both the Schools of Nursing and Pharmacy.

Altogether, the composition of Hospital Hill provides perhaps the best chance for research and medical advances in Kansas City.

“This arrangement creates an ideal environment in which to establish state-of-the-art, collaborative educational and research programs which help to strengthen and compliment the existing clinical programs,” says Mark Steele (M.D. ’80), chief medical officer at Truman Medical Center.

Always a beacon to the sick of Kansas City, the pieces are quickly coming together to make Hospital Hill a lighthouse of medical progress for the rest of the country. 🏥

A tribute to vision, leadership

One of the men worked for Hallmark. The other worked in the non-profit field.

Neither men were from Kansas City, but both forever changed this former frontier town by sculpting its Hospital Hill into a center of academic medical excellence. Now with the installation of busts created in their likenesses, Nathan Stark and Homer Wadsworth are permanently remembered on the Hill they created.

Joining Stark and Wadsworth is a bust of E. Grey Dimond, M.D., creator of the Medical School, bringing three friends together again and ensuring that future students, physicians and researchers will know the men who made their paths possible.

In an area called “The Commons,” the busts rest in a manicured lawn between the new Health Sciences Building and the medical school.

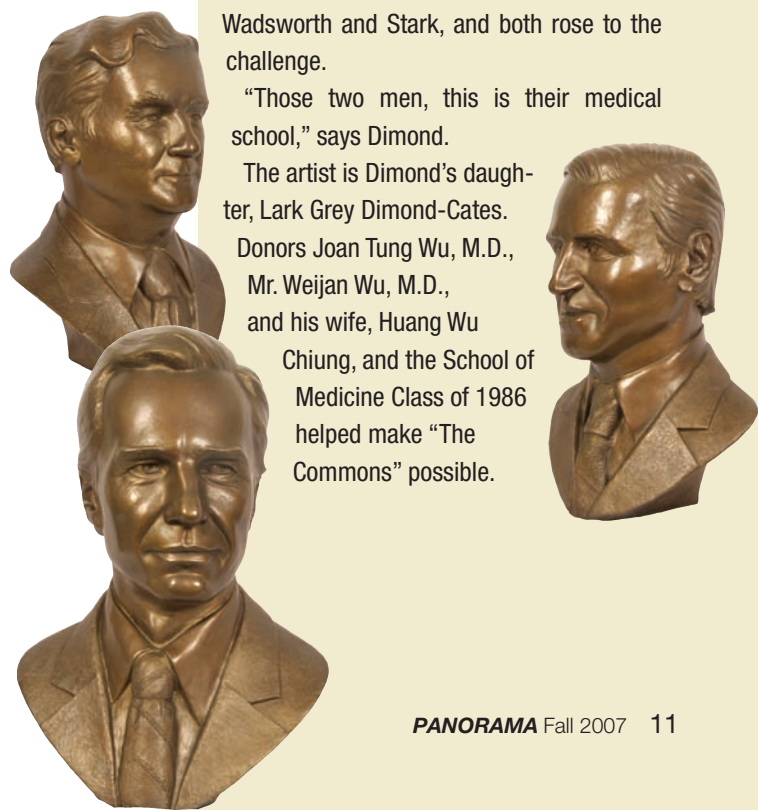
The busts were dedicated on Oct. 6. While Dimond is responsible for the medical school’s life, having fought for the infant school’s survival in the 1970s, he is aware that perhaps the toughest job was actually receiving approval to build a medical school in Kansas City. That job fell to Wadsworth and Stark, and both rose to the challenge.

“Those two men, this is their medical school,” says Dimond.

The artist is Dimond’s daughter, Lark Grey Dimond-Cates.

Donors Joan Tung Wu, M.D., Mr. Weijan Wu, M.D., and his wife, Huang Wu

Chiung, and the School of Medicine Class of 1986 helped make “The Commons” possible.



INTO THE VOID

Program places physicians into areas of need

Brandon Davis, Year 5, is one of many UMKC students receiving financial aid in exchange for agreeing to practice in underserved areas of Missouri.



When Brandon Davis is ready to practice medicine, he hopes to do so in his hometown of Maysville, Mo.

Davis, a fifth-year student at the School of Medicine, is one of many UMKC students participating in a program focused on easing the doctor shortage being felt by many rural and underserved areas of Missouri.

The state is running out of doctors, and the rural communities are feeling the effects of the physician shortage.

The program, called Primary Care Resource Initiative Program (PRIMO), gives students financial support in exchange for agreeing to work and practice in health professional shortage areas after they com-

plete their medical training. The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) designates the areas.

Dentistry, nursing and medical students are eligible to participate in the program. Students receiving PRIMO funds must pursue a career in primary care, which for medical students includes obstetrics and gy-

necology, internal medicine and pediatrics.

To satisfy the requirement for accepting PRIMO money, students must practice in an underserved area for as many years as they accepted the financial aid. Students

who fail to live up to their end of the bargain are forced to repay the state for the PRIMO funds they receive at an interest rate of 9.5 percent.

For students like Davis, the program helps soften the cost of medical school. Students enrolled in the SOM six-year baccalaureate/M.D. program can receive up to \$10,000 a year in financial aid.


This year, nine returning UMKC students have elected to receive PRIMO funds, while contracts are pending with six new UMKC students.

The state is running out of doctors, and rural communities are feeling the effects of the physician shortage. PRIMO encourages physicians to practice in small towns across the state. The DHSS lists 93

of Missouri's 114 counties as facing a doctor shortage.

PRIMO money is available to both undergraduate and graduate or professional-level students. Undergraduates willing to commit to a career in primary care in rural Missouri receive \$5,000 a year in financial aid.

DHSS relies on agencies such as the West Central Missouri Area Health Education Center to ensure PRIMO funds are administered properly. Along with overseeing PRIMO, the education center's goal is to convince those already aspiring for a medical career to stay local.

"We're advocates to keep them in the state," says Stephanie Taylor, West Central's executive director. 

