Celebrating Osteopathic History and MSU's Sesquicentennial
As we at Michigan State University celebrate our sesquicentennial this year, it’s interesting to understand ourselves in a historical context. Osteopathic education, dating from the founding of the American School of Osteopathy by A.T. Still in 1892, parallels three-quarters of MSU’s history. But the history of the College of Osteopathic Medicine, adopted by MSU in 1969, already encompasses one quarter of MSU’s history and one-third of the osteopathic profession’s history.

MSUCOM, founded originally as the private Michigan College of Osteopathic Medicine in Pontiac, was created by the love, diligence and sacrifice of the osteopathic physicians of this state. It was the first new college of osteopathic medicine in a century, the first to be located at a major university, the first to be state-assisted, and the first to develop a joint D.O./Ph.D. degree program. We were created by a public act of the Michigan legislature to meet the growing demand for physicians — particularly primary care physicians — in the state.

We have met that mission superbly, providing 3,377 compassionate and well-educated physicians, more than half of whom are practicing primary care medicine and two-thirds of whom are remaining in the state. But now, experts estimate a new physician shortage in Michigan of more than 6,000 by 2020, created by the retirement of Baby Boomer doctors. With the admission this summer of the largest class in our history — 206 students — we are already prepared to address this shortfall.

In this issue of Communiqué we’re celebrating MSU’s sesquicentennial by celebrating our part of its history. You’ll find old friends, familiar faces, and resurrected memories here. Please enjoy browsing the issue, and appreciate who we have become as osteopathic physicians and educators — for Michigan, for the United States, for the world.

William D. Strampel, D.O.
Dean

CONTENTS

1855: Medical Practices at the Birth of MSU ..............................................2
A.T. Still: The Beginning of Osteopathic Medicine .....................................3
Act 162 of 1969: Creation of MSUCOM ..................................................4
MSUCOM and the Osteopathic Profession ..................................................5
Department of Family and Community Medicine ....................................6
A Chat with Dean Magen ............................................................................7
1970s ..........................................................................................................8
Living History: Celia Garo, Ph.D. ..............................................................9
Department of Osteopathic Surgical Specialties .......................................10
Department of Psychiatry .........................................................................10
Department of Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine ...............................11
Steady Leadership: Philip Greenman, D.O ..............................................12
Department of Radiology ........................................................................12
Department of Pediatrics .......................................................................13
1980s .......................................................................................................14
Department of Internal Medicine .............................................................15
A National Model: Statewide Campus System ........................................15
1990s .......................................................................................................16
Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation ............................17
Commitment to Primary Care: Douglas Wood, D.O., Ph.D. ....................17
Enriching Student Facilities: Kabiliak Centers ........................................18
Community Focus: Allen Jacobs, D.O., Ph.D. .........................................19
Department of Neurology and Ophthalmology .......................................19
Today .....................................................................................................20
Visions and Growth: William D. Strampel, D.O. ......................................21
Research at MSUCOM: Andrea Amalitano, D.O., Ph.D. .........................21
Celebrating Today’s Milestones ...............................................................22
Student Clubs and Organizations ..........................................................25
MSUCOM Alumni Network ....................................................................26
Development: A History of Benefaction ................................................27
MOA .......................................................................................................28
Alumni Association ................................................................................28
Calendar of Events .................................................................................inside back cover

MSUCOM appreciates the generous and continuing support for COMMUNIQUÉ offered through the Michigan Osteopathic College Foundation. Thank you!
In February 1864, Abe, Susan and Marcia Still died of cerebrospinal meningitis. At the time, their father, Andrew Taylor Still, was a major in the Union Army. He was aghast at how current medical practices were unable to save his children’s lives. His concern deepened on the battlefield when he noted that more men in his unit died from disease and infection than from actual battle wounds. Unfamiliar with the ability of current medical practices to cure these maladies, he began exploring other avenues of treatment. Still eventually left his machinist career to deepen his study of anatomy. He quickly became infamous in his hometown of Kirksville, Missouri, for having a complete human skeleton in a bag he carried with him. He would pull out a few of the bones to study their structure and relationship with one another throughout the day. This constant exploration gave him an unprecedented understanding of anatomy, allowing him to see links between disease and the human body as no one else had previously.

Confident in his discoveries, Still established the American School of Osteopathy in 1892 to spread his knowledge to others. All graduates left with a thorough understanding of anatomy, and were encouraged to come back from time to time to improve their understanding of the body’s structure.

When Still died on December 12, 1917, osteopathic medicine had grown from his one college to 13. Organizations such as the American Association for the Advancement of Osteopathy and the Associated Colleges of Osteopathy had been established to expand the acceptance of osteopathic medicine and to maintain high standards for colleges and their graduates. The seeds A.T. Still had sowed had begun to take root.

Still was known around Kirksville for his walking stick and bag of bones.
The University of Michigan did not submit a statement, leaving “the initiative to the State Board of Education.” Only Michigan State University accepted the responsibility to establish a full college on September 19, 1969.

In 1971, the private osteopathic college transferred to the East Lansing campus and was known as the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine (MSUCOM). MSUCOM was the first publicly assisted osteopathic college, the first to be part of a major university, and the first new school in more than a half-century. From this beginning came an explosion of osteopathic education, with 23 colleges currently in session across the United States, and the potential for more than 30 by the end of the decade.

The creation of MSUCOM did more than add another location to teach osteopathic medicine; it began to change how the osteopathic profession saw itself. “The profession, which was initially quite insular educationally, was suddenly thrust into the mainstream of medical education,” said Dr. Myron S. Magen, founding dean for MSUCOM. “The profession no longer controlled the college as it had the private schools. In other words, the entire osteopathic education system was opened up to a much wider scrutiny than ever before.”

This deeper inquiry into osteopathic medical education brought with it not only unprecedented public exposure, but also provided opportunities to have dialogue with those in the allopathic profession.

“The other thing the creation of this school did,” continued Dr. Magen, “was to show the profession that number one, it was possible to start a new school, and two, that it was possible to get state assistance for the formation of a college of osteopathic medicine. We were the first new school in 53 years and the first to be state assisted.”

Shortly after the establishment of MSUCOM, other state-assisted osteopathic colleges sprung up in Texas, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Ohio and West Virginia.

“It did something else,” Dr. Magen said. “It suddenly forced the education component of the profession to take a look at the academic medium.”

The osteopathic profession had previously been concerned with producing quality physicians, but now the profession had the opportunity to pursue research. “The pursuit of knowledge for knowledge’s sake was something that the private schools could neither afford nor really put their attention to. Being in the middle of a major research university gave us resources that no other osteopathic college had been exposed to. It also allowed us to develop a program in which we could give people not only a clinical degree, but could also provide the scientific knowledge base that a Ph.D. would give them so they could combine teaching, patient care and research.”

The training of D.O./Ph.D.s was critical to take osteopathic medicine to the next step. They allowed for research inside the profession to better understand the effects of manipulative medicine on a patient, and to also uncover other possibilities. “Ph.D.s have enabled us to do things such as build a first class neurology department,” Dr. Magen said. “It also enabled us to take advantage of resources in the College of Human Medicine – to have joint departments and joint programs with them. It allowed us to take advantage of the international studies program of Michigan State and, with guidance and assistance, to develop programs overseas.”

In the relatively short time MSUCOM has been a part of osteopathic education, the college has played a vital role in bringing the potential of the profession to fruition. “In actuality,” said Dr. Magen, “I think the establishment of MSUCOM caused a renaissance in osteopathic education, a revitalization that had been dormant for 53 years.”
A Chat with Dean Magen

by Craig Reed

A few months ago, I had the opportunity to visit Dr. Magen in his home in East Lansing to pick his brain about what he has seen during his decades of involvement in the osteopathic profession.

