Letter from the Dean

I want to take this opportunity to thank each of you for the support I have received during the last 23 months as acting dean. My selection as the permanent dean was approved on June 13 by the Michigan State University Board of Trustees. I mention my appointment in this space because I want each of you to know I could not have made this journey alone. The outpouring of support I have received has been overwhelming, and words cannot express my gratitude to you.

For me, this is much more than a personal journey. It is the opportunity to serve a profession, a college and a university that I truly love. It is out of that desire to serve and to give back that I ask for your continued support.

We face unprecedented challenges in health care as we approach the new millennium, and it will require all that each of us can give for this college and the osteopathic profession to thrive. We must position our college and our profession to take its rightful place in the health care arena — not for ourselves, but for the many patients we have cared for in the past and those we have yet to serve in the future.

As osteopathic physicians, we know that if we stay true to those principles first expressed by our founder, Dr. Andrew Taylor Still, more than 100 years ago, we will be able to continue to provide the type of health care our patients are seeking.

Not only do we face great challenges ahead, we have a great privilege — that of helping our fellow human beings in their time of need with all of the knowledge, compassion, and the healing touch that we possess.

Yes, the challenges are great, but so are the opportunities. We must continue to excel in all of the areas that are critical to the success of our mission — education, research and clinical care. Our college is stable and strong, but we must restructure as we grow to meet the needs of the university and of the larger community.

We must support each other during these times when the days are not quite long enough to accomplish all that we had planned to do. As we retool the college to meet the challenges of the 21st century, there will be times of stress and uneasiness. Change is not always easy, but it is necessary if we are to succeed. I am confident that this college, with the rich human resources it has, will continue to exemplify excellence through the science of medicine, the art of caring and the power of touch.

Best Regards,

Allen W. Jacobs, DO, PhD
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Building on the foundations laid by former MSUCOM Deans Myron S. Magen, DO, and Douglas Wood, DO, PhD, recently appointed Dean Allen W. Jacobs, DO, PhD, is ready to chart a new course for the college.

"The college does not exist in a vacuum," Jacobs explained. "We must look at a number of internal and external factors when charting our course for the future. When determining my vision for the college, I sought advice and input from faculty, staff, students, alumni, members of the university's administration and members of the osteopathic profession. What has emerged is a well-rounded, global planning process that we can use as a springboard to the 21st century."

In this question and answer interview, Dr. Jacobs addressed key issues and factors that influence the college's structure and focus. Within the framework of those issues, a list of priorities has emerged.

KEY ISSUES AND ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS

Q: What are some of the key issues you see facing the MSU College of Osteopathic Medicine at this time?

A: Key issues that influence the direction the college takes include the osteopathic professional culture, economic factors, the health care delivery system, organizational issues within the college, research and technology, and political factors.

Q: Looking at these issues one-by-one, let's first look at the culture of the osteopathic profession. In what ways do you see the culture of the larger osteopathic family influencing the priorities and culture of this college?

A: Well, in many ways, we (the colleges) are the foundation of the larger profession. We are not only educating osteopathic physicians, we are producing the next generation of leaders for the profession. The last generation of DOs fought for and won equality, which is central to our identity as value-added osteopathic physicians. Now, it is up to this generation and the ones who come after them to reaffirm what is unique about this profession, to show the world what makes us distinctive.

Many of us in the profession, and indeed, many people in this college believe that osteopathic medicine is the kind of health care that is what should be practiced. This is not an elitist attitude by any means. We believe the holistic approach the profession takes to patient care, the emphasis on wellness and prevention, and the benefits of osteopathic manipulative medicine are the best approaches to preserving and restoring health. We have chosen this system of health care for ourselves and our families, as well as influenced our closest friends. Should we not feel some obligation to share this system with the larger community?

Many of us believe that raising awareness of this profession and system of health care in the larger community is not only a goal or an objective, but a moral obligation. This is one of the reasons that the college and the Michigan Osteopathic Association have decided to share resources through the Osteopathic Communication Campaign. It is through this effort that the profession in Michigan will increase awareness about osteopathic medicine and will truly educate the public. In a short period of time, we have already seen some of the far-reaching effects of this campaign. I can't say enough about the people involved in this project. They are passionate about the osteopathic profession and have developed a solid plan for educating people across the state about osteopathic medicine.

Q: Which economic factors will play the biggest role in shaping the future of this college?

A: There are several, beginning with the health care delivery system. This system continues to be challenged by a set of conflicting demands, the expectation of high quality, accessible services and a continued unwillingness to pay for them. At the same time, the cost of care and utilization of services are rising to create an ever-widening gap between the cost of services and finding the necessary resources to pay for them.

Likewise, public higher education institutions face a formidable task as state appropriations dollars continue to shrink. Simply documenting the need for budget increases, while adequate in the past, will not suffice in an environment of shrinking appropriations and growing public demand for government services. Efficiencies and cost controls must be implemented and market approaches employed to identify new revenue sources to meet education, research and service objectives.

The traditional form of financing medical education is also undergoing significant transformation. The emergence of managed care and the shift toward price-based systems of reimbursement, coupled with demands to reduce payment...
rates for health care services, are jeopardizing continued external support of medical education and research.

Internally, the college must also deal with a number of financial management issues. With over 93 percent of our budget earmarked for salaries and support services, there is little flexibility to affect measurable efficiencies in short timeframes. We also face the prospect of budget reductions in university support, and lower revenue from the practice plan as well as from other external revenue sources such as federal grants.

To meet these challenges, the college has to reengineer its methods of financing and budgeting, and develop new sources of revenue. Applications for enrollment have increased sharply allowing the college to enjoy a favorable selection ratio. With well-met objectives in this area, focus must be turned toward capitalizing on the college's clinical services as a potential source of revenue. In addition, efforts must be continued to identify and implement efficiencies in such areas as the practice plan and external contracted services.

Overall, objectives must be built on effective business principles to better position the college in a highly competitive health care marketplace and ultimately move it toward self-sufficiency.

**Q:** It's obvious that changes in the health care marketplace affect the college, particularly in terms of how graduate medical education is reimbursed and in revenue derived from its clinical practices. In what other ways does the fast pace of changes in the state's and nation's health care delivery system influence the college's priorities?

**A:** There is little doubt that health care is undergoing profound change and will continue to do so in the next century. Medical education, a key component of the total system, is in turn experiencing the impact of this transformation with implications for faculty and curriculum development, research and the educational setting itself. The significant shift to managed care, combined with technological advances and the considerable change in the delivery of care will lead the college, as well as other medical schools, to explore innovative ways to put students and residents where patients are receiving care, which is increasingly in ambulatory settings. While the college has always done this to a certain extent, we must carry our efforts in this area to a different level. The Statewide Campus System creates the new arena in which medical education will be offered in a transformed health care system. It offers the flexibility to tailor education to conform to the way service is offered in the field and provides a broader range of venues in addition to traditional hospital-based settings.

The size and composition of the physician work force is of growing concern to policy makers across the country. A rapid expansion of medical education programs has been coupled with a disproportionate mix of students enrolled in specialty programs. Consequently, a greater number of physicians are being educated, yet a smaller proportion of them are entering primary care. The latter is of particular concern as changes in the delivery system, specifically, under a managed care approach that relies heavily on primary care physicians will create an increasing demand for them.

The university’s land-grant mission and the college’s primary care focus are well suited to meet future demands of medical education. Strategically, the college is well positioned to take advantage of unique opportunities as public policy and the delivery system seek the proper workplace mix. The college has a strong track record in this area, but it cannot afford to rest on its laurels.

Perhaps the most profound change in the delivery system is occurring in the marketplace. Health care has evolved into a leading business sector and market forces are impinging on every facet of it at a fast and escalating pace. Business ventures, alliances, mergers and acquisitions are commonplace as consolidations are made and new service entities created. The college must look...
seriously at these business relationships and identify an appropriate posture and strategy to strategically align itself. This must strike a balance between benefits of business opportunities that alliances bring and the independence required to fulfill the college's education and research mission.

Q: Which organizational issues have the largest impact on the college as we work to position it for the next century?

A: As the college looks to the future, it must make the achievement of several organizational goals a top priority. This begins with a comprehensive assessment of the way it is organized to assure that it is both structurally, and more importantly, functionally aligned to promote effective performance. Roles and responsibilities must be more clearly defined so that a truly accountable organization is in place to implement the objectives that operationally define its goals and mission. Implicit in this goal is the need to vest authority in the most appropriate level where day-to-day decision-making can efficiently occur. Barriers to the smooth operation of the college's functions must be removed.

A key part of the organizational strategy is to recruit and develop effective leadership for the college's departments. While the appointment process should be thorough, it must be streamlined and responsive. Key positions should not be left unfilled or handled by interim appointments as a matter of course. A full complement of academic, research, clinical and administrative staff is essential to the achievement of the college's goals.

The college must also undertake a formal planning process that establishes basic goals that are clearly articulated within the context of key environmental factors. An operationally defined set of objectives, that are challenging yet achievable, should form the basis for activities within the college and allow regular monitoring of progress and tangible measurement of outcomes. The process must be participative to assure ownership by those who will be carrying out day-to-day responsibilities.

Q: Research and technology are obviously critical areas for the college. Can you share what aspects of these key arenas you will be focusing the college's energy and resources on in the upcoming months?

A: Certainly, first let me say that as important as the college's teaching and clinical services roles are to its success, research must likewise remain a top priority. As the country's first and most prestigious university-based osteopathic medical school, the college can best maintain its leadership role through its research output. This also meets an important university goal and complements MSU's efforts as a national research institution.

In addition to basic research endeavors, the college must also focus on clinical outcomes research and investigation to validate osteopathic practices. Health care is rapidly moving toward a system of care that is based on documented clinical outcomes and performance measures. Osteopathic medicine must keep abreast of major health care trends and redirect the delivery of care based on sound hypotheses and investigation. The college has the opportunity to lead the redirection of key components of the health care delivery system and establish itself as an agent of change as the delivery of osteopathic medicine is redesigned in the future. The college has effectively kept abreast of developments in technology and has current systems for both faculty and student use. A more global approach is developing to extend the college's reach through advanced information and communication systems. This includes integration of the various components of the Statewide Campus System as well as collaborative efforts with the external health care system and other institutions. More importantly, technological investments should continue to facilitate access to the college and its resources by students and others from anywhere in the world. Technology development must remain a top priority for the college.

Q: Can you comment on the political climate as it relates to the college's planning process?
VISION

A: Every decision has ramifications in at least one political sphere. The greater complexity of today's organizations means that we need to be more astute than ever about how our decisions affect all of our stakeholders. As the only college on the MSU campus to have been created by an act of the legislature, we have a special obligation to that governing body. We must continue to strengthen our ties with those governing our state so they are aware of what osteopathic physicians and this college bring to the health care table in Michigan.

Q: A list of priorities is already included in this article, but they are somewhat general. Can you share what your first few major undertakings will be as the new dean for the College of Osteopathic Medicine?

A: Yes. First, I will need to search for a new associate dean. Dr. Greenman has expressed his desire to return to a full appointment in osteopathic manipulative medicine. Once a new associate dean is in place, I plan to restructure the entire dean's office and the units that report directly to me so that workloads are more evenly distributed and so that the staff is functioning more efficiently. I will also be opening searches for several key positions in the college that are currently filled on an interim basis.

College News Briefs

ADVISORY BOARD APPOINTMENTS
Sylvia Mustonen, DO, and Thomas Angott were appointed by Gov. John Engler to the Michigan Osteopathic Medicine Advisory Board earlier this year. Dr. Mustonen, formerly of Greenville and currently in practice in Okemos, succeeds John O'Connor, DO. Angott, of Orchard Lake, was reappointed to his seat on the board. Both terms expire on March 26, 2002. MSUCOM is the only college on the MSU campus that has an advisory board appointed by the governor. The establishment of the board was mandated by the legislative act that created the college in 1969.

RESEARCH COMPETITION
William Lane, DO, and Mary Hughes, DO, were selected to be resident presenter and faculty discussant, respectively, at the annual American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians Competition in Las Vegas, Nev.

