The Heritage and Future of MSU-COM

The 1991 MSU-COM commencement ceremony was a celebration of triumph, nostalgia, and history.

The day saluted the 115 new graduates as they "finish this part of the journey and move on with the rest of their lives," said Kay White, assistant dean for student affairs.

The day was also a tribute to Myron S. Magen, who after 20 years as dean, was graduating his last class. Magen retired in July and Douglas L. Wood, associate dean, takes over the leadership of the college.

To help graduates and their guests understand this remarkable moment in the college's history, David Kaufman, associate professor of internal medicine, traced the heritage of MSU-COM in his commencement speech.

"You must understand your heritage because that, in large measure, is a reflection of what allowed Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine to get to this point," said Kaufman, who directs the MSU neurovascular unit.

Kaufman's talk eloquently guided faculty, graduates and their guests through the 32-year evolution of MSU-COM, from a "glimmer of idea" in 1959, to the established medical school it is today.

The idea for an osteopathic college in Michigan was started, Kaufman said, by the Michigan Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons. In 1961, the organization formed the Michigan Osteopathic College Foundation and charged it to work to develop an osteopathic college in Michigan.

Another First for Magen

MSU-COM's founder and first dean, Myron S. Magen, is the first osteopathic physician to be elected to the prestigious Institute of Medicine.

Magen was voted into the Institute of the National Academy of Sciences, along with 44 other new members, by the IOM membership. The new membership is chosen from a pool of candidates based on their major contributions to health and medicine or to such related fields as social and behavioral sciences, law administration and economics.

A personal honor for Magen, he commented that his election also signifies the growing recognition of osteopathy.

"It is an affirmation of the importance of the osteopathic profession to the health care of this country," he said, adding that MSU-COM has played a role in increasing and improving the recognition given to osteopathic medicine.

Members of the IOM contribute their time and expertise by participating on the institution's committees and in its research. Magen said he hopes to focus his efforts on medical education and primary care as well as international health and health services research.

Distinguished Alumnus Nominations

The Alumni Board is taking nominations for the Distinguished Alumnus Award. Candidates must be graduates of MSU-COM, should have sustained evidence of outstanding achievements and contributions in one or more areas of medical education, research, clinical practice and public service and should be a positive role model and spokesperson for osteopathic medicine.

To nominate an individual, send a letter of support and a curriculum vitae (if possible) to John E. Thomburg, D.O., Department of Family Medicine, College of Osteopathic Medicine, B205B West Fee Hall, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824-1316. All nominations are due by August 15, 1991.
Building a curriculum for rural GME

Graduate medical education in a rural area, like Traverse City, "isn't for everybody" admits Ann Kuenker, director of medical education at Grand Traverse Community Hospital. But it does have its advantages. The program is small, usually including about six interns who work very closely with the attending physicians. "It allows for a lot more one-on-one teaching," said Kuenker, who is a 1981 graduate of MSU-COM. "It's pretty much the intern and the attending. And the interns are given as much as they feel comfortable doing."

A small rural program also has its disadvantages and Kuenker sees the distance from a university as a particular problem. "We don't have access to the resources available downtown," she said. "That's one reason I'm really excited to be involved in COGMET."

Kuenker says the Consortium of Osteopathic Graduate Medical Education and Training provides her and her interns access to people and resources that help strengthen the Traverse GME program.

The monthly lectures that COGMET provides are an example of this access. "COGMET gives us one day a month to get in touch with everyone, to discuss problems and solutions," said Kuenker.

She added that by meeting with students from all over Michigan, her interns feel less secluded.

COGMET has also given her the opportunity to tap into the experiences of other DMES as she remodels the Traverse GME program. Kuenker plans on changing the program in a number of ways, from where the interns work to the educational philosophy used to teach them.

"The emphasis should be and will be on primary care," said Kuenker who wants to improve the interns' opportunities to provide care in both office and hospital settings.

Her goal is to build an educational continuum that allows interns to continue on into residency at Traverse. She is also working with Munson Medical Center, a larger hospital, to construct a specialty internship in general practice.

