

DREXEL UNIVERSITY

# College of Medicine

ALUMNI MAGAZINE

## SECOND ACTS:

ALUMNI FIND NEW  
FULFILLMENT  
IN RETIREMENT



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HISTORIES, MYSTERIES | 9

NEW BUILDING UNITES  
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## FEATURED

### ALUMNI WEEKEND

The Hahnemann class of 1982 enjoyed reconnecting and reminiscing during their Alumni Weekend celebration.

## ARTICLES

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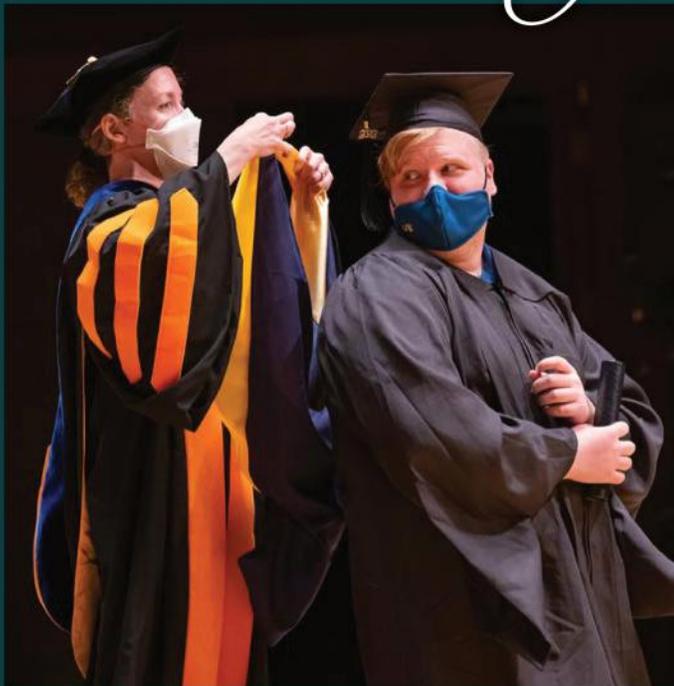
*Lynn Yeakel's legacy as a pioneer for gender equity is especially poignant for the recipients of the Woman One Scholarship.*



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# Planning Is a Gift



At Drexel University College of Medicine, we encourage our students and faculty to go beyond the standard, entering the fields of biomedical research and health care as leaders and innovators who are ready to put knowledge into practice and reimagine the positive effect they can have on the lives of others.

They are ready to leave their mark on the world, and you can join them. Gift planning is an opportunity to pair passion with strategy and impact, providing you the tools to establish a legacy now that will continue to benefit our current students and the communities they will serve as alumni.

As an integral part of the foundation of our college, you understand the critical role our students are playing in making the world a better place. This is your chance to promote our shared values of compassion, service and excellence to establish your legacy — and strengthen ours.

To learn more about **planned giving** visit:  
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[mow29@drexel.edu](mailto:mow29@drexel.edu)



## DID YOU KNOW?



## James A. Batts Jr. Diversity Dinner

On May 11, College of Medicine students, alumni, faculty and staff gathered at the Germantown Cricket Club for the Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion's James A. Batts Jr. Diversity Dinner. The event celebrated the achievements of the graduating students who are from groups that are underrepresented in medicine, and raised \$13,500 to support underrepresented students' success.

The dinner is named in honor of James A. Batts Jr., who joined the faculty at the Medical College of Pennsylvania in 1979 and retired in 1989 as senior attending physician and professor emeritus in the Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology. Batts had an interest in increasing the number of underrepresented medical students, and regularly recruited and mentored students. Each year, he hosted a party at his own expense for underrepresented students and faculty at MCP, gathering attendees at the Cricket Club.

The dinner now honors the commitment of the College of Medicine to diversity and inclusion, dating to its roots in MCP, Hahnemann Medical College and the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania. The event also raises money for the Dr. James A. Batts Student Fund, which will help students with their education expenses, fees to attend conferences, test preparation materials and tuition support.