VIDEOS AVAILABLE
A five-minute video that highlights the synergistic relationship between MSUCOM and the Michigan Osteopathic Association, as well a four-minute video from the 1996 convocation ceremony that includes general information about osteopathic medicine and the college, are available in the MSUCOM Public Relations Office. If you'd like to view these videos or are interested in using them in your office or in public speaking engagements, contact the PR office at (517) 353-0616.

CORRECTIONS

While we make every effort to verify information for Communique stories and photo cutlines, an occasional oversight occurs.

The following were listed incorrectly in the Winter/Spring 1997 issue of the magazine: In the diversity council story, Maria Patterson was listed as an MD only — she also has a PhD in microbiology; in a photo cutline for alumni weekend, the group of people holding the MSUCOM banner were all members of the Class of 1986 who were posing with Dean Allen W. Jacobs, DO, PhD; and finally, two dates were listed incorrectly in the profile on Laura Neal in the staff section — Laura has worked in the admissions office since 1980 and has worked at MSUCOM since 1975.

Thanks to the Michigan Osteopathic College Foundation for its continued generous support of COMmuniqué
SYMPOSIUM SET ON CARCINOGENESIS AND MUTAGENESIS

The Michigan Division of the American Cancer Society, several colleges, departments and units at Michigan State University including the College of Osteopathic Medicine, and Dow Chemical Company will sponsor the International Symposium on the Cellular and Molecular Mechanisms of Carcinogenesis and Mutagenesis at Michigan State University’s Kellogg Center in East Lansing. The event, scheduled from Sept. 12-13, 1997, recognizes the 20th Anniversary of the MSU Carcinogenesis Laboratory.

Topics like genetic alterations and malignant transformations, nucleotide excision repair, RNA fingerprinting, and genetic cloning will comprise the discussions and platform presentations. Key presenters at the symposium include five MSU professors and researchers. Also expected to contribute are 50 postdoctoral research associates (including PhDs, MDs, and DVMs), and 40 graduate students (with five MSUCOM students still working toward PhDs).

Sixteen invited speakers from around the world will participate in the symposium, all of whom have strong connections to the Carcinogenesis Laboratory. The symposium coincides with the laboratory’s move to a new facility on the MSU campus. For more information, please contact: Veronica M. Maher, PhD, Carcinogenesis Laboratory — Fee Hall, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824, phone (517) 353-7785, fax (517) 353-9004 or e-mail: maher@com.msu.edu.

TWENTY GIRLS VISIT MSUCOM TO CELEBRATE NATIONAL DAY

Approximately 20 girls, ages eight to 16, got an inside view of MSUCOM and MSU during Take Our Daughters To Work Day. The event, organized by Sylvia Stevens, a staff member in Family and Community Medicine, was a hit. During the morning, the girls met with faculty members Shirley Siew, MD, (above) who helped them conduct a short experiment using microscopes, and Rick Hallgren, PhD, who demonstrated his cervical spine computer images and programs. They began the day with a welcoming reception and finished the afternoon with tours of different areas of the MSU campus including the Butterfly House and greenhouses, and the Beaumont Tower Carillon. The girls also attended a resource fair over lunch at the MSU Union where they visited several booths including an exhibit from MSUCOM. Here, the girls work with Dr. Siew.

What Would You Like to See In COMMuniqué?
Send your comments to: MSUCOM Public Relations
A314 East Fee Hall, East Lansing, MI 48824-1316
1997 MSU CHARITABLE CAMPAIGN

Staff and faculty of the MSU College of Osteopathic Medicine contributed substantial amounts to the MSU Community Charitable Campaign. Several MSU COM departments reached gold or bronze level recognitions based on their 1997 contributions. Departments and units recognized as participating at the gold level were the Institute for International Health and Department of Pathology. The bronze level department for the college was Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine.

Two other departments were designated as rising stars based on the increase in contributions from that unit during this campaign as compared to previous campaigns. The Department of Biochemistry was designated as a 30 percent rising star and the Department of Family and Community Medicine was acknowledged as a 40 percent rising star.

Campaign Contributors

Aguwa, Margaret, DO
Alvera, Mary
Backstrom, Ellyn
Ballew, Jennifer
Bennett, James
Blatt, Nina
Bordinat-Johnson, Shirley, PhD
Brincombe, Jane
Brodeur, Ray, PhD
Camp, Kimberly Sue
Cheek, Brandie L.
Conkin, Lisa
Craft, Donna
Denovich, Debra
Dora, David, DO
Downs, John, DDS, DO
Ettmeier, Diana
Epperle, Maria
Esdaile, Robert
Fedewa, Stanley
Gonser, Peggy
Grauer, Patricia
Hanna, Clara
Harding, Shirley A, DO
Horn, Patricia
Hosington, Lori A
Hummel, Diane
Husch, Sharon
Hwang, Kwan-Ki
Jacobs, Allen, DO, PhD
Joshi, Amresh
Kaznowski, Janice M.
Kelson, Lanelda
Kennedy-Mandujano, Lisa
Klein, Carol M.
Koons, Mary K
Krebs, Helen
Lounsbury, Davi
McCabe, Laura R.

Family & Community Medicine
Radiology
Osteopathic Medicine Dean
Pharmacology and Toxicology
Institute of International Health
Family & Community Medicine
Osteopathic Manipulative Med
Osteopathic Medicine Dean
Pathology
Osteopathic Medicine Dean
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Radiology
Physiology
Osteopathic Medicine Dean
Osteopathic Medicine Dean
Pharmacology and Toxicology
Osteopathic Medicine Dean
Physical Medicine and Rehab
Osteopathic Medicine Dean
Radiology
Radiology
Psychiatry
Physiology

McCauley, Eileen
McLeod, Kathryn Ann
Miller, Kathy D.
Miller, Rex
Morrison, Linda
Nelson, Barbara
Norton, Mark, PhD
Otten, Ralph, DO
Otto, Nancy
Pepoonik, Evangelis, MD, PhD
Phelps, Nina M.
Pinal, William, DO
Porter, Amy
Potter, Matthew G.
Rayes, Khaldoun
Rechtien, James, DO, PhD
Reed, Sharon
Reynolds, Herbert, PhD
Robel, Jonathan
Sagula, David
Schneider, Stephen
Selleck, Curnell H.
Shaf, Sharon K.
Siebert, James
Sierra, Arlene
Sparks, Barbara, RNC, MSN
Spink, Gordon, DO
Stevens, Sylvia
Sutton, Sherrill
Taylor, Terrie, DO
Thomas, Carol
Weber, Judith M.
Wells, Helen
Whittier, Herbert, PhD
Wilen斯基, Stephen, MD
Wilkens, Pati
Wilson, Kimberly
Wolf, Patricia
Yonker, Janis

Radiology
Osteopathic Medicine Dean
Radiology
Osteopathic Medicine Dean
Osteopathic Medicine Dean
Osteopathic Medicine Dean
Osteopathic Medicine Dean
Internal Medicine
Radiology
Institute of International Health
Radiology
Osteopathic Manipulative Med
Osteopathic Surgical Specialties
Radiology
Family & Community Medicine
Click Your Way to the MSUCOM Web Site

While the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine has been on the World Wide Web for several months, the college’s home page has taken on a new look.

Sporting shades of Spartan green presented as the main color scheme, the pages offer cyber visitors to the college a new way to look at information about college programs and key areas of the college, and to learn more about osteopathic medicine.

The newly posted pages also feature a revised hierarchy that organizes information about the college and the osteopathic profession in a manner that is easy to follow to subsequent and more detailed pages at the college’s web site.

Visitors to the site, including the media, can learn more about the latest college news by reading recent press releases that have been posted under the news section. Articles from previous issues of COMmuniqué and other college publications will be added to the site shortly. The college’s calendar of events is also kept on the web site. Look under general information to see what’s happening at MSUCOM.

Still to come on the web site are pages for several college units and programs including student life and alumni. Additionally, some departments have already created their own pages and many more will follow.

During the next several weeks, the college’s web site will continue its evolution under the guidance of the web advisory committee, which includes representatives from a number of different areas and disciplines throughout the college. Keep clicking on the site for the latest information about the college.

The pages are designed in frames, but a scaled-down version is available for those people using a browser that doesn’t support this structure. America On Line users will experience the most difficulty until the company upgrades the browser.

If you have any questions or concerns about the web site, you can send them to us by e-mail to pub-rel@com.msu.edu or contact the public relations office directly at (517) 353-0616.

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STRUTTING THEIR STUFF — Students, faculty and staff from the College of Osteopathic Medicine take a light-hearted look at life during medical school as part the 1997 Fee Follies. Doing the “Class of 2000 Dance” are: (From left) Julie Meyer; Chris Beal; Karen Speirs; Mike Boyd; Beth Couray; Howard Teitelbaum, DO, PhD; Ruth Rassell; and James Starr. Couray and Teitelbaum are co-advisers for the class.
HEALTH POLICY EXPERTS — Paul Ginsburg, PhD, (right) clarifies a point for George Pramstaller, DO, a family practitioner from Cedarville, Mich., and former president of the Michigan Osteopathic Association, at the Health Policy Symposium held in February. The symposium was co-sponsored by the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine and the Capital Area Health Alliance. More than 350 people attended the day-long symposium titled “Michigan Health Care: Will Any Road Get Us There?” The symposium, which focused on managed care, included a panel discussion with representatives from key Michigan companies and agencies. Panelists included Robert Asmussen, executive vice president and chief operating officer of Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan; Jay Grinney, MBA, MHA, president of the eastern group of Columbia-HCA; James Haveman, CSW, ACSW, director of the Michigan Department of Community Health; and Bruce VanCleave, MD, executive vice president for Mercy Health Systems. Keynote speaker was Paul Ginsburg, PhD, president of the Center for Studying Health System Change and William Sederburg, PhD, president of Ferris State University and former state representative, served as moderator. Several Michigan businesses and hospitals contributed to the event. They were: Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan, Botsford General Hospital, Horizon Health System, Mercy General Health Partners, Metropolitan Hospital, Michigan Capital Healthcare, Michigan Osteopathic Association, Michigan Osteopathic College Foundation, Mount Clemens General Hospital, Oakland General Hospital, Pharmacia & Upjohn, Pontiac Osteopathic Medical Center, and St. Lawrence Hospital and Healthcare Services.

Department Expands Its Horizons

by Sandy Ward, MBA
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

Breaking through the paradigm — that is the challenge the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation faces in its quest to provide excellent care to patients, as well as prepare students, residents and fellows for the path that lies before them as physiatrists — physicians specializing in physical medicine and rehabilitation.

“We strive to have a department with a lot of depth,” says Donald Stanton, DO, chairperson. “That is why we support a dually-accredited residency program, multiple practice locations, new procedures and treatments, research, teaching and interaction on a state, national and international level.”

This year, for the first time, three residents will graduate with eligibility for osteopathic and allopathic certification in physical medicine and rehabilitation from both the American Osteopathic Association and the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education. This is a unique three-year program, and MSUCOM is the only university in the country to offer this type of opportunity in this specialty.

Another first for this department is the opening of the Origami Rehabilitation Program. The residential and day program focuses on transitional living and vocational training.
of adults with residual effects of brain dysfunction. The goal is to provide a foundation from which people can achieve living and vocational independence at a level commensurate with their abilities. Dr. Stanton is the medical director, and Madhu Kulkarni, PhD, is the program director.

The department continues to have strong outpatient traumatic brain injury and general medical rehabilitation programs at the MSU Clinical Center. The clinic staff works with a diverse, and often very difficult, patient population. They see patients who are adjusting to chronic illness or trauma such as stroke, spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury, neuromuscular diseases, functional impairments and chronic pain. Treatment plans are individualized, using a team approach that is goal-oriented. These plans are interdisciplinary, encompassing psychology/neuropsychology, cognitive therapy, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech pathology and vocational rehabilitation. The team is led by physiatrists.

"We use a bio-psycho-social approach and because of our interdisciplinary nature, we have the flexibility to respond to patient needs as they emerge," says Jean Claude Dutés, PhD, psychologist.

