Three weeks in China

Margaret Jones, professor of pathology, gave lectures on pathology education as part of a three week adventure in China.

"People (the Chinese physicians) are very eager to overcome the gap caused by the cultural revolution," Jones said. "In every group I met, one or two persons had been to the United States for an extended period to learn new techniques."

Moxa, or moxibustion, is a traditional Chinese pain relieving technique, shown in this 18th century document. Jones visited an acupuncture clinic and an herb pharmacy during her visit.

"Going to China is like getting four 1,000 piece jigsaw puzzles for Christmas, and having five minutes to put them together," Margaret Jones, professor of pathology, said. "There is so much to assimilate, one simply isn't a big enough sponge."

Accompanied by her daughter Mary, Jones spent three weeks in China in August, after an invitation from Dr. Bing Quan Wu, chairman of the Department of Pathology, Beijing Medical University. The invitation resulted from a visit of Dr. Ma Xu, president of the National Medical Education Committee of China [similar to the American Association of Medical Colleges] and Director of the Research Institute on Medical Education at B.M.U., to MSU in 1986.

Ma was interested in the neuropathology education materials that Jones and her colleagues have produced for the systems curriculum which MSU-COM utilizes.

He had written that "research units on medical education were established in 1980, up to now there are 60. Their works are fruitful."

"Modern teaching methods and instruments are in use where I visited," Jones said, "but Dr. Ma indicated that this is just beginning."

Jones lectured at the national meeting of pathology education. Chairmen of pathology departments in China attended. She talked about teaching medical problem solving in various curricular formats including the systems format which MSU-COM uses. Other lectures at several different institutions in Beijing addressed aspects of neuropathology education or research.

Starting in the department of pathology at B.M.U., Jones lectured on peripheral nerve and neuromuscular diseases. She also had opportunity to tour the department and facilities.

The old fashioned building with high ceilings and plentiful museum specimens contrasted with the innovative and ambitious carcinogenesis research programs of her host, Wu, she said.

"The translation business was a lot of fun," she said, adding that many could understand English already.

"I was impressed by the very active efforts for research," she said. "People are very eager to overcome the gap caused by the cultural revolution. In every group I met, one or two persons had been to the United States for an extended period to learn new techniques."

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"They (the Chinese physicians) are cheerful and work hard, despite very difficult problems. Their generosity and cheerfulness was a highlight of the visit," Jones said.

Jones plans to present a slide show on the trip in November.

"Dr. Wu's faculty and colleagues, called upon to serve as co-hosts, ability to make and implement all of the necessary complex arrangements was impressive," she said.

Travel was in a University-owned car. "There are simply no privately owned cars," she said. "In fact, in Beijing, a city of 10,000,000 people, there are only about 6,000 cars and trucks. Bicycles, costing about $75 of the average income of $400, are the main form of transportation.

"Rent is very cheap and housing is close to the work place, but conditions are crowded. New high rises are going up everywhere. In fact all of Beijing looks like it is under construction. And this is how our colleagues live...in crowded circumstances and biking to work. But they are cheerful and work hard, despite very difficult problems. Their generosity and cheerfulness was a highlight of the visit."

She next visited the Department of Neurology at the first Teaching Hospital of B.M.U. She lectured on the beta-mannosidosis research program, using it as an example of how one must constantly learn new techniques and develop collaborations in order to solve basic problems.

She exchanged ideas about post-graduate education and learned about the expectations for individuals who are sent abroad to study.

"They are expected to return with the ability to set up and direct programs," she said.

The third place she visited was the Tianran Hospital, which means "temple of heaven."

She lectured on cerebrovascular disease at the Neurosurgical Research Institute there. The institute, only about five years old, is the culmination of neurosurgery program development since 1949, she said. More than 600 neurosurgeons trained here now practice in most major cities in China.

The neuropathologist there was extremely well trained, she said.

"Neuropathology training is more clinically oriented, with long rotations in neurosurgery and neurology, by contrast with our training programs," she said.

Before leaving the hospital, Jones visited the acupuncture clinic and herb pharmacy. "These contrasted with the modern E.E.G., E.M.G. and physical therapy departments," she said.