SOCIETY BRIDGES GAP IN KANSAS CITY

When Kathryn Diemer (M.D. '85), addressed the Kansas City Bone and Tooth Society in May, she joined a growing list of reputable speakers at the group's monthly gatherings.

The society is gaining national recognition as a networking tool for clinicians and researchers. At each society event, an expert speaker discusses topics related to bone and tooth treatment and research.

Diemer's lecture, like other talks hosted by the society, was a catalyst for connecting Kansas City health professionals with investigators and, in turn, the investigators' research. Her talk centered on the latest updates related to the diagnosis and treatment of osteoporosis.

Jointly hosted by the UMKC Schools of Medicine (SOM) and Dentistry, the society was originally started by Univer-

“The mission is to share new research findings and clinical information presented by leaders in the field of metabolic bone disease and calcified tissue.”

— Richard Derman, M.D.

sity of Kansas professor Clark Anderson, M.D., but it eventually died out. In 2003, SOM Dean Betty Drees, M.D., dentistry researcher Lynda Bonewald, Ph.D., and SOM researcher Richard Derman, M.D.,



Kathryn Diemer, M.D., was a recent speaker at the Kansas City Bone and Tooth Society. The organization hosts monthly talks featuring various national and Kansas City physicians and dentists discussing the latest news and trends in the area of bone and tooth research.

brought the society back to life.

Today the society is an example of the ongoing collaboration happening on Kansas City's Hospital Hill.

“The mission is to share new research findings and clinical information presented by national leaders in the field of metabolic bone disease and calcified tissue,” Derman says.


Those in attendance range from doctors, dentists and other health professionals to everyday folks who are interested in the subject matter, with average attendance ranging from 50 to 80 people each month. The audience represents a who's who of Kansas City health sciences, belonging to organizations such as Stowers Institute for Medical Research, University of Kansas School of Medicine and Children's Mercy Hospital.

Speakers alternate between clinical and basic researchers from within and

outside of UMKC. Past speakers have included Creighton University Professor Robert Heaney, M.D., and Maurizio Pacifici, Ph.D., a researcher from Thomas Jefferson University.

Topics have ranged from vitamin D to osteonecrosis of the jaw to the use and misuse of bisphosphonates.

Jeff Gorski, D.D.S., a professor in the School of Dentistry, regularly attends the lectures. As a bone biology and biochemistry researcher, he benefits from the actual lecture material and the interaction between medical colleagues.

“Attending the lecture series provides me with regular contact with clinician scientists seeing patients who are experiencing problems with their craniofacial and skeletal systems,” Gorski says. “I stay informed about physiological problems and get a chance to contribute my basic science expertise to real life problems.” 

Angela Barnett, M.D., is leading a new program to teach UMKC medical students how integrative medicine can be used in treating patients.



MEDITATIONS ON MEDICINE

New program offers integrative approach to medicine

The practice of medicine is changing, and with the introduction of an integrative medicine curriculum, the UMKC School of Medicine is keeping pace.

Recently the school entered into a partnership with Journey Into Wellness, an organization founded by Fred Pryor of Fred Pryor Seminars, and Charles Garney, founder of Garney Construction, Inc.

The organization seeks to improve the health of Kansas Citians through the use of integrative medicine, which is a combination of conventional medicine with evidence-based alternative health therapies.

The partnership between Journey Into Wellness and the medical school resulted in the recruitment of Angela Barnett, who

did her residency at UMKC in 1998 and then completed a fellowship in integrative medicine under Andrew Weil, M.D., at the University of Arizona.

Barnett has already implemented an elective in class integrative medicine during the past year. One of the primary goals for the initial course was to educate students about integrative medicine.

“Integrative medicine is not alternative medicine, because we’re not forgetting our Western medical background,” Barnett says.

Integrative medicine doesn’t take options away from physicians. It only gives them more, according to Barnett.

In teaching the elective, Barnett relies on evidence-based therapies to tackle ailments such as pain and cardiovascular disease. One example, according to Barnett, is the use of the Mediterranean diet, which has proven as an effective intervention in patients with cardiovascular disease.

Integrative medicine seems to be in demand from UMKC’s residents, who asked Barnett to present an introduction of the practice at last year’s residents retreat workshop. The residents spent a half day experiencing other healing mechanisms they could then offer to their patients as alternatives or complementary therapies.

Another course is planned this year for fourth-year medical students who will focus on using integrative medicine in chronic disease management during their family medicine rotation.

The class will begin by taking an online module on nutrition designed by Weil’s program. Students then explore cases from an integrative perspective during the rotation.

First- and second-year students are currently part of a pilot project this fall to explore an integrative approach to mood disorders, using mind-body techniques and other tools.

As medical director of Truman Medical Center’s Integrative Medicine Center programs, Barnett is implementing a new clinical program for all patients to learn the benefits of integrative medicine.

One such series is an eight-week voluntary course in which patients coping with chronic diseases will learn and experience how lifestyle changes, proper nutrition and meditation can have a positive impact on their health. In the future, Truman Medical Center would like to offer a specific series for patients struggling with pain, cancer

and cardiovascular disease.

“As a medical community, we have to find new ways to motivate individuals to take their health seriously and recognize the impact that their lifestyle choices are

“Integrative medicine is not alternative medicine, because we’re not forgetting our Western medical background.”

– Angela Barnett, M.D.

making on themselves and society as a whole,” Barnett says. “We have long known that just providing people with knowledge isn’t always enough to motivate change.”

Along with helping patients, these sessions will benefit residents who are able to learn alongside patients.

Of added benefit to future physicians, Barnett points out, is integrative medicine’s approach to living, which can help doctors handle the stresses of their jobs. In fact, it’s the idea of practicing what you preach that is key in integrative medicine, which teaches that physicians should be role models for their patients.

The Department of Family Medicine is participating in ongoing research teaching residents and faculty about various aspects of integrative therapies through online computer modules.