The clinic is one of the few Medicaid approved centers for comprehensive rehabilitation of brain injured clients in the greater Lansing area. It is certified by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities and is in the process of becoming a Medicare approved Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility. The CORF will allow the referral of Medicare patients (and patients with insurance companies that use CORF standards) in need of rehabilitation therapies, such as physical therapy and occupational therapy.

The clinic staff works hard to accommodate patients’ needs. Recently they purchased an electromyography machine and can now provide electromyographic testing on site. They are also one of the few clinics in the Lansing area using BOTOX®, botulinum toxin therapy, which is used to treat patients with movement disorders such as spasticity and dystonia. These disorders are often seen in patients who have cerebral palsy, torticollis, stroke or writer’s cramp.

PM&R physicians, psychologists and residents staff the Michigan Capital Medical Center Pennsylvania Campus Rehabilitation Unit. Margaret Fankhauser, DO, serves as medical director for the unit. She is one of a few pediatric physiatrists in the osteopathic profession. William Hinds, EdD, is the rehabilitation psychologist. One important function Hinds performs is neuropsychological evaluations, which aid in determining the areas of injury to the brain. Patients come to this unit after stroke or orthopaedic problems, such as total hip replacement, hip fractures, knee replacements. In addition, they may have complications because of arthritis or other medical problems.

"The goal is to return them to their home at a high functional level. When that isn’t possible, we try to improve the quality of the patient’s life, and educate family or other caregivers on how to provide the necessary care. We also prescribe adaptive equipment when it is needed," Dr. Fankhauser explained.

The rehabilitation unit is an important teaching ground for medical students, interns and residents. The residents in the Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation program spend eight to nine months of their residency on the unit as well as three months at Mary Free Bed Hospital in Grand Rapids, an affiliated 80-bed rehabilitation hospital. In addition, the physicians, therapists and staff at both the MCMC Pennsylvania Campus and the clinical center provide medical education and experience to students from both MSUCOM and the MSU College of Human Medicine, as well as from other medical schools across the country.

The Origami building sits on this rural property on Sandhill Road in Mason. Construction was completed this spring.
PM & R

The electrodiagnostic medicine unit, housed at the MCMC site, is directed by Michael Andary, MD, who also serves as a board examiner for the American Board of Electrodiagnostic Medicine. PM&R residents from MSU spend six to 10 months training in EMG at this unit during the course of their residency. Residents from other PM&R programs do elective rotations here as well. Dr. Andary also trains fellows in a collaborative EMG/sports medicine fellowship program with the Department of Family Practice in CHM.

Department members stay involved in professional organizations and participate in international medical and academic activities.

Dr. Stanton is past president of the American Osteopathic College of Rehabilitation Medicine (AOCRMD) and is serving a second term as secretary/treasurer.

Michael Wieting, DO, has just returned from the International Congress on PM&R, held in Ankara, Turkey, at which he gave several presentations and workshops addressing the use of manual medicine to treat musculoskeletal pain. Dr. Wieting is also chairperson for the resource exchange task force, a part of the International Rehabilitation Medicine Association (IRMA). He will be presenting at the IRMA World Conference this fall in Kyoto, Japan.

Dr. Andary was recently a visiting professor to Seoul National University in Korea, where he presented lectures on several topics related to pain and traumatic brain injury. His upcoming international activities include serving as a guest speaker at a June conference in Toronto with the Canadian Society of Medical Evaluators.

Academic responsibilities, research and publishing are an important part of PM&R. Besides training seven to 10 residents and fellows each year, PM&R faculty are busy teaching OST 501, 511, 512, 513, FMP 517 and OMM 590. They are also guest lecturers for other COM departments as well as CHM and the MSU College of Nursing. An important extension of their teaching efforts this year has been the organization and development of the PM&R curriculum for the Statewide Campus System (SCS).

Over 14 hospitals and organizations around the state have demonstrated an interest in working with the department to train students in PM&R. The continued interaction among SCS community and department faculty is helping to build an effective curriculum for third- and fourth-year students.

Research efforts continue as well. Faculty members are involved in a number of projects, collaborating with both other MSU faculty and residents, as well as faculty at other institutions. One significant piece of research includes work by Dr. Andary, Rick Hallgren, PhD, osteopathic surgical specialties, and Philip Greenman, DO, associate dean and professor of osteopathic manipulative medicine, on the topic "Innervation of Rectus Capitus Posterior Minor."

Dr. Wieting has had several articles published involving educational factors that affect physicians' professional practice behavior, and Dr. Stanton remains an active author of articles concerning treatment of chronic pain. Hinds, along with Drs. Fankhauser and Wieting, is currently working on an article and research project concerning postural stability of elderly patients undergoing rehabilitation.

"With such a superb group of faculty, residents, fellows, clinical professionals and staff, we are able to remain committed to excellence in research, education and clinical service while being increasingly challenged by managed care and decreasing educational resources," Dr. Stanton said. "We look forward to expanding our horizons throughout the state as the SCS develops. Opportunities abound as we expand the department faculty to include the fine community physicians throughout Michigan," he concluded.

Ceremony Recognizes Excellence

For the second year, members of the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine community packed the house at the Kellogg Center to recognize excellence in their midst. One of the awards given was the College Advisory Council award for innovative or exceptional teaching of osteopathic principles and practice, which was presented to Sherman Gorbis, DO, FAAO, associate professor of osteopathic manipulative medicine (right). Presenting the award is Gerald Osborn, DO, MPhil, chairperson of CAC and professor of psychiatry.
INGHAM COUNTY OSTEOPATHIC AUXILIARY WORKS TO SUPPORT OSTEOPATHIC PROFESSION

by Patricia Greenman

The Ingham County Osteopathic Auxiliary (ICOA) was organized in 1954 by a handful of spouses of osteopathic physicians for the purpose of supporting and promoting the profession. Since then it has grown to approximately 100 members, and also includes sisters and mothers of DOs. As a district auxiliary, we are affiliated with the Auxiliary to the Michigan Osteopathic Association and the Auxiliary to the American Osteopathic Association.

In addition to promoting the profession, we financially assist local agencies that serve the Lansing community such as the Economic Crisis Center, Ele’s Place, the Greater Lansing Food Bank, Zacchaeus House and Gateway Community Services. At both the 1996 and 1997 annual meetings, we donated funds to the AAOA national advertising campaign and to the AAOA special projects fund. We also donated to the AAOA endowment fund to help establish a legislative “hotline” for the profession. The auxiliary has donated audio and video equipment for patient and family use in the Rehabilitation Unit at the Pennsylvania Avenue campus of Michigan Capital Medical Center. We recently funded two obstetrical nurses to provide grief counseling for women who suffer a miscarriage or deliver stillborn babies.

ICOA has a commitment to financially assist the Student Associate Auxiliary at MSUCOM, and to provide two advisers. This year’s advisers are Jane Stanton and Cindy Maser. We attempt to welcome them to auxiliary activities and are pleased that some SAA members continue in district auxiliaries following their spouses’ graduation from MSUCOM.

A major project of ICOA is the Student Loan Fund, which was started in 1992. It awards partial tuition loan to worthy third- or fourth-year MSUCOM students. Seven loans of $2,000 each have been awarded thus far. The loan was increased to $4,000 this year after receiving a matching fund grant from the AAOA Special Projects Fund at the national convention in Las Vegas, Nev.

Major support for this loan program is provided by the sale of a nondenominational holiday greeting card by auxiliary members and members of the profession.

The loan process begins in January of each year when all second-year students are sent a loan application, which must be returned by March 1 if they wish to apply for the loan. Several factors are considered when a student applies for a loan through the program. These include a review of the student’s academic standing, two letters of recommendation by MSUCOM faculty members, a personal reference and an interview by the ICOA loan committee. Loan committee members are Ellen Andary, Jackie Bearden, Dorrance Dean, Helen Ward, Jane Stanton, Jill Young and Patricia Greenman, who serves as loan treasurer. A new committee chairperson is selected annually. Jill Young serves as the chairperson for this year’s committee.

Repayment of the loan at 6 percent interest is arranged by the Michigan State University Federal Credit Union, and begins one year after graduation, usually upon completion of the student’s internship.

The loan fund also receives contributions in honor of or in memory of those associated with the osteopathic profession. Recent memorials have been made in memory of William Warner, father of two MSUCOM graduates; Glen Gliniecki, DO; Fred Taylor, DO; and Duane Tucker, DO. These funds are maintained in a separate loan account, and are tax deductible under our auxiliary tax status as a nonprofit organization.

The ICOA and the Ingham County Association of Osteopathic Physicians meet together twice a year for dinner, a program and a short business meeting of each organization. The tentative dates for this year’s meetings are Oct. 16 and Feb. 12, 1998 at the University Club.

If you are interested in attending these meetings or wish to become a member of ICOA, contact Shelley Wieting at (517) 394-4236 or Jackie Bearden at (517) 482-9255.

This year’s officers are Shelley Wieting, president; Cheryl Swords, recording secretary; and Jackie Bearden, treasurer.

Being an auxiliary member is an opportunity to gain some real friends and have a better understanding of the osteopathic profession. It is important for the profession and the Lansing community that this auxiliary be kept alive and well.
STROBL TAKES HEALTH EDUCATION TO A NEW LEVEL

by Pat Grauer

To spend any time at all with David Strobl is to have the distinct impression you’re in the presence of some ineffable energy field. Quite simply, the man is always running toward a mission he obviously loves.

A cardiologist at Thoracic and Cardiovascular Institute in Lansing, and associate professor and director of the Division of Cardiology in the Department of Internal Medicine at MSUCOM, Dr. Strobl is steadfastly committed to educating patients and physicians about the prevention of heart disease.

“Fully 80 percent of the disease and disability in the United States can be attributed to lifestyle factors — for example, exercise, nutrition, safety, stress management and substance abuse,” Dr. Strobl said. “Add to that the fact that Michigan ranks among the poorest in the nation relative to significant measure of health tied to these factors, and that the situation seems to be worsening. It’s imperative that we begin to help citizens to address these issues.”

Dr. Strobl is far beyond such a beginning. He’s established a “Community Health Improvement Program,” the most visible symbol of which is the outstanding 3,000-square-foot “HeartWorks” exhibit at Impression 5 Science Center. The exhibit includes a massive “heart” through which kids can crawl, and a variety of interactive subexhibits to teach them and their parents about cardiovascular health.

Dr. Strobl’s tied that exhibit to a program called “PATCH (Preventive Approach to Cardiac Health) Goes to School,” which incorporates hands-on, interactive learning. Beginning with local third-graders this fall, this course will include learning activities for two days in each class — the first day to be held in the classroom and the second to be a day-long field trip to Impression.

Five for activities in conjunction with HeartWorks. MSUCOM students in the Primary Care Ambulatory Clerkship will be educating the kids.

Central to Strobl’s work is educating physicians on methods to best promote heart-healthy lifestyles among their patients. He’s received a grant from Bristol-Myers Squibb to develop minicourses for practicing physicians on prevention of cardiovascular disease. This includes training on how to use particular educational tools being identified or developed (including booklets, videotapes, computer-aided instruction, integrated multimedia and the World Wide Web) to teach their patients. The program will include the HeartHealth Learning Center Educational System which will provide a core of assessment and educational tools that can be customized and applied.

His vision includes a HeartHealth Library which will house all elements of the learning center and be the flagship of the hospital-based system. A Mobile HeartHealth Learning Center will provide onsite educational tools for the various Community Health Improvement Projects, including PATCH Goes to School, a project at St. Stephens Church, and Neighborhood 2000 Projects. Customized Satellite Learning Centers will be established at regional hospital sites (e.g. Owosso, Charlotte, Carson City, etc.) to provide for continuity of care and a standardized approach to both primary and secondary cardiac prevention. These ultimately will be expanded into individual physician practices through the Bristol-Myers Squibb Preceptorship Program.

Dr. Strobl explains the HeartWorks exhibit to children at the Impression 5 Science Center.

Dr. Strobl is constantly exploring new options and media that might enhance these programs. A recent example is Cardiocal, a voice-activated algorithm that complements a physician’s practice by giving patients follow-up by phone, checking on their status, providing education, and providing the doctor with hard copy of the results. LipidTrak, a lipid management center, is a referral point for physicians for maintenance and follow-up of patients who require monitoring and liver function tests for antihyperlipidemic drugs.

