Vice Provost for health programs appointed

Harvey Sparks, chairperson of the department of physiology, was recently appointed vice provost for human health programs.

In his new position, Sparks will have administrative responsibility for MSU's three human health colleges—osteopathic medicine, human medicine and nursing—as well as such health service facilities as the Clinical Center and Olin Health Center. He reports to Provost David Scott.

At a recent Board of Trustees meeting, where his appointment was approved, Sparks cited three immediate objectives. The first is to coordinate the efforts of the three colleges to meet a new University outline for undergraduate education.

Second, he plans to expand already strong linkages with other colleges within the University.

"Areas like international health, aging, neurobiology and medical humanities require the participation of many of our talented faculty members from all over campus," Sparks said.

"Third, I want to work with our affiliated community hospitals and health care providers as well as

Moore, Kurtz honored with MSU faculty awards

Kenneth E. Moore, chairperson of pharmacology and toxicology, is one of this year's recipients of the MSU Distinguished Faculty Award. Margot E. Kurtz, associate professor of family medicine, was also honored as a recipient of one of the MSU Teacher-Scholar Awards.

The Distinguished Faculty Awards recognize outstanding contributions to the intellectual development of the University through teaching, research or public service. Winners receive $2,250.

Moore joined the pharmacology faculty in 1966. He became chairperson in 1987.

A nationally recognized expert on the effects of drugs on neurochemical changes in the brain, this year Moore received both the Javits Neurosciences Investigator Award and the Method to Extend Research in Time (MERIT) Award, both from the National Institute of Neurological and Communicative Disorders and Stroke. The MERIT award allows him five years of research support with an opportunity for support for three to five more years. The NIH established the MERIT Award in 1986 to provide extended grant support to investigators whose research competence, productivity and scientific contributions are distinctly superior. The Javits Award, which honors the late Senator Jacob K. Javits of New York, provides a commitment for seven years of support. It is designated for investigators submitting regular research grant applications who have a distinguished record of substantial contributions in the field of neurological or communicative sciences.

A native of Canada, Moore received his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Alberta and a Ph.D. in pharmacology from the University of Michigan.

He taught at the Dartmouth Medical School prior to his appointment here.

In 1974, he was a visiting scholar at the MRC Neurochemical Pharmacology Unit at Cambridge University, England.

The Teacher-Scholar Awards are given to faculty below the full professor rank in recognition of devotion to and skill in teaching. Winners receive $1,750.

In this issue

MSU medical students team up.......................... 3
Readership survey......................................... 4
Alumni features........................................... 6-7
Gifts and grants............................................ 8
Immunology research..................................... 9
Calendar...................................................... 11
Vice Provost

continued from page 1

state agencies to respond positively to the rapid changes in
the health care environment in the state as well as in the
country," he said.

Sparks came to MSU in 1979. An internationally
known expert
on the regulation of blood flow in the heart and muscles
during exercise, he recently earned a prestigious MERIT
(Method to Extend Research in Time) Award from the
National Institutes of Health.

In 1987, he received a Fulbright Lectureship and spent
most of that year lecturing and conducting research at the
University of Zimbabwe. He also received a Distinguished
Faculty Award from MSU in 1987.

He received his M.D. from the University of Michigan.
Following postdoctoral fellowships at Harvard Medical
School and the University of Goteborg, Sweden, he joined
the physiology faculty at the U of M.

The position of vice provost for human health
programs replaces the position of vice provost for health
services and facilities.

Provost Scott noted that several other major academic
institutions with substantial investments in medical
programs use this type of organization. He believes it will
provide for overall administration of the many programs
and relationships that are common to all three colleges.

Awards

continued from page 1

Moore (right) with an MSU-COM student.

Kurtz

Kurtz has been the co-director of the preceptor/junior
partnership programs in the Department of Family
Medicine since 1977. The two programs are required
clinical training involving approximately 175 medical
students per term and nearly 300 primary care physicians
serving as adjunct faculty. Along with co-director Shirley
M. Johnson, they assess preceptors' and senior partner's
teaching involvement in both programs and make
recommendations to the chairperson as well as advising
and counseling medical students.