"I was told, if a patient prefers traditional Chinese medicine, that is what they get," Jones said.

"Usually there is a combination of traditional Chinese and Western medical approaches," she said. "This is observed in both diagnostic and therapeutic areas. The term 'holistic' medicine assumes a new meaning in this kind of setting."

Jones received a commemorative medal from the hospital and a gift from the Association of Pathologists for her efforts as visiting professor.

"Gift giving is very important in China," she said. "I took petoskey stones from Michigan. I also carried a lot of MSU memorabilia."

Finally Jones presented her research at the International Meeting of Biochemistry, the first major international scientific meeting held in China. The meeting was held at the Great Wall Sheraton, in the midst of the many new high rise hotels--locally referred to as the "foreign ghetto," Jones said.

About 60% of those in attendance were from China. They expressed special interest in the video tapes on molecular biology and on interactive computer learning in biochemistry, Jones said.

After the meeting she traveled with a group and toured several areas in China.

Ma has asked Jones to come back to China in two years for a more extended trip to educational institutions in conjunction with a seminar on problem-based education in Shanghai.

"I surely learned many new things about medical education and medicine in China. Possibly this new knowledge will enable me to assist with the achievement of important goals," Jones said.

Writing a review article on medical and pathology education in China with Chinese is her immediate goal.

And on to Japan...

Jones continued on in the Far East and spent one week in Japan where she visited her research collaborator, Fumito Matsuura, at Fukuyma University. They have been working on a beta-mannosidosis research project since Dr. Matsuura's visits to MSU in the early '80s.

Jones stayed with his family and visited the department of biotechnology in the new research and educational building he helped to design.

"The light airy labs and the new equipment were impressive," she said. "I wore slippers, as is the Japanese custom, at the lab building."

During her lecture there, she reviewed the beta-mannosidosis research program for the faculty. Matsuura showed her the techniques he has developed which will help the research program move forward, Jones said.
Gail D. Riegle, Ph.D., recently was named associate dean for academic affairs at MSU-COM after serving seven years in the position of assistant dean for curriculum.

The assistant dean position was a half-time appointment allowing Riegle to maintain an independent research program and normal teaching responsibilities in the Department of Physiology.

Since the new appointment is a full-time commitment, involving responsibility for the College's undergraduate and graduate training programs, Riegle will no longer be directly involved in research.

"I regret discontinuing my research program and my participation in Ph.D. graduate training," he said. "However, maintaining active research requires at least a 50% time commitment which is not consistent with the responsibilities of the associate dean position. It's like a mid-life career change for me and it was gratifying and pleasant to have the opportunity to make the choice."

The current activities of the associate dean involve administration, maintenance of the current College programs, continuing the College's effort toward curriculum revision and the expansion of the College's graduate medical education programs.

"I have been surprised by the rapidly expanding involvement of the College in graduate training programs," he said.

That involvement has included increased interaction with our affiliated Michigan osteopathic hospitals, the initial development of community-based graduate training programs in Lansing and discussions which could lead to the development of College-based internships and residencies in other mixed staff Michigan hospitals.

"The College's involvement in graduate medical education reflects the normal growth and maturity of the College and our response to the recognized need to increase the number of AOA accredited internship and residency training positions," Riegle said.

"This need for training positions has been brought about by the increased number of osteopathic colleges, a much higher proportion of graduates entering residencies following their internships, and the inability of established osteopathic hospitals to expand their existing graduate training programs."

A major task before Riegle and the Office of Academic Affairs is the completion of the ongoing effort for curriculum revision.

This revision represents a continuum of activity which began with the self-study report of 1983. This was followed by the ad hoc curriculum review which was directed by Keith Goldhammer, Ph.D., consultant for MSU-COM and former dean of the MSU College of Education. Issues brought before MSU-COM by Dr. Goldhammer's report were initially addressed by the College Curriculum Committee and most recently by an appointed faculty task force asked to make specific recommendations concerning our preclerkship curriculum, the development of an ambulatory clerkship program and our hospital-based clerkship rotations. It is anticipated that the Office of Academic Affairs will be asked to develop a proposed curricular model based on faculty task force reports which are due within the next few weeks.