These physicians complete the modules and then are part of a study to see how it impacts their practice at a later date. They are currently exploring the impact of botanical medicine on the physicians.

Barnett is also working to secure a grant that will help her further study how teaching targeted nutritional interventions to physicians can help fight cardiovascular disease. 🏥



Fred Pryor (right) of Fred Pryor Seminars and Charles Garney, founder of Garney Construction, Inc., both helped fund the Journey Into Wellness program.



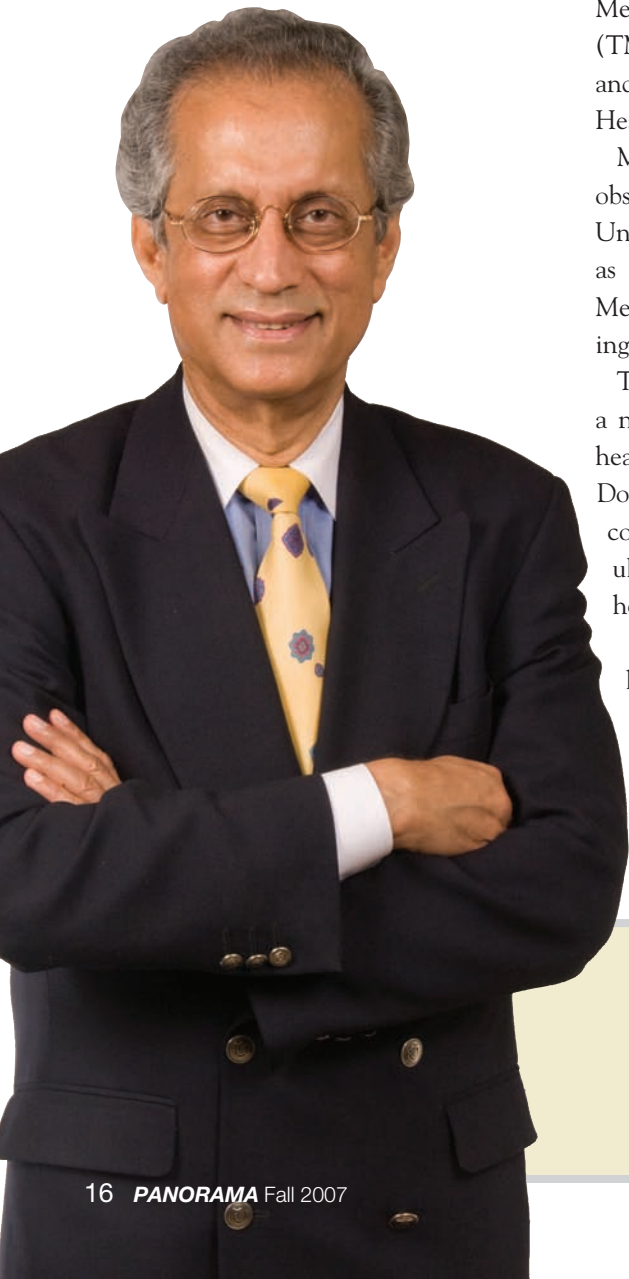
Barnett will rely on faculty to help merge integrative medicine with the current medical school culture. In this photo, Barnett leads a Faculty Development Training Program.

Faculty at a

A chance he had to take

Dev Maulik couldn't say no.

The chance to work on Hospital Hill, the leadership of the medical school and the opportunity to develop state-of-the-art research programs was just too much to resist.



"I found the combination of all this was a very unique situation and I thought, 'Why not?'" says Maulik, M.D.

And so Maulik, an internationally known specialist in maternal fetal medicine and a researcher in women's health, accepted positions as the professor and chair of obstetrics and gynecology at the School of Medicine and Truman Medical Center (TMC), a professor of basic medical science, and the senior associate dean of Women's Health. He began work in March.

Maulik was a professor and chair of obstetrics and gynecology at Winthrop University Hospital in Mineola, N.Y., as well as a professor at the School of Medicine in the early 1980s, before returning to UMKC.

Throughout his career, Maulik has made a name for himself in maternal and fetal health, including helping to develop the Doppler ultrasound for identifying fetal compromise and the Doppler and color ultrasound for diagnosing congenital heart disease before birth.

It's this kind of innovation Maulik hopes to nurture within his department. Specifically, Maulik lists translational research related to fetal growth and development, fetal malformations, adolescent gynecology and osteoporosis as being areas of his research focus.

Maulik points to congenital heart disease as one target for study in his department.

Under his leadership, Maulik hopes his department will develop and implement advanced concepts in fetal care, including the creation of a quaternary prenatal care system in partnership with UMKC's affiliate hospitals. Maulik points to Children's Mercy Hospital's cardiac fetal program as an opportunity for collaboration among the University's affiliate hospitals.

He also hopes to build upon the Center of Excellence for Women's Health, "and see what kind of services and opportunities we can provide to the community."

Maulik stresses he is working to enhance the academic program in women's health for the school's residents and students, a mission he views as essential to his role with the University.

"We can help to develop the next generation of leaders both in clinical care and the research area," Maulik says.

The department is home to 32 UMKC residents between TMC and St. Luke's Hospital, and every UMKC student pursuing a medical degree spends two months being educated in obstetrics and gynecology.

"We can help to develop the next generation of leaders."

– Dev Maulik, M.D.



A series of profiles on four faculty members who are advancing the medical school and helping make Kansas City a place of note in academic medicine.

glance

No school is an island

John Stuart Munro may have grown up in the Bahamas, but today he's far removed from the isolation of an island.

As chair of the School of Medicine's Department of Psychiatry and assistant medical director of Western Missouri Mental Health Center, Munro, M.D., and his patients benefit from a cooperative environment on Kansas City's Hospital Hill.

Munro has first-hand knowledge of how the many institutions on Hospital Hill work together for the betterment of Kansas City and the region.

It's this kind of professional interaction that Munro envisioned when coming to UMKC and Hospital Hill in 1985.

patients. This includes everyone from police officers to other physicians.