Family Health Science Evenings are planned as an adjunct to PATCH Goes to School to link in parents, and include the identification of lay community health advisers; he’s received a $10,000 grant from the American Association for the Advancement of Science to support this effort.

Dr. Strobl’s also working with General Motors and the United Auto Workers in Flint to develop local heart-healthy learning centers for their workers.

What drives the man to do all of this?

“The only way we’re going to conquer heart disease is to prevent it, and the sooner the better,” Dr. Strobl said. “It’s so hard for people to change their health behavior once it’s established.”

“Secondarily, we’re bankrupting the health care system,” Dr. Strobl noted, “and prevention is the key to keeping health costs down.”

For physicians, patients or educators interested in Dr. Strobl’s programs, contact him at (517) 483-7598.
WHITE RETIRING AFTER 17 YEARS AT MSUCOM

by Pat Grauer

What do Eleanor Roosevelt, the Peace Corps and Billie Jean King have in common? They’re all on Kay White’s personal “claim-to-fame” list. White, who is retiring after 17 years as assistant dean for student affairs at MSUCOM, has had a remarkable career at MSU, which began with her master’s studies in rehabilitation counseling and student personnel administration in 1963.

“I’ve seen eight U.S. and eight MSU presidents since I first came to Michigan State,” she said. “JFK was alive and well, and I was only 22 when I hit campus.”

While a graduate student at MSU, she worked as a residence hall adviser, an area director in East Campus and Red Cedar areas, and an assistant director for staff selection and training. It was a turbulent decade, and in the course of her work, she dealt with student demonstrators and tear-gassed many times.

Nonetheless, the year she rode 112 hours in a bus to and from the Rose Bowl as a chaperone might have been the greatest test of her fortitude. MSU lost both the game, and, as fate would have it, two young women ran away with sailors stationed at Long Beach.

In 1972, she tucked two feathers into her cap: a Ph.D. in higher education administration (her thesis was “A History of Student Activism at Michigan State University during the Decade of the 1960s”) and appointment as assistant vice president for Student Affairs and Services at MSU. She was the first woman and the (then) youngest ever to be hired as an assistant vice president by the university, a post she held until she came to MSUCOM in 1980.

From 1973 to the present, she’s also held an appointment as an associate professor in the Department of Educational Administration.

So what about these claims to fame?

In 1962-63, White was one of the United States’ first 1,000 Peace Corps volunteers.

“At this stage, the Peace Corps was very experimental,” she said. “In our group alone, half washed out because of the physically demeaning environment, the psychological pressure of being watched constantly, and the realization that they didn’t want to live this way for two years.”

She noted that the training, which occurred at State University College in New Paltz, New York, included a variety of physical and mental challenges, including rappelling cliffs, learning tribal languages by ear, and a formidable battery of psychological tests.

She was assigned to teach English and science at an all-male teacher training college in the bush of Sierra Leone, West Africa.

“I was the only single white woman in a 50-mile radius,” she noted, “and got many questions about the texture of my skin and hair. Much of what I had to teach were the basics: how the introduction of electricity into their villages would impact their lives, the rain cycle, a scientific understanding of the conception of children. Our texts were all British, and referred to things found in England, not in Africa.”

Living conditions quickly taught her, she said, “not to take anything for granted.” ‘Fresh’ meat, which came from animals that had walked across the Sahara, had to be ground or beaten with hammers because it was so tough. Their water source was the local river, and the oak-brown fluid had to be boiled, filtered, drained and chilled before use. During the rainy season, mud prevented travel for up to three months.

“It was a science teacher’s heyday, however,” she noted, citing “30-foot pythons, fire ants, giant rhinoceros, and beetles from science fiction. Every morning we shook our shoes for scorpions, and every night we ducted the night adders that fell out of trees.”

During her training for the Peace Corps, White had the opportunity to spend a half-day with First Lady Emerita Eleanor Roosevelt in her library in Hyde Park.

“In my family, the Roosevelts were almost considered to be full-blown Communists,” White said, “and being young and naive, I figured she was tainted with the same brush. I went away from the experience impressed by her genuine approach as a person, the breadth of her experience in the world, and her sincere sense of compassion for people who were poor and ‘underclass’.”

White proceeded to read most of the biographies about Ms. Roosevelt to become more educated about her.

“I’d never pictured her as real person,” she said. “She is definitely the most prominent woman I’ve met in my lifetime, and may be the most prominent woman of the century.”

But she spent time with other prominent women. In 1973, just five months before the highly touted rivalry between tennis champs Billie Jean King and Bobbie Riggs erupted into a battle of the sexes at the Astrodome, White spent a week with King at a tennis clinic at Hilton Head.

“King was a wonderful teacher and coach,” she said, “and I had a renewed respect for how difficult it is to play high-level for a number of years.”

During her many years at MSUCOM, White has seen the attitudes of medical students change.

“Medical students in the period I’ve known them have become much more serious,” she noted. “They are facing greater costs of education, increasing litigiousness, more medical malpractice costs, and must learn more and more in less time.

“It’s been a joy to have the luxury of only working with 500 students,” she said. “It allows me to be part of the students’ whole lives, from before they get here to after they graduate: weddings, baptisms, godparenting, and wonderful continuing relationships — both joy and sadness.”

“Most importantly,” she said, “I have a tremendous appreciation for people who do their jobs well. It takes a pro to make it look easy.”

White plans to spend more time with family and friends in her retirement, and will devote at least one year to traveling the nation counterclockwise by seasons, spending summer and early fall in Michigan. The only snow she hopes to see in the future is from afar.
OSBORN NAMED PRESIDENT OF NBOME
Gerald G. Osborn, DO, M Phil, was recently named president of the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners (NBOME). Dr. Osborn, currently a professor of psychiatry and medicine and an adjunct professor of history at MSU, has served on the NBOME since 1986 in several capacities.

A 1969 graduate of Wilmington College in Ohio, he received his DO degree in 1973 from Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. Osborn then completed his residency and postdoctoral fellowship in psychiatry at MSUCOM. Since then, he has studied history and the philosophy of science at Cambridge University, where he received a master of philosophy degree in 1986.

Among his goals during his two-year term as president is the implementation of the Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Special Purpose Examination (COMSPEX), which will be available to the state boards in 1998. Dr. Osborn also plans to better integrate the osteopathic principles and practice section into the Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Examination of the USA (COMLEX-USA).

FALLS ASSUMES STUDENT AFFAIRS POST
William J. Falls, PhD, has been selected by Dean Allen W. Jacobs, DO, PhD, to serve as acting assistant dean of student affairs for MSUCOM. He will serve in this interim capacity until a search can be completed to fill the post recently left open by the retirement of Kay White, PhD.

Upon announcing Falls' appointment, Dr. Jacobs said, "I have confidence in his leadership and sensitivity to student concerns. I know that he shares my philosophy regarding student services and will be a strong student advocate during the administrative transition in the College of Osteopathic Medicine.

COLEMAN NAMED TO SPORTS HALL OF FAME
MSUCOM professor emeritus of community health science, Don Coleman, was recently named to the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame. When Coleman graduated from MSU in 1952, many called him "arguably the best offensive lineman in the country," said Jack Ebling, a Lansing State Journal columnist in a recent article.

JACOBS APPOINTED TO BOARD AT SELECTCARE
SelectCare, Inc., recently announced that Allen W. Jacobs, DO, PhD, has joined its board of directors. Dr. Jacobs, initially slated to serve a one-year term, will assist in reorganizing the board, according to corporate communications manager Brad Jackson.

The appointment was announced by SelectCare President and Chief Executive Officer Roman Kulich, who said that the new board plans to focus on the company's future growth. "The new eight-member board will provide new direction and opportunity for SelectCare to grow and expand its services into the 21st century," Dr. Jacobs, who was recently named dean of MSUCOM, also acts as team physician for the East Lansing High School and the Lansing Lugnuts.

WARD TEACHES IN EUROPE
Robert Ward, DO, professor of osteopathic manipulative medicine, taught in Europe and Scandinavia during May and June. His European tour began May 22 with invited lectures at the British School of Osteopathy, where he discussed MSUCOM as the first publicly-assisted college of osteopathic medicine. He also lectured about the development of the manual medicine teaching programs at MSUCOM, including the osteopathic manipulative medicine residency and the continuing medical education teaching program in manual medicine.

OUTSTANDING SERVICE
Pattie Pierce, DO, MSUCOM Class of 1979, was selected to receive the 1996 MSU Alumni Service Award.

Keith Williams, executive director of the MSU Alumni Association presents the award to Dr. Pierce. She was tapped for the award based on her work with the homeless in the Pontiac, Mich., area. Dr. Pierce and several of her friends started a homeless shelter with their own money and continue to donate their time and personal resources to this project.
Congratulations to our 131 new osteopathic physicians who have joined the ranks of our more than 2,400 alumni.

Sally Ancel
Mohsen Anwar
Arash Armin
Zaheet Baharestan
Bradley Barter
Kevin Batterbee
Michelle Becker
Kristin Benefik
Racquel Brockington
Jason Brun
J. Christopher Buswinka
Angela Butchbaker
Robert Camara
Ramion Cantu
Alfredo Carbonell
Banruong Chumpia
Joseph Cocco
Dale Collier
John Cosby
Amy Cowart
Kristin Derderian
John Deveau
Jeffrey DeWeerd
C oleen DeWitt
Lori Dowie
Pamela Eaton
Matthew Ebinger
Erica Elsing
Richard Filiaggi
Barry Fleischer
Kenneth Gallimore, II
Gretchen Goltz
Mary Gordon
Vanessa Hawkins
Brian Hays
Kenneth Heeringa
Karla Hemphill-Harris
Lori Holland
Jeremy Holmes
Marvin Im
Michael Irvin
M. Cole Johnson
Daniel Kantz
Lynn Kelley
Sharon Khan
Gregory Kobay
Patricia Kondratenko
Nancy Krohn
Shanthali Kulkarni
Ron Kuzdak
Pamela Kvrinig
Joseph Lajoie
Lori Lajoie
Natalie Lema
James Lee
Grant Linnell
Jay Lonsway
Jennelle Marcereau
David May
Robert May
Chad Mayer
Judith McElhinny-Raap
Kristin McFadden
Louise McHarris
Kimberly McRae
Johnathan Meier
Jeffrey Meiring
Ayasha Mohiuddin
Patricia Morrison-Schneider
Henna Mussani
Lisa Newton
Hoa Nguyen
Vinh Nguyen
Juan Perez
Anthony Peters
Robert Pierce
Melissa Pieroni
Charles Pinkerman
Fabio Privetta
Richard Preci
Brent Raap
Jacquelyn Ramirez
Madhu Rao
Christina Richardson
John Riolpelle
Rowland Rivero
Jacob Rowan
Gwyneth Royer
Gary Ruoff
Sandra Sanchez
Alex Santiago
Sarah Schafer
Karlin Sevensma
Anuj Sharma
Michael Sheehy
Gary Shimian
Michael Sikorsky
Daniel Singer
Erik Sinka
Elaine Smith
Michael Stargardt
Alex Steinbock
Jeffrey Stevens
Julie Stevens
Elizabeth Stevenson

John Stratton
Jason Su
Suzanne Suino
Gabriela Szymbczak
Uyen Thai
Matteo Valenti
Patrick VanDehey
Douglas VanderJagt
Lisa VanHevel
Michael Verdezoto
Sanjay Vora
Philip Waalkes
Eric Watchak
Scott Weeks
Shannon Wiggins
Michael Willens
Robin Wilson
Jeffrey Wisser
Gregory Woodfill
Keith Wright
Amjad Yaish
Song Yu
Ann Zaccagnini
Jose Zayas
Daryl Zelenak
Brett Zimmerman

Members of the Class of 1997. From left: Alex Steinbock and Scott Weeks.

