Readers, because our mailing lists are supplied by several University departments, some of you may receive duplicate copies of this magazine. Thank you for passing them along to others who are interested in the Medical School.

Spring / Summer 1999 Vol. 21 No. 2

The magazine of the University of Massachusetts Medical School

What’s new? The name of our magazine, the tools engineered in-house for faculty surgeons (page 10), a special alumni section (beginning on page 21), and more!
new needs, new tools
UMass researchers, their industry partners, and some of the most creative clinicians in medicine are working together to make surgery shorter, scars smaller and stays briefer.

unmentionable, immeasurable
Her work with medical students and her own setting give a UMMS professor singular insight into grief, bereavement and facing death.

everybody’s business
New NIH rankings reveal not only UMMS’ rank among U.S. medical schools but also the impact of research funding on the campus, the community and the nation.

med school in a box
An intricate process of design, development and innovation results in a new UMMS website that’s also a gateway to the wealth of medical information in cyberspace.

The University of Massachusetts Medical School
School of Medicine, opened in 1970
Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, opened in 1979
Graduate School of Nursing, opened in 1986

Vita curae, the plural of vita
The new name of this magazine encompasses the lives of those who make up the UMMS community for which it is published. They are students, faculty, staff, alumni, volunteers, benefactors and others who aspire to help this campus achieve national distinction in education, research and public service.

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UMMS Approved for Heart Transplants

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In the weekly newsletter:

- UMMS has received a $1.4 million grant from the United States Surgical Corporation to fund the University of Massachusetts Endosurgery Telemedicine Center.
- UMMS has once again earned high marks for primary care education from U. S. News & World Report.
- UMMS has been awarded $5.6 million to fund the UMass Memorial Heart & Vascular Institute.
- UMMS is among the top-ranked nationally for partners program.
- UMMS ranked fifth in prestigious review.
- UMMS award.
- The Graduate School of Nursing, together with Worcester's Homeless Outreach Advocacy Program, have been selected as one of 10 programs nationally to participate in the Community-Campus Partnerships for Health initiative of the “Challenge of Health for Health Professionals in a Diverse Society.”

Presidential Advisor’s Lecture Celebrates Black History Month

Henry W. Foster, Jr., MD, senior advisor to President Clinton on teen pregnancy reduction and youth issues, presented a talk on “Ameriss and Social Justice: The Medical Perspective” as part of UMMS’s and UMass Memorial’s 1999 observance of Black History Month.

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Sullivan speaks at MLK observance

Louis W. Sullivan, MD, president of Morehouse School of Medicine and former U. S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, gave a keynote lecture on Feb. 15. Sullivan (following) is presented by UMMS and UMass Memorial.

Cervical cancer study contributes to new treatment guidelines

Findings by UMMS researchers that compare different ways of treating cervical cancer are going to change the way the disease is treated, according to an April announcement from the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

The studies were conducted by the Gynecologic Oncology Group, a multi-institutional clinical trial consortium that is one of several NC3-sponsored networks of institutions and physicians that conduct trials jointly using the same protocols. Harris G. Ball, MD, professor of obstetrics & gynecology at UMMS, was the UMMS site investigator.
UWMS APPROVED FOR HEART TRANSPLANTS
UWMS and its clinical partner, UW Memorial, have been granted approval to begin the first Massachusetts cardiac transplant program outside the city of Boston. The approval by the Department of Public Health brings to UWMS the full complement of transplantation services and heralds a new era in health care for central and western Massachusetts.

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Dr. Foster is professor of obstetrics and gynecology at Meharry Medical College, Nashville, and a former senior program consultant to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. His work at the foundation, relating to high-risk young people, led to a teenage pregnancy reduction program that was recognized as one of President George Bush’s “Thousand Points of Light.” Earlier in his career, at Tuskegee University, Foster pioneered what has become a national model for regionalized perinatal health care systems.

UMMS awards $1.4 million to fund endosurgery center
UMMS has received a $1.4 million grant from the United States Surgical Corporation to fund the University of Massachusetts Endosurgery Telemedicine Center.

Endosurgery — minimally invasive surgery performed through tiny incisions — is being hailed as one of the most revolutionary advances in 20th-century medicine; surgeons can perform major operations with minimal bleeding and reduced risk of complications.

Telemedicine — the use of telecommunications technology to transfer medical information from one site to another — is also a significant teaching tool. The Center is equipped with state-of-the art audiological technology that allows surgeons to observe surgical technique from remote locations, just as if they were beside the surgeon in the operating room.

SULLIVAN SPEAKS AT MLK OBSERVANCE
Louis W. Sullivan, MD, president of Morehouse School of Medicine and former U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, sang “Lift Every Voice and Sing” at the Inaugural Gala for New York Democratic Governor Pataki, presented by UMMS and UMass Memorial. Sullivan addressed the topic of “The Challenge of Leadership for Health Professionals in a Global Society.”

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GEN is among 10 named nationally for partners program
The Graduate School of Nursing, together with Worcester’s Homeless Outreach Advocacy Program (HOAP), have been selected as one of the programs to participate in Partners in Caring and Community, an initiative of “Community-Campus Partnerships for Health” sponsored by the Heineman Foundation.

As participants, the GSN and HOAP will facilitate the integration of service-learning into the curriculum of nursing education programs, increase the understanding of and support for service-learning in enhancing education, and disseminate new knowledge and information about best practices and models in service-learning.

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Dean’s recognize educational excellence
Calling educational excellence “the cornerstone of the campus mission,” Chancellor/Dean Amorie J. Law, MD, announced faculty members and students as recipients of the 1999 Educational Recognition Awards this spring. “These awards are made especially meaningful because the honorees are selected by their peers and colleagues,” he said, “and congratulations them all for the commitment each shows in educating the next generation of physicians, scientists and nursing professionals.”

Awards and recipients include:

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Sandra Bertman, PhD, is a collector of, among other things, epitaphs — the always brief, often moving, sometimes pithy, inscriptions on gravestones. Other pieces in her collection include slides of paintings and sculptures, photographs, greeting cards, cartoons, video clips from 30 years of television drama and comedy, books of poetry and plays, novels and essays, student drawings and writings, and more. Dr. Bertman uses all these visual and literary images as catalysts to help future and practicing healthcare providers explore human suffering, loss, dying and death — what she calls “the unmentionables and immeasurables” of medicine — for their patients and themselves. Long recognized as a pioneer in the modern field of thanatology — the psychology of death, dying and grief counseling — Bertman is professor of medical humanities in the Department of Medicine and director of UMass program, Medical Humanities and the Arts in Health Care.

From offering elective and “brown bag” seminars, to becoming the founding director of UMMS’ original Program in Medical Humanities in 1979, her work as a death educator has continued to evolve. She has taught in the School of Medicine and Graduate School of Nursing since the mid-1970s, and is also a faculty member for the New England AIDS Education and Training Center.

Bertman is author of numerous publications, including her acclaimed book, Facing Death: Images, Insights and Interventions, a Handbook for Educators, Health Care Professionals and Counselors. For her counseling and group work with patients, she received the all-campus Distinguished Professional Public Service Award marking the University of Massachusetts 125th anniversary. She also played a key role in establishing the Palliative Care Service, originally at UMass Medical Center and now run by the Visiting Nurse Association.

Bertman tirelessly advocates for a human-centered model of care for the dying that is based on the precepts of hospice and palliative care, including therapies that treat the emotional, existential and spiritual aspects of health within mainstream medicine. She believes ongoing nourishment to the clinician’s own psyche is necessary, if one is to provide optimum care while practicing the art as well as the science of medicine. “Nurses and physicians, caretakers of every kind, are dealing with multiple death, losing people they care about all the time,” she says. “I was very interested in how physicians’ and nurses’ own attitudes toward death influenced their interactions with patients.”

She found a natural ally in Sandy Marks, DDS, PhD, professor of cell biology and radiology, who also felt strongly that first-year medical students should have support for the dissection experience. Their collaboration resulted in the course “On Death, Dying and Dissection.” Other courses she has created include “For Women than the Tumor: Coping with Cancer,” “The Language of Grief and the Art of Consolation,” “The Handling of Bad News: An Ongoing Dialogue,” “The Agonies and Easiness of Aging,” “Children, Families, and Death,” and “The Changing Images of AIDS.”

A former dancer and choreographer, Bertman is a lifelong lover of the arts who has drawn upon these worlds in all her professional endeavors. After graduating with a bachelor’s in English, she began teaching the
Sandra Bertman, PhD, is a collector of, among other things, epitaphs — the always brief, often moving, sometimes pithy, inscriptions on gravestones. Other pieces in her collection include slides of paintings and sculptures, photographs, greeting cards, caricatures, video clips from 50 years of television drama and comedy, books of poetry and plays, novels and essays, student drawings and writings, and more.

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Since grief is not a cerebral problem but a subjective experience, we understand grief only and entirely as we filter and interpret it through our own experience. Initially it captures us, but we can capture it back and reshape it; and the expressive arts and therapies function beautifully as vehicles to help us reshape grief.”