What would you consider to be the greatest accomplishment of MSUCOM?

“Survival. When we came here, about one third of the profession was in favor of us moving to Michigan State, one third was opposed and one third didn’t care either way. The third that was opposed to our move were convinced that we were going to be eaten alive because we were in a major university, which had never been done before, and were next door to an M.D. institution, sharing facilities and people with them. Since we were part of the minority profession, many thought we would be submerged.”

So what do you see as part of the major challenges for the college now?

“With the expansion of the class size, certainly that is a challenge, but I think the college is now on an exceedingly firm foundation. I don’t think we have to prove ourselves educationally. I think now we have to spend a lot more time in the area of research — all sorts of research. And I think that’s coming. It’s always a slow process. I think for the first time we have at least a minimum number of D.O.s who are trained in science plus other resources that are available within and without the university. I think the next main challenge is to prove the intellectual capacity of the college.”

I had a chance to read an article from the early ‘70s where you list several of your goals. Do you feel that these goals have been accomplished?

“I don’t think you ever accomplish or finish any of those things. I think they are ongoing and hopefully they get stronger and better each year that you go. Particularly an administrator in a leadership position, to always be unsatisfied — not to get too comfortable.”

Dr. Magen served as dean for MSUCOM from 1978/2000.

As one of the original departments within MSUCOM, Family and Community Medicine (FCM) has a rich history which dates back to the days when the college was a private institution at Pontiac. “Family medicine originally had almost all the academic and clinical responsibilities back then,” said Dr. Robert Ward, founding chairperson.

“Our responsibilities in the early years were constantly in flux.”

As the college transitioned from Pontiac to MSU, the department was one of the first to see both the opportunities and challenges of their new location. “We were the first college of osteopathic medicine which was to be located with an M.D. school on the same campus,” said Dr. Lynn Brumm, chairperson and professor emeritus of FCM.

“This new venture was an experiment for us all.”

With the college now under the wing of MSU, FCM began developing its outreach programs. “Originally, when we moved here, we implemented a number of programs,” said Dr. Ward. Shortly after arriving, the department set up a substance abuse clinic in Lansing and developed a partnership with the State of Michigan’s Department of Corrections to set up a primary care clinical skills program. “These first ventures,” said Dr. Ward, “were functionally successful. Most of what we tried lasted for several years, which was considered good back then.”

In more recent times, the department has proudly continued building programs by helping to develop the first Primary Care Ambulatory Clerkship. These early agendas started a tradition of outreach and creative thinking which has put its mark on the college as it has grown and developed.

Dr. Brumm has built a national reputation for treating elite athletes with OMM.

Dr. Magen has built a national reputation for treating elite athletes with OMM.


1961
State of California converts 2,500 D.O. degrees to M.D. in attempt to phase out osteopathic medicine.

1961
Michigan D.O.s create Michigan Osteopathic College Foundation to support osteopathic education.

1967
D.O.s begin to be drafted as medical officers in the armed forces.

1967
The Department of Psychiatry is established at MSU.

1969
Governor William Milliken signs Act 62 which allowed for the creation of MSUCOM, the first publicly assisted osteopathic college.

1968
Governor William Milliken signs Act 62 which allowed for the creation of MSUCOM, the first publicly assisted osteopathic college.

1969
The Department of Psychiatry is established at MSU.

1961
Michigan D.O.s create the Michigan Osteopathic College Foundation to support osteopathic education.

1964
The largest single-campus educational institution in the state is named “Michigan State University,” its sixth name.

1966
The College of Human Medicine admits its first students.

1967
The College of Human Medicine admits its first students.

1969
Governor William Milliken signs Act 62 which allowed for the creation of MSUCOM, the first publicly assisted osteopathic college.

1968
The largest single-campus educational institution in the state is named “Michigan State University,” its sixth name.

1969
Governor William Milliken signs Act 62 which allowed for the creation of MSUCOM, the first publicly assisted osteopathic college.
Celebrating MSU’s Sesquicentennial

1970s
Revolutionizing Osteopathic Education

Living History
Celia Guro’s 33 years of dedication to MSUCOM
by Craig Reed

It would be a challenging feat to go through MSUCOM as a student and not bump into Dr. Celia Guro. Throughout most of the college’s history, Dr. Guro has been walking the corridors of Fee Hall.

“I came here in July of ‘72. I was 28 at the time,” said Dr. Guro. “I’m going on my 34th year here at the college.” Whether they graduated in the ’90s or the ’70s, alumni recognize her immediately by her bubbly energy and her use of the term “lovely.”

Before she joined MSUCOM, Dr. Guro started her career as a teacher in Grand Rapids. “I had been wanting to teach since I was three years old,” Dr. Guro said. “I ended up teaching third grade. The school system wasn’t attending to their students’ needs. I was thinking about quitting my career as a teacher.”

In 1972, Dr. Guro received an offer to be an instructor at MSU’s College of Education. “I loved it,” she beamed. “I had a wonderful time there.”

In 1972, Dr. Guro found herself returning to MSU when Dean Myron S. Magen offered her a position at the new MSUCOM. “I was one of the very first assistants to Dean Magen,” she said. While the time she spent within the dean’s office was rewarding, Dr. Guro missed the time she spent with students, and both she and Dr. Magen began searching for a position where she could interact with them. Little did either of them know, the answer would come from a meeting they had with student leaders, who expressed an interest in having Dr. Guro in student services. “I said ‘yes’ when Dr. Magen offered me the position as director of personal counseling and advising,” she said. “I missed my contact with the students.”

Today she is still in her office helping students. “This is the happiest, most rewarding job I’ve ever had,” she said. In addition to advising, Dr. Guro is the first vice president for the National Council for Mental Illness in Lansing, the chairperson for the Senior Health Committee in Ingham Regional Medical Center, associate professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine at MSUCOM, runs several support groups, and “I work out at the Michigan Athletic Club regularly too.”

Her career as an advisor hasn’t always been smooth. Nearly 10 years ago, Dr. Guro was diagnosed with a deadly condition called scleroderma, in which the epithelium in the skin and some organs begin to harden. Recently, Dr. Guro came back to work after receiving several rounds of chemotherapy for breast cancer. In spite of these problems, Dr. Guro intends to keep her position. “With God’s help, I would like to stay at the college as long as I can continue to assist future physicians with life issues.”

For more than three decades Dr. Guro has provided support for MSUCOM students (1982/2005).

1970
Dr. Clifton R. Wharton Jr. becomes the first African American president of any major university in the U.S.

1971
MSUCOM moves to East Lansing campus and the first class is enrolled in the state-supported school.

1972
The Department of Biomechanics is established.

1973
Full practice rights for D.O.s in all 50 states and the District of Columbia are accomplished.
A Curriculum of Caring

Osteopathic Surgical Specialties
by Craig Reed

Originally called the Department of Osteopathic Medicine, Osteopathic Surgical Specialties (OSS) has gone through a considerable number of changes. “When the department first started, we included internal medicine and pediatrics,” said Shirley Harding, D.O., chairperson of OSS. “As the other units split off and set up their own departments, we began to see that it’s confusing to have a college and a department by the same name.” In 1997, the name was changed. For OSS, part of their history has involved exploring their place within osteopathic medicine, considering that surgery is associated more often with specialty practices within the allopathic profession. “We’re holistic,” said Dr. Harding. “We work on the whole person and how we can prevent problems with the body in the future. That means we have to be aware of the whole body and how problems and possible solutions can affect other organ systems.” Part of the more recent history of OSS has been their willingness to take their skills overseas, traveling to places like Guatemala. “Dr. Donald Bartkowski has taken interns, residents and medical students with him to help the underserved in Guatemala. He has treated children with birth defects who would not otherwise be treated,” said Dr. Harding.