She has been the co-developer for numerous research
and training grant proposals which resulted in subsequent
funding. She has also been involved in the design of
faculty development programs.

Her research areas have included medical education
and psychological aspects of patient care.

Prior to joining the department she served as an
administrative assistant to the intramural sports and
recreational service program at MSU and taught physical
education at Lansing Community College.

She received her B.A. in psychology and her M.A. in
health, physical education and recreation with emphasis in
activity therapy from MSU. She also received her Ph.D.
from MSU’s College of Education. Her areas of
specialization were pedagogy/administration in higher
education and activity therapy in the rehabilitation of
mental illness.

She has been the recipient of many honors including
the faculty award from the MSU-COM Class of 1979.

2 March 1989 / Communique
MSU medical students take a healthy break

As part of MSU's health promotion project, MSU-COM students have been exercising with students from the Colleges of Veterinary Medicine, Human Medicine and Nursing. The students utilized the new intermural sports facility at this recent gathering.
Survey results

Readers support us, like a multitude of information

The results are in and it seems "Communique" readers think highly of "Communique."

Recently the Office of Health Information conducted a readership survey to help make "Communique" more responsive to its audience.

Sent monthly to all faculty, staff, students and alumni of the College, as well as all Michigan D.O.s and state legislators, the newsletter reaches nearly 5,000 people. A random sample of about 380--allowing for appropriate representation from each group of readers--completed a short questionnaire. The office thanks all who participated.

The ages of the respondents ranged from 22 to 82 years old. The average age was 42. Over 78 percent of the respondents were men.

Respondents first answered several questions regarding their general opinion of information from the College and specifically "Communique." The findings support that the newsletter may contribute to the general understanding of the College.

The majority of respondents, 76 percent, said they felt informed about the College. The majority, 87 percent, recalled receiving the newsletter.

Of that 87 percent who remembered the newsletter, over 93 percent answered yes to feeling informed about the College. Of those who did not recall receiving the newsletter, only 56 percent said yes to feeling informed about the College.

The most common rating of the remaining respondents' general opinion of the newsletter was that it was worthwhile with 72 percent. Only 5.9 percent said it was not worthwhile. Of the majority of those who said yes to feeling informed, over 92 percent rated the newsletter as either very worthwhile or worthwhile.

Respondents were next asked to rate various aspects of the overall quality of the newsletter on a 1 to 5 scale. The results were favorable, with the majority rating it in the 4 to 5 range. (See Overall quality on table below.)

The answers to questions asking respondents to rate various aspects which are already covered in the newsletter yielded similar results as did ratings of topics proposed for the newsletter. (See interest in topics currently covered and interest in topics proposed on table below.)

Those most directly associated with the College, whether faculty, students, staff or alumni, were consistent in their answers, although the students had more diverse responses. In general the non-College Michigan D.O.s were not as interested in the topics presented as were other groups.

