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Message from the Dean

Many of you share my experience of being a medical student here with 99 classmates. When I entered Medical School in 1976 there were 100 students per class. We now have 102 students in each class. The school has not increased its class size in over three decades.

During that time there has been an explosion in the population of Utah, to where it now exceeds 2.6 million people and is the third fastest growing state in the country. While the size of the Medical School has never been sufficient to supply all of the physicians needed by Utahns, many of us returned here to practice after our residencies. Unfortunately, we, and our colleagues who come here from other medical schools are not enough. Utah has 165 physicians per 100,000 population. That ranks 44th in the nation for physician supply. The country as a whole will have a shortage of 200,000 physicians by the year 2020, making it more difficult for us to recruit colleagues from other states.

We have a critical shortage of physicians in all areas of the state and in all specialties. The School of Medicine, in conjunction with the Utah Medical Education Council and with the support of our affiliated hospital partners has tried to address this shortage by increasing the number of residency positions in our programs. This is a difficult task because federal funding is not available for new positions, and current funding is in jeopardy. Until recently, we have not been able to consider expansion of our Medical School class because of classroom and space constraints. However, with the new Spencer F. and Cleone P. Eccles Health Education Building, we now have an outstanding facility that provides us with the classroom and laboratory training space needed to accommodate more students.

As a result the School of Medicine is now in a position to expand its class size by 30% to help address the physician shortage in Utah. With class expansion comes additional costs. New ongoing state appropriations will be required to support this effort. During the upcoming session of the Utah State Legislature we will offer to expand the Medical School class size if the State wishes to make the necessary ongoing investment. We feel this is an opportunity for us to work with the Legislature to help address the current and future physician needs of the State.

We are confident we can attract the same caliber of students to fill these additional slots. To put things in perspective, this fall the medical school had 1,349 applicants. From this pool there are 4 or 5 well qualified applicants for each position we can offer. Each year we face the same dilemma of turning hundreds of worthy applicants away, who then go to other medical schools and perform very well.

Growing our class size won’t solve the physician shortage, but it will help. Solving the state’s looming physician shortage will require cooperation from many different parties and I’m pleased to report the medical school is ready to do its part.

I’ll continue to update you on the status of our expansion in future issues of Illuminations.

In This Issue of Illuminations

The September Alumni Reunion Weekend is the major highlight of this Illuminations edition. This year the weekend expanded to include numerous department events, a tailgating party and the UCLA-Utah football game, along with the usual Awards banquet, reunion parties, golf game, and CME conference. I had the pleasure of meeting many of you at the Thursday night Awards Banquet and at the medical school update on Friday morning. I hope all who attended enjoyed the variety of events and had a chance to visit with old friends, as well as having opportunities to make new friends.

It is impressive to hear of the interesting careers of our alumni, especially of the 50-year class. I am always amazed at the varied and numerous ways our graduates have excelled and served the field of medicine throughout the country and the world. Their commitment to learning and excellence is impressive.

The Student Life section of the magazine welcomes the 102 members of the class of 2011. As the generations before them, they are bright, curious, and determined. These students are entering medical school at an amazing time in the history of medicine. They will be able to take advantage of the tremendous research and discovery underway in the health sciences at the University. It is exciting to think of the new world of medicine and research opening up to our current medical students.

It is always a pleasure to recognize the outstanding people who make us proud of this school. I hope you enjoy reading about them in both the Alumni and News Notebook sections. I know you will enjoy learning about their achievements and feel proud to be a part of this great institution.

I also wish to thank all of you who have given financial contributions to the School of Medicine. In an era of increasing educational costs and soaring debt your contributions to scholarships and school programs have made a huge difference for our students. We are all very grateful for your generosity.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy new year.

David J. Bjorkman, M.D., M.S.P.H.
Dean, School of Medicine
Alumni President’s Message

If I were to use one word to describe 2007 for the alumni association, it would be “growth”. We had marked increases not only in participation in alumni events, but we also enjoyed a tremendous increase in the level of giving.

Our alumni weekend activities increased in numbers from 433 participants in 2006 to over 800 in 2007. Under the direction of Richard Boyer, M.D., ‘73, our CME meeting was well attended by alumni who enjoyed hearing from our world-renowned faculty in the department of genetics, including Nobel Laureate Mario Capecchi.

I had the privilege of giving the alumni gift of a stethoscope to each member of the freshman class at the White Coat ceremony in August. This was a wonderful one-on-one gift from practicing alumni to incoming students, and I can assure you that the students were truly appreciative.

In the spring of 2007 Robert H. Ballard, M.D., ’44, endowed two full-ride scholarships at the medical school. This has a major impact not only for the two students and their families, but for the medical school’s ranking and ability to recruit top-notch students. In addition alumni gave $150,000 in need-based scholarships in 2007 and helped the Global Health Alliance with over $12,000 in donations.

This growth has been both satisfying and gratifying. All this growth has required greater time commitments from our staff and alumni board. I am so appreciative of all the effort and creativity that the staff and board provide. Our board is literally a micro Who’s Who of medicine in Utah. Time is a precious commodity in a physician’s life, yet these doctors cheerfully give of their time and expertise to help steer our alumni organization forward. We also appreciate the many alumni who serve as mentors of our medical students and offer them guidance as well as a glimpse into life beyond school.

We hope to continue this growth next year and welcome any suggestions you may have to improve our events.

As we continue to reach out to current students and alumni we are planning to reinstate our HOST (Help Our Students Travel) program in 2008. We all remember how expensive it was to interview for residencies. The HOST program asks alumni around the country to provide information about the medical community and a couple of days of housing for 4th year students when they travel for interviews. We hope many of you will consider participating in this project. If you are interested, please sign-up at our Web site, http://medicine.utah.edu/alumni.

Thank you for helping the alumni association enjoy such a great year.

We look forward to continued growth in 2008.

Fred Langeland, M.D., ’76
President, Alumni Board
reislang@xmission.com
(801) 408-5155

Director’s Message

The past year brought numerous changes to the School of Medicine Alumni Relations office. Director Mary Jo Harrell retired in October, and after a year as Associate Director I moved into the Director position. Kathryn Robinson joined the staff as a half-time Office Assistant and Melanie Osterud came on-board as Program Coordinator. I am extremely fortunate to work with these two very gifted and hard-working associates.

This year, in close collaboration with the Alumni Association Board, we are striving to enlarge upon our mission of promoting life-long relationships between our members and the School of Medicine. One way we seek to do this is through improved communication. We are continually working to upgrade the quality and content of Illuminations and to insure that our databases are as up-to-date as possible. Recently we redesigned our Alumni Association Web site (http://medicine.utah.edu/alumni) so that it is easier to access class notes, reunion pictures, and other School of Medicine news. Through the Web site you can send us your updated information, view past editions of Illuminations, and let us know if you are interested in mentoring a student or making a donation to the school.

Because of our rapid growth, the board decided to develop a five-year strategic plan for the association. Beginning in January 2008, Mark Johnston, ’90, will chair a seven-member strategic planning committee. Their task is to review our past accomplishments, study current issues, set goals and priorities, and determine methods to accomplish those goals. I hope to share their final report in a future edition of Illuminations.

I look forward to serving you in the coming year. Please feel free to contact me at any time. You can reach me online at kristin.gorang@hsc.utah.edu or by phone at (801) 585-3818.

Happy New Year!