Hand in Development

Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine
by Craig Reed

While the name Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine (OMM) is relatively new, the department itself has a history dating back to the ’70s. Originally called Biomechanics, the unit was started to conduct research into osteopathic manipulative medicine and the basic science underlying it. “I came to MSU originally to put together the department, said Dr. Philip Greenman, founding chairperson of biomechanics. “Our goal was to improve research and make biomechanics the bedrock of osteopathic medicine.” By researching the science behind manual medicine, Dr. Greenman and his team of D.O. and Ph.D. faculty members began to discover the reasons why it was effective. “No one had really looked into why osteopathic methods worked until then,” Greenman said. For much of the late seventies and eighties, the unit was also heavily involved with elite athletes, studying some of the challenges they faced along with their physiology and how to help maximize their performance. A discovery which the unit helped spread was muscle energy technique which involves using muscle contractions as activating forces. Dr. Greenman and Dr. ... muscle energy. “We came back to the department and began setting up classes to teach it,” said Dr. Greenman. “We were the second school in the nation to offer such courses.” As the needs of the college began to change, the role for the unit was reevaluated. In 1995, Dr. Oliver Hayes, then the chairperson, changed the name of the department to OMM and moved its role to teaching and practicing clinically focused manipulative medicine.

Healing for the Mind

Department of Psychiatry
by Pat Grauer

Created in 1968 as a solely-administered unit of the then two-year-old College of Human Medicine, the Department of Psychiatry predated MSUCOM. Alan Enelow, M.D., a nationally recognized psychiatrist, was the first chairperson. By the time MSUCOM had graduated its first class of D.O.’s in 1973, Norbert Enzer, M.D., an eminent child psychiatrist, had been recruited as chairperson of a department that then reported to both MSU medical deans. Dr. Enzer is now honored each year with an endowed lectureship in psychiatry in his name, focusing on issues “from science to culture.” Throughout its history, the department has focused on preclinical education of medical students to provide the mental health skills they will need as primary care practitioners. In addition, the department created a nationally recognized joint D.O./M.D. psychiatric residency program, which participates in joint training with MSUCOM’s Department of Family and Community Medicine and CHM’s Department of Family Practice. The faculty of the department provide comprehensive evaluation and treatment for mental disorders in adults, adolescents, children and the elderly. Faculty members are expert in several subspecialty areas of psychiatry, including eating disorders, mood disorders, geriatric psychiatry, gender and sexual issues, mental disorders due to medical conditions, and sports and performing arts medicine.

Dr. Shirley Harding currently leads OSS (1988).

OSS has benefited from the dedicated service of Dr. Walter Mill who served as chairperson for the department for many years (1982).

OSU Hands on Development

Osteopathic Surgical Specialties
by Craig Reed

Originally called the Department of Osteopathic Medicine, Osteopathic Surgical Specialties (OSS) has gone through a considerable number of changes. “When the department first started, we included internal medicine and pediatrics,” said Shirley Harding, D.O., chairperson of OSS. “As the other units split off and set up their own departments, we began to see that it’s confusing to have a college and a department by the same name.” In 1997, the name was changed. For OSS, part of their history has involved exploring their place within osteopathic medicine, considering that surgery is associated more often with specialty practices within the allopathic profession. “We’re holistic,” said Dr. Harding. “We work on the whole person and how we can prevent problems with the body in the future. That means we have to be aware of the whole body and how problems and possible solutions can affect other organ systems.” Part of the more recent history of OSS has been their willingness to take their skills overseas, traveling to places like Guatemala. “Dr. Donald Bartkowski has taken interns, residents and medical students with him to help the underserved in Guatemala. He has treated children with birth defects who would not otherwise be treated,” said Dr. Harding.

Healing for the Mind

Department of Psychiatry
by Pat Grauer

Created in 1968 as a solely-administered unit of the then two-year-old College of Human Medicine, the Department of Psychiatry predated MSUCOM. Alan Enelow, M.D., a nationally recognized psychiatrist, was the first chairperson. By the time MSUCOM had graduated its first class of D.O.’s in 1973, Norbert Enzer, M.D., an eminent child psychiatrist, had been recruited as chairperson of a department that then reported to both MSU medical deans. Dr. Enzer is now honored each year with an endowed lectureship in psychiatry in his name, focusing on issues “from science to culture.” Throughout its history, the department has focused on preclinical education of medical students to provide the mental health skills they will need as primary care practitioners. In addition, the department created a nationally recognized joint D.O./M.D. psychiatric residency program, which participates in joint training with MSUCOM’s Department of Family and Community Medicine and CHM’s Department of Family Practice. The faculty of the department provide comprehensive evaluation and treatment for mental disorders in adults, adolescents, children and the elderly. Faculty members are expert in several subspecialty areas of psychiatry, including eating disorders, mood disorders, geriatric psychiatry, gender and sexual issues, mental disorders due to medical conditions, and sports and performing arts medicine.

Dr. Shirley Harding currently leads OSS (1988).

OSS has benefited from the dedicated service of Dr. Walter Mill who served as chairperson for the department for many years (1982).

OSU Hands on Development

Osteopathic Surgical Specialties
by Craig Reed

Originally called the Department of Osteopathic Medicine, Osteopathic Surgical Specialties (OSS) has gone through a considerable number of changes. “When the department first started, we included internal medicine and pediatrics,” said Shirley Harding, D.O., chairperson of OSS. “As the other units split off and set up their own departments, we began to see that it’s confusing to have a college and a department by the same name.” In 1997, the name was changed. For OSS, part of their history has involved exploring their place within osteopathic medicine, considering that surgery is associated more often with specialty practices within the allopathic profession. “We’re holistic,” said Dr. Harding. “We work on the whole person and how we can prevent problems with the body in the future. That means we have to be aware of the whole body and how problems and possible solutions can affect other organ systems.” Part of the more recent history of OSS has been their willingness to take their skills overseas, traveling to places like Guatemala. “Dr. Donald Bartkowski has taken interns, residents and medical students with him to help the underserved in Guatemala. He has treated children with birth defects who would not otherwise be treated,” said Dr. Harding.

Healing for the Mind

Department of Psychiatry
by Pat Grauer

Created in 1968 as a solely-administered unit of the then two-year-old College of Human Medicine, the Department of Psychiatry predated MSUCOM. Alan Enelow, M.D., a nationally recognized psychiatrist, was the first chairperson. By the time MSUCOM had graduated its first class of D.O.’s in 1973, Norbert Enzer, M.D., an eminent child psychiatrist, had been recruited as chairperson of a department that then reported to both MSU medical deans. Dr. Enzer is now honored each year with an endowed lectureship in psychiatry in his name, focusing on issues “from science to culture.” Throughout its history, the department has focused on preclinical education of medical students to provide the mental health skills they will need as primary care practitioners. In addition, the department created a nationally recognized joint D.O./M.D. psychiatric residency program, which participates in joint training with MSUCOM’s Department of Family and Community Medicine and CHM’s Department of Family Practice. The faculty of the department provide comprehensive evaluation and treatment for mental disorders in adults, adolescents, children and the elderly. Faculty members are expert in several subspecialty areas of psychiatry, including eating disorders, mood disorders, geriatric psychiatry, gender and sexual issues, mental disorders due to medical conditions, and sports and performing arts medicine.