“Compassion (1894), Edvard Munch. Drypoint and aquatint, 210 x 213 mm. Nasjonalgalleriet, Oslo, Norway. Photograph by Jacques Lathion, Nasjonalgalleriet. (This image from Dr. Bertman’s 1991 book, Facing Death: Images, Insights, and Interventions, is reproduced with permission.)

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From Sandra L. Bertman’s introduction to her latest book, Grief and The Healing Arts: Creativity As Therapy

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The experience and events of illness are not black and white. Suffering cannot be resolved with simple answers, platitudes and narrowly applied skills. The paradox of self-knowledge is our capacity to find ourselves by losing ourselves. Art encounters are the best way I know to dismantle ourselves from the routine, routine ways of seeing and acting.

Naturally gifted in the language of art, Bertman has committed herself to demonstrating the way aesthetic, narrative and spiritual competencies can be used to refresh the clinician’s own roots.

“I feel strongly that you don’t have to be a literary critic or an art historian to interact with a work of art. Bringing willing to engage is the only prerequisite.”

Discovering the possibilities in caring, and the ways the arts inform our understanding and behaviors, continues to be a joyful challenge for Sandra Bertman. For more than 30 years, she has used her gifts as a teacher and her passion for the arts to help people cope with even the worst-case scenarios of chronic and terminal illness, aging, disability and death.

Her latest book, Grief and The Healing Arts: Creativity As Therapy, is an anthology of stories, expressive therapies and essays, including “On the Nature of Suffering” by UMMS Chancellor/Dean, Antonia Lauria, MD. The book’s purpose is the same as her own, as she writes in its introduction, “to refresh therapists, counselors, social workers, physicians, nurses, clergy and all others who are committed to providing support to those in grief.”

Bertman is “interested in self-discovery for medical and nursing students. It’s important for them to integrate all the wonderful science they’re learning with their humanity, and it’s a joy to see them respond — I’ve been very lucky,” she says with a smile.

Spring - Summer 1999

Vitae
As Mark Roosevelt, president of the Worcester-based Massachusetts Biomedical Initiatives, has said, “University research is increasingly the R&D arm for industry. Having a public university in a position to attract and retain companies is a critical advantage, as we have seen here in Worcester with the alliance of UMass Medical School and Smith + Nephew.” It was just a few years ago that UMass Medical School and Smith + Nephew announced an innovative research and development partnership. Facilitated by the University’s Office of Commercial Ventures and Intellectual Property, Smith + Nephew’s investment of $5 million in research at UUMMS has already resulted in 21 innovation disclosures submitted by faculty, 21 patent applications filed, six technologies identified for commercialization and four license agreements (see related story beginning on next page). Such immediate results and promising prospects for long-term success are what prompted Chancellor/Dean Aaron Lazare to make research the underpinning of his new vision for the institution.

Continually attracting more research dollars makes good economic sense not only for UMass Medical School, notes Lazare, but also is vitally important to ensure that its clinical partner, UMass Memorial Health Care, and the surrounding region continue to thrive. “As UUMMS rises in the NIH rankings, Worcester — now ranked 49 among the top 100 cities receiving NIH support — and all of central Massachusetts will ultimately share in the success.” — RJP

### Going Up

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**Rewards Reaped**

Over the past 10 years, UMass Medical School has grown its National Institutes of Health research funding by 52 percent. Here are the last five years’ results.

As UMMS Medical School rises in the NIH rankings, so too does the regional economy.
Everybody’s business

As UMass Medical School rises in the NIH rankings, so too does the regional economy.

Having opened in 1970, the University of Massachusetts Medical School is still relatively in its infancy. Yet within the span of just 28 years, the school has become a major force in research. According to the new National Institutes of Health ranking, UMass Medical School now ranks number 41 among the nation’s 124 medical schools, having garnered $52.2 million in research grant awards in FY98. Together with spin-offs created from private industry, foundations and other funding sources, UMass Medical School and Smith + Nephew, announced an innovative research and development partnership. Facilitated by the University’s Office of Commercial Ventures and Intellectual Property, Smith + Nephew’s investment of $7 million in research at UMass Medical School has already resulted in 23 invention disclosures submitted by faculty, 31 patent applications filed, the technologies identified for commercialization and four license agreements (see related story beginning on next page).

Such immediate results and promising prospects for long-term success are what prompted Chancellor/Dean Aaron Lazare, MD, to make research the underpinning of his new vision for the institution. While UMass remains as committed as ever to its pursuit of national distinction in education and public service, Lazare asserts that significant growth in research is necessary to achieve and sustain many aspects of this vision. The NIH is planning a 20 percent increase in funding over the next five years. We will have to double our activity during that time to keep pace with our competition.”

Continually attracting more research dollars makes good economic sense not only for UMass Medical School, notes Lazare, but also is vitally important to ensure that its clinical partner, UMass Memorial Health Care, and the surrounding region continue to thrive. As UMS Medical School rises in the NIH rankings, the surrounding Worcester area and central Massachusetts economy benefit when UMass Medical School rises in the NIH rankings. Follow along on the research-fueled economic impact loop:

- Increased NIH dollars allow UMMS researchers to do more and better work, which attracts more and better researchers and faculty members, who attract more and better students, who attract bio- and high-technology employers and support services to the Worcester area, which pay taxes to support public services, and which hire Worcester-area employees, who buy goods and services in the Worcester area, and who pay taxes to support local, state and federal programs, such as NIH.

As Mark Roosevelt, president of the Worcester-based Massachusetts Biomedical Initiatives, has said, “University research is increasingly the R&D arm for industry. Having a public university in a position to attract and retain companies is a critical advantage, as we have seen here in Worcester with the alliance of UMass Medical School and Smith + Nephew.”

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How does the surrounding Worcester area and central Massachusetts economy benefit when UMass Medical School rises in the NIH rankings? Follow along on the research-fueled economic impact loop:

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“Commercially viable” is not a term that most would associate with academic research. Yet, over the last several years, as competition for federal research dollars has increased, academia has turned to industry to sponsor not only lifesaving research, but also marketable products.

UMMS is no exception. In fact, its relationship with Andover-based Smith + Nephew Endoscopy is unique. The collaboration – established in 1995 as the UMass/Smith + Nephew Center for Research in Endoscopic Surgery – is redefining the way surgery is performed by pairing the clinical expertise of the surgeon with the problem-solving capabilities of the engineer.

H. Brownell Wheeler, MD, professor and founding chair of surgery at UMMS, was a key figure in launching the Center and now is its administrative director. “It’s difficult to acquire research dollars for medical devices,” he explains. “This research requires collaboration with engineers, and machine shops in order to pursue device prototypes. With this partnership, Smith + Nephew supplies the professional manufacturing and engineering expertise as well as the dollars.”

The UMass/Smith + Nephew Center employs a team of surgeons and four full-time engineers who work together to create innovative solutions to surgical problems. UMass provides the clinical facilities and physicians. Smith + Nephew supplies the engineers and financial support.

“I don’t know of any other medical school that has turned full-time corporate staff into its facilities to foster daily interaction,” says Wheeler.
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“I don’t know of any other medical school that has married full-time corporate staff into its facilities to foster daily interaction,” says Wheeler.
By providing surgeons and engineers with a means to collaborate on a day-to-day basis, the UMass/Smith + Nephew Center allows viable ideas for new products to be formulated rapidly.

Take cardiac bypass surgery. Every physician knows that complications and difficulties in post-surgical rehabilitation often result from two necessities of heart surgery: cardiopulmonary bypass, which permits the surgeon to stop the beating heart in order to stitch the bypass grafts onto the coronary arteries, and the large chest incision through which the surgeon must work. Inventions under development like the retractor pictured on page 15 can make those “necessities” unnecessary for many patients—a slotted “foot” holds the beating heart while the surgeon stitches the graft, eliminating the need for cardiopulmonary bypass. The adjustable “paddles” of the retractor permit a smaller incision. Who would have thought? UMSM surgical researchers and the biomedical engineers at the Smith + Nephew Center, advanced the device through clinical development.

The hand is then introduced into the incision and the wide end of the sleeve is attached to the base retractor. The surgeon now can use his hand to palpate an organ, dissect, or compress a bleeding vessel.

“HandPort gives surgeons a tactile sensation, allowing them, for example, to pick up additional lesions or filaments on tissue not seen when performing exclusively laparoscopically,” Meyers says. “In addition, patients on whom HandPort is used seem more likely they have undergone a purely laparoscopic procedure—they have less pain than an open procedure. Cosmetically, there is also less scarring, and the patient can go home in a few days.”

When he arrived at UMass, Meyers—who was involved in collaborations with industry while at Duke University—pitched Smith + Nephew the concept of HandPort’s plastic sleeve, as well as a method of getting instruments onto the surgeon’s hand. Engineers Steven Ek, Richard Brain and Allison Niumann, UMSM’s design team, were armed and ready to take on the engineering challenge. At the same time, Meyers persuaded Lintron to join the surgical staff and become the Center’s medical director; adding Lintron’s international reputation as a leading surgeon in minimally-invasive procedures to the credibility of products developed by the Center. HandPort has been available in Europe since late fall and in Canada since February. A feasibility study—in which 40 surgeons nationwide acted as investigators—was completed and submitted last winter to the FDA, which granted its approval in April.