Concerning his former position as assistant dean for curriculum, Riegle says his assignment "grew with time."

"For example, Dr Goldhammer's report was critical of College involvement with clerkship training in community hospitals, concluding that the clerkships were largely uncontrolled," he said. "We sent students to community hospitals with only broad, general educational objectives. Interaction between the hospitals and the College was minimal."

Riegle worked with the Curriculum Committee and members of the Academic Affairs group to address this problem.

"We developed a much more structured approach to our required clerkship rotations. The clerkships now include specific learning objectives based on assigned readings from appropriate texts with formal examinations required at the end of the rotations," he said.

"We have also identified appropriate problem solving and professional skills and a listing of clinical skills each student is expected to master during the rotation," he said.

Riegle emphasized that the revision and development of the clerkship rotations is not finished.

"You can never finish an education program," he said. "It's always needing attention."

Riegle believes that the changes in activity within the Office of Academic Affairs are consistent with the growth and development of the College.

"It is a sign of major maturity when a school can focus away from campus," he said.
MSU-COM seeking resources for the future

Plans underway to create an Interactive Learning Resource Center.

Medical Communicators produce radio features

Lifestyle has emerged as an emphasis in health care today and the Medical Communicators have produced a radio feature called "Health Matters" to address issues concerning everyday behaviors.

Medical Communicators include representatives from the MSU Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine, Human Medicine, Veterinary Medicine and Nursing, as well as the Laboratory Animal Care Service, the Clinical Center and the Health Promotion Program.

The radio program focuses on educating and motivating listeners to see the relationship their own lifestyles have on the way they feel and function.

All radio stations across Michigan are receiving fifteen 60-second features monthly on topics ranging from head lice and low back pain to rabies or the benefits of swimming.

You can recognize the features by a tag line saying, "This information was brought to you by the health professionals at Michigan State University."

WKAR, East Lansing, has been using the features at 8:27 a.m. on their AM station.

The Medical Communicators include: Sue Awbrey, Nursing; Karen Bouffard, Healthy U; Linda Chadderton, Veterinary Medicine; Patricia Grauer and Lois Furry, Osteopathic Medicine; Karen Hudson, Laboratory Animal Care Service; Peggy Kemp, Human Medicine; Tom Oswald, MSU News Bureau and until recently Chris Nance, Clinical Center.

Suggestions or information regarding what stations might be playing the features would be welcome and appreciated by committee members, Grauer said.

Is rote memorization in medical education giving way to problem-solving skills?

According to a report on the General Professional Education of the Physician it is. A committee at MSU-COM, newly formed to provide educational resources to meet the challenges this report generated, recently submitted a grant proposal to the National Library of Medicine to create an Interactive Learning Resource Center at MSU-COM.

The ILRC will be administered by Perrin E. Parkhurst, director of instructional systems in the Office of Academic Affairs.

The committee hopes that by providing certain resources to match curricular needs, five objectives could be met:

- to relocate and expand the existing Carrel Room including state-of-the-art educational technology
- to create the ILRC also with state-of-the-art educational technology which facilitates implementation of the College's curriculum
- to provide electronic outreach and communication capabilities for the College's students and faculty including those in affiliated hospitals
- to promote computer literacy among the College's students, faculty, adjunct faculty and participants in continuing medical education courses
- to develop an administrative, managerial and operational structure for this project.

The ILRC advisory committee members are: Patricia Grauer, chairperson, director of health information; Thomas Adams, professor of physiology; Robert Esdaile, coordinator for special projects, Office of the Dean; Bernard M. Kay, chairperson of pediatrics; Kathryn Lovell, assistant professor of pathology; Perrin E. Parkhurst, Office of Academic Affairs; George Polanco, former chairperson of the MSU-COM student council; Sashi Reddy, system manager of information systems and analysis; and Herbert Reynolds, associate professor of biomechanics and chairperson of the college curriculum committee.