Dr. Shirley Harding currently leads OSS (1988).

OSS has benefited from the dedicated service of Dr. Walter Mill who served as chairperson for the department for many years (1982).
Steady Leadership

Philip Greenman, D.O.

by Craig Reed

For Dr. Philip Greenman, two of the many hats he has worn in the college have been as the acting dean as well as senior associate dean of MSUCOM. His charisma and leadership have played an important role in making the college what it is today. “My goal was to provide resources and to help faculty with what they needed to do better,” said Dr. Greenman. His presence allowed for smooth transitions between deans as well as opportunities for current deans to go on sabbatical.

In addition, Dr. Greenman served as chairperson for the Department of Biomechanics (now Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine) multiple times throughout his career at MSUCOM.

Dr. Phil Greenman (1987)

Dr. Greenman is now retired and currently spends his time enjoying the scenery of Arizona in between his osteopathic activities.

Expanding Insights

Radiology

by Craig Reed

When the Department of Radiology came into existence in 1975, it had to be built from the ground up. “We had nothing,” said Dr. James Potchen, founding chairperson for the unit. “We brought in four people from MIT and began focusing on making it economically viable.”

Dr. Potchen came to MSU campus to understand the complexity of the machinery we work with. Our faculty and staff love sharing what they know with them.”

Seeing a need for its specialties in the area, the unit also began growing partnerships with hospitals like Ingham Regional Medical Center and Sparrow, providing patient services such as magnetic resonance imaging, ultrasound, X ray, mammography and fluoroscopy. Through the offering of these and other services, the department established itself as a world-class leader.

The Growth of Child Specialists

Department of Pediatrics

by Craig Reed

Established in 1979, the Department of Pediatrics has spent decades meeting the pediatric needs of the state of Michigan. After several conversations with Dean Magen, the founding department chairperson, Dr. Bernard Kay, moved from Garden City to MSUCOM and began building the pediatrics department. He and three other doctors were the start of a division which would eventually grow to 12 members.

“Dr. Kay’s key focus was to establish a clinical practice,” said Dr. Joel Greenberg, D.O. current chairperson. “Teaching was to be the primary goal for this department. He knew that you needed a strong clinical practice to educate the students. That’s what he set out to do.”

Helping to establish a quality clinical center though was just one of several steps the founding chairperson took. “He worked on establishing a strong relationship with the Ingham County Health Department,” continued Dr. Greenberg. “This and other relationships he helped establish made us one of the leaders in developing a superior clinical practice with a strong patient population. This made us who we are today.”

MSU Radiology has been a leader in visualization technology (1977).

MSU’s Sesquicentennial

OSTEOPATHIC EVENTS

1980 College of Nursing is established.

1981 The Department of Internal Medicine is established.

1982 More than 20,000 D.O.s in practice nationally.

1984 First students from MSUCOM’s Medical Scientist Training Program graduate.

1984 MSU Biotechnology Research Center established.

1982 Wharton Center for Performing Arts opens.

Dr. Bernard Kay (left), founding chairperson, established pediatrics clinics throughout mid-Michigan (1976).

Dr. Ken Stringer examines Morgan Nelson at the Clinical Center in 1980.
Delving Within Internal Medicine

by Craig Reed

In January 1981, ten faculty members moved from the Department of Osteopathic Medicine to create a new Department of Internal Medicine. As a solely administered department within MSUCOM, the unit was an eclectic group of rheumatologists, cardiologists, neurologists, pulmonologists, and several other specialists who wanted to focus on internal medicine within the primary care environment.

The department’s international presence was enhanced when Dr. Terrie Taylor, now University Distinguished Professor, established the Malaria Research Project in Malawi in 1986. Each rainy season, Dr. Taylor and her fellow researchers leave East Lansing for Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital in Blantyre to treat patients with cerebral malaria, an illness which is life threatening for children. “Terrie has done an incredible job, and we would like to hire additional faculty to complement her research activities in Malawi,” stated Dr. Oliver Hayes, chairperson of internal medicine. “We’re proud of our history as international ambassadors for the college,” said Dr. Hayes, “and we wish to continue this role.”

A National Model Statewide Campus System

by Craig Reed

Moving the College of Osteopathic Medicine to East Lansing generated its share of challenges as well as new opportunities. Because the Lansing area lacked an adequate supply of clinical resources the college had maintained affiliation with many community hospitals for teaching Unit III students from its earliest days. However, in 1989, MSUCOM began working with osteopathic hospitals in Michigan to extend and improve the quality of postdoctoral training from a statewide perspective. The result of this effort was the creation of the Consortium for Osteopathic Graduate Medical Education and Training (COGMET). Starting with internal medicine and family medicine, program directors throughout the state began to work together to plan and implement educational programs that benefited their residents. This original concept soon expanded to include professional assistance in faculty development and curriculum design.

The COGMET experiment became a national model for what was later adopted in 1996 by the American Osteopathic Association for the creation of Osteopathic Postdoctoral Training Institutions (OPTI). COGMET became an OPTI under the new name of Statewide Campus System (SCS). Today, the SCS has more than 1,100 interns and residents at 24 hospitals serving over 18 medical specialties. The role of the SCS has expanded over the years to provide additional services in areas of educational technology, consulting, and compliance with new accreditation requirements, such as AOA Core Competencies. The end result is that MSUCOM graduates have overwhelmingly remained in the SCS system for their internships and residencies. SCS has earned a national reputation for excellence, and the educational model has proven a great success.
Commitment to Primary Care
Douglas Wood, D.O., Ph.D.

In 1991, the deanship of the college was handed from Dr. Myron Magen (see page 7) to Dr. Douglas Wood. For the college, this represented its first shift in leadership. “I spent a lot of time emphasizing family medicine and the role of the practice in the community,” said Dr. Wood. His focus on community integrated medicine was based on the idea that if you understand the community environment in which patients live, you can better understand how to treat their ailments. “If you are involved in the community, you’re going to know what environmental hazards they may be subjected to. This in turn allows you to offer better treatments to the patient,” Dr. Wood explained.

Dr. Wood spent much of his time working to improve the integration of medical school with postgraduate education in order to create smoother transitions for the students. He was also actively involved in the change of COGME into the Statewide Campus System.

Today Dr. Wood is hard at work establishing an osteopathic school in Mesa, Arizona. “We’re working toward accreditation right now,” said Dr. Wood. “There are some innovative opportunities here.”

Dr. Donald Stanton, PMR’s founding chairperson.

1990
Interlinking College and Community

1990
The Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation is established.

1991
U.S. Navy officially recognizes the use of OMM.

1991
Douglas L. Wood becomes dean of MSUCOM.

1991
The Kobiljak Centers are opened.

The Roll Anderson (center) has been a model for other D.O.s in medical education, clinical care and social activism (1991).

“Dinner with Docs” gives students the opportunity to have dinner with their professors (1995).

Events like the Medical School Olympics help build lifelong friendships (1995).

Dr. Donald Stanton, PMR’s founding chairperson.


The Path to Recovery

Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation had much to celebrate in 1990, when it officially became its own department. Originally a division housed within the Department of Osteopathic Medicine, its goals have been to teach students how to help people recover from musculoskeletal or neurological problems. Whether the patients suffer from muscular dystrophy, a stroke or work-related injuries, the department faculty are dedicated to helping the recovery process. “We look at how function can best be improved,” said Dr. Margaret Fankhauser, chairperson for the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. “You have to not only look at how to improve motor or cognitive functions, but also address pain management and the psychological state of the patient. That has been the basis of our department since its beginning.”