Kristin Wann Gorang
Director, School of Medicine Alumni Relations
In genetics we argue about Nature vs. Nurture. How much of the phenotype is contributed by the genes you inherit versus how much is contributed by your environment and life experiences? And the inevitable conclusion each time the discussion comes up is–BOTH–both nature and nurture are crucial but sorting out the relative contributions is hard.

What about Mario Capecchi? What makes a great scientist? How much of the scientific phenotype: smarts, curiosity, drive and stubbornness is directed by genes and how much from upbringing, education and intellectual environment? From the beginning of Mario’s scientific career it was obvious that he was exceptional. In 1961 we were graduate students together in the laboratory of Jim Watson, the eccentric, bright, brash and demanding co-discoverer of the structure of DNA. Mario was very quiet but when he talked, even then, people listened. He was intensely interested in how biology worked and he quickly adopted Watson’s mantra “don’t work on small questions!” So he asked big questions, designing very elegant experiments that maximized his chances of success. He was meticulous, perhaps to a fault. One story sticks in my mind—a post doctoral student rushed into the lab, sterile pipette in hand. “I am in the middle of an experiment and I need 10ml of 1M tris buffer, pH 7.4. Can I borrow some?” Mario reached for his bottle of 1M tris pH 7.4 and the student withdrew his 10ml, steriley. The post doc rushed back out—Mario poured the rest of the buffer down the drain. He said “I would rather make a new batch than trust this one”. Generous but meticulous. As a consequence his experiments always worked a little better than our experiments.

This attention continues and was particularly evident in the early days in the Utah Biology Department attempting to get DNA into mammalian cells. He did tedious manipulations using a tiny micropipette to inject DNA into the nucleus of a living cell being held on another pipette. Apparently he could do this better and faster than anyone else. Still the success rate was very low. With Kirk Thomas he hatched ideas for improvement after improvement, getting the efficiency up, and after dogged persistence they succeeded in proving homologous integration of the input DNA. Even though Mario knew through the long process of developing this technology that he was working on a “big question”, even he is probably surprised at the enormous impact his experiments have had on basic science and on medical research worldwide.

Even as Mario’s lab group moved to the Eccles Institute and the group expanded in size he kept close tabs on all projects, paying careful attention to new folks in the lab finding just the right match of experiment and experimenter. Mario can be seen at his desk writing—a large stack of blank paper and a dozen sharp pencils in front of him. He says “the speed of writing matches my speed of creating”.

Is the Mario phenotype based on nature or nurture? Both! Clearly he is innately talented with some hard wired styles and abilities. But it is hard to deny that his humble beginnings in life and his subsequent Quaker upbringing must have given him drive to survive and compete. And the environment in Utah clearly fit Mario’s style and needs. Here he could pursue big questions that required a long time for development. The right person at the right time in the right place—nature and nurture. Whatever the mix, the result is wonderful for science, for Utah and for humanity.

By Dr. Ray Gesteland, Ph.D.
The current vogue for stem cell research represents a mixture of hope, hype, progress and controversy. As part of the emerging field of “regenerative medicine,” stem cells promise to transform medical practice as well as our basic understanding of tissue development and homeostasis. Such transformations will be slow, and most stem cell research will take decades to yield clinical applications. To understand where this field promises to lead, I will first review its history, and in particular the already transformative effect that it has had on hematology.

Scientists like strict definitions, and the most common definition of a stem cell is functional: it is a dividing cell that is capable of both self-renewal and differentiation. For example, skin stem cells reside in the basal layer of the epidermis, and divide to give rise to additional stem cells as well as more-differentiated keratinocytes that are displaced toward the surface, and eventually shed. Similarly, proliferation of spermatogonial stem cells in the testis produces more stem cells, maintaining the lineage, as well as daughter cells that eventually enter meiosis and produce spermatozoa.

These examples highlight additional features of stem cells. First, true stem cells reside in the basal layer of the epidermis, and divide to give rise to additional stem cells as well as more-differentiated keratinocytes that are displaced toward the surface, and eventually shed. Similarly, proliferation of spermatogonial stem cells in the testis produces more stem cells, maintaining the lineage, as well as daughter cells that eventually enter meiosis and produce spermatozoa. Second, stem cells are most important for maintaining tissues that experience continuous turnover, such as the skin and the lining of the intestine. In organs such as the brain or heart, in which cell divisions are very rare, it is much harder to prove that stem cells exist at all.

Even when we know stem cells must exist, we often lack experimental techniques to find them and probe their behavior. The intestinal villi shed large numbers of enterocytes and secretory cells into the lumen each day, which derive from dividing cells in the basally-located crypts. Although many assumed that these dividing cells included multipotent stem cells, the proof that enterocytes and secretory cells arise from a common stem cell did not come until the late 1990s. As in many cases of stem cell biology, this proof involved a complex trick of mouse genetics that allowed researchers to mark single stem cells and show that they underwent self-renewal and multi-lineage differentiation. Similar experiments are impossible in humans, and even in mice we cannot directly isolate many types of stem cell, let alone grow them for therapeutic use.

Were this true in all tissues, stem cells would be of little interest to clinicians, let alone the public. The major exception to the intractability of stem cell biology is the blood. As in the skin and intestine, blood cells are continuously dying off and being replenished. Hematologists have argued about the origin of blood cells since the 19th century, when Paul Ehrlich developed techniques for staining and distinguishing white blood cells. The so-called “unitarians” contended that all blood derived from a common precursor, a hypothesis that went unproven until the work of Till and McCulloch in the 1960s. These researchers exposed mice to radiation doses that would kill off any blood stem cells, causing lethal anemia. These mice could be rescued by transfusion of genetically matched bone marrow cells, some of which initially colonized in the spleen and produced discrete colonies of immature myeloid, lymphoid and erythroid cells. The number of these multipotent colonies varied in linear proportion to the number of infused bone marrow cells, implying that rare bone marrow cells were actually multipotent hematopoietic stem cells (HSCs). Further studies in mice, again using clever genetic and molecular tricks, proved that single bone marrow-derived cells are indeed capable of reconstituting all lineages of an irradiated recipient.

When Till and McCulloch began their work, radiation therapy was considered a potential treatment for cancer, but toxicity to the patient limited its usefulness. Similar toxicity was (and is) observed with conventional chemotherapy, which, like radiation, kills dividing cells non-selectively. At doses that eradicate leukemia, radiation and chemotherapy will destroy normal hematopoietic stem cells, and are therefore as dangerous as the cancer itself. Recognizing this, and mindful of Cold War-era concerns about radiation exposure, E. Donnell Thomas and co-workers began bone marrow transplantation

The Past, Present and Future of Stem Cell Research

L. Charles Murtaugh, Ph.D.,
Dept. of Human Genetics
The pancreatic islets of Langerhans are a major focus of the regenerative medicine field, in part because of their portability. Islets sense circulating levels of glucose and (in the case of beta-cells) control its utilization by secreting the hormone insulin. From a functional perspective, their location in the pancreas is almost irrelevant; as long as they have access to blood vessels, islets can function in almost any anatomical location. This has been shown in animal models, and recently confirmed in humans by James Shapiro and his colleagues at the University of Alberta. They treat type I diabetes by transplanting islets into a patient’s liver, using a novel combination of immunosuppressants to prevent rejection and suppress autoimmunity. Since 2000, numerous patients treated with the “Edmonton protocol” have been able to stop taking insulin altogether, although at least a quarter of those treated have eventually lost graft function, and returned to insulin use.