The current medical climate dictates the need for this continuum from internship through residency and beyond, Kuenker noted. "The days of going into practice after one year of internship are gone," she said, adding that residency training is, at many hospitals, a prerequisite for practice privileges. For this reason, Kuenker said that establishing a solid track to train and educate new physicians is essential.

Kuenker said it was the fact that she is residency-trained and board certified that led her to the DME position. "It was a natural progression," she said.

Kuenker said that being one of the two female osteopathic DMES in Michigan enables her to bring a different perspective to GME discussions. Along with her administrative position, Kuenker has a part-time family medicine practice in the Traverse City area.

Future of MSU-COM continued from page 1

way. And I think the fastest way to grow together and develop clout is to come under fire. Everybody hunkers down and circles the wagons when that happens."

Kaufman went on to tell how right Greenman was. The events in California ignited efforts in Michigan to work to establish the first osteopathic medical school in more than 50 years. Private contributions to the MAOP&S Michigan Osteopathic College Foundation began with a $1,000 donation made by MSU's Jesse Amelon, a past president of the MAOP&S auxiliary. Her gesture launched a steady flow of contributions that would lay the foundation for the college that her daughter Mitzi would graduate from in 1989.

As more private donations continued, bidding for a site for the new college, despite its still insecure future, began. Pontiac was the location chosen in 1964. Later that year, the state board of education granted a charter and by 1965, building at Pontiac had begun.

The next obstacle to overcome was the fight for public funding which Kaufman said was needed to sustain the long-term existence of the college. In 1965 and 1966, bills to start public support for the school were introduced and, despite fighting and close votes, were defeated. During this two-year struggle, Magen served as the college's assistant dean.

"In June of 1966, we had a building, we had a dean, we had no cash and we had no students," Kaufman said. MAOP&S came to the rescue and imposed a $2,000 tax on every osteopathic physician in the state to raise the money needed to keep the school going. Walter Patenge, a Lansing industrialist, boosted this fundraising effort with a large donation to the school.

By the summer of 1966, the Michigan College of Osteopathic Medicine had begun its continuing medical education curriculum.

In 1968, Magen was named acting dean of the college and the fight to gain public funds continued. Finally, in August 1969, funds to support the college were secured by Public Act 162. However, to receive this support, the act stipulated that the college must be located on a university campus.

"Despite this, the following month, to maintain momentum...20 men were enrolled in the Michigan College of Osteopathic Medicine in Pontiac," Kaufman said. "The school was operating as a private school outside the purview of Public Act 162."

Meanwhile, efforts to establish a university-based medical school called for in the state law began.

"Apparently, money was really short and I'm told by many people how the whole deal was 30 days from collapse," Kaufman said. "Through the diplomacy of Edgar Harden the school was funded, it was allowed to make payroll and the college lived on."

Harden and others worked to gain the support of the MSU Board of Trustees to approve the school and the "college's future was assured." MSU-COM was established and was to be in a partnership with the university's existing colleges of veterinary medicine, human medicine and nursing.

"Remarkable growth has occurred in 20 years," Kaufman said. "With this class, we've graduated 1,742 graduates, there are 25 clinical sites in Lansing alone, there are 173 full-time faculty members and 700 adjunct faculty members."

Kaufman added that MSU-COM has a "startling commitment to research" with faculty active in most of the university's many science departments. "In addition, this medical school has international commitments in the Sudan, Zimbabwe and Botswana," Kaufman said.

"But perhaps the greatest testimony to what's happened to us as a medical school is by our own graduates," Kaufman said. "What has happened to them, the patients they have cared for and the people they have become is the true mark of our college."

