

VOLUME 19 • NUMBER 4 • 2017

FOR ALUMNI, FRIENDS, FACULTY AND STUDENTS OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Quarterly

Focus on the Fundus

THE ART AND SCIENCE
OF READING THE EYE'S
INNER LANDSCAPE

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School of Medicine
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QUARTERLY

The Magazine for Alumni, Friends,
Faculty and Students of the University of Wisconsin
School of Medicine and Public Health

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CALENDAR

JANUARY 2018

Saturday, January 20

Lily's Luau Fundraiser for Epilepsy Research
Union South
See <https://lilysfund.org/luau> for details

MARCH 2018

Wednesday, March 14

Milwaukee Outreach Event
"Celebrating Milwaukee—Building Together"
Italian Community Center, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Friday, March 16

Match Day

APRIL 2018

Friday, April 6

Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) de Harter
Visiting Professor, AOA Banquet
and Induction Ceremony

Friday, April 27

Spring WMAA Board Meeting
WMAA Scholarship Reception
WMAA Awards Banquet

MAY-JUNE 2018

Thursday, May 10

SMPH Honors and Awards Ceremony

Friday, May 11

UW-Madison Commencement

Thursday and Friday,
May 31 and June 1

Spring Alumni Weekend
Class Reunions for the Classes of '53, '58, '63, '68,
and the Half-Century Society for all alumni who
graduated before 1968

QUARTERLY is published four times a year by the Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association (WMAA)
and the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH)

For editorial information, call (608) 263-4613

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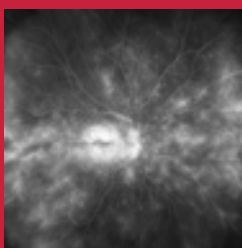
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PATIENTS’ PERSPECTIVES

Learning opportunities for health professions students build awareness of patients’ and families’ viewpoints.

Campus Scene (above)

The new Alumni Park at UW-Madison opened on Homecoming Weekend. Situated between the Memorial Union and Red Gym, along Lake Mendota, it features places to relax amid exhibits by local artists.

—Photo by Jeff Miller/University Communications

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Experts at the Fundus Photograph Reading Center analyze ophthalmic images of the inner eye, like this one, in their quest to understand and improve care for eye diseases.

—Photo courtesy of UW Fundus Photograph Reading Center

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ROBERT N. GOLDEN, MD



This issue of *Quarterly* is going to press at one of the best times of the year—the beginning of the holiday season, which brings people together and focuses on family. We are happy to feature wonderful stories and updates related to our University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) family.

Back when the days were long and the weather warm, we welcomed our newest family members: the medical and other health professions students who are beginning their professional journeys with us. Quite appropriately, their welcome here began with an emphasis on patients through the innovative Faces of Patients and Cases of Patients programs. These sessions are key components of orientation, respectively, for MD students, and for our physician assistant and master of public health students. Both programs emphasize for these new SMPH “family members”—and remind our not-so-new family members—that all of our work is directed toward advancing the health of the patients and populations whom we serve.

Other articles highlight the jubilant reunions that bring together family members from near and far each fall. We enjoyed an

excellent Homecoming Weekend, including well-attended class reunion parties. We also hosted one of the most memorable Middleton Society events, our 30th annual, which brought together family, friends and supporters of the SMPH.

We especially appreciate those members of our extended family who help support the next generation of medical students. We are pleased that Drs. Rom Stevens and Bob Lebel have created a new student scholarship in honor of their classmate, Dr. Humberto Rodriguez, whose life was tragically cut short (see article on page 34). The scholarship aligns beautifully with the SMPH’s high priorities of expanding the diversity of our family of learners and reducing their debt burden.

Additionally, this issue spotlights several of the most esteemed members of the SMPH family. We honored, with the Folkert Belzer Award, Eileen Smith, who played a pivotal role in creating the UW Hospital and Clinics Authority and has served with distinction as the founding director of the SMPH’s Wisconsin Partnership Program. We also describe the outstanding career of a distinguished alumnus, Dr. Richard Stiehm, whose career as a leader in the field

of pediatric allergy and immunology at the University of California, Los Angeles has had an impressive impact across the nation and around the world.

We have expanded the community connections of other members of our family through the highly successful Mini Med School. Drs. Richard Page and Laurel Rice—chairs of the Departments of Medicine and Obstetrics and Gynecology, respectively—co-lead this initiative, which provides a growing segment with stimulating updates on health and health care topics. This and many more of our school’s presentations are available via our Video Library at videos.med.wisc.edu.

It is exciting to see the advancement of our school’s vision throughout Wisconsin and beyond. Speaking of “vision,” I am delighted that this issue of *Quarterly* features our Fundus Photograph Reading Center, which has evolved into a remarkable resource for eyesight-related research around the globe. Since its launch in the 1970s, the center has fulfilled the vision of its founder, Dr. Matthew “Dinny” Davis.

In early 2018, our school will celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Healthy Classrooms Foundation, launched by medical students, which promotes the healthy development of students through innovative grants that are awarded to teachers and schools throughout Wisconsin.

I hope you share my excitement about this winter season, as I gaze out my window at one of this year’s first snowfalls (although I am a bit less excited about the upcoming shoveling of our driveway). Let’s share a New Year’s resolution to keep in touch with all of our wonderful family and friends of the UW School of Medicine and Public Health.

Robert N. Golden, MD

*Dean, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health
Vice Chancellor for Medical Affairs,
UW-Madison*

Winter is upon us in Madison, and so far, we've had just a couple dustings of snow. The home football games against Iowa and Michigan were quite chilly, but the Badgers remained undefeated through the end of the team's regular season! It has been exciting!

First-year medical students are settling into their routines at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH). They are the second class to begin training with the new ForWard Curriculum.

At the August 2017 White Coat Ceremony, students and their families enjoyed a reception sponsored by the Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association (WMAA). Later that month, each new student was thrilled to receive the gift of a donor-sponsored stethoscope, coordinated by the WMAA. At the Stethoscope Ceremony, these students started their class fund and enjoyed the WMAA Badger cookout—with an appearance by Bucky Badger. The students' faces beamed! We thank all of you who sponsored stethoscopes, as we were fortunate to have enough donors to fund all of this year's stethoscopes. As you may imagine, we are already planning for next year's stethoscopes, in case you are interested in sponsoring one for a student.

During Homecoming Weekend, the WMAA held its fall board of directors meeting, followed by tours of the Health Sciences Learning Center and the Med Flight helipad, and a Multicultural Affairs Reception. Many SMPH classes also enjoyed reunions (see coverage starting on page 14), and several classes launched endowed scholarships at their gatherings. We share our deep

thanks with Drs. John Kryger (Class of '92), WMAA past president, and Rom Stevens (Class of '82), who initiated their respective class scholarship funds and provided the seed money; see page 34 for details about the Class of 1982 fund. If you would like to discuss ways you can help SMPH students, please feel free to contact WMAA staff members.

In late October, as described on page 8, we honored our school's strongest supporters at the 30th annual Middleton Society dinner, which included an outstanding presentation by Dr. Ned Kalin, chair of the Department of Psychiatry. Guests also had the opportunity to learn about student research endeavors.

And the mid-November Operation Education, co-sponsored with the WMAA and Wisconsin Medical Society at the Health Sciences Learning Center, was a success. Following a hearty meal, students were able to meet with physicians who practice in various medical fields. This helps students who are trying to decide upon their future specialties. We also played the game Operation—a challenge for some of us—and competed for prizes.

In January, second-year medical students will begin their clinical experiences throughout the state. While this is a big change from the way we experienced medical education back in the day, it is interesting. If you have questions about the new curriculum, please reach out to the WMAA staff, and they can put you in touch with our curriculum leaders.

Your class representatives and WMAA staff are in frequent contact with members via e-mail and social media. Please visit the WMAA Facebook page and sign up for the

SUSAN ISENSEE, MD '83



new, secure network, called "for(MD)," to make sure you can stay in touch with the association and your class members.

We hope you'll keep in touch with us and consider participating in any way you can. We love to hear your news, which you can send via the "Share Your News" link on the WMAA web site or by e-mail to Quarterly@med.wisc.edu.

As we welcome 2018, we are busy making plans for an event in Milwaukee, Match Day, the WMAA Awards Banquet and spring reunions—see details in the Calendar of Events at the front of each issue of *Quarterly*.

Thank you for all you do to give back to our highly rated school! On Wisconsin!

Susan Isensee, MD '83
*President, Wisconsin
Medical Alumni Association*



Focus on the Fundus

THE ART AND SCIENCE OF READING THE EYE'S INNER LANDSCAPE

As Ansel Adams once said, “We must remember that a photograph can hold just as much as we put into it, and no one has ever approached the full possibilities of the medium.”

The world-renowned landscape photographer likely never imagined an image as rich and scientifically meaningful as today’s ability to photograph the intricate details of the “landscapes” of the inner eye, or retina. This helps experts better detect and understand blinding diseases, with the goal of finding ways to prevent and treat them.

Continually leveraging the capabilities of this medium, the University of Wisconsin Fundus Photograph Reading Center (FPRC) specializes in reviewing super-high-resolution photos of the retina for clinical trials related to diabetic retinopathy, diabetic macular edema, macular degeneration, retinal vein occlusion, uveitis, inherited retinal diseases and drug safety trials. These trials range from single-site studies to large, international, multi-center projects conducted at a few hundred clinical sites.

The FPRC partners with the National Institutes of Health (NIH), academic medical centers and private corporations, such as pharmaceutical manufacturers.

“We collaborate with about 1,800 sites around the world. It’s exciting that clinical researchers in this many places are familiar with what we can accomplish at UW-Madison,” notes Amitha Domalpally, MD, the center’s research director.

The FPRC is among a few such reading centers of this type in the world. Its history stretches back to 1969, the year before Matthew Dinsdale “Dinny” Davis, MD (PG ’55), helped elevate the UW School of Medicine and Public Health’s (SMPH) ophthalmology service—then part of the Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Division of the Department of Surgery—into the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences (DOVS).

A physician-scientist, Davis became the first DOVS chair, founded the FPRC and worked closely with research collaborators to develop a systematic approach to diabetic retinopathy. Davis was a leader in developing



Matthew Dinsdale “Dinny” Davis, MD (PG ’55) (left), emeritus professor and founding director of the Fundus Photograph Reading Center, and Barbara Blodi, MD, the current medical director, share a goal to conduct rigorous studies of the eye and share their passion and methods with others worldwide.

both the protocol for taking stereoscopic retinal photographs and the methods for reproducibly analyzing the retinal features of diabetic retinopathy. (See sidebar.)

Barbara Blodi, MD, FPRC medical director and DOVS professor, says a number of staff have worked at the center for more than 20 years. Such longevity holds true for its ongoing collaboration with the National Eye Institute (NEI), part of the NIH, to conduct clinical trials and create disease-specific severity scales that help predict prognoses.

For instance, the chief of the NEI’s Clinical Trials Branch, Emily Chew, MD, joined that institute near the conclusion of the landmark Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study led by Davis and for which the FPRC served as the reading center.

“The UW Fundus Photograph Reading Center was already a well-known entity under the direction of Dr. Davis, who collaborated in the development of the classification of diabetic retinopathy that has been used for decades in clinical research,” recalls Chew, who also is the director of the NEI’s Division of Epidemiology and Clinical Applications. “This was a major

achievement. Dr. Davis also collaborated with the NEI by chairing one of the first clinical trials, the Diabetic Retinopathy Study, which established the gold standard for treatment of diabetic retinopathy. That standard also holds today.”

An ophthalmologist who specializes in medical retina, Chew notes that these accomplishments were made possible by the FPRC’s work to train many investigators and photographers in the field—a role that remains central to the center’s mission.

Domalpally and Blodi, among others, have frequent contact with Chew through several grants the FPRC currently holds with the NIH.

“Together, we have carried out multiple clinical trials that have impacted how we care for patients,” says Chew. “The FPRC’s collaborative spirit and intellectual input have been key to this success, and staff at all levels display a high level of professionalism.”

Domalpally describes a typical scenario for the center’s work with sponsors: “When a pharmaceutical company is developing a new drug and gets beyond successful animal trials, it needs to do Phase I, II and III clinical trials in humans. Clinical trial leaders call

upon us to help determine which imaging tests would be most appropriate, and later to read images and analyze results.”

Studies at the FPRC are double-masked, so the highly trained readers do not know which research subjects are getting specific treatments versus placebo. Readers do not look at images like a clinician would; instead they track clinical features over time and send that information to statisticians, who view unmasked data at the end of the trial.

Blodi and Domalpally—along with Michael M. Altaweel, MD (PG '00), professor, and Mihai Mititelu, MD, MPH, assistant professor, both of DOVS—serve as principal investigators for imaging studies at the center. The FPRC routinely involves medical students and residents through faculty-initiated research projects. Trainees benefit from the large database and imaging know-how of the personnel, as well as their data analysis rigor and biostatistics expertise.

“Because our center is completely neutral and independent, and we are an academic institution, our credibility is excellent,” Blodi shares, recalling that the FPRC’s and Davis’ reputations were among the reasons she chose to join UW Health and DOVS, where she provides patient care and conducts research, respectively.