"I think those who want to be involved clinically with patients...are going to have to be willing to work with other doctors," Munro says. "They're going to have to be engaged in the frontlines with other doctors. That's already happening."

UMKC's psychiatry program is accomplishing this by partnering with the school's internal medicine department.

Such a step, Munro points out, has increased Western Missouri physicians' knowledge and treatment of patients. Adding value to the partnership is the spirit of cooperation the psychiatry department's residents, enrolled in a four-year training period, are exposed to through this interaction.

social workers, how to effectively handle mentally ill citizens.

By keeping UMKC in touch with psychiatry's constant changes and pushing for continued interaction between psychiatry and other medical fields, Munro is making sure the School of Medicine is not an island in the sea of health sciences.

"I knew immediately that Hospital Hill is the place I wanted to practice."

– Stuart Munro, M.D.

"I knew immediately that this department, this medical school, this Hospital Hill is the place I wanted to practice," Munro says.

Such collaboration allows UMKC to stay ahead of the many changes taking place in psychiatry.

One such change is the growing need for clinical psychiatrists to work with other health officials in treating

Another example of UMKC bridging the gap between psychiatry and health workers is the department's Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) with organizations like the Kansas City Police Academy and the Jackson County Correctional Center. CIT teaches law enforcement personnel how to positively handle the mentally ill.

The program has trained thousands of police and correctional officers, as well as



Heart of the matter

Ask David Cohen about the research activities he oversees, and he rattles off programs like they're ho-hum items on his to-do list.

Cohen, M.D., the director of research at Saint Luke's Mid America Heart Institute since August 2006, accepted a position as the Missouri Endowed Chair of Cardiovascular Clinical Research in March.

Charged with establishing and directing a major cardiovascular research program in Kansas City, Cohen is well aware of both the successful projects already in place

at the institute and the opportunities for expansion.

One area of expansion is in catheter-based treatment of patients with valvular heart disease. Such research could keep some patients from requiring open-heart surgery.

"We're really gearing up to get those studies off the ground," Cohen says. "I think they'll be of tremendous benefit to both the hospital and our patient population in all of Kansas City."

Another opportunity for new research at the institute is in treating patients with weak hearts by using cellular therapies. Essentially, this involves removing cells from a patient and growing the cells in a test tube. The grown cells are then reinserted into the patient to stimulate the heart.

Some initiatives that were already in place when Cohen left Harvard University to lead the institute will continue to progress.

For example, the institute will continue to analyze internal databases to better understand the care they give patients and to generate new research.

An extension of this effort is the institute's world-renowned Cardiovascular Outcomes Research Program, which uses data to determine what impact certain factors, such as genetics, may have on a patient's outcome of treatment.

Related to this is John Spertus', M.D., creation of ePrism, a Web-based software package that allows patients and physicians to walk through possible treatment outcomes at the bedside.

Cohen's own work takes patient out-

comes research a step further by evaluating the cost effectiveness of new technologies in cardiovascular diagnosis and treatment. Such studies seek to quantify whether a treatment is worth the financial and health costs from a societal point of view.

Part of Cohen's master plan for the institute involves growing the number of researchers. One way of doing so is through the institute's Clinical Scholars Program, also started by Cohen's predecessor, Ben McCallister, M.D., which allows doctors at the institute to conduct research while continuing their private practices.

The program can help the institute grow its ranks of researchers by attracting those just starting their careers.

"It's a mechanism we're really trying to use to bring along young faculty," Cohen says.

The institute also aims to increase its research capacity by attracting physicians finishing their residencies who are interested in cardiovascular research. These residents become fellows at the institute, providing the institute an opportunity to train researchers to fit the needs of the organization.

Currently, only a handful of researchers at the institute are from the Kansas City region, including two alumni of UMKC School of Medicine. Cohen hopes the fellowship programs can help the institute raise homegrown researchers.

"We want to be training the people we want to hire," Cohen says.



"We want to be training the people we want to hire."

– David Cohen, M.D., M.Sc.



Middle of it all

Greg Kearns is excited about Kansas City's Hospital Hill. You hear it in his voice, and you feel it in his presence.

Kearns, Ph.D., is one of the Hill's movers and shakers. He's director of medical research, associate chairman of pediatrics and chief of pediatric pharmacology and medical toxicology at Children's Mercy Hospital and Clinics (CMH), as well as a professor of pediatrics and pharmacology at the School of Medicine.

As if he's not busy enough, Kearns also served this past summer on the World Health Organization's panel that updated the Essential Medicines List for Children. He's a graduate of the St. Louis College of Pharmacy, the University of Cincinnati, Louisiana State University and Erasmus University School of Medicine in Rotterdam.

By serving in these roles, Kearns is well positioned to increase Hospital Hill's

Hill is becoming.

"When you look here at Hospital Hill, we're rapidly achieving that," Kearns says. "In a carefully considered way, we're putting together all the elements of a biomedical sciences campus."

With the School of Pharmacy's relocation to the Hill in August, UMKC now has four health science schools on one campus, working hand-in-hand with CMH, Truman Medical Center and Western Missouri Mental Health Center.

Such an arrangement, along with UMKC's partnership with St. Luke's Hospital, is nearly unparalleled across the country and indicates the University's dedication to making Kansas City a center of biomedical research.

Still, Kearns cautions people to be patient, saying UMKC is taking calculated strides toward making Hospital Hill a nationally recognized center for the health sciences.

"You always have to remember, it's an evolution, not a revolution."

– Greg Kearns, M.D.

research capacity and lead it farther down the road to being a national center of biomedical research.

One way Kearns is accomplishing this is by pairing new faculty with an experienced mentor who can help their younger colleagues learn the intricacies of academic medicine.

Speaking to the proximity of institutions on Hospital Hill, Kearns says young faculty based at CMH can "literally walk across the street and participate" in research.

He points to centers of medical excellence in cities like Boston or Houston as examples of what Kansas City's Hospital

"You always have to remember, it's an evolution, not a revolution," Kearns says.