Michigan State University
Commencement 1997

MSUCOM: A RELATIVE CHOICE

by Stacy R. Lammers
MSUCOM PR Intern
and Alicia Sare
Rossman, Martin & Associates

For many MSUCOM graduates, the choice to enter the osteopathic medical field came down to relativity. Not Einstein’s famous theory, but the existence of the MSUCOM experience within a household, or more directly, a family. Several graduates share this common thread—a parent, child, spouse, or sibling who has blazed the trail either before or with them. This is not unusual; in fact, the college has become a tradition in many families.

When 1996 graduate Laura Kovalick was deciding which medical college to attend, selecting MSUCOM was a natural choice. Her mother, Nedra Downing, DO, graduated in 1983, and her younger sister, Margaret Hollar, DO, graduated in 1993. “I figured if my mom and little sister could do it, so could I,” Laura said.

The benefits of the family/MSUCOM connection are abundant. For example, family relations often improve as a result of the shared experiences of lengthy study sessions, internships and residencies, and common career goals. Many families have also served as support networks for each other.

Dr. Downing, who has her own practice in Clarkston, said her relationship with her daughters improved while they attended MSUCOM. “It has brought us closer together because we shared the same experiences, and were going through the same things,” she explained.

This is common among MSUCOM graduates and relatives. Many of them have received not only inspiration and encouragement, but also study assistance and advice during their programs. Mark Gugel, DO, a 1989 graduate and associate professor of osteopathic manipulative medicine (OMM) at MSUCOM, and his sister Shawna, a 1996 graduate, helped each other.

When Mark was a student, he often practiced manipulative techniques on family members. “My sisters became my guinea pigs while I was in school,” he said. “They provided the perfect opportunity for practicing manual techniques while I was learning.”

When it was Shawna’s turn, her brother had plenty of advice for her. “My attending MSUCOM helped make Shawna’s transition to medical school easier,” he said. “We could share similar experiences, and I would give her ‘big brother’ advice since I already knew the ropes.” That advice has paid off for Shawna, who is interning at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Portsmouth, Va.

For Susan Sevensma, DO, a 1982 graduate, and her daughter Karlin, a 1997 graduate, the tradition of osteopathic medicine reaches throughout their extended family. Susan’s father was instrumental in starting Garden City Hospital, and her brother-in-law, Rick Vander Hagen, DO, was a 1976 MSUCOM graduate. When it came to choosing a medical college, Susan based her decision on family, in more ways than one. “At the time I had two children, so it had to be someplace close to home,” she said.

As for Karlin, having a grandfather, an uncle, and a mother involved with osteopathic medicine gave her lots of exposure to manipulative therapy and osteopathic philosophies. Having so many relatives involved in medicine made it seem more accessible,” she said. “That exposure helped me to decide what I was going to study.”

Karlin is preparing for her traditional rotating internship at Bi-County Community Hospital in Warren, Mich. Although she is uncertain of what her specialty will be, she is considering surgery.

Susan Sevensma, who practices family medicine at Metropolitan Hospital in Grand Rapids, Mich., as well as in her own practice, recounts what she took away from MSUCOM. She includes the faculty members among her - See FAMILY, Page 21
Families

many influences in the college. "They were role models," she explained. "The physicians, particularly the women at that time, all made a difference, as did the integrated curriculum."

The Sevensma have another relative in the college. Matt Sevensma, class of 1999, is Karlin’s cousin, and was also influenced by the family connection. "My aunt has been my doctor since I was little," he said. "She taught me a lot about the philosophy; she’s an incredible person."

Like Karlin, Matt is currently undecided about his specialty, although he would like to specialize in some area of internal medicine. And why did he choose MSUCOM? "I visited a few schools, and got a great vibe here," he said. "Obviously I had the family experience, but the people (students and faculty) were extremely helpful and nice here at MSUCOM."

In addition to the immediate family link to the college, some graduates have another kind of bond. Two 1997 graduates share the bond of matrimony. Lori and Joseph LaJoie met during their first year at MSUCOM. After studying together, they developed a good friendship, and discovered many common goals. "We both wanted to go into family practice medicine, and both set up internships at Mount Clemens General Hospital," said Joe.

According to Lori, the appeal of osteopathic medicine was the holistic approach. "I liked the fact that osteopathic doctors spend more time looking at the whole person," she said. "Also, the focus on primary care appealed to me because I want to pursue family practice medicine."

The LaJoies, who are expecting their first child in July, have already worked out a balance between work and family life. "We will probably not go into practice together so we can take vacations together," Joe quips. "But you have to remember who you are throughout the whole experience (medical college) because you inevitably change as a result of the volume of work you take on."

Overall, the shared experience between family members and MSUCOM reaches beyond the classrooms and the internships. While family members have encouraged and influenced many of these students (past and present), it is the osteopathic philosophy and its holistic approach to healing that interested most of them in the field.

As for future family/MSUCOM links, many more will doubtlessly pass through the college. "My brother plans to come here, and I will highly recommend MSUCOM to my kids because the overall attitude here is great," said Matt. "You not only develop friendships with the students, but with the faculty members, as well."

FOND FAREWELLS —

Betty Wilson, the former director of continuing medical education, retired from MSUCOM this spring after 18 years of service with the college. Here, Betty hugs a guest at her farewell reception held in May.
FACULTY BRIEFS

During his visit to the British School of Osteopathy, Dr. Ward presented an overview of the myofascial release/integrated neuromuscular release program as it is taught at MSUCOM. He then traveled to Stockholm, Sweden, to teach an integrated neuromuscular release sequence for physicians. Dr. Ward also taught a three-day course in Germany with teachers from the German Federation of Medicine. After leaving Germany, he traveled to Switzerland where he met with Drs. Jiri Dvorak and Felix Baumgartner. Dr. Dvorak’s group has been responsible for the development of manual medicine teaching programs in Swiss medical schools and in several other countries, and Dr. Baumgartner has been a long-term secretary for FIMM, the International Federation of Musculoskeletal Medicine.

GREENMAN NAMED HONORARY MEMBER
Philip Greenman, DO, FAAO, professor of osteopathic manipulative medicine and associate dean at MSUCOM, has been elected an honorary member of the American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. He joins a group of 10 other honorary academy members. Dr. Greenman was selected for the honor based on the recognition of his many contributions to the field of physical medicine and rehabilitation. Dr. Greenman will officially receive the honor at the group’s annual meeting scheduled for Nov. 14 in Atlanta, Ga.

McCORMICK RECEIVES AWARD
J. Justin McCormick, PhD, associate dean for research and university distinguished professor in microbiology and biochemistry, was awarded the Kenneth P. Dubois Award in May. This annual award is presented to an outstanding toxicologist in the midwest who has demonstrated a high level of activity in toxicology through unique research achievements, special teaching proficiency, and in promoting the interests and concerns of toxicology. The award was presented to McCormick at the annual spring meeting of the Midwest Regional Chapter of Toxicology in Chicago.

VORRO NAMED TO ADVISORY COUNCIL
Joseph Vorro, PhD, chairperson of the Department of Anatomy, has been appointed to the Academic Advisory Council of the National Board of Certification in Emergency Medicine, an affiliate of the American Association of Physician Specialists.

JACOBS NAMED FELLOW IN AOASM
Allen W. Jacobs, DO, PhD, has been awarded fellow status by the American Osteopathic Academy of Sports Medicine (AOASM). He received the award at a May meeting of the group in LaJolla, Calif.

ENZER RECEIVES AWARD
Norbert Enzer, MD, former chairperson of the Department of Psychiatry, recently received the Career Service Award from the Mental Health Association in Michigan.

MSUCOM FACULTY/STAFF ASSIST PARTNERSHIPS
Brian McKenna, MA, and Mark Notman, PhD, acted as evaluators for the Community/University Health Partnerships Project, which examined the potential consolidation of ten different organizations associated with the project. Among those groups are the MSU Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine, Nursing and Human Medicine.

MAHON MOVES PRACTICE
Michael Mahon, DO, an assistant clinical professor in internal medicine, has relocated his dermatology practice to 21141 Middlebelt Road in Farmington Hills, Mich.

SOBEL FEATURED IN ARTICLE
Howard Sobel, DO, an associate clinical professor in family and community medicine, was featured in an article in The Jewish News that discussed the differences between DOs and MDs. Dr. Sobel has served as a clinical faculty members since the inception of the college.

PYSH FEATURED IN WHO'S WHO
Joseph Pysy, DO, PhD, a professor of neurology at MSUCOM, has been named to the Marquis Who's Who in Medicine and Healthcare for 1997-1998. This annual registry recognizes 20,000 leaders in medicine and health care.

HAYES EARNED FELLOW STATUS
Oliver Hayes, DO, MPH, FACEP, interim chairperson of internal medicine, has earned the status of fellow in the American College of Emergency Physicians.

WHITE RECEIVES MILITARY AWARD
Kay White, PhD, retiring assistant dean of student affairs, has been awarded the Legion of Merit by Michigan’s Department of Military Affairs. White received the honor in recognition of her support to the Michigan Army National Guard Medical Student Commissioning Program from 1981-1997.

BRANDES SELECTED FOR TWO POSITIONS
Warren Brandes, DO, an assistant clinical professor of osteopathic surgical specialties at MSUCOM, was elected president of the American Osteopathic College of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery, at their annual convention held in May in Tucson, Ariz. He also serves as the editor of the Journal of the American Osteopathic College of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery.

Dr. Brandes was recently appointed to the Board of the National Institutes of Health. He is in private practice in Madison Heights, Farmington Hills and Warren, and is on staff at several hospitals affiliated with MSUCOM through the Statewide Campus System.

OPIPARI RECEIVES AWARD
Michael Opipari, DO, chairperson of the Statewide Campus System Governing Board, recently received the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Robert A. Kistner Award. This award honors an individual who has made a special contribution to the advancement of osteopathic medical education or the osteopathic profession. Dr. Opipari
HALLGREN RECEIVES ANDY AWARD

Richard Hallgren, PhD, professor of osteopathic surgical specialties, received the Michigan Osteopathic College Foundation’s Andrew Taylor Still Achievement Award for his medical/scientific exhibit at the organization’s May convention in Dearborn, Mich.

The ANDY Award, as it is commonly called, is given based on an outstanding portrayal of osteopathic principles. The coveted ANDY is an optically perfect carved crystal piece. There are only five ANDY awards in existence and three have now been awarded.

Hallgren received the ANDY Award for his exhibit of computer-controlled, interactive learning resources that are available on the college’s World Wide Web site at http://hal.bim.msu.edu/. His current projects on the web are based upon an extension of animation sequences that he developed for the compact disc *The Art of OMT: An Interactive Guide to Palpatory Diagnosis*, which was developed in conjunction with MSUCOM’s nationally recognized OMT experts — Philip Greenman, DO, William Johnston, DO, and Robert Ward, DO — as well as Perrin Parkhurst, PhD.

As Hallgren noted “Many subjects that are taught in medical education contain anatomical, physiological and biomechanical concepts that are difficult for students to master and instructors to teach when instructional materials are limited to static media such as textbook diagrams and photographs. This is especially true for courses related to osteopathic manipulative treatment where a detailed knowledge of physical structure and function is a fundamental requirement.”

Hallgren continued, “Accurate knowledge and a detailed understanding of normal human morphology and kinesiology is essential to effective diagnosis and treatment. While basic morphology can be learned from conventional textbooks, the impact that structure has upon dynamic function is difficult to appreciate using static media.

By merging morphologic and kinematic data into a computer-generated, three-dimensional animation model, an instructional tool can be realized that should enhance a student’s ability to visualize the impact that tissue characteristics have upon functional mobility of the musculoskeletal system.

Our goal is to help osteopathic students understand normal morphology and kinesiology so that they will be better equipped to recognize and treat pathology. Technology is simply a tool that helps us to accomplish this goal.”

Hallgren’s research and travel expenses were funded by the dean’s office, osteopathic manipulative medicine, physical medicine and rehabilitation, family and community medicine and pediatrics.

Richard Hallgren, PhD, displays the exhibit that helped him capture the coveted ANDY Award.

BRIEFS

received the award in large part for helping to create the Consortium for Osteopathic Graduate Medical Education and Training (COGMET). The consortium is now serving as the national model for osteopathic graduate medical education as the profession implements the OPTI (Osteopathic Postdoctoral Training Institution) program.

