Medical Center Naming Honors Les Wexner

In recognition of his commitment of both time and resources to Ohio State, the University's Board of Trustees voted unanimously on Feb. 10 to rename Ohio State's Medical Center as The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center.

Les Wexner has served for 16 years on Ohio State's Board of Trustees, twice as its chair, and along with his company's foundation, has given more than $200 million to Ohio State. He and his family and the Limited Brands Foundation made an historic $100 million donation to the University in February 2011, the largest gift in the University's history, and requested that the majority of it go to support research and patient care in cancer.

Abigail and Les Wexner celebrate the naming of The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center.

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Ohio State's College of Medicine will welcome this summer’s incoming class with a new curriculum that is designed to prepare tomorrow’s physicians to deliver the highest quality care to a diverse population of patients in a changing healthcare environment.

Lead. Serve. Inspire. (LSI) will require a new set of competencies for physicians and medical scientists that place greater emphasis on patient-centeredness, coordination of care, participatory decision-making, continuous professional development, technology and advocacy. The new curriculum features clinical experiences that will help students apply foundational science concepts to patient care.

“Our curriculum is a three-phase approach that integrates experiential learning within the core curricular content so students can hang knowledge concepts on actual patient interactions, patient management and patient care beginning early in their programs,” says Daniel Clinchot, MD, associate dean for Medical Education.

At our autumn ’11 Alumni Board of Governors meeting, someone suggested that we start the meeting by going around the room to share our “But for Ohio State” story. At the time, Les Wexner, philanthropist and CEO of the Limited Brands, had just made his $100 million gift to the University and the “But for Ohio State” campaign theme was launched. With a combination of Medical Center leadership, alumni physicians, medical students and staff in the room, I was in awe of the stories that were told.

A few people recollected that they would not have met their spouses, if not for Ohio State. Others stated they would not have had the successful career that they did, if not for Ohio State. The students voiced that they would not be able to take advantage of the great medical school opportunities that are shaping their lives. The stories were all very personal and touching, and as unique as the individuals sharing them. The University and College of Medicine have had, and continue to have, a profound impact on our lives, and on the lives of those we interact with and care for every day.

I am asking that you take a moment and reflect back on your medical training at Ohio State. Please share one of your significant “But for Ohio State” stories with your fellow alumni/colleagues. Stories submitted will be posted to our Medical Alumni Society webpage and Facebook page. Submit your “But for Ohio State” story, and a photo if applicable, to medalum@osumc.edu.

Thanks, and GO BUCKS!

P.S. And my story… a wonderful 28-year career at Ohio State, my two children were born at Ohio State’s University Hospital, and I have 13,000 medical alumni whom I can call my friends!

Plan to Attend: 2nd Global Diabetes Summit

New Horizons in Diabetes: Genetic to Personalized Health Care will take place Nov. 14-17 in Columbus, OH. This 2nd Global Diabetes Summit, sponsored by Ohio State’s Diabetes Research Center, will bring together international experts who will focus on recent advancements in diabetes research and formulate an interdisciplinary road map for the prevention, detection and treatment of diabetes. On Nov. 17, a community event will be held for healthcare professionals, patients with diabetes, family and community members.

Leading Ohio State’s effort for the Summit is Kwame Osei, MD, chair of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism. Osei was recently selected by the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists (AACE) to receive the 2012 Outstanding Service Award for The Promotion of Endocrine Health of an Underserved Population. The honor will be presented this spring at the AACE Annual Scientific & Clinical Congress in Philadelphia, PA.

Registration information is available at http://internalmedicine.osu.edu/endocrinology/.
From Our Dean

In the past few months, I’ve had the pleasure to meet many of you at local, regional and national alumni-sponsored events. My message at our gatherings and throughout this year is one of pride and opportunity. I am proud of our tradition of producing great physicians who are passionate about patient care and research. This pride is bolstered by the national attention garnered by our clinical skills center expansion, NIH awards such as the Medical Science Training Program, and our medical center naming in honor of Mr. Leslie Wexner.

Our greatest opportunity is to enhance the support that we provide for our students. Thanks to your help, we have a long-standing tradition of granting student scholarships, but we can do even more. As you know, a first-class medical education comes at a price. Our students graduate with significant debt, averaging greater than $150,000. Several of our students have been fortunate enough to receive need-based scholarships so that their debt is not even greater, but many more need your help.

