

Fall & Winter 2009

# Panorama

A Publication for Alumni & Friends of the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine



**Lisa Lowe, M.D.,  
leads the UMKC  
School of Medicine  
Department  
of Radiology  
into a new  
era**

*“Advancing the Health  
of Our Community”*

# dean's message

The University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine has placed an increased emphasis in the past few years on meeting the health needs of our community — local, national, and international — through training the health care workforce, developing biomedical research programs that respond to community health needs, and directing care of the underserved as an economic “anchor” in the urban core. We now have nearly four decades of training physicians and have recently added master’s degree programs to provide training in allied health and clinical research. Our research funding has seen a dramatic increase, and our strategic planning in research will increasingly focus on the genetic, molecular, social and environmental factors related to medical conditions with an impact in our own community, such as trauma, blindness, addictions, and chronic diseases.

Our faculty at our affiliated hospitals provide over \$150 million annually in charity care, and our medical students run a safety net clinic for the homeless in downtown Kansas City. The annual revenues of the UMKC health science schools on Hospital Hill are approximately \$70 million, and combined with all of our affiliated hospitals, the annual revenues are over \$3.2 billion. Thus, academic medical centers serve as the economic anchors for the stability they provide in their communities, including thousands of jobs. During times of economic downturns, this stability, in addition to the other missions of education, research and clinical care, is critical to the communities where academic medical centers are located.

This past February, Congress enacted the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), an economic stimulus package that in part pumped \$10 billion into extramural medical research efforts through the National Institutes of Health, bringing both short- and long-term

The annual revenues of the UMKC health science schools on Hospital Hill are approximately \$70 million, and combined with all of our affiliated hospitals, the annual revenues are over \$3.2 billion.



benefits to our economic status and public health. Five UMKC School of Medicine researchers received ARRA awards, totaling nearly \$3 million and creating new research jobs.

State appropriations also supported efforts to increase jobs and provide additional benefits. One such program is the Caring for Missourians proposal, which provides \$40 million to public higher education institutions to increase the training of health care providers for Missouri. The share of funds for the UMKC School of Medicine — \$5.5 million — will support recruitment of students in Missouri into medicine, while also creating new jobs in medical education.

We extend our thanks to the president, members of Congress, Missouri elected officials, and the American public for their generous support in funding these endeavors in research and education. Medical research brings hope, and medical education brings new physicians and other providers to care for our citizens. We are proud to be part of a community that brings hope and care to our citizens, our state, our country, and the world.

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

Featuring entertainment  
by the internationally  
renowned Bobby Watson  
Quartet of UMKC's  
Conservatory of  
Music and Dance



UMKC School  
of Medicine

presents

Jazz Night  
2010

"No winter lasts forever;  
no spring skips its turn."  
~Hal Borland

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7-10 p.m.  
Tuxedo optional

Proceeds benefit the  
UMKC School of Medicine's  
Sirridge Office of Medical  
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14



22



32

 **Come celebrate Jazz Night 2010!**   
See Page 3.

“No winter lasts forever;  
no spring skips its turn.”  
~Hal Borland



52



50



16



27

**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, Veteran's Affairs Medical Center and The Center for Behavioral Medicine.

# in this issue

- 14 UMKC Health Sciences Library collaborates with area medical schools for traveling *Changing the Face of Medicine* exhibit
- 37 2008 - 2009 Annual Report
- 47 UMKC remembers Dr. Fred DeFeo



## on the cover

- 16 **A Program on the Rise**  
Recent changes have the Department of Radiology receiving attention, respect of the health care profession

## in every issue

- 2 **Dean's message**
- 6 **Rounds**
- 48 **Alumni Updates**
- 55 **Alumni Association president's note**
- 56 **2010 Events**

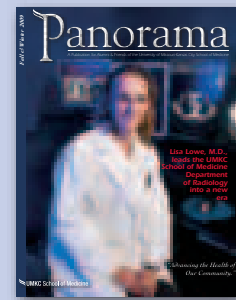
## features

- 22 **Departments of Psychiatry, Ob/Gyn** address risk factors in pregnant women
- 26 **When it comes to CPR,** timing is everything  
UMKC researchers are helping to re-write the book for first responders
- 28 **Crisis Intervention Team** improves consumer, law enforcement relationship
- 32 **Endowed chair** brings innovative research, funding to UMKC Vision Research Center, Department of Ophthalmology



## alumni

- 48 **UMKC SOM appoints** new alumni, constituent relations officer
- 49 **Alumna cares** for patients around globe
- 50 **Pediatric gastroenterologist** wins Autism Society of America's 2009 Professional of the Year award
- 52 **Mayor honors Comninellis** for humanitarian efforts



**On the Cover**  
Lisa Lowe, M.D., UMKC School of Medicine chair of radiology and director of the radiology residency program. See story on Page 16.

## Panorama

Volume 14 ■ Number 2  
**Fall & Winter 2009**

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Panorama is published twice a year for alumni, faculty and friends. Our magazine is produced by the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine Office of Educational Resources.

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**Kevin Dowlathahi, MS 1, shakes hands with George Harris, M.D., professor of community and family medicine and assistant dean for Years 1 and 2 medicine, as Alice Arredondo, assistant dean for admissions and recruitment, waits to greet him during the School of Medicine's 2009 InDOctrination Ceremony on Aug. 21 at Pierson Auditorium.**



**Poorvi Desai, MS 1, proudly displays a School of Medicine sweatshirt following the InDOctrination Ceremony.**



**First-year medical students (back row, left to right) Mitesh Patel, Michael Nikolov, Michael Ivers, Tess Heisserer, Nuvpreet Bhandal. (Front row, left to right) Craig Turner, Asha Nookala, Sarah Jafari, Poorvi Desai, Sarah Baig, Alexandra Alpough. The students are led by Year 1 Docent Emran Rouf, M.D., professor of medicine.**

## InDOctrination, White Coat Ceremony highlight first-week activities

With words of encouragement from a recent graduate and the reading of the Oath of Physicians, a class of 109 students began the six-year journey to earning their medical degrees on Aug. 21 during the Year One Medical Student InDOctrination Ceremony at Pierson Auditorium.

InDOctrination and the annual White Coat Ceremony on Aug. 15 at the White Recital Hall were among the highlights of the first week of activities as students began a new school year. Students were introduced to their respective docent units during the ceremonies.

Two teaching awards were presented during the White Coat Ceremony. Navanshu Arora, M.D., assistant professor of medicine and Blue 2 docent, received the Outstanding Years 3-6 Docent Award,

and Thomas Frederickson, M.D., clinical assistant professor of medicine and Year 1 docent, was presented the award for 2009 Outstanding Years 1-2 Docent.

Year 3 students were later presented with white coats by their individual docents.

Matt McLaughlin, M.D., '09, spoke to the students and their families at the Year 1 ceremony about his experiences and what they have to look forward to during the next six years. McLaughlin said that while their lives as medical students will at times be difficult, those around them will know exactly what they're going through and that they should support one another through the journey.

## SOM sponsors Hospital Hill 5K Run



**The UMKC School of Medicine served for the third year in a row as the title sponsor of the 5K run at the 36th annual Hospital Hill Run on June 6, 2009. The 5K run drew more than 1,150 participants, and a number of SOM students, faculty and staff were among the volunteers who helped in various capacities on race day.**

More than 1,150 runners lined up on Grand Boulevard in front of Crown Center just before 7:30 a.m. on June 6, 2009, for the UMKC School of Medicine 5K portion of the 36th Annual Hospital Hill Run. It was the third year in a row the SOM has served as the title sponsor for the 5K run, but the connections go back much further.

The School was still in its infant stages in 1974 when SOM founder E. Grey Dimond, M.D., launched the first Hospital Hill Run as an event to coincide with a postgraduate course dealing with health and physical fitness. Today, the Hospital Hill Run is one of Kansas City's premiere road races.

SOM students, faculty and staff were among the nearly 1,000 volunteers on hand last June to help at various points along the race route including aid stations and the first aid tent. Mild weather on race day helped to lighten the workload for the first aid workers compared to previous years.

Dale Dexter of Olathe, Kan., won the men's 5K for the second year in a row, and Cindy Cameron of Westwood, Kan., won the women's race. More than

4,800 athletes completed the races in this year's Hospital Hill Run, which included a half marathon, a 10K run, and a hand cycle race, in addition to the 5K run.

For the first two years of the race, the event was combined with a School of Medicine picnic. During the early years, the race route took runners by many of the hospitals affiliated with the SOM.

In his biography, "Take Wing! Interesting Things that Happened on my way to School," Dimond wrote that, "Near the beginning of their route, the runners came up a long slope, immediately by Diastole. For many years, it gave me a surge of happiness to stand on the southwest corner of 25th and Holmes and see the thousands of men and women go by, many calling out a greeting."

The 37th Annual Hospital Hill run is scheduled for June 5, 2010. For additional information and registration for this event, go to <http://www.hospitalhillrun.com>.



**Nearly 30 runners lined up for the start of the annual Dash For Diabetes race at Shawnee Mission Park on Oct. 18, 2009. The event raised money for the Kansas City Free Health Clinic.**

## Race raises cash for diabetes

Chilly weather didn't deter the runners and volunteers from the School of Medicine who participated in the third annual Dash For Diabetes on Oct. 18, 2009, at Shawnee Mission Park to raise money for the Kansas City Free Health Clinic.

Twenty members of service fraternity Alpha Phi Omega helped with the race that drew nearly 30 runners and raised more than \$600 for the free health clinic, which provides service for those without access to basic health care. Members of the Asian Pacific American Medical Student Association (APAMSA) and the Kansas City Free Health Clinic also sponsored a health fair on race day.

Dash for Diabetes is sponsored by the Missouri State Medical Association in conjunction with the American Medical Association. Students from UMKC organized this year's event with support from those from the University of Missouri-Columbia and the Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences.

Andrew Spencer, MS 3, Adam Fleddermann, MS 3, and Tracy Trupka, MS 5, were awarded a first-place tie in the race. Mariam Nawas, MS 3, was second, and Priya Gujarati, MS 3, was third.

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## School of Medicine cosponsors Critical Mass Gathering

The UMKC School of Medicine co-sponsored the Fourth Annual Critical Mass Gathering, a special networking event for minority medical students, residents, and physicians on Oct. 10, 2009, at the Kauffman Foundation.

Edwin Galan, MA, MSN, ARNP, FNP-C, who served as the Region VII Minority Health Coordinator in the United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, delivered the keynote speech on "Health Care Reform and Disparities in Care." The event brought minority medical students and residents together with area minority physicians for the purposes of networking, career development and mentorship opportunities.

Gina Porter, MS 5, also spoke about a September 2009 Student National Medical Association-sponsored event, "SNMA March for Health Equity: Selma to Montgomery," in which concerned individuals from all over the country assembled in Alabama in a march for health equity.

Saint Luke's Hospital, Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences, the University of Kansas School of Medicine, and the Metropolitan Medical Society of Greater Kansas City also co-sponsored the event.





## UMKC Residents Poster Session Presentations

Thirteen internal medicine residents from the UMKC School of Medicine made poster presentations at the annual Missouri Chapter of the American Chest Physicians Scientific Meeting at Tan-Tar-A Resort at Osage Beach, Mo., Sept. 24-27, 2009. The residents brought home second-place awards for presentations in research and patient safety. Residents practiced their poster presentations in the lobby of Theater A

prior to the Missouri-ACP meetings. Gopi Astik, M.D., (top photo) stands in front of her poster during the Missouri-ACP meeting at Tan Tar A Resort. Anwaar Saeed, M.D., discusses her poster with George Riesz, M.D., chairman and professor of internal medicine, (bottom photo) during the practice session at the School of Medicine.



## Horine named new director of major gifts



**Horine**

Troy Horine has joined the UMKC School of Medicine as the director of major gifts. He comes from Washington University in St. Louis, where he was the assistant vice chancellor for major gifts. Previously, he served as assistant vice president for development at the Saint Louis University Health Sciences Center after serving 18 years at Creighton University in various roles: director of annual giving, director of

major gifts, director of development and assistant vice president for University Relations.

"I came to UMKC because I believe the University and the School of Medicine are poised to move to

a new level of engagement with the Kansas City community as it positions itself as a leading center in life sciences research and health care delivery," Horine said.

The Wichita, Kan., native earned a bachelor's of science in secondary education and business at Kansas State University, received a master's of business administration at Creighton University, and was the director of development at Newman University in the beginning of his career.

Horine said, "My main goals at the School of Medicine are to assist in preparing it for the University's next comprehensive campaign, to expand the School's base of support and to make it a top priority for philanthropic support among its constituents: particularly alumni, residency program graduates, and the region's major corporations and foundations."

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## Red Cross honors three UMKC staff

On July 7, 2009, the American Red Cross of Greater Kansas City honored three UMKC staff members who helped to save the life of an electrician who suffered cardiac arrest in August 2008 while installing lighting in the UMKC School of Medicine. They are Mary Anne Morgenege, coordinator of medical school admissions; Mark Hecker, PharmD., director of School of Medicine clinical research; and Officer Boyd Breedlove, UMKC Police Department.

When Morgenege and Hecker heard someone call 911 for assistance, they ran to the injured man and performed two-person CPR. Breedlove, who received the 911 call, arrived at the scene and administered automated external defibrillator shocks on the man until emergency medical personnel arrived and transported the electrician to the hospital.

Morgenege received the Red Cross Certificate of Merit, a national-level award recognizing community members who save a life by using Red Cross skills. Hecker received the Certificate of Extraordinary Personal Action, a chapter-level award recognizing someone who saves a life. Breedlove received the Lifesaving Award for the Professional Responder, a national award for individuals who save a life while working in their professional capacity.



**Mary Anne Morgenege, coordinator of medical school admissions; Mark Hecker, PharmD., director of School of Medicine clinical research; and Officer Boyd Breedlove, UMKC Police Department, were honored by the American Red Cross of Greater Kansas City during a special presentation on July 7 at the School of Medicine.**

The actions of the three were also recognized in an article that appeared in the Kansas City Chapter of the American Red Cross newsletter, *Response Matters*, and its annual report.

## Eve Medlock appointed director of Graduate Medical Education



**Medlock**

Eve Robb Medlock, who served for the past two years as a senior education team coordinator at the UMKC School of Medicine, has been selected as the new director of Graduate Medical Education. She replaces Rick Trullinger, Ph.D., who was appointed to the role of assistant dean for allied health programs.

In her previous role, Medlock served as an adviser for the Blue 1-4 teams, oversaw the Oral Surgery/MD, transfer, and international students, and coordinated student electives taken through the School of Medicine's partner hospitals. She worked as a campus ombudsman for UMKC, serving as a confidential resource for problem solving needs on the Volker Campus before coming to the School of Medicine.

Medlock is a graduate of UMKC with a master's degree in liberal studies with an emphasis on executive leadership and conflict resolution.

## Ardinger appointed section chief of genetics in Department of Pediatrics



**Ardinger**

Holly H. Ardinger, M.D., associate professor of pediatrics, has been appointed section chief of genetics in the Department of Pediatrics at the School of Medicine and Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics. She joined the SOM and CMH in 2004 as a member of the genetics section and has served as section chief and medical director of clinical dysmorphism and metabolism. Ardinger received her medical degree from the University of Iowa College of Medicine and did her residency in pediatrics at the University of Iowa and the University of California-San Diego. She completed a fellowship in medical genetics at the University of Iowa.

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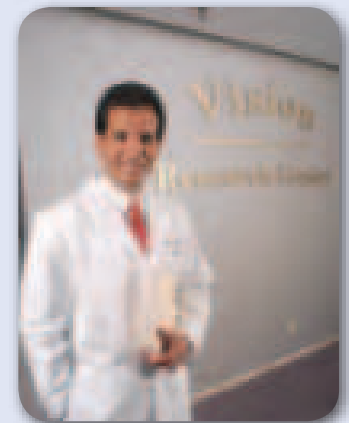
## Ingram's Magazine names Sabates 2009 Top Doctor

Nelson Sabates, M.D., F.A.C.S., '86 – professor and chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology, president of the Vision Research Foundation, co-director of the Vision Research Center, and president and chief executive officer of Sabates Eye Centers – is a member of the 2009 Ingram's class of Top Doctors. Only 10 doctors were selected in the Kansas City area for their superior credentials and recommendations from their peers.

