IHP celebrates World Health Day

The International Health Project student organization held events in April to commemorate World Health Day.

IHP is an organization made up of students who recognize that health concerns do not stop at international borders and share an interest in pursuing international aspects of health care as part of their professional development.

IHP's World Health Day observance at MSU's International Center on April 7 included speakers on environmental health issues, as well as a food bank drive. The program was planned in conjunction with MSU's Celebrate Health.

IHP was initiated by MSU-COM students in 1984, but is now also open to students from the Colleges of Human Medicine, Nursing and Social Work. The project seeks to increase knowledge about the practice of health care in different cultures, to become more aware and educate others about international health needs, and to assist medical students in arranging learning experiences both abroad and in medically underserved areas in the U.S.

For World Health Day, IHP planned events related to the day's theme of "Our Planet, Our Health: Think Globally, Act Locally." Speakers covered such topics as toxic waste problems in Michigan and the health risks posed by lead-based paint found in many homes.

In addition, IHP sponsored a food drive to benefit the Lansing City Rescue Mission. The food drive was co-sponsored with the MSU Council of Graduate Students (COGS). IHP World Health Day organizer Erik Jones, COM '93, said more than 300 student organizations were asked to participate campus-wide.

Speakers included Michael A. Cameron of the department of toxicology; Kathy Boutin-Pasters, director of education for Recyclers of Lansing; Martha Beck, program specialist for the Bureau of Environmental Health, Ingham County Health Department; Lawrence Chadsinsky, Deputy Chief of Bureau Health Facilities of...continued on page 4

Prospective students to be welcomed at Open House

Prospective students and friends and families of MSU-COM are invited to attend the college's open house from 9 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturday, May 19. Activities will include college and student organization exhibits, tours, and opportunities to meet with both students and admissions officers. For further information, contact the Office of Health Information, (517) 355-9261.
Education first priority to Pesta

"The first priority is education. The interns are here to learn. Our job is to train them first," said Carl Pesta, vice president for medical education at Mt. Clemens General Hospital. He argues that patients receive better care from teaching hospitals: "Our patients benefit greatly because they get the best of both worlds."

Carl Pesta, vice president for medical education at Mt. Clemens General Hospital.

Pesta said one of the strengths of Mt. Clemens General is that students are able to get a lot of hands-on experience as part of their training.

"We allow the intern to get very much involved in [the medical process], and involved in case management," Pesta said. He added that Mt. Clemens has been fortunate to have a high house census that allows students to get a lot of exposure to patients.

Pesta said students now have more choices in the direction their education will take. New options in ambulatory medicine and combining residency and internship programs open new possibilities.

"Practically each intern will have a tailor-made internship," Pesta said. "It's going to complicate the jobs of the DMEs."

Scheduling an intern's program will now have to take into account the kind of rotation the intern is in, the provision of locations for training in ambulatory medicine and coverage for the hospital needs.

Pesta said it is important to refute the "intern myth," the idea that interns are assigned "scut work" in order to fill the hospital's needs. In that respect, he said proposed legislation to limit the hours of residents isn't a problem.

"We've been ahead of the game because we're careful that our interns and residents don't work more than the recommendations which were in the Kelly bill," he said.

One problem Pesta does see is osteopathic...
students choosing allopathic programs.

"Our biggest concern is the drain of our lifeblood to the allopathic programs," he said.

Pesta said part of the problem stems from a perception that allopathic programs are better than osteopathic programs, a perception he says is not true. Pesta said osteopathic education in Michigan is of very high quality.

"I'm a little prejudiced, but I think we're at the top," he said. Michigan's high number of osteopathic physicians provides a good base for programs in graduate medical education.

Allopathic programs do receive more government funding than osteopathic programs because of their structure, Pesta said, but more funding doesn't necessarily mean higher quality.

Pesta noted that until recently, allopathic programs included salaries of full-time educators as part of their program cost, while osteopathic programs were staffed by doctors who were also practicing physicians. Osteopathic physicians prided themselves on training of their own.

"All of our people have to make their living as doctors as well as teach," Pesta said. "We saved the government a lot of money."

Pesta said osteopathic medical students need to be taught loyalty to the profession and encouraged to enter osteopathic postgraduate programs.

Mt. Clemens General Hospital offers 11 residency programs, including anesthesiology, emergency medicine, internal medicine, OB/GYN and orthopedic surgery. Pesta said all programs are highly sought after by students.