By supporting student scholarships, you are making an investment that will yield dividends for a lifetime. We are looking for your help to “Pay It Forward,” just like Erwin Thal of the class of ’62 and Paige Mahoney of the class of ’01 (see page 4) who support the White Coat Scholarship Program.

Like you, many donors to the College are MD and resident alumni – teachers, researchers, practicing or retired doctors – all sharing a passion for advancing the field of medicine and patient care. I invite you to visit our College website and listen as one of our students explains how the scholarship she received made a difference in her life. Visit www.medicine.osu.edu/alumni/scholarshipstory.

Charles J. Lockwood, MD, MHCM
Dean of the College of Medicine
Vice President for Health Sciences
The Ohio State University

MEDICAL CENTER NAMING | CONTINUED FROM PG. 1

“Les has been among Ohio State’s most dedicated leaders and most passionate supporters for many decades, and someone who continues to make an indelible impact on our community,” said President E. Gordon Gee. “His generous contributions, both in time and resources, have been wholly transformational, but his most valuable gift has been his extraordinary leadership. He has a firm and unequivocal vision for our academic medical center, and that is to be a world-class institution, period.”

Gee added that the naming “recognizes the critical work the Wexners have undertaken to ensure The Ohio State University Medical Center is able to solve some of medicine’s most persistent challenges and change lives for the better.”

“I have often said that but for The Ohio State University, I would not have had an opportunity to receive a college degree,” Wexner said. “Attending this University changed my life, and I continue to witness the incredible potential this institution has to do the same thing for others. The Ohio State University Medical Center is one of the finest academic medical centers in the country. I have every confidence that the complex medical challenges confronting us today will be solved at The Ohio State University through the collaboration among researchers and scientists from a broad spectrum of specialties.”

Steven G. Gabbe, MD, CEO of Ohio State’s Wexner Medical Center, added that the University has a vision. “It is one in which Ohio State’s Wexner Medical Center is synonymous with life-changing, personalized health care, based on the unique needs of each patient. This institution has been shaped by the vision and commitment of Mr. and Mrs. Wexner and is proud to carry their name.”

Ohio State’s Wexner Medical Center is one of the largest and most diverse academic medical centers in the country and the only academic medical center in central Ohio. It includes the College of Medicine; six hospitals; a unified physician practice; a network of primary and specialty care practices; more than a dozen research centers and institutes; and 20 core laboratories.

Ohio State is a national leader in transforming health care through P4 Medicine, a health care system that is personalized, predictive, preventive and participatory. The academic medical center’s six signature programs – Cancer, Critical Care, Heart, Imaging, Neurosciences and Transplantation – and supporting programs are key to providing science-based and individually tailored patient care to people in central Ohio and beyond. Ohio State has ranked among the nation’s best hospitals for nearly 20 years and the National Cancer Institute recently rated Ohio State’s cancer program as “exceptional,” the highest rating given by National Cancer Institute survey teams.

Charles Lockwood, MD
Dean of the College of Medicine
Vice President for Health Sciences
The Ohio State University

Questions? Comments? E-mail us at medalum@osumc.edu
But for Ohio State…Gift Rewards Teaching Excellence

Mary Beth Fontana, MD ’66, is recognized as an expert clinician who is equally gifted as a teacher and educational innovator. Fontana, who was appointed Associate Professor of Internal Medicine Emeritus in 2004, joined Ohio State’s faculty in 1970, becoming an assistant professor in 1971 and an associate professor in 1976.

During her tenure, Fontana was often honored for patient care and teaching excellence. She devoted much of her career to innovative medical education and public service, including her early involvement with the Independent Study Program and later with the Integrated Pathway Med I & Med II program. Her educational leadership has greatly strengthened the curriculum, teaching effectiveness, problem-based learning, medical student experiences, continuing medical education activities and educational courses at Ohio State’s College of Medicine. Since retirement she has focused her efforts on medical education, medical student mentoring and tutoring. She holds the Harry C. and Mary Elizabeth Powelson Professorship for tutoring and mentoring medical students.