"Graduates, it's your job to mix knowledge with humanity, in order to heal, in order to educate, in order to take away worry," Kaufman told the new physicians. In closing, he urged the graduates to remember the heritage of their school and their profession, for that knowledge will help them to become the best they can be."
CLASS OF 1991

Awards

Commencement Awards

The Richard L. Alper Memorial Award
DANIEL P. SHEESELEY

The Judith K. Weiswasser Memorial Award
KATHLEEN M. COWLING

The Michigan Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons Award
DENISE M. STADELMAYER

Banquet Awards

MSU College of Osteopathic Medicine Alumn Award
DANIEL P. SHEESELEY

The Family Medicine Osteopathic Concept Award
NANCY A. MEACHUM

The Family Medicine Upjohn Achievement Award for Clinical Performance
KATHLEEN M. COWLING

The Award for Academic Excellence in Medicine
MARY B. ANDERSON

The Department of Pediatrics Leonard Fries Award
JEFFREY T. POSTMA

The Annette Kahara Memorial Awards
MICHELLE D. BALDASAN
CYNTHIA L. HABERAECER

Association of Black Osteopathic Medical Students Community Service Award
NANCY MEACHUM
Faith Abbott, Flint Osteopathic
Mary Beth Anderson, Mt. Carmel Mercy
Michael L. Applefield, Oakland General
Joseph Armovit, Flint Osteopathic
James H. Aronovitz, Detroit Osteopathic
Faris P. Atchoo, Detroit Osteopathic
William A. Athen, Jr., Botsford General
Agatha K. Atko, Botsford General
Tony N. Awad, Detroit Osteopathic
Michelle D. Baldasan, St. Lawrence
Joel L. Belltran, Garden City Osteopathic
Kevin J. Berlin, Riverside Osteopathic
Joel L. Bez, Ingham Medical Center
Karen M. Bollman, St. Lawrence
Angela B. Borders-Robinson, Michigan Health Center
David M. Bradlee, Pontiac Osteopathic
Donna L. Brown, Ingham Medical Center
Michael J. Brubaker, Michiana Community Hospital, South Bend, IN
Toby J. Chiasson, Grand Traverse
William V. Childs, Flint Osteopathic
*Ethleen M. Cowling, Ingham Medical Center
Russell W. Craig, Mt. Clemens General

Philip L. Creps, Riverside Osteopathic
Darlene F. Daly, Flint Osteopathic
David C. Dotson, Chicago Osteopathic
Gary D. Dylewski, Detroit Osteopathic
Gama! A. Elsidi, Kennedy Memorial Hospital, Stratford, NJ
Susan M. Enright, Flint Osteopathic
Robert I. Faiser, Military internship
Ian H. Fox, Botsford General
Mary A. Frick, Metropolitan
Germaine Fritz, Botsford General
Mary E. Gaffney, Michigan Health Center
Michelle Giansiracusa, Sparrow
Craig S. Glines, Riverside Osteopathic
Brian Gluck, Pontiac Osteopathic
Kimberly A. Godfrey, Mt. Clemens General
David D. Gossage, Botsford General
Dean A. Grace, Military internship
Mitchell G. Greenbaum, Botsford General
Ralph W. Greens, Botsford General
Karl W. Gretzinger, Sparrow
Marc R. Grey, Metropolitan
Bryan J. Griffin, Lansing General
Darin G. Gurizzian, Botsford General
Cynthia L. Haberacker, Pontiac Osteopathic
James B. Haering, Military internship
Angela D. Hamlin, Flint Osteopathic
Theresa L. May Hartle, Botsford General
John W. Head, Jr., Michigan Health Center
Peter J. Helton, Flint Osteopathic
Michael D. Hillman, Mt. Clemens General
Timothy J. Izso, Lansing General
Margaret Jenner, Garden City Osteopathic, New Jersey
Christine A. Johnson, Oakland
Christopher J. Johnson, Mt. Clemens General
Michael M. Karkkainen, Ingham Medical Center
Amy J. Keenem, Mt. Carmel
David M. Kent, Botsford General
Michele M. Keys, Mt. Clemens
Scott H. Kleinman, Botsford General
Kelly M. Krueger, Oakland General
Stephen Kruikoski, Garden City Osteopathic
Joanne M. Kudlicki-Baker, Flint Osteopathic
Phong H. Le, Flint Osteopathic
Andrew H. Lee, Sparrow
Paul C. Lewis, Botsford General