“The feasibility study allowed the physicians to use HandPort for any type of operation they thought appropriate,” says Meyers. “Many surgeons selected procedures that had not previously been done laparoscopically, such as difficult cancer operations and organ removal and transplant procedures, to gauge the full potential of the product.

Both Meyers and Lintron have developed courses and conferences where HandPort has been used. In mid-February, a kidney transplant surgery performed by Lintron was transmitted live to 500 surgeons at a site in Florida. “The surgeons were wowed by what could be done with HandPort,” Meyers says. “Enthusiasm from both general and endoscopic surgeons is widespread.”

The Center has also created a website, www.sncenter.com, which is a great tool for surgeons worldwide. In addition to written tutorials, videos are available of actual procedures using the device.

Since July 1998, when the website came online, lists have been identified from 50 different countries, with surgeons enthusiastically communicating their results with the product. What does the future hold for HandPort and the UMass/Smith + Nephew Center? Meyers speculates that future generations of HandPort may be marketed, but calls the premiere concept “pretty near perfect.” He says that a number of new instruments are in the works that relate to HandPort. The Center has also created a website—which is a great tool for surgeons worldwide. In addition to written tutorials, videos are available of actual procedures using the device.

* UMass File PDF  8/2/99 10 48  Page 12
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The real innovation is this: Engineers in close proximity with surgeons can use UMass and Smith + Nephew to develop prototypes and testing processes. The regulatory and legal approval for a UMass-Springboarded idea could be obtained within a day to a week, rather than months, expediting the manufacture, as well as the regulatory and legal approval needed to bring a new idea to market. For example, HandPort, the Center’s first success, evolved from initial concept to marketable product in less than two years. Designed to facilitate laparoscopic surgery by allowing the surgeon to have a “hand in” to the endoscopic site, HandPort was suggested by William C. Meyers, MD, professor of surgery and Wheeler’s successor as chair. Demetrios Litwak, MD, associate professor of surgery and medical director of the UMass-Smith + Nephew Center, advanced the device through clinical development. Using roughly a seven-centimeter incision (the breadth of the surgeon’s palm), the base retractor of the device is attached to the skin and abdominal wall of the patient forming an air-tight seal. The surgeon places his hand in a plastic sleeve that attaches to a bracelet secured on the surgeon’s wrist.

This retractor plays a key role in another type of minimally-invasive surgery: The “foot” in the center of the device holds the beating heart at bay while the cardiac surgeon sews a bypass graft.

Biomedical engineers make intangibles clincial, client has the State’s Bridge, the surgeon’s conception, and the world of the reproducible, solving intricately problems along the way.

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“What does the future hold for HandPort and the UMass/Smith + Nephew Center?” Meyers summarizes that future generations of HandPort may be marketed, but calls the present concept “pretty near perfect.” He says that a number of new instruments are in the works that relate to HandPort, as well as other instrumentation concepts in other specialty areas of endoscopic surgery. Wheeler confirms that more products are in the works, adding, “The beauty of the whole experience is that it’s a win-win situation. If Smith + Nephew’s products sell well, the University gets royalties as well as funding for more research, and the company gets the profits. Most importantly, however, the patient gets better care from the technology developed.” — LCR
How do you fit a medical school inside a computer? You might find the answer at www.umassmed.edu, UMass Medical School’s new website. As a result of its great content, innovative design and easy-to-use features, the site is fast becoming a virtual medical community serving UMass students, faculty, alumni and the community at large.

No website can be successful if it doesn’t contain material that people need. And the new UMMS site seems to have something for everyone. For prospective and current students, the new site makes class selection and course registration a breeze. Students can learn about academic departments and view course descriptions online, as well as register for classes, download class materials, e-mail their professors and discuss assignments with peers through newsgroups or chat rooms.

For faculty, the site offers interesting new angles on teaching and allow them to adapt to the same changing technology environment as their students. “The web is fast becoming a supplement to teaching,” says Anthony Carruthers, PhD, professor and interim chair of biochemistry & molecular biology, who represented the faculty perspective on the committee planning the UMMS site. “I started my own website years ago to store lecture notes for medical and graduate students. Now I am finding that students in my biochemistry class will go to the course laboratory page, download biochemistry handouts and then discuss the materials with each other.”

Carruthers believes his students have been eager to integrate the computer and the web into their medical studies for some time. “I recall a few years ago I asked my graduate students to graph something. I handed out graph paper and they didn’t know how to use it. But they knew how to use computer graphing programs! I think the same trend toward electronic teaching tools, via the web, is already here.”

The UMMS site also acts as a gateway to the wealth of information in cyberspace, making it possible to do important research without a trip to the library. Through the site, members of the UMMS community can set up Medline accounts, conduct literature searches at any UMass library, read scholarly journals, check out research at the National Institutes of Health and other research institutes or find the latest international research in a given discipline.
How do you fit a medical school inside a computer? You might find the answer at www.umassmed.edu. UMass Medical School’s new website. As a result of its great content, innovative design and easy-to-use features, the site is fast becoming a virtual medical community serving UMMS students, faculty, alumni and the community at large.

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“How many times have I gone to the library to discover the journal I want is checked out? Now,” says Carruthers, “if I log onto the website, I can always access the journal right on my computer screen.” In addition, the site contains a seminar and event database with up-to-date information about department-sponsored research symposia, panels, seminars and other events. The site also provides unique opportunities for UMMS to further the goals of its public service projects, such as the New England Newborn Screening Program (Jamaica Plain campus). Among other things, the web pages allow the program to provide comprehensive information on newborn screening online — and the ability for parents to download it in up to eight different languages.

“The site is designed to incorporate feedback from patients, hospital, laboratories, oversight agencies and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health,” says Deputy Assistant Vice Chancellor John Munies. “This program is a great example of how the website can supplement the printed material we disseminate to patients.” But all that great material won’t go unviewed if it’s not in a form that is accessible and easy to use. And creating a website that is easy to use is no easy task. It took an entire team of planning, involved unique opportunities throughout the campus, a dedicated Information Services Department spearheaded by Ralph Zottola, PhD ’95, UMMS director of academic computing, and careful balancing of benefits, needs and capabilities.

Although the site is new, Zottola has a long history of running websites at UMMS. As a graduate student, he ran one of the school’s first sites off his personal computer; now, he’s a little bound to find himself helping to create his alma mater’s showcase site. Under his leadership, the UMMS webmasters have built an infrastructure that takes site into account all the campus needs and has the flexibility to add projects and components over time.

“We were lucky to have a commitment from UMass to get the new site off the ground,” says Zottola. That commitment translated into powerful servers, a high-speed network, support for users to develop the virtual web pages, and powerful desktop computers throughout the campus so that people could access the site. “One goal was to create a new and better site that was easy to navigate, visually appealing, and flexible enough to add pages as other members of the campus community wanted to get on board,” he explains.

As good as the site is now, improvements and enhancements are already in the works. Zottola and his webmasters are planning a virtual alumni network, which would enable graduates to connect with classmates and professors via the website. Alumni features will include class lists, pages, reunion information and a calendar of alumni events. Plus, the team has only begun to tap the capacity of the new network and servers. By housing our new servers, Zottola notes, “we have the capacity to let anyone in the UMMS community put up their own web page in the site, start a newsgroup or set up chat discussions. Most of all, the site’s developers want it used often. As Zottola puts it, “We hope more and more members of the community will bookmark the new site so that it can become a useful communication, educational and research tool for the entire UMass Medical School community.”

**Development Update:**

**MAJOR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN BEING PLANNED**

The Office of Development is in the early stages of planning a major, multi-faceted capital campaign that will support and advance the strategic priorities of both the UMMS academic system and the UMass Memorial clinical system. While the details of the campaign have not been finalized, some of the priorities it will address are:

- Construction of a major research building on the University campus.
- The 300,000-square-foot structure will house a number of basic science programs, the Cancer Center and other research programs still to be identified. The new facility will allow UMMS to mark increased research productivity and quality of care at UMass Memorial.
- The creation of a new ambulatory surgery center at the Hahneman campus, a state-of-the-art cardiac catheterization center on the University campus, and a new Women’s Center/Comprehensive Breast Center to be located at 47 Belmont Street.
- The Office of Development recently moved its offices from the University campus to Four Biotech, across the street in the Massachusetts Biotechnology Park. Among other things, the web pages allow the program to provide comprehensive information on newborn screening online — and the ability for parents to download it in up to eight different languages.

- A substantial increase in the current number of endowed professorships and chairs at UMMS.
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- These endowments support faculty engaged in cutting-edge research and clinical care. They also are important resources in recruitment of nationally prominent researchers and clinicians.

**REAL ESTATE GIFT SUPPORTS NEUROPSYCHIATRIC INSTITUTE**

Galef’s B.E.D. Gift and University campus for treating his heart ailment three years ago, Robert Nelson gave donated his New Salem home and 20 acres of former farmland to the Brudnick Neuropsychiatric Research Institute at UMMS, new under construction on the Worcester State Hospital grounds. With no children or heirs, RI: Nelson declined to donate uncollected funds from the sale of his property to the Institute in honor of his brother, who died of complications from Parkinson’s disease.