In 1997, another groundbreaking event was celebrated with the opening of the Origami Brain Injury Rehabilitation Center. The brainchild of the first chairperson, Dr. Donald F. Stanton, Origami was created through a partnership between MSUCOM and Peckham Vocational Institutes. “Origami provides vocational activity after injury,” said Dr. Fankhauser. “The resident program helps improve quality of life by helping individuals relearn everyday activities and possibly move into volunteerism or back into the workforce.” The program offers residents a host of activities from gardening to woodworking and other interactive projects, which over time can improve brain functions and reduce the patient’s reliance on others. “We’re seeing growth in outpatient care as the center grows,” said Fankhauser, “and we’re seeing more community entry integration [patients involved in the community under minimal supervision] through this program.”


1990s
Interlinking College and Community

1990
World’s first medical cyclotron is developed at MSU.

1991
Student Information System (SIS) is developed.

1992
MSU hosts presidential debates among Bush, Clinton and Perot.

1993
Horticultural Demonstration Gardens open.


The Path to Recovery

Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation had much to celebrate in 1990, when it officially became its own department. Originally a division housed within the Department of Osteopathic Medicine, its goals have been to teach students how to help people recover from musculoskeletal or neurological problems. Whether the patients suffer from muscular dystrophy, a stroke or work-related injuries, the department faculty are dedicated to helping the recovery process. “We look at how function can best be improved,” said Dr. Margaret Fankhauser, chairperson for the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. “You have to not only look at how to improve motor or cognitive functions, but also address pain management and the psychological state of the patient. That has been the basis of our department since its beginning.”

In 1997, another groundbreaking event was celebrated with the opening of the Origami Brain Injury Rehabilitation Center. The brainchild of the first chairperson, Dr. Donald F. Stanton, Origami was created through a partnership between MSUCOM and Peckham Vocational Institutes. “Origami provides vocational activity after injury,” said Dr. Fankhauser. “The resident program helps improve quality of life by helping individuals relearn everyday activities and possibly move into volunteerism or back into the workforce.” The program offers residents a host of activities from gardening to woodworking and other interactive projects, which over time can improve brain functions and reduce the patient’s reliance on others. “We’re seeing growth in outpatient care as the center grows,” said Fankhauser, “and we’re seeing more community entry integration [patients involved in the community under minimal supervision] through this program.”


1990
The Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation is established.

1991
U.S. Navy officially recognizes the use of OMM.

1991
Douglas L. Wood becomes dean of MSUCOM.

1991
The Kobiljak Centers are opened.

The Roll Anderson (center) has been a model for other D.O.s in medical education, clinical care and social activism (1991).

“Dinner with Docs” gives students the opportunity to have dinner with their professors (1995).

Events like the Medical School Olympics help build lifelong friendships (1995).

Dr. Donald Stanton, PMR’s founding chairperson.

Enriching Student Facilities

Kobiljak Centers

by Craig Reed

On September 7, 1986, less than a month before his wedding, Dr. Stefan Kobiljak was killed when his car was hit by a reckless driver in Trenton, MI. The 27-year-old had graduated from MSUCOM in 1985 and was well on his way to joining several of his family in the medical profession when the tragedy occurred.

Desiring a way to remember their son and to give something back to MSUCOM, the family of Dr. Kobiljak worked together with the college to establish the Kobiljak Centers in 1991, an innovative technology and resource facility for both students and faculty.

Before the Centers, most of the learning resources were in what was called the “Carrel Room” which was located in the basement of Fee Hall. Inside, students had access to basic anatomical models, audiotapes and slides. The opening of the Kobiljak Centers changed the way MSUCOM would teach its courses and increased student access to technology.

“We provide all the resources students need in one place,” said Deborah Porter, M.L.S., founding director of the Kobiljak Centers. “We also train faculty so they can use technology effectively in their classrooms.” One of the examples Ms. Porter gave was the SkyEye, a robotic video camera recently installed in the anatomy lab. It can project images onto as many as five viewing screens. “As an instructor, you used to be limited to however many students could crowd around a table,” she said. “Now, everyone can get an excellent view of the specific anatomical area the faculty is demonstrating.”

As medical training in the 21st century evolves, the Kobiljak Centers are also changing. “More materials are digital and are available asynchronously online,” Ms. Porter stated. “Students do a lot more studying via online course management systems such as ANGEL and they meet in the Kobiljak Center to review course materials. We need to meet their needs and stay up to date on the emerging technologies. We enjoy what we do here. We take our job very seriously.”

Community Focus

Allen W. Jacobs, D.O., Ph.D.

by Pat Grauer

Among the earliest instructors of anatomy at MSUCOM, Allen W. Jacobs, Ph.D., rose rapidly to become the college’s assistant dean for educational resources by 1979. Enamored enough with the osteopathic profession to add a D.O. degree to his Ph.D., he served as professor, associate dean and dean of the Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine before returning to MSUCOM. He started as acting dean in 1995 and two years later was selected to become dean. Known as a man in perpetual motion, Dr. Jacobs worked ceaselessly on building upon the successes of the college before his unexpected death in December 2001. He was deeply involved in sports medicine, serving time as the team physician for MSU’s baseball team and women’s gymnastics team. His passion for osteopathic medicine was matched only by his commitment to his wife and three children. A strong student advocate, he was deeply committed to maintaining what is unique about the osteopathic profession, and promoted the use of osteopathic manipulative medicine at every opportunity.

The New Frontier

Department of Neurology and Ophthalmology

by Craig Reed

While it’s the newest department associated with MSUCOM, the Department of Neurology and Ophthalmology has long roots within the college’s history. The seeds for the unit were sowed when the Department of Internal Medicine hired David Kaufman, D.O., to establish a neuro-ophthalmology division in 1984. A decade later, plans were developed to establish a separate center for clinical neurosciences co-administered by MSUCOM and the College of Human Medicine. By 2000, the department officially came into being with Dr. Kaufman as its founding charperson. A neurology residency program was created in 2002 through the work of Jayne Martin, D.O. This is dually accredited by the American Osteopathic Association and the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, and has played a special role within both the osteopathic and allopathic professions.

Research has been one of the major foci for this department. “This unit has had NIH research funding continuously since 1988,” said Dr. Kaufman, whose own research along with Eric Egenberger D.O., the department’s co-chair, has involved studying the action of neuroprotective substances in large- and small-vessel stroke and using optic neuritis as a marker for early diagnosis and treatment of multiple sclerosis. “From the beginning,” Dr. Kaufman said, “we have focused on building broad research programs in multiple sclerosis, stroke, epilepsy and Alzheimer’s.” To further develop their research programs, Neurology’s faculty has established several neuro-biology laboratories allowing translational research programs which started in 2001. This has proven to be a great asset in developing the department into what it is today.
William D. Strampel, D.O.

For William D. Strampel, D.O., the start of his career as dean of MSUCOM was not an anticipated event. He became acting dean in December 2001 after the unexpected death of Dean Allen W. Jacobs, and officially took over the post in April 2002. “Al was a very good friend. His death was a major turning point for the college,” he said.

As the college recovered from the loss, Dr. Strampel began addressing the issues it faced. “There has never been a time since I’ve been here that we didn’t have a tight budget. That has been the challenge,” said Dr. Strampel as he reflected on his tenure at MSUCOM.

Osteopathic medicine has grown in its public exposure during his tenure. “In 2001, U.S. News & World Report started ranking osteopathic colleges,” said Dr. Strampel. “This recognition has made it more visible to the public.”