As the picture of Hospital Hill's importance continues to come into focus, it's no wonder Kearns, in the middle of it all, is an energized man.



Alumni *Updates*

1973

William Prather, M.D., joined Pluristem Life Systems, Inc., a cell therapy company, as senior vice president of corporate development. Pluristem is dedicated to the commercialization of non-personalized stem cell therapy products for the treatment of severe degenerative, malignant and autoimmune disorders.

1977

Michael Weaver, M.D., was selected to participate in the 2007-08 Health Research and Educational Trust Cultural Competence Leadership Fellowship. He was also one of 26 people picked for the 2007 Disparities Leadership Program at Massachusetts General Hospital. The U.S. Army also chose Weaver to lead a training focused on health care issues related sexual assault at Fort Hood in San Antonio, Texas. Weaver received the Emergency Physician of the Year Award from the Missouri Emergency Nurses Association in August.

1984

Michele Kilo, M.D., served as a member of the planning committee for an Autism Summit sponsored by the Kansas City Bi-State Autism Initiative in April at the Kauffman Foundation. Nearly 200 people attended the event for autism service professionals and parent groups. The summit included a review of an autism needs assessment report by a local consulting organization and discussions on near-term priorities

for action that will improve the lives of local families living with autism.

1985

Vickie Massey, M.D., is a fellow in the American College of Radiology (ACR) following an induction ceremony in Washington, D.C., at ACR's annual meeting. She is a radiation oncologist at the School of Medicine.

1990

Linda Siy, M.D., became president of the Texas Academy of Family Physicians in July. Siy's practice is in Bedford, Texas, at Northeast Health Center, where she is vice chair of the JPS Hospital Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee. She is also an associate professor at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas and the University of North Texas Health Sciences Center in Fort Worth.



Sam Page, (M.D., '92), announces his candidacy for Missouri lieutenant governor.

1992

Sam Page, M.D., announced in June he is running for lieutenant governor of Missouri. Invited by the Medical School Advisory Council (MSAC), Page made the School one of several stops throughout the state

as he announced his candidacy. He is a past president of MSAC. An anesthesiologist, Page is serving his third term in the Missouri House of Representatives. He and his wife, **Jennifer Page, M.D.**, live in Creve Coeur, Mo., and have three sons, Logan, Luke and Jacob.

Michael Smock, M.D., a board-certified plastic surgeon, is director of the division of burn surgery at St. John's Mercy Medical Center in St. Louis. He also works on non-burn traumas requiring plastic surgery and rotates on-call in the trauma center.

1994

Sanjay Ramakumar, M.D., recognized as a leading expert in minimally invasive urologic surgery, joined Urological Associates of Southern Arizona. Ramakumar was one of the first physicians in Arizona to use laparoscopic surgery for prostate cancer in 2002, as well as the da Vinci robotic surgical system to perform prostatectomies. He was previously director of minimally invasive urologic surgery and assistant professor for the University of Arizona College of Medicine Department of Surgery.

1999

Caroline Cheng Hahn, M.D., and **Yoav Hahn, M.D.**, celebrated the birth of their second child, Eitan Naphtali Hahn, in August 2006. Their daughter, Lian, is 2 years old. The Hahns live in Sacramento, Calif., where Caroline is an anesthesiologist for Kaiser Permanente and Yoav is a head and neck surgeon for Kaiser Permanente.

2002

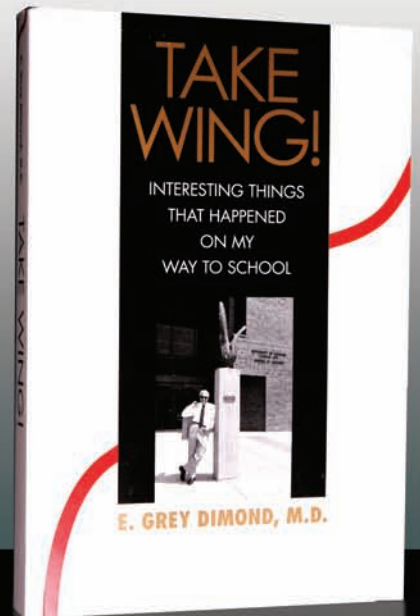
Patrick Smock, M.D., is a captain in the U. S. Army. Following his residency in orthopedic surgery at William Beaumont Army Medical Center in El Paso, Texas, this fall, he will join the staff of Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., where he will specialize in hand surgery.

2003

Sonya Ahmed, M.D., is nearing completion of an ankle and sports medicine residency in Birmingham, Ala.

2007

Rob Otto, M.D., was awarded the Richardson K. Noback, M.D., Award for Clinical Excellence. Rob's wife, **Maryann Patane-Otto**, won the same award when she graduated from the school in 2005. Rob will begin an orthopedic surgery residency this year at Saint Louis University.



NOW AVAILABLE

**The personal story
of Dr. Dimond's
remarkable life and
the founding of your
remarkable medical
school!**

Take Wing! Interesting Things That Happened on My Way to School by E. Grey Dimond, M.D., School of Medicine founder, is now available for \$35. Contact Mary McCamy at mccamym@umkc.edu. All proceeds from the book sales will benefit the School of Medicine's Take Wing Endowment Fund.

WHAT'S NEW?

Stay connected with your medical school.

Visit www.med.umkc.edu/alumni. While at the site, don't forget to let your peers know what you've been up to by submitting an Alumni Update for inclusion in *Panorama's* next issue. You can also contact Mary McCamy, alumni affairs manager, at mccamym@umkc.edu or 816-235-6017.

Dimond shines in national spotlight

While spending a week broadcasting from Kansas City, the National Public Radio program "Day to Day," featured E. Grey Dimond, M.D. The broadcast aired on Sept. 20 and told Dimond's story of coming to UMKC and the reasons he created the medical school curriculum.