With her history of generously giving of her talents, it should come as no surprise that Fontana continues to find new ways to improve Ohio State medical education. With a pledge of $100,000, she is establishing the endowment to be used in The Ohio State University College of Medicine to reward current or retired/emeriti faculty of the College recognized through the Courage To Teach program as exemplary teachers in the development of excellent, professional, and humanistic clinical physicians. Those physicians designated Master Teachers through the Courage to Teach program will be awarded The Mary Beth Fontana Wise M.D. Master Teacher Award.

“The vast majority of funds donated to the College of Medicine are designated for research and patient care. This endowment is specifically to support the educational mission of the college by rewarding exemplary teachers, without whom we would not have excellent caring physicians. The primary initial focus will be to reward Master Teachers who have earned that designation by their current and prior educational achievements. In the future, support for faculty development of educational talents can be added as the endowment grows,” says Fontana.

Paying Forward

Donors to the White Coat Scholarship Program make a contribution of $100 or more and can provide a welcome note to an incoming medical student.

Erwin Thal, MD ’62, a Dallas surgeon and professor at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, believes that his scholarship support through the White Coat Scholarship Program is a way to pay forward. “It is a pleasure for me to foster the rich tradition of our profession by supporting the educational processes of our new students. As they begin their journey to learn the meaning of excellence in patient care, the importance of pursuing new ideas and the necessity of self-sacrifice for the benefit of their patients, it is important for them to know that they have the support and encouragement of those who have preceded them in this endeavor,” Thal states.

Paige L. O’Mahoney, MD ’01, a central Ohio pediatrician, is equally enthusiastic about the program, adding, “It is a privilege for me to support the White Coat Scholarship Program and in so doing welcome our newest students to the Ohio State University College of Medicine family.”

Give a gift to support the future of medicine at http://giveto.osu.edu/whitecoat.

Likes Support Transplant Education, Care

As a surgeon and as a patient, Lee Like, MD ’57, knows the value of quality education and quality care. His Ohio State education prepared him for a lengthy career helping others through his Lima, OH, surgical practice. In February 1999, Ohio State’s transplant program helped Like restore his own health through kidney implantation.

Thanks to that transplant 13 years ago and Ohio State’s ongoing care, Like and his wife, Sue, are enjoying life in their Naples, FL, retirement home. Yet, the Likes continue to help others through their gift to Ohio State medical education and patient care.

“We believe Ohio State is an institution that is accomplishing great things and we want to be part of the support team that helps Ohio State make great advancements in transplantation,” says Like.

President Gordon Gee’s recruitment of Robert Higgins, MD, as director of the Comprehensive Transplant Center (CTC) is one indication that transplantation is making great strides at Ohio State, adds Like.
From the Alumni Society President

Every college of medicine across the country continues to seek the best way to prepare medical students for the challenges of the daily practice of medicine. But medicine is a moving target and to capture everything a student might need to face in the medical practice environment today may seem overwhelming.

How do you design a curriculum that integrates the teaching of the foundational pieces of medical training with the constant change that is medicine today?

In this issue of Alumni Update, as well as upcoming issues, we will be writing about the challenges and the solutions to medical school curriculum design that focuses on the importance of the patient-physician relationship. The Ohio State University College of Medicine’s new Lead. Serve. Inspire. (LSI) curriculum has been a team effort and has called upon a diverse group of faculty, staff, students and administrators to shape this groundbreaking curricular step. In this new curriculum, we will see the full integration of basic and clinical sciences beyond what we have experienced in the old curriculum.

Lead. Serve. Inspire. seeks to honor the patient, the physician, the community and the integrity of medicine. The LSI curriculum was built to combine self-directed learning, competency-based teaching and faculty coaching to craft the physician of the future.

Several highlights to this new approach include a closer collaboration with community physicians, a new state-of-the-art Clinical Skills Education and Assessment Center (see back cover of this Alumni Update), the exploration of personalized medicine and the innovative teaching of clinical decision-making.

On a related note, we have also been exploring ways to create a more humanistic environment in which to teach and learn (www.medicine.osu.edu/humanism).

We hope that you will consider visiting your medical home here at Ohio State either during Reunion Weekend (Oct. 5-7, 2012) or any time you might be in Columbus. We would love to welcome you home.

Alumni Society Bites on Student’s Healthy Proposal

Calorie-laden burgers and fries! Greasy pizza slices! Skipped meals! “Is this a good way to eat the week before exams?” asked medical student Amber Beery.