And part of that visibility has translated to a greater need for D.O.s and institutions to train future D.O.s. “MSU set the trend for future osteopathic colleges to be associated with a major university. Now there are 23 colleges with plans to build more in Pittsburgh, Tennessee, Atlanta, Yakima and in Harlem.”

Today, D.O.s do not have to limit their practices to just U.S. borders. Forty countries fully accept osteopathic physicians, giving the doctors the opportunity to share their skills overseas. Countries like the Dominican Republic and Costa Rica have shown a strong interest in establishing osteopathic colleges within their borders. Ontario, Canada, is also fliriting with the idea as well.

For Dr. Strampel, these events along with the growth of the incoming class to 206 are another chapter in the making of osteopathic history. “When people 20 years from now look back on what we have done, I hope they’ll look kindly at us as having made a difference in the profession.”

Research at MSUCOM:

Andrea Amalfitano, D.O., Ph.D.

by Craig Reed

MSUCOM’s D.O./Ph.D. program has prided itself in sending some of the best students out into the medical research realm. This year, one of those graduates, Dr. Andrea Amalfitano, has returned to perform research at MSU.

“It’s great to have this opportunity to come back,” said Dr. Amalfitano. That opportunity came through the establishment of the Osteopathic Heritage Foundation to encourage research on the neuromusculoskeletal system. “The Foundation only funds by invitation,” said Richard Vincent, president of OHF. “We invited MSU to apply because of its reputation, D.O./Ph.D. program and the excellence of its faculty.”

Dr. Amalfitano not only works on the basic research, he also works the application of these solutions. “My job is to impart knowledge and facts to families,” he said. “There is a difference between basic research and application in the human level. I help patients understand what options are currently viable.”

While his research efforts at Duke University over the years have been progressing well, there has been one thing missing for him. “I’ve always wanted to be able to come back to Michigan State and give back what they gave me,” Dr. Amalfitano said. “This endowment is allowing me to do that.”

Dr. Carl Steele demonstrates OMM techniques in a CME course. Dr. Steele has become the chairperson for several manual medicine courses. The College’s CME courses have become widely acclaimed (2003).

Dr. Terrie Taylor, D.O., university distinguished professor (holding left edge of check), at her conference on fatal cerebral malaria which drew physicians and scientists from all around the globe to Malawi (2005)
Celebrating
Today’s Milestones
by Craig Reed

Family and Community Medicine
Within Family and Community Medicine’s long track record for developing programs and clinical skills, it is no surprise to find the unit hard at work on these fronts. Margaret Aguwa, D.O., M.P.H., chairperson, has expanded services at the Family Medicine Clinic by promoting the certification of doctors as U.S. Civil Surgeons. “Getting our physicians this certification allows us to perform physicals for the U.S. Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services,” said Dr. Aguwa. “We are one of two locations in the area where immigrants can go.”

Strengthening research endeavors is another priority. Lynn Brumm, D.O., Steven Dupuis, D.O. and a large number of MSUCOM students are studying stress fractures among MSU athletes. “We’ve been working with the basketball and cross country team members on how osteopathic treatments can reduce the frequency of fractures,” said Dr. Brumm. “In the year before the study, one group of athletes had 12 stress fractures. After one year using osteopathic treatments and with changes to training methods, the number of fractures was reduced to four.”

Another project within FCM, the Diabetes Education Project, educates medical students on how to treat patients with chronic illnesses. “The project’s goal is to improve health care for people who have diabetes and other lifelong ailments,” said Dr. Aguwa.

“We will continue to obtain funding that supports more primary care research, expands our educational programs while reinforcing our clinical practice,” continued Aguwa. “With the recent class expansion, we need to continue to build capacity.”

Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine
Diligence has been the key to the growth of the Department of Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine (OMM) and still very active in research. “We have researchers who are looking at different ways to measure the effects of manipulation,” said Dr. Lisa DeStefano, chairperson for OMM. One such project studies how therapeutic horseback riding can create changes similar to those created by manipulative medicine, and how different riding positions create different kinds of manipulative effects on the body. Still others headed by Jill Slade, D.O., Ph.D. use MRIs to look at how manipulation affects the body at the cellular level.

In April 1999, OMM expanded its clinical practice when a group of students approached the department with the idea of setting up a clinic where students, under the supervision of faculty, could use the manipulative techniques they had learned in class as an alternative form of pain relief. The student Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine Clinic opened its doors. “We usually have 30 students work in the clinic each semester,” said Dr. DeStefano. “It’s been very popular with area residents. It’s always owed to equals and patients who are an opportunity to develop their skills under faculty supervision.”

Internal Medicine
Focusing on research, education and quality patient care, the Department of Internal Medicine continues to strengthen its relationship with the hospitals that serve the Lansing area. “One thing we want to do is develop,” stated Dr. Oliver Hayes, chairperson, “is to have a primary care unit with both Ingham Regional Medical Center (IRM) and Sparrow Hospital.”

The first step was the establishment of the Michigan State Adult Medicine Clinic, a team composed of both D.O.s and M.D.s to work side by side with IRM. The team concentrates on primary care for adults in the office and hospital settings, and nine D.O. residents assist attending physicians with their office-based patient loads. Dr. Hayes explained, “Our goal is to establish a similar group to work with Sparrow, allowing our patients to access their internal medicine physicians at both hospitals.”

Wishing to build upon the international successes of Dr. Terrie Taylor, IM has made an effort to attract other individuals interested in overseas activities. One shining example is Dr. Kron, thanks to an exploratory grant from the Fogarty International Center of NIH, has spent time in the Philippines studying the natural products and biodiversity of the area.

As IM grows its international reputation, it has continued to look for development opportunities closer to home. “We want to deepen our faculty resources in subspecialties,” stated Hayes. “We would like to have our subspecialty emergency physicians organize treatment for patients outside the hospital in preparation for their arrival to the emergency room. This development would be critical for preparing disaster relief efforts in the Lansing area, and this is one of the next steps for us. We have great faculty, and this will further develop our teaching and reasoning skills.”

Osteopathic Surgical Specialties
Through the years, the Department of Osteopathic Surgical Specialties (OSS) has become well known for general surgery, urology, pediatrics and orthopedics, and is looking to grow its list of specialists. “We’re looking to recruit a pediatric orthopedic surgeon as well as some more minimally invasive and robotic urology,” said Shirley Harding, D.O., chairperson for OSS. “We’re planning to increase faculty in orthopedics and spinal care,” she said, “and we’re hoping to establish a new orthopaedic surgery”.

The growth within the unit has been developing side by side with their strengthening academic programs. “We provide a seamless curriculum so they can go into the internships and residencies with strong bases. There are now more than 400 surgical specialists within the Statewide Campus System. We have cardio specialists, plastic/reconstructive surgery specialists, ENTs and many others throughout the state who work with MSU students.”

Communication and relationship building among doctors is an aspect of being a good physician. OSS faculty stress this when teaching MSU students. “We teach our students how to work together with primary care physicians,” said Dr. Harding. “They learn how to interact with them and provide the best care for their future patients.”

Pediatrics
Diligence has been the key to the growth of the Department of Pediatrics. “For clinic population, we’re further down the road than most,” said Chairperson Joel Greenberg, D.O. Building on the successes of the previous decades, the department has had few problems in drawing in talented students. “Our students are extremely diverse and eager to learn. We are a bridge between the basics the students learn and what they will learn within the hospital setting.”