A national and international lecturer, Sabates has authored numerous presentations, articles and book chapters on ophthalmology and is a scientific reviewer for several national publications. He is active in clinical research and clinical trials dedicated to treatments of retinal diseases. A member of the Alpha Omega Alpha medical honor society, he specializes in surgery of the retina and vitreous. His research

interests include surgical and medical treatment of age related macular degeneration and diabetic retinopathy.

Not only is Sabates known throughout the Kansas City community for his dedication to clinical care and research efforts, but also for his generosity to various philanthropies in the area, such as the Sabates Eye Center's annual Trolley Run to benefit the Children's Center for the Visually Impaired.



**Sabates**



*Paul Cuddy, Pharm. D., senior associate dean, (left) and Alice Arredondo, associate dean for admissions and recruitment, presented an exhibit on Innovation in Medical Education at the 2009 Association of American Medical Colleges meeting in Boston on Nov. 5-11.*

## School of Medicine leaders attend AAMC meeting

School of Medicine Dean Betty M. Drees, M.D., and Louise Arnold, Ph.D., associate dean for medical education and research, served as speaker and moderator during various sessions of the 2009 Association of American Medical Colleges annual meeting in Boston on Nov. 5-11, 2009.

Drees spoke at a session on "The Ideal Academic Health Center" that explored what future academic medical centers will look like, who will make up the students, faculty and leaders of those centers, and offered insight on organizational leadership and values.

She also served as chair for the AMA Section on Medical Schools Governing Council luncheon meeting, and the AMA Section on Medical Schools Business Meeting/Educational Sessions that provided medical education colleagues the opportunities to network, assist in the development of AMA policy, discuss issues

affecting medical education and highlight curricular innovations.

Arnold participated in leading a Research in Medical Education session on professionalism.

Other members of the SOM faculty who attended the annual meetings included Alice Arredondo, associate dean for admissions and recruitment; Paul Cuddy, Pharm.D., senior associate dean; Susan Hathaway, Ph.D., manager of student affairs; Harry Jonas, M.D., special consultant to the dean; Brenda Rodgers, M.D., associate dean for student affairs; and Susan Wilson, Ph.D., M.B.A., associate dean for cultural enhancement and diversity. Two students, Robert Buchmann, MS 6, and Mohammed Saif Ahmed, MS 5, also attended the student section meetings.

The SOM presented an exhibit on Innovations in Medical Education.

## Project R.E.C.E.S.S. promotes healthy habits for children



**Ryan Stokes, MS 2, Gretchen Woodfork, MS 2, Vanessa Smith, MS 2, Mwamba Malenkani, MS 2, and Alexandra Alpough, MS 1, take part in a presentation on the hazards of smoking.**

Students from the UMKC School of Medicine and School of Dentistry joined forces on Oct. 31, 2009, to promote healthy lifestyles and encourage life-long healthy habits among elementary school children.

Project R.E.C.E.S.S., "Restoring Exercise, Cutting Calories, Emphasizing Hygiene, Stopping Substance Abuse in Kids," brought together about 40 third, fourth and fifth-graders from Longfellow Elementary School and medical and dental students for a day that included games, activities such as a moon bounce and face painting, and prizes for those who participated.

The School of Medicine's Medical Student Advisory Council (MSAC) organized a hand washing booth, which included a song and dance to help

remember when and how to wash your hands. The Family Medicine Interest Group sponsored exercise booths, which included the moon bounce and a karate demonstration. The Student National Medical Association (SNMA) put together substance abuse prevention activities that included experiments simulating lungs affected by tobacco smoke. The School of Dentistry's Students Take Action (STA) organized an oral health booth that included demonstrations with models on how to floss and brush.

Project R.E.C.E.S.S. was a community service day project co-sponsored by the schools of Medicine and Dentistry, Family Health Partners, Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics, Gates Barbecue, and Wild Oats Grocers.

# UMKC Health Sciences Library



*Dean Betty M. Drees, M.D., Barbara Atkinson, M.D., dean of the University of Kansas School of Medicine, and Sandra Willis, D.O., dean of Heartland Health Sciences University and former docent at the UMKC SOM, lead a discussion panel about women in medicine on Oct. 9, 2009, at the UMKC School of Medicine as part of the national traveling Changing the Face of Medicine exhibit.*

## collaborates with area medical schools for traveling Changing the Face

Written by Hannah Crippen

Photography by Robert Steckmest

Art Directed & Designed by Suzanne M. Gauch

**F**ormer UMKC School of Medicine Dean Marjorie S. Sirridge, M.D., was the keynote speaker at the opening event of the *Changing the Face of Medicine: Celebrating America's Women Physicians* exhibit.

**A featured physician in the exhibit, Sirridge shared inspirational stories of her medical education journey and those of other historic female medical figures during her speech.**

Kansas City was host for the national traveling exhibit from Oct. 3 to Nov. 11, 2009. The UMKC Health Sciences Library was part of the collaboration of the three medical schools in the metropolitan area that included the University of Kansas Medical Center's Dykes Library and the Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences Library. They worked together to coordinate and plan the events during the exhibition that was based at Dykes Library.

The School of Medicine held three events during the exhibit, which tells the story of American women's two-century struggle to access medical education and

celebrates their honors and achievements throughout the years.

In 2000, the National Library of Medicine (NLM) began developing an exhibition about the history of America's women physicians that would include 340 doctors spanning 160 years. Its goals were to illustrate the larger themes in the history of women in medicine, while inspiring the next generation of physicians, according to the NLM Web site.

Between August 2005 and November 2010, the *Changing the Face of Medicine* exhibit will have been on display in 61 libraries across the United States. The Exhibition Program developed several strategies to provide on-site and online visitors access. Components of the exhibition included a digital portrait gallery, interpretive videos, artifact interactions and a Web site to experience the stories of the featured women physicians.

The NLM, in Bethesda, Md., and the American Library Association, Chicago, Ill., organized the traveling exhibition with support from the NLM, the National Institutes of Health Office of Research on Women's Health, and the American Medical Women's Association. The traveling exhibition is based on a larger exhibit that was displayed at the NLM from 2003 to 2005. The local exhibit received additional support through grants from the National Network of Libraries



**Marjorie S. Sirridge, M.D., former dean of the UMKC School of Medicine and co-founder of the UMKC Sirridge Office of Medical Humanities and Bioethics, addresses the audience as the keynote speaker at the opening event of the Changing the Face of Medicine national traveling exhibit on Oct. 3, 2009, at the University of Kansas Medical Center's Dykes Library. Sirridge was also a featured physician in the exhibit. Photo courtesy of Marvin McInnis**

# of Medicine exhibit

of Medicine and the Health Sciences Library Network of Kansas City.

A discussion panel at the School of Medicine on Oct. 9, 2009, included Dean Betty Drees, M.D., Barbara Atkinson, M.D., dean of the University of Kansas School of Medicine and vice chancellor of the KU Medical Center, and Sandra Willsie, D.O., dean of Heartland Health Sciences University and former docent at the UMKC SOM. These three influential women shared their stories of triumph, challenges and accomplishments with an audience of mostly women students, residents, faculty and staff. Some strong, similar themes in the women's stories were the importance of mentors, passion, family support, and management of change.

Drees, who had already started a family before going to medical school, said she was fortunate to grow up with a group of strong women. She started out as an English major at the University of Kansas and later

transferred to Wichita State University. She took the advice of her WSU adviser, who suggested she study medicine. "To her it was just another day, but to me, it was a transforming thing," Drees said. "When people are at a transitional time, mentors can make a huge difference."

As dean of the SOM, Drees is an example of a role model of a woman in leadership. "I care deeply about the mission of this school," she said. "It's about being there to care for people who need you."

Drees advised future and current women physicians to strike a balance between blaming hardships on their gender and making sure they are treated fairly in the workplace.

Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine (ELAM), specifically aimed at women in leadership positions, was co-founded by Atkinson; Drees and Willsie are both alumnae of the program. Drees said the networking opportunity of the group is invaluable, as is a sense of self-awareness.

All three women mentioned the importance of taking time out for oneself and to have some fun. "Don't let yourself become isolated," Drees said. "Connect to other people." †

*"The entrance of women into the profession of medicine is an event of importance – not only to the medical profession but to society – and it will always have a place in human history."*  
– William H. Welch, M.D., first dean of Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, during a 1911 meeting of The New York Academy of Medicine. Johns Hopkins admitted women from the time of its establishment in 1893.

# A P Program



**E**ach year during the annual Association of University Radiologists meeting, teams of radiology residents and their program directors gather from across the country to take part in a vexing competition to diagnose a series of extreme disease cases using only radiology images and little additional patient history.

This past March, Lisa Lowe, M.D., UMKC School of Medicine chair of radiology and director of the radiology residency program, Jeff Kunin, M.D., Saint Luke's Hospital chair of radiology and UMKC associate program director, along with UMKC chief residents Tim Morgan, D.O., and David Saldana, M.D., formed a combined team with the University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita that attended the meeting in Arlington, Va., and returned as runners up in the competition. It was a major feather in the local radiology team's cap considering that the winning teams in the competition have historically come from the top radiology programs in the country.



on the

# Rise

Recent changes have the Department of Radiology receiving attention, respect of the health care profession



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

# Education comes first for

## Dr. Rosado de Christenson



Jeff Kunin, M.D., associate program director and Saint Luke's Hospital chairman of radiology, reviews images with Lisa Lowe, M.D., chair of radiology and director of the radiology residency program, Julia Prescott, M.D., radiology resident, Melissa Rosado de Christenson, M.D., F.A.C.R., clinical professor of radiology.

Melissa L. Rosado de Christenson, M.D., F.A.C.R., clinical professor of radiology, has always had a keen focus on education. Her parents were quick to emphasize the importance of that as she grew up and attended high school in Puerto Rico.

That characteristic helped her become one of the first 100 women to enroll in The Johns Hopkins University. Rosado de Christenson, who comes from a long line of military personnel, later carried that zeal for learning and her military heritage to Bethesda, Md., where she joined the first class to enroll in the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS).

And her passion for education was a major point of emphasis when Rosado de Christenson was recruited just more than a year ago to join the radiology staff at Saint Luke's Hospital and the UMKC School of Medicine Department of Radiology faculty.

"That was critical in making my decision to come here," said Rosado de Christenson, who now serves as section chief of thoracic imaging at

*"Some places I explored, they did not have a strong academic interest, yet they were a university. Here, there's a tremendous emphasis on education."  
— Melissa L. Rosado de Christenson, M.D., F.A.C.R., clinical professor of radiology*

Saint Luke's. "Some places I explored, they did not have a strong academic interest, yet they were a university. Here, there's a tremendous emphasis on education, and I was very encouraged by what I saw."

What she found at UMKC was an opportunity to share her

"It was a real honor to place second ahead of many of the top programs," Lowe said. "Traditionally, the winners are from the largest, most prestigious institutions, in part because they have the most people on their teams. Not this year."

Lowe and the UMKC SOM have plenty of reasons to take pride in what is happening within the School's radiology program.

Throughout the past decade or more, a myriad of forces ranging from economics to politics have made the field of radiology one of the most competitive medical specialties in health care. In the midst of all this, the UMKC SOM radiology residency program is carving a path that has boosted the program's image and at the same time made it a much more competitive residency program.

An integrated curriculum now incorporates 12 months of internship training — generally required prior to starting most four-year radiology residencies — within a five-year residency program at UMKC. Combine that with training in some of the most advanced imaging technologies from highly skilled faculty members, many of whom are experts in specialized areas of radiology, and you have the makings of a program that is the pick of medical school graduates looking to get into the field.

This year, the SOM radiology program received more than 400 applications

Jon Phelan, M.D., radiology resident, Rosado de Christenson and Lowe.



for six residency positions and filled those openings from its top candidates. The bottom line: a large number of graduating medical students want to get into radiology, and more of the top students — as well as radiology faculty — are showing a growing interest in UMKC's program.

"The whole model we have here is very progressive," Lowe said. "It's been wildly popular with the residents and it's caused our program to become much more competitive with medical students."

But it's not just contest judges and residency applicants who are taking notice. This past February, after examining the SOM radiology residency, the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education cited the program as one of the best it reviewed and awarded its highest accreditation possible — a full five-years with commendation.

Much of the credit for the

program's growing stature, said Lawrence Ricci, D.O., assistant professor and clinical chairman of radiology for Truman Medical Centers, goes to Lowe, who joined the UMKC faculty in 2001 and took on the roles of department chair and residency program director in 2007.

"She's done an exceptional job. We wouldn't be having this conversation if she weren't part of this program," said Ricci, who did his radiology residency at UMKC and has been a member of the UMKC radiology department since 2002. "She has the energy and enthusiasm to make a difference in the program

and she's done that in a short amount of time."

One of the major changes Lowe made began with a conscious effort to create a synergy throughout the radiology programs at the SOM's affiliated hospitals: Truman Medical Centers, Saint Luke's Hospitals, Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics, and the Kansas City Veterans Affairs Medical Center. Medical students and residents spend time at the different institutions during their various rotations as they had in the past, but Lowe has promoted an esprit de corps that pulls all the departments together as members of one cohesive UMKC SOM program.

"We now have a department that has a passion for education and the teaching component," Kunin said. "They want to be here because of the residency program."

***"The whole model we have here is very progressive. It's been wildly popular with the residents and it's caused our program to become much more competitive with medical students."***  
***— Lisa Lowe, M.D., chair of radiology and director of the radiology residency program***

*Education comes first for Dr. Rosado de Christenson, Continued from Page 18*

experience, particularly in thoracic imaging, that she obtained in the military. Rosado de Christenson spent more than 13 of her 25-plus years in the military with the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology (AFIP) where she was first assigned as chief of pulmonary and mediastinal radiology and in 1995 became the first woman, as well as the first Air Force officer, to serve as chair and registrar of the department of radiologic pathology. Rosado de Christenson estimates that during her tenure, she had a hand in training more than 20,000 radiologists, residents and other physicians who came through the AFIP.

Rosado de Christenson said she found her passion for radiology early in her medical school career, when she was exposed to the field during her second year at the USUHS. Following her residency at George Washington University, Rosado de Christenson, a captain in the Air Force, served in the Philippines at the 13th Air Force Medical Center. Four years later, she became the first woman faculty member at the Department of Radiologic Pathology at the AFIP.

"Part of the reason I'm so passionate about education is that I want to give back that same education that I've received to the residents here," Rosado de Christenson said. "I've found the best way to learn is to teach."

When both her husband, also a physician and then a Navy captain, and she saw mandatory military retirement bearing down on them, Rosado de Christenson, who by then had risen to the rank of colonel, moved to Ohio State University where she worked for four years. In 2004, she received the Marie Sklodowska-Curie Award from the American Association for Women Radiologists for outstanding contributions to field of radiology. Rosado de Christenson focused

*Continued on Page 20*

*Fall & Winter 2009*

19



much of her academic attention on the radiologic-pathologic correlation of thoracic diseases, which has resulted in numerous published articles and speaking at both national and international meetings and as a visiting professor throughout the United States and abroad. A member of the American Board of Radiology, she is currently in charge of preparing the recertification examinations for chest radiology. She has also served as president of the American Association for Women Radiologists and the Latin American Chest Radiology Society.

Rosado de Christenson said she was lured to Kansas City by the opportunity to join a growing

radiology program with a strong academic interest offered by Jeff Kunin, M.D., chairman of radiology at Saint Luke's Hospital, and Lisa Lowe, M.D., UMKC SOM department chair and radiology residency program director, whom she knew from the AAWR.

"I thought UMKC and Saint Luke's Hospital, with the department

they have organized, offered me an opportunity to really make an impact on radiology education here and the area of thoracic imaging," Rosado de Christenson said. "I've been working for many years on educational methods, exploring how to take a resident who comes in with little knowledge about the subject and make them truly competent so that when they come out of residency to practice radiology they are able to offer excellent care." T



Frank Illoreta, radiology resident, and Lowe.