Besides his role as director of medical education, Pesta is also involved in his role as a medical administrator. He serves as liaison between the Academy of Osteopathic Directors of Medical Education and the American College of Physician Executives.

"We are doing a lot of work in looking at the accreditation of DMEs," Pesta said. He said the Academy was exploring options with the ACPE and a group called the Western Network regarding certification programs for DMEs at osteopathic hospitals.

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Budget cuts may endanger hospitals

State budget officials say they made some hard choices in the proposed 1990 and 1991 budgets, but some health care organizations feel they were wrong choices.

The state 1990 budget included a 2 1/2 percent cut for all departments with the exception of the Department of Education. The Michigan Hospital Association says that equation shortchanges health care.

"What good is a kid in school if he's not healthy?" said Nancy Fiedler, MHA vice president for public affairs.

Less money in health care budgets means less money to pay for Medicaid. Fiedler said current Medicaid reimbursement programs don't cover hospital costs. She said Michigan hospitals were underfunded by around $100 million.

Medicaid is funded by the states, which determine eligibility and which health services are covered. The federal government pays part of the state's costs.

MHA, together with other health care organizations, is suing the state over Medicaid reimbursement, saying Michigan's policies set illegally low reimbursement rates.

"For all intents and purposes the formula insures that no Michigan hospital can recover its Medicaid costs," Fiedler said.

The budget proposal also includes cost cutting measures, which would:

- reduce the incentive paid to hospitals that treat large numbers of Medicaid patients.
- establish competitive bidding for Medicaid contracts.
- link reimbursements paid for hospital improvements to hospital occupancy.
- place a cap on reimbursements for medical education programs at teaching hospitals.
- reduce the rates paid to long-term care units attached to hospitals at the level of other nursing homes.
- place a cap on the daily rates paid to psychiatric hospitals.

"We may have cut back as much as we could in Medicaid reimbursements," said Doug Drake, director of revenue and tax analysis and acting director of the Office of Education at the Department of Management and Budget. But Drake said the cuts were necessary to allow the state to invest in education.

"Budgeting, whether it's your personal budget, the state budget, or the federal budget, is a matter of making choices," Drake said. "We made those choices in our recommendations, and others haven't made them yet."

Fiedler maintains that the choice shouldn't be one between education and health care.

continued on page 4
IHP

continued from page 1

the Michigan Department of Public Health; and Sal Renteria, COM '92, who spoke on lead toxicity in the home. The program was co-sponsored with the Institute of International Health and the Colleges of Medicine and Nursing.

Jones said issues of international health are important for reasons beyond just helping in medically underserved countries.

"I think it's really important for medical students to be exposed to other cultures," Jones said.

Jones said many different cultures are represented within the U.S., and medical students need to be aware of them.

One way the IHP is seeking to

IIH helps extend MSU’s reach

MSU is a leader in international health issues. To help maintain and expand that leadership, the MSU Institute of International Health was formed in 1986 to use university resources to address problems of world health and serve as a center for information on international health concerns.

“Our first goal is to make people aware of what's going on, to get them to serve abroad either as interns or as full professionals," said Herbert Whittier, associate director of IIH.

MSU projects overseas include the Sudan project, which involves MSU faculty, graduate and medical students and operates under a cooperative agreement with the Sudan Medical Research Council. The project is studying malaria, schistosomiasis, onchocerciasis and leishmaniasis.

Another MSU overseas project is the cerebral malaria in children project run by MSU-COM professor of community health science Terrie Taylor.

“Terrie’s program is great because she teaches students here for part of the year and then she provides them with an opportunity to study overseas with someone they're already familiar with," Whittier said.

IIH also helps students interested in overseas health issues by serving as a clearinghouse of information. In the future, the help may be more than just informational.

“One exciting thing we’ve done is establish an endowment designed for student travel," Whittier said. When the endowment reaches its goal of $20,000, he said the interest would be used to provide grants to students who wish to study outside the U.S.

Whittier said concern for international health issues is not only health professionals assisting in underserved third world countries. Many students might wish to study in developed countries which face many of the same problems in health care that the U.S. is facing.

“It's a two-way street," Whittier said. “You can learn things from other cultures."

Whittier said he sees the institute’s role as supportive of the International Health Project student organization. He said IHP is the most important student wing of the IIH. IHP provides a lot of support in return, he added.

“Students are so booked it's hard for them to make time," he said.

the help of Walter Mill, professor of osteopathic medicine.

There are some problems in arranging such exchanges because the U.S. is not a full member of IFMSA. For example, student organizations in full member countries include the cost of the visiting student’s room and board as part of their budget. Jones said IHP was asking that students host visiting foreign students as part of their commitment to the exchange program.