In addition to his own home, originally bought by his father and relocated to New Salem to make way for the Quabbin Reservoir, the gift includes his late sister’s house on the same property.

Noting that he hadn’t seen a doctor from the time he served in World War II until he experienced heart trouble at age 77, Nelson says he wishes to give back to the hospital because he considers each day of life as a gift.
We were lucky to have a commitment from UMass to get the new site off the ground, says Zottola. That commitment translated into powerful servers, a high-speed network, and a virtual alumni network. Zottola and his webmasters are planning a virtual alumni network, which would enable graduates to connect with classmates and professors via the website. Alumni features will include class notes and reunion information and a calendar of alumni events. Plus, the team has only begun to tap the capacity of the new network and servers. By hosting our new servers, Zottola notes, we have the capacity to let anyone in the UMMS community put up their own web page on the site, start a newsgroup or set up chatroom discussions. Most of all, the website’s developers want it used often. As Zottola puts it, “We hope more and more members of the community will bookmark the new site so that it can become a useful communication, educational and research tool for the entire UMass Medical School community.”

Review Update:

We’ve received positive feedback from patients, hospitals, laboratories, overnight agencies and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, says Deputy Assistant Vice Chancellor John Munies. “Our programs are a great example of how the website can supplement the printed materials we disseminate to parents.”

But all that great material isn’t any good unless it is put in a form that is accessible and easy to use. And creating a website that is easy to use is no easy task. It took six months of planning, involved various constituencies throughout the campus, a dedicated Information Services Department spearheaded by Ralph Zottola, PhD ’95, UMMS director of academic computing, and careful balancing of benefits, needs and capabilities.

Although the site is new, Zottola has a long history of running websites at UMMS. As a graduate student, he ran one of the school’s first sites off his personal computer; now, he’s a little humbled to find himself helping to create his alma mater’s showcase site. Under his leadership, the UMMS webmasters have built an infrastructure that took into account all the campus needs and has the flexibility to add projects and components over time.

The Office of Development is responsible for fundraising on behalf of UMass Memorial Health Care and the University of Massachusetts Medical School through the Worcester Foundation for Biomedical Research.

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The lecture will present a broad overview of a major topic in health care, including humanistic themes so important to Wheeler, as well as scientific advances. Additionally, UMass residents and research fellows will have the opportunity to present and discuss their recent clinical and basic research projects. The interested lay public will be invited to attend and learn more about the art and science of medicine.

To learn more about the Lectureship, or to make a tax-deductible contribution, please call Laura Zickell at (508) 792-8056.

Data General Corporation has donated a $175,000 computer server to provide the infrastructure and capacity for a new, online Curriculum Resource Center at UUMHS. The "virtual medical school" provides course overviews on the UUMHS website, designed for use by students, alumni, and faculty, but available to anyone who has internet access (see story on page 14). The online curriculum supplements and enriches actual classroom instruction, and includes text and high-resolution photos and slides.

The company whose employees utilize UUMHS Medical Library in large numbers, provided UUMHS with the new server as a gift in recognition of the exceptional care the hospital provides. Their goal is to build an endowment to support the H. Brownell Wheeler, MD, Distinguished Lectureship in UUMHS.

As chair, President Hooks Johnston, president of Smith + Nephew, Richard Stanton, UMMS deputy chancellor for finance and administration, and Dr. Wheeler.

Smith & Nephew supports Wheeler Lectureship

Anderson-based Smith & Nephew, maker of minimally invasive surgical equipment, has donated $1.4 million to support research and development at the UMass/Smith & Nephew Center for Research in Endoscopic Surgery based at UUMHS (see story on page 10). Wheeler in administrative director of the Center, which is investigating new, minimally invasive techniques to improve surgical procedures, as well as reduce pain and recovery time for patients.

Fondly referred to as "Brownie" by many, Wheeler has been a mentor and teacher to hundreds of students and residents over the years. Notes Aurora Lucas, MD, UUMHS chancellor and dean, "He has always emphasized the compassionate, human side of medical practice, as well as its science. An ongoing educational program in his honor is an appropriate way of expressing our gratitude for his many years of distinguished service."

Born in Louisville, Kentucky, in 1929, Wheeler attended Vanderbilt University and graduated from Harvard Medical School in 1952. After surgical training in Boston and London, he joined the Harvard faculty and surgical staff of Peter Bent Brigham Hospital. He also served as chief of surgery and chief of staff at West Roxbury Veterans Administration Hospital.

In 1996, he was recalled as the school’s first faculty member by UUMHS Founding Dean Lamar Souder. Wheeler next served as chief of surgery at Saint Vincent Hospital in Worcester until UUMHS Hospital opened in 1996. The founder and executive director of the Center for Advanced Clinical Technology at UUMHS — it matches industry and resources with academic expertise to improve patient care — Wheeler also serves in several national leadership and local voluntary capacities. Among them,

Says Lankton, "As a former hospital board member, and with 1,100 employees in Clinton, I always have felt that we need a strong hospital in Clinton. It is a tremendous addition to Clinton Hospital and the Clinton area. He has kept Nypro’s headquarters in Clinton, as well as its manufacturing, and he provides significant jobs and opportunities to area residents."
The lecture will present a broad overview of a major topic in health care, including humanistic themes so important to Wheeler, as well as scientific advancements. Additionally, UMass residents and research fellows will have the opportunity to present and discuss their recent clinical and basic research projects. The interested lay public will be invited to attend and learn more about the art and science of medicine.

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Data General gives \textit{virtual} server for online curriculum

Data General Corporation has donated a $13,000 computer server to provide the infrastructure and capacity for a new, online Curriculum Resource Center at UUMS. The "virtual medical school" provides course overviews on the UUMS website, designed for use by students, alumni, and faculty, but available to anyone who has Internet access (see story on page 14). The online curriculum supplements and enriches actual classroom instruction, and includes text and high-resolution photos and slides.

The company, whose employees utilize UUMS Medical Library in large numbers, provided UUMS with the new server as a good-will gesture from a corporate citizen of central Massachusetts. Because Data General serves the information technology needs of 25 percent of U.S. and Canadian hospitals, many doctors, nurses and professionals are already examining its medical information technology. The computer server will supplement those services at UUMS.

\textbf{Labor Day Walk to Cure Cancer}

The UMass Cancer Center and the Massachusetts A.F.L.-C.I.O. (American Federation of Labor -- Council of Industry Organizations) are gearing up for a fundraising Labor Day Walk to Cure Cancer, to be held September 6 on the University campus. With the backing of the 40,000-member labor organization, the first annual walk promises to raise substantial funds to combat cancer.

The A.F.L.-C.I.O. has pledged to raise $5 million over the next five years to help construct a new research building, which will house the Cancer Center's research laboratories. A June breakfast at Worcester's Commodore Center is planned to rally community members to join A.F.L.-C.I.O. volunteers, UUMS Memorial and UUMS employees in the walk.

The walk has already attracted three chief AFL-CIO sponsors: the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFSCME-SHARE (State Healthcare and Research Employees), of UUMS Memorial, the SEIU Local 195 (International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers), and Metal Helpers Local 39. Mark Caneity, director of development for the Cancer Center, says the goal of the first annual Labor Day Walk is to attract a minimum of 5,000 walkers.

To make a tax-deductible contribution, please call Laura Zickell at (508) 792-8056.

Smith + Nephew supports Wheeler Lectureship

Andover-based Smith + Nephew, maker of minimally invasive surgical equipment, has donated $300,000 to the campaign to create the H. Brownell Wheeler, MD, Distinguished Lectureship. Dr. Wheeler is professor and chairing professor of surgery at UUMS.

Last winter, Smith + Nephew donated $1 million in support research and development at the UMass/Smith + Nephew Center for Research in Endoscopic Surgery based at UUMS (see story on page 10). Wheeler is administrative director of the Center, which is investigating new, minimally invasive techniques to improve surgical procedures, as well as reduce pain and recovery time for patients.

Fondly referred to as "Brownie" by many, Wheeler has been in mentor and teacher to hundreds of students and residents over the years. Notes Austin Lucas, MD, UUMS chancellor and dean, "He has always emphasized the compassionate, human side of medical practice, as well as its science. An ongoing educational program in his honor is in an appropriate way of expressing our gratitude for his many years of distinguished service."

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In 1964, he was recruited as the school's first faculty member by UUMS Founding Dean Lamar Soutter. Wheeler next served as chief of surgery at Saint Vincent Hospital in Worcester until UUMS Hospital opened in 1976.

The founder and executive director of the Center for Advanced Clinical Technology at UUMS -- it matches industry and resources with academic expertise to improve patient care -- Wheeler also serves in several national leadership and local voluntary capacities. Among them, he is a trustee of the Worcester Foundation for Biomedical Research (now part of UUMS), trustee and chair of the advisory board of the Hospital of Central Massachusetts, and founding chair of the Worcester District Medical Society Committee to Improve End-of-Life Care.

Wheeler’s colleagues have joined his friends, former students, former patients and family to commemorate his exceptional career. Their goal is to build an endowment to support the H. Brownell Wheeler, MD, Distinguished Lectureship.