Activities such as a mentoring system that pairs faculty members with residents and senior residents with younger residents and students and promoting individual interests among residents and faculty have led to increased scholarly output. Faculty and senior residents serve as mentors on a personal level as well as invest in the younger residents' and students' academic interests, offering guidance in areas such as how to prepare a research grant proposal or oral, written or visual presentations of research findings. Outside interests, such as business or art, are strongly encouraged with some residents joining state and national organizations that influence key decisions that affect health care and radiology in particular. Others with a flair for art have produced medical illustrations for research publications. All of this has resulted in more than 80 published articles and research presentations since 2007 from the radiology residency program.

Ricci said those efforts and the acceptance of the radiology faculty at each of the hospitals

have paid off.

"It's a very unique operation and we all work very well together," Ricci said.

The diversity of training environments that residents and students are a part of by rotating through the different hospitals, each with its own unique patient population, is a big selling point for the department. So too, Lowe said, is the diversity of both gender and race among the radiology faculty, nearly one-third of which are women compared to the fewer than 25 percent of the average population of academic radiology faculty across the country.

The department now boasts a faculty of more than 40 radiologists, a number of whom were recently recruited from places such as Washington University, the University of California-San Francisco, Johns Hopkins and Harvard, regarded as some of the leading radiology programs in the country. Beyond that, many of the UMKC radiology faculty bring with them fellowship training and expertise in a wide range of radiological subspecialties,

# Mentoring and Increased Scholarly Output

Mentoring and scholarly activity in terms of research has grown among faculty, residents and students from the UMKC School of Medicine Radiology Residency program. Since 2007, the department has received or produced:

**9 - Research Awards**  
**13 - Books or book chapters**  
**14 - Oral presentations at national meetings**

**27 - Poster presentations at national meetings**  
**33 - Peer-reviewed publications**

To view a more comprehensive list of awards, presentations, and publications from the Diagnostic Radiology Residency Program, go to <http://med.umkc.edu/residency/radiology/awards>.

ranging from neuroradiology to musculoskeletal and thoracic imaging.

Kunin, who joined the UMKC faculty shortly after Lowe, recruited many of the subspecialists now on staff at Saint Luke's, where residents spend one half of their rotations. Together, he and Lowe made it a point to attract from across the country the best radiologists they could find who also shared a passion for teaching and a willingness to buy into the department's academic mission.

"Residents are trying to gain expertise in different body sections, so they really need to be taught by specialists," Kunin said.

Lowe said that while it makes for an even stronger educational experience for residents and medical students to spend time with subspecialists and gain a deeper knowledge of the subject matter, it also has raised the quality of radiology training and service throughout the department.

"It's elevated the game for everybody," Lowe said.

For those residents now learning the profession, Lowe said the focus has shifted from training through sheer exposure to a high volume of patients to an extremely strong educational

process. A cornerstone of that process is one of the few categorical programs in the country that also incorporates the preliminary year of clinical training throughout a five-year curriculum. Most radiology residency programs require residents to spend a preliminary year of medicine training elsewhere before beginning their

residency. Less than 20 percent of the academic radiology programs across the country are categorical, taking residents straight out of medical school, and of those, fewer than 10 offer an integrated

curriculum such as UMKC's. The benefit to residents, Lowe said, is actually two-fold.

By spreading the 12 months of clinical training throughout their radiology training, Lowe said residents get a better understanding of what physicians are looking for when they order an imaging procedure. It also allows them to explore areas of subspecialization in which they may want to pursue a fellowship after their radiology training; for example, someone who finds an interest in musculoskeletal radiology might elect to spend

some of their clinical months in orthopedic surgery, Lowe said.

Because of the number of subspecialists among the faculty, the program offers a full breadth of rotations in all areas of radiology, including some areas such as neurointerventional, cardiac and obstetrics imaging that aren't available at all training programs. As a result, nearly all graduates of the program are electing to continue their education with fellowship training. With increasing frequency, UMKC residents have been accepted into the most prestigious fellowship programs in the country. Recent acceptances include Harvard, Johns Hopkins and Northwestern University.

And the constantly advancing technology continues to push the department to remain on the cutting edge of radiology by offering techniques such as neurointerventional procedures, magnetic resonance spectroscopy, perfusion imaging in the brain, MR enterography, tumor ablation, and coronary CT angiography. All of this, Lowe said, is lifting the UMKC SOM radiology program to new heights and making it more appealing to incoming residents.

"Basically, they're going to have the opportunity to learn radiology better here than they're going to learn it somewhere else," Lowe said.

***"Basically, (residents are) going to have the opportunity to learn radiology better here than they're going to learn it somewhere else."***

***— Lowe***



# Departments of Psy Ob/Gyn address *risk factors* pregnant women



# chiatry,

in

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

## “You’re having a baby boy!”

The best news to some may be traumatic for others. In the summer of 2009, nurses at Truman Medical Center (TMC) Hospital Hill were worried about a young pregnant woman from Mexico who was refusing to eat. They sent her to J. Martin Maldonado-Duran, M.D., UMKC associate professor of psychiatry.

Maldonado interviewed the woman to determine why she would not eat. During the course of his interview, she said, “I feel like I have something stuck in my stomach, like a ball. It is depressing, and it doesn’t go away, so I get filled up quickly and don’t feel like eating.”

Making a connection, Maldonado asked her how she felt about her pregnancy. “Then she started crying and saying she was having a boy,” Maldonado said. “She did not want another boy because she already had two who fought all the time. She felt terribly guilty for being angry at the baby.”

Maldonado explained to her that this baby might be very different from the others and calmed her down. Crying and expressing her feelings eventually helped her to start eating and gaining weight. She was able to understand how the emotions were transferring to a physical sensation, like news she could not swallow.

“Some mothers feel too guilty to voice their negative feelings about their pregnancies because it is supposed to be such a happy time,” Maldonado said. “People have multiple feelings about pregnancy, so sometimes talking to the mothers can help them to free their emotions.”

Maldonado, an internationally renowned and widely published expert in child psychiatry and maternal-infant bonding, joined the UMKC School of Medicine in 2007, drawn by the academic atmosphere and at-risk population at Truman Medical Center (TMC).

“Dr. Maldonado’s area of psychiatric expertise fits our needs really well,” said David Mundy, M.D., associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology and maternal/fetal medicine. “The need’s been here, but we have not had consistent resources. We have had fragmented psychiatric care, and our patients need day-to-day interaction. Dr. Maldonado also has a great interest in our patient population. He gives us more information and tools to screen for psychiatric disorders.”

# Maldonado helps KC family cope with SID



Photo courtesy of Patty Rotert

**Zachary Rotert and his mother, Patty, bond as they try to work through Zachary's sensory integration dysfunction. Patty said J. Martin Maldonado-Duran, M.D., UMKC associate professor of psychiatry, gave them hope and invaluable advice.**

Nurses told Patty Rotert she had a dramatic little boy after she gave birth to her first child, Zachary, three years ago. Patty and her husband, Brian, thought this was a cute trait in their newborn, until Patty read more about temperament.

Zachary was not sleeping and was difficult to soothe. With her motherly instinct and 11 years of experience in teaching eighth graders, Patty knew something was not right. During her research, she found sensory integration dysfunction (SID) and said it described her son's behavior almost perfectly.

"If I would have listened to my intuition, I would have been right every single time," Patty said. "It's amazing."

One patronizing pediatrician, one aloof psychologist – who only spoke to Patty and Brian, not Zachary – and two years later, Patty found J. Martin Maldonado-Duran, M.D., UMKC associate professor of psychiatry.

In November 2008, Zachary began having night terrors that would last an hour at a time five or six times a night. The Roterts

Mundy has been at the UMKC School of Medicine and TMC for more than 20 years and has seen the need for psychiatric support of pregnant women. He, Maldonado and Anita Patel, M.D., a UMKC resident in psychiatry, are in the beginning stages of a study at TMC to identify risk factors in pregnant mothers that connect with adverse outcomes for their babies.

"Dr. (Dev) Maulik (chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology) and Dr. Mundy have a very good vision of the importance of the psychosocial factors of pregnancy, which not all physicians in the world do," Maldonado said. "They realize the importance of the emotional aspects of pregnancy, and that is really crucial."

The study includes a screening of 60 women between the ages of 18 and 35 in their third trimester of their first or second pregnancy. The women come to their regular appointments to share their thoughts about their pregnancy, their attitude, and how they imagine their baby will be. "We call this the emotional context of pregnancy," Maldonado said. "We try to explore the relationship between this context and a history of anxiety, depression, or maltreatment in the mother."

The interview will be conducted by the main investigator, a UMKC psychiatry resident or a practicum candidate for the masters in social work from the UMKC School of Social Work.

Mundy said TMC's population – rich in immigrants, African Americans, Hispanics and those who are poverty stricken – is one prone to pathophysiology, economic deprivation, social isolation and other risk factors. He also pointed out that pregnant women are traditionally excluded from medical studies; therefore, not enough is known about how mental illness affects pregnancy and which interventions best improve outcomes.

"This gives us the opportunity to screen pregnant mothers for things like depression, anxiety, post traumatic stress, and relationship status to see if they have an effect on the outcome of pregnancy and the relationships with her parents, her baby and the health care system," Mundy said. "If we can identify the risk factors, we can then see if an intervention will improve the outcome."

Pregnant women with emotional disturbances, especially depression, have children who have higher rates of aggression, hyperactivity, inattention and future academic problems.

**J. Martin Maldonado-Duran, M.D., UMKC associate professor of psychiatry, interviews a new mother of a one-week-old baby boy to see how she is coping with her son after the death of his father.**



*Continued on Page 26*



Part of the study will focus on “mind mindedness” – the pregnant mother’s attitude about the baby as an individual and its role in the relationship. This includes the capacity of the mother to think about the emotions and uniqueness of the baby, to “read” his or her internal states and to be sensitive to them in the future.

“Ideally, we would like to see what type of relationships and stressors are affecting mother and baby,” Mundy said.

Innovative studies are not new to Maldonado who, while at the Menninger Clinic in Topeka, studied and conducted research on a range of infant mental health issues. While in Topeka, he opened an infant mental health clinic before coming to UMKC. A consultant to The Children’s Place and Parents as Teachers, Maldonado continues to travel the world to teach about infant and toddler mental health. He said the TMC population presents an exciting opportunity for him. “There is a sad need here,”

to think about their own mental states and those of their babies. “We hope it will help relieve the risks for the baby and the mother,” Maldonado said. As he works with mothers and infants, Maldonado also continues his work with children and adolescents (See sidebar).

Maldonado and his team at Truman Behavioral Health Center’s Child and Family Services strive to help parents to help babies. “People are very aware of post-partum depression, but women also have other problems with anxiety, memories of trauma, history of



“I had the fortune of working with wonderful teachers who exposed us to the plight of infants,” Maldonado said. “It seemed our efforts to help a child at age seven could be transferred to help a child when the brain is still in such a rapid development.”

Maldonado is the editor of *Infant and Toddler Mental Health: Models of Clinical Intervention*, a book published in 2002 that continues to receive recognition. “It has contributions from very well-known authors from many countries,” Maldonado said. “Its emphasis is on treatment strategies rather than just a description of the disorders, and it includes what the clinicians actually do, as well as recommendations for different models of intervention.”

The father of two girls has dedicated his career to child and infant psychiatry, yet he said the uniqueness of each baby still amazes him. “Literally, what works with one baby does not work with another,” he said.

“I advise mothers and fathers to follow their instincts,” Maldonado said. “The books only go so far. Many mothers are trapped in this advice on where the baby should sleep, what the baby should eat, etc. Mothers should follow their instincts and read their baby. The biological program is set up for you to go to your crying baby and pick him or her up; it’s there for a reason.”

Maldonado said. “It’s a stimulating and multicultural setting with a high number of deliveries by people with all kinds of risks in pregnancy, and hopefully we can provide some help.”

Maldonado helped open a parent/infant psychotherapy group for mothers – Mentalization Therapy Group. Mentalization is a new strategy for people with borderline personality disorder. It allows them

substance abuse and numerous other risk factors,” Maldonado said. “We have to create services for them to meet their needs.”

Truman Behavioral Health Center’s Child and Family Services Program collaborates with agencies, such as The Children’s Place, Early Head Start and Operation Breakthrough. In collaboration with Early Head Start, the Department of Psychiatry is forming a new one-year course on infant mental health for residents called Normal Human Development.

Maldonado studied medicine in Mexico City and child and adolescent psychiatry at the Karl Menninger School of Psychiatry and Mental Health Sciences. It was when he returned to Mexico City and worked at the National Medical Center that he started working with babies and parents.

went to Maldonado in April 2009.

"Within five minutes, Dr. Maldonado was on the ground playing with Zachary," Patty said. "The first thing he said to me was, 'I think he has sensory integration dysfunction.' "

SID is a neurological disorder that makes its victims either hyper or hypo sensitive to stimuli from the five basic sensory systems and affects reactions to them. For example, when Zachary would touch a bowl of beans, his nervous system would tell him to get away immediately and he would be in stress mode. It was also difficult when stimuli suddenly changed; for example, when he got out of a warm bath, he would suddenly be cold with a scratchy towel touching his skin. These are difficult situations. Now Zachary is in the process of retraining his brain through therapy.

Although SID cannot be cured, if therapy is started at a young age, the patient can function as normally as possible.

"We've only been doing therapy since June, and now he is picking up worms, crashing into buddies and picking up locus shells!" Patty said.

The struggles of SID go beyond the senses; the symptoms can translate to emotional insecurity and poor social skills. Hopefully, by kindergarten he will have better coping mechanisms, as his neuropassageways are retrained to respond differently to external stimuli. "My job as a parent is to continue to coach him so he can handle social and loud situations," Patty said.

Maldonado told Patty and Brian that their parenting has to adapt to their child, advice he gives all of his patients. Maldonado advised Zachary's parents to use puppets to act out situations involving a meltdown with Zachary. They bought mommy and daddy puppets and two baby boy puppets (one each for Zachary and his younger brother, Nicholas). "This was another genius idea from Dr. Maldonado," Patty said. "During a meltdown, Zachary can stop and see what his behavior looks like, and within a few times of us doing this, it stops. It also lets Zachary be in control of the situation since he is participating with the puppets."

"Dr. Maldonado taught us to be less catastrophic about the situation," Patty said. "He reminded us to focus on Zachary's strengths: he makes great eye contact, has strong verbal skills, can articulate complex thoughts, and when he gets excited he wants me to share it with him."

Patty said Maldonado has called periodically to check in on Zachary as he continues his therapies at home and other facilities in the city.

"He's given me those kinds of coaching tips and reassurance," Patty said. "I feel like he really likes Zachary and wants the best for him. As a mother, that's what you want and need in a doctor. If we hadn't made it in his office when we did, I do not know where we would be." 🍷

# When it comes to

**Matthew Gratton, M.D., a long-time emergency physician and seasoned combat physician, knows all too well the critical importance of applying the right medical treatment at the right time. When it comes to sudden cardiac arrest, for example, the timing and the treatment can literally mean the difference between life and death. That's why Gratton, chair of the UMKC Department of Emergency Medicine, and his research colleagues are encouraging emergency response personnel to re-evaluate their protocols for treating cardiac arrest patients.**

"We used to routinely stop compressions to ventilate the patient or to insert an IV or to administer multiple shocks," Gratton said. "But, over the last several years, more and more of the scientific literature began to suggest that perhaps that was misguided."

Most notably, Gratton looked at the research of Gordon Ewy, M.D., of the Sarver Heart Center at the University of Arizona. Ewy is a leading proponent of continuous chest compression and a long-time researcher into the pathophysiology of the arrested heart. His research has shown that interruptions in chest compressions significantly decrease coronary and cerebral blood flow.

Others were taking note of this as well, including Alexander Garza, M.D., who is a former medical director of the Kansas City Emergency Medical Services (EMS) System and former faculty member at the School of Medicine. (Garza was recently appointed assistant U.S. secretary of health affairs and chief medical officer in the Department of Homeland Security.)

In 2005, based on Ewy's research and numerous other corroborating studies, Garza felt the science was compelling enough to put a new protocol for responding to sudden cardiac arrest into practice in Kansas City. In determining the protocol for implementation, Garza collaborated with Gratton and Joseph Salomone, M.D., associate professor of emergency medicine at UMKC and the medical director of the Kansas City EMS System.

"Our approach was to get rescuers to concentrate most on giving more rapid, deep and uninterrupted compressions when working with sudden cardiac arrest," Gratton said.