Fred Lapatin, Pontiac
Keith A. Mackenzie, Mt. Carmel Mercy
Anne M. Majewski, Mt. Carmel Mercy
Edgar I. Martinez, Pacoima
Lawrence J. McMaster, Mt. Carmel Mercy
Nancy A. Meachum, West Bloomfield, MI
Indianapolis, IN
Candace S. Metcalf, St. Mary's
Lisa A. Morris, Riverside
Trinh D. Nguyen, Lansing
Vicky L. Norris, Ingham Medical Center
Sy H. Oang, Sparrow
Alvinous C. Okwere, Mt. Carmel Mercy
Avelina M. Osholm-Ellison, Mt. Carmel
Robert M. Pastorci, Mt. Carmel Mercy
David A. Patrick, Ingham Medical Center
Devchand Paul, Lansing
Thomas P. Petroff, Detroit
Gregory F. Piro, Botsford General
Katherine J. Pitus, Pontiac
Christine R. Post, Oakland General
uates 20th Class

James A. Postema, Sparrow
Jeffrey T. Postma, Flint Osteopathic
Douglas A. Powell, Sparrow
Scot A. Randall, Lansing General
Darryl R. Reaume, Oakland General
Robert K. Reuter, Flint Osteopathic
Gary M. Rooker, Flint Osteopathic
Bruce A. Sandler, Botsford General
Cynthia S. Sandona, Botsford General
Philip T. Schmitt, Botsford General
David A. Scott, Riverside Osteopathic
Daniel P. Sheesley, Military internship
Laila Shehadeh, Detroit Osteopathic
Valerie L. Sheridan, Mt. Clemens General
Eric P. Smith, Metropolitan
Kenneth G. Smiethson, II, Detroit Osteopathic
Robert M. Solysiaik, Lansing General
Tracey M. Sperry, Riverside Osteopathic
Denise M. Stadelmaier, Lansing General
Joseph P. Talcott, Metropolitan
Thomas K. Tarr, Lansing General
Jerome D. Tobias, Botsford General
Audrey T. Trainer, Sparrow
Tyrone L. Tvedt, Mt. Clemens General
Jonathan J. Varjabedian, Botsford General
Bryan S. Weinstein, Oakland General
Beth M. Wendt, Mt. Clemens General
Kevin G. Wietecha, Mt. Clemens General

* Hospitals listed denote internship location.
Student News

MSU Student Envoys Meet in Yugoslavia

MSU’s osteopathic and human medicine schools were the only American medical schools represented at the annual meeting of the International Federation of Medical Students’ Associations (IFMSA). Three officers from the university’s International Health Project (IHP)—Brent Aiken, COM ’93, Kimya Nguyen, COM ’94 and Steve Andriese, CHM ’93—attended the international meeting held in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia, in March.

"IFMSA is an international organization that is responsible for securing rotations for medical students all over the world," explained Aiken, who serves as the IHP coordinator. He and the other MSU representatives attended the IFMSA exchange officers meeting to negotiate rotation contracts for first- and second-year COM and CHM students. The group succeeded in placing 11 students in summer rotations in countries around the world, including Spain, Japan, Switzerland, Greece, Austria and France. These students will live and work with foreign medical students who will later come to study in America.

"It’s a bilateral exchange," said Aiken, who commented that this program is greatly needed because international medical students have such limited opportunity to study in the United States. He added that American medical students will benefit from the experience as well.

"Eleven people are going on these rotations and they’re going to be better doctors for it," Aiken said.

The meeting also gave COM students the opportunity to spread the word about osteopathic medicine. "We represented osteopathic medicine and we were something new and different. I think we left them with a good understanding of osteopathy," Aiken said.

Robert Walker, COM ’93, is the winner of the 1991 CIBA-GEIGY Award for Outstanding Community Service. Walker has organized and been involved in a number of community projects including Healthfests at Cristo Rey Community Center and the Black Child and Family Institute, a breast cancer video for minority women and a mentorship program for undergraduates and high school students. The award he will receive is a complete set of Nettter Atlases.