Interviewed by program co-host Alex Chadwick, Dimond discussed his desire to change the landscape of medical education and how this passion brought him to UMKC. Dimond talked about how both his experience of being rushed through medical school without taking a break and the opportunities he had to see patients early in his medical training caused him to create the six-year combined program at UMKC.

"Day to Day" has 1.5 million listeners.

Thank You to Our Donors

Gifts received (July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007)

Thanks to you, the UMKC School of Medicine is able to fulfill the vision behind its creation. Through your support, students can afford to attend medical school, researchers are able to make new discoveries, and we can attract the faculty and staff necessary to make your school a model for medical education. We thank you for your generosity.*

**Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this report for the period of July 1, 2006, to June 30, 2007. We regret any errors that may exist.*

Please direct questions or concerns regarding the list to the UMKC Development Office at 816-235-1571.

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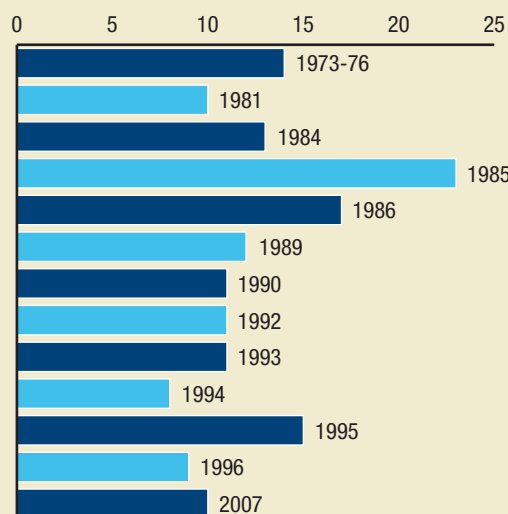
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Individuals who have made a planned gift to UMKC are recognized by membership in the Robert H. Flarsheim Society. The following individuals designated their gifts to the School of Medicine to support generations of future physicians.

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Italics denote members who are deceased.



Faculty and staff hosted members of the Robert H. Flarsheim Society for a special breakfast program in April. The 42 members in attendance have made combined future planned gift commitments to UMKC that total more than \$9 million.

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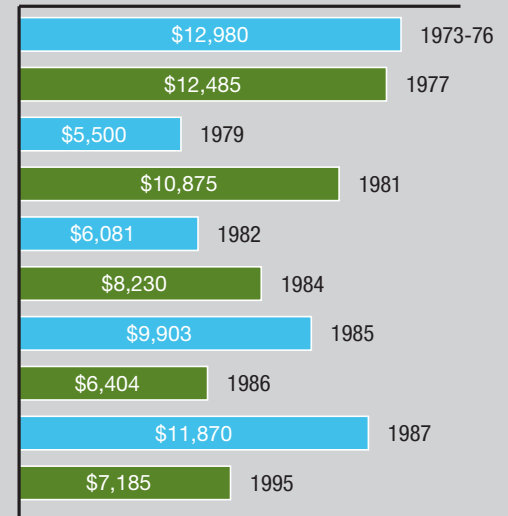
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Pictured from left, Timothy Wilson ('76); Gene LeSage ('77); Chris Dennis ('73); Michael Weaver ('77); Kathleen (Goins) Semmler ('76); Richard McClelland ('76); Richard Martin ('76); and Joseph Ryan ('76).

Class Giving by Total Gifts



Founding classes scholarship

Marjorie Sirridge, M.D., and the late William Sirridge, M.D., provided a challenge gift of \$10,000 to create a scholarship endowment in celebration of the students who worked with them and fellow founding docent Robert Mosser, M.D., during the School of Medicine's inaugural years.

"A gift to the Founding Classes Scholarship represents a great way to recognize the Sirridges, who have given so much to the School of Medicine," says Gerald Early (M.D. '73). "I also appreciate that my contribution helps students as they pursue their dreams of becoming caring, compassionate physicians."

Members of the classes of 1973-76 have met the challenge. The opportunity still exists for early graduates to give to this scholarship.

To learn how you can honor your history and support aspiring physicians, please contact the UMKC Development Office at 816-235-1571.

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Alumni Association drops dues

In March 2007, the UMKC Alumni Association Board voted to eliminate membership dues in favor of encouraging alumni to direct their financial support to the new UMKC Alumni Fund.

The Alumni Fund raises money to support student scholarships, programming and other enhancements. More than 90 percent of UMKC students receive some sort of financial assistance for their education, but much of the need still goes unmet.

“The new UMKC Alumni Fund has generated a renewed interest in alumni participation at UMKC,” says Kim Huyett, senior director of Alumni and Constituent Relations. “This initiative is centered around student success and each person who gives is part of that success story.”

“Alumni Fund supporters are not just graduates of our institution,” Chancellor Guy Bailey says. “They include community members, friends, faculty, staff and our alumni working together to transform today’s students into tomorrow’s leaders.”

Donors who give at least \$50 to the Alumni Fund receive benefits like season tickets to the Kansas City Repertory Theatre and UMKC Kangaroo basketball games. All gifts to the Alumni Fund are 100 percent tax deductible.

Log onto www.umkc.edu/alumnifund for more information about the UMKC Alumni Fund. To check out the UMKC Alumni Association, including the benefits of being a UMKC graduate, visit www.umkcalumni.com.

“An Alumni Fund scholarship allows me to conduct medical research as a student at UMKC.”

— Mimi Moon, Year 4
 Alumni Fund Scholarship recipient



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Fall Scholarship Reception

Family, faculty and friends joined scholarship recipients at the School of Medicine's Sixth Annual Scholarship and Donor Recognition Reception in November 2006. Below are photos of some of the many scholarship recipients. This year's reception is scheduled for Nov. 15.