Dr. Oppari also recently received the Distinguished Service Award from the alumni association of the Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine of Midwestern University.

MALCOUN RECEIVES AWARD

Anthony Malcoun, DO, clinical professor of internal medicine at MSUCOM, recently received the Gillum Award. This award is the highest recognition for service to the American College of Osteopathic Internists. Certified as an internist and nephrologist, he maintains a private practice and is on the staff at Bi-County Community Hospital in Warren, Mich.
STAFF NEWS BRIEFS

STEVENS ELECTED PRESIDENT OF ORGANIZATION

Sylvia Stevens, administrative assistant in family and community medicine, has been named president of the MSU Faculty and Professional Women's Association. The organization serves as the independent voice of faculty and professional women on campus.

SEVERAL JOIN STAFF AT MSUCOM

Several new staff members have been hired at MSUCOM. They include Molly Flaherty, staff assistant, COGNET; Pamela Thompson, director of continuing medical education; Angela Nelson, staff assistant, academic affairs; Mary Schneider, staff assistant, Unit III.

STAFF MARK SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

Several MSUCOM staff members were recently recognized in the MSU News Bulletin for reaching various service anniversaries with the university. They are: Connie Burch, business office, 20 years; Peggy Gonser, osteopathic surgical specialties, 20 years; Deborah Kelley, osteopathic surgical specialties, 20 years; Suzanne Peacock, microbiology, 20 years; Robin Borowski, pediatrics, 15 years; Barbara Nelson, dean's office, 15 years; and Carolyn Suddeth, physical medicine and rehabilitation, 15 years. Congratulations to all.

MILLER RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED STAFF AWARD

Millie Miller, who retired from MSUCOM several months ago, was selected to receive the MSU Jack Breslin Distinguished Staff Award. She and the other five recipients from the university community were honored during an April ceremony. Miller received the MSUCOM Staff Award last year.

STAFF PROFILE — BRUCE CROEL

CROEL RECEIVES STAFF AWARD

by Cathy Kearns

During the course of a day, Bruce Croel's job in the Department of Anatomy brings him in contact with many people. Croel may work in the anatomy lab, in a relatively remote area of Fee Hall, but that doesn't stop his light from shining brightly.

In fact, Croel's dedication to his job and to helping faculty and students alike, was one of the reasons he was chosen by members of COM-LINC to receive the group's second annual staff award.

"I was kind of surprised to be selected to receive the staff award," he said. "Sometimes, you just don't think that people outside your own area notice what you do."

Croel has worked at MSUCOM as an anatomical technician since 1990. His job duties include preparing the anatomy lab for students and helping faculty members prepare for lab sessions. He maintains the laboratory facilities and embalms the bodies donated to the college through the Willed Body Program. Croel also embalms animals for the veterinary medical students.

A licensed funeral director, Croel knew that opportunities like the position he has now don't come along very often in the university environment. He initially pursued the position because of the benefit package offered by Michigan State, including the tuition discount for children of employees. With three children rapidly approaching college age, it seemed like the thing to do.

Today, his children are well on their way. His oldest son just graduated from the College of Education at MSU and his daughter is a sophomore here. His youngest son is a senior in high school.

Does he feel he made the right decision seven years ago? You bet.

"I've enjoyed the faculty I've worked with as well as my contact with the students," he said. "It's nice to deal with graduate students in the laboratory. I have a nice balance here," Croel added.

"The faculty treat me well."

In addition to the faculty and students, Croel said he also gets a great deal of support from his supervisors, his fellow staff members in the Department of Anatomy and from physical plant.

"I just can say enough about the people from physical plant," he said. "I have the same people coming into the lab on a regular basis. This is especially nice because the lab is a sensitive area, so it helps to have the same people assigned to it. I get a tremendous amount of support from those people."

Croel continued, "I've enjoyed my time here. I plan to retire from the university and the college."

In his spare time, Croel enjoys hunting and following his children's sporting interests.
STUDENT PROFILE: JARET BEANE

BEANE SETS A HIGHER STANDARD

by Cathy Kearns

He’s the kind of student every medical school wants to recruit. Compassionate, intelligent and willing to go the extra mile. But if Jaret Beane, a second-year student at the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine had listened to his high school guidance counselor’s advice and “found a good trade school,” he wouldn’t have pursued a career in medicine at all.

Beane’s life has been about setting the bar higher than what those around him expect. And in the high jump that matters most — life — he consistently clears that high bar.

As a first generation college student, Beane has built a career thus far on service to others, while struggling with issues in his own life.

Beane’s parents were divorced when he was young, which left his mother to raise him and his younger sister. After his mother passed away several years ago, he was left to head the family.

While he was working his way through school, he was also working with his sister to get her life on track. “She had problems with drugs and her life was a mess, but now she’s doing great. She has a good job, a good husband, and a new baby, and life is going well for her. It’s neat to see her doing so well.”

He also has helped his step-brother through some tough times and is starting to get to know his father again.

Beane, who has always excelled in school, came to osteopathic medicine after trying a couple of other fields of study.

Following high school, he attended Grand Valley State University, where he took courses in pre-physical therapy. He became interested in physical therapy as a career after rehabilitation for a rugby injury. But he found that the field wasn’t exactly what he was looking for and started to pursue other options.

It was at Grand Valley that a faculty member suggested he consider medical school. As president of the college’s pre-med club, Beane had the opportunity to look around.

“I met Paulette Lovell here and Jane Smith in the MSU College of Human Medicine in 1991,” he explained. “I knew I liked the environment at MSUCOM, and based on my research, I believed DO was the way I wanted to go. By my second visit, I was hooked. I knew MSUCOM was where I wanted to be. I was looking for an emphasis on community service and this college offered this and many other opportunities,” Beane explained.

While he was making his decision to apply to medical school and to come to MSUCOM, Beane was busy finishing his undergraduate degrees. He holds a bachelor of arts degree in biopsychology and a bachelor of science degree in health sciences.

Once he had decided to apply to MSUCOM and was waiting to hear about his acceptance, he completed a master’s degree in health sciences, and finished first in his program. Beane graduated magna cum laude from the program at Grand Valley and managed to leave his mark in many other areas there as well.

He managed the on-campus resident judicial system and taught in the Freshman Studies Program as a graduate assistant. Beane also taught intermediate cadaver anatomy lab and introductory physiology lab as an adjunct instructor. During that time at Grand Valley, he was able to help restructure the anatomy curriculum as a part of his graduate work. He plans to return to teach again soon.

“We proposed many curriculum changes when I was there before, so I’m excited to see how they are working,” Beane added.

He has left his mark at MSUCOM as well. Beane has worked to establish strong ties between MSUCOM students and Gateway Community Services in East Lansing.

Since August 1996, Beane has been serving as a health concerns counselor at

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Gateway. "In many ways, the situations patients present with have taught me so much," he added.

Beane has worked to establish a medical student training program so other MSUCOM students can step into similar roles at Gateway. Fifteen MSUCOM students completed the first training session in mid May and are now beginning to volunteer as health concerns counselors. "The clinic is excited to have a more informed volunteer pool and the students get valuable experience that isn't available elsewhere," Beane added.

"I've also been working to get Gateway better connected with medication redistribution programs so they can provide more medicines for their patients who can't afford to purchase prescriptions." By working with pharmaceutical companies and his preceptors, Beane has helped establish new supply lines for medications over the past year.

"This is a tremendous need for them so it is important to have a system in place that works to fill this gap," he said.

In addition to his work at Gateway, Beane also serves his fellow MSUCOM students as a tutor in anatomy, neurosciences, and neuromuscular systems. He is also a peer mentor and he works in the scribe service.

As a side venture, Beane creates World Wide Web pages as a consultant to a medical informatics company to earn extra money to help offset some of his living expenses.

Beane said he is looking forward to starting Unit III. "I'm excited to start clinical training after sitting in the classroom for the past nine years, year around." In addition to the time he will be spending in the hospital completing his Unit III duties, Beane will be helping his family. He has served as role model for his cousins and looks forward to the opportunity to be close to them again. "I need to spend more time in Grand Rapids so I can help my cousins better realize their potential," he added.

In two years, Beane is scheduled to complete his studies at MSUCOM, at which time the osteopathic profession will gain another physician who will help make the world a better place by the strength of his own convictions.

LENDING A HAND — Herbert Yates, DO, clinical professor of family medicine and part-time laboratory instructor in osteopathic clinical skills at the Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine, led a workshop on counterstrain techniques at the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine in February. Dr. Yates is the author of the textbook, Counterstrain: Handbook of Osteopathic Technique. Here, Dr. Yates explains a technique to MSUCOM students. The workshop was sponsored by the Undergraduate American Academy of Osteopathy.
STUDENT BRIEFS

STARR RECEIVES SCHOLARSHIP
James Starr, MSUCOM Class of 2000, has received the Elissa Gatlin Scholarship. The award honors students who demonstrate not only financial need, but also those who are active in volunteer service efforts.

SHAH RECEIVES MAPI SCHOLARSHIP
Poorvi Shah, MSUCOM Class of 1999, has been awarded the 1997-98 Michigan Association of Physicians from India Scholarship for Students of Asian Indian Heritage in the College of Osteopathic Medicine. See related story about the scholarship on page 34.

SPEIRS NAMED SCHOLARSHIP WINNER
Karen Speirs, MSUCOM Class of 2000, recently received the 1997-98 Russell C. McCaughan Education Fund Scholarship. Speirs, who also serves as president of her class, has volunteered for both the Special Olympics and the Immunization Clinic, and was chosen unanimously by the College Scholarship Committee.

KNECHTL RECEIVES SCHOLARSHIP
F. Andrew Knechtl, MSUCOM Class of 1999, has received the 1997 Milios Guilfoyle Expendable Scholarship. The scholarship was established by 1985 MSUCOM graduate Toula Milios Guilfoyle.

FOGELL RECEIVES SCHOLARSHIP
Judy Fogell, MSUCOM Class of 1998, received the CIBA Community Service Award. Her community service activities include serving as a volunteer for Special Olympics and a summer externship program at the Betty Ford Clinic.

HONOR SOCIETY THANKS DONORS
The members of Sigma Sigma Phi, the national osteopathic honorary fraternity, would like to extend its deepest gratitude to the MSUCOM family for their support of the recent clothing drive. Activities like the clothing drive help the society fulfill its commitment to community service in the Greater Lansing area. Clothing can be donated throughout the summer. Donations may be left in the front lobby of East Fee Hall in the drop box across from the elevators. For more information, contact Patrice High, outgoing president, at (517) 355-3924.

MARTIN SELECTED AS STUDENT DO OF THE YEAR
Richard Martin, MSUCOM Class of 1999, has been selected as the 1997 Student DO of the Year, an award that is based on academic achievement and community service. Martin has been involved with numerous outreach projects since he began at MSUCOM, including blood pressure screenings, child health screenings, the Great American Smoke-Out and blood drives.
MSUCOM GRADUATES FOCUS ON COMMUNITY

by Stacy R. Lammers
MSUCOM PR Intern

The “call to action” has been heard. At the recent Summit for America’s Future in Philadelphia, retired General Colin Powell challenged all Americans to volunteer and to pitch in with time and effort to their communities and other areas in need. As he, several former presidents, and numerous public figures figuratively rolled up their sleeves to help rejuvenate poverty-stricken areas, others recall their own efforts in reaching out to the community as a whole.

With the help of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and the Community/University Health Partnership (C/UHP) Project, two 1997 MSUCOM graduates, Gary Ruoff, DO, and Julie Stevens, DO, presented their joint research project at a San Francisco conference last August. Drs. Ruoff and Stevens created and developed a project titled, "Treatment and Referral Patterns of New Onset Depression among 18-65-year-old patients at East Jordan Community Health Center.”

For both graduates, the idea of community was a major influence in their education. Being an integral part of the osteopathic philosophy was one aspect of that, but the outreach to underserved rural areas gave the two students an entirely different outlook on the word “community.”

“I had been exposed to rural medicine before, but this program changed my perspective,” said Dr. Ruoff. “Being more of a ‘hands-on’ participants in the program, were required to complete an extensive, community-based research project, which further interested them in the possibility of pursuing rural medicine.