“It's harder for those students to come over here than it is for our students to go over there," Mill said, noting that foreign medical students must be registered in the U.S. to be covered by malpractice insurance.

Last fall, two students from Innsbruck, Austria, enrolled in two-month clerkships at Traverse City Osteopathic Hospital.

Jones said the bi-lateral exchange can be more effective than unilateral exchanges in teaching U.S. students about other cultures because it brings a representative of that culture to the U.S., and exposes them to many people at once.

“It would be ideal if we can work out the bugs," Jones said.

Budget

Continued from page 3

“Just as education, housing and jobs have to be a concern for the future, so does health care," she said.

Fiedler said cuts in health care budgets might lead to hospital closings, especially in rural areas. She said 75 percent of Michigan hospitals are losing money, 80 percent in rural areas.

“Small rural hospitals are certainly the most victimized. They have the least ability to sustain red ink," Fiedler said.

In March, 1,200 hospital workers rallied in front of the State Capitol to protest budget cuts.
UAAO auction provides fun fundraising

The Undergraduate American Academy of Osteopathy, in conjunction with the class of '92, held an auction February 26. Items auctioned off included an OMT table, a week in a Colorado condo, and tickets to shows at MSU's Wharton Center. The auction raised about $2,200.
Faculty News

Kusum Kumar (Pathology), presented a paper entitled "Regional Evaluation of mRNA Expression of Tubulin in Post-ischemic Gerbil Brain, a Preliminary In-situ Hybridization Study" at the 79th annual meeting of the U.S. and Canadian Academy of Pathology in Boston.

Terrie Taylor (Community Health Science) has been invited to serve on the board of the International Health Committee on Malaria Prevention and Control. The committee will review the current status of malaria worldwide and recommend alternative approaches to malaria prevention and control.

Don E. Coleman (Community Health Science) has been appointed to the State Health Planning Council of Michigan.

Clinical professor of internal medicine Gerald F. Robbins was one of a select group of neurologists chosen nationally to attend an epilepsy mini-fellowship at the Bowman-Gray school of Medicine in January. Robbins is the immediate past-president of the American College of Neuropsychiatrists and a past-president of the Wayne County Osteopathic Association and the Michigan Council of Osteopathic Physicians.

Retired professor of biomechanics and family medicine Myron Beal spent the winter term at the Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine as visiting professor, where he worked with OU-COM professor David Patriquin and two students on a project entitled "Interexaminer Agreement on Patient Performance," a follow-up project to one initiated in MSU-COM's biomechanics department several years ago.

Margaret McNiven, director of Health Planning and Evaluation, presented "A Comparison of Health Services Management Information Systems: In the U.S.A. and Others" Feb. 8 in Fee Hall.

continued on page 8

ILRC update

Although the new facilities haven't opened yet, computer aided instruction is already available for MSU-COM classes. The following materials are available in the Carrel Room for classes this term:

ILRC Computer Based Instructional Materials-Spring 1990

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Continuing Medical Education

April 27-29
Tutorial on Level I
Myofascial Release Technique

Intensive exposure to basic concepts of myofascial release manipulative therapy. Emphasis is placed on direct experiences giving participants opportunity to test various forms of motion and motion changes, and palpate various tissues and forms. Faculty includes Robert Ward, D.O., F.A.A.O., chairperson. Prerequisite training in Principles of Manual Medicine is required. Limited enrollment. 24 hours Category I credit. Co-sponsored by MSU-COM and the College of Human Medicine. Cost is $600; $300 to physicians in training.

May 7-12
Muscle and Central Nervous System
Motor Regulation in Back Problems

This course will emphasize the diagnosis and treatment of muscle imbalance in disturbances of the motor (musculoskeletal) system. The importance of proprioceptive balance and training will be highlighted. Muscle evaluation of length, strength and firing patterns will be presented. Faculty includes Vladimir Janda, M.D., D.Sc., professor and head of the Department of Rehabilitative Medicine, University Hospital, Prague, Czechoslovakia. Enrollment by invitation only. Cost is $500. 24 hours Category II credit. Held at the Holiday Inn University Place, East Lansing.