“As a retina specialist, I am most involved with macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy and retinal vein occlusion in both clinical and research realms,” says Blodi, a co-principal investigator for the NIH-funded, five-year Study of Comparative Treatments for Retinal Vein Occlusion 2 (SCORE2) clinical trial of monthly eye injections for the

treatment of retinal vein occlusion in 362 participants.

Published in May 2017 in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, the multi-center SCORE2 study is a head-to-head comparison of Avastin (bevacizumab) vs. Eylea (afibercept), two widely used drugs in the treatment of retinal vein occlusion. At six months, the drugs were equally effective in improving vision, with an average improvement from 20/100 to 20/40. SCORE2 also provided valuable cost-effectiveness information, as Avastin is a much less expensive drug.

Before starting work on a clinical trial, FPRC research photographers train and certify photographers and clinicians at collaborating sites worldwide. Training covers new software and imaging systems, among other things. Each clinical site that conducts studies through the FPRC must have the capability to acquire high-quality images.

Additionally, strict criteria for large, multi-center trials require all physicians in the trial to gather routinely for meetings, which could be anywhere in the world. An FPRC representative spends a couple of days at each of these meetings to train and quiz physicians and other study personnel in the imaging requirements of the particular trial. Beyond that, most work is done via cloud-based transmission of images and data.

“Our center participates in up to 35 trials at any given time, so that’s a lot of people to train and certify,” says Domalpally. “Our partnership is important because when photographers can take good photographs, the studies have reliable data.”

She describes one technique—optical coherence tomography (OCT)—which has been available for clinical use for about two decades. Researchers have constantly improved it to the point where they can see to the level of 3 microns deep in the retina of the living eye, almost like a histopathological section. Photos show the retina’s thickness, as well as areas of thinning and swelling, or other pathologic changes.

“Retinal OCT scans look like a piece of multi-layer cake for which photographers, researchers and clinicians can see the icing and all of the layers of the retina in great detail,” Domalpally describes.

The technique has become the most common form of imaging because it is noninvasive and is easier both on the patient and the photographer.

More involved techniques, including ultra-wide imaging, require the skills of highly trained photographers and specialized equipment. In some procedures, such as fluorescein angiography, a dye is injected into the patient’s bloodstream, and ophthalmic photographers use filters to capture images of the dye as it moves throughout vessels of the retina to detect areas of damage.

—Continued on page 36

Members of the FPRC Team: Front row (left to right): Sheila Watson, James Reimers, Pamela Vargo, Elizabeth Showers, Vonnie Gama, Amitha Domalpally, MD, Barbara Blodi, MD, Heather Baumhauer, Lauren Krouth, Jeong Pak, Susan Reed, Cynthia Hurtenbach, James Allan, Greg Hermus. Back row: Ralph Trane, Ashley Harris, Wendy Benz, Melissa Lanser, Dawn Myers, Kristine Johnson, Holly Cohn, Kelly Warren, Gabriel Padilla, Nancy Barrett.



Ophthalmology Pioneer Davis Founded Reading Center

Known simply as “Dinny” to friends and colleagues, Matthew Dinsdale Davis, MD (PG ’55), has made a profound difference throughout the history of the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health’s (SMPH) Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences (DOVS). He is recognized worldwide for his work as a pioneering retina specialist who helped establish standards for analyzing diabetic retinopathy and other eye diseases.

Emeritus Professor Davis earned his bachelor’s degree in 1947 and completed an ophthalmology residency in 1955 at UW-Madison. After two years in the U.S. Naval Reserve, he received more training at Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary.

His father—Frederick A. Davis, MD—and Peter Duehr, MD, were partners in a Madison-based practice and consecutive leaders of the Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Division of the SMPH Department of Surgery. Matthew Davis joined their practice and the SMPH faculty, where he rose to the rank of professor and head of the division. He helped elevate the division into the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences and served as its first chair from 1970 to 1986.

He gave up his private practice to have time to oversee DOVS’ expansion of its residency and recruitment of several clinical and basic science faculty members.

In 1971, the newly established National Eye Institute (NEI) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) was kicking off the groundbreaking Diabetic Retinopathy Study (DRS)—for which the NIH asked Davis to serve as the study chair.

Because his research relied on quality images of the eye, Davis hired medical illustrator Yvonne Magli and taught her how to view and draw the inside of eyes.

“She created detailed drawings, and we added the vessels on transparent overlays

to show the disease progression,” recalls Davis.

He also formed the Fundus Photograph Reading Center (FPRC) for ophthalmology clinical trials because, prior to that, nothing had been standardized for ophthalmic trials, explains the center’s research director, Amitha Domalpally, MD.

Davis notes, “Only on a photograph can you be sure of whether or not a finding is new or was there earlier because you can look back at a previous photograph. With diagrams, we would always wonder whether we missed something when drawing the features of the eye.”

Results of the seminal DRS established scatter laser photocoagulation as the standard therapy for proliferative diabetic retinopathy, eventually substantially reducing the risk of severe vision loss from proliferative diabetic retinopathy. The randomized controlled clinical trial became the template for future eye trials.

Davis continued to apply his intellectual rigor at the FPRC to collaborate in the establishment of the Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study Classification of diabetic retinopathy severity, a gold standard that continues decades later in trials of diabetic retinopathy. He also collaborated in development of the Age-Related Eye Disease Study Classifications of age-related macular degeneration and cataract-related lens opacities, still considered the gold standard.

The FPRC continues Davis’ mission of demonstrating how clinical research should be conducted with rigor to ensure that the resulting data is unbiased, accurate and reproducible, notes Domalpally. (See main article about the FPRC.)

The center’s director, Barbara Blodi, MD, shares, “Dinny’s work has always been about taking the best possible care of



Matthew Dinsdale “Dinny” Davis, MD (PG ’55)

patients, and his research is an extension of that goal.”

When Blodi joined DOVS in 1997, Davis had recently retired from patient care but continued his research for many years; he still spends time at the FPRC.

In 2014, DOVS created a lectureship in Davis’ name to honor his major contributions to clinical research. He was named the 2016 Academy Laureate by the American Academy of Ophthalmology for his seminal contributions to the field.

In addition to his multiple honors and awards in ophthalmology, he has authored or coauthored more than 270 papers and book chapters, and served as a mentor for countless faculty, staff and trainees.

A former resident who trained with Davis and colleagues—Christopher Larson, MD ’75 (PG ’79), ophthalmologist and founder of Larson Eye Care, LLC, in Sheboygan, Wisconsin—recounts Davis’ “dedication to excellence, wonderful organizational skills and love of teaching,” noting that his high standards instilled in residents much pride in ophthalmology.

Larson remembers reviewing, with critiques by Davis, projected stereoscopic images of fundus pathology—Kodachrome transparencies—and says, “We all learned how excellence should be defined when it comes to fundus photography.”

Middleton Society

GRACIOUS GIFTS HELP BOOST SCHOOL'S MISSIONS



This page, clockwise from left (left to right): Penny Paster and Zorba Paster, MD, show their support; Ned Kalin, PhD, Pat Lane and Jack Lane visit; society members learn about the research of M2 Bailee Stark (center). Next page, clockwise from top left: Lily Johnson, Cindy Hoyt and James Hoyt, PhD, converse; Martha Manning and John Manning are new Middleton Society members; event participants view the research poster of M2 Collin Lash; and James Ferwerda, MD '57, visits with M1 Stephen Chen.



by Andrew Hellpap

Innovation was a theme at the 30th annual Middleton Society dinner, which honors the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health's (SMPH) strongest supporters. At the fall 2017 event, more than 100 society members, guests and students gathered to hear SMPH Dean Robert N. Golden, MD, share a state-of-the-school address and others describe research advances.

Ned Kalin, MD, Hedberg Professor in Mind and Health, and chair, Department of Psychiatry, explained an important discovery in schizophrenia research,

funded partially by Jack and Pat Lane, whose son battles the disease.

Research by Giulio Tononi, MD, PhD, and his team in that department's Lane Neuroimaging Lab shows that a burst of activity, or "spindle," in the thalamus during the second sleep stage can play a key role in identifying schizophrenia.

Findings suggest that spindle-detection methods could provide a biomarker for schizophrenia and may point to an important alteration in the brains of those who have the disease. This important discovery provides a rational, biologically based method to potentially detect the illness at its earliest stages, with the goal

that early intervention could lead to much better outcomes.

Additionally, Zorba Paster, MD, introduced an annual \$5,000 award to the school by the Zorba Paster Family Foundation. The award will go to a faculty or staff member or student employee of the SMPH, UW Health or William S. Middleton Veterans Memorial Hospital for innovative work that advances human health.

Participants also viewed a retrospective video on the Shapiro Family Foundation, which has given to the SMPH more than \$13 million to fund programs such as the Shapiro Summer Research Program for medical students interested in research.



Bob Werner (right), father of Becky Werner (shown in the slide above), shares with health professions students the story of his daughter's sudden death at age 20 from meningitis and the impact her death and his family's encounter with the health care system have made on the whole family.



Patients' Perspectives

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES CALL UPON THOSE MOST IMPACTED BY HEALTH CARE

It's the first day of classes at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH), and the newest medical students are milling about outside a lecture hall, waiting for their first class.

On August 21, 2017, these 176 students—some who know each other, and many who don't—chatter away or anxiously pick at breakfast snacks. Student Services staff greet them, and—as time passes—some students get more anxious and begin fidgeting with their phones.

Then, at 8 a.m., it's time to start medical school. The lecture hall is in the Health Sciences Learning Center, which will be their home-away-from-home for most of the next four years when they are in Madison.

The students stream into the hall and take their seats. As the lights dim, many expect to see an experienced doctor—someone who is a gifted lecturer with a mile-long curriculum vitae, sharing a well-crafted PowerPoint presentation. Instead, when the stage lights come back on, the students are surprised to see a soft-spoken, 9-year-old boy.

His name is Jack Christensen.

Next, the students view a video that describes his journey: The struggle he and

his family have endured since Christensen was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes at age 4.

As the classroom lights brighten, a young voice makes a simple statement.

"My name is Jack, and I am the face of Type 1 diabetes, and today you will hear my story," he said, before walking away from the podium, which is nearly tall enough to hide the top of his head full of straight brown hair.

At this stage of the students' learning, this 9-year-old boy may have more significance than that of a health care professional with nine years of experience.

Christensen is an example of the patients they will learn from, because—while just a boy—he has lived through the types of hardships and treatments many of the students may never personally experience. But they will be charged with doing their best to make people like Christensen well.

"It's easy to get caught up in the first day—all of the logistics and finding our place in this school," shares Olivia Rater, a first-year medical student. "Faces of Patients was a way for us to refocus that energy and remind us why we started along this path."

The Human Element

The innovative Faces of Patients program has been a part of the SMPH curriculum for more than 10 years, and it has existed as the first learning activity of the curriculum since 2006, when the UW Medical School—as it was called until late 2005—transformed into the nation's first integrated school of medicine *and* public health.

Faces of Patients has two parts. Initially, the entire first-year student body gathers in a lecture hall to hear brief introductions by the many people who have volunteered



Health sciences students react with strong emotions upon hearing Bob Werner speak about his daughter's sudden death from meningitis.

to share their stories about living with particular medical conditions. Then, the medical students and volunteers break into small groups, so each group of students can interact on a more personal level with the patients and/or family members.

The program was the brainchild of Jane Crone, NP, MEd, MS, in 2005, when Christie Seibert, MD, now the associate dean for medical student education and services, asked Crone to devise a new, impactful orientation that would be different from programs at other medical schools.

When Crone began researching the subject, she learned that most medical schools' orientation programs were based on academic preparedness and navigating the system. But she thought the focus should be elsewhere—on the patient.

Crone found Seibert's initial request a bit daunting, but the solution came to her through an experience, similar to the encounters medical students would have.

When Crone was developing the program in collaboration with Elizabeth Tuschen, administrative program specialist, Crone was called to the bedside of her younger sister, who had just received a diagnosis of multiple sclerosis at a Chicago hospital.

"The doctor came into the room, sat down, put his feet up on a hand rail, and

said, 'I have all day to listen to you,'" she repeats.

His attitude resonated with Crone, who has learned from personal and professional experiences that patients want a positive connection with their doctors and nurses. A nurse practitioner at UW Health with 40 years of nursing experience, Crone has worked with the SMPH's curriculum for 17 years.

Research supports her idea to create Faces of Patients. For example, a 2010 study, "Doctor-Patient Communication: A Review," published in *The Oschsner Journal*, outlined numerous studies and concluded, in part, that doctor-patient communication is a major part of health care.

According to the study, "most complaints about doctors are related to issues of communication, not clinical competency," and "patients want doctors who can skillfully diagnose and treat their sicknesses, as well as communicate with them effectively."

Crone says the impact that Faces of Patients has had on medical students gives her a sense of pride, adding that she often hears comments like, "I've never forgotten that first day," when she runs into former students, often years later.

Fast forward to 2016, when the SMPH implemented its ForWard curriculum, and Faces of Patients continues to be a critical

part of the curriculum under the guidance of Scott Mead, MD '02 (PG '05), clinical associate professor, Department of Medicine. He is the curriculum thread director of ethics, health information technology, interpersonal and communication skills, patient care, professionalism and lifelong learning.