“Besides having a geographic preference for that type of area, I am interested in helping those who are lacking in medical care,” said Dr. Stevens.

Currently, Drs. Ruoff and Stevens, who became friends and study partners during their second year at MSUCOM, are preparing for internship and residency at the Munson Medical Center in Traverse City where they will continue their focus on family practice medicine. They agree that their experience in the project will definitely help them in the future, especially in further research efforts.

Dr. Ruoff explains how the program helped him. “It taught me to look at problems more critically and analytically, including ways of approaching research,” he said. “Also, it gave more validity to the learning experience, overall.”

According to Dr. Stevens, the research work has also provided her with a stronger background for her career. “Completing the project was very helpful,” she explained. “It helped me...
COMMUNITY
get a handle on research, processing data and results, reviewing literature, and making informed decisions."

During their six months of research on depression, Drs. Ruoff and Stevens studied various community agencies, and developed an idea about how to serve these sparsely-populated areas better without alienating the people in the study. According to Dr. Ruoff, two primary factors cause a need for better care in these communities: lack of basic care providers (agencies, physicians) and a reluctance of people to visit clinics and physicians.

"People in those areas are very busy and hesitant to come in to see a doctor, like a specialist, for example," he said. "So the partnership program offers rotating clinics that travel to these areas, and serves their medical needs."

The skills they obtained from the C/UHP Project augmented the education they received at MSUCOM. Key aspects of the MSUCOM program — motivation, teamwork, camaraderie, integration — enhanced their overall perspectives on working in osteopathic medicine, and built upon the college’s idea of a community-oriented profession.

Dr. Ruoff cites the primary reasons he thrived at MSUCOM. "I really liked the holistic approach of osteopathic medicine to begin with," he said, "and MSUCOM furthered my interest by giving individualized classroom attention and a genuine concern for the students."

Overall, their experiences in MSUCOM and in the C/UHP project have left both Drs. Ruoff and Stevens with a solid and well-rounded education in osteopathic medicine. It is upon this foundation that they plan to advance in research, education, and service to the community.

ALUMNI PRESIDENT’S COLUMN

by John Tower, DO
President, MSUCOM Alumni Association

It has been several months since my last column and a lot has changed. A new class of 131 graduates enters into that memorable year of internship. Shortly, a new class of "freshmen" will hear their first anatomy lecture from Dr. (William) Falls. The Michigan Association of Osteopathic Physicians & Surgeons (MAOP&S) is changing its name to the Michigan Osteopathic Association. MSUCOM no longer has an acting dean, and a new hockey champion has been crowned in Detroit (Go Wings!).

I had the distinguished pleasure of personally congratulating each one of the new graduates as I presented them with a very fashionable MSUCOM pin — a gift from our alumni association. The ceremony was full of emotion. It certainly made me proud to be an alum!

Graduation also marked the end of the very distinguished career of Kay White, PhD. Dr. White has served the college since 1980, and has truly impacted the lives of many of us as we embarked upon our medical education. Dr. White will be a tough act to follow. We wish her well in her future endeavors.

During these few short months of change, the dean’s search committee worked hard to select a permanent dean for our college. After many hours of meetings, the right choice was made. Al Jacobs will be the third dean of MSUCOM. Dr. Jacobs brings several key qualities to our school, not the least of which is his ability to listen very closely to what students and alumni have to say. I believe that we are very fortunate to have Dr. Jacobs as our leader. We wish him well in his task of guiding MSUCOM into the 21st century.

In other news, plans are under way for this fall’s alumni weekend. This will be more than just another fun weekend of old friends and fall football. This weekend will be THE weekend of the fall as our intrastate rivals come down the road for the annual clash between the Spartans and the Wolverines.

The annual continuing medical education program, under the direction of Shirley Harding, DO, Class of 1977, will provide another well-rounded seminar for our alumni. Titled "Chronic Disease: A Challenge for Primary Care," the conference should have something for everyone.

I want to urge all of you to plan ahead for the weekend as tickets may be a little more difficult to come by compared to years past.

The weekend starts Friday evening, Oct. 24 with a reception that will have entertainment, guaranteed camaraderie and family fun. Saturday, Oct. 25 gets off to a fast start with the alumni conference followed by the tailgate party hosted by Al and Kris Jacobs prior to the game. I hope to see you all there.

Finally, as we talk about change, I would be remiss if I did not include the Information Superhighway. The hard-working college staff is moving rapidly to offer easy lines of communication between peers and fellow alumni. We hope to have our own alumni page on the college’s web site to provide a forum for alums. The web site at http://www.com.msu.edu also contains updated information about our college as well as a current calendar of events for those who wish to participate in college functions. As the alumni page becomes a reality, the alumni board welcomes your thoughts and suggestions about what you’d like to see.

I hope you all have a wonderful summer and hope to see many of you this fall.

Fraternally,
John Tower, DO
SISTER ANNE BROOKS:
BLOOMING WHERE SHE'S PLANTED

by Pat Grauer

Sister Anne Brooks, DO, was smiling mysteriously at geraniums, of all things. They’re just like the people back home,” she explained. They grow in spite of you. They’re beautiful. They bloom. They’re hardy.”

This profound respect for her patients is probably one of the strongest elements of this osteopathic physician’s healing practice. “Back home” is Tutwiler, Mississippi, a place in which she chose to live and work explicitly because the needs of its people were so great. She moved there shortly after graduation from MSUCOM for the simple reason that it was “rotten poor,” the poorest county in the nation.

Currently, the county is home to approximately 14,000 people, only 5,500 of whom are employed. Median income is at the poverty level.

Her creativity, effort, and commitment to these people have wrought enormous changes in the community, changes most recently recognized by Michigan State University when it awarded her an honorary degree at its May commencement ceremonies. Her alma mater also hailed her several years ago with the MSU Distinguished Alumni Award.

The differences she’s made in the community are not limited to health care. True to her holistic osteopathic heritage, Sr. Brooks has established programs to deal with education, employment, housing, mental health, relationships, racism, and the spiritual growth of the people of Tutwiler.

The products are quite tangible: 42 women have received their GEDs, patients are able to stay on medication because of the donations of drugs she’s received and Habitat for Humanity has constructed seven homes in the area. Health care is better. She’s receiving far fewer evening and night calls at home, and the regional hospital now has recruited specialists and added an MRI to supplement the primary care offered.

It’s typical for Dr. Brooks, who graduated from MSUCOM in 1982, when asked about programs, to tell you about people — remarkable stories of both pain and triumph.

Some of the stories she shared were:

• A new housing project required a $385 deposit for each family to move in, a sum well beyond their means. The clinic’s nurse practitioner identified stable families, interviewed each with a counselor, and established formal contracts for a loan. Everyone paid back what they had promised. Nonetheless, several were evicted because, under what Sr. Brooks calls the “sharecropper mentality” of the community, they hadn’t realized that there would be charges for water and heat.

• As part of a summer program, 9- to 12-year-olds learn basic societal skills; for example, they’re taken to WalMart to learn how to buy clothing, and to McDonald’s to learn how to pay for food, eat in public, and use trays.

• These rural Mississippi communities are besieged by Chicago gangs, who promote the use of crack and recruit members among the children.

• A woman, handicapped by a compressed nerve in her hand, worked painfully to participate in the community’s quilting project, a cottage industry which exports handmade goods. Her first nine efforts at making shoulder bags were rejected because of low quality, but she kept trying. She has now advanced to cutting the material and handling patterns, and realized her life goals of getting dentures and owning a brick house.

• A male patient was brought into the clinic in handcuffs for treatment. After Dr. Brooks had seen him, the nurse told him that he was “free to go.” He took her at her word, and did!

She often sees the worst of clinical cases because patients wait so long to seek care: a man with blood pressure of 266/170 and blood-red urine, a woman with 13 children at home and an enormous cervical cancer, a 19-year-old who overdosed on acetaminophen.

How does she deal with the pain she encounters, the anger she feels?

First, I meditate,” Dr. Brooks said. “I see my role as Sister/Doctor to accompany people back Home. I think that this proactive part of the journeys helps deal with the reactive anger.

Very often patients feel that doctors do not listen,” Brooks, a former teacher, noted. “I still have chalk dust in my veins. I sit with them, and draw pictures, and make everything as clear as I can make it. That’s so important.”

Finally,” she said, coming full circle, “the people in my practice are so strong. They walk through hell and come out on top. They rise to the occasion, deal with the hassle. How could I be weak in the face of that strength?”
ALUMNI WEEKEND

Mark your calendars now for Alumni Weekend 1997. The weekend kicks off with a reception and all-class reunion, with special recognition to the classes of 1977, 1982 and 1987 from 7-11 p.m. Friday, Oct. 24, at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing. The event includes a cash bar, hors d’oeuvres, music and a visit from Sparty.

On Saturday, Oct. 25, the day gets underway with the annual alumni continuing medical education seminar scheduled from 7-11 a.m. at the Kellogg Center. This year’s seminar will focus on “Chronic Disease: A Challenge for Primary Care.” Topics include chronic fatigue syndrome, irritable bowel syndrome, pain control and interstitial cystitis.

Following the seminar, join your favorite alumni, faculty and staff, and meet our current students at a tailgate sponsored by Dean Jacobs and his wife, Kris. The tailgate ends in time for everyone to grab their seats for the Michigan State vs. Michigan football game. Remember how you froze in the snow at the football game on alumni weekend in 1995? We’re prepared this time. We have reserved a room at the Kellogg Center with a big screen television where beverages and snacks will be served during the game. The number of football tickets available to MSUCOM alumni may be limited; so make your reservations early. For more information, please call Jan Falls at (517) 353-9714.

RECEPTION SLATED
The Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine and the Michigan Association of Osteopathic Family Physicians (MAOFP) will host a welcome reception at the MAOFP Convention on July 31 at 6 p.m. The convention, scheduled for July 31-Aug. 2, will be held at the Grand Traverse Resort in Traverse City, Mich. For more information about the reception, contact Jan Falls at (517) 353-9714.

HELP US FIND YOUR CLASSMATES
We are missing addresses for the following people. Among the missing are: Frances Demattia, DO; Brent Allan, DO; Johnson Jackson, DO; Luis Murrain, DO; Denice Thomas-Marshall, DO; Karen Rhodes, DO; Bela Lanez, DO; and Michael Barnes, DO.

If you know their whereabouts, please contact Jan Falls at (517) 353-9714.

ALUMNI BRIEFS

JOHNSON TAPPED FOR NEW POSITION
The U.S. Coast Guard recently announced its selection of Rear Admiral (RADM) Joyce Johnson, DO, a 1980 graduate of MSUCOM, for the position of Chief Medical Officer/Director of Health and Safety. RADM Johnson began her duties at the Coast Guard Base 1, and will assume full responsibilities for the appointment Sept. 1.

In her new position, RADM Johnson holds the rank of a two-star admiral. She is the second DO to attain a flag rank (assistant surgeon general) in the Public Health Service, and the first female osteopathic physician to attain flag rank in any uniformed service. She is also the first female flag officer in a Coast Guard uniform.

RADM Johnson was this year’s commencement speaker. In 1996, she received the Dean’s Alumni Community Service Award for her contributions to the osteopathic profession.

BROOKS RECEIVES HONORARY DEGREE
Sister Anne Brooks, DO, a 1982 graduate of MSUCOM, received an honorary doctor of science degree from Michigan State University during its May commencement ceremonies. Sr. Brooks has served the impoverished area around Tutwiler, Miss., since completing her medical education and training programs. She is featured as the alumni profile in this issue of COMMnique. To learn more about her work, see related story, page 30.

GRIMSHAW EARN EARN AWARD
David Grimshaw, DO, MSUCOM Class of 1986, has joined 270 other osteopathic physicians in receiving the Certification in Special Proficiency in Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine (CSPOMM). Dr. Grimshaw, who currently practices in Sewickley, Pa., successfully completed written, oral, and practical examinations to earn the certificate.