Cena Accurso Matching Scholarship

Tammy Dickinson, Angela Williams, Michelle Jean-Francoise, Cena Accurso, Christopher Accurso, Danielle Accurso and Lou Accurso



Ida Bamberger Memorial Matching Scholarship

David Bamberger and Mimi Moon



Edward and Victoria Harris Matching Scholarship

Fred Harris, M.D., Melissa Thomas and Oliver Harris



Herman Johnson Memorial Scholarship

Blake Williamson, Michelle Jean-Francoise, Tara Johnson, Billie Dee Townsend and Travis Newsom



Drs. Beaty and Deloras Pemberton Scholarship

L. Beaty Pemberton, M.D., Keziah Sully, Krystal Sully, Dennis Barnett, and Michelle Bonds

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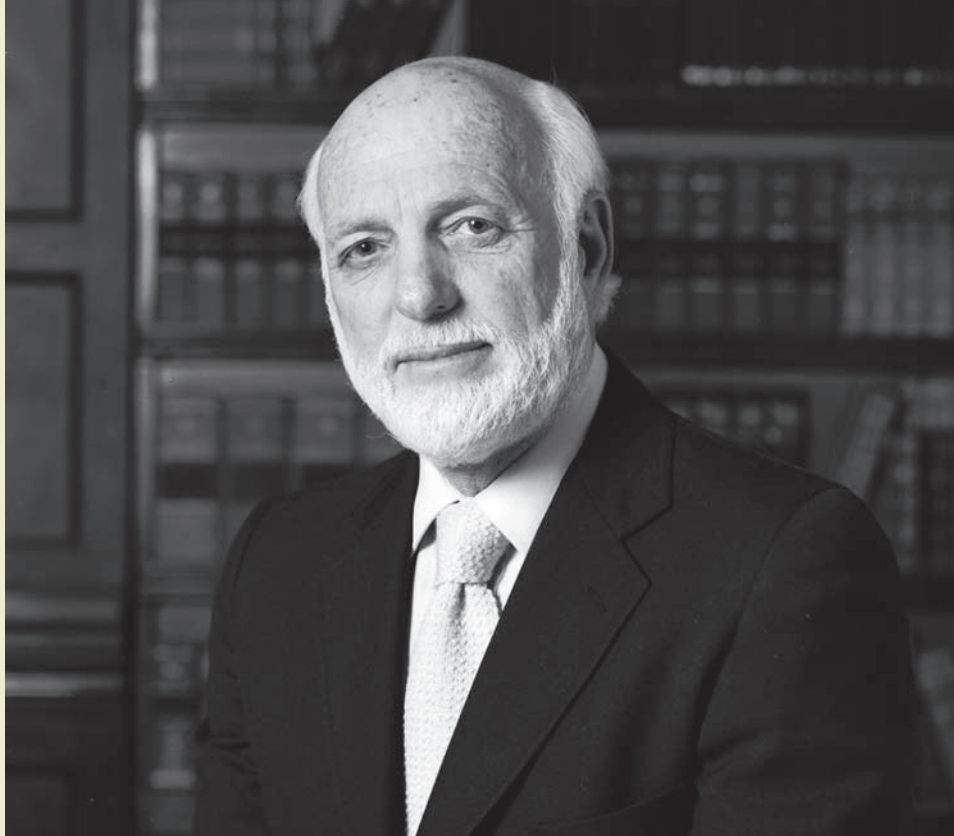
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Professor leaves lasting memory, gift

“Lee Langley was a tennis shark,” says Lou Kartsonis (M.D. ’77), a former student and tennis victim of the late professor emeritus.

UMKC hosted several intramural sports during the mid-70s, including a tennis ladder, he explained. Langley challenged him for the top spot – and won.

“Despite being pounded by him on the court, I considered him a mentor and friend,” says Kartsonis.

Langley was a lively character on the Hospital Hill campus during the 1970s and 80s. A dedicated teacher, he was respected by his students for his passion for lecturing. He also possessed a wicked sense of humor and “could bring the house down with his timing,” added Kartsonis.

Langley died in December 2006 at the age of 90. Included in his estate was a gift to UMKC to create an endowment to recognize exceptional students in the final years of their medical studies with a preference for students with an athletic background.

“I think his gift speaks to how much he

believed in the UMKC medical school model,” Kartsonis says.

During his tenure at UMKC, Langley held many titles, including docent, lecturer on respiratory, renal and pulmonary physiology of the nervous system, professor of physiology, and associate dean for Academic Affairs, in which he was responsible for coordinating the Year I and Year II curriculum.

“Dr. Langley was the Frank Sinatra of the medical school,” says Carol Stanford (M.D. ’79), assistant professor at the School of Medicine. “Everything he did, he did his way. I learned so much from him because he taught us not only physiology, but how to embrace life.”

He also wrote or co-authored several books including “Dynamic Anatomy and Physiology,” which was used by Year I and II students when the School of Medicine opened.

To learn how you can impact generations of medical students through an estate gift, contact Phil Watson, director of Planned Giving at 816-235-5776.



She is your legacy.

Because of your support, talented students are able to complete Medical School and improve the quality of patient care in your community.

To learn more, contact the UMKC Development Office at 816-235-1571.

Pictured above: Grace Lim, Year 5 student and Flarsheim Merit Scholarship recipient



Alumni

Association President

It is an honor and privilege to be your School of Medicine Alumni Association President. One of my goals is to increase alumni involvement in the School of Medicine.

Why should I or any other alumnus care to be involved in the school? That is a good question and I think the answer lies in somewhat selfish motivations for physicians.

We need physicians. The population is getting older and, frankly, I am too. I want well-trained, intelligent, personable physicians at the bedside when I, or any of my family, has a

health crisis. I see a real threat to that in the near future.

The expense of running a medical practice continues to climb at a devastating rate while reimbursements remain at a stagnant or low rate. Add to that the additional burden of having to care for a rapidly growing uninsured population, and we have a very dangerous situation.

The government and insurance industry has continued to heap layers of bureaucracy and expense with HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act), the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act, declining Medicare rates and the Product Quality Research Institute as a thinly veiled attempt to reduce or deny payment.

All of this is affecting physicians.