“Probably not,” she answered in her funding proposal to Ohio State’s Medical Alumni Society entitled “Fun, Fast and Healthy: Medical Student Cooking Series.”

Since 2008, the Medical Alumni Society has offered support for one-time projects “to enrich the academic, cultural and artistic environment and programs of the College of Medicine.”

“I propose that the medical school offer a monthly or bi-monthly cooking class that focuses on smart and healthy cooking and eating, with special attention to easy and fast meals with fresh and local ingredients,” wrote Beery.

With funding from the Medical Alumni Society, administrative support from the College and the teaching resources of the non-profit Local Matters, classes were offered to Ohio State medical students in autumn 2011. Students paid $10 per class and ate what they cooked.

“The classes filled in less than an hour, and there was a waiting list. We hope to be able to offer more classes in the future,” says Eileen Mehl, director of Student Activities in the College of Medicine.

In addition to camaraderie and fun, the cooking classes gave students real-life nutrition lessons on preparing fast, nutritious, low-budget meals. “If we as future physicians are better equipped with healthy and easy options, we will be much more prepared to counsel our patients and give them practical ideas for changing their own habits,” says Beery.

The cooking classes have left medical students hungry for more, so Mehl says she and Beery will evaluate the program and blend in a few new ideas with the hope of serving up additional classes in the coming year.

Questions? Comments? E-mail us at medalum@osumc.edu
Alumni Society News

Alums Share Buckeye Spirit

Dean Charles J. Lockwood, MD, appreciates the graciousness of hosts here and in Florida that has provided him with the opportunity to meet many of our alumni, listen to their thoughts about Ohio State and medicine, and share insights about Ohio State’s and the College’s advancement.

In November, Roger Friedman, MD ’77, and his wife Marilyn hosted a dinner at New Albany Country Club, introducing the dean to area alumni. In late February, alumni hosts Richard O’Shaughnesy, MD ’73, and Sarah Artman, MD ’87, welcomed alumni to a dinner at Brookside Country Club.

Earlier this year, Dean Lockwood and College representatives traveled to Florida. Jack Hakes, MD ’60, hosted a lunch at Seasons 52 in Naples, FL, in January. Davis Tornabene, RN ’67, wife of the late Gerald J. Tornabene, MD ’69, welcomed Medicine and Nursing alumni for an evening reception in her Sarasota, FL, home in February.

HOST Program Gets Positive Reviews

Now entering its fourth year, HOST (Helping Our Students Travel) remains one of the Medical Alumni Society’s most engaging programs. The program’s plan is simple. Students who are traveling for interviews are matched with alumni in those cities. Cincinnati, Philadelphia, Boston, Denver and Sacramento are among the popular student destinations.

Alumni say the HOST program is a great way to stay connected to Ohio State and learn from the next generation of physicians. Student feedback from this program has been equally positive. Students appreciate being able to travel without the expense of lodging and also benefit from the knowledge and experience our alumni share about cities and hospitals where students may be continuing their training.

“The HOST experience was great! I would recommend it to everyone. It was fun to meet practicing physicians who are Ohio State grads – and they loved meeting me just as much!” says Rachel Voss who traveled to Dallas, TX, in December and stayed with Erwin Thal, MD ’62, a surgeon and professor at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center.
“Health Wars” was the topic of the Maurice Mullet Student-Alumni Forum held Dec. 6 at the OSU Ross Heart Hospital.

Susan R. Guarnieri, MD ’66, MPH, talked with students, alumni and faculty about the public health battles our nation has and will face (HIV, food poisonings, flu, etc.) and the growing partnership between public health and clinical medicine.

Known for her work in public health, preventive medicine and occupational health, Guarnieri has been recognized for her work with mental health, child health, TB and AIDS clinics. She formerly served as Baltimore City Health Commissioner. She also served as medical director of the Baltimore Gas and Electric Company and Constellation Energy Group, the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health Advisory Council, and was a senior associate in the School of Public Health. She is a Lifetime Member of Delta Omega and the Honorary Public Health Society.

Guarnieri now serves on the board of the Maryland General Hospital and Health System and the Advisory Council at Greater Baltimore Medical Center. She is also a member of our Medical Alumni Society Board of Governors.

SAVE THE DATE for our spring Mo Mullet Student-Alumni Forum, which will provide a discussion of the effects of health reform on current practitioners. Join us on Tuesday, May 1, at 5:30 p.m. in the Ross Heart Hospital auditorium as a panel of Ohio State alumni physicians discusses this important topic.