SCOTT APPOINTMENT
Fremont Scott III, DO, a 1980 graduate of MSUCOM, was named chief-of-staff at Bi-County Community Hospital (Osteopathic) in Warren. Dr. Scott specializes in orthopedic surgery. He also serves as an assistant clinical professor of osteopathic surgical specialties for MSUCOM.

- See ALUMNI BRIEFS: Page 32 -
DAVIS APPOINTMENT
John Davis, DO, a 1987 graduate of MSUCOM, has been appointed treasurer of Bi-County Community Hospital's medical staff. Dr. Davis specializes in anesthesiology.

DOUMA APPOINTMENT
Mari Douma, DO, a 1993 graduate of MSUCOM, was recently appointed to the professional staff at the Michigan Capital Medical Center. Dr. Douma, who also serves as a faculty member in pediatrics at MSUCOM, completed her internship and residency at Sparrow Hospital in Lansing.

PAGE-ECHOLS PRESENTS LECTURE
William Page-Echols, DO, a 1984 graduate of MSUCOM, presented a lecture on the health connections between traditional and alternative medicine in March at the Michigan Capital Medical Center with a focus on the benefits of combining the mind, body and spirit in achieving optimal health. Dr. Page-Echols is a family practitioner in East Lansing and a faculty member in MSUCOM’s Department of Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine.

MUSTONEN NAMED TO ADVISORY BOARD
Sylvia Mustonen, DO, a 1979 graduate of MSUCOM, was appointed to the Michigan Osteopathic Medicine Advisory Board in April. The board, appointed by Gov. John Engler, serves the college in an advisory capacity. She recently joined former classmate Carol Monson, DO, in practice at the Westside Family Medical Center in Okemos. Dr. Mustonen serves as an assistant clinical professor in family and community medicine at MSUCOM.

RHULE APPOINTED TO BOARD
Ron Rhule, DO, a 1973 graduate of MSUCOM, was recently appointed to the Michigan Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery by Michigan Gov. John Engler. Dr. Rhule, who also serves as an associate clinical professor of family and community medicine at MSUCOM, practices emergency and family medicine in Williamston.

FIELD COLUMN IN NEWSLETTER
Benjamin Field, DO, MSUCOM Class of 1979, discussed the ethics of emergency care in the April issue of the American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians newsletter. Dr. Field, who practices emergency medicine in Phoenix, Ariz., criticized an Arizona hospital’s policy of “up-selling” emergency care in order to increase its yearly patient volume.

MSUCOM ALUMNI NEWS FROM SOUTHERN OREGON
Here are updates on several MSUCOM graduates who live and work in southern Oregon.

Kristine Groskopp, DO, Class of 1985, is continuing in full family practice and obstetrics. She has been a board member of FamilyCare, an osteopathically-focused managed care organization, for the last five years.

Thomas Hartkop, DO, Class of 1980, was recently appointed to the Oregon Medical Assistance Plan Pharmacy Medical Advisory Board. He has been in practice with Dr. Groskopp and John Shoner, DO, in Central Point, Ore., for two years.

John Shoner, DO, Class of 1980, is in family practice in Central Point, Ore. He has been a board member of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons of Oregon for the last 13 years. He also serves as public policy chairperson for state legislative issues for OPSO.

Steve Thomas, DO, Class of 1981, has gone into private practice in osteopathic manipulative therapy while maintaining a practice of emergency medicine in Ashland, Ore.

Kathryn Troll Henderson, DO, Class of 1981, is practicing emergency medicine in Ashland, Ore.
Building Relationships for the Future

T. McKinney, DO
President, Michigan Osteopathic Association

Building relationships, one organization or one person with another, is mandatory in creating a meaningful existence. Both personal and business relationships are important to each of us. Steven Covey has built his reputation by showing us how important they are as we make our way through the business world. Building relationships is what Al Jacobs, DO, PhD, as the dean of MSUCOM, can lead us toward in his new position.

First, on behalf of the entire membership of the Michigan Osteopathic Association (MOA), I would like to congratulate Dr. Jacobs on his appointment. He has worked hard and long for the osteopathic profession. But his work has just begun.

From the association's perspective, there are three ways in which Dean Jacobs can continue to assist the profession. And all three revolve around building relationships with others.

Dean Jacobs can serve as a conduit to cement relations between the association and the students. The students are the future of our profession. What better way for them to carry the torch than to get them involved in organized osteopathic medicine early in their careers? Part of our strategic plan focuses on bringing and keeping students into the organization. We have begun by providing space for the students at this year's convention. But there are so many more ways we can work together. I hope the dean will seek the assistance of MOA in this regard.

Beginning this year, the dean will become an ex-officio member of the MOA Council of Government Affairs. With his help, the college and the association can together work on various lobbying efforts developed to join the educational aspects of osteopathic medicine with the association and the college, always keeping our patients in mind.

While many of us have tired of the term joint venture, it is a term that is relevant even in the world of associations and colleges. There are some joint efforts that can be explored between our two organizations. There is always room in education to discuss how we can more closely work together. Seeking the dean's guidance in putting our physician members on the faculty is one area. There also may be duplication in some publications or printed materials produced by the two groups. Now is an excellent time to review some of these ideas.

Focusing on these three recommendations can strengthen the relationship between MOA and MSUCOM. It will also give us the impetus to build relationships with other groups and individuals and move forward toward a more productive tomorrow.

Best of luck in your continued role, Dean Jacobs!
Welcome to the Society — MSU President M. Peter McPherson and Mrs. Joanne McPherson hosted the leadership of the Michigan Osteopathic College Foundation (MOCF) at a dinner on April 3 to recognize the foundation as a new member to the Frank S. Kezirz Society at Michigan State University. The Kezirz Society is a university-wide donor club that acknowledges cumulative gift totals of $1 million or more. Dorothy E. Carnegie, DO, president of MOCF, received the Kezirz Society plaque from President McPherson. Individuals who attended the dinner and are pictured from left to right are: Dennis Paradis, executive director, Michigan Osteopathic Association; Maynard Amelon, DO, MOCF Board of Trustees; Max Dubinsky, CPA, MOCF Board of Trustees; Floyd Meachum, DO, MOCF Board of Trustees; President McPherson; Eugene Sikorski, DO, MOCF Board of Trustees; Dorothy Carnegie, DO; Edward Loniewski, DO, MOCF Board of Trustees; Joseph Balog, DO, vice president MOCF; Frank McDevitt, DO, MOCF Board of Trustees; Wayne Meech, DO, MOCF corporate board member; and Allen Jacobs, DO, PhD, MSUCOM dean.

Physicians Endow Scholarship

The Michigan Association of Physicians from India (MAPI) and the local Lansing chapter of MAPI have made a significant and lasting contribution to their community by establishing two endowed scholarships for Asian Indian students enrolled at Michigan State University’s Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine and Human Medicine. The scholarships have been fully endowed at the $20,000 level in each college. The Michigan Association of Physicians from India Endowed Scholarship Fund for Students of Asian Indian Heritage will support at least one student from each medical school in perpetuity. As the endowment grows over time, and with additional gifts, the amount of income available to support the scholarship will increase.

MAPI’s contribution to COM and CHM is of particular significance because the association raised $40,000 from its membership within a six-month period to endow the two scholarships. Donors who establish endowed scholarships typically take the full five-year period allowed by the university to fully fund an endowment. Students and faculty of the College of Osteopathic Medicine contributed more than $2,000 to the MAPI endowed scholarship fund in memory of the COM student, Kanwal Khaliq, who was killed in a train accident in December 1996.

The Michigan Association of Physicians from India Endowed Scholarship Fund is intended to increase diversity within the medical colleges. Through its support, MAPI will enhance educational opportunities and access for students of Asian Indian heritage, and especially for those who are economically disadvantaged.

Individuals who are interested in donating to the MAPI Endowed Scholarship Fund or who want to contribute to the college should contact:

Dee Telman
Director of Development
A314 East Fee Hall
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan 48824
(517) 355-8355

Shown at the presentation of the checks to endow the MAPI scholarships in MSUCOM and MSUCHM are: (from left) Anant Bhogaonker, MD, treasurer, MAPI; Kasum Kumar, MD, MSUCHM liaison for MAPI scholarship; Suresh Gupta, MD, president-elect, MAPI; Ram Nagappan, MD, regional director, MAPI, Lansing Chapter; Verinder Aggarwal, MD chairman, MAPI board of trustees; Allen Jacobs, DO, PhD, MSUCOM dean; Ashir Kumar, MD, faculty member MSUCHM; William Abbott, PhD, MSUCHM; Gayatri Garg, president, MAPI; Majid Taj, MD, resident, MSUCHM; and Surekha Rav, past president, MAPI.
**Calendar**

**July**

**July 20**
Ellen’s Race. Pinecrest Elementary School (East Lansing), 9 a.m.-3 p.m. The MSU College of Osteopathic Medicine is the Platinum Sponsor and the Department of Psychiatry is a Silver Sponsor for this 5K event (3.1 miles), which raises funds through entry fees and pledge donations for Ele’s Place, Pinecrest School and the Michigan Capitol Girl Scouts. The race celebrates the life of Ellen Osborn, who was an East Lansing fourth grader when she died on November 23, 1993. A one-mile fun run/walk and a free kids sprint are held in conjunction with the race. Pledges totaling at least $15 waive the individual entry fee of $12 prior to July 10. Family entry fee is $36 when applications are mailed together. Mugs will be awarded to age division winners, and rocking chairs made from recycled plastic will go to the top overall men’s and women’s finishers. Participants who collect at least $50 in pledges will qualify for gift certificates. All 5K entrants are eligible for raffle drawings. Entry includes T-shirt, food, entertainment, and educational recycling booths. For more information, please contact organizers by e-mail (ellensrace@aol.com).

**July 31-Aug. 2**
Michigan Association of Osteopathic Family Physicians Convention. Grand Traverse Resort, Traverse City, Mich. MSU COM and MAOFP will host a welcome reception on Thursday, July 31 from 6-7 p.m. Contact the Office of Continuing Medical Education at (517) 353-9714 for more information.

**August**

**Aug. 19-22**
Class of 2001 Orientation. For a schedule of events, contact the MSU COM Admissions Office at (517) 353-7740.

**Aug. 22**
Convocation. Conrad Hall, 3:30 p.m. Presentation of the Walter F. Patenge Medals of Public Service, official college welcome and white coat ceremony for the Class of 2001. All members of the college community are invited to attend. Contact Beth Courcy at (517) 355-4608 for more information.

**September**

**Sept. 12-13**
International Symposium on the Cellular and Molecular Mechanisms of Carcinogenesis and Mutagenesis. Kellogg Center, East Lansing. Two day symposium offered in collaboration with the American Cancer Society as its annual research program, featuring 16 international scientists who are conducting cancer research. Spearheaded by Justin McCormick, PhD, associate dean for research, and Veronica Maher, PhD, associate dean for graduate studies, from the MSU-COM Carcinogenesis Laboratory. Contact Dr. Maher at (517) 353-7785 for more information.

**Sept. 24-28**
Level I Muscle Energy. Kellogg Center, East Lansing. Chairperson — Carl Steele, DO. Contact the Office of Continuing Medical Education at (517) 353-9714 for more information.

**October**

**Oct. 19-23**
American Osteopathic Association Convention. San Antonio, Texas. Contact the AOA at (312) 280-5800 for more information.

**Oct. 24-25**
Alumni Weekend. Weekend kicks off with a reception and all-class reunion from 7-11 p.m. Friday, Oct. 24, at the Kellogg Center. The classes of 1977, 1982 and 1987 will be celebrating their 20th, 15th and 10th year reunions. The event includes a cash bar, hors d’oeuvres, music and a visit from Sparty. On Saturday, Oct. 25, the day gets under way with the annual alumni continuing medical education seminar scheduled from 7-11 a.m. at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing. This year’s seminar will focus on “Chronic Disease: A Challenge for Primary Care.” Topics include chronic fatigue syndrome, irritable bowel syndrome, pain control and interstitial cystitis. Following the seminar, join your favorite alumni, faculty and staff, and meet our current students at the tailgate sponsored by Dean Jacobs and his wife Kris, prior to the Michigan State vs. Michigan football game. For more information, please call Jan Falls at (517) 353-9714.