The A.F.L.-C.I.O. leadership was first drawn to the hospital by UUMS President Peter Marshall, former director of Public Safety at UUMS Worcester and a friend of AFL-CIO President Robert Haynes, who has been a long-time supporter of the hospital. The AFL-CIO leadership was first drawn to the hospital by UUMS President Peter Marshall, former director of Public Safety at UUMS Worcester and a friend of AFL-CIO President Robert Haynes, who has been a long-time supporter of the hospital.

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To donate or participate in the A.F.L.-C.I.O. Labor Day Walk to Cure Cancer, please call the Cancer Center at (508) 856-1318.

\textbf{Clinton Hospital receives Nypro gift}

The Clinton Hospital Foundation's capital campaign has received a cornerstone gift of $50,000 from Nypro, Inc., a precision plastic injection molding company in Clinton. To be distributed over five years, the Nypro Funds will be applied to construction costs of Clinton Hospital's major addition and renovation project, now underway.

The 108-year-old hospital's three-story, 30,000-square-foot addition will house a new ambulatory care center, outpatient surgery center, rehabilitation and occupational health center, Women's Health Center with a new mammography suite, public offices, inpatient bedside and gift shop. With the addition slated for completion this summer, renovation of the existing operating floor will continue through the fall.

The goal of the $7.5 million capital project is to provide centralized outpatient services in an attractive setting that's both efficient and convenient, consolidate physician offices into one location, and update the hospital's infrastructure and facility. According to Charles Goffa, director of development for UMass Memorial members Clinton and Marlborough Hospitals, Nypro president Gordon Lankton "is tremendously dedicated to Clinton Hospital and the Clinton area. He has kept Nypro's headquarters in Clinton, as well as its manufacturing, and he provides significant jobs and opportunities to area residents."

To donate or participate in the A.F.L.-C.I.O. Labor Day Walk to Cure Cancer, please call the Cancer Center at (508) 856-1318.
William “Bill” Rose, former owner of The Fair department stores, has pledged $100,000 over five years to support the innovative diabetes research of Aldo Rosini, MD, professor of medicine and director of the Division of Diabetes at UMMMS. As part of the gift, Dr. Rose’s suite of offices at Two Biotech has been named in honor of Rose’s parents, Ralph and Shirley, as indicated on a plaque at the suite entrance.

Dr. Rosini has attracted international attention for his expertise in pancreas cell transplantation, immune system response to such transplants and the immunological basis for organ rejection. In the laboratory, he has shown that insulin-producing pancreatic islets can be transplanted without using anti-rejection drugs, which carry the risk of serious side effects. Pending FDA approval, he will soon begin human therapy trials.

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Rose’s sister, Diane Cartegenova, co-owner of Arturo’s Ristorante, is supporting Dr. Rosini’s research in another way: The popular Worcester restaurant will host a series of dinners as public awareness events during National Diabetes Month in November. For more information, call the Development Office at (508) 856-5520.

A message from the Chancellor/Dean

I am pleased to introduce this new, expanded alumni section. I hope you will find the feature stories and news of your classmates interesting, informative and — most important — worth your time.

As I approach the end of the first decade of my tenure as Dean, I cannot help but look around me at all that is happening and take pause. In the last year alone, this institution has made an astounding leap forward — and it is my expectation that you will share in the pride I feel as you learn more about our recent achievements.

It goes without saying that our graduates are the building blocks on which this great campus was founded. We are fast emerging as a leadership institution...
Rose family supports diabetes research

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Rose’s sister, Diane Cartegenova, co-owner of Arturo’s Ristorante, is supporting Dr. Rossini’s research in another way: The popular Worcester restaurant will host a series of dinners as public awareness events during National Diabetes Month in November. For more information, call the Development Office at (508) 856-5520.

New appointments

Three new professionals recently joined the Office of Development, reflecting the department’s commitment to increase and diversify its fundraising activities to support the initiatives of UUMMS and UMass Memorial.

LYNDA S. RIVARD has been named director of development systems. The Douglas resident comes to UUMMS from Harvard Law School, where she was computer coordinator to its development office for 10 years. At UUMMS, Rivard is responsible for the department’s development, implementation, and oversight of computer systems and technology to support fundraising activities. In addition, she oversees the office’s operating budget, manages the administrative and technical staff, and coordinates special events.

PAT BARTRAM has been appointed both director of development for biomedical research and director of development for the Worcester Foundation for Biomedical Research. A native of Shrewsbury and resident of Boxborough, Bartram was previously director of major gifts at the Joslin Diabetes Center in Boston. She is charged with securing private support for basic research. A priority of Bartram’s is to serve as capital campaign director for the new 300,000-square-foot research facility to be built on the University campus.

JENIQUE RABIN has been named director of development for the Department of Pediatrics and the Children’s Medical Center. The Worcester resident was formerly associate director of alumni and development at Babcock School in Worcester. At UUMMS and UMass Memorial, Rabin will be responsible for securing funding and developing collateral material to support the programs and initiatives of both the Department of Pediatrics and the Children’s Medical Center.

A message from the Chancellor/Dean

I am pleased to introduce this new, expanded alumni section. I hope you will find the feature stories and news of your classmates interesting, informative and — most important — worth your time.

As I approach the end of the first decade of my tenure as Dean, I cannot help but look around me at all that is happening and take pause. In the last year alone, this institution has made an astounding leap forward — and it is my expectation that you will share in the pride I feel as you learn more about our recent achievements.

It goes without saying that our graduates are the building blocks on which this great campus was founded. We are fast emerging as a leadership institution ... and it is my expectation that you will share in the pride I feel as you learn more about our recent achievements.

Success attracts success. As our national reputation grows, we are able to retain and recruit outstanding faculty. We have long been known for promoting innovative classroom techniques and supporting multidisciplinary research. We are also listened to with a creative and visionary administration and an unusual ... — to be dedicated in the year 2000.

Within the original building, some of you may not have seen our Staff Learning Center, which augments the three amphitheaters most familiar to you with two smaller and one large lecture room. There is more, and we will share details of these and other changes in a report on campus achievements to be mailed in the fall. As always, I invite your comments and suggestions. I would like this message to spark the beginning of a stimulating and ongoing dialogue. Even more important — come back and visit! I look forward to showing you around.

Aaron Lazare, MD, Chancellor and Dean

Alumni Report:
A ROOFTOP FOR WOMEN

When women talk, Barbara Ciak, MD ’79, listens. So, as medical director of the one-year-old Women’s Pavilion at Milford-Whitinsville Regional Hospital, she plans to make sure the facility pays attention to what women are saying. And she has definite ideas about what else she wants to accomplish in Milford, where she first practiced after completing her ob/gyn residency in Worcester.

“It was sort of like coming home again,” says Ciak, who — after 11 years with an ob/gyn group in Framingham — returned to Milford to develop the facility because “this is where I’m from.”

The whole issue of women’s health is addressing a growing need. As the larger numbers of baby boomers age and become menopausal, they find themselves having to consider the issue of using estrogen. We need to focus on their quality of life and length of life.

The MWRH pavilion serves a dozen towns near Milford and southward to the Rhode Island border. Dr. Ciak believes that more women in the area’s “exploding” population will be drawn to the Women’s Pavilion. She has observed that “fewer than 50% of men use the hospital, whereas almost 100% of women do.”

For example, a patient who comes in with a breast lump can have a tissue sample taken by the end of the day. The goal is to have a diagnosis for her in 24 hours, to avoid what Ciak calls the torture of waiting. Radiologists and surgeons have been trained in the latest diagnostic equipment, including a stereotactic device that precisely locates a breast lesion revealed by a mammogram. If the patient is a candidate for this procedure, it produces a three-dimensional image with guided sampling that eliminates the need for an uncomfortable needle localization procedure. And if the lump is malignant, the pavilion brings together all physicians, including subspecialists, for discussions with the patient and her family.

A breast cancer patient herself five years ago, Ciak says the pavilion renders patients with heart disease and bone loss, as well as those with breast and gynecological cancer. Physician suites and procedure rooms also accommodate specialists in reproductive endocrinology/infertility, perinatology and general surgery.

Besides breast health, Ciak’s particular interest is natural hormone therapy: “I’ve become very frustrated with the standard estrogen replacement therapies. The more we’re learning, the more confusing it becomes. I spend a lot of time on hormonal issues — whether or not to take them.”

Her involvement with every patient’s care has meant “a dramatic increase in homework” for Ciak, but “it’s a good problem to have — my fingers are on the pulse of every patient, and it better not slip!” — JLM

In search of a research project to complete his undergraduate degree at Worcester Polytechnic Institute in the mid-70s, Bruce D. Minsky called a professor of biochemistry and molecular biology at UMW. It was the start of a mentoring relationship — and friendship — that exists to this day.

Frank Chlapowski, PhD, the professor he called, remembers Minsky’s “tremendous enthusiasm for biomedical research and science… it was a natural alliance. He started working in my lab, as an undergraduate, on how the membrane works in the urinary bladder. He continued to work with me during medical school and actually solved the problem.”