Ohio State minority medical students reached out in February to alumni by postcard. Students personalized a save-the-date card sent to alumni inviting them to attend an Oct. 6 breakfast discussion on diversity in medicine. This event is an outgrowth of the success of annual underrepresented-in-medicine forums held at past alumni weekends. Minority alumni interested in leading or participating in these events should contact Medical Alumni Society staff at (614) 366-1642.

Ohio State’s Medical Alumni Society presents four annual awards recognizing excellence in the teaching and practice of medicine. Consider nominating a classmate or colleague for one of these honors:

- The Alumni Achievement Award is given to an MD or resident alum in acknowledgement of distinguished career achievements in the practice of medicine and to society.

- The Faculty Teaching Award recognizes a current College of Medicine faculty member who has made a significant contribution to our educational mission. Alumni and non-alumni are eligible.

- The Early Career Achievement is presented to an MD or resident alum who has made significant career contributions in service, scientific or academic achievement before the age of 40.

- The Alumni Service Award is given to an MD or resident alum who has demonstrated extraordinary commitment and service to the College of Medicine or Ohio State’s Wexner Medical Center.

To nominate someone, go to the alumni website, medicine.osu.edu/alumni, and click on the “Alumni Awards Program” link. Contact medalum@osumc.edu or call the Medical Alumni Society office at (614) 366-1642 for more information.
Alumni Notes

'64 Glen Aukerman, MD wrote a book, Better Health in 120 Days: Finding Answers with the WEE Protocol for a Genomic-Specific Nutritional Plan, explaining his personalized nutritional plan, which is designed to restore the way genes work by removing toxic foods from the diet, enhancing healthy foods and supporting areas where a person’s nutrients are deficient.

'69 Richard P. MacDemott MD, FACP, AGAF, MACG, received the Lifetime Achievement Award, at the December 2011 annual meeting of the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America in recognition of his commitment, dedication and extraordinary contributions to advancing research and education in the Inflammatory Bowel Diseases, as well as his clinical care of Crohn’s disease and ulcerative colitis patients.

'70 David E. Schuller, MD, an undergraduate alumnus of Rutgers University, will be inducted into the Rutgers Hall of Distinguished Alumni this spring for his outstanding work as a longtime leader in cancer research and treatment. Schuller is CEO Emeritus of the James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute and also vice president of OSU Medical Center Expansion and Outreach.

'72 Marvin D Shie III, MD, was awarded the Lakewood Hospital Physician of the Year award, The Academy of Medicine of Cleveland and Northeast Ohio Clinician of the Year award, and the Northcoast Health Ministry's award for volunteerism. She practices General Surgery in Lakewood, OH, and was elected president for the 2012-13 year of the Cleveland Surgical Society.

'75 Elaine Busch Billmire, MD, is the Pediatric Department director at Group Health Associates in Cincinnati. She has written a novel and published, Other People’s Children, a medical/crime novel that reflects on her experiences working with the Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Child Abuse Team. Her husband, '75 David Billmire, MD, is director of Pediatric Plastic Surgery at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital.

'76 Wallace L.M. (Lee) Alward, MD, will be the chair of the American Board of Ophthalmology (ABO) in 2012.

'76 Mary Jo Welker, MD, has been elected president of the board of trustees for the American Academy of Family Physicians Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the trade group. She was previously treasurer and vice president. Welker is executive director of Ohio State’s Primary Care Network, associate dean for Primary Care and chair of Family Medicine.

'78 Paul Dorinsky, MD, is a nationally recognized expert in pulmonary disease who was appointed as medical director of medical technology company Aerocrine AB, North America.

'81 Richard Parker, MD, was named the head team physician for the Cleveland Cavaliers. Parker is the education director of Sports Health at Cleveland Clinic and has a professional interest in sports-related injuries and arthroscopic knee surgery.

'82 Thomas Coon, MD, founder and medical director at Coon Joint Replacement Institute at St. Helena Hospital has been recognized among 125 knee surgeons nationwide by Becker’s Orthopedic, Spine and Pain Management Review.

'85 Thomas W. Ferkol Jr., MD, has been named the first Alexis Hartmann, MD, Professor in Pediatrics at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. Ferkol is renowned for his research on cystic fibrosis and primary ciliary dyskinesia.