Grauer, Esdaile, Parkhurst and Reddy authored the NLM proposal. Parkhurst will serve as the principal investigator.

Meanwhile the Carrel Room enters the computer age

A newly installed Macintosh and two NCR computers with videodisc players are available for use in the Carrel Room, E4, East Fee Hall.

Word processing, graphics, spreadsheet and data files are some of the new capabilities. Instructions on how to operate the Macintosh can be completed in about 30 minutes, Alexandra Suimitt, the Carrel Room supervisor, said.

"When fully functional, the system will include networking capabilities, interconnections with the College's Hewlett-Packard 3000, access to MSU Net and databases off-campus," said Perrin E. Parkhurst, director of instructional systems. "It's a modest beginning for what can be a major step forward for the college's educational programs."
Medical student receives research grant

David Minnick, a member of the MSU-COM class of 1989, has received a $3,000 Student Awards Program Grant from the Michigan Health Care Education and Research Foundation to be used during the 1987-88 academic year.

Minnick's research, entitled "Stillbirth in the Practice of Obstetrics," will focus on how families grieve a stillbirth and how the medical community can better respond to this event. Minnick plans to develop a curriculum for teaching health care providers how to assist families who have experienced a stillbirth.

Minnick's grant proposal was sponsored by George Russian, assistant professor of osteopathic medicine.

Leadership in Academic Medicine

Designed to address the management needs of MSU-COM, a workshop entitled "Leadership in Academic Medicine" took place in early September at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing.

Sandra Kilbourn, director of continuing medical education and Patricia Grauer, director of health information, organized the event. Twenty-two members of the MSU-COM administration attended.

The program was the first in a series of workshops planned in consultation with Richard Lewis, dean of the College of Business, and has been funded as a pilot program with a $5,000 grant from Lifelong Education Programs. Educational objectives of the administrators had been identified through individual interviews.

"One of the most interesting issues that arose in the interviews," said Kilbourn, "was the conflict perceived between commitment to one's discipline and the demands of administration."

A highlight of the event was having David Scott, provost, share his personal experiences in addressing those choices, she said.

The workshop also provided insights into planning, organizing and delegating as well as leading persons at all levels toward a unit's goals, Kilbourn said.

In addition to Scott, the speakers were Kevin Ford, assistant professor of psychology, Tim Baldwin, assistant professor of management at Indiana University, and Lewis.

Conference held on post-polio syndrome

In order to address issues and concerns about post-polio syndrome, a free conference for laypersons and health professionals was held in September at the Kellogg Center. MSU-COM helped sponsor the program.

During the 1940s and 1950s polio was the summertime preoccupation of people across America, organizers of the conference said. With the advent of the Salk and Sabin vaccines, polio and those that polio affected were forgotten.

But what has become of the thousands of persons who contracted the poliomyelitis during the historic epidemics? According to several pilot surveys polio survivors are frequently overachievers, often highly educated and professionals and are active contributors to their communities.

Unfortunately, researchers say, large numbers of them are reporting that their independence, work productivity, and general level of functioning are decreasing as a result of new and unexpected symptoms—unaccustomed fatigue, muscle weakness, muscle joint pain, respiratory difficulties and cold intolerance.

The other sponsors of the conference were Lansing General Hospital and the Post-Polio Research and Training Program at the University of Michigan Medical Center. The conference was offered tuition-free due to grants from Kenny REHAB and the Michigan Department of Public Health.

William J. Somerset, associate professor, rehabilitation medicine, and medical director of medical rehabilitation at Lansing General Hospital, moderated the program. More than 100 attended.

Somerset was interviewed about post-polio syndrome by J.P. McCarthy of WJR Radio, and the conference was covered by United Press International.
Inconspicuously tucked away between the Office of Academic Affairs' coffee room and the photocopier, a small office on third floor East Fee Hall houses one lone computer and the fruits of two years of devotion.

Since late 1985, three MSU-COM medical students have been working on the development of the Osteopathic Curriculum Information System in order to facilitate change.

"Everyone knows a piece of what is in the curriculum but nobody knows the whole picture," Reynolds said. "The committee needed a basis for curriculum recommendations."