Looking at the ratings overall, it would seem that "Communique" readers are substantially interested in all of the topics listed on the survey.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ratings given on a 1 to 5 scale (in percentages)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poor/Fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 to 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall quality</th>
<th>Poor/Fair</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Very Good/Excellent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appearance</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>25.1</td>
<td>70.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing Quality</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>30.8</td>
<td>66.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photos/Illustrations</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>32.6</td>
<td>62.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coverage of the College</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>34.9</td>
<td>58.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Range of Topics</td>
<td>10.6</td>
<td>39.6</td>
<td>49.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Quality</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>37.1</td>
<td>56.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interest in topics currently covered</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alumni Profiles</td>
<td>18.4</td>
<td>23.1</td>
<td>58.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty Profiles</td>
<td>14.8</td>
<td>27.7</td>
<td>57.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Events</td>
<td>11.0</td>
<td>27.5</td>
<td>61.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Activities</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>21.5</td>
<td>68.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calendar</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>21.0</td>
<td>67.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student News</td>
<td>20.1</td>
<td>34.4</td>
<td>45.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty News</td>
<td>14.6</td>
<td>33.9</td>
<td>51.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alumni News</td>
<td>12.7</td>
<td>20.4</td>
<td>67.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interest in topics proposed</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Letters to the Editor</td>
<td>17.7</td>
<td>30.6</td>
<td>51.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Question/Answer Column</td>
<td>15.4</td>
<td>31.6</td>
<td>53.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer Faculty News</td>
<td>14.5</td>
<td>31.3</td>
<td>54.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mich. D.O. News</td>
<td>10.5</td>
<td>20.3</td>
<td>69.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D.O. Hospital News</td>
<td>10.9</td>
<td>19.7</td>
<td>69.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The correlations between these topics—as the rating of one increased the other also increased—indicated three clusters of interest: feature stories, general news and issue coverage.

The survey also allowed respondents to comment about or make suggestions for the newsletter. Graduate medical education, alumni news, and continuing medical education were the three topics most often commented about.

Concerning GME, many respondents wanted to know more about where the College stands on allopathic internships and residencies and what post-graduate training MSU-COM alumni are taking.

Concerning CME, the comments generally indicated a need for more information. With regard to alumni news, many of the comments simply praised our current alumni coverage and made a wish for more of the same.

Medical education was also widely commented upon. These comments included concern over declining numbers of applicants and wanting to know what the office of admissions was doing about it. Several respondents also said they would like to hear more about what is new in medical education programs at MSU-COM—such as computers in medicine or the new course in geriatrics.

There were also requests for more coverage of medical research, Michigan legislation in health care and trends in health care.

Many comments simply thanked the College for providing the newsletter.

Overall, the survey was successful in helping the Office of Health Information to determine the needs of the "Communique" readership. The responses will be used to improve the publication so that it can better achieve its purpose—facilitating communication between the College and its audiences.

A more complete report on the survey is available from the office at A310 East Fee Hall, East Lansing, Michigan, 48824-1316.

International Health Project:
Events for World Health Day

A speakers' bureau for local elementary schools, a fun run and pet walk, and a university-wide food drive are all part of the plans the Michigan State University student-run International Health Project has made to celebrate World Health Day on April 7.

IHP was formed by students of MSU-COM to promote international health experiences in developing countries for medical students. It is open to students of osteopathic medicine, human medicine, veterinary medicine and nursing.

April 1
Fun run and pet walk
In order to emphasize the importance of animal health to human health, on Saturday April 1, IHP will co-host along with the College of Veterinary Medicine, a 5K fun run for people at 9 a.m. and a 2 mile canine cruise for dogs at 9:45 a.m. The event will begin at Demonstration Hall off Kalamazoo Street on the MSU campus. Anyone interested in the canine cruise should preregister with Terrie Bunn, of CVM Student Affairs, at A128 East Fee Hall. A contribution is required and will benefit the Companion Animal Fund.

For more information contact Bunn at 355-7624.

April 7
Food drive
On World Health Day, Friday, April 7, IHP along with the Institute of International Health have planned a food drive. Potentially involving over 500 MSU student organizations, the food will be donated to the Lansing City Rescue Mission. The Mission provides over 30,000 meals to homeless people each year.

Student organizations have been asked to set up donation boxes in strategic locations on and off campus. The boxes are to be delivered to the MSU International Center between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. on that Friday.

This effort may be the largest student-organized food drive in the United States, said IHP Food Drive Coordinator, Ted G. VanAcker, MSU-COM student.

For more information contact VanAcker at 485-2726.

IIH activities
In addition, the Institute of International Health is encouraging IIH-supporting colleges to highlight international health during that week.

Tables have been reserved in the lobby of the International Center on April 7 and Room 201 will be available for talks and films featuring international health. Anyone interested in setting up a display, giving an informal presentation or providing a film or videotape should contact IIH at A327 E. Fee Hall, or call (517)353-8992.