“We’ll continue to focus on our clinical practice,” said Dr. Greenberg when asked about the future for the department. The department opened a new clinic in the Dewitt area this summer. Pleased with the expansion of their clinic system, Dr. Greenberg still sees room for improvement. “We still need to improve in research. We’re working closely with the department of Family and Community Medicine to focus on asthma research as well as collaborating with the Department of Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine on otitis media (ear infections).”

“We’ll also progress into more digital technology,” Greenberg said. “Things are looking good. We just have to keep building on what we have.”

Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
Continual growth has been the norm for the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (PMR). Strides in providing better care are being made as their research teams investigate therapies such as medical acupuncture, which may be useful as an alternative form of pain relief. Another project investigates the use of manual medicine after cardiac surgery, to see if such techniques can reduce the hospital stay of these patients. New treatment protocols developed in the unit are also helping people with traumatic brain injury remediate and compensate their losses at a faster rate that compensate their losses previously.

“Our research programs are quite extensive,” said Margaret Fankhauser, D.O., chairperson. “We work with the latest methods to help children with cerebral palsy and muscular dystrophy, treat fluid buildup which sometimes occurs after a mastectomy, as well as help patients at our Origamma Center recover from brain trauma. Our research and outreach programs are designed to improve function and reduce the pain our patients may be suffering.”

Their commitment to collaborating with other departments has resulted in their participation in a Spine Center with Dr. Lawrence Mysliwiec, professor of osteopathic surgical specialties. “We provide one-stop shopping for evaluating, diagnosing and treating back pain and scoliosis,” said Dr. Fankhauser. “It’s an opportunity for everyone interested in spinal problems to come together under one roof.”

With the only residency program for rehabilitation accredited by both allopathic and osteopathic medicine, the department is proud to meet Michigan’s need for rehabilitation specialists and taking the profession the next step forward.
Psychiatry
As a community-based department jointly administered by the College of Osteopathic Medicine and the College of Human Medicine, Psychiatry plays a vital role in providing mental health instruction within both colleges. It boasts one of the first D.O./M.D. dually accredited psychiatry programs in the nation. Eighty percent of their graduates stay in Michigan with half of them venturing into small, underserved communities in northern and western Michigan to set up their practices.

So what’s going on in the department these days? “We’re tapping into MSU’s strengths and resources by focusing our research on epidemiology, adolescent depression and eating disorders,” says Jed Magen, D.O., M.S., chairperson, one of only two osteopathic physicians in the country to head a psychiatric department. “Our goals are to further research on these disorders and to expand the number of psychiatrists in the rural areas, especially into rural community mental health institutions.”

One of the upcoming projects that addresses both of these concerns is the Child/Adolescent Program. “It is the second D.O. program of its kind in the nation and is expected to spur further research into child and adolescent disorders, which has been one of the cornerstones of our department’s success,” said Dr. Magen. “Our holistic approach works well in this area since we look at the person as well as their family and community. The Child/Adolescent Program will help us grow and develop our department in the coming years.”

Neurology and Ophthalmology
Today the Department of Neurology and Ophthalmology continues to grow and develop. Just this past July, the unit started a neurovascular fellowship program under the direction of Arshad Majid, M.D. This program will have two fellows each serving three years. The stroke unit’s research will focus on the prevention of acute strokes, neuro-protection during acute strokes and interventional neurology. Dr. Majid has recruited faculty to assist him in this effort.

Other research programs have been abundant within the unit. Gretchen Birbeck, M.D., has several NIH research programs. One project examines the risk factors for developing epilepsy among young survivors of cerebral palsy. Another focuses on epilepsy stigma in Zambia. She is currently studying the social and economic impact for those with such a stigma and is developing programs designed to decrease the negative stereotypes about the condition.

Radiology
After 30 years in the making, the Department of Radiology boasts having some of the best imaging technology in the country. Recently, the unit has upgraded its MRI scanners to double their original magnetic field capability, established a new cyclotron facility, and was the first to have GE’s 16-slice positron emission transomography/computer tomography fusion imaging machine installed in the world.

Hand in hand with possessing cutting edge technology, Radiology has worked hard to develop its personnel. “We have a strong, diverse group from all over. My job has been to build the careers of other people,” said Dr. James Potchen, chairperson. “You build human capital and enhance the opportunities of others.” One of the ways the unit has helped develop individuals is by teaching several of the leadership and management courses offered to graduates and undergraduates.

The development of personnel has led to a blend of state-of-the-art technology and a caring, diligent team. “We try to put ourselves in our patients’ shoes,” said Arlene Sierra, M.P.A., assistant chairperson and director of clinical services. “We take the time to answer all of our patients’ questions and address any concerns they may have.”

As Radiology moves into the future, it is finding itself becoming a hub for the annual Synergy Meetings as well as playing host to internationally recognized scholars and entrepreneurs which has helped to grow the prestige of MSUCOM. “We’re very proud to be a part of MSUCOM and its expansion,” said Potchen.

Neurology and Ophthalmology
Today the Department of Neurology and Ophthalmology continues to grow and develop. Just this past July, the unit started a neurovascular fellowship program under the direction of Arshad Majid, M.D. This program will have two fellows each serving three years. The stroke unit’s research will focus on the prevention of acute strokes, neuro-protection during acute strokes and interventional neurology. Dr. Majid has recruited faculty to assist him in this effort.

Other research programs have been abundant within the unit. Gretchen Birbeck, M.D., has several NIH research programs. One project examines the risk factors for developing epilepsy among young survivors of cerebral palsy. Another focuses on epilepsy stigma in Zambia. She is currently studying the social and economic impact for those with such a stigma and is developing programs designed to decrease the negative stereotypes about the condition.

Radiology
After 30 years in the making, the Department of Radiology boasts having some of the best imaging technology in the country. Recently, the unit has upgraded its MRI scanners to double their original magnetic field capability, established a new cyclotron facility, and was the first to have GE’s 16-slice positron emission tomography/computer tomography fusion imaging machine installed in the world.

Hand in hand with possessing cutting edge technology, Radiology has worked hard to develop its personnel. “We have a strong, diverse group from all over. My job has been to build the careers of other people,” said Dr. James Potchen, chairperson. “You build human capital and enhance the opportunities of others.” One of the ways the unit has helped develop individuals is by teaching several of the leadership and management courses offered to graduates and undergraduates.

The development of personnel has led to a blend of state-of-the-art technology and a caring, diligent team. “We try to put ourselves in our patients’ shoes,” said Arlene Sierra, M.P.A., assistant chairperson and director of clinical services. “We take the time to answer all of our patients’ questions and address any concerns they may have.”

As Radiology moves into the future, it is finding itself becoming a hub for the annual Synergy Meetings as well as playing host to internationally recognized scholars and entrepreneurs which has helped to grow the prestige of MSUCOM. “We’re very proud to be a part of MSUCOM and its expansion,” said Potchen.
by Craig Reed

**Dr. Beverly Atwater**

Most of us know one or two people in our lives who have made a career change, but for Dr. Beverly Atwater, that was just the beginning of a new adventure. "I was a faculty member in the Department of Psychiatry at Michigan State University College of Medicine for five years before going to medical school," said Dr. Atwater. "Liking what I saw in the osteopathic profession, Dr. Atwater began working her way through MSUCOM. Her choice of specialty within the field was not certain though until she spent some time within a rehabilitation center: "You work with amputations. You work with head injuries," she said. "All these come with a lot of emotional issues as well as physical. Working with these patients allowed me to use both my psychiatry background and my medical knowledge."