While further tinkering may improve the protocol, it also runs up against the extreme scarcity of healthy donor islets. Two lines of research hope to address this problem: first, to develop conditions for expanding islet cells in culture; second, to make new islet cells from stem cells. Much work has gone into the search for islet stem cells, using sophisticated techniques that have uncovered stem cells in blood, muscle, and even heart and brain. Although still controversial, the work of multiple labs now indicates that adult islet stem cells do not exist. Instead, the maintenance of islets occurs via division of existing islet cells, rather than differentiation from stem cells. This finding has intensified efforts to expand these islet cells in culture, albeit with little success to date. It has also driven interest in making islets from embryonic stem cells, a controversial but highly-promising prospect.

Embryonic stem cells (ESCs) were originally derived in mice, and used in the genetic manipulation techniques for which Mario Capecchi shared the 2007 Nobel Prize in Medicine. ESCs are produced by growing preimplantation embryos in culture; as this destroys the embryo, it was immediately controversial when applied to humans in the late 1990s. ESCs are promising for their broad multipotency: whereas blood stem cells give rise only to blood, and intestinal stem cells only to intestine, ESCs can differentiate into these and any other cell type. Thus, they could produce tissues for which adult stem cells do not exist, such as pancreatic islets.

The practical challenge is that ESC differentiation in culture is very hard to control. Intense interest in the problem has drawn many labs into the field, and driven recent progress toward islet differentiation, short of a solution. At the same time, research on what makes ESCs unique has produced techniques by which normal adult cells can be converted into ES-like cells in culture. Although these techniques need refining, they may sidestep the ethical debate about human ESCs, as well as provide a source for perfectly matched donor tissue. An ultimate hope of the field is to extract normal cells from a patient, convert them to ESCs, and differentiate them into a useful cell type that can be transplanted back to the patient without immunosuppression.

This hope remains “pie in the sky” for now, but the fever pitch of stem cell research ensures a continued assault on the scientific and technical barriers between lab research and medical utility. The field remains inspired by the success of the hematopoiesis field, and although solid organs present additional challenges, continued collaboration between basic and clinical researchers over the coming decade should see many of those challenges met and overcome.
Meeting Utah’s Residency Training and Workforce Needs

For over a decade the University of Utah School of Medicine has helped plan for and meet the residency training and workforce needs for Utah.

Working through the Utah Medical Education Council (UMEC), the U of U cooperates with residency training programs in the state to identify health care workforce needs and to structure training programs to help meet them.

The Utah Medical Education Council, which is permanently chaired by the Dean of the School of Medicine at the U, was created in 1997 by the State Legislature in response to threats to graduate medical education (GME) funding and a growing concern over a shortage of physicians in Utah. Since its creation the Council has preserved residency programs in child and adult psychology in the state, increased the number of residency slots from 600 to 825 and is leading the nation in developing a GME financing model that both rationalizes reimbursements to training institutions and accommodates State identified work force needs.

Training Programs
The UMEC provides in-depth analysis of Utah's health workforce needs through comprehensive surveying of health professionals. After assessing the workforce needs for Utah, the Council prioritizes residency programs for creation or expansion. With funding from the State, the Council has established programs to place physicians in rural settings for month long elective block rotations, and a year-long General Surgery Rural Training program. The Council is also establishing a Family Medicine Rural Training Track.

In 1997 the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS, formerly Health Care Financing Administration) capped the number and types of residency programs that would be funded by the federal government. The Utah Medical Education Council has been very successful increasing the statewide residencies beyond the federal cap. This was made possible by a cooperative Memorandum of Understanding between the U of U, Intermountain Healthcare and UMEC. As a result of this funding brokered by the UMEC, 17 new residency slots have been created, that at capacity will account for over 65 residents being trained annually. Currently there are 43 residents in ten different programs being funded over and above the CMS funding cap.

Because of the work of the UMEC in conjunction with the U of U’s Graduate Medical Education office and residency coordinators throughout the state, GME funds are passed onto residency programs and hospitals determined by where residents actually train and for how long. By establishing a database for tracking resident rotation, hospitals are able to account more accurately for residents and receive reimbursement for offsite rotations.

UMEC publishes periodic workforce reports on physicians, physician assistants, advanced practice nurses, dentists and other health care providers. These reports profile demographic and practice characteristics on health professionals in Utah and are a useful reference for employers and job hunters. The reports can be found on the Web site. Watch for soon to be released reports on the Clinical Laboratory workforce, pharmacists and dentists.

www.utahmec.org
Utah Medical Job Opportunity Web Site
The UMEC's Web site consistently lists more than 230 physician practice opportunities in Utah. Job opportunities for nurse practitioners and physician assistants are also posted. To view openings or post a position visit www.utahmec.org. For further details contact Paul Stevens at pbstevens@utah.gov

Calling all Utah Residents and Fellows:
Job Fair-January 17, 2008
4:00-9:00 p.m.
Varsity Room-Rice Eccles Stadium Tower
Major health care recruiters including hospitals and clinics are participating in the event. Contact Paul Stevens at pbstevens@utah.gov or at 801-526-4556 for more information or to register.
Utah Medical Association Distinguished Service Award Presented to Physician Assistant Program Director

This year the Utah Medical Association (UMA) presented its Distinguished Service Award to Don M. Pedersen, PhD, PA-C for his many years of service to the Association and for his continual promotion of the “team” approach to the care of patients. Dr. Pedersen has been the director of the University of Utah Physician Assistant Program (UPAP) for the past 20 years and has been with UPAP for nearly 30 years. Over his time as Program Director he has enhanced the relationship between the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine in the University’s School of Medicine and the Utah Medical Association. The two institutions have enjoyed nearly 40 years of co-sponsorship of the physician assistant program. Dr. Pedersen accepted the award on behalf of the program’s faculty, staff, and students. He underscored the fact that the co-sponsorship arrangement is unique among the 135 accredited PA programs across the country. Dr. Pedersen indicated, that “the Utah PA Program has been a good steward of this co-sponsorship and that our number four ranking amongst all PA programs by US News & World Report speaks to our dedication to the basic tenets of PA practice and to our commitment to excellence.”

The Utah Health Research Network

The Utah Health Research Network (UHRN) is a practice-based research network housed at the University of Utah Health Sciences Center under the direction of Elizabeth Joy, MD, MPH, Associate Professor in the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine. The purpose of the Utah Health Research Network is to promote research in the network by developing the interface between researchers, clinicians and patients, and supporting network-driven research projects that will benefit clinical practice and advance knowledge in primary care and population health.

The UHRN grew out of a committee formed in 2001 to promote research focused on primary care taking place within the University of Utah’s Community Clinics. In 2005, the Utah Health Research Network emerged as the University’s practice-based research network. Between 2001 and 2005, 25 principle investigators performed 37 studies with $2.3 million in direct expenses. Since then, another 20 projects have been performed or are being performed within the network. Network staff and investigators have submitted 5 federal grants in the past year (2 to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, 3 to the National Institutes of Health).

The network is comprised of the 11 University of Utah Community Clinics and also includes the Salt Lake Community Health Centers. Over 120 healthcare providers, representing the disciplines of Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology, and Pediatrics, have participated in projects ranging from factors predicting preterm birth to strategies to improve colorectal cancer screening.

The UHRN has a multidisciplinary Board of Directors which includes faculty and staff from the School of Medicine, College of Nursing, College of Health, the College of Pharmacy, and the University of Utah Community Clinics. Projects within the network fall into 1 of 4 categories: subject recruitment, community-based clinical and translational research, continuous quality improvement (CQI), and secondary data analysis of clinical information within the electronic health record (EPIC). Clinical research takes many forms and may involve clinical outcomes studies, patient and/or provider intervention and survey studies. Continuous quality improvement is ongoing and has largely focused on chronic disease management, improving preventive services, and optimizing healthcare delivery.