'89 Christopher Fleming, MD, was named vice president of Seven Hills Women’s Health Centers in Cincinnati, OH. Fleming has over 18 years of experience in Obstetrics and Gynecology.

'93 Stephen Markovich, MD, MBA, serves as president of Riverside Methodist Hospital in Columbus, OH, where he has provided administrative leadership since 1996. Markovich is also a colonel in the Ohio Air National Guard where he commands the 121st Medical Group and the medical element of the State of Ohio’s Chemical/Biological/Radiological Emergency Response Force. Although currently a physician and flight surgeon, he has an extensive military background primarily as a fighter pilot where he accumulated more than 2,000 flying hours.

Stay connected: Visit http://medicine.osu.edu/alumni/
‘94 John J. Thomas, MD, has joined the staff of University Surgical Associates and City Hospital in Martinsburg, WV, as a general surgeon. In addition to patient care services, Thomas will help train resident physicians and medical students for the West Virginia University School of Medicine Eastern Division.

‘96 Bryan Fox, MD, was honored for 25 years of service in the U.S. Navy, 17 years as a physician and eight as a naval aviator. He served as an orthopedic and spine surgeon during Operation Iraqi Freedom and was most recently chief of Orthopedic Spine Surgery at the Naval Medical Center in Portsmouth, VA.

‘99 Andres Medina, MD, a cardiothoracic and vascular surgeon, has joined the staff of the Watson Clinic. Medina will perform cardiovascular surgical procedures at Lakeland Regional Medical Center in Lakeland, FL.

‘00 David Gurd, MD, was named head of the Pediatric Spinal Deformity Surgery Program within the Center for Pediatric Orthopaedics at Cleveland Clinic. The position is part of the leadership team for the center that provides comprehensive care for orthopaedic problems afflicting children and young adults, including traumatic injuries and developmental conditions that affect the bones, joints and muscles.

‘01 Ravi K. Ponnappan, MD, has joined Cape Regional Medical Center in Marmora, NJ, as a spinal orthopedic surgeon. Ponnappan has received honors for his research on intervertebral disk disease as well as cervical spine compressive pathology.

‘01 Jeremy Buckley, MD, and ‘99 Ernest Mazzaferri Jr., MD, have been selected as co-chairs of the Ohio Mission Lifeline Hospital Work Group. Both are fellows of the American College of Cardiology and fellows of the Society for Cardiac Angiography and Interventions. Mission Lifeline seeks to save the lives of patients by focusing on pre-hospital treatment protocols for cardiac patients.

‘01 Paul Gubanich, MD, will serve as the team physician for Columbus’ new professional lacrosse team, The Machine. Gubanich is board certified in Internal Medicine with a certificate of added qualification in Sports Medicine. He cares for patients at Ohio State’s CarePoint Lewis Center and the OSU Martha Morehouse Medical Plaza.

‘05 Anjana Uppal, MD, has joined the Department of Pediatric Emergency Medicine at the New York University Langone Medical Center’s Hassenfeld Pediatric Center.

‘06 Zach Zumbar, MD, is an interventional pain specialist who was selected along with Adam Hedaya, MD, to direct diagnosis and treatment with the new Fisher-Titus Medical Center and Pain Management Group in Ashland, OH. Zumbar recently completed fellowship training in pain management at the Cleveland Clinic and joined the Fisher-Titus Pain Management Center team.

‘07 Joseph Kitzmiller, MD, received a Translational Scholar Career Award in Pharmacogenomics and Personalized Medicine, a five-year award from the National Institutes of Health to support patient-centered research. Kitzmiller will develop a comprehensive and adaptable multi-gene model for predicting how individual patients respond to statin therapy.

‘07 John D. McCarter, MD, is an Ob/Gyn at the Intermountain Central Orem Clinic in Orem, UT.

‘09 Jake Kurowski, MD, and Hallie Kendis, MD, were married on Oct. 15, 2011. Kurowski is completing a fellowship in Pediatric Nephrology at Northwest Community Hospital, and Kendis is practicing Internal Medicine in Chicago.
Research and education enjoy a symbiotic relationship at Ohio State’s College of Medicine. Increased research funding has provided the technology and resources to support our scientific experts and to offer new educational opportunities for MD, pre-doctoral and doctoral students. These opportunities will help ensure that Ohio State, Ohio and the nation have the scientific expertise required to investigate and answer the next generation of health challenges.