Speaker's Bureau
IHP's speakers' bureau began in March. IHP students spoke to second through fifth graders at East Lansing's Fairview Elementary School. The speakers used an interactive board game with health facts to help promote awareness of community and international health. They also created "health bags" full of objects that represent healthy behaviors such as exercising. Children were encouraged to make their own health bag at home.

IHP hopes to continue the speaker's bureau throughout the year in the Lansing area, said IHP director Marianne Soden, MSU-COM student. The Michigan Model for Health Care will help coordinate individual school's needs with IHP expertise.

They emphasize OMT, family counseling and education.

Becoming family practice D.O.s for Wendy, 1985 alumna, and William Page-Echols, 1984 alumnus, was what they call a "round-about" decision.

As yoga instructors, managers of a health food store, and volunteers in a myriad of holistic health organizations, while beginning their married life in Ann Arbor, they have rich history of interest in healthy life styles.

"It was the only logical thing in terms of a composite of interests--yoga, acupuncture, nutrition, manipulation and counseling," said William. "I had thought of going to medical school but it took a while to declare it."

Wendy agreed.

The Page-Echols (Wendy center) recently opened new offices and helped host an open house. Affiliated with MSU-COM, the clinic is called West Side Medical Center.

"My interest in various health issues--teaching yoga and working at the food co-op and the women's health collective in Ann Arbor led me to think about a medical career," she said. "Becoming a D.O. was a way to combine everything into a job versus a million hobbies."

Wendy also noted that after having children and knowing her obstetrician, she saw how one physician could make a difference.

Today in their family practice the couple could have a chance to use such unique and diverse skills as acupuncture and hypnosis. They also emphasize a lot of OMT, family counseling and family assessment.

"With every visit we try to get a sense of how the family works," Wendy said.

The two first began to really explore the osteopathic profession after an M.D. acquaintance suggested they visit a D.O. named Angelos Cosantinades. They took turns "coat-tailing" the doctor and learned how osteopathy can function as an
alternative to allopathic medicine. For both, preventive medicine and manipulation were a great discoveries. In retrospect, why do they love being physicians?

William explains it best with an anecdote. A man came to his office who had been suffering from back pain and headaches as a result of a work-related injury last summer. The man's wife had received treatment from William sometime earlier. He came after seeing several other physicians and had tried several types of treatment. William determined that the man could benefit from some OMT. The man hasn't had back pain or headaches since.

Wendy noted that other doctors the man had consulted had never touched him.

"Being a D.O. gives you more tools to choose from and can allow more comprehensive care," Wendy said. "For example, I really love doing OMT on someone who has never had it before. When you touch your patients it seems easier for them to talk to you and trust you."

William noted that the family practice also allows them to have a "base-line" intervention in health care. "We impact at the ground level," he said. "And we help to coordinate our patients' care by other specialists. We often act as patient advocates so they don't fall through the cracks of the system."

The Page-Echols enjoy the opportunity to practice together.

"It is nice to have someone to consult with on difficult patients in the office," Wendy said. "It's a good way to learn from each other and get a fresh perspective on a problem."

Sharing their practice with the other physicians is also rewarding.

"The more physicians you have in the office, the more you can refer to one another," William said. "It is nice to be able to talk in person rather than over the phone."

They also like offering their patients choices of whom they would like to see. For example, some people are more comfortable with a female doctor, Wendy said.

Currently, the practice is shared among, Carol Monson, 1979 alumna and assistant professor of family medicine, specializing in family practice; Bernard Kay, chairperson of pediatrics; Merrilee Okey and John Peters, both assistant professors of pediatrics; and Peter S. Konchak, assistant professor of osteopathic medicine, specializing in obstetrics and gynecology. Called West Side Medical Center and located at 7201 W. Saginaw in Lansing, the office is affiliated with MSU-COM.

In the future the Page-Echols plan to develop a wellness program for their patients.