The UHRN is an important component of the University of Utah’s Research Strategic Plan. It provides an essential link between cutting edge scientific research, optimal care of patients, and the health of the community at large.
New Director of University of Utah Public Health Program Named

Dr. Michael K. Magill, Chairman of the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine (DFPM) appointed A. Peter Catinella, MD, MPH, Associate Chair of DFPM and holder of the George D. Gross M.D., and Ester S. Gross M.D., Presidential Endowed Chair, as the Public Health Program’s new director. Dr. Catinella received his medical degree from the University of Arizona and his public health degree from the University of South Florida. Dr. Catinella’s expertise in organizational development has already placed public health research as a main strategic direction of the nationally ranked Public Health Program. Dr. Catinella plans to expand teaching involvement of local health agencies such as the Utah Department of Health to further strengthen the program’s practicum experiences and incorporate the community into the educational program. Consistent with the University of Utah’s increased emphasis on international involvement, the program is also expanding education, service, and research in Ghana and Thailand.

Radiotherapy Treatment Advances

Precise delivery of radiotherapy requires the efforts of a team of experts. The Department of Radiation Oncology in the University of Utah School of Medicine is a hotbed of research and clinical activity in this area. The Stereotactic Radiosurgery Program, headed by Neurosurgeon Randy L. Jensen, MD, PhD and Radiation Oncologist, Dennis C. Shrieve, MD, PhD, just treated their 500th patient with intracranial radiosurgery. “The radiosurgery team is superb,” says Dr. Jensen. “The expertise of the group allows me to offer non-surgical treatment to my patients with brain tumors. We are now seeing the long-term results of these treatments, which are outstanding.” “Today we are able to treat tumors outside the brain with incredible precision as well,” says Shrieve, who was recently named President-elect of the International Stereotactic Radiosurgery Society. “The recruitment of Bill Salter, PhD as chief of physics allows us to implement new technology and truly be on the cutting edge of research in our field.”

Image-guided radiotherapy relies on precise analysis of CTs and MRIs to account for organ or tumor motion. Rapid imaging locates the tumor just before precisely delivering a therapeutic dose of radiation, in a manner sparing normal tissues. Dr. Sarang Joshi, PhD, Associate Professor in Bioengineering and Radiation Oncology joined the team as an international expert in image analysis. “The key is to be in an institution with all the required elements—excellence in imaging, computer technology and physics as well as the clinical experience in delivering this type of precise radiotherapy,” says Joshi.

Nick Mamalis, M.D. appointed co-editor of The Journal of Cataract and Refractive Surgery

University of Utah Medical School graduate and Moran ophthalmologist and researcher Dr. Nick Mamalis was recently appointed as the new co-editor of The Journal of Cataract & Refractive Surgery. JCRS will be edited by Dr. Mamalis in the United States and Dr. Emanuel Rosen in the United Kingdom. Dr. Mamalis has been the Associate Editor of the monthly JCRS for the past seven years. Dr. Mamalis is Professor of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences at the University of Utah School of Medicine and focuses his clinical practice on comprehensive ophthalmology including cataract and other anterior ocular surgeries. As Director of the Ophthalmic Pathology Laboratory, Dr. Mamalis evaluates all specimens submitted to the laboratory. He is a member of the American Association of Ophthalmic Pathologists. He is also Director of the Intermountain Ocular Research Center and is performing research in the area of intra-ocular lenses and postoperative inflammation. Dr. Mamalis lectures all over the world and was selected by Cataract and Refractive Surgery Today as one of 50 international opinion leaders.
2007 Alumni Weekend
Connecting With U

Class of 1962

1st Row: Robert Crist, Dean Wilcox, Conrad Knowles, George Pingree, Joe Armstrong, Eric Hol, Rodney Hoyle
2nd Row: Mike Pecora, Laurence Gee, Leo Stevenson, Bart Christenson, Ron Shaffer, Dick Rees, Warren Eyre, Elbert Dansie

Class of 1967

1st Row: Curtis Coulam, Dennis Russell, Kent Rasmussen, Gordon Brown, Gary Halverson
2nd Row: Chad Halverson, Bob Wray, Steve Bennett, John Holbrook, Steve Boyden, Mike Vincent, Tom Coppin, Klint Stander

Class of 1972

1st Row: Gary Williams, Hugh Voorhees, Steven Jackson, Lynn Wilcox, Richard Lambert
2nd Row: Dennis Peterson, Ed Kilgore, Dan Christensen, Jim Richards, Ed Allen, Steve Kammeyer

Class of 1972
Class of 1997

Awards

Class of 1957 Honorees receive their 50-Year Medallions

Medical Alumni Awards Banquet

Class of 1957 Celebrants: Monica and Robert Kahn and Hal and Cynthia Bourne.

Richard Black ’74, Mary Jo Harrell, and Kathy Black

2007 Alumni Weekend

1st Row: Angela Beeler, Greg Staker, Shannon Staker, Jennifer Boyden, Ron Hardy, Alisa Knowleton
2nd Row: Clara Michael, Viet Nguyen, Anne Hutchinson, Thomas Gardner, David Gubler, Melinda Midgley, David Larsen, Kirk Leininger, David Peterson

1997
Alumni Weekend 2007 attendance was at an all-time high, with over 800 people attending 23 different events. On Thursday evening 277 alumni and guests honored 20 members of the Class of 1957 at a reception and dinner. Each class member in attendance was recognized with a biographical presentation and received a medallion from Sr. Vice President A. Lorris Betz, M.D., Ph.D., and Dean David Bjorkman, M.D., M.S.P.H., 1980.

Friday morning six different departments sponsored breakfasts and programs followed by a presentation by Dean Bjorkman and a tour of the Health Sciences Education Building. That afternoon a scramble-format golf tournament was held at Stonebridge Golf Course, reuniting alumni foursomes for food, fellowship, and fun.

Class reunions were held at Little America Hotel and in alumni homes on Friday evening, along with a dinner to celebrate the 35th anniversary of the Department of Biomedical Informatics and a reunion of all divisions within the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine.

Saturday morning dawned early with the CME conference, *Unraveling the Message Within* at Alumni Hall in the Health Sciences Education Building. Then it was off to a tailgating party at the Alumni House and a 44-6 victory over UCLA at Rice-Eccles Stadium, a fitting conclusion to a wonderful weekend.
The University of Utah School of Medicine Alumni Association Distinguished Awards 2006

**Distinguished Alumni Award**
This award is presented annually to a graduate of the School of Medicine who exemplifies the practice of medicine. Achievement is recognized through excellence in clinical practice, academic activities and research accomplishments.

**Distinguished Service Award**
This award recognizes individuals, both alumni and non-alumni, who have made outstanding contributions to the school, the community, and the practice of medicine.

**Call for Nominations**
The University of Utah School of Medicine Alumni Association Distinguished Awards

The School of Medicine Alumni Association Board invites you to nominate your colleagues and classmates for consideration for the 2008 Distinguished Alumni and Distinguished Service Awards. School of Medicine alumni, faculty and staff, as well as other professional colleagues, may submit nominations. Complete nominations should include:

- A letter stating for which award you submit the nomination, outlining in detail the nominee’s qualifications
- The nominee’s curriculum vitae, including current address and phone number
- Secondary letters or materials in support of the nomination, if available.