“This past year, we have had major success in securing competitive funding to support both our research and academic missions. However, we still have much more work to do to create both a physical and fiscal environment that will propel us into the ranks of the Top 20 U.S. medical schools,” says Dean Charles J. Lockwood, MD, MHCM.

In 2011, the College was awarded highly coveted funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to propel education of medical and doctoral students in both clinical medicine and basic science research.

Ohio State’s new Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP), a designation given only to combined MD-PhD programs receiving NIH support, offers an integrated curriculum and provides rigorous training in both biomedical research and clinical medicine necessary for achievement of both degrees. Nationally, there are 44 NIH-funded Medical Scientist Training Programs. Each of the Top 20 medical schools and research institutions, as ranked by U.S. News & World Report, has such a program.

“This exclusive award enables expansion of existing opportunities and programming for our medical students,” says Larry Schlesinger, MD, director of the MSTP at Ohio State. “As a result of this prestigious award, we expect our applicant pool to grow in both number and quality.”

In addition to intense clinical and basic science training, the MSTP program offers a flexible and customized graduate curriculum, centered on the goals and interests of the individual student; independent study pathways for medical school curriculum; a strong student community; generous stipends and tuition waivers; and research and mentoring opportunities with Ohio State’s physician scientists.

Additional NIH funding supports the College of Medicine’s new SUCCESS (Summer Undergraduate Course Creating Excellence in Scientific Study) program. This nine-week program aims to identify outstanding students interested in the biomedical sciences with the goal of pursuing graduate education (MD-PhD or PhD). The program will focus on diverse student populations and help Ohio State recruit the best graduate and medical students.

Since 2009, the College has also been a member of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute’s Med into Grad Initiative, which seeks to advance fundamental knowledge in the biomedical sciences and the application of that knowledge to alleviate disease and promote health. The Med into Grad Initiative is designed to prepare PhD-trained scientists to conduct research at the interface of biomedical science and clinical medicine. Graduates of programs are expected to expedite the clinical application of discoveries in biomedical science to improve human health and to create future successful research partnerships with physicians.
Obituary


‘49 Herbert K. Speers, MD, age 88, passed away Dec. 13, 2011. Speers was an Army veteran, having served during World War II, and a veteran of the Air Force during the Korean Conflict. His military service enabled him to attend Ohio State’s College of Medicine. After medical school, Speers completed a medical internship at the University of Maryland Hospital. In 1953, he started an Ob/Gyn residency at Abington Memorial Hospital. Speers practiced medicine in Levittown, PA, from 1957 until his retirement in 1995.

‘55 William R. “Bill” Hanna, MD, age 87, died Jan. 23, 2011. He was a native of Canton, OH, and an Army Air Corps veteran of World War II. After Hanna his medical degree, Hanna completed a general surgical residency at the VA Hospital in Pittsburgh and an orthopedic surgery residency in Mobile, AL. Hanna practiced as an orthopedic surgeon in Lima, OH, for more than 25 years. He was a member of the American Academy of Medical and the American Academy of Orthopedic surgeons.

‘56 James Lowell Rush, MD, of Grafton, OH, passed away Nov. 18, 2011. Rush served in the U.S. Army, stationed in the Aleutian Islands, AK, from 1946 to 1948. He graduated from the University of Toledo in 1952 and earned his MD degree in 1956. After completing an internship at St. Vincent’s Hospital in Toledo in 1957, he was a family physician in Bay Village for 35 years. Rush served Lakewood, Fairview, and St. John West Shore hospitals. Rush was the consulting physician for the City of Bay Village police department and high school athletic teams for 25 years. He was also director of Medical Programs at Blue Cross/Blue Shield from 1990 to 1992. While a Bay Village resident, he also tended to his farm in Grafton.

‘57 Richard William Lamprecht, MD, age 80, of Groveport, passed away Oct. 7, 2011. He received his undergraduate degree in biochemistry and his medical degree from Ohio State. Lamprecht served the central Ohio community for decades with his Ob/Gyn practice based at Mount Carmel Medical Center.