Though data refinement is continuing, OCIS has been complete enough for use since late last spring.

Last May, Dean Magen put OCIS to its first test. At the Dean's request a report was published detailing each department's hours of contribution to Units I and II of the curriculum.

After that success, OCIS took on another challenge. A report came together to assist John Thornburg, associate professor of pharmacology and toxicology and of family medicine, in designing the urinary system course. The report compiled information on what students had learned about the urinary system prior to taking the course.

"He can use that information to better design the class," Reynolds said.

Currently, a project to assist the Department of Microbiology and Public Health is under way.

"The department wants to know what they put into the program...when and where," Reynolds said.

In addition to this project, the OCIS group is putting together a report detailing everything in the curriculum that relates to the musculoskeletal system. Almost every course had something to contribute, Reynolds said.

The G.A.s have also designed OCIS in such a way that it might someday be a study aid for students.
"Everyone knows a piece of what is in the curriculum but nobody knows the whole picture," Herbert Reynolds, chairperson of the Curriculum Committee, said.

"They (the G.A.s) have put a lot into this," Reynolds said. "The possible study application was on their initiative."

The data in OCIS have been entered using key words or phrases to identify or categorize information. More than 6,000 such identifiers have been attached to more than 32,000 rows of information. Each lecture or lab facilitated about 15 to 20 entries. Each entry includes the instructor's name, the instructor's department, the title of the experience, the disciplines represented and the general search fields.

A major goal for OCIS involves categorizing all that information into an outline style. In this way, not only could information be found but also its level of importance in particular lectures or labs.

"OCIS has great potential for a lot of different things," Byron Burrup, one of the G.A.s, said. "It is set up to do the outline approach now, but it isn't complete yet."

"OCIS is not to the point where just anyone could use it," Reynolds said. "It would take some sophisticated training."

After this term, the trio of G.A.s will no longer be available to work on OCIS. "Then we will be faced with some questions about how to proceed," Reynolds said.

Byron Burrup says: "It has been fun, a lot of work and especially a lot of effort."

Lester Perkowski. The three G.A.s have initiated a potential for the system to be used as a study aid for MSU-COM students.
Faculty, staff and students

Louis Beechnau, assistant clinical professor of family medicine, has been named Michigan's Osteopathic General Practitioner of the Year for 1987. Beechnau was nominated by Muskegon General Hospital's Department of General Practice, and was selected by the Osteopathic General Practitioners of Michigan. He has been a Muskegon General Hospital staff member since 1965.

Richard Borman, professor of osteopathic medicine, lectured on the examination of the cervical spine at the Fifth Annual Orthopedic Update for the Family Physician. The update was presented by Lansing General Hospital.

Kevin Crawford, medical student, and his wife Teresa are the parents of a new baby boy, Daniel Jordan. He was born on September 17 and weighed eight pounds and 1/2 ounce. Daniel has three brothers--Joshua, Gabriel and Nicholas.

Peter Gulick, assistant professor of internal medicine, lectured on animal bites and infections of the hand at the Fifth Annual Orthopedic Update for the Family Physician. The update was presented by Lansing General Hospital.

Laurey R. Hanselman, medical student, presented research on "Candidiasis and Adherence Mechanisms" at the Osteopathic General Practitioners of Michigan Infectious Diseases and Risk Management Conference July 31-Aug. 2. Alvin Rogers, professor of microbiology and public health, botany and plant pathology and medical technology, is her graduate advisor.

Thomas Kane, medical student, was awarded a set of Netter Medical Volumes from Ciba-Geigy for his work in substance abuse education. The award was given for the student who contributed the most to their class, the college and the community since September 1985.

Edward A. Loniewski, associate clinical professor of orthopedics, has been re-elected to a three-year term as a trustee of the American Osteopathic Association. The election took place at the AOA's recent House of Delegates meeting in Chicago.

Myron S. Magen, dean, was re-elected member-at-large of the Board of Governors of the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine.