Since graduating in 1992, Dr. Atwater has focused on improving rehabilitation care in nursing homes, completed a nationally recognized osteopathic health policy fellowship and has been on the board of St. Elizabeth Hospital in Youngstown, Ohio. She is also set to begin work on her masters of public health at Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine this fall. "It's been a good journey," said Dr. Atwater. "It's been a wonderful time."

by Craig Reed

**Drs. Dan and Mary Hunt**

Imagine trying to juggle marriage, work, medical school, and an 11-month-old baby all at the same time. For Drs. Dan and Mary Hunt, it wasn’t a figment of their imaginations; it was what they did. Married in 1977 while Dan was in medical school, Mary worked as a nurse at Sparrow Hospital until he graduated in 1980. Once he graduated, Mary started her medical training, but by then, their first daughter, Ann, was born. "Dan took leave of his residency to stay home and take care of the baby while I started medical school," Mary said. "We have a lot of family in town. That helped us a lot." "You have to be pretty flexible," added Dan. Mary graduated in 1988. Dan is a general surgeon and Mary has a family practice office within walking distance of their home in East Lansing. They both look back fondly at their time at MSUCOM. "A lot of professors really cared about us," Mary said. "Everybody remembers each other."

by Craig Reed

Since the early days of MSUCOM, the college’s success has been closely linked to the generosity of many individuals and institutions willing to donate the resources necessary to provide a quality education to the next generation of osteopathic physicians.

One such shining example is the Michigan Osteopathic College Foundation (MOCF). MOCF played a major role in helping to fund the college, even before the endowment was established of its $3.5 million dollar endowment to MSUCOM. This gift will significantly strengthen the future of the college.

MSUCOM’s fundraising has increased significantly during “The Campaign for MSU”, an ambitious University-wide fund-raising project that began in 2002 with the goal to reach $1.2 billion by 2007. Contributions to the campaign go toward a number of priorities that include scholarships, faculty growth, new-building construction and the renovation of existing buildings.

One area of particular focus for the campaign is to raise much-needed money for endowment. In endowed funds, the total amount of a gift is invested. Each year, a portion of the invested income earned is spent while the remainder adds to the growth of the principal as a protection against inflation. Recently, the Osteopathic Heritage Foundation created an endowed research professorship. This position will strengthen the college by increasing our ability to perform research while continuing to be leaders within the osteopathic community.

Such contributions are not limited to organizations. Individuals have also generously given their time and money to empower the college’s pursuits in academic excellence. Nearly half of the funds collected by our college for the “Campaign for MSU” have come from friends and alumni wishing to see MSUCOM continue to thrive. These friends and alumni continue the strong tradition of financially supporting the college that was started by individuals like Dr. Myron and Mrs. Ruth Magen, and Dr. Philip and Mrs. Patricia Greenman who helped build the college into what it is today. Dr. Magen and his wife Ruth are members of MSU’s Robert S. Shaw Society which recognizes individuals who make a commitment of $500,000 or a documented planned gift of at least $1,000,000. Dr. Greenman and his wife Patricia are members of MSU’s Frank S. Redzie Society which recognizes individuals who make a commitment or $1,000,000 or a documented planned gift of at least $1,500,000. MSUCOM continues to grow and develop, thanks to the assistance of our loyal alumni and friends.
MOCF is a shining example of what is best in the osteopathic family — a willingness to reach out and support the next generation of osteopathic physicians. It started in 1959 and it continues today.

Under the leadership of MOCF President Eugene Oliveri, D.O., MOCF is undergoing a transition to prepare for the future. First, the $3 million trust fund has been presented as an endowment to serve MSUCOM. This will sharply reduce the administrative costs and provide for a guaranteed disbursement independent of the fluctuation of the stock market.

Second, as vacancies occur, MSUCOM Alumni will be appointed to the MOCF Board. The intent is to transfer control of the MOCF Board from the non-MSUCOM graduates who founded and sustained it for 36 years to those who will guide and direct it for the future. Control is intended to be transferred to the next generation. Congratulations MSUCOM graduates. You have come of age and are assuming your rightful roles of leadership.

To those who accept the leadership of the MOCF let me state that wise stewardship of the funds is the least important part of your responsibility. Wise stewardship of the MOCF legacy to support the next generation of osteopathic physicians is your most important responsibility.

Alumni Association:
Celebrating 32 years of Serving MSUCOM Alumni

As MSUCOM fulfills its mission and sends its graduates throughout Michigan to address the health care needs of the state, the MSUCOM Alumni Association continues its mission to maintain the strong bonds classes form with the college and each other. Dinner gatherings and campus activities foster the community side of what it means to be an MSUCOM graduate. To this end, the Alumni Association this year has coordinated the special events, Seminar in the Sun and Silverfest, both of which combine medical education with the opportunity to reconnect with former classmates. Within Michigan, events we have hosted included a send off barbecue for second year students in August, a reception at the M4OEP Summer Conference in Grand Rapids, and our most successful Osteopathic Open golf tournament in September.

Much of the outreach the Alumni Association accomplishes is made possible through the generous support of the dean’s office and our ability to work together. Dean Strampel and his staff have made our interests a priority by being readily accessible, willing to share ideas, and empowering MSUCOMAA to pursue activities that strengthen the bonds of the college with its graduates.

Joining the Alumni Association is as simple as visiting our website now: www.msualum.com. Not only does the association help you stay in touch with MSUCOM activities and the activities of old friends and classmates, you also gain added benefits such as discounts to MSU events, a copy of our alumni newsletter, access to our career services resources and pride in knowing you have helped make the MSUCOM alumni network stronger.

Thanks for your membership and your support of MSUCOM.

Myral Robbins, D.O.
President, MSUCOM Alumni Association

Calendar of Events

October

4, 11, 18, 25 and November 1
Mini Medical School. Fee Hall, East Lansing. Tuesday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m. until November 1. MSUCOM faculty deliver two-hour presentations for the public, on health topics such as heart health, cancer, mental health, stroke, respiratory diseases and more. Sessions are free to the public. Sponsored by a grant from Pfizer. For more information, contact Pat Grauer, grauer@msu.edu, (517) 353-0616.

19-23
CME: Craniosacral Technique: Level II. East Lansing Marriott at University Place. Chairperson is Barbara Briner, D.O. For more information contact the Office of Continuing Medical Education: www.com.msu.edu/cme or (800) 437-0001 or cme@com.msu.edu.

23-27
American Osteopathic Association convention. Orlando, Florida

November

2

11
CME: Advanced Pain Management. Michigan State University Management Education Center, 811 W. Square Lake Rd., Troy, Michigan. At the conclusion of the program, participants will know the most current diagnostic and treatment skills available to promote men’s health. For more information, see http://www.com.msu.edu/cme/short.html. For questions, contact the Office of Continuing Medical Education, (517) 353-9714 or (800) 437-0001.

12
CME: Men’s Health Update. 110 Radiology Building, MSU. At the conclusion of the program, participants will know the most current diagnostic and treatment skills available to promote men’s health. For more information, see http://www.com.msu.edu/cme/short.html. For questions, contact the Office of Continuing Medical Education, (517) 353-9714 or (800) 437-0001.

December

7-11

For a complete listing of MSUCOM events, check out our Web calendar: www.com.msu.edu/calendar
When you send mail to a Post Office Box, you may use either your own address or the box number as your return address. If you use the box number, please include a return address on your letter so customers can reply directly to your return address. If you use your own address, please use a post office box number as your street address. To order a post office box, send a completed Form 3575 to your local post office. To print the word “POSTAGE” on your letter or label, send a completed Form 3849 to your local post office. To order a Pre-Printed Postage Paid Envelope, send a completed Form 3907 to your local post office.

For ticket and sponsorship information, contact 1-877-385-9696 or knoffme@msu.edu.