They then studied the results from changes in CPR methods as implemented by the Kansas City EMS System in 2006 and 2007. The Kansas City EMS System prioritized the use of at least 50 chest compressions before administering two breaths. The change

# CPR, timing is everything

*UMKC researchers  
are helping to  
re-write the book  
for first responders*

also meant that EMS personnel focused more on compressions and less on intubating patients, starting IVs and delivering medications. Current American Heart Association recommendations call for a 30/2 ratio of compression to ventilation.

When comparing the previous three years to the year following the change in protocol, Gratton and his colleagues found that there was a marked increase in overall sudden cardiac arrest survival rates (7.5 percent to 13.9 percent). They also found that patients in a shockable rhythm (ventricular fibrillation) who were witnessed to arrest and who were resuscitated with the new protocol improved their hospital discharge rate from 22.4 percent to 43.9 percent. Their findings were published earlier this year in *Circulation*, the scientific journal of the American Heart Association.

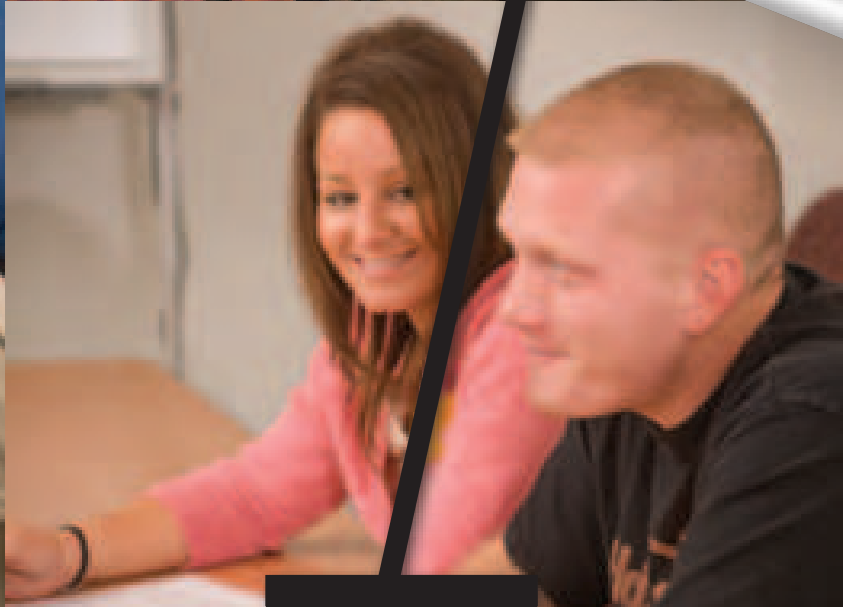
"It really comes down to timing and the physiological changes that are taking place when a person is in cardiac arrest. As what's going on in a cardiac event changes, what needs to be done changes, too," Gratton said. "When the patient's physiology is basically normal, except for heart rhythm, in the first four to five minutes, defibrillation is appropriate. After that, a shock may be ineffective, due to a lack of oxygen in the blood, and actually cause the patient to flatline."

Gratton and his colleagues are in the process of conducting a follow-up study in which they have further increased the number of uninterrupted compressions from 50 to 200.

"We are still compiling numbers, but the preliminary data looks very promising," Gratton said. "Emergency medical services around the country are beginning to change their protocols to reflect the recommendations for increased chest compressions. This has the potential to save thousands of lives every year."

Written by John Austin  
Photography by Robert Steckmest  
Art Directed & Designed  
by Suzanne M. Gauch

# Crisis Intervention Team improves consumer, law enforcement relationship



# In 1986, the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) started a campaign with a clear message: police officers are not adequately trained to deal with mental illness.

Written by Hannah Crippen

Photography by Robert Steckmest

Art Directed & Designed by Suzanne M. Gauch

Armed with a knife, a 27-year-old man in Memphis, Tenn., had been cutting himself and threatening his family and neighbors. After a confrontation, the Memphis police shot and killed him. A public outcry followed after hearing the news that this man was mentally ill. Maj. Sam Cochran of the Memphis Police Department said the department was shocked by the situation.

"This was a very disturbing time in our community," Cochran said.

This 1987 event illustrates how police officers are

often the first responders and caregivers to crises involving the mentally ill. Upon the mayor's request in 1988, Memphis introduced the first Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) in response to the community's concern. Traditionally, the relationship between law enforcement and persons with mental illnesses – consumers – has been severely strained, as has the relationship between law enforcement and mental health providers.

"Lack of information is our worst enemy on

both sides," said Stuart Munro, M.D., professor and chairman of the UMKC School of Medicine Department of Psychiatry.

Word spread across the nation that law enforcement, mental health organizations, advocates, providers, and educators were collaborating in Memphis to fix this detrimental relationship.

Concerned by increasing criminalization of persons with

mental illness in Jackson County, the UMKC Department of Psychiatry, representatives of the Missouri Department of Mental Health, and the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Kansas City (NAMI-KC) advocated for the development of jail diversion programs to minimize the number of individuals with serious mental illnesses in local jails.

Guyla Stidmon – executive director of NAMI-KC and a coordinator of CIT Training – and

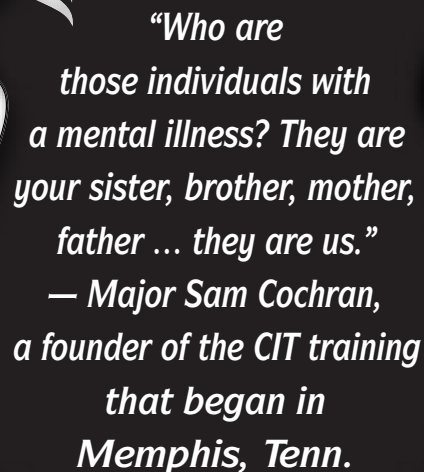
Officer Nikk Thompson – a retired Lee's Summit police officer and CIT coordinator – found out about the Memphis CIT program in 1997 and knew Kansas City could benefit from it. They invited Maj. Cochran and Randy Dupont, Ph.D., who was at the University of Memphis at the time, to consult with them.

In 1999, NAMI-KC and the Lee's Summit Police Department established the CIT Coordinating Council and introduced the program to law enforcement agencies in the metro area, consumers and their

families, and mental health providers, such as Munro, who was already working with NAMI in educating KCPD about mental illnesses.

"Advocates, mental health providers, law enforcement and educators are key roles for the foundations of CIT," Cochran said.

The CIT program is 40 hours of specialized training for law enforcement officers to understand how to respond to calls involving consumers in crisis. The Crisis Intervention Team is made up of volunteer officers, dispatchers and detention officers.



*"Who are those individuals with a mental illness? They are your sister, brother, mother, father ... they are us."  
— Major Sam Cochran, a founder of the CIT training that began in Memphis, Tenn.*



**Sgt. Linda DeMo from the Blue Springs Police Department talks to fellow CIT trainees about what the training has meant for her department during the September 2009 training session. This was the second training for DeMo who now leads the CIT in her department and is a participant of the regional CIT council.**

**Napoleon Larry explains the patient check-in process to officers participating in the Crisis Intervention Team training at The Center for Behavioral Medicine during the September 2009 session. Larry told the officers, who bring consumers to the emergency services, how important it is to be thorough in paperwork.**

"UMKC has been a part since the beginning," Stidmon said. "Dr. Munro and Dr. Sommi (from the UMKC School of Pharmacy) are nationally known speakers, and they volunteer their time because they believe in this program. They bring credibility and the UMKC name to this program."

The first training in Missouri was in 2001, and since that time, the Mid America CIT Council has trained officers from Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, and Georgia, including officers at UMKC, and has assisted them in starting their own CIT programs. According to the Resource Development Institute, 769 officers, representing 44 departments, have completed the CIT program in the Kansas City area since 2001.

The Kansas City CIT Training week in September 2009 included police officers from around the area and one fire fighter. Part of the training included taking a tour of The Center for Behavioral Medicine. Afterward, officers met in a conference room with Munro to discuss what they learned. Munro asked them a series of questions to gauge their knowledge on the mental health care perspective. It was the consensus that the CIT Training program provides vital understanding between law enforcement and mental health care providers.

Not only do officers learn to deal with consumers in crisis during the weeklong program offered four to five times a year, but also mental health providers have an opportunity to learn about what the officers go through on a daily basis. Munro provides an overview

of mental illnesses at the beginning of the CIT program to give a foundation of understanding for the week. He also acknowledges his understanding that law enforcement has to make instantaneous decisions with little information.

"They know a whole lot more than I do about being on the front line and can probably anticipate violence better than I can," Munro said.

One of the skills Munro shares with the officers is how to approach crisis situations involving consumers.

"We train them a little about raising their voices because officers are taught to do that," Munro said.

"With mentally ill people, it's probably not going to have the desired effect because, by the very nature of the illness, they do very odd and bizarre things under pressure."

Instructors of the training courses are mental health professionals, CIT-trained officers, and even the consumers and their families. Officers tour local mental hospitals to discuss ways to improve treatment of consumers and the shifting of police custody to mental health care providers.

"I think the most important thing that happens in the week is the consumers/patients come and talk about what it's like to have schizophrenia and what it's like to have a good police response versus a bad one," Munro said. "And the role play forces them to imagine what it's like on the other side."

Because the program is strictly volunteer-based, it ensures that

the officers who participate intend to use the skills they learn during the training.

"This is not a law enforcement program, this is a community program," Cochran said. "It's a community's spirit and passion that bring together the foundation."

Sgt. Linda DeMo from the Blue Springs Police Department went to training a few years ago and now leads the CIT, not only in the BSPD, but also as a part of

***"The most important part of this training is when it's over. By changing the culture in the community, you will be able to sit around the table with providers and solve problems."***  
***— Stuart Munro, M.D., professor and chairman of the UMKC School of Medicine Department of Psychiatry***

the regional CIT council. She came back to participate in the September training session.

Of the 88 sworn officers in Blue Springs, Mo., 50 are CIT trained. It started with DeMo, and now all of the supervisors are CIT officers. DeMo has seen the impact of CIT training on her department. It has changed the culture, and officers are able to help each other through tough times.

"The actual reason why I came was to hone up my negotiating skills, but by midweek of the training, everything really came together," DeMo said. "I was thinking, 'Wow, we have needed something like this for years.' We didn't know what to do with people; these are the people that we deal with."

DeMo is an advocate for the necessity of support from organizations like NAMI and vice versa. After a consumer she was trying to help hung herself, DeMo looked to NAMI-KC and Guyla Stidmon for guidance. Stidmon referred her to Munro to help her understand what happened. This is how the CIT network helps communities, consumers, mental health providers and officers simultaneously.

"Not only is this going to make you a better officer, it's going to make you a better person," DeMo said.

Sgt. John Bryant is a division coordinator of CIT, former co-chair of the Mid-America CIT Council and immediate past president of NAMI-KC. Bryant's son has suffered from psychosis for most of his young adult life. He has channeled his fatherly concern to taking an active role in the CIT program.

"It's successful in a multi-faceted way," Bryant said. "We are able to look for warning signs in our own groups, and it's lowered the number of violent encounters with consumers."

CIT training has been effective in developing positive perceptions and increased confidence among police officers; providing efficient crisis response times; increasing jail diversion among consumers; improving the likelihood of treatment continuity with community based providers; and significantly decreasing police officer injury rates, according to the Memphis CIT Web site.

The CIT committee is working to help agencies not large enough to have a CIT program.

"We have a lot of rural areas, and we want them to at least learn the collaborative efforts and know whom to call on to get the help they need," Stidmon said.

The program not only teaches about mental illness, but volunteer instructors also address substance abuse, medication side effects, suicide prevention and mental health law. CIT has also expanded to firefighters and correctional staff and now, there is a three-day program for detention officers in jails.

A family member of a consumer, Stidmon stresses the importance of communication among the individuals involved in CIT.

"It's a two-way street," Stidmon said. "It puts the face of mental illness out there. Officers can talk with a consumer who is not in crisis. It has also changed the face of law enforcement to those with a mental illness. They have more confidence that these individuals will treat them well, and they know to ask for a CIT officer."

She, along with Munro and a growing amount of the Kansas City community continue to

improve and advocate the CIT program. Stidmon, who has experienced the positives and discouragement of working with those suffering from mental illnesses, said, "I have been in mental health since 1972, and I feel that the CIT program has had the biggest impact on the mental health system in all of my years." ¶



**Sgt. John Bryant and Stuart Munro, M.D., participate in a Question and Answer session led by Munro in the summer of 2009 during the fourth annual picnic for Kansas City and surrounding communities' consumers, family members and law enforcement. This picnic drew a record turnout. Photo courtesy of the Resource Development Institute**

## Results from the June 2009 CIT fact sheets by the Resource Development Institute

- Police departments in Kansas City, Lee's Summit, Blue Springs, Oak Grove and Independence received 5,603 CIT phone calls from 2004 to 2008. Of those, 2,697 were in the Kansas City city limits. This gives the police the opportunity to be the intervention for consumers.
- Referrals to Mental Health Court have decreased from 12 in 2003 to only one in 2008.
- An overwhelming number of respondents reported that they would like more information once they have completed Basic CIT Training.
- It is strongly recommended that the Education Committee maintain quality, engaging instructors when possible.
- The most powerful and beneficial segments of the training were the Family Panel, by far, the Managing CIT Dynamics, and Accessing Resources & Mental Health Court. ¶


A man with short brown hair and glasses, wearing a white lab coat over a blue shirt and a patterned tie, is smiling. He is standing in a computer lab with several monitors. One monitor in the background shows a colorful heatmap. The background is a light blue gradient.

Endowed chair brings  
*innovative  
research,  
funding*

to UMKC  
Vision Research  
Center,  
Department  
of  
Ophthalmology

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





*“My primary interest to come here was that this is truly an outstanding place for clinical care. My research was at a point where we needed to have collaborators that will allow us to move it to the next step.”*

*— Peter Koulen, Ph.D.*

*Peter Koulen, Ph.D., Felix and Carmen Sabates/  
Missouri Endowed Chair in Vision Research*

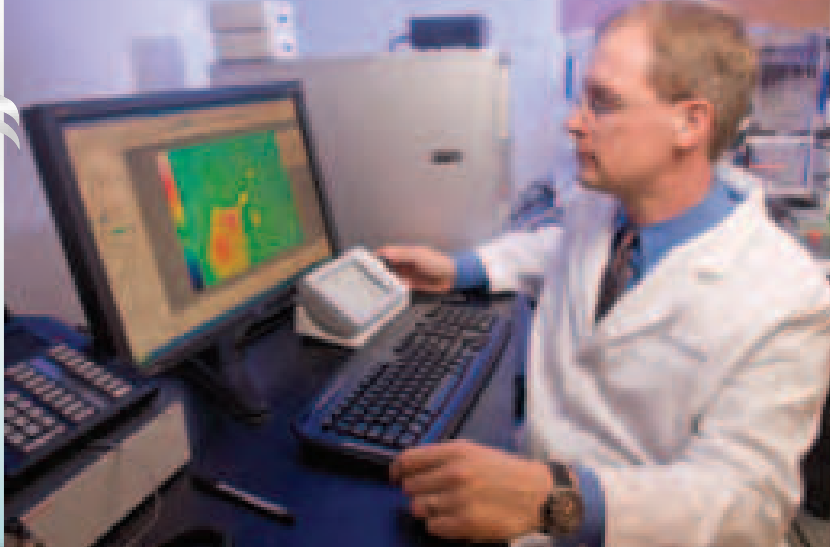


**“What gets me up every morning is that I’m interested in the discovery of new biomedical mechanisms and strategies that will ultimately provide physicians with new tools to treat chronic degenerative diseases,”** said Peter Koulen, Ph.D., the new Felix and Carmen Sabates/Missouri Endowed Chair in Vision Research.

Koulen’s research interests focus on the underlying mechanisms of action and development of pharmacological and molecular biological treatments for disorders of the nervous and visual system and for cognitive decline during aging, including macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma, Alzheimer’s disease, and stroke.

He often compares these diseases to an old pair of shoes saying, “You don’t notice they get crooked on the side because it’s just shaving off a tiny piece every day. But, when you put on new shoes you notice the difference. The problem with these diseases is the comparison is not there.