Taking It a Step Further

Virginia Snyder, PhD, PA-C, director of the SMPH's Physician Assistant (PA) Program, recalls thinking, "Why aren't our students doing a program like the Faces of Patients? It's so powerful!"

With Crone's help, the PA Program launched Faces of Patients in 2009. Responding to demand, program leaders now hold these patient-centered learning sessions once every year, when both first- and second-year students can attend.

In addition to the Faces of Patients program, in 2012, Snyder and her team added sessions of a similar format into the curriculum for PA students. Called Cases of Patients and held twice each semester, these are somewhat of a sequel to Faces of Patients. Fourteen patient cases about different medical conditions or study areas are longitudinally integrated into PA education, Snyder explains. Patients, families, and health care providers uniquely cover a



Jack Christensen has participated in the Faces of Patients program for the past five years. As shown in the left photo when he was younger, he and his mom, Jess Christensen, describe to students what it's like for a child to live with Type 1 diabetes. Today (right photo), Jack Christensen has adapted well to the circumstances and treatments related to his illness.

particular area of focus, often spending one to two hours with students and PA faculty.

“Our students constantly want to see and hear from more patients. Cases of Patients allows them to delve deeper into one patient and/or family story,” she says.

In addition to learning to improve patient communication skills, this experience allows PA students to remember the value of the patient-provider relationship when they start interacting with patients in their training. Cases of Patients encourages PA students to explore psychosocial, cultural and emotional experiences with the patients and/or families.

In October 2017, the PA Program expanded its patient-centered curriculum to include students from the UW School of Nursing and SMPH Master of Public Health Program. Cases of Patients is the first program of its type to include multiple parts of the care team. Like its model, these interprofessional sessions include patient presentations, followed by small-group discussions and sharing with the larger group. They allow students to learn about roles and responsibilities of other disciplines and how each approaches care of patients or populations within the content area.

During the fall 2017 Cases of Patients, students met with the parents of a young woman from Mukwonago, Wisconsin, who died suddenly from a meningitis infection.

Bob Werner told the story of his daughter, Becky Werner, who was perfectly healthy on February 23, 2004, and two days later, she was gone, at age 20. He explained that when he and his wife, Dee, took Becky to the emergency room, doctors initially couldn't determine what was wrong, and nobody was telling them anything about their daughter.

That night, Becky Werner was transferred to the intensive care unit, and symptoms of the infection started to show. By 9 p.m. on February 25, her heart stopped.

Reflecting on Bob Werner's presentation, nursing student Amanda Schmoeger says, “What struck me most was the ‘whirlwind’ and the speed of what the family went through with their daughter's sickness.”

Meeting with the patient's family gave Schmoeger a perspective she has applied to clinical work during her training because, she



TODD BROWN/MEDIA SOLUTIONS

Each of the patient-focused programs includes small-group sessions for students to interact with patients.

realizes, often a nurse's first priority is the patient, and the family members—who may be scared—can be overlooked.

“I continually ask family members if they need water, a break, etc., because I feel, by offering these things, it shows them that we care for the family as a whole while they are going through a difficult experience,” she says. “Many times, the family members don't want anything, but a few times, they have said to me, ‘Thank you so much for asking. You are the first one who has done that.’”

Cases of Patients has been so successful that—as part of the grant that funds it—Snyder and her team have developed a lesson plan and materials so they can share the curriculum with other PA programs throughout the United States. Her team also has presented the program at two national physician assistant education forums.

Giving Back

In addition to Christensen, this year's Faces of Patients program included volunteers who shared their experiences with epilepsy, obesity, domestic violence and life as a transgender person. Many volunteers—including Christensen—return year after year to help the students.

Jess Christensen, Jack's mother, believes it's important to keep the patient in the forefront of medical education, which is why her family has been working with students through the Faces of Patients program since Jack Christensen was 4 years old.

“The short answer is [we want] to increase awareness and education about this often-misunderstood disease,” Jess Christensen shares. “Our hope is that when these students become doctors, they will remember Jack's story.”

Faces of Patients has had a profound impact on students, says Gwen McIntosh, MD '96, MPH, associate dean for students at the SMPH and a pediatrician at UW Health.

“From Day 1 of medical school, we link the educational experience directly to patient care. This message can be lost in the detail of basic science and pathophysiology if there is no intention to bring their learning back to focus on the patient,” she notes, adding that the program also has had an impact on her.

“It always reminds me of the privilege physicians are permitted in caring for people during vulnerable times in their lives,” McIntosh reflects. “The patients on the panel do an excellent job highlighting how important it is for physicians to provide clear communication and human compassion.”

Jack Christensen, in particular, made an impression on Rater, who spent four years as a playroom volunteer at Phoenix Children's Hospital before she enrolled at the SMPH.

“Kids like Jack are a big part of the reason I went into medicine,” she shares. “Children have such resilience in the face of adversity. They have this inspiring ability to maintain a positive outlook when faced with serious medical conditions, and Little Jack brought me back to that on Day 1.”

Homecoming!

WARM FALL WEEKEND OFFERED FUN FOR ALL AGES



TODD BROWN AND JOHN WINGREWMEDIA SOLUTIONS (7)

This page, clockwise from left (left to right): Ben Abeyta, MD '12, Emily Abeyta, MD '12, and their children; Tara Snow, MD '02, Bucky and Sarah Schaettle, MD '02, pose; M1 Courtney Bork meets the donor of her stethoscope, Charles V. Ihle, MD '65. Opposite page, clockwise from top left: Paula Kastenson, Eugene Kastenson, MD '77, Peggy Wearing and Dave Wearing celebrate. M1 Stephen Chen, Mark Flannum, MD '02, and Christine Flannum discuss life in their small Alaska towns; Edward Morales, MD '87, Kathleen McDougal, MD '89, Terry Spears Barnette, MD '87, and Greg Daniels, MD '87, show homecoming spirit; M1 Sean Duminie and S. Abdur-Rahman, MD '82, visit.

If the Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association (WMAA) could order weather for Homecoming Weekend, it surely would order the type of weather that arrived on Friday, October 20, and Saturday, October 21, 2017. With daytime highs of 76 degrees Fahrenheit, who could ask for more?

“It was perfect weather to spend some time on the Memorial Union Terrace—including the beautiful new Alumni Park—and take our guided tour of the Med Flight helipad on Friday, before guests joined

the Multicultural Affairs Reception and the WMAA Reception,” says Karen Peterson, WMAA executive director.

In its usual style, the association planned a variety of activities for the 250 alumni and guests who returned to the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health for reunions.

At the reception at DeJope Hall, WMAA President Susan Isensee, MD '83, shared an update about the association's activities—including the fall's success with the Stethoscope Program, in which every

first-year medical student received a gift of a stethoscope funded by an alumnus or faculty member.

Isensee shared the schedule for the reunion gatherings for the Classes of 1972, '77, '82, '87, '92, '97, '02, '07 and '12, and she thanked the class representatives who devoted time to planning the gatherings.

“We have a record turnout for our five-year class reunion, the Class of 2012,” she exclaimed. “Thirty classmates are here to celebrate. Thanks to their class representative, Dr. Bob Zemple, and



classmate, Dr. Abby Taub—who also are new members of the WMAA Board of Directors.”

Isensee gave another special shout out to the Classes of 1982 and 1992, which launched endowed scholarships in celebration of their class reunions. Rom Stevens, MD '82, Bob Lebel, MD '82 and John Kryger, MD '92, led the efforts for their respective classes. (See page 34 for an article about Stevens' efforts to create a scholarship in honor of deceased classmate Humberto A. Rodriguez, MD '82.)

The Class of 2007 also established four endowed scholarships, championed by at least six class leaders, in the 10 years since its members graduated.

“Scholarship money is so essential for our medical students, given the high debt load they experience,” Isensee shared, adding that the WMAA Board of Directors has made scholarships a priority for the association’s end-of-year campaign.

Following Isensee’s remarks, a UW-Madison student band, led by UW School of Music Student Jordan Kowalski,

entertained the crowd, with rousing renditions of “If You Wanna Be a Badger,” and “On Wisconsin!”

On Saturday morning, Badger spirit continued at the WMAA Tailgate Party at Union South and the Wisconsin vs. Maryland football game. A joyful 38-13 victory for Wisconsin was a welcome reason to “Jump Around”!

Class Reunions

TODD BROWN AND JOHN WINGREN/MEDIA SOLUTIONS (5)



CLASS OF 1972

Left to right: Warren Procci, Steven Bodemer, John Pederson.

CLASS OF 1977

*Left to right: Eugene Kastenson, John Toohey,
Scott MacRae, Lawrence Tolson.*



CLASS OF 1982

*Front row (left to right):
Richard Parfitt, Curtis Studey,
Michael Bayer, Diane Meier,
Barbara Stowe-Carpenter,
Thomas Wood.
Back row: Mark Asplund, Gary Kindt,
Robert Lebel, Rom Stevens.*





CLASS OF
1987

*Front row (left to right): Deborah Lessmeier, Mary Woodhouse, Ann Schmidt, Joan McGrath, Kelly De Longpre, Lori Heinrich, Beth Bartos, Maureen Lavin, Agnes Wong.
Back row: Daniel Sutton, Forrest Krause, Jeffrey Britton, Diane Heatley, Christopher Harris, Mark Asperheim, Ketan Sheth, David Rohde, Mark Aasen, Terry Spears Barnett, Ellen Ryan, Lynn Verger, Edward Morales, Pamela Gray.*



CLASS OF
1992

*Front row (left to right): Kenneth Dembny, Ellen Neuhaus, Peggy Scallon, Steven Salisbury, Dorothy Delisle, Elise Beltrami, Mary Landry, Ronelle Moe, Donita Croft.
Back row: Keith Stuessi, Paul Utrie, David Ritzow, Daniel Vig, Maribeth Baker, Patrick Krismer, John Kryger, David Lang, Brian Kiedrowski, Steven Connelly, Andrew Collins, Mark Capriolo, Beverly DeGroot, Suzana Dudley.*

TODD BROWN AND JOHN WINGREN/MEDIA SOLUTIONS (4)



CLASS OF
1997 *Front row (left to right): Michael Allan, Amy Herbst, Melissa Allan, Janet Legare, Jessica Young.
Back row: Derek Hubbard, Ryan Wubben, Robert Allan, Marc Young.*



CLASS OF
2002 *Left to right: Mark Flanum, Sarah Schaettle, Tara Snow, Sarah Mirocha, Barbara Burns, Sarah Moore.*



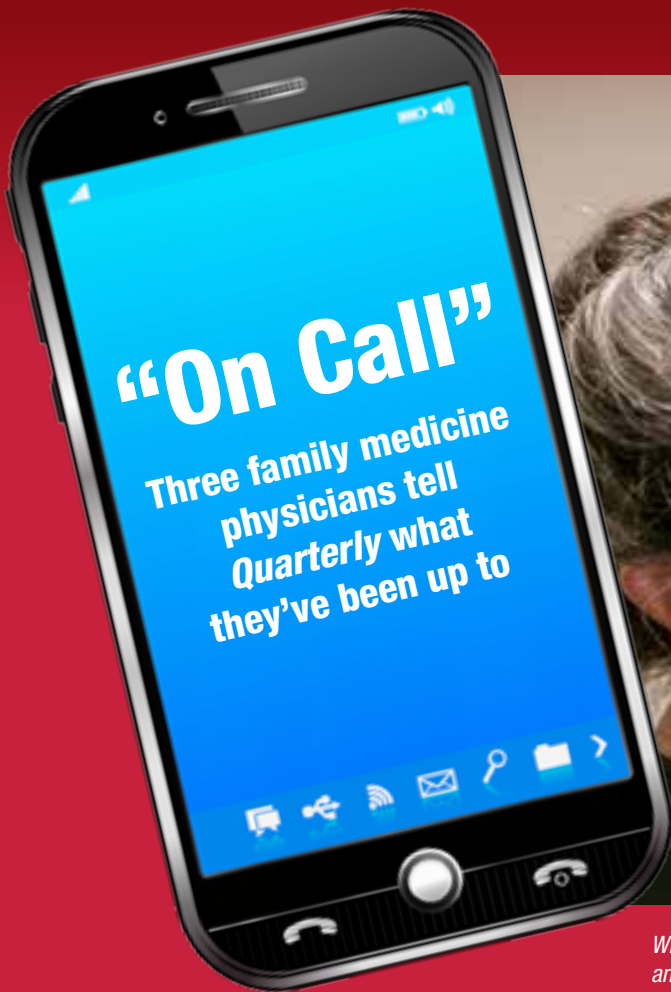
CLASS OF
2007

*Front row (left to right): Emily Hill, Nathan Schreiber, Ryan Kipp, Mark (and Finn) Morrey, George Gendy, John Vasudevan.
Back row: Michael Curley, Jennifer Pofahl, Mia Cohen, Jay Miesfeld, Robert Behm, Scott Bassuener, Hoda Ahmadi, Kari Paulson.*



CLASS OF
2012

*Front row (left to right): Andrea Stitgen, Eshana Shah, Abigail Taub, Taya Schairer, Allison Remiker, Ashley Flannery, Walker Flannery, Mike Oldenburg.
Back row: Patrick McBride (class of 1980), Bob Zemple, Brent White, Emily Abeyta, Benjamin Abeyta, Erika Mikulec, Matt Mokrohisky, Adam Page.*



William Hiefner, MD (PG '88) examines a patient at the Department of Family Medicine and Community Health's Oregon Clinic in Oregon, Wisconsin.