Richard Pascucci, associate professor of internal medicine, lectured on the rheumatologist's view of painful upper extremity syndrome at the Fifth Annual Orthopedic Update for the Family Physician. The update was presented by Lansing General Hospital.

Carole W. Roseland, assistant clinical professor in radiology, received the Lansing General Hospital Educator of the Year award.

Shirley Siew, professor of pathology, presented a paper at a recent meeting of the Electron Microscopy Society of America entitled "Ultra-Structural Investigation of Adenoma of the Pituitary Postmortem," co-authored by Wanderley deMendonca-Calaca, M.D.

Alixandra Summit, graduate assistant in the Curriculum Office and supervisor of the Carrel Room, will have a painting on display along with other local women whose work she curated for a show at the Belen Gallery at the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame and Historical Center. The center is located at 214 W. Main directly east of Oldsmobile and next to the Cooley Gardens. The exhibit is on view Tuesday through Friday from noon until 4 p.m. and on Sundays from 1 to 4 p.m. through October 15.

Summit designed a sculpture for the Hall last spring. The sculpture, reduced to three inches in size, is the central part of a design for a medallion that Hall of Fame honorees will receive at an awards banquet this month.
Alumni

Christine Nevin-Woods, 1979, writes: "I am still living in Honolulu and working at the Hawaii State Department of Health. I am currently chief of communicable disease and also teach public health at the University of Hawaii. I also participate in the active reserves at Tripler Army Medical Center. This past year I completed some research on the perinatal transmission of hepatitis B among the military. A scientific paper based on this research won the 1987 Andrew Margileth Award from the American Academy of Pediatrics for best clinical research."

Nanine S. Henderson, 1980, writes: "I have a very busy general practice in Louisville, Kentucky, emphasizing osteopathic manipulation, particularly cranial. "I live in Indiana, with my husband Bill Martin and children Che and Thayne Clark, ages 16 and 9."

Mark Trubowitz, 1980, writes: "Currently I have a clinical appointment in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center as a senior instructor. My primary work is as the ward chief of a 25 bed acute psychiatric inpatient unit of the Fort Logan Mental Health Center. In addition I work as a consulting and supervision psychiatrist to the Denver General Hospital emergency room one night per week.

"My wife (of four years), Pamela R. Gates, D.D.S., is currently involved with beginning her private practice in Englewood, Colorado, after spending one year away from me in Detroit as a general practice hospital dental resident at the Allen Park Veterans Hospital. "If you are headed to Colorado to ski, drop me a line."

Gary March, 1983, presented "Nuclear Disasters--An Overview" at Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital's "Management of Environmental Disasters and Emergencies." The seminar was put on in conjunction with E.M.S. Providers Training Institute. March is a recent graduate of the Emergency Medicine Residency Program at Mt. Carmel Mercy Hospital and is a staff physician in the Emergency Department at Providence Hospital.

Ronald Bradley, 1984, is the chief negotiator for House Officers Association at the University of Michigan. He is the first D.O. to hold the position. His wife, Patty, is expecting a baby girl in April.

Kevin H. Lee, 1984, recently completed a three-year family medicine residency in Grand Rapids at St. Mary's, Butterworth and Blodgett Hospitals. Presently, he is the medical director of the emergency department at United Memorial Hospital in Greenville.

Mary Baker Whitmer, 1984, completed a family practice residency at Marquette General Hospital recently. She writes: 'I had a baby girl in August of 1985, bringing our family to two boys and one girl. Gary is still running strong and is sponsored by Reebok. He is a househusband and proud of it! 'I am practicing in Gladstone in a group with three wonderful family practitioners, providing full spectrum care, including O.B. 'Vacationers to the U.P. are welcome!"
Why have medical school enrollments dropped?

Between 1978 and 1986, the number of applicants to U.S. medical schools dropped from 36,636 to 31,323, a decline of 14.5 percent, according to a recent report from the Association of American Medical Colleges.

The American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine has also reported that applications are down in osteopathic medical schools, so far this year by a significant 22%. An equivalent decline has occurred in 1987 in M.D. schools.