May 10-11
Neurobehavioral Rehabilitation of the Brain Injured Child and Adult

This two-day seminar is designed to acquaint participants with the conceptual foundations of the Michigan State University/Brain Injury Rehabilitation Program. The goal is to provide familiarity with the philosophy, structure and clinical application of the innovative neurorehabilitation program based on the cognitive perceptual motor approach, presently in operation at the MSU Rehabilitation Medicine Clinic. This introductory seminar is open to all those interested in gaining a better understanding of the problems of brain-injured individuals and their rehabilitation. This may include physicians, rehabilitation personnel, insurance representatives, attorneys and families of brain-injured persons. Faculty includes Michael T. Andary, M.D.; David R. Brake, Esq.; Nancy M. Crewe, Ph.D.; Margaret J. Fankhauser, D.O.; Jonathan D. Fratkin, M.D.; Charlotte S. Ganser, O.T.R.; Cathleen A. Higgs, M.A., C.R.C.; William C. Hinds, Ed.D.; Lesley Jones, Ph.D.; Joel L. Kelley, M.A.; Madhav R. Kulkarni, Ph.D., O.T.R., C.R.C., program chairperson; Lee Shettle, D.O.; George T. Sinas, Esq.; Donald F. Stanton, D.O.; Eugene W. Tryciecky, D.O.; David Van Allen, M.A., C.R.C.; and Martha S. Whipple, Ph.D. Cost is $150; $75 to physicians in training. 11.5 hours Category I credit.

May 21-23
Tutorial on Level I
Functional Indirect Technique

A three-day intensive tutorial in the diagnostic and therapeutic application of functional (indirect) technique. This system uses the principles of motion testing for “ease and bind”; inherent tissue motion; and motion away from the resistant barrier and is applied to the vertebral axis, rib cage and extremities. Faculty include Edward G. Stiles, D.O., F.A.A.O., chairperson; and Harriet Shaw, D.O. Prerequisites are Principles of Manual Medicine, Level I Muscle Energy; Level I Craniosacral Technique; Level I Myofascial Release (recommended). 24 hours Category I credit. Sponsored by MSU-COM and the College of Human Medicine. Cost is $600; $300 to physicians in training.

The Clinical Determination of Disability

This program is designed to clarify the process of Social Security disability evaluation, delineate the evidentiary requirements and explain how medical documentation is used to assess functional limitations in Social Security disability claims. The program format includes both didactic presentations and small group discussions.

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, all courses are held at the MSU Kellogg Center for Continuing Education on Harrison Road in East Lansing.

continued on page 8
News briefs
continued from page 6

Student News

Marianne Soden, COM '91, participated in the World Health Day ceremonies held on April 6 in Washington D.C. The theme of World Health Day 1990 was "Our Planet, Our Health: Think Globally, Act Locally." Soden, a panelist in a discussion on environmental issues, presented to the Pan American Health Organization her work in the Virgin Islands following Hurricane Hugo.

Alumni News

Reuben Eliuk, COM '77, has been named Director of Training Program for Internal Medicine at Garden City Hospital. Frank Winters, COM '79, has been named Director of Training for the Department of General Practice/Family Practice Residency Program at Garden City Hospital.

Patricia Rehfield, COM '79, received the Clean Air Award in March from the American Lung Association. Rehfield is the Ottawa County director of Human Services.

Eric J. Rose, COM '84, and his wife Kate announce the birth of their first son, Austin Trevor. Eric writes that he was recently board certified by the American College of Preventive Medicine in occupational medicine following the completion of a two year residency at the University of Cincinnati's Kettering Institute of Environmental Health. Eric is currently medical director for Caterpillar Inc.'s suburban Chicago area plants.

Calendar
continued from page 7

workshops which will address the technical and medical issues surrounding the Social Security disability decision. This conference is specifically designed for consultive and attending physicians who are responsible for the evaluation and care of disabled individuals. The program is presented as part of an outreach to the medical community by the Social Security Administration. Faculty includes Lawrence Aronson, M.D.; Eleanor A. Berden, M.D.; Jerome Blum, LL.B.; Russell Bolton, M.D.; Deolis Daniels, M.D.; Eve Y. Etchedgui, M.D.; David Howe; Robert S. Hurley, M.A.; Cherry Jacobus, B.S.N.; Charles A. Jones, M.A., M.P.A.; Matthew L. Kaufman, M.D.; Gerald G. Osborn, D.O.; Beverly Parker, Ph.D.; Phillip R. Smith; Patsy White, M.A.; Marvin Wolf, M.D. 7 hours Category II credit. Sponsored by MSU-COM, the College of Human Medicine, the Michigan Psychological Association and the State of Michigan Department of Education, Bureau of Rehabilitation and Disability Determination. Cost is $95; $25 to physicians in training.