Minsky’s enthusiasm for his work has not abated. The urology graduate is now an attending radiation oncologist and chair of institutional quality assessment at Memorial-Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. He is also a professor of radiation oncology at Cornell University Medical College.

If that weren’t enough, he continues to conduct clinical research on various aspects of cancer management, including Phase II clinical trials for the National Cancer Institute. He serves on a half-dozen editorial boards and no fewer than 15 national committees, publishes extensively, and continues his love of travel with a robust lecture schedule.

A recent talk on his work with cancer patients attracted a standing-room-only audience at UMass Memorial. “I’m extremely lucky to be in a position of doing what I love to do, to have a career I truly enjoy,” says Minsky of his life’s work. “And each area I’m involved in complements the other. It can be extremely difficult to work with cancer patients, but I do get involved with my patients. Even when a patient has incurable cancer and all I can do is listen to his fears, that’s still a service we can provide as doctors. And it designates clinical trials developing new therapies, because it’s a way to contribute and push the field forward, so that a few years down the line patients might have better outcomes.”

Minsky is “one of those rare individuals who combines good science with being a practicing MD,” says Chlapowski. “It’s a difficult to do these days. He’s highly regarded… one of the few leaders in his field. He also manages to keep his wonderful sense of humor.”

“Working with cancer patients has taught me to appreciate life,” says Minsky. “I live every day with the philosophy that if tomorrow were my last day, I could look back and say I’d do the same way over again.” — JLM

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“It was sort of like coming home again,” says Ciak, who — after 11 years with an ob/gyn group in Framingham — returned to Milford to develop the facility because “the need is there. The whole issue of women’s health is addressing a growing need. As this large volume of baby boomers age and become menopausal, they find themselves having to consider the issue of using estrogen. We need to focus on their quality of life and length of life.”

The MWRH pavilion serves a dozen towns near Milford and southward to the Rhode Island border. Dr. Ciak believes that more women in the area’s “exploding” population will be drawn to the Women’s Pavilion — especially after seeing the pavilion’s “penthouse” addition on top of the hospital. And when they do visit, she asserts, “they’ll know they’re being heard!”

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“Working with cancer patients has taught me to appreciate life,” says Minsky. “I live every day with the philosophy that if tomorrow were my last day, I could look back and say I’ll do the same way all over again.” — JLM
And I really enjoy watching students experience an ‘ahah’ moment.
That’s when a patient, an instructor or a manager serendipitously teaches them an important life lesson and it just clicks. 

‘And I really enjoy watching students experience an ‘ahah’ moment.’
Bergin adds. ‘That’s when a patient, an instructor or a manager serendipitously teaches them an important life lesson and it just clicks.’

Recently, she participated in a review of diabetes management and insulin administration protocols for the local population served by the state’s Department of Mental Retardation. ‘It’s work that really fosters a world of standards of care, promotes access and individualized attention to healthcare issues, and allows people to maintain their independence and dignity,’ Bergin asserts. ‘That’s what nursing is all about, that, and the next opportunity for an ‘ahah’ moment!’

Class Notes:

Those ‘AHA!’ Moments

1977

Gordon Sapnoia, MD, has been appointed associate professor of clinical chemistry at UIRM.

1978

C. Burton, MD, a transplant surgeon at Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami, was recently named to the editorial board of Transplantation.

1979

Anne Gery, MD, at Kaiser Permanente in San Francisco for eight years, is chief of Family Medicine there. She has one daughter, Kate (5), an “industrious” who thinks of Boston as “back east.”

Brian Battista, MD, in part of a multi-specialty group in Weymouth called Harbour Medical Associates. He had a visit from Chris Jordan in September and reports he “looked great.”

Husband and wife Chris Jordan, MD, and Elaine Kubota, MD, are alive and well in Tampa. Elaine is president of Alverno-American Associates this year, and Chris is doing bits of general surgery.

Doug Levine, MD, joined Anna Marsh in 1997 as director of clinical research/gastrointestinal. His wife, Barbara, has become director of gerontological nursing at the University of Pennsylvania Health System.

Elizabeth Regan, MD, has two daughters: Katie (1) and Melissa (3). She is regional chief of orthopaedic surgery at Kaiser. She farms on 15 acres in the hills and gets a kick out of taking his girls to ski and hike.

Mary Beth Weathersby, MD, placed sixth at the 1998 Head of the Charles Regatta, in Women’s Senior Masters singles, after assessment of 30 seconds in buoy violations...”It was a sudden gust of wind, sir, my apologies.”

James Whybark, MD, has been promoted to vice president, medical policy and assessment, at Private Healthcare Systems, a national medical management company.

1980

Larry Goodwin, MD, and his wife, Teresa (Shelaim), have two children: Jonathan (9) and Zachary (4). They moved to Philadelphia ten years ago in search of career advancement and “are better major league baseball team...DE how about just career advancement?”

Robert Scheuch Jr., MD, is pleased to announce the arrival of Chloe Ann Scheuch on 8-24-98 to join Bobby (6) and Evan (3). Bob’s two-man pulmonary group continues to be very busy. He is also director of the ICU at Southampton Hospital and remains “the last pulmonologist on Long Island you need.”

1981

Robert Atkins, MD, and his wife, Naomi (Sheiman), have two children: Jonathan (10) and Zachary (4). They moved to Philadelphia 10 years ago in search of career advancement and are “a midwest native who thinks of Boston as ‘back east.’”

Anne Arey, MD, at Kaiser Permanente in Kansas City for eight years, is chief of family practice there. She has one daughter, Kate (5), an “industrious” who thinks of Boston as “back east.”

1982

Brian Dempsey, MD, has been named vice president of medical affairs at Carney Hospital.

Marcia Orskey, MD, in private practice in Beverly, wrote, “My new office operating suite has expanded my practice beyond my expectations.”

1983

Joel Pessa, MD, has joined the staff of Berkshire Physicians and Surgeons specializing in pediatric and adolescent medicine.

Federico Gonzalez, MD, has been appointed associate professor of psychiatry at UIRM.

1984

Lori Circeo, MD, practices family medicine at Baystate Medical Center and has two children, Ian Lewis (4) and Katharine Lewis (1).

Jay Daly, MD, moved to North Cumberland Memorial Hospital in Maine in 1997 and is the father of two girls (1 1/2 and newborn).

Fumiiko Haygi, MD, has been named associate professor of psychiatry at UIRM.

1985

David Lovett, MD, specializes in medical oncology/hematology at Cape & Islands Regional Cancer Center in Hyannis. He is married to Kathleen Dietz-Lovett, who just completed her NP program at Mass General.

We have two beautiful children, Kathryn (5) and Christopher (2).”
Diana Bergin, MD, MS, ANP/ACNP

‘And I really enjoy watching students experience an ‘aha!’ moment. That’s when a patient, an instructor or a manager serendipitously teaches them an important life lesson and it just clicks.’

‘So many of the elements of nursing practice have changed since I left Peter Bent Brigham (now Brigham & Women’s Hospital) 30 years ago as a diploma registered nurse,’ says Diana Bergin, MD, MS, ANP/ACNP.

‘To keep pace with the changes — and because so many more creative avenues of practice had opened to nurse practitioners — I chose to return to school!’ Bergin earned her master’s from the UMass Graduate School of Nursing in 1986 and joined the former UMass Medical Center as a nurse practitioner in Family Health Services. In 1997, Bergin also joined the faculty of GSN as a part-time clinical instructor. ‘It’s the best of both worlds,’ she says of her dual role. ‘Family Health Services grounds my practice — I’m able to assess, diagnose, treat and monitor patients, as well as provide the latest research information that may affect their course of treatment.

‘Through teaching, I have the opportunity to mentor students from diverse backgrounds, and they contribute their talents to a profession that’s constantly evolving,’ she continues. ‘It’s challenging and refreshing to monitor their progress from doing a single patient history and physical in the first semester, to managing a patient with multiple health care and educational needs by their last semester.

‘And I really enjoy watching students experience an ‘aha!’ moment,’ Bergin adds. ‘That’s when a patient, an instructor or a manager serendipitously teaches them an important life lesson and it just clicks. You see it in their faces...and this newfound knowledge becomes incorporated into their practice.’

Bergin has leveraged her education and experience to create her own ‘aha!’ moments by taking advantage of the many creative avenues of practice she’s found available to her as a nurse practitioner: ‘What other profession could have given me the opportunity to run a hypertension screening program in industry — funded by the Department of Public Health? It continues today as an occupational medicine service for community businesses. Or to take the first certifying exam for diabetes nurse educators? That enabled me to work shoulder-to-shoulder with endocrinologists who are making extraordinary strides in managing diabetes and thyroid disorders.’

Recently, she participated in a review of diabetes management and insulin administration protocols for the special population served by the state’s Department of Mental Retardation. ‘It’s work like this that fosters a world standard of care, promotes access and individualized attention to health care issues, and allows people to maintain their independence and dignity,’ Bergin asserts. ‘That’s what nursing is all about...and the next opportunity for an ‘aha’ moment!’
Thomas Regan, MD, wrote, “Diane left Harvard Community Health Plan/Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates last August after working there the past nine years. She has joined a practice affiliated with Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Chestnut Hill. Diane is still at UMass working as director of consultation psychiatry and an associate professor in both psychiatry and family medicine & community health.”