BRANDON MINES, MD '00

I work in an outpatient sports medicine clinic at Emory Sports Medicine Center and Emory Orthopedics, where I see patients of all ages who have injuries, generally related to sports or exercise. I also am the head medical physician for the Atlanta Falcons. In addition to other areas, I am responsible for diagnosis and recovery from concussion for football players. Further, I am a team physician for the Atlanta Hawks and Atlanta Dream.

A few years ago, while I was caring for a high school football team, the quarterback suffered a painful dislocation

of his shoulder, which he had done before. Because I had built a relationship with him, I was able to calm him down, relocate his shoulder and relieve his pain. It was gratifying to help in this way.

Gross anatomy was my favorite class in medical school. There, I also developed a love for taking care of patients of all ages. I realized there was a subset of people who like to exercise and play sports but sometimes need a physician to help them stay healthy or recover from an injury. That's when I discovered sports medicine. I found it especially

intriguing to see how sports medicine integrated with family medicine. I like this field because I love to help people who are injured—from “weekend warriors” to professional athletes—get back to activities they enjoy.

I am a member of the American Medical Society for Sports Medicine and the National Football League Physicians Society.

Family medicine allows physicians to receive comprehensive training relevant to many areas of interest. It allows you to treat the entire family, and it allows



you to do a fellowship like sports medicine. In sports medicine, your patients can range from organized teams to the diabetic patient who wants to run a marathon, or the former marine with heart disease who wonders what is a safe exercise for her.

DANIEL K. PAULSON, MD '98

After finishing medical school in 1998, I stayed in Madison for my family medicine and community health residency at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, which I finished in 2001. During my residency, I did my outpatient work at Wingra Clinic, where I learned the importance of working with underserved populations.

Upon completion of my residency, I joined Springfield Family Physicians of Oregon State, part of the Eugene/Springfield metropolitan area. I am an owner and managing

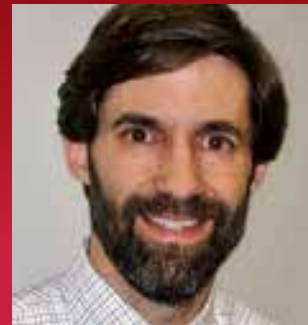
partner of this independent clinic. We are one of only two clinics in our county to be recognized as a five-star Patient-Centered Primary Care Home by the state of Oregon.

Two years ago, we started a new clinic to care for 8,000 newly insured Medicaid recipients. In this clinic, I work with a large team of professionals, including fully integrated behavioral health and nurse care managers, which allows me to provide better care for patients who have overlapping mental and physical health conditions.

A good example of a memorable case is a woman with paranoid schizophrenia and diabetes. With a therapist and a diabetic educator, we were able to help her overcome her fear of needles to start dosing insulin, teach her how to shop for food, and get both her diabetes and schizophrenia under much better control.

I find it satisfying to meet the needs of the entire patient, something that has been a goal of mine since I started medical school.

For many years, I have worked with the Oregon Academy of Family Physicians,



including serving for the past two years as president. This has kept me involved in the transformation of primary care and able to witness the many innovative things Oregon is doing. These innovations will continue to make primary care an exciting and rewarding field in which to practice medicine.

SIBYL SIEGFRIED, MD '09

One Medical is a primary care provider group with numerous clinics located in several cities across the United States. I have been practicing at One Medical since I moved to Washington, D.C., in 2015. Before that, I lived in Seattle, where I completed my training in Kaiser Permanente's (formerly Group Health) Family Medicine Residency.

I had a strong interest in women's health during medical school, but I also wanted to see a variety of patients with various conditions. With family medicine, I knew I would receive strong women's health

training in regard to primary care, general gynecology and procedural training, and I also would be able to gain general adult and pediatric training.

A typical day brings a wide variety of patients and conditions. I have particular interests in reproductive health, mental health and LGBTQ health.

As a family medicine physician, one can form a strong bond in a relatively short period of time. I practiced in a clinic for close to three years between residency and moving to D.C., and in just that time developed strong relationships

with patients that I think about to this day.

In particular, I cared for an elderly couple and their adult daughter. I helped them navigate a complicated work-up for a medical condition for her, declining mental faculties for him, and the caregiver stress on their daughter. I am equipped to address the medical and mental health concerns for individuals, while taking into account the larger family dynamic.

If I were speaking to medical students today, I would describe family medicine as a very fulfilling practice for the



provider who enjoys building relationships with patients, enjoys variety during the day and is comfortable navigating acute and chronic conditions.

CLASS NOTES compiled by Andrea Larson

We want to hear from you!
med.wisc.edu/shareyournews

CLASS OF 1961



John Leissring, who resides in Santa Rosa, California, wrote two books: *Dean Meeker: Art is Process* in 2015 and *John Cother Webb: Master of Mezzotint* in 2017. Meeker was a professor in the UW-Madison Department of Art from 1946 to 1992 and held emeritus status until his death in 2002. Webb was the “doyen” of English

mezzotint artists. He was significant in the advancement of the mezzotint as a collectable work of art. He died in London in 1927. Leissring, a retired pathologist and dermatopathologist, is an artist (sculpture, woodcut, painting, print-making, drawing); pianist/composer (18 CDs); designer and constructor of buildings; writer (poetry and essays); and publisher (28 books).

CLASS OF 1992

Anne Fabiny is a 2017-18 Health and Aging Policy Fellow. After spending six weeks in Washington, D.C., she returned to San Francisco to work on a policy project aimed at helping the Veterans Administration (VA) become an engaged partner with developers of low-income housing in the San Francisco Bay Area to create supportive housing for frail, older veterans. Fabiny is the associate chief of staff for geriatrics, palliative and extended care at the San Francisco VA Health Care System and a professor of medicine at the University of

California, San Francisco School of Medicine. She and her husband, Buck Strewler, have three grown children: Emma, age 27, Betsy, age 28, and Anna, age 30.

CLASS OF 2014

Phoebe Devitt,

after completing her residency in California, will return to her hometown of Soldiers Grove, Wisconsin, and serve as a family medicine doctor at Vernon Memorial Hospital in nearby Viroqua. A graduate of the Wisconsin Academy for Rural Medicine (WARM) program at the UW School of Medicine and Public Health, Devitt recently was featured in *The Country Today* newspaper; see thecountrytoday.com/front-page/2017/10/23/Rx-for-rural-Wisconsin.html



IN MEMORIAM

Claude W. Schmidt, MD '49
 Wichita, Kansas
 October 6, 2016

William A. Weidner, MD '52
 Prescott, Arizona
 April 14, 2017

Willis A. Warner, MD '53
 Kensington, Maryland
 July 7, 2017

Donald L. Werner, MD '55
 Virginia, Minnesota
 September 12, 2017

Robert J. Goldberger, MD '56
 Mequon, Wisconsin
 September 22, 2017

George T. Bryan, MD '57
 Middleton, Wisconsin
 July 10, 2017

Leroy G. Walsh, MD '58
 Madison, Wisconsin
 July 25, 2017

Richard W. Plater, MD '61
 Winter Park, Florida
 September 5, 2017

William R. Austad, MD '62
 Las Cruces, New Mexico
 June 30, 2017

Joseph P. Iacolucci, MD '69
 Bellevue, Washington
 August 19, 2017

CLASS OF 2011 (MPH)

Kathleen Ratteree co-authored, edited and published an anthology, *The Great Vanishing Act: Blood Quantum and the Future of Native Nations*. She has worked with the Oneida Nation Trust and Enrollment Committee since 2013 and has served as the project manager for Sustain Oneida, which facilitates constructive community dialogue on tribal enrollment criteria. Over the past three years, Ratteree has written a series of articles for the Oneida tribal newspaper, *The Kalihwisaks*, on identity,

citizenship, blood quantum, demographics, sovereignty and tribal governance. She holds a master of science degree in medical anthropology, a master of public health degree and a certificate of global health from UW-Madison. Ratteree lives near Green Bay, Wisconsin, with her husband, two young children, a 100-pound dog, 12 chickens and various wildlife.

DO YOU GET OUR E-MAILS?

If you do not receive invitations to reunions and information about other special events via e-mail from the Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association (WMAA), please add "wmaa@med.wisc.edu" to your address book. This will keep our messages from landing in your spam folder! Please also visit www.med.wisc.edu/alumni to update your contact information. We want to be able to stay in touch!

WISCONSIN MEDICAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD



TODD BROWN/MEDIA SOLUTIONS

Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association (WMAA) Board of Directors: Front row (left to right): Karen Adler-Fischer, MD '80, Alex Tucker, MD '75, Meghan Lubner, MD '03, Kathryn Budzak, MD '69, Lisa Shen, MD '10, Susan Isensee, MD '83, Tito Izard, MD '96, WMAA Executive Director Karen Peterson.

Middle row: Dan Jackson, MD '03, Dirk Fisher, MD '79, Michael Witcik, MD '07, Abigail Taub, MD '12, Maria Weber, MD '88, Charles Ihle, MD '65, Donn Fuhrmann, MD '76, Thomas Puetz, MD '90, Kyla Lee, MD '98.

Back row: Mathew Aschbrenner, MD '06, Steve Merkow, MD '80, Christopher Larson, MD '75, John McDermott, MD '79, John Kryger, MD '92, Mark Fenlon, MD '84, MBA, Bob Zemple, MD '12.

Not pictured: Philip Farrell, MD, PhD, Kay Gruling, MD '88, Ann Liebeskind, MD '98, Patrick McBride, MD '80, MPH, Gwen McIntosh, MD '96, MPH, Kathryn Nixdorf, MD '06, Sandra Osborn, MD '70, Leon Rosenberg, MD '57, Ann Ruscher, MD '91, Ann Schierl, MD '57, Steven Wiesner, MD '85, Ryan Wubben, MD '97.

—See next page for an article about the newly appointed members of the WMAA Board of Directors.

New WMAA Board Members

ASSOCIATION AND SCHOOL APPRECIATE THEIR SERVICE

TODD BROWN/MEDIA SOLUTIONS



Recently appointed members of the WMAA Board of Directors: Left to right: Ryan Wubben, MD '97, Thomas Puetz, MD '90, Maria Weber, MD '88, Abigail Taub, MD '12 (PG '16), Tito Izard, MD '96 (PG '99), Lisa Shen, MD '10, Bob Zemple, MD '12, John McDermott, MD '79.

As of July 1, 2017, eight University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) alumni joined the Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association (WMAA) Board of Directors for their initial three-year terms. We are featuring Q&A profiles of several new members here. Watch the next issue of *Quarterly* for more profiles of new WMAA board members.

Also, see the photo caption above for names of the new board members, as well as the caption on the previous page for names of the full board of directors.

Karen Peterson, WMAA executive director, thanks all of the board members for their dedicated service to supporting the SMPH's missions.

ABIGAIL TAUB, MD '12 (PG '16)

Your current practice?

I am a dermatologist at Gundersen Health System in La Crosse, Wisconsin.

Your fondest memory of the SMPH?

I was very involved in the MEDiC student-run free health care clinics while at the SMPH. While on the council, I started the first annual Turkey Bowl (which I hope is still happening!). It was so much fun playing football as a class, raising money for MEDiC, and receiving the Turkey Bowl Trophy from Dr. Patrick McBride, the former associate dean for students.

SMPH faculty member you most remember and why?

I'll always remember Dr. Gretchen Schwarze, whose strong passion for patients and medical ethics resonates every day I care for patients.

Your hobbies and interests?

I enjoy baking (I made seven pies for Thanksgiving!), waterskiing, downhill skiing and watching Badger football.

Family update?

I married Charles Koch in August 2016. We welcomed our daughter, Charlotte, to the world one year later.

Goals for the WMAA?

As a past Wisconsin Academy for Rural Medicine (WARM) student, my main goal is to help students and alumni continue to feel a Badger connection while they are outside of Madison.

LISA SHEN, MD '10

Your current practice?

I am a pediatric dermatologist at Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, and an assistant professor at Northwestern Feinberg School of Medicine.

Your fondest memory of the SMPH?

Match Day is one of my fondest memories. It was so great to see our class come together to celebrate and support each other as we all found out where we would be continuing our medical training.

SMPH faculty member you most remember and why?

Dr. John Harting was incredibly enthusiastic and engaging. He made neuroscience one of my favorite courses.

Your hobbies and interests?

I enjoy baking, taking family walks with the little one and trying new restaurants.

Family update?

Our baby boy, Owen, was born in January 2017. We live in Evanston, Illinois, but will be moving to Boston in April 2018.

Goals for the WMAA?

I'm looking forward to connecting with alumni and students at events in Madison and also in cities like Chicago and Boston.

RYAN WUBBEN, MD '97

Your current practice?

I am the medical director and a flight physician for UW Med Flight, Department of Emergency Medicine, UW Health and SMPH.

Your fondest memory of the SMPH?

My highlight was meeting my wife, Dr. Deborah Patrick Wubben (Class of 1998).