Population studies cannot provide the answer for the diminishing number of applicants. Between 1978 and 1986, the segment of the U.S. population age 18 to 24--historically a major source of medical school applicants--shrank just 3.4 percent, AAMC reported.

Last year, AAMC polled 1,600 persons who took the Medical College Admissions Tests, scored well, but did not apply to medical school. The results showed that nearly half planned to attend graduate school in one of the biomedical sciences. The other half of those polled gave such reasons as:

- Medical school costs too much
- Changes in the health care system impair doctor's independence
- Physicians with whom they counseled advised against entering medicine
- Medical education programs are too long.

Meanwhile at MSU-COM the number of applicants has gradually decreased. In 1978, 1,424 applied and in 1986, 829 applied, according to Laura Neal, MSU-COM admissions.

Study released on debts of osteopathic students

Ninety-four percent of senior osteopathic medical students are in debt, and the average debt is $55,400.

That's the conclusion of a new study, Debts and Career Plans of Osteopathic Students in 1986, released by the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine.

Since the AACOM study of freshmen and seniors was first done in 1982, the debts of osteopathic students have steadily spiraled upward. In the first study, seniors owed an average of $31,000 at graduation; today's figures are 79% higher. Compared to last year's average debt of $49,600, this year's figures represent a 12% increase and show that 8% of the 1986 graduating seniors owe more than $100,000, while only 3% owe less than $10,000.

Data for the study were obtained from a sample survey of freshmen and seniors at the nation's 15 osteopathic medical colleges.

International Health Project presented national seminar

The MSU-COM student-run International Health Project presented a seminar for students at the National Council for International Health in Washington D.C., this June.

The IHP seminar, entitled "Opportunities in International Health for Professional Students," included a roundtable discussion. IHP reported a strong interest in forming a national, multidisciplinary organization in international health.

IHP is currently working with NCIH to develop an official student caucus, representing all of the health professional student organizations.

IHP day to be held Oct. 13

The first annual International Health Project Day will take place October 13. MSU President John DiBiaggio will speak at a "brown bag" seminar at noon and Dean Myron S. Magen will speak at the potluck dinner at 6 p.m. Both events will take place in the Patenge Room, first floor East Fee Hall. Students and faculty will be on hand to discuss international health opportunities.
October 30-November 3

Tutorial on Level II Craniosacral Techniques
Detailed review in cranial anatomy; specific corrective techniques for complex articular restrictions; soft-tissue corrective techniques for membranes strain patterns; special problems including TMJ, pediatric problems, entrapment syndromes, functional anatomy, treatment procedures. 40 hours Category I credit for D.O.s and M.D.s. Sponsored by MSU-COM and MSU College of Human Medicine. For more information contact the Office of Continuing Medical Education, A306 E. Fee Hall, MSU-COM, East Lansing, MI 48824-1316, (517) 353-9714.

November 11

Management of the Female Patient Seminar sponsored by MSU-COM to be held at the Clarion Hotel and Conference Center in Lansing. A housing registration will be sent upon receipt of your registration. To register contact the Office of Continuing Medical Education, A306 E. Fee Hall, MSU-COM, East Lansing, MI 48824-1316, (517) 353-9714.

November 15

Pediatrics Seminar "Sexual Abuse in Children"
Pediatrics Seminar, concerning sexual abuse in children, sponsored by MSU-COM Department of Pediatrics, will be held at the Kellogg Center for Continuing Education, MSU. For more information contact the Office of Continuing Medical Education, A306 E. Fee Hall, MSU-COM, East Lansing, MI 48824-1316, (517) 353-9714.

November 20-22

Tutorial on Manual Medicine Techniques Applied to the Extremities
A three-day intensive course in the principles of manual medicine as they are applied to the upper and lower extremities. Emphasis is on diagnosis and manipulative management of extremity problems. 24 hours Category I credit for D.O.s and M.D.s. Sponsored by MSU-COM and MSU College of Human Medicine. For more information contact the Office of Continuing Medical Education, A306 E. Fee Hall, MSU-COM, East Lansing, MI 48824-1316, (517) 353-9714.