A survey done by the American College of Physician Executives in 2006 found that nearly 60 percent of the 1,205 physicians who participated in the survey have considered leaving the practice of medicine because they are discouraged over the state of U.S. health care today. Almost 70 percent said they actually knew of at least one doctor who stopped practicing medicine due to low morale.

I think if you spend a day in your local hospital physicians' lounge and just listen to the typical conversation, you could be convinced these surveys are accurate. I have seen it graphically illustrated in my own practice just a little over a year ago when one of my partners quit surgery and is now the proud owner of a bed and breakfast and winery in Italy.

You should support your alma mater because we need to aggressively support the institutions that train physicians.

Tuition costs have skyrocketed as government support for medical education has dwindled. We need to get involved. Students need mentors, learning opportunities and financial support. The alumni association can connect you to these worthy endeavors.

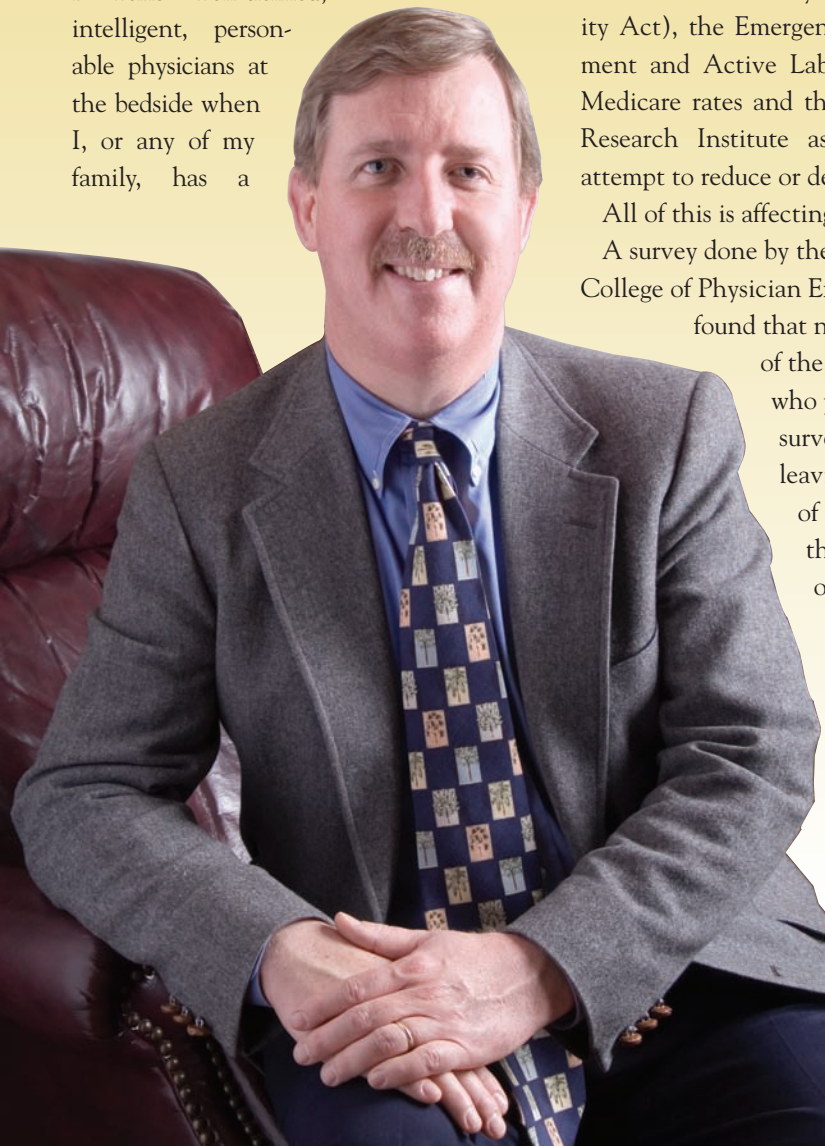
I encourage you to get involved. You can start by contacting Mary McCamy or any of the alumni board to find out what opportunities are available.

A selfish motivation is sometimes a good thing. By getting involved in the School of Medicine, you help to ensure that the School continues raising the level of excellence in medical education. The thought that you played a significant role in that is, indeed, a selfish and good motivation. Think about it.

Sincerely,



Thomas Franey (M.D. '85)
President
UMKC School of Medicine
Alumni Association



Fall 2007

Panorama

Celebrate UMKC Convocation 2007

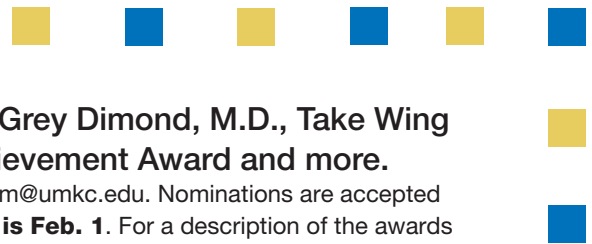


Catherine Spong (M.D. '91), served as keynote speaker for Celebrate UMKC, the University's convocation ceremonies on Sept. 20. As chief of the pregnancy and perinatology branch at the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Spong is a great example of the medical and academic training students receive at the School of Medicine.

Addressing the audience, Spong said, "As I do my research today, the skills that I learned at UMKC laid the foundation for my success."

Along with working for the NIH, Spong is associate editor of *Obstetrics & Gynecology* and an editor of *William's Obstetrics, Management of High-Risk Pregnancy* and *Protocols of High Risk Pregnancy*. She is a program scientist for the NICHD Maternal Fetal Medicine Units Network, a network of 14 sites in the United States that performs clinical trials in high-risk pregnancies.

Go ahead, nominate!



Nominations are being accepted for the E. Grey Dimond, M.D., Take Wing Award, the School of Medicine Alumni Achievement Award and more.

Questions should be directed to Mary McCamy at mccamym@umkc.edu. Nominations are accepted year-round, however **the deadline for the 2008 awards is Feb. 1**. For a description of the awards and nomination instructions, log onto www.med.umkc.edu/alumni.



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