SMPH faculty member you most remember and why?

Dr. Dennis Maki (Class of 1967) for his exacting standards on my critical care rotation as a fourth-year medical student. I try to uphold such standards to this day.

Your hobbies and interests?

I have an avid interest in aviation and am a private pilot. My undergraduate degree in archaeology and my interest in aviation have come together through my volunteer work for the UW Missing in Action Recovery and Identification Project. We are a UW-Madison team that includes professional archaeologists, historians and student veterans who work with the Department of Defense to research, excavate and recover the remains of missing-in-action airmen from World War II. A recent success involved recovering a fighter pilot shot down over northern France just before D-Day in 1944.

Family update?

My wife, Dr. Deborah Patrick Wubben, is an endocrinologist in Madison. We have two kids, Ella and Lars, and a puppy, Clio.

Goals for the WMAA?

I'd like to help continue the good work the WMAA has done over the years and to represent the alumni by engaging with

medical students as they learn in the new ForWard Curriculum.

TITO IZARD, MD '96 (PG '99)

Your current practice?

I am the president & CEO for Milwaukee Health Services, Inc. (FQHC). I was formerly a clinical associate professor in the SMPH Department of Family Medicine and Community Health following completion of my residency at St. Luke's Central City Site-Milwaukee.

Your fondest memory of the SMPH?

I have fond memories of matriculating in the summer of 1992 and taking gross anatomy at 1300 University Avenue in the old medical school building.

SMPH faculty member you most remember and why?

I remember re-listening to Dr. June Dahl's lectures on my commute back to Milwaukee each day. My wife was attending the Medical College of Wisconsin, so my motto was happy wife, happy life. My commute was worth it.

Your hobbies and interests?

I enjoy politics, spiritual connectivity and community engagement.

Family update?

I have been married to Dr. Delicia Randle-Izard for more than half of my life. We have four children, one of whom we adopted, and our oldest is currently deployed with the U.S. Army's 82nd Airborne Division in Afghanistan.

Goals for the WMAA?

I want to assist the SMPH and WMAA in finding future servant leaders.

MARIA WEBER, MD '88

Your current practice?

I am retired.

Your fondest memory of the SMPH?

Match Day! This was an exciting moment not only for my husband, Dr. Gerald Lang, MD (Class of 1988), and me—but we were in the couples match—but for everyone. It really determined our next step in this journey. All that hard work paid off!

SMPH faculty member you most remember and why?

Dr. Benton Taylor of the William S. Middleton Veterans Memorial Hospital was an all-around great person and mentor. I did my medicine rotation with him early in my fourth year of medical school.

Your hobbies and interests?

I love to read and enjoy being in a book club. I especially enjoy road cycling and doing challenge events. I am training for the May 2018 Assault on Mt. Mitchell, a 102.7-mile self-paced ride starting in Spartanburg, South Carolina, along the Blue Ridge Parkway, to the summit at Mt. Mitchell State Park in North Carolina. Mt. Mitchell is the highest peak east of the Mississippi River.

Family update?

We have four adult children. One of the youngest has autism and needs assistance and support. My husband, Dr. Jerry Lang, who works in orthopedic trauma at UW Health in Madison, and I decided early on that I should stay home to focus on our family. I have never regretted this decision, but I miss the excitement and challenge of medicine.

Goals for the WMAA?

I want to foster the relationship between medical students and alumni. I enjoy talking with the students and getting to know them. This is an exciting time in their lives, but it also is stressful. I want to support them in any way I can.

Additionally, because my husband is the director of the Orthopedic Surgery Residency Program, I have a lot of contact with the orthopedic residents, rotating medical students (through events and dinners at our house) and medical students who are interviewing for the residency (dinner at the end of their interview day). I completed my internal medicine residency at Akron City Hospital (now Summa Health) in Ohio, where Jerry completed his orthopedic surgery residency. We had very positive residency experiences, and we want the same for residents at UW Health.

—*Watch the next issue of Quarterly for more profiles of new WMAA board members.*



Eileen Smith (left) accepted the Belzer Award from Dean Robert Golden, MD, in fall 2017.

Smith Earns Belzer Award

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD HONORS HER TRANSFORMATIVE CONTRIBUTIONS

by Anne Pankratz

Eileen Smith, director of the Wisconsin Partnership Program at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH), received the 2017 Folkert Belzer Lifetime Achievement Award.

The annual award—given during a special presentation at the SMPH Fall 2017 Faculty and Staff Meeting—recognizes an outstanding individual whose contributions have made an impact on the school and on the people and populations it serves.

The intent of the award, says SMPH Dean Robert Golden, MD, “is to recognize the ‘unsung hero’ whose contributions have extended over a period of time.”

Indeed, Smith’s history with UW-Madison and UW Health runs deep—with the common thread of transformation woven throughout her career.

“Many of us know Eileen as the founding director of the Wisconsin Partnership Program. She played a pivotal role in transforming the abstract idea of the Partnership Program into a wonderfully productive institution, which in turn fueled our transformation into the nation’s first school of medicine and public health,” shares Golden.

Yet, Smith’s transformative contributions began long before that.

She completed her bachelor’s and master’s degrees at the University of California, Berkeley and worked at the

University of Minnesota for several years before joining UW Hospital and Clinics (UWHC). As an associate superintendent during one of the hospital’s most pivotal periods, Smith was deeply involved with the launch and implementation—the transformation—of UWHC from a state entity within UW-Madison into a public authority.

In 2004, when the Wisconsin Partnership Program was established at the SMPH, Smith became its founding director. She was charged with the launch and implementation of this new grant-making entity, which would have a transformative impact on the school and the state of Wisconsin.

Her previous role at the hospital prepared Smith to navigate this new set of challenges.

Reflecting on the similarities of the two endeavors, Smith notes, “Both the UWHC transformation and Wisconsin Partnership Program implementation had their respective obstacles, expectations and unprecedented opportunities. Simply put, each was designed to affect significant change, to make great improvements in systems and relationships, and—most importantly—to make a difference in the lives of individuals, families and the environments in which they live, by improving health and well-being.”

The result is an academic health center that is stronger, more accessible to all and better positioned to meet the health challenges of the 21st century.

Former SMPH Dean Philip Farrell, MD, PhD, who recruited Smith to the Wisconsin Partnership Program, recalls her strengths, energy and dedication.

“Eileen always has had an extraordinary ability to analyze complex issues,” he says. “She is able to understand how issues relate to community priorities, as well as how to

successfully build relationships between community organizations and UW programs.”

Farrell adds, “We are very fortunate Eileen has remained with the Partnership Program because her dedication and patience have made all the difference!”

Today, as the director of the Wisconsin Partnership Program, Smith, her staff and the program’s leadership work to ensure that they uphold the tremendous privilege they have as stewards of the program’s funds. To date, the Wisconsin Partnership Program has committed more than \$200 million in grant programs that aim to understand and prevent disease, promote health, advance health equity and support communities to address and ultimately solve complex health problems. Investments support innovative research by UW-Madison faculty and staff to tackle cancer, Alzheimer’s disease, antibiotic resistance, diabetes and more.

Through community-engaged research, academic partners work in collaboration with community organizations to address local health issues. Finally, the program’s

significant investments in education have helped expand the school’s public health focus so graduating physicians and health care providers have a broader understanding of public and population health.

When presenting Smith’s award, Golden reflected on her leadership.

“With dedication, passion, political acumen and patience, Eileen has guided the school through challenging times, always focused on health equity and advancement through research, education and community partnerships,” he noted.

Smith is proud of the accomplishments of the hospital and the Wisconsin Partnership Program.

“Many successful outcomes have been achieved in education, research, patient care and service to the state that most likely could not have been achieved without the creation of the public authority and the Wisconsin Partnership Program. It has been my reward to be a part of both,” Smith concludes.

Improving Health through Research, Education and Community Partnerships

The Wisconsin Partnership Program extends the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health’s (SMPH) mission to advance health in Wisconsin and beyond. In alignment with the Wisconsin Idea, the program reaches beyond campus to improve health through community partnerships, innovative research and education programs. From funding research that addresses a diverse range of health and health care issues, to supporting public health initiatives and education programs that prepare the next generation of health care providers, its investments are improving health and well-being throughout the state.

The Partnership Program was established at the SMPH through a generous and visionary endowment gift from the conversion of Blue Cross and

Blue Shield United of Wisconsin to a stock insurance corporation. As a result, the Partnership Program brings to bear significant resources, talent and expertise within the university and extends that to a network of partners working to improve health in Wisconsin. The resources continue to provide the school with an extraordinary opportunity to work in collaboration with faculty members and communities across the state to address some of the most compelling and complex health problems.

The Partnership Program’s investments provide a complementary approach to improving health:

- **Research:** By supporting innovative research dedicated to health promotion and prevention, as well as the treatment and diagnoses of disease, Partnership Program investments impact health

today and will do so long into the future. Investments support innovative research by UW-Madison faculty and staff to tackle cancer, Alzheimer’s disease, antibiotic resistance, diabetes and more.

- **Education:** Investments in strategic education initiatives, public health leadership training and workforce development prepare health care professionals to meet the unique needs of Wisconsin in the 21st century.
- **Community Partnerships:** Community grant programs and academic partnerships address critical public health issues at the community level, including issues such as obesity, maternal and child health, drug and alcohol abuse, physical activity, health equity and more.

E. RICHARD STIEHM, MD '57

Six Decades of Dedication

IN PEDIATRIC ALLERGY
AND IMMUNOLOGY

TODD BROWNMEDIA SOLUTIONS

by Kris Whitman

Reviewing the accomplishments of E. Richard Stiehm, MD '57, one may think the "E" stands for Energizer, like the iconic bunny. Actually, he was named after his uncle, Ewald Stiehm, a Badger football star and the football coach at the University of Nebraska.

Richard Stiehm now is a distinguished research professor of pediatrics at the David Geffen School of Medicine at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA).

Badger Roots

While "Energizer Bunny" aptly describes him, Stiehm is a Badger who grew up in the shadow of University of Wisconsin-Madison's football stadium.

Many of his relatives and friends are Badgers, too. His father, Reuben H. Stiehm, MD, was in the first intern class at Wisconsin General Hospital and later headed the Tuberculosis Detection Program at the Student Health Service. His mother, Marie Dueno Stiehm, graduated from the UW School of Nursing and served for many years as the head nurse at UW Hospital and Clinics' (now UW Health) Tumor Clinic.

Stiehm was struck by the professional way his parents cared for patients with myriad health concerns. After his father died, Stiehm's mother continued her career and raised four children with "remarkable strength and resiliency," he notes.

Stiehm's close friend—from elementary school through medical school and beyond—is Leon Rosenberg, MD '57, who served as dean of Yale School of Medicine. He and Stiehm earned the Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association's Alumni Citation Award in 1982 and 1988, respectively.

In high school, Stiehm was a Madison tennis champion. Neighbor Robert Schilling, MD '43 (PG '48)—then a medical resident at UW Hospital and Clinics—encouraged Stiehm's tennis and eventually became a mentor. After Stiehm completed a bachelor's degree at UW-Madison, he entered medical school, including three months of research in Schilling's hematology laboratory.

"Dr. Schilling was curious, kind and a brilliant researcher," says Stiehm.

A Budding Career

Stiehm made many moves throughout his training. After medical school, he completed an internship at Philadelphia General Hospital and married Judith Hicks Stiehm, PhD. His wife had earned her bachelor's degree at UW-Madison and, later, earned a PhD in political theory at Columbia University.

The couple returned to Madison for Richard Stiehm's graduate work in protein chemistry in the lab of SMPH Professor Harold Deutsch, PhD '44.

Next were two years in the U.S. Navy Reserve at the Medical Acceleration Laboratory near Philadelphia, followed by a residency at Babies Hospital, Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center in New York.

After a two-year immunology fellowship at the University of California, San Francisco, Richard Stiehm was recruited by Charles Lobeck, MD, chair of the UW School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) Department of Pediatrics, to join his department.

Four years later, in 1969, the Stiehms moved to California, seeking relief from allergies and asthma for Judith Stiehm. They remain connected to UW-Madison and own Judith Stiehm's family home near campus. Richard Stiehm is an SMPH visiting professor of pediatrics for a month every summer. His wife serves on the UW-Madison Political Science Advisory Board and received a Distinguished Alumni Award in 2006.

The California Years

At UCLA, Richard Stiehm was named chief of the Pediatric Immunology and Allergy Division and director of its training program. His chief interest is the care, cause and treatment of children with immunodeficiency. Shortly after his arrival at UCLA, he performed the West Coast's first bone marrow transplant on an infant with combined immunodeficiency.

Retired, he no longer sees new patients, but he attends weekly immunology clinics, continues teaching and conducts research.

As Richard Stiehm grew his career at UCLA, Judith Stiehm became a professor of political science at the University of Southern California. Later, she was the provost of



Judith Stiehm, PhD, and E. Richard Stiehm, MD '57

Florida International University in Miami and now is a professor of political science there.

Combined, they have traveled to nearly 100 countries, including, for him, research in childhood malnutrition in Ghana and Kenya.

"Our three daughters got a sense of responsibility early in life," notes Richard Stiehm, adding that Jamie is a political columnist in Washington, D.C.; Carrie is a teacher in Los Angeles; and Meredith is a screen writer in Santa Monica.