‘59 Benjamin “Pat” Brucoli, MD, age 78, died Feb. 6, 2012. Born in Youngstown, OH, Brucoli earned both his bachelor’s degree and medical degree from Ohio State. In the 1960s, Brucoli served in the Air Force as a flight medical officer and flight surgeon. Upon completion of a residency in pediatric medicine in New York, he returned to Ohio and was in private practice for nearly 30 years. Brucoli was chief of pediatrics at Tod Babies and Children’s Hospital and served on the executive committee of the Youngstown Hospital Association. He was a diplomate of the American Board of Pediatrics and a fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics. Brucoli was a life member of Ohio State’s Presidents Club.

‘65 John O. Susac, MD, passed away Feb. 23, 2012, at the age of 71. Susac earned academic scholarships to Ohio State for undergraduate and medical studies and twice graduated cum laude. After medical school, he entered the U.S. Army, completing his internship at Letterman Army Medical Center in San Francisco and a residency in Neurology and Neuro-ophthalmology at the University of California, San Francisco. He completed a fellowship at the University of Miami, Bascom Palmer Eye Institute. Later, he was appointed assistant chief of Neurology and Neuro-ophthalmology at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

Additional information is available at www.medicine.osu.edu/alumni/communications.

SERVING OTHERS
Through OSUAA

Two College of Medicine alumni are serving colleagues, our College and the University through their leadership with The Ohio State University Alumni Association (OSUAA). Ella Toombs, MD ‘81, and Michael Minch, MD ’73, currently serve on the OSUAA Alumni Advisory Council, which advises Ohio State’s president and the OSUAA Board of Directors, promoting the general welfare and interests of the University.

Toombs, who practices Dermatology in the Washington, D.C., area, is in her first term as representative for our College of Medicine. Minch, who is a retired surgeon from Nashville, TN, is in his second term representing the Office of Health Sciences. Working around a demanding schedule while serving as the president of the Tennessee Medical Association, Minch says it remains important for him to find time for Ohio State.

“There are very few things in my life that have been so reliable and positive. I owe Ohio State a lot,” he says. Minch attributes his success in business and leadership, as well as his successful medical career, to the education he received at Ohio State.

“Now it is time for us to help the next generation move medicine forward, and there are a lot of great students here to make us proud,” Minch adds.

Learn more about The Ohio State University Alumni Association at www.ohiostatealumni.org. Archie Griffin, OSUAA president and CEO, has a message for all alumni posted at www.medicine.osu.edu/alumni/archie-msg.
Helping Central Ohio’s Somali Population

Medical student Michelle Caster discovered she could make a world of difference right here in central Ohio. Caster is addressing the health and nutrition needs of the Columbus Somali refugee population by implementing a nutrition curriculum for elementary school children and conducting educational workshops for their parents.

“When I first moved to Columbus, I didn’t realize how big the Somali refugee population here is,” says Caster. “I’m passionate about global health, and I was intrigued by the thought of this population here and figured there must be some barriers they faced when it came to medical care and to life in general.”

While visiting a north Columbus charter school, Caster realized that many recent first-generation and refugee Somalis had never received education about nutrition and the value of regular physical activity.

“The school principal told me he’d love to have a nutrition project. That was something that was lacking for a lot of reasons,” she says.

An Ohio State faculty member advised her on the Albert Schweitzer Fellowship program. Schweitzer Fellows provide 200 hours of direct service to an underserved community. Caster’s service includes dinnertime discussions about nutrition, exercise and other general health topics with 30 parents of elementary students.

Expanded Center Boosts Educational Excellence

The newly expanded Clinical Skills Education and Assessment Center is a cornerstone for medical and healthcare education at Ohio State. The Center’s expansion allows the University to bolster existing programs, launch new instructional techniques and employ new outcome assessments to ensure trainee competencies. By housing the most advanced equipment, simulators and observation/AV systems in this state-of-the-art facility, the Center puts Ohio State at the forefront of healthcare education in both procedural and patient simulation nationwide.

The Center’s four virtual critical care bays, for example, allow trainees from various disciplines (medicine, pharmacy, allied medicine, nursing, etc.) to work together on patient simulation scenarios in rooms that emulate hospital settings. These include an operating room; an emergency room; a neonatal intensive care/Ob/Gyn area; and a trauma/intensive care suite.

Learn move by visiting http://www.medicine.osu.edu/orgs/clinicals skills.