Submit to: Kristin Wann Gorang, Director, SOM Alumni Relations, 540 Arapeen Drive, Suite 125, Salt Lake City, UT 84108.
E-mails are welcome at: Kristin.gorang@hsc.utah.edu

Deadline: Postmarked February 1, 2008

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Fred F. Langeland, M.D., A. Lorris Betz, M.D., David J. Bjorkman, M.D., M.S.P.H., and Jay A. Jacobson, M.D.

Jay A. Jacobson, M.D.
Professor of Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases and Chief of the Division of Medical Ethics and Humanities at LDS Hospital and the University of Utah School of Medicine. In 1988 Dr. Jacobson helped establish the Division of Medical Ethics which provides clinical consultation, research, and educational programs about medical ethics to individuals, organizations, and physicians in training and practice. In 2004 Dr. Jacobson received the American Medical Association's highest award for leadership in medical ethics and professionalism. In 2005 he was nominated by University of Utah medical students for the American Association of Medical College's Humanism in Medicine Award. He is a committed and enthusiastic teacher and mentor of medical students, premedical students, and a tutor for at-risk sixth grade students.

Elizabeth Hale Hammond, M.D., Class of 1967
Professor of Pathology and Adjunct Professor of Internal Medicine at the University of Utah School of Medicine, past chairman of the Department of Pathology at LDS Hospital, and current member of Intermountain Healthcare Board of Trustees. Dr. Hammond is an internationally known researcher, educator, and expert in transplantation pathology and in predictive cancer factor testing. Her leadership efforts and published findings have led to standardized laboratory testing procedures now used throughout the United States, including diagnosis of cardiac transplant rejection, HER2 testing in breast cancer, and summary cancer reports. She is the author of three books, 15 book chapters, and 65 papers in peer-reviewed medical journals. In 2005 she received the College of American Pathologists’ Pathologist of the Year Award.
Welcoming the Class of 2011

The School of Medicine Alumni Association was once again deeply engaged in welcoming the Class of 2011 to the University of Utah School of Medicine. Keeping up with a nearly 20-year tradition, alumnus and first SOM Alumni Association President Chuck Rich, M.D., ’65 and wife Jasmine welcomed students to their home on August 23 for the freshman barbeque. Along with the freshman class and their families, numerous Alumni Association board members and staff took part in celebrating the end of orientation week and the start of a medical career.

The following morning 102 first-year students paraded into Libby Gardner Hall to hear welcomes from Student Body President Nathan Kofford and School of Medicine Dean David Bjorkman, M.D., M.S.P.H. This was followed by a speech from David Renner, M.D., Assistant Professor of Neurology, who reminisced about his days as a student, and shared specific stories of what wearing the white coat meant to him. Held annually, the white coat investiture marks the new students’ first formal acceptance into the medical world and reinforces their obligation to excellence in science, sound ethics and compassionate patient care. This year, after being formally coated by Dean Bjorkman the students received a gift of a Littman III Cardiac Stethoscope given to them as a gift from School of Medicine Alumni.
Dean David Bjorkman helps MSI student Lara Sendjian into her white coat.

Alumni Board President Fred F. Langeland, M.D. presents MSI student Jordan Judkins with a gift stethoscope from the Alumni Association.

Above left: MSI students and family members enjoy great food and camaraderie. Above right: Steve Warner, Associate V.P. of H.S. Development, hostess Jasmine Rich, and Alumni Association President Fred F. Langeland, M.D. share a carefree moment at the barbeque.
Robert F. Miller, M.D., ’67 to Receive ARVO’s Prestigious Proctor Medal

The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) has chosen Robert F. Miller, M.D. to receive the 2008 Proctor Medal, ARVO’s highest honor. This award is presented annually for outstanding research in the basic or clinical sciences as applied to ophthalmology and will be presented to him during ARVO’s annual meeting in April 2008.

Miller was chosen as the recipient of the Proctor Medal for his seminal discoveries on the basic mechanisms through which nerve cells of the retina communicate. He identified inhibition in the retina, paving the way for new knowledge on the processes of excitation and neurotransmission mediated by peptides. In addition, he provided major new insights into functional properties of glial cells which support new modes of cell communication. His development and application of computational techniques give a revolutionary view into the structure-function correlations of the microscopic anatomy of the dendritic branching patterns of amacrine and ganglion cells. Using these methods, he radically changed perspectives about the cellular compartments of retinal ganglion cells that contribute to impulse generation, which serves as the sole basis of how the retina communicates with the brain.

Throughout his career, Miller’s work has helped shape contemporary understanding of neurocircuitry operations in the retina and the discrete cellular pathways that support them. He has always maintained a strong commitment to teaching and research training and takes great pride in the fact that many of his former students and postdocs have become contemporary leaders in retina research.

At the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, Dr. Miller holds the 3M Bert Cross Chair in Visual Neuroscience and is Professor of Ophthalmology. He received his MD from the University of Utah School of Medicine and did postdoctoral work at Johns Hopkins.

He has been the recipient of numerous honors and awards for his research and teaching, including an NIH MERIT award from NEI (1988–1998), “2000 Outstanding Professor Award” given by the Mortar Board Senior Honor Society for his undergraduate teaching, and the Bryan Boycott Award for Research given by FASEB. Dr. Miller has served on the editorial boards of the Journal of Neurophysiology, and Brain Research. He also served on the VISA 2 National Eye Institute Study Section and currently serves on the Professional Ethics Committee of the national AAUP.

Randy Jensen, M.D., ’91 Receives Clinical Research Award

Dr. Randy Jensen, Associate Professor of Neurosurgery at the Huntsman Cancer Institute has been awarded the American Association of Neurological Surgeons/Congress of Neurological Surgeons Section on Tumors Mahaley Clinical Research Award for the best clinical research paper on tumors presented at the Congress of Neurological Surgeons annual meeting. This paper described outcomes of patients with metastatic melanoma to the brain treated with radiosurgery. Drs. Dennis Shrieve, Wolfram Samlowski, and Annabelle Shrieve were co-authors on the paper. Radiosurgery involves the use of precisely delivered high-dose radiation to targets within the brain with minimal dose to surrounding vital structures. He specializes in Neurosurgical Oncology clinical and laboratory efforts at the Huntsman Cancer Institute.
We’re Busting Out In Dixie

Roger C. Millar, M.D. 1969

Washington County in southern Utah is home to one of the fastest growing populations in the United States. In the mid 1960’s the county’s population was about 10,000; today, it is well over 140,000, with the population nearly doubling each of the last three decades! Along with that growth is an increased need for specialized medical services. In the past three years Dixie Regional Medical Center has added over 100 physicians to their staff. This includes specialists in high risk obstetrics, cancer and radiation oncology, vascular surgery, electrophysiology, and bariatric surgery. Many University of Utah medical school graduates and former house staff have chosen to relocate in and around St. George, Utah to meet these needs. At last count 108 School of Medicine graduates and house staff live in Washington County.

Some of the more recent programs which have begun or expanded in St. George include a new Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) and a Cardiovascular Surgery Program. In the past four years 1300 open heart procedures have been performed in St. George with excellent survival and low complication rates. The NICU has enabled viable infants down to 23-24 weeks gestation to be treated in St. George. Currently fundraising is underway to provide a pediatric ICU in the area. This will be accomplished in collaboration with and assistance from Primary Children’s Hospital in Salt Lake City. In July 2005 a hyperbaric unit to treat wound healing problems opened. Recently, the unit completed its 1000th dive, treating more than 3000 patients with an 85% success rate.

University of Utah alums are proud of these accomplishments and of our contributions to medical care in southern Utah. We look forward to the challenge of providing quality medical care to this rapidly growing area.