Writing, Editing and Awards

Richard Stiehm serves as a reviewer for many peer-reviewed journals, author of more than 500 articles and chapters, chief editor of five editions of *Immunologic Disorders in Infants and Children*, co-editor of *Stiehm's Immune Deficiencies* (2014), and editor-in-chief for the clinical immunology section of UpToDate, an online compilation of evidence-based medical information.

He has received numerous honors, including alumni awards from three universities and the Distinguished Service and Mentorship Awards of the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology. In September 2017, he was honored with an endowed chair in his name at UCLA. The position was supported by a former fellow, Roger Kobayashi, MD, and his wife, Ai Lan Kobayashi, MD; Meredith Stiehm and her husband, Tom Smuts; and Judith Stiehm.

Healthy Pastime

Richard Stiehm takes steps, literally, to remain energized.

"Three times each week, I walk the 200 Santa Monica Stairs for an hour," he says.

Maybe this is the secret to the perpetual energy that fuels Stiehm's dedicated service.

Healthy Classrooms Foundation

CELEBRATING A DECADE OF HELPING YOUTH STAY WELL



Teacher Jemma Sepich (center) teaches her second- and third-grade students—at Chavez Elementary School in Madison—how to do mindfulness exercises, yoga, stretching techniques and teamwork skills.

by Kris Whitman

If asked to imagine what the field of medicine looks like, people may envision an average clinic visit or busy emergency room. But what visions come to mind when asked what public health looks like?

“Energetic second- and third-grade students practicing mindfulness,” or “a girls’ running club” might not be top of mind. But those scenarios are at the heart of public health and depict the mission of the Healthy Classrooms Foundation, which provides grants to make such programs possible.

University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health students—including Ben Weston, MPH ’10, MD ’11, and Shaun Yang, MD ’10—established the foundation in early 2008, to “bring public health to the public.” They had been inspired by the SMPH’s transformation into the nation’s first integrated school of medicine and public health a few years earlier.

The foundation has flourished due to the efforts of volunteer student leaders and members from throughout UW-Madison. Today’s leaders (see sidebar on page 36) are thrilled with the program’s longevity and the numerous grants it has shared.

Ross Laurent, past president and a fourth-year medical student, lauds the board members and financial sponsors who support the foundation’s activities. In addition to funding grants, the organization holds a spring Healthy Classrooms Symposium, which includes talks by public health advocates on topics of interest to school personnel and the public; and a fall Award and Donor Event to bring together people who receive grants and who donate funds. Major sponsors include the American Family Children’s Hospital, SMPH, Epic Systems, health insurance companies and individuals.

The program’s success shines brightest through the smiles of youth throughout Wisconsin, who may not even know it exists, but whose teachers are keenly aware of its impact. For instance, Madison teachers Jemma Sepich and Hope Yates celebrate the results of grants in their own classrooms.

Sepich is a dual-language immersion teacher at Chavez Elementary who was exploring ways to bring wellness-related activities to her students when she learned about the Breathe for Change curriculum, in which a colleague had become certified.

“I thought that would help my students learn about their physical, emotional and social needs,” says Sepich, adding, however, that the cost of training, the curriculum and related materials made it seem prohibitive until another teacher told her about the Healthy Classrooms Foundation.

Sepich also purchased, out of pocket, a subscription to a guided meditation audio program, yoga mats and other props, noting, “I love to use books to teach the yoga poses because the kids connect well that way.”

Grateful for the grant and now fully trained, she is incorporating Breathe for Change, yoga and meditation a few times each week in her classroom of 18 third-grade and 17 second-grade students. She has seen a drastic reduction in students’ behavior referrals to the school office.

“Students seem to really enjoy this. It helps them find ways to calm themselves and re-focus,” says Sepich, adding that students often face difficult situations outside of school. “Sometimes they even ask if they can take a break and go breathe.”

Plus, she adds, “If I am a happy, calm teacher, the kids do better in school.”

Further, Sepich is teaching other staff how to use and teach chair yoga and mindfulness.

“My hope is that teacher-by-teacher, classroom-by-classroom, I can offer Breathe for Change ideas that help make each day a little easier and more mindful,” says Sepich. “I believe you can forever change the lives of children by giving them tools they need to handle whatever life throws at them.”

Yates, a teacher at Hawthorne Elementary, received a Healthy Classrooms Foundation grant to help fund a running club for fourth- and fifth-grade girls. About 35 have participated for the past six spring seasons.

Teachers and staff members are the volunteer coaches who take turns teaching 30-minute lessons—about topics such as bullying, body image, self-esteem, the value

of community spirit, building friendships, and making healthy choices—followed by 40-minute, small-group runs. The grant helps provide running shoes, as well as opportunities for the girls to volunteer at a 10K run and participate in a 5K run.

“Our goal with the Hawthorne Girls Running Club is to empower young women so they are equipped to make healthy life choices in middle school, high school, and post-graduate life,” explains Yates. “Many of our runners say they’ve learned more about themselves through our program, made new friends, learned how to prevent bullying and learned how to manage their emotions.”

Referring to a session when students viewed pictures of runners with attitudes ranging from happy to frustrated, fifth-grade student Safiyyah Cham says, “Before we started running, we did different lessons, and I liked the one when we chose who we would like to run next to or which runner you would want to be.”

Another fifth-grade student, Yadhira Bautista, says, “I learned that you have to work with others to have fun and encourage others. You also have to have strategies when

—Continued on page 36



Fifth-grade student Safiyyah Cham participates in the Hawthorne Girls Running Club.

MINTER NAMED CHAIR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY

Rebecca Minter, MD, is the new chair of the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health's (SMPH) Department of



Surgery, effective January 1, 2018. She holds the Anthony Curreri Chair in the Department of Surgery and is the medical director of the UW Health Multidisciplinary Surgery Clinic.

Before joining UW-Madison, Minter was the Alvin Baldwin, Jr., Chair in Surgery, vice chair of clinical operations and finance, and chief of the Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Surgery Section in the Department of Surgery at the University of Texas Southwestern. She earned her medical degree at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center and completed her general surgery residency and research fellowship at the University of Florida College of Medicine.

An oncologic surgeon, Minter's research ranges from new approaches for assessing the impact of surgical education on outcomes to the hierarchical decomposition of surgical technique. She is the president of the Americas Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association and immediate past president of the Society of University Surgeons and the Fellowship Council.

"Our Department of Surgery has a remarkable tradition of innovation and excellence in our tripartite missions of clinical care, research and education," says SMPH Dean Robert Golden, MD. "Dr. Minter is incredibly well prepared to advance these missions and provide strategic leadership for UW Health."

The department is one of the nation's leading academic surgical programs, with several subspecialty divisions that provide pediatric and adult care.

BURNSIDE JOINS ICTR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Elizabeth Burnside, MD, MPH, MS, was named the associate dean of team science and interdisciplinary research at



the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH), as well as the deputy executive director of the UW Institute for Clinical and Translational Research (ICTR). She is a professor in the school's Department of Radiology, where she continues to lead her research program, and she provides clinical care in breast imaging at UW Health.

In her new role with ICTR, Burnside will work toward the team's goal of creating an environment that transforms research into a continuum from investigation through discovery and translation into community practice. This includes fostering close collaboration among ICTR members throughout the SMPH; UW Schools of Nursing, Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy; UW College of Engineering; and Marshfield Clinic in Marshfield, Wisconsin.

Creating an environment of collaboration seems natural for Burnside, who holds affiliate appointments in the Departments of Biostatistics and Medical Informatics, Population Health Sciences, and Industrial Engineering as part of her multidisciplinary research career.

Burnside earned her MD/MPH from Tufts University School of Medicine in Boston; completed a radiology residency and breast imaging fellowship at the University of California, San Francisco; and completed a master's in biomedical informatics at Stanford University.

PARTNERS AWARDED \$5.3 MILLION FOR PRECISION MEDICINE RESEARCH

All of Us RESEARCH PROGRAM

The University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH), Medical College of Wisconsin and Marshfield Clinic Research Institute have collectively been awarded \$5.3 million from the National Institutes of Health to implement the All of Us Research Program in Wisconsin. These institutions will partner with the Blood Center of Wisconsin and Federally Qualified Health Centers to recruit individuals into the program, which aims to improve health care in Wisconsin communities and across the nation.

All of Us focuses on personalized or precision medicine. The Wisconsin team joins seven other awardees in a nationwide effort to gather health information on more than 1 million people to inform research intended to prevent and treat disease based on the individual. All of Us Wisconsin at UW-Madison is led by Marc K. Drezner, MD, and Dorothy Edwards, PhD. The project team is nested within the UW Institute for Clinical and Translational Research, which Drezner directs, and where Edwards serves as the director of the Collaborative Center for Health Equity. Edwards also serves as the Community Engagement lead for the statewide All of Us Wisconsin program.

"We are delighted to work with our partners at Marshfield Clinic and the Medical College of Wisconsin in creating an expanded role for precision medicine in our state," notes Robert Golden, MD, dean of the SMPH, which is creating a Center for Human Genomics and Personalized Medicine.

For more information about the All of Us Research Program, including how to participate, visit joinallofus.org.

MORRIS WINS NIH DIRECTOR'S EARLY INDEPENDENCE AWARD

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) awarded Zachary Morris, MD (PG '16), \$1.25 million as part of the NIH Director's Early Independence



Award. The award is given to a small group of exemplary early-career scientists to help them establish independent research careers. Morris is an assistant professor in the Department of Human Oncology (DHO) at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health.

The five-year award will support Morris' preclinical research related to combining radiation and immunotherapies to treat metastatic cancers. The hope is that following in situ tumor vaccination, a patient's immune cells will generate a potent, local anti-cancer immune response, and these immune cells will circulate throughout the body to attack and eradicate other metastatic tumor sites. To achieve this, Morris and his colleagues are treating the in situ vaccine tumor site with radiation, tumor-specific antibodies and immune-activating proteins. The award also will enable Morris to develop better tumor models to study in situ vaccination mechanisms.

Morris completed a radiation oncology residency in the DHO before becoming a faculty member there.

"When I was interviewed for this award, the NIH panel made clear that they viewed our institutional training environment to be incredibly strong," says Morris. "I feel quite fortunate to have trained here and to now have the opportunity to continue this exciting and rewarding research."

PICKHARDT RECEIVES MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR NIH GRANT

Perry Pickhardt, MD, professor in the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health's Department of



Radiology and chief of gastrointestinal imaging, secured a multi-institutional, multi-million dollar National Institutes of Health (NIH) R01 grant to continue colorectal cancer and computed tomography (CT) colonography research for the next five years. The project aims to determine what dictates the progression of certain colorectal polyps into colorectal cancer to better identify risks and prevention measures.

Nearly all colorectal cancers develop from adenomas or serrated polyps, which affect up to 50 percent of adults but develop into cancer only in 6 to 7 percent of people by age 80. The precise molecular mechanisms and timing that determine which polyps become cancerous remain uncertain.

Researchers will use a large series of human colorectal polyps about which growth patterns have been assessed over time using CT colonography. They will correlate characteristics of the polyps with results from exome sequencing, gene expression studies and high-density methylation arrays.

Pickhardt's co-principal investigators are Richard Halberg, PhD, of UW-Madison and William Grady, MD, of the University of Washington. The project involves several researchers from UW-Madison, Stony Brook School of Medicine in New York, and the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle.

BERNHARDT HONORED BY THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS

David Bernhardt, MD '89 (PG '92 and '94), professor in the Departments of Pediatrics and Orthopedics and Rehabilitation



at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH), received the 2017 Thomas E. Shaffer Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics Award.

The award, which is sponsored by Nationwide Children's Hospital, recognizes individuals who have made a significant contribution to the field of pediatric sports medicine by displaying leadership and vision, providing quality presentations and publishing documents relevant to this specialty.

Bernhardt specializes in primary care sports medicine. He completed his pediatrics residency and Nathan Smith Fellowship in Sports and Adolescent Medicine at UW Health. He is a team physician for the UW-Madison Athletics Department. In this role, he provides medical coverage for Badger men's basketball; women's volleyball and crew; and men's and women's cross country and track. His special interests include medical and musculoskeletal problems in athletes, as well as obesity and sports medicine.

Bernhardt is the second UW Health physician to receive the award. The other is Greg Landry, MD (PG '84), professor, SMPH Department of Pediatrics, in 2001.



Rom Stevens, MD '82 (left), was an intensivist at the UK Role 3 Hospital at Camp Bastion, Helmand Province, Afghanistan, in 2010-11. Here, he was standing in a U.S. Air Force C-130 aircraft, as staff prepared to transport one of his patients.

A Legacy of Learning and Service

STEVENS AND 1982 CLASSMATES HONOR RODRIGUEZ

by Beth Fultz

Rom Stevens, MD '82, and Humberto Rodriguez, MD '82, met in 1978 as incoming members of the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) Class of 1982. Despite very different backgrounds, they easily struck up a friendship. Both were scholarship students—a detail that wasn't remarkable at the time, but would echo by 2017.