Lucie Russell, MS, RN, died on November 15, 1998, after a long illness. She is survived by her husband of 18 years, Robert Russell, and their three children.

Carol DiGiusto Burd, MD, has joined the pathology group at UMass Memorial, Memorial campus.

Carol DiGiusto Burd, MD, has joined the radiology group at UMass Memorial, Memorial campus.

Mary Czyzewski, MD, is pleased to announce a recent addition to the family: Benjamin Lyon Mahon, born 5-31-98. He joins brother, Miles (3), Mary and husband, Michael Mahon. Mary is now medical director of Faulkner Hospital’s ambulatory clinic. Jay Burgess, MD, and Anthony Wilcox, MD, have a new family in Cambridge. Jay, a gastroenterologist in private practice in Providence, is clinical assistant professor of medicine at Brown University school of medicine. Anthony has a new job as hospitalist at Southern New Hampshire Rehabilitation Center in Providence.

Carol Boss, MS, RN, ARN, has been named instructor of medicine at UWMH.

Joseph Atzorn, MD, is an attending plastic surgeon at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York. Julie is assistant professor at the New School University in New York City. They have two children, Michael (7) and Nicholas (2).

Shelia Kennedy, MD, is working part-time at Greenawood Hospital’s satellite in Wethersfield. She has three children: Cara (10), Shane (8) and Lily (5 months).

Douglas Bard, MD, has joined the radiology group at UMass Memorial, Memorial campus.

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Douglas Bard, MD, has joined the radiology group at UMass Memorial, Memorial campus.

Carol DiGiusto Burd, MD, has joined an internist at Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates in Wellesley. Doug and Carol have a daughter, Rachel, and live in Weston.

Paul Kiley, MD, has been appointed to the medical staff of Westchester Medical Center.

Thomas Regan, MD, has been named director of medical student education for the department of emergency medicine at UCMC. Tom wrote, “Things have really come full circle. The only thing I can’t figure out is how these students get so young.”

Kevin Masciari, MD, practices pedi-atric surgery in Springfield at Baystate Medical Center and Shriners’ Hospital.

Mary Valliere, MD, has joined the medical staff at Faulkner Rehabilitation Hospital.

George Parker, MD, has become board certified in forensic psychiatry. He is on the faculty at Case Western Reserve and working as chief clinical officer of a state hospital. His wife, a pediatric radiologist, will be a Montgomery Ray Social Scholar next year, working on outcomes research. Their oldest child, Taylor, is in kindergarten.

Past Apostolides, MD, has joined the practice of Orthopedics & Neurological Surgery Specialists P.C. in Greenwich.

Matthew Cohen, MD, married Michele Sharon (University of Illinois ’93) in October 1998. He wrote, “In two years and just in time to justify her medical student summer vacation from teaching high school biology, Michele gave birth to Adam Zia. After my brief ‘parenthood’ leave, I returned to my faculty position in the section of digestive diseases at Yale. FTVS has the student questions that Michele used to bring home from students in e.g., ‘How much gas can you pass in a day? (answer: 500-2000 cc, although you may know others)’ I am now answering questions of my own (e.g., how do these crib parts fit together?). Professional and family life are fulfilling.”

Laura Shingeldoff Duffy, MD, has completed her residency in psychiatry and a fellowship in primary care psychiatry at UWMH. She married Edward Duffy, PhD, a biochemist who works in robotics sales, in 1998. They live in San Francisco where Laura is an attending psychiatrist in the consultant service at San Francisco General Hospital.

Mark Brassard, MD, and Melissa Alimann Brassard, MD, are doing well in New York City. Mark is doing a one-year fellowship in sports and joint pains at the iodula Scott-Kelly Institute. Melissa is busy with her two children, Brian (2) and Kyle (1), and working some shifts in the ER. Mark wrote, “We would love to catch up with people they make it to New York City.”

Bonne Faulkner Ryan, MD, wrote, “Since graduation from emergency medicine residency program in 1995, my husband T.J. and I have had two children. Our daughter, Sonya, is 3 and son, Trevor, is 1. I am working at UMass Memorial, Memorial campus emergency department, and love it!”

Bruce Fisch, MD, has been named assistant professor of orthopedics at UMass Memorial, Memorial campus.

Andrea Gropman, MD, received the “Outstanding Junior Member Award” from the Child Neurology Society at its annual meeting in Montreal in October 1998. Andrea is a clinical associate at the National Institute of Health, Human Genome Research Institute, and serves as director of the neurogenetics clinic at Children’s National Medical Center, Washington, D.C.

Beverly Betz, MD, has joined the medical staff of Orthopaedic & Neurological Surgery Specialists P.C. in Greenwich.

Jennifer Reiner, MD, has been named assistant professor of psychiatry and neurology at UWMH.

Christine Miranda, MD, has been named assistant professor of pathology at UWMH.

Ron Gold, MD, has joined the Johnson Health Network as a pediatrician.

Deborah Reich, MD, has been named instructor of medicine at UWMH.

Mary Ellen Timmins, MD, is practicing pediatrics at Westwood Pediatrics in Westwood.

Nancy Segal, MD, has joined South Sinai Medical Center in Novobird and is now attending physician at community hospitals.

Nicholas Fay, MD, has joined the medical staff of Orthopaedic & Neurological Surgery Specialists P.C. in Greenwich.

Mary Lee Olmsted, MD, has been promoted to assistant professor at UMMS.

Kevin Barry Keating, MD, died on November 16, 1998, at Brigham & Women’s Hospital due to complications arising in the course of a bone marrow transplant. He is survived by his wife, Jillian Rose (5) and Jack Colin (2). He was the founder of and principal physician of First Stop Medical Care in Albany.

Mary Anne Madison, MD, is on the faculty of the University of Illinois College of Medicine. Her husband, Mark, and their two children, Julia (6) and Andrew (1), live in Urbana.

Rich Monacelli, MD, has joined the Johnson Health Network as a pediatrician.

Deborah Reich, MD, recently married David Sullivan in Boston.

Christopher Glazer, MD, recently married Mary-Alice Abbott.

Kathleen (Giovanni) Borah, MD, is board-certified as a nurse practitioner and on staff in the cardiac intensive care unit at UMass Memorial.

Maureen O’Brien, MD, married Michael Mahon, Jr., in January 2000. They have two children, Emma (1) and Jack (5 months). She is still at UMass Memorial, Memorial campus emergency department, and love it!”

Carol Bova, MS, RN, ANP, has joined the staff of South Shore Hospital and the Weymouth practice of Dr. Brian Battista, and is a member of Harbor Medical Associates.

Mary Ellen Timmins, MD, has joined the medical staff of Orthopaedic & Neurological Surgery Specialists P.C. in Greenwich.

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Ron Guibord, MD, is an attending plastic surgeon at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York. Julie is assistant professor in the New School University in New York City. They have two children, Michael (5) and Nicholas (2).

Susan Campo, MD, named research instructor of psychiatry at UMass Memorial. She is working part-time at Emerson Hospital’s satellite in Westford. She has three children: Cara (7), Derin (4) and Maya (14 months).

Mary Valliere, MD, is working part-time at Fairlawn Rehabilitation Hospital. She has three children: Cara (7), Derin (4) and Maya (14 months).

Mary Ellen Timmins, MD, practices pediatrics at Westwood Pediatrics in Westwood.

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MaryAnn Gasper, MD, and Melissa Miao-Bauman, MD, are doing well in New York City. Mark is doing a one-year fellowship in sports and total joint centers at the Inland Scott-Kelly Institute. Melissa is busy with her two children, Brian (5) and Kyle (1), and working some shifts in the ER. Mark wrote, "We would love to catch up with people of medicine in Somerville."

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 salah Abdulgaffar, MD, has joined the medical staff of South Shore Hospital and the Waynecare practice of Dr. Brian Botella, and is a member of Harbor Medical Associates.

Michael Chege, MD, in emergency medicine at Holyoke Hospital.

Nancy L. Miller, MD, is an emergency physician at Holyoke Hospital.

Dorothy Altvater, a nurse at South Shore Hospital and the Waynecare practice of Dr. Brian Botella, and is a member of Harbor Medical Associates.

Antonia Fong-Campbell, MD, has joined South Shore Medical Center in Norwell and is a member of primary care physicians group in pediatrics.

Tricia Caru, MD, was recently board certified in internal medicine.

Nicholas Tap, MD, is an emergency physician in Holyoke Hospital.

John Levine, MD, PhD, is with Community Clinical Services, working at St. Mary’s Family Health Center in Poland, Maine.

Robert Katz, MD, is working part-time at the UIWRF TV show "Chronicle" and in an article in Allure magazine, died October 26, 1998, at his home in Cranston, R.I. She leaves her husband, William Gordon, and a daughter, Melissa Scott Gordon. Lucie Russell, MD, RN, ‘84, a nurse practitioner and gardener, died November 23, 1998, after a long illness. She is survived by her husband of 18 years, Robert Russell, and their three children.
Meditation proven to speed treatment of psoriasis

UMMS faculty members have found that psoriasis patients who practiced meditation-based relaxation while undergoing ultraviolet (UV) light treatments experienced quicker clearing of their skin lesions than did patients who received UV treatments alone.