"We want to maximize health and really do a good job of educating people," Wendy said.

Their practice already includes a great deal of educating.

"We do a lot of explaining," Wendy said, "even what went on at another doctor's office."

They also hope to gain a social worker, a psychologist and a dietitian.

"We wouldn't be surprised if we added on more physicians," William said.

The couple plans to stay in the Lansing area. Their internships at Lansing General Hospital and family practice residencies at E. W. Sparrow Hospital have given them a strong background in community resources.

The Doctors Page-Echols are pleased with their family practice and look forward to its growth, as well, as its opportunities for future personal growth in the years ahead.
Recent gifts and grants at MSU-COM

The following is a summary of the gifts and grants received and administered through the College of Osteopathic Medicine over the past 6 months.

From the National Institutes of Health:

- James Bennett, pharmacology and toxicology, has been awarded $93,725 to continue his study of HMG COA reductase: role in schistosome egg production.
- John Chimoskey, physiology, has been awarded $7,500 for his work on atrial natriuretic peptides and their interaction with arginine vasopressin.
- Steven Heidemann, physiology, received $99,489 for continuation of his studies in the role of force in cell shape and growth in cell biology.
- Felipe Kierszenbaum, microbiology and public health, received $7,500 for his work on immunology and biochemistry of Chagas' disease (Trypanosoma cruzi infection).
- Harvey Sparks, physiology, received $16,580 from the University of Washington (subcontract from an NIH grant) for his study of dynamic control of coronary blood flow.
- Jacob Krier, physiology, received $3,000 for his work on the central control of colonic motility and enteric neurons.
- Kusum Kumer, pathology, received $7,500 for research on pscitstem brain MR spectroscopy and its relations to morphology.
- Terrie Taylor, community health science, was awarded $13,574 for her studies in immunotherapy in pediatric cerebral malaria.
- Clifford Welsch, anatomy, was awarded $69,119 to study whether dietary fat can affect mammary gland growth processes.

- Jeffrey Williams, microbiology and public health, was granted $338,245 to continue the research on parasitic diseases in The Sudan.

From other sources:

- James Bennett, pharmacology and toxicology, in addition to his NIH grant above, was awarded $35,576 from the World Health Organization as a continuation of his research and training in tropical diseases. He also received $5,000 from the Upjohn Company for studies on transcuticular potential of nematodes.
- Gerard Breitzer and Merrilee Okey, both of pediatrics, received $142,501 for medical education and pediatrics from the Bureau of Health Professions.
- Peggy Contreras, pharmacology and toxicology, received $2,000 from the Upjohn Company for general research.
- Pamela Fraker, biochemistry, received $11,875 from Kraft, Inc. for her study of modulation of immune function by dietary fats. (Fraker's research and other grants are featured on page 9.)
- Jay Goodman, pharmacology and toxicology, received $8,500 from the Upjohn Company to study the bioassay in perspective, a mechanistic approach II.
- Merle K. Heidemann, physiology, was granted $10,000 from the Porter Development Committee of the American Physiological Society for her work on cardiovascular physiology.
- Madhav Kulkarni, rehabilitation medicine, received a $10,000 grant from the Kenny Foundation to fund a project to standardize and establish norms for Southern California, Kinesthesia Tactile Perception and Standing Balance Test.
- E. James Potchen, chairperson of radiology, was awarded $100,000 from the General Electric Company for clinical magnetic resonance research and development, activities aimed at developing and assessing clinical MR imaging and spectroscopy.
- Herbert M. Reynolds, biomechanics, was awarded $10,000 from General Motors Corporation for his research of human linkage system for automotive seating. He also received $60,000 from Johnson Controls for the same project.
- Barbara Ross-Lee, chairperson of family medicine, was awarded $120,000 for development of a predoctoral ambulatory care clinical training experience. The Department of Public Health Resources Administration also contributed a grant of $129,600.
- Paul Sato, pharmacology and toxicology, was awarded $1,000 from the Upjohn Company to continue his studies of the effects of ascorbic acid on oxygen toxicity.
- Robert Soutas-Little, chairperson of biomechanics, received $148,000 from Wolverine World Wide, Inc. and Brooks Shoe, Inc. for the department to continue in general studies in athletic biomechanics. Soutas-Little was also awarded $15,700 from the U.S. Surgical Corporations for his studies in orthopedic research and general studies. In addition, Isotechnologies has awarded $7,250 to support the study of coupled motions in the lumbar spine.
- Bertram Stoffelmayr, psychiatry, received $271,217 from the Michigan Department of Social Services for substance abuse training and on-site consultation at the W. J. Maxey Training School. He also received $24,000 from the MDSS for substance abuse training of community care workers.
Fraker on nutrition and the immune system