The two remained friends well after graduation but, with busy lives, eventually fell out of touch. In 2014, Stevens learned that his friend had died a year earlier at age 60. As the news penetrated, he looked for a meaningful way to mark the loss,

eventually establishing the SMPH Class of 1982 Humberto A. Rodriguez, MD, Memorial Scholarship. The fund launched in fall 2017 with seed money from Stevens and contributions from classmates who gathered for their 35-year reunion in October.

Two Friends, Two Lives and Careers

Born in 1953 in Santiago, Dominican Republic, Rodriguez came to the United States at age 10, when his family immigrated to New York City. His father died shortly after



Humberto Rodriguez, MD '82

the family moved, leaving his mother to raise three boys on what she earned cleaning offices. Fortunately, Rodriguez's teachers recognized his keen intellect and gift for learning, qualities that eventually led to scholarships at The Groton School, Harvard University and the SMPH.

Stevens, by contrast, arrived at the SMPH as a U.S. Navy Health Professions Scholarship Program recipient. The program offers full tuition and expenses for medical, dental or other health professions students in exchange for an active-duty commitment after graduation and post-graduate medical training.

Stevens remembers Rodriguez as “humble, funny and very bright. He was easy to be with and always willing to help a fellow student. He taught me medical Spanish, which I still use every day.”

After completing their medical degrees, both men headed to internships in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Stevens pursued an anesthesiology residency at the University of Colorado and then fulfilled his Navy obligation, serving for four years at the National Naval Medical Center (now the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center) in Bethesda, Maryland. During the same period, Rodriguez completed an internal medicine residency at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee and moved to Connecticut. The two managed to stay in touch and occasionally visit each other.

Before long, however, Rodriguez returned to Wisconsin. According to Stevens’ letter to classmates in fall 2017, “Dr. Rodriguez practiced emergency medicine for more than 30 years in Milwaukee, became a loving husband to his wife, Patti Hautala, and a well-loved colleague by his co-workers at Aurora West Allis Memorial Hospital and Aurora St. Luke’s Medical Center.”

Meanwhile, after four years at Bethesda, Stevens left active duty and joined the Navy Reserve. The standard reserve commitment of one weekend per month and two weeks a year changed dramatically after 9/11. His anesthesiology practice was interrupted frequently for military service. The Marine Corps relies on the Navy for its medical and religious personnel, and so between 2003 and 2008, Stevens deployed twice to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Between combat tours, he commanded the Marine Corps Reserve’s 4th Medical Battalion. In 2005, he served as the Marine Forces Katrina Surgeon in New Orleans, assisting with recovery operations following Hurricane Katrina. Afterward, he stayed in New Orleans and served as the 4th Marine Division Surgeon, helping prepare Marines and Sailors preparing to deploy to the Middle East, and organizing their medical and dental care after their return home. In 2008, Stevens again deployed to Iraq, this time to Al Anbar Province with

the I Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward), under the command of then-Major General John F. Kelly.

Between 2010 and his 2014 retirement from the military, Stevens deployed to Afghanistan during the surge ordered by President Obama, and later to East Africa as the senior U.S. medical officer, based in Djibouti, assigned to the Combined Joint Task Force–Horn of Africa. Between deployments, he spent five years as an anesthesiologist and administrator at the Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center in Chicago.

As he recounted in his letter to classmates, “Because of my several deployments, I lost track of Humberto, and I did not find out that he had become ill and passed away until after I returned home from Africa in 2014.”

Stevens learned of Rodriguez’s death because he sent a Christmas card to him and his family, after which Patti Hautala called with news of her husband’s death the previous year from pancreatic cancer.

“I didn’t know what to say,” says Stevens.

Giving Back, Paying Forward

Settling into full-time civilian life in Chicago, Stevens accepted a position as an anesthesiologist at Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center and professor of anesthesiology and medicine at the Chicago Medical School of Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science. And he kept thinking about Rodriguez.

“Humberto was a good soul, a special person. Although he never seemed to have any money, he always was willing to help another student in need,” he recalls. “When we were in medical school, tuition was about \$4,600 per annum. Now it’s close to \$30,000. We don’t know who the next Humberto Rodriguez will be, but we can be certain there will be other deserving Spanish-speaking students who can’t pursue their medical education without help.”

Stevens continues, “We both benefited from financial support, and the more I thought about it, the more it seemed that a scholarship in his name would be a fitting tribute to him, as well as a way to give back to the school that launched our careers.”

The scholarship will be awarded to Spanish-speaking students to help increase diversity at the SMPH and support the school’s goal to improve health equity.

“This fund aligns perfectly with our commitments to expand the diversity of our student body and prepare the next generation of physicians to serve an increasingly diverse population,” notes SMPH Dean Robert Golden, MD.

Stevens credits the UW Foundation for its work setting up the fund.

“Jessica Gracon from the UW Foundation visited me in July 2017. We developed the idea of getting the fund set up in time for our 35th class reunion in October. That meant getting the first appeal letter out in August. We had to move quickly, and foundation staff, especially Maureen Brady, made it happen,” he says. “Our class representative, Prof. Bob Lebel, also was very helpful, as he had previous experience setting up a memorial scholarship.”

Stevens seeded the fund with an offer to match contributions made in 2017, up to \$25,000. In his August letter to classmates, he set a goal to raise \$50,000 by the reunion. By October, the total had reached \$103,000, and 14 members of the class had contributed.

To date, 20 classmates have contributed to the fund, and Stevens is delighted with the response. He also has a long-term vision for the scholarship program.

“My goal is an endowment of \$1 million within the next 10 years,” he describes. “At that level, the scholarship could provide close to full funding for deserving students.”

He continues, “Members of the Class of 1982 are reaching the stage in our lives when we’re starting to think about our legacy. I’m hoping others who knew Humberto or simply want to be part of expanding diversity and opportunities in medicine will see this as a meaningful way to give back.”

For more information about donating to the SMPH Class of 1982 Humberto A. Rodriguez, MD, Memorial Scholarship, please contact Jill Watson, the SMPH’s philanthropic partner at the UW Foundation, at (608) 262-4632 or jill.watson@supportuw.org.

FUNDUS PHOTOGRAPH READING CENTER *from page 6*

“As we interpret each image, our goal is to identify changes from the normal structure and compare it to refined grading protocols and disease classifications,” she explains.

Technology evolves rapidly, and the FPRC team eagerly greets the challenge while keeping one foot in the past—such as maintaining its old slide transparencies in a secure archive for historical reference.

“Researchers always want the latest and greatest, but they need to have comparable standards. For instance, to make sure a new drug compares to an old drug, which may have been analyzed using former techniques, we can call upon new and old analysis systems,” says Domalpally. “I feel our center can compare ‘apples to apples’ in this way.”

Of course, staying current is the name of the game, Blodi shares.

“I admire our image readers because they are cross-trained for any type of study. Efficiency is important, as there’s a big demand for our services,” she says.

While the FPRC has made major contributions to ophthalmic clinical trials and produced landmark changes in the treatment of all-too-common diseases, Blodi notes, “Our work is not yet done. Many patients worldwide are still suffering vision loss from retinal diseases and other eye conditions that have no treatment.”

To that end, she collaborates on a number of pilot projects with basic scientists in DOVS and with scientists who are part of the McPherson Eye Research Institute to help find new treatments.

Blodi believes one of the FPRC’s major contributions relates to the way ophthalmologists think about eye conditions.

“Clinicians are excellent observers and learn from their experiences. They want to integrate results of effective clinical trials into their practice,” she says. “When the FPRC’s work leads to development of a severity scale, such as for diabetic retinopathy or macular degeneration, physicians have the ability to tell patients not only about treatment options but what to expect in terms of prognosis, which is incredibly valuable.”

With that in mind, the FPRC faculty and staff plan to continue the momentum of the center’s first five decades, as they aim to fulfill Davis’ vision: fostering retinal research and supporting clinical investigators around the world.

HEALTHY CLASSROOMS FOUNDATION *from page 31*

you’re running, like to go the same pace and not too fast.”

While reflecting on the annual grant applications she opened over the past two summers, Mina Shahlapour, foundation co-vice president, saw great examples of ways applicants are aiming to bolster Wisconsin youth. Now a second-year medical student, she was inspired to volunteer for the past two years to put in motion some things she had learned while working on a UW-Madison global health certificate.

“We learned that while medical determinants can be influential parts of

health and wellness, people in our city, state and nation deal with many barriers outside of the clinic walls,” she says, noting the importance of learning what prevents people from living the healthiest lives they can.

“The Healthy Classrooms Foundation allows people, in their own communities, to fuel the fires of change that need to be made,” she says. “Educators best understand their students and the gaps that exist in their communities. They are public health allies!”

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- M3 Will Klein, president
- M4 Ross Laurent, past president
- M2s Minaliza Shahlapour and Helen Zukin, future co-presidents
- M2s Steven Peery, Huy Tram Nguyen and Bohan Xing, student board members
- Tim Klagos, accounting and finance advisor

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Advisor, Past Board Member:

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Top photo: Hawthorne Girls Running Club members: Front row (left to right): Brenda Kallies (teacher and coach), Isatou Joof. Back row: Hadja Barry, Yadhira Bautista, Rocio Hernandez Mujica.

Bottom: M3 Will Klein, Healthy Classrooms Foundation president, poses with grant recipients Alyssa Hartson, teacher, and Louis Couture, high school senior, from Monona Grove Liberal Arts Charter School for the 21st Century.



Top row (left to right): Participants converse; Michael Field, MD; Field, Lee Eckhardt, MD, MS (PG '07), Nicholas H. Von Bergen, MD, Miguel Leal, MD (PG '10, '11), Richard Page, MD, and Laurel Rice, MD. Bottom row: Leal describes an electrocardiogram; a next-generation, leadless transcatheter pacemaker; Eckhardt.

CLINT THAYER/DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE (6)

A Matter of Timing

MINI MED SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS PROGRESS IN TREATING ATRIAL FIBRILLATION AND ARRHYTHMIAS

by Robyn Perrin, PhD

Participants in the fall 2017 Mini Med School on Atrial Fibrillation (AFib) and Arrhythmias filled two lecture halls at the Health Sciences Learning Center. Richard Page, MD, George R. and Elaine Love Professor and Chair, Department of Medicine, and Laurel Rice, MD, Ben Miller Peckham, MD, PhD, Distinguished Professor and Chair, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, led the free, public event. Presenters were Lee Eckhardt, MD, MS (PG '07), associate professor, Michael Field, MD, associate professor (CHS), and Miguel Leal, MD (PG '10, '11), assistant professor (CHS), Division of Cardiovascular Medicine; and Nicholas Von Bergen, MD, associate professor (CHS), Department of Pediatrics.

Reflecting on his training, Page noted how meeting a teen patient with Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome led to his passion for understanding heart rhythm problems. "I saw her in clinic one day, and the next day I watched her cardiologist hold her beating heart and tell the surgeon where to place the incision," he said, adding that it was an open-chest procedure requiring a week in the hospital; now it's done via catheter and requires a one-day stay. Eckhardt, one of few electrophysiologists who manage a National Institutes of Health-funded lab, has a research interest in sudden cardiac death syndrome. She explained how induced pluripotent stem cells made into heart-type cells can be used to understand the mechanisms of abnormal heart rhythms.

Von Bergen noted that some of his most difficult cases include treating patients in the womb with electrophysiology techniques. Field discussed that AFib is common and can increase the risk of stroke. A recently approved medical device can be used to prevent stroke from AFib in patients who are not good candidates for long-term use of blood-thinning medications. Leal, who specializes in device-based therapy for arrhythmias, indicated that, on average, 9 percent of people who have sudden cardiac death outside of a hospital survive and stressed the importance of easily accessible automated electronic defibrillators. He also described improvements in implantable cardioverter-defibrillators, concluding, "the future is fast approaching."

HPV Works Across Cellular Borders to Drive Cancer

Human papillomavirus (HPV) and estrogen are linked to cervical cancer, but how factors work together has remained unclear. In a study published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, University of Wisconsin-Madison researchers show how various factors influence the cervical environment and drive cancer development.

The lab of Paul Lambert, PhD, had discovered the importance of estrogen signaling through non-cancerous stromal cells (microenvironment). Also, the lab of Paul Ahlquist, PhD,

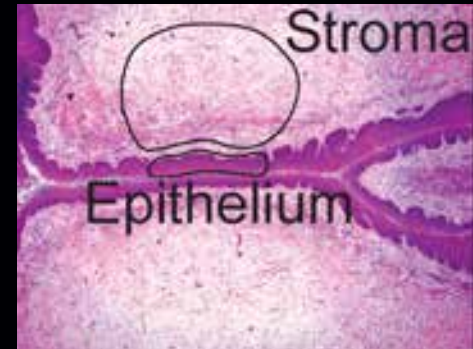
found a role for estrogen signaling through the stroma in human cervical cancer. They are professors at McArdle Laboratory for Cancer Research (Lambert is McArdle's director).

The lead author of the study, Megan Spurgeon, PhD, an assistant scientist in the Lambert lab, and colleagues wanted to know if HPV infection caused epithelial cells to signal alterations in the microenvironment and if stromal cells sent signals to HPV-infected cells that promote cancer growth.