MSU Celebrates World Health Day

MSU medical students took the one of World Health Day “Should Disaster Strike—Be Prepared” to sixth graders at a Lansing area elementary school.

“We are the only student organization that celebrates World Health Day on campus,” said Kimya Nguyen, COM ’94, coordinator of the program and the COM first-year representative of the International Health Project.

Seven medical students visited 180 sixth graders at Hannah Middle School to discuss ways to prepare for earthquakes, floods and tornadoes. The student teachers used maps and other visual aids to show the children where natural disasters have occurred throughout the world. They also used the disaster information packages supplied by the World Health Organization which provided statistics and tips on what to do before, during and after a disaster to teach the children how to handle these dangerous situations.

Nguyen said she and her colleagues were successful teachers and the reactions from the children bear this out. Andy Zajac, COM ’94 received a standing ovation from the class he taught. Eric Martin, COM ’94 taught his student to remember to "stay alert, stay alive." The phrase caught on with his students who continued to chant it through the hallways of the school after his presentation.

Nguyen said that their message and their audience helped make the day a success. "We wanted to convey a simple message," she said, "We chose sixth graders because they are old enough to learn themselves, and will go home and share what they’ve learned with their parents."

"And the students were thrilled to medical students from MSU come and visit—they were really excited," Nguyen said.

The other participating students were Vincent Akimoto, CHM ’94, Brian Purchase, COM ’94, Tonia Lassini, COM ’94, Andy Zajac, COM ’94, Mary Donahue, COM ’94 and Lisa Miller, COM ’94.

Kimya Nguyen, COM ’94, first-year representative of IHP, coordinated the program that brought medical students to the Hannah Middle School to teach the message of World Health Day 1991 “Should Disaster Strike, Be Prepared,” to 180 sixth graders.

Eric Martin, COM ’94, urges his students to "Stay alert, stay alive" when natural disasters occur.

Tonia Lassini, COM ’94, taught her class of the sixth graders how to prepare for tornadoes. MSU medical students also taught the children about the dangers of floods and earthquakes.

Brian Purchase, COM ’94, uses a map to show students where natural disasters have struck around the world.
Faculty News

Margaret Fankhauser, assistant professor of physical medicine and rehabilitation and director of the Lansing General Hospital Rehabilitation Center, emceed the alumni dinner dance, part of the center’s fifth-year-anniversary celebration. Other festivities featured during the week-long open house included guest speakers, games and a health fair.

Faculty from the MSU-COM Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation designed the center in 1986 and continue to be directly involved in how it is run.

"It’s our major inpatient clinical setting," said Fankhauser, who has served as its director for the past four years.

Action in Anatomy

Kevin Phelan, a recent graduate of the anatomy Ph.D. program and William Fails, professor of anatomy, recently published two papers in a 1991 edition of Neuroscience (vol. 40, No. 5). The first is titled “The Spinotrigeminal Pathways and Its Spatial Relationship to the Origin of Trigeminospinal Projections in the Rat,” and is found on pages 477-496. The second article “A Comparison of the Distribution and Morphology of Thalamic, Cerebellar and Spinal Projection Neurons in Rat Trigeminal Nucleus Interpolaris,” is located on pages 497-511.

Members of the Department of Anatomy were also active participants in the annual meeting of the American Association of Anatomists last April.

- Robert Bowker, assistant professor of anatomy, and Joana Sones, a Ph.D. candidate in the department, along with their colleagues John Caron, Raymond Abshold, Kelly Johnson and Rebecca Kotyk gave a presentation titled “Tachykinins and Catecholamines in the Synovial Membrane of the Equine.”
- Gloria Lew, associate professor of anatomy, presented “Interaction of Phencyclidine (PCP) with Cultured Human Neuroblastoma.”
- Sharleen Sakai, associate professor of anatomy, presented with her colleagues Terence Ma, Kim Ulmoh, John Porter, James Hazlett, William Hall and Paul May, "A Cross-Species Examination of Offcentered/Coat Connectivity."
- Farshid Marzban, a Ph.D. candidate in the department and Charles Tweede, anatomy professor, presented with their colleague Glenn Hatton, “Reevaluation of the plasticity in the Rat Supraoptic Nucleus (SON) After Chronic Dehydration: Immunoassay Cytochemistry at the Ultrasound Level.”