When Pamela J. Fraker entered the field of immunology 15 years ago she says there weren't many people in it and she enjoyed being a pioneer.

Today, even though the field has greatly expanded, she has maintained that pioneering approach by working in an unusual area--immunology and nutrition. Receiving national and international recognition for her work and continuous funding from the National Institutes of Health and others, the professor of biochemistry and microbiology enjoys this area because its uniqueness allows creativity.

However, she says the real reward of university research lies in training the graduate students.

"I would be pretty bored by now without them," she said. "I enjoy helping them to build on strengths and improve weaknesses, helping them to develop as fully as possible."

Fraker has seven research projects in progress and employs five students, one post-doctoral student and several technicians.

The nutritional needs of the immune system is the common thread of her research.

Fraker noted that a great deal is known about the metabolism of various cells of the body but not a lot is known about the immune system cells. Clinicians had noted that as nutritional balance becomes difficult in the advanced stages of such diseases as cancer, secondary infections would increase. Many patients die due to these infections rather than the more serious disease, Fraker said.

Her goal was to look at how suboptimal nutrition affects the immune system.

So far she has learned that as the body responds to a lack of nutrients, the number of immune system cells may decrease. These cells normally have a high turnover rate, she explains, and she believes the body may stop producing immune cells in response to stresses.

She suspects the following scenario: as the patient becomes malnourished, the body has to decide what tissues to protect at all cost. It may be that the immune system has to become expendable to nurture more vital cells, such as the heart and lungs, she said.

She chose locating her research in the MSU Department of Biochemistry 15 years ago because of its diversity and atmosphere of cooperation.

"People are very open and helpful here," she said. "The capacity to form collaboration is high."

Another advantage is the substantial amount of space. Fraker believes it is rare to find facilities as good at universities.

Her funding sources for the current projects include the National Institute of Child Health and Development, the California Meat Board, Sigma Tau, Kraft Foods and the American Cancer Institute.

She has received many honors including the 1981 Bio-Service Research Award from the American Institute of Nutrition for noteworthy research accomplished within 10 years of earning a Ph.D. She also received a research award from the National Institutes of Health for 1981-82 sabbatical leave at Scripps Clinic in the department of immunopathology. Her postgraduate training has also included two years at the University of Illinois Medical College in the Department of Biological Chemistry.

She received her Ph.D. from the U of I and her B.S. with honors from Purdue University. Her publications and presentations are numerous.

Future goals for the meantime include more research and teaching. Eventually, however, she hopes to make a career change. She isn't sure, however, what will come next.

She noted that her work has never been boring. And probably never will be.
Myron C. Beal, professor of family medicine is retiring after 15 years of service at MSU. He has also served as professor and chairperson of biomechanics and has taught in CME courses.

He will continue writing and consulting. He and his wife plan to move to their recently completed retirement home on the shores of Conandaigua Lake, Naples, New York.

Lynn Brumm, professor of family medicine, received notice that he successfully passed the written examination for certification in the American College of Quality Assurance and Utilization Review Physicians.