Spurgeon notes that the Lambert lab's mouse model, in which high-risk

HPV genes are expressed only in cervical epithelial cells, allowed investigators to measure changes in total gene expression of epithelial tissue or stromal tissue in response to HPV or estrogen. Comparing HPV mice to non-HPV mice, they found hundreds of gene expression differences in stromal cells. High-risk HPV genes were able to change gene expression in the stroma.

In the HPV mice treated with estrogen, they found expressed in the stroma a different set of genes that helped identify potential factors involved in crosstalk between the HPV-infected epithelial



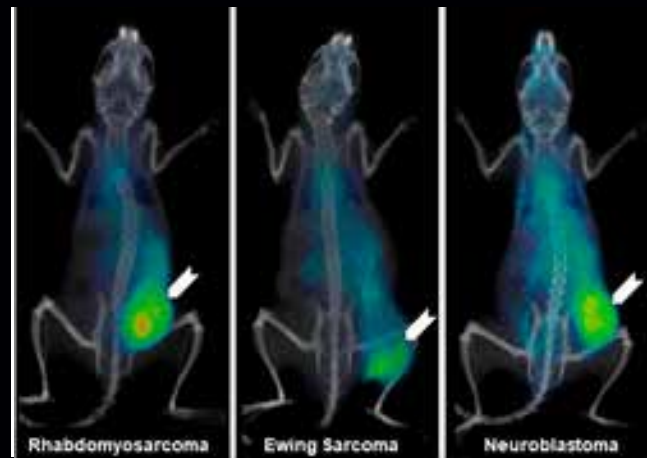
cells and estrogen-receptive microenvironment. They further investigated pro-inflammatory chemokines in human cervical cancer cells.

"The hypothesis is that chemokines feed on cells in the microenvironment to drive cancer development," Spurgeon explains.

Agent Found to Broadly Target Pediatric Solid Tumors

A University of Wisconsin Carbone Cancer Center (UWCCC) study, published in the *Journal of Nuclear Medicine*, indicates that the radioactive drug CLR 131 (formerly known as CLR1404), being developed by Collectar Biosciences, may become the first targeted, molecular radiotherapy tested in clinical trials that is able to treat a broad variety of solid tumors in children.

Radiotherapy plays an important role in treatment of pediatric solid tumors. Relapsed pediatric solid tumors and those that do not respond to initial standard treatments have very poor overall survival. If the cancer has metastasized



to many sites, external beam radiotherapy becomes impracticable and too harmful. For metastatic cancers, a more useful form of radiation therapy injects targeted radioactive substances to reach tumor cells throughout the body.

CLR 131 broadly targets cancer cells due to the makeup

of tumor cell membranes while sparing healthy tissue. Studies have found it to target cancer cells in adult models with very high specificity; it is being tested in adult clinical trials.

To test CLR 131 for cancers in children, the lab of Mario Otto, MD, compared how much CLR 131 the pediatric cancer

cell lines took up in the test tube compared to non-cancerous cells, and in mouse models that bear human tumors (see photo at left). In all cases, it was many times more than the non-cancerous cells.

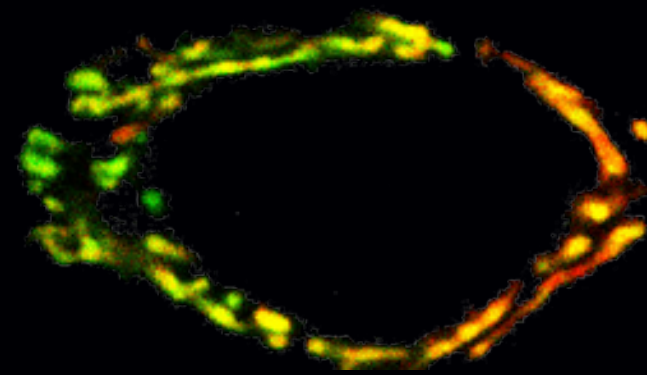
"Pre-clinical experiments showed enough tumor growth reduction in pediatric-based animal models that we are exploring a phase I clinical trial for patients who meet certain criteria," says Otto, a UWCCC researcher and American Family Children's Hospital pediatric oncologist.

He adds that, pending regulatory approval, patients may be enrolled within the next six to 12 months.

Cancer Cells Can be Led Down Non-Cancer Path

Cells with a propensity for cancer break down food for energy and can continue as healthy cells or shift to the energy-production profile of cancer cells. In a study published in *Nature Cell Biology*, University of Wisconsin-Madison researchers map out the molecular events that direct cells down the cancerous path. Findings could lead to ways to interrupt the process.

“Inhibiting a chemical modification of a cancer-associated metabolism protein is enough to inhibit the aggressive nature of cancer,” says senior author Wei Xu, PhD,



the Marian A. Messerschmidt Professor in Cancer Research at the UW Carbone Cancer Center and McArdle Laboratory for Cancer Research.

A large-scale change that sends a precancerous cell toward becoming cancerous is the loss of properly regulated

energy metabolism, called the Warburg effect.

“My lab studies CARM1, a protein associated with worse outcomes in breast cancer and expressed in other cancer types,” Xu says, adding that CARM1 modifies a cell metabolism protein,

PKM2, and drives the Warburg effect. Researchers knew that PKM2 was expressed at high levels in cancer cells but did not know how the levels translated to more aggressive cancers. The team found that CARM1 modifies PKM2 in a breast cancer cell line. It also learned that CARM1-modified PKM2 shifted cells toward the cancer metabolism path, while cells with PKM2 that could not be modified took the path associated with noncancerous cells.

“When we block PKM2 modification by CARM1, we see decreased cell growth and cell spreading potential,” Xu says.

Identifying Patients Who Benefit Most from Immunotherapy

A phase III clinical trial of neuroblastoma patients indicated that a subset of patients—identified by the presence of a specific set of genes—was more likely to benefit from immunotherapy compared to patients who did not have that set of genes.

Published in *Clinical Cancer Research*, the 226-patient trial was led by the Children’s Oncology Group (COG), a nationwide coalition of research institutions including the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH). The COG previously reported that high-risk neuroblastoma

patients treated with the immunotherapy regimen [dinutuximab (Unituxin), aldesleukin and sargramostim] in combination with isotretinoin had significantly improved survival compared to patients who received isotretinoin alone.

At the SMPH, Amy Erbe, PhD, and Wei Wang, PhD—scientists in the lab of Paul Sondel, MD, PhD ’75 (PG ’80), the Reed and Carolee Walker Professor in Pediatric Oncology—led an effort to determine whether individual genetic differences could influence clinical response to this immunotherapy. The monoclonal antibody

dinutuximab can kill cancer cells by activating natural killer (NK) cells. Killer immunoglobulin-like receptors (KIRs), a family of proteins expressed by NK cells, have different genetic patterns that can influence how well the NK cells use dinutuximab to kill cancer cells. Sondel’s team assessed DNA from clinical trial participants.

“Our data show that a certain combination of KIR-related genes may be predictive of benefit from immunotherapy. However, these findings need to be validated before we can consider making clinical



decisions for patients with high-risk neuroblastoma based on KIR-related genes,” says Erbe, adding that if the findings were validated, it could potentially help determine which patients would benefit most from this type of immunotherapy.

Let's Be Champions of a Winning Climate

CHRISTOPHER HANSON/SMPH EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY



Although it has been a few years since I graduated, I have vivid memories about individuals who made a significant difference during my student days at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) and my pediatrics residency at UW Health (then called UW Hospital and Clinics). People I will never forget are those who built my confidence, competence, character and compassion through thoughtful, insightful words and professional, caring actions. They are my heroes.

Many of these people are patients and families whose situations and stories linger in my mind and heart. Their courage, wisdom, insights, tenacity and kindness, during some of the most difficult times in their lives, will always spark hope and evoke my empathy. Collectively, they taught me valuable lessons about medicine, humanity, resiliency and gratitude. Other fond memories are about classmates with whom I had the privilege of sharing thoughts, laughter, hugs and tears over late-night study sessions in the Medical Sciences Center or when caring for patients in the Clinical Science Center.

Some of my most compelling memories, however, are of exceptional teachers, mentors and role models that I have been

fortunate to have and whose innovative ideas and professional behaviors influence and inspire me daily. These heroes instructed me in the art and science of medicine and encouraged me to always strive to be the best physician, and person, I can be. This list of individuals is long and includes faculty members, residents, nurses and statewide preceptors. Their positive, impactful words, along with their compassionate and respectful actions, dwell within me as I reflect on my roles as a physician and academic medicine leader. I rewind and replay their words and behaviors when I face challenging situations or difficult days. Their actions are ones that I strive to emulate, some days more successfully than others, as I serve others.

There are a few vivid memories I would like to forget—those that are not as positive. These are memories about faculty, staff and peers who behaved in hurtful, humiliating or even hateful ways—such as teachers who made derogatory comments about, or demonstrated inappropriate behaviors toward, others based on ethnicity, race, gender, appearances or beliefs. Fortunately, that list is much shorter, but the negative impact of a few left some long-lasting bruises that have been slow to heal. For instance, I will never forget the derogatory comments and disturbing gestures of a well-respected attending physician toward a gay patient at the start of the AIDS epidemic. The fear and uncertainty about AIDS—a newly recognized disease—was growing. The patient was treated not as a person but rather as a frightening, infectious disease brought on by behaviors that were ridiculed by some on the health care team. What prompted the disrespectful, unprofessional behavior from a physician I had once admired? Was it stress, fear of the unknown, misunderstanding or something else? What causes a generally compassionate, caring and intelligent person to behave badly? I regret that, as a student, I remained silent as gay jokes were told in the staff room and

that, in that silence, I allowed derogatory comments to continue.

I suspect all *Quarterly* readers have memories about heroes who have inspired them. I also suspect that those of us in health care, public health and science always strive to be the best professionals we can be. Sometimes we may fall short. I know I do. We make mistakes. But I believe we embrace opportunities to do better. It is that collective ownership and oversight of professional culture that creates an exceptional climate for learning, working and caring for patients. We must remain personally accountable and hold each other accountable to professional ideals, such as respect, humility, integrity, kindness, altruism, empathy and compassion. I am grateful for the many champions of professionalism at our school, from alumni and senior leaders to students. They exemplify the character that makes this a great school, one that I am proud to call my alma mater and that I am honored to serve.

Working together, we can create an exceptional environment where all learners, staff and faculty feel welcomed and valued and all patients receive high-quality, compassionate care.

We are fortunate to recruit exceptionally talented students from diverse backgrounds to our educational programs at the SMPH—students with altruistic ideals and lofty goals. Let's commit to work together to help them reach their goals and help them become the best they can be. Let's help create positive memories for our future alumni.

In that spirit, I encourage all members of our community to let us know what we can do better to make our school welcoming, nurturing and inspiring for all. Importantly, if you experience or witness any behaviors that negatively impact you or our climate, don't be a bystander, be a champion!

Elizabeth M. Petty, MD '86 (PG '89)

*Senior Associate Dean, Academic Affairs
Professor, Department of Pediatrics
University of Wisconsin School of Medicine
and Public Health*



I KNOW YOU

... OR DO I?

If you think you can identify the person in the photograph at right, send your guess to quarterly@med.wisc.edu. We'll draw one of the correct responses and announce the winner in the next issue of *Quarterly*.

For the last issue (see below), Patricia Bellissimo, MD '99, won the prize drawing and will receive a gift from the Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association!



HINT: HE COMMONLY WORE A BOW TIE.

ABOUT LAST ISSUE'S PHOTO:

In the past issue of *Quarterly*, 18 people correctly guessed the identity of Emeritus Professor Charles Lobeck, MD, former chair of the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health's (SMPH) Department of Pediatrics and former vice dean of the SMPH. He passed away in July 2012.

Patricia Kokotailo, MD, shares, "Dr. Lobeck was so accomplished in his work, but he also had a joke and a kind word for everyone. He helped me with some major career decisions and was a voice of reason in some chaotic times. I was honored to receive the award in his honor for medical student education in the Department of Pediatrics twice."

Kathleen R. Maginot, MD '89, notes, "The class of 1989 had the pleasure of knowing Dr. Lobeck well. He always put the medical students at ease and was a great mentor."

John D. Wegmann, MD '68, recalls, "I spent a summer in Dr. Lobeck's lab feeding rats a vitamin D deficient diet to see if we could induce radiologically detectable rickets. More memorable and productive than my research that summer was a camping and fishing trip that Dr. Lobeck, his son and I took to Vilas County, Wisconsin. My experiences with Dr. Lobeck helped guide me into a satisfying career in pediatrics."



John S.R. Deacon, MD (PG '71), reflects, "Dr. Lobeck was a great friend and wonderful mentor to me when I was a resident. I was a foreign (Canadian) student and went to medical school at the University of Rochester in New York, where he had gone to school. That link brought me to Wisconsin. He put me "under his wing," as he did with all of us, and gave us a wonderful experience in the old hospital. I fell in love with neonatology and pursued that as my career. I practiced in Canada and at St. Joseph's Hospital in Milwaukee, Wisconsin."

We Want to Hear From You

Please send us information about your honors, appointments, career advancements, publications, volunteer work and other activities of interest. We'll include your news in the Alumni Notebook section of the *Quarterly* as space allows. Please include names, dates and locations. Photographs are encouraged.

Have you moved? Please send us your new address.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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Madison, WI 53705



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