Utah Business Names Four School of Medicine Alumni Health Care Heroes

Every fall Utah Business magazine names community health care heroes in six categories, Lifetime Achievement, Health Care Provider-Physician, Health Care Provider-Non-Physician, Volunteer, Community Outreach, and Corporate Achievement. This year three M.D. graduates and former house staff were recognized for their achievement.

Lifetime Achievement

Thomas H. Caine, M.D., ’63

Thomas Caine, M.D. is a well-known name and face around the University of Utah Internal Medicine department and the Medical Center. Due to his excellent clinical skills, teaching abilities and willingness to serve as a role model for countless students and trainees Dr. Caine has received many gifts and endowments on his behalf. Some of these include the George S. and Dolores Dow Eccles Professorship in Internal Medicine and the John Rex and Alice C. Winder Presidential Endowed Chair in Internal Medicine. He has served as president of University Hospital’s medical staff, as President of the School of Medicine Alumni Association, and was named honorary president of the Utah Medical Association. In 1999, he received the Laureate Award as a fellow in the American College of Physicians and in 2007 received the “People of Vision” award from Friends of Sight.

Thomas A. Kurrus, M.D. ’66

Dr. Kurrus has spent his career studying infectious diseases and epidemiology. His involvement includes participation on Utah’s AIDS Task Force, the Multiple Sclerosis Medical Advisory Board, Health Manpower Task Force, and the Utah Bioterrorism Preparedness Task Force. Now that he has retired from full-time practice, he continues to share his expertise on infectious disease as the Administrative Advisor on Quality at St. Mark’s Hospital.

Community Outreach

Alan S. Crandall, ’73

Alan Crandall, M.D. is a professor and senior vice chair of ophthalmology at the Moran Eye Center. When Dr. Crandall realized that 2.5 million people in the world today are totally blind from completely curable cataracts he didn’t just send money to help, he sent himself. Starting ten years ago Crandall began assembling teams to embark on medical missions to Ghana, Africa. The multi-fold purposes of these voluntary trips include daily six-hour eye clinics followed by up to 10 hours of eye surgery to restore sight. The teams also teach local ophthalmologists and residents how to evaluate and treat common eye disorders.

Health Care Provider-Physician

Carol Osborn, M.D., House Staff ’88

Two years ago Carol Osborn, M.D. decided to change the system of how she provided health care to patients by opening her own unique practice. Responding to the frequent frustration she experienced trying to provide excellent care in a traditional health care format where she was expected to see a new patient every 10 minutes while keeping up on her research and teaching Dr. Osborn started “Evolutionary Healthcare”. Her goal is to provide the best of things doctors used to do—home visits, for instance—with up-to-date technologies and procedures. For $450 per quarter, a patient with health insurance can have as much time as needed with the doctor, including house calls, 24-hour access, and immediate urgent care.

Alumni Notebook
1934

James Rex Miller, Jr., M.D.
Dr. Miller is a Fellow in the American College of Physicians and served as a governor for the association in Utah from 1967-1973. He is a U.S. Golf Association senior amateur and qualified in the Utah Sectional four times, but says he’s “not good enough for match play in the national tournaments.”

1940

Donald M. Moore, M.D.
Dr. Moore is an associate clinical professor emeritus of medicine at the U of U Medical School. He has been a volunteer docent at the John M. Browning Firearms Museum for the past 17 years and was Dr. Max Wintrobe’s first resident after he arrived from John Hopkins in 1943.

1942

Ray H. Barton, Jr., M.D.
Dr. Barton has researched the effects of bran and rougahage on the digestive system and started a thriving weight-loss clinic alongside his surgery and GP clinic. He was present at Temple University when the invention of penicillin was announced. Dr. Barton has delivered over 2000 babies and was named by Governor Michael Leavitt as a “Point of Light.”

1944

Homer C. Curtis, M.D.
Dr. Curtis was a professor of psychiatry at Hahneman College, adjunct professor of psychiatry at the University of Pennsylvania Med School, and president of the American Psychoanalytic Association. In 1990 he founded the Russian American Education Exchange. He also founded the American European Clinical Conference and received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Philadelphia Psychiatric Society.

1946

Edward D. Holley, M.D.
Dr. Holley practiced pediatrics for 50 years. He was an assistant clinical professor of pediatrics at the University of Utah and studied and taught at Stanford for twelve years. He was the first resident in pediatrics at the University of Utah. At retirement, 2,600 people gave Dr. Holley a send off.

1948-1950. He was the first physician at the hospital to use blood gas determinations. Dr. Reiser is retired and currently resides in Salt Lake City, Utah.

1952

A. Hamer Reiser, Jr., M.D.
Dr. Reiser was the Chief Medical Resident at LDS Hospital from 1948-1950. He was the first physician at the hospital to use blood gas determinations. Dr. Reiser is retired and currently resides in Salt Lake City, Utah.

1953

M. Paul Southwick, M.D.
Dr. Southwick received the Laureate Award from the Utah Chapter American College of Physicians in 1994 and the Utah Doctor of the Year Award in 2003. In 1995 he established the Golden Anniversary Award for Distinguished Clinical Investigation with members of the 1945 U of U School of Medicine graduating class.

1954

Roscio B. Anderson, M.D.
Dr. Anderson is a retired anatomic and clinical pathologist who currently resides in Riverside, CA.

1955

Bryce Jay Fairbanks
Dr. Fairbanks practiced Ophthalmology and ENT for 51 years, retiring in 1999. He is the founder of Utah’s Impaired Physician Committee and served as its chair for 11 ½ years.

1956

Samuel N. Grossman, M.D.
Dr. Grossman was Chief of Surgery at the 4160th USAF Hospital from 1955-1957. He was also an attending surgeon at Cedar Sinai Hospital, and currently serves as a medical consultant for the California Department of Social Services.

1957

Daniel Clyde Hunter, Jr., M.D.
Dr. Hunter is a retired general surgeon and honorary staff at McKay-Dee Hospital. He is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, and was an assistant professor of surgery services at the University of Michigan from 1953 to 1960, and assistant clinical professor of surgery at the University of Utah. He also served as the first vice president of the Western Surgical Association and as president of the U of U School of Medicine Alumni Association for three years.

1958

L. George Veasy
Dr. Veasy is a retired pediatric cardiologist living in Salt Lake City. He said his most significant achievement was “surviving into the 21st century!”

1959

W. Dean Belnap, M.D.
Dr. Belnap is a Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics and a Fellow in the American Psychiatric Association. He has been on the Primary Children's Hospital Staff for forty-six years and is an Emeritus Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at the U of U. He has been Medical Director ARTEC-Valley Mental Health, Medical Director of Rivendell of America and a President Reagan appointee to the Advisory Council of Health and Human Services.

1960

Thomas W. Burns, M.D.
Dr. Burns currently practices medicine at the University of Missouri Cosmopolitan International Diabetic Center. He was a faculty member of the University of Missouri School of Medicine, doing research and teaching for fifty-two years. He is active in the American College of Physicians as a governor and regent and president of the county medical society. He is enjoying a happy family life with his wife, Joan, four children, one of which is a practicing internist and seven grandchildren “all girls – I do specialize!”

Rubert Raymond Green, M.D.
Before retiring, Dr. Green practiced surgery in both Provo and Heber City, Utah. He was a country doctor for 40 years and came out of the Coast Guard as a Senior Surgeon/Full Commander in 1953. Dr. Green currently resides in Heber City, Utah.