Family Medicine Honors Volunteer Faculty

The MSU-COM Department of Family Medicine honored 41 of its adjunct clinical faculty for meritorious service to the department at its annual Preceptor/Senior Partner seminar held in May.

- Maynard Amelion
- G. Ronald Baker
- Chris Bakris
- Steven Blum
- Michael Brooks
- R. David Brooks
- Steven Bergman
- Bruce Call
- Gregory Clague
- Linda Coniglio
- W. Keith Conner
- C. George Costea
- Randall DeArment
- Steven Dupuis
- Theodore Englerrmann
- Stephen Fedele
- Frank Fenton
- Waldo Frankenstein
- C. Lynn Gibson
- Robert Glinis
- Samson Inwald
- Ruth Kamieniecki
- Cherie Karle
- Dennis Lloyd
- John MacDermid
- Charles Miller
- David Neff
- William Penn
- Russell Peterson
- Pattie Pierce
- Jules Reinhardt
- Burr Rogers
- John Rosella
- William Ross
- Marshall Sack
- Peter Salvia
- Jon Schirner
- William Thiemky
- Gerrit Vanderlucht
- John Wycoff
- Barrett Zink

Lena Dines, associate professor of surgery, was elected vice-president of the Michigan Board of Licensing.

Bernard Kay, chairperson of the Department of Pediatrics, has been selected as one of the first Public Health Service Primary Care Policy Fellows. The fellowship took place in June at the Parklawn campus of the Public Health Service in Rockville, MD. Kay and the other fellows participated in a month-long agenda focused on primary care issues and national health policy.

Manfred Stommel, assistant professor of nursing, and Margaret Klingy, assistant professor of pediatrics, recently had an article published in Cancer Nursing titled “Support Patterns for Spouse Caregivers of Cancer Patients: The Effects of the Presence of Minor Children.”
CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

Tutorial on
Level II
Myofascial Techniques
August 2-4, 1991

Builds on concepts covered in
"Myofascial I." Along with review of
basic material, emphasis is placed on
mechanics and myofascial problems
above the diaphragm. Introduction for
myofascial relationships to bone and
joint mechanics are introduced and
covered in some depth. Faculty
includes Robert Ward, D.O., F.A.A.O.,
chairperson. Previous training in
"Principles of Manual Medicine," and
"Level I Myofascial Release Technique"
required. Enrollment is limited. 24
hours Category I credit. Sponsored by
MSU College of Osteopathic Medicine
and College of Human Medicine. Cost
is $600; physicians in training, $300.
Includes continental breakfast and after-
noon snack daily.

Tutorial on Level I
Muscle Energy
Techniques
September 16-20, 1991

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. The struc-
tural diagnostic system will be expand-
ed in dysfunctions of the vertebral col-
umn and bony pelvis. Faculty includes
Mark Bookhout, M.S., P.T.; John
Bourdillon, F.R.C.S.; Philip E.
Greenman, D.O., F.A.A.O., chairper-
son; Carl Steele, D.O. Prerequisite
training in "Principles of Manual
Medicine." Enrollment is limited. 40
hours Category I credit. Sponsored by
MSU College of Osteopathic Medicine
and College of Human Medicine. Cost
is $1,000; physicians in training, $500.
Includes continental breakfast, lunch,
and course materials.

Do you have news for
Communique? Have
new faculty members
joined your depart-
ment? Have you pub-
lished a paper, given a
presentation, received
an award? Do you have
news of interest to your
former classmates?
Let us know?

COMMUNE

COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE
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