“Typically – without regular check-ups by highly skilled physicians – this slow decline often takes years to realize. By the time this happens, a lot of damage has occurred at the cellular level. This damage to the smallest elements of the nervous and visual system is what we’re interested in, what our research focuses on, and what we are ultimately trying to prevent or cure.”



***Koulen measures the properties and activity of live nerve cells at the live cell imaging workstation where he can measure experimental results and analyze data from eye research in real time.***

Macular degeneration, glaucoma and diabetic retinopathy are the main causes of vision loss in the United States with more than 9 million people over the age of 40 living with age-related macular degeneration (AMD); 4 million with diabetic retinopathy; and 4 million with glaucoma (National Institutes of Health). According to the Kansas City Health Department's Community Health Assessment 2005, approximately 30,000 people in Kansas City are affected by diabetic retinopathy, or one in every 12 people with diabetes over the age of 40. Approximately 200,000 individuals in Kansas City are affected by age-related macular degeneration, and an expected 300,000 people in the KC area are at risk for glaucoma. These diseases disproportionately affect the medically indigent and

underserved.

Koulen's research program at the Vision Research Center (VRC) aims to identify new therapies to prevent and treat eye disease by boosting the self-defense mechanisms of the retina: preventing or slowing the death of cells in the retina and the resulting loss of vision. Grant funding Koulen brought to the School, and recently obtained, supports this work and more.

Koulen was awarded a small business grant in the field of medical imaging and diagnostics from the National Institutes of Health/National Cancer Institute, in collaboration with an optical device company. This collaboration of academia and business will bring about new technology that will help physicians identify disease biomarkers, approach and diagnose diseases, perform early intervention, and monitor therapy

for chronic diseases and cancer. Also, one of Koulen's grants funded by the National Institutes of Health/National Institute on Aging was competitively renewed for another five years of funding, enabling him to continue work on aging of the nervous system and mechanisms of cognitive decline during aging.

This funding is beneficial as Koulen, his team, and other researchers and physicians explore the challenges of an increasing elderly population in our country and worldwide.

"People expect to live life with good health, and everything that's associated with that, well past their 70s and 80s," Koulen said. "I think part of the reason for that is both clinical care and medical research have made great advances. With our efforts to increase basic research at the Vision Research Center, we're trying to enable the physicians to have a direct input for developing new technological strategies through translational research. We are hoping to initiate new clinical studies from within the Vision Research Center and initiate new strategies for therapy development."

According to Nelson Sabates, M.D., professor and chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology, Koulen is a great fit for the School to achieve these goals.

"There is no doubt that his innovative and exciting work

at the Vision Research Center will help us lead the nation in discovering new ways to prevent and combat eye diseases," Sabates said.

In conjunction with the VRC and Truman Medical Center, the UMKC School of Medicine welcomed Koulen, an internationally recognized scientist, as the first Felix and Carmen Sabates/Missouri Endowed Chair in Vision Research in January 2009.

Koulen comes to the UMKC School of Medicine after eight years at the University of North Texas, where he was professor of pharmacology and neuroscience and the director of the North Texas Eye Research Institute. A team of five researchers joined him in the move, and he is looking to fill 20 more positions in the near future. A 2008 Dallas Business Journal Healthcare Hero and 2006 Fort Worth Business Press 40 under 40 award winner, Koulen helped move his former department to third highest in the country in terms of extramural funding per faculty.

Koulen also serves as a reviewer for national, international, private and governmental funding agencies, such as the National Institutes of Health, the American Heart Association, the Alzheimer's Association, the U.S. Department of Defense and the National Science Foundation.

He earned his M.S. and Ph.D. at the Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz, Germany, and at the Max-Planck Institute for Brain Research in Frankfurt, Germany, followed by post-doctoral fellowships at the Max-Planck Institute and Yale University School of Medicine.

"His scientific background was excellent, but I was looking for more than just a researcher," Sabates said. "I was looking for a partner to help me build the Vision Research Center here (in

Kansas City)."

Koulen said the VRC is an ideal location for his work, citing the fact that research had always been one of the most vital components of the Eye Foundation, in which the VRC had been created. Trained by well-known ophthalmologist, Charles Schepens, M.D., at Harvard Medical School, Felix Sabates, M.D., founder of the Eye Foundation of Kansas City and founding chairman of the

***"This department has a very strong clinical background that's based on a long service tradition within the department and through its affiliations with Truman Medical Center and various other medical centers in the Greater Kansas City area."***  
— Koulen

Department of Ophthalmology, learned the vital role of research for academic clinicians. This spirit remains the driving force behind activities at the VRC.

"The Department of Ophthalmology and the Vision Research Center have put a strong emphasis on the integration of clinical care, training and research," Koulen said.

This motivated Koulen to come to Kansas City and the Department of Ophthalmology, as he was looking for a more clinically oriented home for his research. UMKC's unique health sciences campus on Hospital Hill enables interdisciplinary collaborations; Koulen has laboratories located in and adjacent to the new Health

Sciences Building, allowing for a close relationship with the School of Pharmacy, a national go-to place for drug delivery, especially for the eye.


Koulen mentioned another advantage of UMKC is the daily exposure to patients struggling with chronic diseases of the nervous system.

"In our community, there is an urgent need because some of these diseases affect people with less access or ability to obtain high quality health care," Koulen said. "So, this global challenge is also a local challenge, and I think UMKC can definitely be part of bringing solutions to the table."

To find these solutions, Koulen stresses the importance of conversation and interaction. In training future researchers, Koulen said he aims to instill a teamwork mindset.

"I try to foster the attitude of, 'I'm not this single fighter. There were people before me, and I can use their insights; and there will be people after me, who I need to watch out for so they can make the best of what I'm producing,' " Koulen said. "This helps them consider themselves as part of a scientific community."

Koulen said the biggest achievement one can have is to make the reason for starting research of a disease become obsolete.

"The overall attitude that brings one to research, especially as part of health care and medicine, is that we are trying to improve current standards," Koulen said. "A physician has the chance to treat multiple patients a day and has a weekly or daily impact. In my profession – in research – I don't see any patients on a daily basis, but I might come up with a solution that could potentially affect a lot of people in one strike after years of research and discovery." 

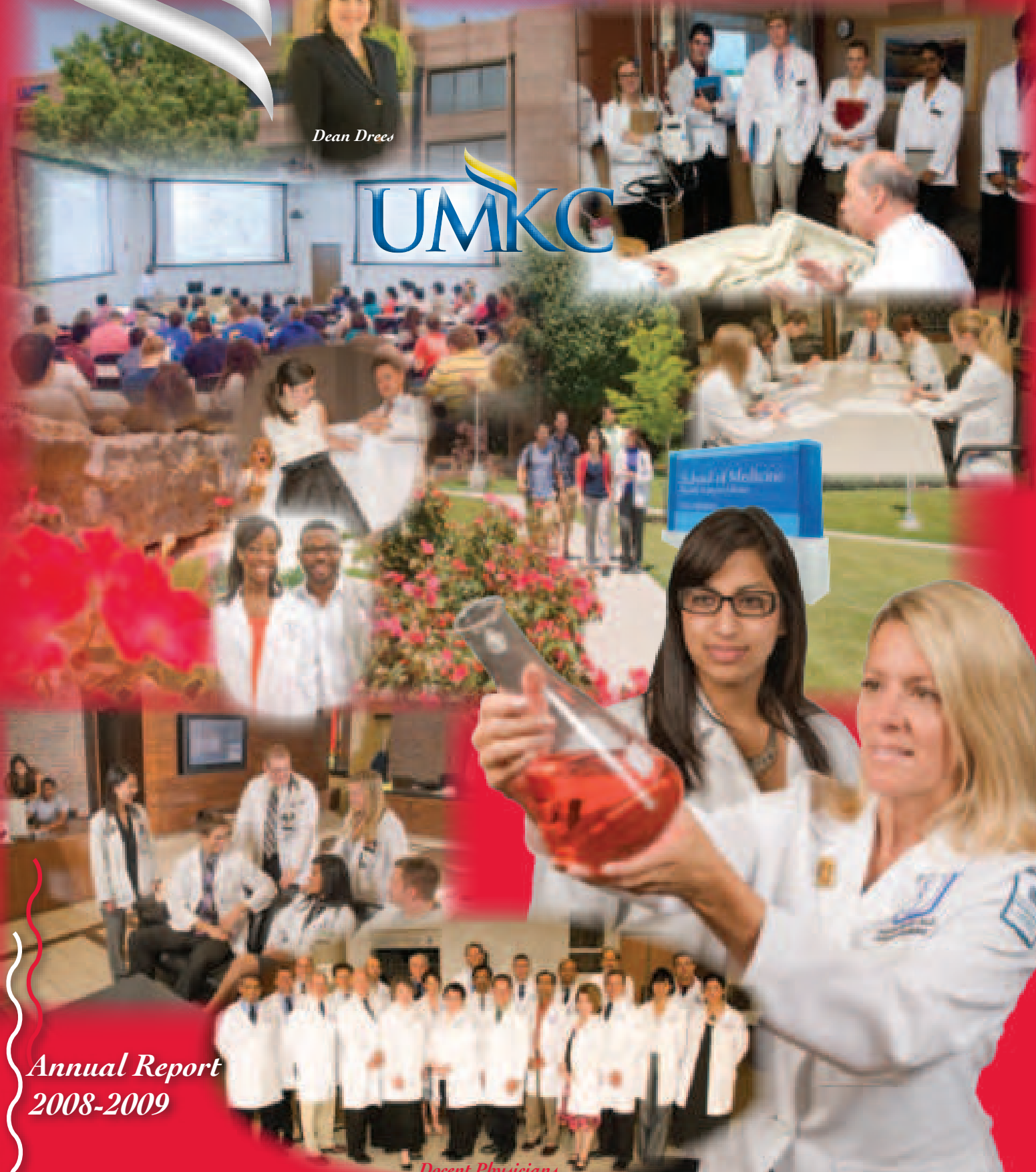
 University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine

*“Advancing the Health  
of Our Community.”*



*Dean Drees*

**UMKC**



*Annual Report  
2008-2009*

*Docent Physicians*



'09 School of Medicine Scholarship, Drs. Betty and Deloras Pemberton Matching Scholarship: Alexandra Alpough, MS 1, and Dean Betty M. Drees, M.D.

Scholarship funding at the UMKC School of Medicine is responsible for easing the financial burden of numerous students each year. On Oct. 2, 2009, the SOM recognized its scholarship donors and the students whose educations they helped finance in the past year during its

9th annual Donor and Scholarship Reception. Blake Montgomery, a Year 1 scholarship recipient, spoke briefly about what it means to a young medical student to receive financial support through scholarships. Dean Betty M. Drees, M.D., recognized 38 scholarship recipients and the donors to their scholarships during the event.

## 2009 UMKC SCHOOL OF MEDICINE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

**Arfaa Ali, MS-2:** Richard T. Garcia Memorial Scholarship Award  
**Sadie Alongi, MS-1:** School of Medicine Scholarship, Clara Shumway Scholarship, Founding Classes Scholarship  
**Alexandra Alpough, MS-1:** School of Medicine Scholarship, Drs. Beaty & Deloras Pemberton Matching Scholarship  
**Sagar Amin, MS-4:** Marilyn McGuyre Tournament Scholarship  
**Lolita Arrey, MS-1:** School of Medicine Scholarship, Founders Scholarship Endowment, Edward & Victoria Harris Scholarship  
**Erin Burns, MS-4:** Missouri State Medical Association Scholarship  
**Harris Choudhry, MS-1:** School of Medicine Scholarship, Ida Bamberger Memorial Matching Scholarship  
**David Darmsteadter, MS-6:** Dwight David Stanford Scholarship  
**Ashley Deboeuf, MS-2:** School of Medicine Scholarship, Class of 1985 Scholarship, UMKC SOM Alumni Matching Scholarship  
**Kevin Dowlatshahi, MS-1:** School of Medicine Scholarship, Stephen Wiles, MD, Matching Scholarship  
**Morgan Eidson, MS-1:** School of Medicine Scholarship, Clara Shumway Scholarship, Rosenthal Family Scholarship  
**Ehren Ekhouse, MS-2:** School of Medicine Scholarship, Russell & Fannie Flake Scholarship Fund  
**James Gentry, MS-5:** C.L. Tung, MD, E. Grey Dimond, MD, Scholarship  
**Wesley Glick, MS-4:** Lee Langley Award for Academic Excellence

**Turner Goodson, MS-1:** School of Medicine Scholarship, Cena Accurso Matching Scholarship  
**Nathaniel Hayward, MS-2:** School of Medicine Scholarship, Michael L. Weaver, MD, Scholarship, Roche/Charles Wilkinson Scholarship  
**Tess Heisserer, MS-1:** School of Medicine Scholarship, Clara Shumway Scholarship, Gurpreet S. Padda Scholarship  
**Will Hotchkiss, MS-6:** Richardson K. Noback Founders Award for Clinical Excellence  
**Jason Hurt, MS-2:** School of Medicine Scholarship, Class of 1991 Scholarship, Ida Bamberger Memorial Matching Scholarship  
**Sarah Jafari, MS-1:** School of Medicine Scholarship, Grace Hoelzel Albano, MD, Matching Scholarship, Bryan Ross Bolden Memorial Scholarship  
**Kristen James, MS-1:** School of Medicine Scholarship, Russell & Fannie Flake Scholarship Fund  
**Gene Kim, MS-2:** School of Medicine Scholarship, Class of 1980 Scholarship, Clara Shumway Scholarship  
**Kayla Lash, MS-1:** School of Medicine Scholarship, Dr. and Mrs. Bharat Shah Matching Scholarship  
**Megan Litzau, MS-1:** School of Medicine Scholarship, St. Louis Friends Scholarship  
**Amanda Loganbill, MS-2:** School of Medicine Scholarship, UMKC SOM Alumni Scholarship Endowment Fund

**Aarika Menees, MS-6:** Ratilal S. Shah Medical Scholarship  
**Blake Montgomery, MS-1:** School of Medicine Scholarship, St. Louis Friends Scholarship, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas City/Herman & Dorothy Johnson Scholarship  
**Mimi Moon, MS-6:** Shaffer Award for Community Service  
**David Poindexter, MS-2:** School of Medicine Scholarship, Western Missouri Friends Scholarship, School of Medicine General Scholarship  
**Kayla Scherer, MS-1:** School of Medicine Scholarship, Class of 1979 Matching Scholarship  
**Christopher Smith, MS-4:** Victor E. Dominguez, MD, Memorial Scholarship  
**Sarah Smith, MS-2:** School of Medicine Scholarship, School of Medicine General Scholarship  
**Vanessa Smith, MS-2:** School of Medicine Scholarship, Beaty and Deloras Pemberton Scholarship  
**Ryan Stokes, MS-2:** School of Medicine Scholarship, Dr. and Mrs. Bharat Shah Academic Scholarship  
**Anezi Uzendu, MS-2:** School of Medicine Scholarship, Clara Shumway Scholarship, Founders Scholarship Endowment  
**Joshua Vaughn, MS-5:** Drs. Dee Anna and David Glaser Medical Scholarship  
**Margaret Wessling, MS-4:** Missouri State Medical Association Scholarship  
**Rachael Zamazanuk, MS-1:** School of Medicine Scholarship, Bradley L. Bradshaw, MD, JD, Matching Scholarship, Class of 1986 Scholarship



## GINNY'S 1,000

At press time, significant progress had been made in the Ginny's 1,000 Scholarship Fund. It has nearly reached its initial goal to raise \$100,000. This Fund is in memory of Virginia Calkins, one of the original UMKC School of Medicine employees who served as assistant dean for student affairs from 1980 to 1985. She died in March 2009. Dean Betty M. Drees, M.D., E. Grey Dimond, M.D., and the Calkins family are grateful for all the gifts from early alumni and friends who contributed to the support of UMKC medical students through the memorial fund in honor of Calkins. Drees said, "We wish to especially recognize the generous response from early alumni, 'Ginny's 1,000,' who were admitted to the SOM while Ms. Calkins was the assistant dean for selections. Through these gifts, Ginny is still helping UMKC students realize the dream of becoming physicians."