Ciel Jensen, M.D.
Dr. Jensen served as a captain in the U.S. Air Force as the officer in charge of operating rooms at Far East Air Materiel Command. He was president of the Idaho Society of Anesthesiologists in 1960 and president of the Utah Society of Anesthesiologists in 1969. He served as a diplomat on the American Board of Anesthesiology and is a Fellow in the American College of Anesthesiology. After serving an LDS mission in 1989, Dr. Jensen passed the National Assessment Institute and practiced Gerontology until 1997. He is currently teaching and on the board of Elder Quest, a branch of U.V.S.C. in Orem, Utah. His first wife is deceased and he and his second wife have a combined family of 65 grandchildren and 35 great grandchildren.

Don H. Nelson, M.D.
Dr. Nelson has been Chief of the Division of Endocrinology at the U of U and at the University of Southern California. He worked as chief of medicine at LDS Hospital and as the director of the Metabolic Ward and Laboratory at Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, Harvard University. Dr. Nelson is the author of 150 research articles.

Daniel Lowry Smith, M.D.
Dr. Smith served as a pilot in the Air Force as well as a flight surgeon and Lt. Colonel. He was a pilot taking troops in the first 10 minutes of D-Day in WWII. He practiced medicine in California and after moving to Utah worked at the BYU Health Center for 19 years.
Clifford H. Curtis, M.D.  Dr. Curtis was a part of the Pacific Coast Obstetrics and Gynecological Society. He published the article, “Auto Transfusion in Gynecologic Hemoperitoneum” in the July 1983 edition of the American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology. He was a clinical associate professor in the Department of Obstetrics at Stanford Medical School. Dr. Curtis and his wife, Thelma, have four daughters, thirteen grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Fred V. Jackman, M.D.  Dr. Jackman was an active surgery specialist in all the hospitals in Utah Valley for forty-five years. He has been the Utah Valley Regional Medical County Staff President and Surgical Chief and Trustee of the Utah State Medical Association. Dr. Jackman also served for 33 years reserve and active duty in the USAF and was the first official BYU athlete physician from 1959-1964.

Bennion N. Lloyd, M.D.  Before retiring in 1985, Dr. Bennion practiced at LDS Hospital, with offices in Sugarhouse and East Mill Creek. He served in the U.S. Navy Air Corps during WWII before going into medicine. Dr. Bennion currently resides in Holladay with his wife, Dorothy. They have enjoyed some traveling and sharing activities with family and friends.

Mary Lou (Pierce) Peak  Dr. Peak is a retired pediatrician and emergency room doctor and lives in Chubbuck, Idaho.

Calvin Buhler, M.D.  Dr. Buhler served his internship and residency at LDS Hospital. He started his practice in 1956 and retired in 1988. Dr. Buhler and his wife Elizabeth have five children, thirty-nine grandchildren and thirty great-grandchildren. He’s enjoyed water skiing, snow skiing, sailing, hunting and outings with his family for many years and has served a mission in the Philippines.

Alvin C. McCuistion, M.D.  Dr. McCuistion retired from the practice of internal medicine and resides in Alpine, UT.

John Alton Ross, M.D.  Dr. Ross practices medicine at the Volunteer Doctors Free Clinic in St. George, Utah. He has been president of the hospital medical staff, president of the state chapter of the American Academy of Family Practice and the State Peer Review in Montana. He has four wonderful children, sixteen grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

Orson D. Perkes, M.D.  Dr. Perkes is still in active practice at Star Valley Medical Center in Afton, Wyoming, were he started practicing in 1956 at the age of 26. For seven of those years he was the only physician and would see 70 patients a day and deliver 120-140 babies in a year, over 2500 babies overall! He served as town mayor from 1966-1988 and served two terms on the school board. In 1967 he was presented the Wyoming State award for Community Service by a physician. Dr. Perkes has traveled all over the world and is the owner of Perkes Hereford Ranch. He has also caught 4,822 trout in his lifetime!

Phillip D. Affleck, M.D.  Dr. Affleck served in the military and also served an LDS mission after retiring in 2001. He enjoys golf and gardening. Dr. Affleck has three sons, one daughter, and sixteen grandchildren.

Anthony Ballard, M.D.  Dr. Ballard has served as the Associate Chairman of Education, Director of the Residency Training Program, and Chief of Pediatric SVU at the University of Miami. He is a retired U.S. Army R.V.N.M.A.S.H Commander of the 2nd Surgical Hospital and a member of American Children’s Prosthetic Comm. He and his wife, Afton, have been married fifty-nine years and are the parents of six children.

Hal H. Bourne, M.D.  Dr. Bourne enjoys family history, golf, tennis, reading, traveling, biking, and skiing. He is reaching 75 years of age and just walked 36 holes of golf in one day. Dr. Bourne also enjoys mountain biking with his two younger daughters.

Donald R. Carson, M.D.  Dr. Carson is retired from the practice of internal medicine in Elk Grove, CA. He reports that he has a happy marriage, great children, had a good practice and is having a great retirement.

Wallace D. Crosby, M.D.  Dr. Crosby served in the Air Force from 1958-1961. He practiced medicine in Chico, California for 42 years and served at the president of the local medical society, president of the local general practice academy, and as chief of staff at the local hospital.

Gordon R. Evans, M.D.  Dr. Evans is a co-founder of Drs. Evans, Evans, & Evans Inc. Internal Medicine, Salt Lake City, Utah. He practiced with two brothers for thirty years. He was medical director of the University of Utah Alcohol & Drug Abuse Clinic for twenty-two years. Dr. Evans is affiliated with University of Utah Sports Medicine and continues to work as medical director for Beneficial Life Insurance Company and is a medical consultant to other life insurance companies.

M. Harold Fogelson, M.D.  Dr. Fogelson is the former Department head of Pediatric Neurology at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center. While he served this role for twenty years the department grew from two doctors to twenty-one child neurologists. Dr. Fogelson is also a Professor Emeritus of Pediatrics and Neurology for the University of Cincinnati.

Morris D. Gardner, M.D.  Dr. Gardner was a member of the State Board of Health from 1975 to 1981, serving as chairman the final two years. He was also president of Utah County Medical Society in 1968. Since retiring he has enjoyed writing the personal history of his parents and his only brother and sister. Dr. Gardner has traveled to seventy-two countries, served 3 LDS missions and been an LDS temple sealer for eleven years.

Thorold D. Harris, M.D.  Dr. Harris has enjoyed the honor of being a physician and feels his significant achievements include giving to his patients and the community. He told his residents and students to treat each patient humbly with respect and thoughtfulness, as if they were their own mother, father, brother, or sister, and they would have no problems.

Marlan J. Haslam, M.D.  Dr. Haslam worked in orthopedic surgery before retiring. He was a general surgeon in the USAF from 1959-1961 at MacDill AFB in Florida, and assistant clinical professor of orthopedics at the U of U from 1975-1985. Dr. Haslam was a board of trustees member at IHC McKay-Dee Hospital in Ogden, Utah from 1975-1998, and President of the Ogden Surgical-Medical Society in 1983. He served as a Utah Representative on the board of councilors American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons from 1981-1987. He and his wife, Patricia, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in June 2007.