Published in the September/October issue of Psychosomatic Medicine, the journal of the American Psychosomatic Society, their study suggests that people have the potential to substantially influence healing through their own efforts, as a complement to medical treatment. This approach is one example of integrative medicine, in which an unconventional treatment, such as meditation, is used in conjunction with a more traditional medical therapy, such as UV light. It also demonstrates participatory medicine, in which the patient is an active collaborator with the physician.

The small randomized trial was conducted by Jon Kabat-Zinn, PhD, associate professor of medicine and executive director of the Center for Mindfulness in Medicine, Health Care, and Society at UMass Memorial; Mark Scharf, MD, associate professor of medicine and director of the Dermatology Laser Center and Phototherapy Center at UMass Memorial; and Elizabeth Wheeler, PhD, assistant professor of medicine. David Hymne, PhD, professor of epidemiology and biostatistics at the University of Massachusetts School of Public Health, also participated in the research.
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Vitae, a Princeton University molecular biologist. The award honors assistant professor of professor of cell New England Newborn assistant associate professor of professor and chair whose recent grant support for human assistant professor of professor of medicine: Impact of physician compensation mechanisms on the process of care, 2 years, $335,197. Terry S. Field, DSc, medicine: Impact of physician compensation mechanisms on the process of care, 2 years, $335,197.

F. Marc Stewart, MD, medicine: Cancer and leukemia group B, 1 year, $31,000; recommended for 2 more years, $65,184. Andrea J. Pereira, PhD, research assistant professor of biology, microbiology & molecular genetics: Functional analysis of the frozen cell protein, G0PDH, 1 year, $77,032; recommended for 4 more years, $57,087.

Chung-Cheng Hsieh, ScD, AND CARE compensation in the ambulatory genetic setting, 1 year, $47,657; recommended for 1 more year, $51,499.

George B. Witman III, PhD, professor of cell biology: Sperm motility control, 9th year, $194,500; recommended for 1 more year, $246,588.

Mary-Ellen Taplin, MD, professor of medicine: Androgen receptor analysis in refractory prostate cancer, 1 year, $177,337; recommended for 1 more year, $208,074.

Robert J. Goldberg, PhD, professor of pharmacology and director of the Division of Preventive and Behavioral Medicine: Provider-delivered alcohol intervention project, 1 year, $152,923; recommended for 4 more years, $1,4 million.

Joel D. Richter, PhD, professor of physiology: Structure/ function dynamics of NGF receptors, 6th year, $254,798; recommended for 3 more years, $800,873.

Silvia Corvera, MD, professor of molecular genetics & microbiology: Molecular interactions between microbicidal compounds and pathogens, 1 year, $428,277; recommended for 3 more years, $1.3 million.

Gary S. Stein, PhD, professor of pediatrics: Molecular determinants of cell death by HIV-1, 1 year, $237,378.

Janet M. Stansall, PhD, professor of molecular genetics & microbiology: Isolation of S-C protein and genes 1 by Dr. and Chui, 1 year, $169,720; recommended for 4 more years, $1,0 million.

Mary-Aellen Taplin, MD, professor of medicine: Androgen receptor analysis in refractory prostate cancer, 1 year, $177,337; recommended for 1 more year, $208,074.

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Vitae

professor of cell biology

molecular genetics & microbiology: Intranuclear trafficking of bone transcription, 1 year, $428,277; recommended for 3 more years, $1.3 million.

Gary S. Stein, PhD, professor of molecular genetics & microbiology: Induction of IgG epsilon and IgG gamma 1 by IL-4 and CD40L, 1 year, $216,230; recommended for 4 more years, $1 million.

Greenfield Sluder, PhD, professor of cell biology: Sperm motility control, 9th year, $194,500; recommended for 1 more year, $246,588.

Robert J. Goldberg, PhD, professor of pharmacology & molecular toxicology: Axonal transport in NF and SOD1 transgenic mice, 3rd year, $111,800; recommended for 1 more year, $223,078.

Neil Aronin, MD, professor of pharmacology: Nerve growth factor and neuronal differentiation, 13th year, $274,600; recommended for 3 more years, $1.1 million.

Yu-Li Wang, PhD, professor of pharmacology & molecular toxicology: Effects of gravity on cell movement and development, $161,081; recommended for 2 more years, $341,570.

Yu-Wen Hsu, MD, assistant professor of physiology: Structure/ function dynamics of NGF receptors, 6th year, $254,798; recommended for 3 more years, $800,873.

Richard B. Vallee, PhD, assistant professor of physiology: Training grant in cellular and molecular neurobiology, 3rd year, $169,919; recommended for 2 more years, $339,838.

Jeffrey A. Nickerson, PhD, assistant professor of cellular and molecular neurobiology: Training grant in cellular and molecular neurobiology, 3rd year, $169,919; recommended for 2 more years, $339,838.

Human Development

molecular genetics & microbiology: Mechanism of transcriptional regulation of Drosophila, 1 year, $55,000; recommended for a more year, $55,000.

Molecular Genetics

Bittner, PhD, associate professor of medicine: Mechanism of action of dynamin, 19th year, $218,173; recommended for 1 more year, $226,645.

George B. Witman III, PhD, professor of molecular genetics & microbiology: Osteoblast chromatin structure and nuclear domains, 1 year, $334,767; recommended for 3 more years, $1.1 million.

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Marcia S. Snyder, PhD, assistant professor of medicine: Molecular determinants of cell death by TNF, 1 year, $81,075.

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H. Maurice Goodman, PhD, professor and chair of physiology: Interdisciplinary studies of hormone function, 1 year, $485,157; recommended for 5 more years, $2.3 million.

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Lillian Goodman’s association with nursing education at the University of Massachusetts goes back 30 years, to her initial appointment as associate dean and professor at the Amherst campus in 1969. But that is not even half the story. The shaping of graduate nursing education at UMass Worcester bears her stamp in a way to which many academics aspire but few can claim.

She had come to the city in 1973 as founding chair and professor of nursing for a newly proposed bachelor’s program at Worcester State College—a program she says was reinvented by those in the profession who resisted change. In circumstances familiar to those who recall the somewhat contentious birth of UMass, Goodman and colleagues at WSC had to fight on several fronts, political and professional, to establish the first program in Massachusetts in which registered nurses would earn bachelor’s degrees.

By doing so, Goodman contributed to epochal change in the profession, change that contributed to establishment of the Graduate School of Nursing at UMass, which Goodman has overseen for the past eight years as dean. “The GSN had to demonstrate what we could contribute, and it’s very clear that our graduates have made a place for themselves where health care is provided,” she says. “We have always been committed to the notion that professional nurses can play a role in the world of health care. That is perhaps the most important thing.”

In her time at UMass—the past eight years as dean—Goodman has overseen the continuing development of a special and synergistic relationship with the School of Medicine—a relationship of which she is most proud. “The GSN had to demonstrate what we could contribute, and it’s very clear that our graduates have made a place for themselves where health care is provided and, above all, respected. The role taken by our practitioners, for example, in the Department of Medicine, shows how health care has become more inclusive—to everyone’s benefit.”

Goodman’s first teaching position was as educational director at Boston State Hospital. Her work in psychiatric nursing came at a time when nurses began to have a more active role in treatment and patient care, she recalls. “And it was also excellent preparation for teaching.”

As dean of GSN, Goodman has led development of a graduate nursing curriculum that is recognized nationally by its rigor, she also has seen a joint PhD program established with UMass Amherst and graduates of GSN going on to occupy key positions within the profession, and throughout her career, Goodman has worked persistently to change the place of her profession within the constellation of health care. “Ask anyone,” she says with a laugh, “and they’ll tell you I’m persistent. If I believe in what has to be done, it will happen.”

Lillian Goodman will retire this year after 30 years representing change in the profession she loves—from a time when nurses were considered as adjunct to physicians, to a time when nurses are recruited by physicians to the faculty of medical schools for their expertise in delivering health care from a base of knowledge and compassion. But she is not leaving the GSN, nor leaving the profession.

In a role that resonates with a key part of her background, Goodman will begin working with the Office of Development to raise funds for what will be the first endowed faculty chair in the GSN. Indeed, she’s already begun. Reflecting on her background, career, and impact, Goodman says, “Professional practitioners know that the most important part of the therapeutic encounter isn’t at the beginning of a session—it’s that last five minutes when something really important can happen.”

Lillian Goodman’s early career images include a 1949 front-page photo in the Boston Record American (escorting Judy Garland from Peter Bent Brigham Hospital after a “complete physical checkup”) and an at-bat experience with patients in the Gaebler Children’s Unit of Metropolitan State Hospital in Waltham.
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Lillian Goodman, at her desk...
Readers, because our mailing lists are supplied by several University departments, some of you may receive duplicate copies of this magazine. Thank you for passing them along to others who are interested in the Medical School.

Current resident or:

What’s new? The name of our magazine, the tools engineered in-house for faculty surgeons (page 10), a special alumni section (beginning on page 21), and more!