**'09 School of Medicine Scholarship, St. Louis Friends Scholarship: Blake Montgomery, MS 1, and Megan Litzau, MS 1, with Alice Arredondo, assistant dean for admissions and recruitment, and Susan Hathaway, Ph.D., manager of student affairs. Montgomery was also the winner of the 2009 Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas City/Herman & Dorothy Johnson Scholarship.**

### GIFTS RECEIVED

(JULY 1, 2008 – JUNE 30, 2009)

#### President's Society \$50,000+

Mr. Muralidhar Bethi  
Ralph R. Coffey Education Fund  
Greater Kansas City  
Health Care Foundation  
Dr. S. Rao & Dr. Subbu Rayudu

#### Chancellor's Society \$25,000+

Blue Cross Blue Shield  
of Kansas City

#### Provost's Society \$15,000+

Dr. Daniel Bruning &  
Dr. Cynthia Drake  
Dr. James Ho  
Missouri State Medical Association  
John & Ruth Musselman Trust  
Oppenstein Brothers Foundation  
Krishna M. Swamy  
Mr. Ramu Swamy  
Dr. Prasad V. Vasamsetti

#### Founders Club \$5,000+

Dr. Fernando &  
Mrs. Anne De Castro  
J.E. Dunn Construction Group, Inc.  
Robert & Cathy Lachky  
Charitable Fund  
Prime Health Foundation

Clara L. Shumway  
Charitable Trust  
Dr. Marjorie S. Sirridge  
Muthusamy V. Swami  
University Physician Associates

#### Dean's Club \$2,500+

Dr. Emilio &  
Mrs. Carlota Dominguez  
Mr. William & Dr. Betty Drees  
Dr. Shawna A. Flanagan  
Dr. James &  
Mrs. Christine Glenski  
Mr. Henry & Dr. Reaner Shannon  
Dr. Christine Sullivan  
Dr. Steven &  
Mrs. Kathy Waldman

#### Docent's Club \$1,000+

Mr. Louis C. Accurso  
The Accurso Law Firm  
Dr. Samuel T. Ahn  
Dr. Linda Anderson  
Dr. James & Mrs. Rhoda Anthony  
Dr. Ravinder & Mrs. B.K. Aror  
Dr. Mark & Mrs. Renee Bernhardt  
Dr. Richard & Ms. Carol Bowe  
Dr. Bruce E. Brown  
Dr. John & Mrs. Rochelle Buckner  
Burgess & Lamb PC



**'09 Shaffer Award for Community Service: Mimi Moon, MS 6, with Dean Betty M. Drees, M.D.**

Dr. Jerald & Mrs. Patricia Burton  
Dr. Timothy Lee & Dr. Jackie Cheng  
The Children's Mercy Hospital  
Commerce Bancshares Foundation  
Dr. Samuel K. Cullan  
Dr. Melissa R. de Christenson  
Dr. Maria Angelica de Castro  
De LaSalle Education Center  
Dr. Michael & Ms. Lynda Dennis  
Dr. Venkata Devineni & Dr. Vijaya Kumari  
Dr. Mark L. Dick  
Dr. E. Grey Dimond  
Mrs. Lea Grey Dimond-Guettar

'08 Drs. Beaty and Deloras Pemberton Scholarship, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas City/Herman and Dorothy Johnson Memorial Scholarship: Vanessa Smith, MS 2, and Susan Wilson, Ph.D., associate dean for cultural enhancement and diversity.



Mr. Kirk & Dr. Laura Doan  
Doctors Hospital, LLC  
Dr. Jose & Mrs. Jill Dominguez  
Dr. Charles & Mrs. Holly Donohoe  
Drs. Gerald Early & Shauna Roberts  
Dr. Sydney J. English  
Enid Pathology Consultants  
Family Physicians of Madison County  
Dr. Kenneth Fine  
Dr. William & Mrs. Mary Beth Fish  
Dr. Thomas & Dr. Michelle Franey  
Dr. Steven Miller & Dr. Victoria Fraser  
Friends of Psychiatry Foundation  
Dr. William & Mrs. Janet Goodson  
Mr. Ted & Dr. Sally Green  
Dr. Santiago & Ms. Linda Gutierrez  
Haake Companies  
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Dr. Robert S. Thomas, Jr.  
Dr. Dana M. Thompson  
Mr. Michael & Dr. Ann Uhls  
Dr. Sunanda R. Vadaplli  
Dr. Judith K. Vogelsang  
Dr. Gregory & Teresa Walker  
Dr. Jining I. Wang



'08 Marilyn McGuyre Tournament Scholarship: Adam White, MD, '09, and Marilyn McGuyre, former director of student affairs and career services.



'08 Richard T. Garcia Award: Mariam Nawas, MS 3, and SOM Dean Betty Drees, M.D.

Dr. Brad & Dr. Barbara Warner  
Dr. Michael L. Weaver  
Dr. William & Dr. Christine Wester  
Dr. John & Mrs. Denise Whitfield  
Dr. Thomas Whittaker & Dr. Ann Zerr  
Dr. Natalie Wong  
Dr. Joan Dimond Wu-Chang  
Dr. Bruno & Dr. Rose Zwerenz

**School Advocates \$500+**

Dr. Ahmed Aboul-Magd  
Arms, Dodge, Robinson,  
Wilber & Crouch, Inc.





'09 Missouri State Medical Association Scholarship: Margaret Wessling, MS 4, and Erin Burns, MS 4, with Haley Wansing, director of membership for the Missouri State Medical Association.

Dr. Wilf & Dr. Louise Arnold  
 Association of University Radiologists  
 Dr. Charisse H. Barta  
 Dr. Eliot & Mrs. Marcia Berkley  
 Dr. Daniel K. Bixler  
 Dr. Brian Blalock &  
 Dr. Christine M. Casteel  
 Dr. Marc Fields & Ms. Catherine Choi  
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 Mr. Sung B. Moon &  
 Dr. Hee-Sun Kim  
 Dr. Arun G. Nayar  
 Dr. Vaughn Payne  
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 N.B. Rahavaiah  
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 College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists  
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 Dr. R. Stephen Griffith  
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 Mr. Jeffrey R. Hall-Flavin  
 Dr. Cassing Hammond  
 Mr. David & Mrs. Janee Hanzlick  
 Dr. Minh C. Hoang  
 Dr. Howard I. Schwartz &  
 Mrs. Barbara Kalikow-Schwartz  
 Dr. Fawzia Khan

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 Dr. Randall E. Sellers  
 Mr. David & Dr. Martha Sewall  
 Dr. Anjum Shariff  
 Dr. Carla J. Siegfried  
 Dr. Reid Smith &  
 Dr. Patricia Mooney Smith  
 Dr. Joseph R. Spurlock  
 Dr. Jack & Mrs. Barbara Stuber  
 Dr. Robert & Mrs. Siew-Choo Tung  
 Professor Emeritus Hans W. Uffelmann  
 Dr. Richard & Dr. Jennifer Valuck  
 Dr. Charles & Mrs. Gail Van Way  
 Mr. W. Dirk VanDever  
 Dr. Pauravi & Dr. Sandip Vasavada  
 Dr. L. Arthur & Dr. Patricia Weber  
 Mr. Matthew Whitehorn &  
 Dr. Terri Brown-Whitehorn  
 Dr. Steven B. Wilkinson  
 Mr. C. David & Mrs. Lisa Adair  
 Dr. Mohammed Majeed &  
 Mrs. Aqsa Ahmad-Majeed  
 Dr. Tony Albracht & Dr. Michelle Pal  
 Mr. Dana M. Allen & Dr. Mary L. Allen  
 Dr. Paul & Mrs. Stephanie Allen  
 Dr. Stephen & Mrs. Susan Armstrong  
 Dr. Robert M. Arnold  
 Dr. Stanley M. Augustin  
 Dr. Ahmed M. Awad  
 Mr. Kendall & Mrs. Linda Baker  
 Dr. David & Mrs. Elizabeth Bamberger  
 Dr. Jeremy E. Baptist

Dr. Brent & Mrs. Cynthia Beasley  
 Dr. Joelle Biernacki  
 Dr. Christy Bleckman  
 Dr. Kevin & Mrs. Patricia Boatright  
 Bolivar Urology Clinic  
 Dr. Hesamodin Borhani  
 Dr. Warren Ong &  
 Ms. Pamela M. Boylan  
 Mr. Richard F. Brodsky  
 Dr. Jay J. Brown  
 Dr. Randy & Mrs. Twila Brown  
 Dr. Manuel Camejo  
 Mr. Richard K. Capling  
 Dr. Charles F. Carey  
 Dr. Kathleen L. Carlson



**'09 School of Medicine Scholarship, Class of 1985 Scholarship, UMKC SOM Alumni Matching Scholarship: Ashley Deboeuf, MS 2, and Alumni Association President Julie Brown, M.D., '00.**

Dr. Leway Chen  
 Dr. Jeffery & Mrs. Rebecca Chen  
 Mr. David Clark & Dr. Lin Wu-Clark  
 Dr. Donald & Mrs. Lisa Cole  
 Mr. William & Mrs. Kimberley Coleman  
 Dr. Charles L. Crist  
 Dr. Thomas & Mrs. Jennifer Crouch  
 Dr. John S. Crowley  
 Dr. Kivan Dalsania

Dr. Yvonne K. Davenport  
 Dr. Nancy Dawson  
 Dr. Lynn & Mrs. Dianne DeMarco  
 Dr. Mark S. DeFrancesco  
 Dr. Jeff Diebner &  
 Dr. Debra Klearman-Diebner  
 Dr. Carl D. Dirks  
 Mr. G. David & Mrs. Carol Dixon  
 Dr. Richard & Mrs. Janet Dubinsky



**'09 Victor E. Dominguez, M.D., Memorial Scholarship: Christopher Smith, MS 4, and Dean Betty M. Drees, M.D.**

Dr. Curtis & Mrs. Lisa Dyer  
 Mr. William D. Eckert  
 Ms. Denisse M. Eliza-Rivera  
 Ms. Georgia K. Erickson  
 Dr. Russell Fiorella  
 Dr. Jonathon & Mrs. Kerrye Foley  
 Dr. Shanon Forseter &  
 Ms. Naomi Landis Dorseter  
 Ms. Bette J. Friedberg  
 Dr. Amy Frieman  
 Dr. Sara Gardner  
 Mr. Kirk & Mrs. Ann Garmager  
 Dr. Charles & Mrs. Margaret Garvin  
 Dr. Gregory & Dr. Johanna Genova  
 Dr. James J. Greenberg  
 Mr. Gene & Mrs. Tanya Grodzinsky  
 Mr. Kirk Groth &  
 Dr. Holly L. Gore-Groth  
 Mr. Ronald Grothe &  
 Dr. Rayna Maring-Grothe  
 Dr. Michael &  
 Mrs. Kristine Gruenebaum  
 Dr. Jack Guccione  
 Dr. Ganesh & Mrs. Debbie Gupta  
 Dr. Yoav Han &  
 Dr. Caroline Cheng-Hahn  
 Dr. Brett & Dr. Rachel Hailey  
 Mr. Kevin & Dr. Sarah Hampf  
 Mr. Robert F. Hartsook  
 Dr. Beth E. Harvey  
 Dr. Peter & Dr. Kathryn Havens  
 Dr. James & Mrs. Betty Heath  
 Mr. Richard &  
 Dr. Betty LaRue Herndon  
 Dr. R.S. Hollis  
 Dr. Craig S. Holzem

Hope Medical Institute  
 Mr. Thomas Horrell &  
 Dr. Karen Vorst  
 Mr. Sean Hunkler  
 Dr. Paul W. Hurst  
 Mr. Christopher & Mrs. Linda Illiff  
 Dr. Debra J. Jaffe  
 Dr. Manoj K. Jain  
 Dr. Donald L. James  
 Dr. S.B. Jani  
 Dr. Michael & Dr. Teresa Jensen  
 Mr. H. Royden & Ms. Mary Norman Jones  
 Dr. Gerald & Mrs. Helen Joseph  
 Padma Kandula  
 Dr. James & Mrs. Kelly Kaplan  
 Dr. David & Mrs. Michelle Kapp  
 Mr. James & Mrs. Deon Karr  
 Dr. Louis P. Kartsonis  
 Mr. Jesse & Mrs. Lisa Kartus  
 Kansas City Center for  
 Family & Organization Systems  
 Dr. Jared & Mrs. Sharma Keeler  
 Dr. Cynthia F. Kleppinger  
 Ms. Ellen Cooper Klyce  
 Dr. Jason Koreckij & Dr. Renee Sullivan  
 Dr. Catherine Dent Krawczeski  
 Mr. Radha R. Kumar  
 Arun M. Kumtha  
 Dr. Frederic Leong  
 Mr. Mark & Mrs. Sara Loganbill  
 Dr. Ray & Mrs. Lisa Mahoubi  
 Mr. Paul Malkin & Dr. Joan Warren  
 Mrs. Ruth L. Margolin  
 Dr. Bruce A. Marshall  
 Dr. G.E. Martin  
 Mr. James & Dr. Stephanie Marx  
 Dr. Dev Maulik  
 Ms. Mary K. McCamy  
 Dr. Timothy Wilson &  
 Dr. Janice McGovney  
 Dr. David Wooldridge &  
 Ms. Erin McGrath  
 Dr. Matthew K. McNabney  
 Dr. W. Kendall McNabney  
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 Dr. Morio & Mrs. Toshiko Miyamoto  
 Dr. Michael E. Monaco  
 Dr. Paul D. Moore, Jr.  
 Dr. Mary K. Mroz  
 Dr. Gary D. Mund  
 Dr. John & Mrs. Sandra Nettles  
 Mr. Steven Ng & Dr. Grace W. Baysa-Ng  
 Dr. Raphael Ngengwe



**'09 Lee Langley Award for Academic Excellence: Wesley Glick, MS 4, with Dean Betty M. Drees, M.D.**



**'09 School of Medicine Scholarship, Grace Hoelzel Albano, M.D., Matching Scholarship, Bryan Ross Bolden Memorial Scholarship: Sarah Jafari, MS 1, with Grace Hoelzel Albano, M.D., '90, and husband Michael Albano.**



'08 Michael L. Weaver, M.D.,  
Scholarship: Nathaniel Hayward, MS  
2, and Michael Weaver, M.D., '77.  
Howard also received the Roche/  
Charles Wilkinson, M.D., Memorial  
Scholarship.



'08 Gurpreet S. Padda, M.D.,  
Matching Scholarship and Russell  
and Fannie Flake Scholarship: Gene  
Kim, MS 2, and SOM Dean Betty  
Drees, M.D.

Dr. Jordan & Mrs. Stacey Page  
Dr. Sareeta R. Parker  
Mr. Mahesh & Mrs. Meena Patel  
Dr. Jack & Mrs. Patricia Pearson  
Dr. Richard Andrews &  
Ms. Arminda Perez  
Dr. John & Dr. Kathy Perryman  
Dr. Kirk & Dr. Kelly Philpot  
Dr. Diane M. Plantz  
Mr. John & Dr. Susan Pollack  
K. B. Ramanathan  
Ms. Ashok B.R. Rao  
Dr. Robert & Mrs. Teresa Rao  
Dr. Virkram Rao  
Dr. Jeadural Ratnaraj  
Dr. Suresh & Mrs. Rupa Reddy  
Dr. R. Douglas & Mrs. Sarah Reed  
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Mr. Kevin & Mrs. Leslie Reger  
Dr. George & Dr. Colleen Reisz  
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Dr. Greg Rodriguez  
Mr. David & Dr. Brenda Rogers  
Dr. Barbara E. Ruddy  
Dr. Lawrence & Mrs. Jane Rues  
Dr. Robert Sarrazin &  
Dr. Lori Breedlove  
Dr. Mark & Dr. Betty Scarborough  
Ms. Cherly A. Schoeneberg  
Dr. David & Mrs. Christine Schrodtt  
Dr. Thomas Schroyer  
Dr. Stephen & Dr. June Scott  
Dr. Veronique Sebastian  
Dr. Hillary Hofmann Seematter  
Dr. Carolyn L. Siefert  
Mr. Ajay & Dr. Saroj Shah  
Dr. Vidya & Dr. J.N. Sharma  
Han M. Shih  
Dr. Jeffrey S. Shilt  
Ms. Shayna Simon-Orova  
Dr. Anne K. Sly  
Dr. David & Mrs. Suzanne Smith  
Dr. Paul & Mrs. Pamela Steele  
Dr. G. Ross & Mrs. Delia Stephens  
Mr. Kenneth & Dr. Ronelle Stover  
Mr. Ronad Swinford &  
Dr. Sara Viessman  
Mr. Eric Thompson & Dr. Susan Lee  
Dr. Daniel & Mrs. Margot Tobias  
Dr. Thomas & Mrs. Mary Toth  
Dr. Luan Van Tran  
Meera Vasu  
Dr. P. Vasudevan  
Dr. Jorge Vidal  
Ms. Margot Walker  
Dr. David Weinglass &



'08 Dwight David Stanford, M.D.,  
and James Hudson, D.D.S.,  
Scholarship: Melissa Thomas, M.D.,  
'09, and SOM Dean Betty Drees, M.D.