Robert L. Jensen, M.D.  Dr. Jensen has been a member of the Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society, Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society, and the American Academy of Ophthalmology. He is the past president of Cache Valley Medical Society and Logan LDS Hospital Medical Staff, as well as a Diplomat for the American Board of Ophthalmology. Since retiring he has enjoyed golf, genealogy, and building and flying remote control airplanes.
Roger S. Jernstrom, M.D.
Dr. Jernstrom specialized in obstetrics and gynecology and was a clinical professor at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. He retired in 1996 and since then has enjoyed Kiwanis International, teaching math at Boystown, and serving as a mentor to Tom Osborne teammates for ten years. He hosts bible study twice weekly and is a rabid sports fan.

Joyce D.
Johnson, M.D.
Dr. Johnson still practices internal medicine part-time for Alpine Medical Group in Salt Lake City and donates time to the Fourth Street Clinic, also in Salt Lake City.

Robert J. Kahn, M.D.
Dr. Kahn practices radiology in Greeley, Colorado. He has served as president of the county medical society, Chair of Radiology, Chair of the Hospital Foundation and volunteer for Ship of Hope, to Macieo, Brazil.

John Margaris, M.D.
Dr. Margaris has been President of the National Private Doctors of America, hospital staff president, and president of the Cascade County Medical Society.

Karl R. Kelly
Nicholes, M.D., Ph.D.
Dr. Nicholes specialized in aviation medicine in the USAF, and also practiced cardiovascular physiology and obstetrics and gynecology. His significant achievements include: serving as a flight surgeon and Chief of Aviation Medicine and Preventive Medicine for the 48th TAC Fighter Wing; becoming a Fellow of the National Heart Institute, receiving a University Career Development Award, receiving a PhD in Preventive Medicine for the 48th TAC, and Chief of Aviation Medicine and the Liahona Society. His hobbies and interests include travel, book club, family, and church service.

Marvin L.
Rallison, M.D.
Dr. Rallison specialized in pediatric endocrinology and examined young people in Nevada and Arizona for thyroid neoplasmia from exposure to fallout from the Nevada test site. He is the author of a book of growth problems in children: a work-shop chair for the National Diabetic Commission; an M.D. for 40 years at Camp Utahda, a camp for diabetic youth; and a recipient of the Diabetest and Camping Award from the National Diabetic Association. Since he retired, Dr. Rallison has enjoyed oil painting, classical guitar, bird watching and traveling and commuting with nature, and his 21 grandkids.

William L.
Schwartz, M.D., FACP
Dr. Schwartz volunteers as a physician in a free medical clinic, serves on an ethics committee and is presently working with a group of doctors to improve relationships between hospitalists and clinic-based physicians. He is the co-founder of Samaritan House Free Medical Clinics in San Mateo and Redwood City, CA. He met with the Dalai Lama for his work with the free clinics and received the Jefferson Award-San Francisco for his clinic work. Since retiring he has enjoyed volunteering as a physician at the Samaritan House, gardening, writing poetry, walking and watching people.

Lyman E.
Shurtliff, M.D.
Dr. Shurtliff specialized in family practice and pathology. He did his pathology residency from 1962 to 1966 and a mixture of family practice and pathology thereafter. Dr. Shurtliff enjoys golf, drawing and painting, and reading, especially history.

Darrell E. Smith, M.D.
Dr. Smith has served medical missions to Nigeria (2), Zimbabwe, and El Salvador (2), and Pakistan through Deseret International and the Liahona Society. His hobbies and interests include travel, book club, family, and church service.

John Plager, M.D.
Dr. Plager has been published on such topics as cancer, chemotherapy, cell cycle kinetics, clinical medicine, and steroid enzymatic synthesis. He is currently retired and living in Winsted, Connecticut.

J. Ballard
Washburn, M.D.
Dr. Washburn practiced family medicine in Page, Arizona where he did house calls, delivered babies, performed surgery, and worked with Native Americans in the area. He received the Utah Medical Association Distinguished Service Award in 1994. He was a Mission President for the LDS Church (1987-1990); served a LDS mission in Africa (1990-1993); and was the Temple President for the Las Vegas LDS Temple (1995-1998). He and his wife have 58 grandchildren they love to spend time with.

Richard D. Sontheimer, M.D.
Dr. Sontheimer completed an immunodermatology research fellowship and a dermatology residency at University of Texas, Southwestern. He has practiced academic medicine since 1979, first at UT Southwestern, then at the University of Iowa College of Medicine, and most recently as a professor, vice chairman to the Department of Dermatology, and residency program director at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center.

1983-General Surgery

C. James (Jim) Holliman, M.D.
After 18 years on the faculty at the M.S. Hershey Medical Center at Pennsylvania State University, Dr. Holliman recently became Program Manager of the Afghanistan Health Care Sector Reconstruction Project, part of the Center for Disaster and Humanitarian Assistance Medicine of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, MD. His duties include helping coordinate health care system reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan, and developing collaborative arrangements with other academic institutions to study the effects of health care reconstruction efforts. Prior to leaving Penn State, he received the “Attending of the Year” Award from the emergency medicine residents and a new best resident teaching award was named in his honor.

Bryan B.
Packard, M.D.
Dr. Packard served as president of the Ogden Medical and Surgical Society, and the Utah State Urological Society. He was on the nominating committee and then the executive committee of the western section of the American Urological Association as well as chief of the surgical staff at St. Benedict’s Hospital.
Save The Date

Connecting with U
2008 Medical Alumni Weekend
September 4-6, 2008

Thursday, September 4:
Awards Banquet and 50-Year Celebration

Friday, September 5:
School of Medicine Department Activities
Dean’s State of the School Address
Half-Century Club (1957 and before)

Saturday, September 6:
Continuing Medical Education Conference
Tailgating Party
Utah vs. Oregon State football game

In Memoriam

Stephen George Babel, M.D. MD 1982 28 May 07
Allen Wilson Cowley, M.D. MD 1926 10 Oct 07
Jay M. Hill, M.D. MD 1959 10 Feb 07
John P. Hougaard, M.D. MD 1951 16 Jul 07
Leland Kenneth Krantz, M.D. MD 1944 20 June 07
Michael Jad Morrison, M.D. MD 1999 Nov 07
Alden Lloyd Poulsem, M.D. MD 1961 12 Jul 07
Christy Roalstad, M.D. MD 2007 26 Jul 07
William K. Sata, M.D. MD 1947 10 Mar 07
James C. Stewart, M.D. MD 1958 04 May 90
Charles A. White, M.D. MD 1955 27 Apr 07

We Want to Hear from You

Please send us information about your honors received, appointments, career advancements, publications, volunteer work, and other activities of interest. Please include names, dates, and locations. Photographs are encouraged.

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Contact Information

You may submit information the following ways:

- E-mail: kristin.gorang@hsc.utah.edu
- U.S. Mail: Send this completed form to University of Utah School of Medicine Alumni Relations, 540 S. Arapeen Drive, Suite 125, Salt Lake City, Utah 84108-1298
- Telephone: 801-585-3818
- Web site: http://medicine.utah.edu/alumni

The University of Utah School of Medicine is grateful for the endowed medical school scholarship Dr. Allen Wilson Cowley set-up in his name.
Class of 1957 September 13, 2007 Awards Banquet 50th Year Celebration
1st Row: Anthony Ballard, Robert Kahn, Kelly Nicholes, Joyce Johnson, John Plager, Thorold Harris, Marv Rallison, Darrell Smith 2nd Row: Phil Affleck, Hal Bourne, Marlan Haslam, Dean Packard, Wallace Crosby, Morris Gardner, Paul Williams, Robert Jensen, Virgil Parker, Gordon Evans, Harold Fogelson

Please visit our updated Web site
http://medicine.utah.edu/alumni
To opt-out of Illuminations mailings email: kristin.gorang@hsc.utah.edu