December 5

Third Annual Orthopedic Conference Orthopedic Conference, sponsored by MSU-COM Department of Osteopathic Medicine, to be held at the Kellogg Center for Continuing Education. For more information contact the Office of Continuing Medical Education, A306 E. Fee Hall, MSU-COM, East Lansing, MI 48824-1316, (517) 353-9714.

December 14-18

Principles of Manual Medicine Sponsored by MSU-COM, MSU College of Human Medicine and the North American Academy of Manipulative Medicine, "Principles of Manual Medicine" is a combination of didactic lectures and "hands-on" experience sufficient to understand the principles involved in the diagnosis and treatment of musculoskeletal disorders amenable to manual medicine methods. 40 hours Category I credit for D.O.s and M.D.s. For more information contact the Office of Continuing Medical Education, A306 E. Fee Hall, MSU-COM, East Lansing, MI 48824-1316, (517) 353-9714.

March 19-26

Seminars in the Sun The MSU-COM Alumni Association is sponsoring a seminar in Puerto Vallarta, one of Mexico's most famous and luxurious coastal resorts. Twenty hours of AOA Category I credit will be provided in a continuing medical education program. The course content is dependent on availability of speakers unconfirmed at the time of this printing. The seminar cost is $300 for members of the Alumni Association and $350 for non-members. For those who fly from Detroit, a small block of seats is being held on American Airlines at a round-trip fare of $379 per person. The land cost per person is $550 based on double occupancy or $350 single supplement. Arrangements are being made through Group Travel Experiences, Ltd. in East Lansing. A deposit of $250 per person is required by December 1, 1987. Final payment is due by January 11, 1988 at which time the CME program fee will also be due. For more information contact the Office of Continuing Medical Education, A306 E. Fee Hall, MSU-COM, East Lansing, MI 48824-1316, (517) 353-9714.
Researchers for the American Osteopathic Association's study on osteopathic manipulative treatment and its use in low back pain will begin testing the research protocol this fall at the MSU Clinical Center.

A five-physician team, led by Dean Myron S. Magen and including Philip E. Greenman, professor of biomechanics, have worked on a design for the research protocol throughout the summer.

The August issue of The DO published an extensive article about the project and the designers of the protocol.

"To help guarantee that the low back pain study will meet the rigid standards of the general scientific community, Magen recruited for the design panel three highly respected clinical researchers," The DO reported. They are: Victor M. Hawthorne, M.D., professor of epidemiology at the University of Michigan School of Public Health in Ann Arbor; Gunnar B.J. Andersson, M.D., Ph.D., associate chairman of orthopedic surgery at Rush-Presbyterian St. Luke's Medical Center in Chicago; and Fletcher McDowell, M.D., professor of neurology at Cornell University Medical College in New York City. Murray Goldstein, D.O., director, National Institutes of Neurological and Communicative Disorders and Stroke and assistant surgeon general, Public Health Service in the Department of Health and Human Services, has been a consultant.

The team is now ready to have that protocol tested on 20 to 40 subjects, Robert G. Esdale, administrative assistant to the project's planning and design panel, said.

MSU-COM faculty will assist the team in a pilot test of the protocol at the MSU Clinical Center this fall. They are: Myron Beal, professor, William Pintal, assistant professor, William Johnston, professor, and John Goodridge, professor, all of family medicine, and Barbara Briner, assistant professor of biomechanics.

In June MSU-COM hosted a briefing for other osteopathic colleges to decide whether they will participate in the data collecting process for the pilot study. Approximately 600 subjects are required, all of whom will have low back pain and meet several other criteria. The proposal calls for MSU-COM to serve as a clearinghouse for collecting data from different sites. Later this fall, the schools will come to a decision on their participation.

"The study is very important in that it is a controlled clinical trial on OMT," Esdale said. "It will potentially foster a great deal of other research."

Please send suggestions and news items to Communiqué, Office of Health Information, A310 E. Fee Hall, MSU-COM, East Lansing, MI 48824-1316, or call us at (517) 355-9261. Communiqué is published monthly by this office. Editor is Lois Furry. Circulation manager is Beth Wakulsky.