Ms. Marilyn Carbonell  
Dr. Eden Wheeler  
Dr. Rachel Wheeler  
Ms. Jacqueline R. White-Robinson  
Dr. Robert & Dr. Kimberly Wiele  
Dr. John & Mrs. Virginia Wiley  
Dr. Barry Wood  
Dr. Malissa Wood  
Mr. Kirk Wuiff & Dr. Diana Dark  
Dr. Mark & Mrs. Janet Yagan  
Dr. Mark & Mrs. Katherine Yates  
Dr. Thomas & Mrs. Laurie Zink

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Mr. Gary & Mrs. Jean Anderson  
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Mr. Leland & Mrs. Linda Angell  
Ms. Betty L. Arenson  
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Dr. Jeffrey A. Beal  
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Bender, Weltman, Thomas  
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Dr. Jennifer Bequette  
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 Dr. Arkady Khagi  
 Dr. Kevin & Mrs. Ada Koch  
 Dr. J. Joshua & Mrs. Marilyn Kopelman  
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 Dr. Timothy Little & Ms. Ann Hakan  
 Dr. Warren & Mrs. Marilyn Lovinger  
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 Ms. Virginia Mashburn  
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   Dr. Mary Middleton  
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 Dr. Freeman L. Miller  
 Ms. Dorothea E. Moore  
 Dr. Geroge & Mrs. Sylvia Moreng  
 Mr. Ramasamy &  
   Mrs. Nirmala Naveethan  
 Dr. Quang & Mrs. Michelle Nguyen  
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   Mrs. Hinaben Patel  
 Mr. Natvarbhai &  
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 Rekha Pillai  
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   Dr. Cielo Navato-Dehning  
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*'09 School of Medicine Scholarship, Ida Bamberger Memorial Matching Scholarship: Jason Hurt, MS 2, and Harris Choudhry, MS 1, with Albert Bamberger. Hurt was also the winner of the 2009 Class of 1991 Scholarship.*




'08 Missouri State Medical Association Student Scholarships: **Dr. Frederick W. Hahn, Jr., past president, MSMA; Richard Butin, M.D., Gold 2 docent; Mohammed Paracha, MS 5; Joshua Vaughn, MS 5; Sunpreet Rakhra, MS 5; Fred DeFeo, M.D., former Gold 1 docent. Not pictured: Kaitlin Hoover, MS 5.**

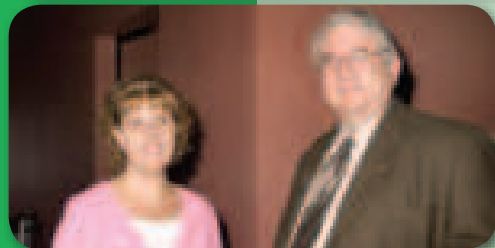
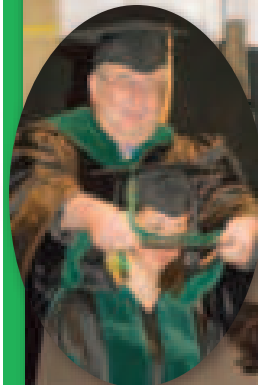
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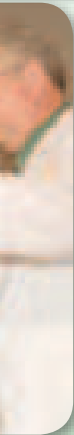
'08 **Grace Hoelzel Albano, M.D., Scholarship: Sarah Smith, MS 2, and Grace Hoelzel Albano, M.D., '90. Smith also received the School of Medicine General Scholarship.**



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     Mrs. Nita Shah  
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     Mrs. Joann Spencer  
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 Mr. Mohammed &  
     Mrs. Farkhnda Vakassi  
 Dr. Steven M. Watson  
 Ms. Margaret Weimer  
 Mr. David & Mrs. Lori Werth  
 Ms. Katie L. Westerfield  
 Dr. David Wild  
 Mr. Donald B. Williams  
 Dr. Brian F. Wilson  
 Mr. Cleveland Woodson  
 Dr. Douglas & Mrs. Delores Zweig 



# Frederick G. DeFeo, M.D.



DeFeo was the SOM's longest serving continuous docent. George Reisz, M.D., chairman of the Department of Medicine, said DeFeo was a strong advocate for patients, students, and residents.

"He was known by everyone in the Department of Medicine family, our students, residents, and the faculty, for being a great friend and a great mentor," Reisz said. "He was always someone you could go talk to about anything, and he had good advice about any situation."

DeFeo was recognized in the SOM medical humanities publication "Healing Praises, Accolades for Virtuous Doctoring" in 2008 for his humanistic approach with patients. His nomination under the heading, Doctors Who Care, read:

"During rounds, we arrived at the room of a patient with a cocaine addiction, and Dr. Fred DeFeo was especially polite to this patient. When asked why, he said, 'Why shouldn't I be polite to my patients? I may talk about this (cocaine addiction) in the conference room, but when I enter the patient's room, I leave my opinions outside the door. I don't bring in anything that might interfere with my patient's care.' "

Carol Stanford, M.D., associate professor of medicine and Gold 5 docent, and DeFeo did their internal medicine residency in the same class and served together for years as docents at the School of Medicine.

"Fred was larger than life. He totally dedicated his career to this institution," Stanford said. "He loved teaching. He was part of the built-in structure of this foundation. I think we all thought he'd always be here."

DeFeo received the 2009 American College of Physicians, Missouri Chapter, Internist of the Year Award, one of the organization's top honors. He was inaugurated as president of the Missouri State Medical Association during a ceremony in downtown Kansas City on April 5, 2003, and served a one-year term, after which he continued to remain active in the MSMA. He also served as president of the Metropolitan Medical Society of Greater Kansas City, was a member of the Board of Directors of University Physicians Associates, and served on numerous other professional, University, and hospital committees.

DeFeo was a part the School of Medicine for three of the School's four decades of existence as a resident and a teaching physician.

"He helped the School grow and mature and has touched the lives of hundreds of students, residents, faculty and staff, as well as thousands of patients," School of Medicine Dean Betty Drees, M.D., said. "He was an exemplary teaching physician in his commitment to medical education and social justice." †

**U**niversity of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine students and faculty remember **Frederick G. DeFeo**, who spent nearly 27 years as a member of the SOM faculty, as a loving, caring physician who built strong relationships and made the welfare of his patients and students a priority. DeFeo died at his home on Sept. 29, 2009, at age 63.

Joy Wen, MS 6, a member of DeFeo's Gold 1 docent unit, said DeFeo was never too busy to spend time with someone who had a special concern.

"Dr. DeFeo was a warm, loving person who really cared about his patients," Wen said. "He never turned them away and took the time to comfort them and refer them to specialists. He had great relationships with his patients."

DeFeo graduated from the University of Kansas School of Medicine in 1978. He completed his residency in internal medicine at Truman Medical Center and joined the UMKC School of Medicine faculty as an assistant professor and docent in 1982 and had served as a senior docent on the Gold unit from October of 2000 until his death. He served as section chief in general internal medicine from 1984 to 1997 and was interim section chief from 2004 to 2005. Eighty students graduated from his docent units during DeFeo's tenure as a docent and faculty member, and his mentoring touched many more students.

## UMKC SOM appoints new alumni, constituent relations officer

Janelle O'Dell has joined the UMKC School of Medicine as the alumni and constituent relations officer. She brings a career in higher education and advancement work to the School. As the former vice president for advancement and alumni relations at the Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine, she managed \$18 million in gifts during her tenure. O'Dell also served as assistant director of development for Central Missouri State University after she was foundation director for both Northern Arizona University and Central Arizona College.

Prior to her advancement career, she was chief operating officer for Arizona's multi-sector



O'Dell

telecommunications cooperative in Phoenix and consultant to the Office of Chief of Staff, Army at the Pentagon. O'Dell holds both a bachelor's and master's of business administration from San Diego State University.

"The School of Medicine is unique in its commitment to underserved populations by educating world-class physicians," O'Dell said. "I was drawn to the School to be a part of that mission as a reflection of my own values to work in the service of others."

In her new role, O'Dell will collaborate with alumni and constituency groups, such as friends, parents and community partners.

"My goal is to elevate the connectivity among those stakeholders who support our students and the School," O'Dell said. "With the 40th anniversary of the founding of the School in 2011, it's a great time to be here!"

## CIO magazine features Shroff's smartphone project

Physicians have 90 minutes after patients suffer from a certain type of heart attack to intervene for best outcomes, said **Divya Shroff, M.D., '00**, chief of informatics at the Washington, D.C., Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical Center.

To help with efficiency in treatment, Shroff led planning for the VA Electrocardiogram (EKG) Smartphone Project at the Washington, D.C., VA Medical Center. The project was featured in the Nov. 1, 2009, issue of CIO magazine, which serves chief information officers and other IT leaders around the globe.

With the initiation of this project, smartphones can be used to assist physicians in treating patients. At the VA Medical Center, 11 cardiologists have been using a custom BlackBerry application since January 2009 to diagnose heart attacks and more quickly communicate treatment instructions to medical staff.

This technological advance not only helps physicians but also decreases morbidity and mortality for patients. Shroff said a cardiologist recently told

her this program enabled him to turn around and go back to the hospital after receiving information on his smartphone. By the time he returned to the hospital, he was prepared to see the patient in the cardio catheterization lab with his support staff ready.

Shroff said one of the next steps of the VA EKG Smartphone Project is to integrate features from CPRS (the VA's electronic medical record system), such as showing pertinent lab data for the EKG project and to see if the cardiologists want to start separately viewing echocardiogram images. "We are continuing to look into different mobile features to help empower our physicians," Shroff said.

She said her training at UMKC School of Medicine prepared her to think innovatively.

"I think the beauty of UMKC is that we've all gone on to push the boundaries of health care through different avenues," Shroff said. "We had such a great patient care foundation that we were, and are, able to think about the next steps in health care and ask more relevant questions."



## Alumna cares for patients around globe

It all began with support from E. Grey Dimond, M.D., when **Cindy Chu, M.D., '96**, decided to go to China as a student at the UMKC School of Medicine.

"It was such a positive influence in my life," Chu said. "I learned so much, and that's what started my interest in international health."

Thirteen years after graduation, she is living and working in Southeast Asia as a result of this encouragement. Chu has lived in Thailand for about a year, working at Shoklo Malaria Research Unit (SMRU), and plans to stay there until the research ends. Living among the less fortunate and those who are ill has allowed Chu to see long-term effects of foreign care.

"I think what I've learned the most is that sometimes when we volunteer, we can actually cause harm if we are not careful," Chu said. "For example, short term visiting surgical teams may bring their own teams and equipment, not using local resources. They may not teach the local surgeons how to do the operations under local conditions or manage the specifics of follow up care. After they leave, the local physician is expected to follow up on the patients. If a child has a complication, they may not be trained how to react utilizing local medical resources."

From her perspective, Chu has advice for those participating in foreign medical missions.

"We should bring medical expertise and funding to increase teaching and expand existing resources according to the country's needs," Chu said. "When you're here to stay, you see some of the aftereffects. What seems to be important is improving the human resource capacity. We need to use their staff and do things their way, not our way, to be able to have a lasting effect."

Before heading to Thailand, Chu worked in the United States for six years – in practices in St. Louis and New York – and then lived in Laos for two years. She was the field coordinator for the first pediatric and internal medicine residency programs in the country, started by Health Frontiers – the organization for which Chu volunteered.

Chu completed her medicine/pediatrics residency at Case Western Reserve University where she was part of the school's international health program. In 1999, she spent five weeks with the International Medical Corp in Albania working with refugees during the Kosovo conflict. She participated in tertiary care referral for patients whose care was interrupted by the war and who were used to a fairly high standard of health care. The peace treaty was signed during her time there. She then worked on medical evacuation for those too ill to travel by road.



**Cindy Chu, M.D., '96, (right) sees a clinic patient – a migrant farmer – with a medic in Thailand. Medics working at Shoklo Malaria Research Unit (SMRU) are mid-level health care workers who do most of the patient care. The migrant farmers make less than one dollar a day and come to Thailand because there is not enough work available in Burma. After the increase in food prices last year, migration increased.**

"That was a life-altering experience," Chu said. "It was an intense and emotional experience. I had to face a lot of difficult issues that I could not fix."

Though Chu has valuable advice and has had the opportunity to share her expertise around the globe, she said her greatest successes are yet to come.

"My biggest achievement so far is getting here and staying here," Chu said. "I think it is just the beginning. I'm looking forward to the future and seeing what I can accomplish."

*Timothy Buie, M.D., '84, examines patients at LADDERS (Learning And Developmental Disabilities Evaluation and Rehabilitation Services), Massachusetts General Hospital for Children's team of multi-specialty physicians who provide care and evaluation to children with various developmental problems.*



Photos courtesy of Massachusetts General

## Pediatric gastroenterologist wins Autism Society of America's 2009 Professional of the Year award

**T**imothy Buie, M.D., '84 – pediatrics instructor at Harvard School of Medicine and assistant clinical professor in pediatrics at Tufts University School of Medicine – is a pediatric gastroenterologist at the Massachusetts General Hospital for Children (MGHfC) who has dedicated his work to children with autism. Buie, whose practice has evolved to include a teaching and clinical research component, lectures about the importance of communication and behavioral markers for medical issues around the world. He created an educational program and teaching curricula, which are presented internationally, that serve as tools for families of autistic children. Media outlets, such as the Wall Street Journal and MSNBC, seek his expert advice.

The Autism Society of America (ASA) recognized Buie's caring, positive and dedicated approach to children with autism with the 2009 Professional of the Year award, which goes to someone who has made an exceptional commitment to the autism community.

Buie has cared for children with autism since the early 1990s and was the first gastroenterologist in the country to join LADDERS (Learning And Developmental Disabilities Evaluation and Rehabilitation Services), MGHfC's team of multi-specialty physicians who provide care and evaluation to children with various developmental problems. Buie is also a founding member of the Autism Treatment Network, an organization establishing a collaboration of major autism research programs to standardize the

evaluation and medical care of children with autism spectrum disorders. It includes 15 academic programs and is funded by Autism Speaks.

After training at Yale, Buie headed to Boston in 1990. It was then that a nurse called from a home for adults with autism. "Why are you calling a pediatric gastroenterologist for this?" Buie asked her. She informed him that no one would treat this patient because he could not speak, and since Buie worked with young children who could not talk, he must be perfect for the job. Infuriated by the lack of compassion for this autistic patient, Buie found his calling.

This first autistic patient of his had a treatable gastroenterological problem that was being written off as autistic behavior. After his successful treatment of this man, word spread to the autistic community that there was a pediatrician sympathetic and willing to treat children on the spectrum.

At the age of 33, Buie saw an autistic patient his own age. She had been refusing to eat for six months, and her mother wanted Buie to provide a feeding tube. She said her daughter had been spitting up since she was a young girl, but she figured it must have been normal since she was autistic. Buie discovered this young woman had esophageal cancer.

"This case affected me personally," Buie said. "I told my wife that night I needed to focus on the kids with autism who might be treatable. People need to understand these kids are acting like this for a reason. We need to get the community of autism caregivers to separate behavior from the diagnosis."

People have been listening. Buie is a featured speaker on the subject around the world, and patients worldwide seek his care. With autism occurring in one of 150 children and increasing, Buie suggests people concentrate on how to handle the condition instead of focusing on the cause of it. He has participated in research on the cause of the condition but as of yet, there are no answers.