Gale I. Harris, associate professor, has received notice of allowance from the U.S. Patent Office for the invention titled "Radiopharmaceutical Composition Continuing Tantalum-178 and Process Therefor." The patent results from a collaborative effort between Harris and three co-inventors representing the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Harvard University, and Children's Hospital of Boston. The 178W/178 Ta generator resulting from the patented process is expected to find applications—including cardiac performance studies using multimeter gamma camera systems—which entail significant reduction of whole-body and critical-organ radiation doses over some procedures currently in use.

George E. Kleiber, clinical professor of internal medicine, published an article entitled "Exercise and the Prevention of Heart Disease" in the February issue of Lansing City Magazine. The cover featured him in his surgical garb with a pair of running shoes hanging from his neck.

Veronica M. Maher, associate dean for graduate studies, professor and co-director of the Carcinogenesis Laboratory, presented a seminar entitled "Role of Excision Repair in Homologous Recombination in Human Cells" at the Gordon Conference on Mammalian DNR Repair held in January in Oxnard, California. Tohru Tsujimura, a research associate in the Carcinogenesis Laboratory, also attended the conference and presented a poster on his research on genetic recombination induced in human cells by DNA-damaging agents.

J. Justin McCormick, associate dean for research, professor and co-director of the Carcinogenesis Laboratory, presented "Carcinogen-Induced Homologous Recombination between Duplicated Genes Stably Integrated within the Genome of Mammalian Cells," as part of the UCLA Symposium on Genetic Mechanisms in Carcinogenesis and Tumor Progression held in January in Keystone, Colorado. Nitai Bhattacharyya, a research associate in the Carcinogenesis Laboratory, also attended the Symposium and presented a poster on his research on genetic recombination in mammalian cells.

Paul J. Wright, adjunct assistant professor of community health science, has published a technical report on a two-year study of rural elderly. This report, which summarizes the results of 200 interviews with self-selected, noninstitutionalized elderly persons ranging in age from 65 to 94, is entitled "Long Term Care Health Assessment for the Rural Elderly."

**Bone Marrow Drive**

Terry M. Reznick, 1987 alumnus, has organized a bone marrow drive for another alumnus in need of a bone marrow transplant.

It will be held in the West Fee Hall lounge on April 10 and 11. Anyone between the ages of 18 and 55 in good health is eligible. Those participating will have their blood tissue typing made available to the National Bone Marrow Registries, Reznick said.

Laboratory testing costs approximately $65 for each blood test. Reznick noted that any contributions would be appreciated.

For further information, Reznick can be contacted at 1202 N. Ballenger Hwy, Flint, MI 48504, (313) 233-0127.
Continuing Medical Education

March 11 - 15
Principles of Manual Medicine

Overview of manual medicine, principles of structural diagnosis and screening examination of the musculoskeletal system. Includes a review of functional vertebral anatomy and the manipulative prescription; concepts of motion barriers and of the manipulable dysfunction; principles of vertebral motion, of soft tissue and articulatory manual medicine procedures, of muscle energy and manual medicine procedures and of high velocity mobilization with impulse.


Other faculty (contingent on course enrollment) include Robert Ward, D.O., F.A.A.O.; Mitchell Elkiss, D.O., neurologist; and Edward Issacs, M.D., neurologist.

Co-sponsored by MSU-COM and the MSU College of Human Medicine. It serves as a prerequisite conference for all other postgraduate manual medicine courses offered by MSU-COM. 40 hours of Category I credit. Cost is $800 or $400 for physicians in training. Will be held at the Tucson Hilton East in Tucson.

March 13-17
Tutorial on Level I
Muscle Energy Technique

This course is designed to expand previous training in manual medicine in the area of use of muscle contraction as an activating force. Concepts of muscle contraction will be taught and will be utilized in the treatment of the vertebral column and the bony pelvis. Faculty are John Bourdillon, F.C.R.S., chairperson; Mark Bookhout, M.S., P.T.; David Grimshaw, D.O.; William Page-Echols, D.O.; and Carl Steele, D.O. Co-sponsored by MSU-COM and MSU College of Human Medicine. 40 hours Category I credit. Cost is $800 or $400 for physicians in training.