"So many medical diagnoses are based on how a patient describes how they feel. Kids with autism can't answer these questions. You have to get past the idea of wanting to hear words. Watch them, and be open."

– Timothy Buie, M.D., '84

## Kilo, CMH invite Buie to present Ground Rounds in January 2010



Hospital for Children

The ASA's recognition of his work is an enormous honor. Buie said accepting the award was an emotional experience because he loves his work and seeing the differences in the children over time and the gratitude of their parents. In his acceptance

"I had a four-year-old girl come in to my office, grab an ice cube out of the freezer and hold an ice cube to her chest. What was wrong with her do you think? Heartburn. This is how they communicate. We need to be there to listen."

— Buie

speech, he told a story that illustrates the impact of his job. "When I was a fellow training in GI at Yale, a child came in from California who had severe developmental challenges," Buie said. "Donald Trump flew the boy to Boston to see a variety of experts, and we were one of the stops. I discovered he

had serious constipation. When I talked to his mother about a month later, she said, 'We didn't learn much during our stay, but when we started treating his constipation, his quality of life got a lot better.' I carry that mindset with me in everything I do." In his work with developmentally challenged children, Buie said there is an important skill he carries with him from his days at the UMKC School of Medicine: humanism. This attitude was apparent during his days as a student at the School when he was one of the first recipients of the humanist award at the School.

"The humanistic idea of what we're here for guides you to very good care, regardless of your field," Buie said. "Dr. Marjorie Sirridge was my docent. She required that you be precise and be careful about the way you say things. She, and so many of the docs there, really imparted that mission."

Twenty-five children come in to Children's Mercy Hospital each month for new autism evaluations, and 50 percent of them receive an autism diagnosis, according to **Michele Kilo, M.D., '84**, developmental pediatrician and chief of the Section of Developmental and Behavioral Sciences at Children's Mercy Hospital (CMH).

Physicians like Kilo and Timothy Buie, M.D., '84, strive every day to improve the quality of life for those with Autism Spectrum Disorders. A UMKC School of Medicine classmate and close friend of Buie's, Kilo said she respects him both as a physician and a person.

"What's so great about Tim is that he's such a real human being, and that's why his patients and their families love him so much," Kilo said. "This field is such a great match for him. He's a great guy who happens to have a great brain."

Kilo said her department at CMH is working with the GI Section at Children's Mercy on how to work with children with autism. Part of this initiative will include Buie presenting Grand Rounds in January 2010.

"GI affects them on a behavioral level, making their autism worse," Kilo said. "It is hard for autistic kids to communicate when they are experiencing GI pains."

Like every other disease, autism has a trigger, Kilo said. "We know autism is a genetic disorder," she said. "We're still trying to

figure out how everything fits together."

Kilo is a member of the Missouri Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders, The Missouri Autism Guidelines Initiative (MAGI) and its leadership – the Project Initiative Team. The Missouri Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders meets quarterly, and Kilo is a member of its health care committee, which is working to standardize the practices of diagnosis and evaluation of autism.

The leadership of the MAGI is writing a manual, to be published in January, called Best Practice Guidelines for Autism Screening, Diagnosis & Intervention for Assessment. It will also explain the expectations of practitioners. This will make Missouri only the second state to have a written document to guide this kind of care.

CMH is moving forward with genetic research. Kilo's group is partnering with Zohreh Talebizadeh, Ph.D., to form a database with all children diagnosed with autism to help categorize diagnosis within the spectrum. On the clinical side, Kilo and her team provide access to patient info and use the best standard clinical evaluations.

"In all of the children I have seen, I have never seen them be cured," Kilo said. "With appropriate therapies, they have made great progress, but they always need to continue the therapy."

## Mayor honors Comninellis for humanitarian efforts



*Nicholas Comninellis, M.D., '82, (third from left) received the 2009 Kansas City World Citizen of the Year award from Kansas City Mayor Mark Funkhouser, (far right) at the annual Mayor's United Nations Day Dinner on Oct. 29, 2009. Pictured with Comninellis and Funkhouser are Teng-Kee Tan, Ph.D., (left) dean of UMKC's Henry W. Bloch School of Business and Public Administration, and Radhika Coomaraswamy, U.N. Under Secretary-General.*

**N**icholas Comninellis, M.D., '82, assistant clinical professor of community and family medicine, has a passion for providing medical service to those around the world who can least afford it. He spent a year in China serving inner city citizens at the Shanghai Charity Hospital. During a two-year period, he initiated a health ministry in the war-torn city of Huambo, Angola, in southern Africa. He has served on medical assignments throughout Central America, Africa, and Asia in areas including Honduras, Haiti, Zimbabwe, Burkina Faso, Niger, and Kuning.

In 2003, Comninellis began the Institute for International Medicine (InMed), an organization devoted to the educational aspects of international medicine. He currently serves as president of InMed.

Kansas City Mayor Mark Funkhouser honored Comninellis for his humanitarian efforts by presenting

him with the Kansas City World Citizen of the Year award for 2009 at the Mayor's United Nations Day Dinner on Oct. 29, 2009, in the University of Missouri-Kansas City Pierson Auditorium at the University Center. The award recognizes outstanding contributions to the world community on the part of individual citizens from the greater Kansas City area. It is presented each year at the Mayor's United Nation's Day Dinner.

Radhika Coomaraswamy, who currently serves as U.N. Under Secretary-General and special representative for Children and Armed Conflict, delivered the keynote speech at this year's dinner event, addressing child welfare advocates and the Kansas City community on the responsibilities of protecting children who are caught in armed conflicts around the world. She is the second highest-ranking U.N. official to visit Kansas City.

## American Academy of Family Physicians names Karty medical director of Continuing Medical Education Division

**Ann Karty, M.D., F.A.A.F.P., '94**, is the new medical director for the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Division of Continuing Medical Education (CME). Karty will help lead efforts to represent the organization in its relationships with other accrediting and educational organizations. Karty has been an active AAFP member since 1989 and brings valuable CME experience to the group.

Prior to her new role at the AAFP, Karty was an associate professor at Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences in the Department of Family Medicine. She was also a member of the Education Commission for the Missouri Academy of Family Physicians, planning CME conferences. Karty attended Harvard in the Harvard Macy Institute Program for Educators in the Health Professions with a small group-learning project she designed. In addition to the coursework, she presented an abstract and poster at Harvard.

"I've always been involved in seeing patients, teaching, and research. Then, I had graduate medical education and residency directing experience," Karty said. "It was time for me to shift again. The position at the AAFP is a great opportunity and at a perfect time."

Karty also continues to see patients once a week and said, "I don't want to give up seeing patients. I love family medicine; I just do it differently now."

The mother of three is a dedicated volunteer for Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America. She served on the Hadassah Physicians' Council as a member of the steering group subcommittee, which coordinated the first Hadassah-sponsored, accredited CME meeting in Israel presented by Israeli physicians. After an exceptional two-year job planning for the first conference (and moderating sessions in Israel) in 2008, she volunteered to co-chair the next international meeting scheduled for March 2010.

A St. Louis native, Karty joined the UMKC School of Medicine's six-year program at the age of 16. While a student, she was active with the family medicine interest group and lived near the national headquarters of the AAFP and the state headquarters of the Missouri Academy of Family Physicians.

Karty said the opportunity to experience UMKC's hands-on and team-oriented education at such a young age was influential. "When you're young, you are influenced by the way you are educated and how you can teach other people," she said. "That is where the teaching aspect was ingrained in me."

## Siy receives TAFP's Philanthropist of the Year award

The Texas Academy of Family Physicians (TAFP) Foundation named **Linda Siy, M.D., '90**, Philanthropist of the Year at its 60th Annual Session and Scientific Assembly July 25, 2009, in Arlington, Texas.

This award goes to a physician whose contributions have made a significant impact in fulfillment of the TAFP Foundation mission: to support family medicine research and future family physicians.

A clinical assistant professor at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center and a clinical associate professor at the University of North Texas Health Sciences Center Department of Family and Community Medicine, Siy practices family medicine at the JPS Health Center - Northeast. Siy is a longtime member of the TAFP Foundation Board of Trustees and donor to the TAFP Foundation. She is also starting a Family Medicine Research Fund, which will support the Foundation's research grants.

Siy serves as Texas's alternate delegate to the American Academy of Family Physicians Congress of Delegates and is a member of the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine, the Texas Medical Association, the Tarrant County Medical Society and the Association of Clinicians for the Underserved.

Over the last decade, Siy has served as TAFP president, vice-president, treasurer and parliamentarian. She has also been on the executive committee and TAFP Board of Directors.

"I am proud to be a supporter of the Foundation and the work they do to encourage student interest in primary care, support family medicine residents, and encourage more practice-based, primary care-focused research," Siy said. "I'm excited to see how our Foundation has grown over the past decade. We are always looking for ways to broaden our support base and strengthen our Foundation in order to further our goals."

The TAFP Foundation supports medical students, residents in family medicine and family medicine practice-based research activities.

"I believe supporting our Foundation is supporting our specialty's future," Siy said.



**Brenda Rogers, M.D., '90, associate dean for student affairs, and Andrew Moore, M.D., '07, mingle during the Alumni/Student BBQ event of the 2009 Alumni Reunion at the School of Medicine on Oct. 2, 2009.**

**Michael Munger, M.D., '83**, a family medicine physician at Saint Luke's South Primary Care, was named the 62nd president of the Kansas Academy of Family Physicians (KAFP) in June. The KAFP is the largest medical specialty society in the state, with a total of 1,530 members. Its mission is to promote access to and excellence in health care for all Kansans through education and advocacy for family physicians and their patients. KAFP is affiliated with the American Academy of Family Physicians.

**Cynthia E. Essmyer, M.D., '86**, and Frederic V. Plapp, M.D., Ph.D., in collaboration with two physicians from the Mayo Clinic, published "Successful Models for Shaping Test Utilization Patterns in Academic and Community Hospital Settings" in the June/July 2009 issue of *Clinical Leadership & Management Review*.

**Dana Thompson, M.D., '91**, a pediatric otolaryngologist at Mayo Clinic, was featured on ABC News Nightline in September 2009 to discuss Mayo Clinic's health care model.

**Michael S. Ausmus, M.D., '83**, has dedicated his medical career to Missouri, his home state. The son of a teacher and a beautician, Ausmus grew up in Cameron, Mo., watching his three physician neighbors. He is in his fifth year of family medicine with the St. Luke's medical group in Lee's Summit, Mo. Ausmus received his undergraduate degree in pre-medicine from William Jewell College in Kansas City, Mo., before joining the UMKC School of Medicine's M.D.-only program. There were four students in his M.D.-only class.

"I felt well-accepted among those in the six-year program," Ausmus said.

Ausmus said he is thankful for the exposure to clinic, which was a selling point for him on the School of Medicine. "I liked the clinical curriculum at UMKC right from the start," he said. "There was more experience there than any other program. I thought we were the best prepared in residency, and the skills have stood the test of time."

Ausmus utilized his SOM skills from his residency at the Goppert Family Care Center to his five years spent teaching, private practice, 16 years of ob/gyn work, and now in practicing family medicine.

"I tell people the diversity in family medicine never gets old," Ausmus said. "You don't see the same thing every day. Also, the relationships you establish with families are significant."

The father of three, who enjoys shooting sporting clays, playing golf and fishing in his spare time, has a son in his fourth year at the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Medicine, a daughter in her second year at the UMKC School of Pharmacy, and another daughter in her senior year of high school.

## Take Wing Awards

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

- Direct any questions to Ruth Grimsley at (816) 235-5281.
- Nominations are accepted year-round; however, the **deadline** for the 2010 awards is **February 3**.
- Log on to [www.med.umkc.edu/alumni](http://www.med.umkc.edu/alumni) for a description of the awards and nomination instructions.

### Marilyn McGuyre and Frances Nelson's Retirement Party!

Please join the UMKC School of Medicine and the UMKC School of Medicine's Alumni Association to celebrate the service of these two women.

**Open house, 6-10 p.m.  
Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2010**

The Sweet Guy  
7439 Broadway St.  
KCMO

(816) 361-9500 • [thesweetguy.com](http://thesweetguy.com)

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

# alumni association president's note

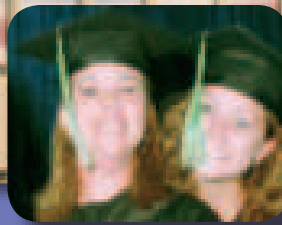
The holiday season naturally conjures up memories of good times spent with family and friends over the years and should inspire the giving nature in all of us. I recently had the pleasure of attending the Scholarship Awards Reception where many of our top students received scholarships that were, in part, funded through the Alumni Association Scholarship Fund. It was touching to hear their stories and to see the smiles on their faces and the pride in their parents' eyes. Each award, be it large or small, clearly made an impact on those students, and the alumni who support student scholarships should be proud.

I'm sure many of you have fond memories of Dr. Fred DeFeo, who will be greatly missed. He was a docent and mentor to countless graduates during his more than 20 years of service to the School and shared his kind, caring nature with each person with whom he connected. His legacy will be honored by donations to the UMKC School of Medicine Scholarship Fund, as requested by his family.

Each award, be it large or small, clearly made an impact on those students, and the alumni who support student scholarships should be proud.

Two other icons who have dedicated their lives to the medical school are Marilyn McGuyre and Frances Nelson. As they retire, the Alumni Association plans to honor them with an open house

reception on Jan. 19, 2010. There isn't a single student or alumnus who hasn't been supported by Marilyn and Frances, and we want to celebrate and honor their work. Marilyn will continue to touch future students with her well-established scholarship fund, and I encourage you all to consider donating as a way of



thanking her.

This holiday season, more than ever, provides all of us associated with the School of Medicine with a reason to give, whether we're honoring the life of a docent, celebrating the years of dedication to the School by a great woman, or just giving out of the goodness of our hearts to help a student in need. Please consider making a difference in the life of a future alumnus of the UMKC School of Medicine.

For alumni information, to provide feedback, or to share ideas for ways alumni can be more effective, you can visit [www.umkcalumni.com](http://www.umkcalumni.com), email [alumni@umkc.edu](mailto:alumni@umkc.edu) or [jebrown1@cmh.edu](mailto:jebrown1@cmh.edu), or call the office at (816) 235-1563.

Wishing all of you a happy holiday season,

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

**UMKC School of Medicine  
2010 Events**

**January 20, 5 p.m.**

Annual Faculty Dinner  
Hyatt Regency Hotel  
Reception: 5-6 p.m.  
Dinner: 6 p.m.

**February 3**

Deadline: nominations  
for Take Wing Award  
& all 2009 distinguished  
alumni awards

**(TBD)**

Shannon Lectureship  
Theatre A

**February 27, 7-10 p.m.**

Jazz Night  
Hallbrook Country Club

**March 13, 5 p.m.**

Annual Gold Humanism  
Honor Society induction  
Ceremony & reception  
Diastole House

**March 18, 11 a.m.**

Match Day

**April 1**

Deadline: abstracts for  
Student Research Day  
Submit to Dr. Molteni

**April 9, 8 a.m.**

Student Research Day  
Theatre C

**April 24, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

UMKC Health Sciences  
Wellness Fair  
Health Sciences Building

**May 6, 5:30 p.m.**

AOA annual induction dinner  
Diastole House

**May 7, noon**

AOA Noon Conference  
with Jeff Wiese, M.D.  
Theatre A

**May 28, 4 p.m.**

School of Medicine  
graduation at the Music Hall

**May 29, brunch**

Take Wing Award Ceremony

**For special event information,  
please contact Ruth Grimsley  
at (816) 235-5281.**



**UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-KANSAS CITY**

School of Medicine

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Kansas City, MO 64108

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School of Medicine students created their own costumes for a musical skit they wrote and performed as part of Project R.E.C.E.S.S. on Oct. 31, 2009, at Kansas City's Longfellow Elementary School. Performing in the top photo with Longfellow students are (left to right) Noor Abu Alnadi, MS 3, Salik Choudhary, MS 3, and Jawaad Hasan, MS 3. Performing for the students in the bottom photo are (left to right) Kush Tripathi, MS 3, Aditi Jani, MS 3, Choudhary, Alnadi, and Hasan. See story on Page 13.

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