April 5-9
Tutorial on Direct Action Thrust Manipulative Technique

A five-day intensive course in the principles and use of direct action high velocity manipulative therapy to be held in Tucson, Arizona. Primary emphasis will be placed upon the spine, pelvis and thoracic cage. Emphasis will also be placed on the diagnosis and the appropriate prescription of manipulative therapy.

Faculty are Philip Greenman, D.O., F.A.A.O., chair and John Bourdillon, F.C.R.S. Co-sponsored by MSU-COM and MSU College of Human Medicine. 40 hours Category I credit. Cost is $800 or $400 for physicians in training.

April 21-23
The Differential Diagnosis of Cervical Spine and Upper Extremity: An Interdisciplinary Approach

Objectives include presenting an integrated patient assessment as a basis for differential diagnosis and using case histories as models for the problem solving process in patient management. Will emphasize diagnostic procedures to assist in differential diagnosis and the interrelationship of visceral and somatic etiologies of low back pain.

Faculty are Philip Greenman, D.O., F.A.A.O., chair, manual medicine; Mitchell Elkiss, D.O., neurology; Richard Pascucci, D.O., rheumatology; Lawrence Mysliewic, D.O., orthopedic surgery; and David Neff, D.O., general medicine.

20 hours of AOA Category I credit. Cost is $400 or $200 for physicians in training.

April 29
Preceptor / Senior Partner Seminar
The Role of the Family Practitioner in Weight Management

Bertram Stoffelmayer, Ph.D., professor of psychiatry, will speak about weight management. Sponsored by the Department of Family Medicine. Recipients of Preceptor / Senior Partner Excellence in Teaching Awards will be recognized.

Will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Dearborn. Coincides with the Michigan Association of Osteopathic Physicians & Surgeons Annual Scientific Seminar.

For more information or to register for any of the courses, contact the Office of Continuing Medical Education, MSU-COM, A306 E. Fee Hall, East Lansing, MI, 48824-1316. Or call (517) 353-9714.

Unless otherwise noted, the courses are held at the MSU Kellogg Center for Lifelong Education on Harrison Road in East Lansing.
Alumnus appointed to chair national council on migrant health

Robert M. Acosta, 1978 alumnus, has been appointed to be the chairman of the National Advisory Council on Migrant Health. Former President Ronald Reagan made the appointment shortly before the expiration of his term.

Acosta first became involved in the health concerns of migrant laborers while a medical student at MSU-COM. He was part of a team of students instrumental in establishing and operating satellite clinics aimed at serving the health care needs of migrant farm laborers in Michigan.

The council he will chair advises the administration and federal agencies on policies and programs related to the health of migrant laborers. It is part of the Health Resources and Services Administration of the Public Health Service of the Department of Health and Human Services. Acosta had been serving as secretary of the council for the two previous years.

Acosta said, regarding his appointment, "To serve the underserved is one of the main goals of the U.S. Public Health Service. As chairman of the National Advisory Council on Migrant Health I will strive to reach this goal. Hopefully, this will mean a better world for all of us."

Acosta specializes in family medicine and has been in practice in Fremont, California for ten years. He became board certified in family practice in January. He also serves as an assistant clinical professor of family medicine at the College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific.

As a medical student he was part of a team of students instrumental in establishing and operating satellite clinics aimed at serving the health care needs of migrant farm laborers in Michigan.


Acosta, who is a Major in the Medical Corps of the United States Air Force Reserve, was named "Physician of the Year" in 1981 by the Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons of California. He was appointed to the California Board of Osteopathic Examiners in 1985. He served as its president in 1986 and was recently elected secretary/treasurer.

He is assistant chief in the department of family practice at Washington Hospital and serves on numerous committees there.

"Communique" is published monthly by the Office of Health Information at A310 East Fee Hall, East Lansing, Mich., 48824-1316. For assistance call (517)355-9261. Editor is Lois Fury.