The 2022 keynote speaker was Safiyya Shabazz, MD, president of the Medical Society of Eastern Pennsylvania, an affiliate of the National Medical Association, which aims to serve as a collective voice for Black physicians, increase equity in medicine and eliminate health disparities. Other speakers included Brittney Bruno, MD '19, Irene Kirkland Mintz, MD, MCP '86, and graduating students Elizabeth Centurion, MD '22, William Justice, MD '22, and Kingsley Ozongwu, MD '22.

# \$13,500

raised to support underrepresented students' success



### WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Please send your ideas or letters concerning the magazine by email to [akh33@drexel.edu](mailto:akh33@drexel.edu), or by mail to DUCoM Alumni Magazine, 1601 Cherry Street, Mail Stop 11484, Philadelphia, PA 19102. Please include your contact information. Letters to the editor may be edited for space.

Greetings, fellow alumni!

It is with great excitement and humility that I come to you as the newest president of the Board of Directors of the Drexel University College of Medicine Alumni Association. Being a member of the board for the past few years has been a wonderful way to reengage with the College of Medicine community.

When I joined the board, Mark Codella, MD, HU '84, MBA, was serving as president and he was succeeded by Claudia Plottel, MD, MCP '84, two years ago. Drs. Codella and Plottel have been exemplary role models and leaders for the Board of Directors, and I can only aspire to rise to the standard of excellence and achievement they have set.

Beginning a new term as board president allows for a period of reflection upon the past as well as inspiration for the future. The bridge between past and future is striking to me, as I will be the first board president who is a graduate of Drexel University College of Medicine.

Fourteen years ago, when I started at Queen Lane, I was considered a "non-traditional student" — a euphemism that meant I was old. I had spent more than 16 years in the world of finance before pursuing a career in medicine. Having more gray hairs and mileage than my peers perhaps gave me more appreciation for my predecessors. As president of the Student Government Association at the time, one of my projects was to place a large poster in the school cafeteria that detailed and highlighted the legacy schools of our institution — Hahnemann Medical College, Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, Medical College of Pennsylvania, Hahnemann University and MCP Hahnemann University. I felt it was important for current students to see and learn the heritage of our medical school, which stretches deep into the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Just as the past of our school is impressive, so too is the future. Last year marked the inaugural class at the West Reading campus and over the next year we will see the Philadelphia campus slowly transition from Queen Lane to a beautiful new facility in University City.

As president, it is my pledge to continue to honor the glorious past of the College of Medicine and all its legacy schools, while forging into the future alongside our school's current students, staff and administration. On a snowy Monday night this past January, I had the pleasure of leading a lumbar puncture skills workshop out of the Queen Lane Simulation Center for PGY-1s and PGY-2s. Similarly, I and other board members have regularly engaged students via career exploration workshops, providing judging for Discovery Day, serving as role models and mentors, and more. I hope that we can continue and expand the relationship between our alumni and the current student body.

Anyone looking to reach the Alumni Association Board of Directors can do so via [medical.alumni@drexel.edu](mailto:medical.alumni@drexel.edu). I look forward to any ideas, feedback or contributions from our alumni community.

As we begin the next academic year, it is truly an honor to serve as president for the Board of Directors of the Drexel University College of Medicine Alumni Association. I look forward to bridging the past and future of our school and connecting with all members of the Drexel community.



Temple University Health System

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edward Siegel". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Edward Siegel, MD '12; MBA  
President, Alumni Association Board of Directors

# A Heart for the Elderly and Underserved:

J. KENNETH BRUBAKER, MD, HU '70, CMD

By Nancy West

J. Kenneth Brubaker, MD, HU '70, CMD, lives on the same dairy farm in the green rolling hills of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, where he grew up. After graduating from Hahnemann University, he decided to return to his hometown of Mount Joy to practice medicine because he knew it was an underserved area. After completing his residency in family medicine at Lancaster General Hospital, he started a group family medicine practice that quickly grew from three to 10 health practitioners. His practice often received calls from three local nursing homes that needed physicians to provide routine and emergent care for their residents. No one in the practice was particularly interested in geriatrics, but Brubaker decided to take it on and quickly discovered that taking care of elderly patients was his passion. Now, more than 50 years later, he is a nationally renowned geriatrician who is still involved in enhancing care for seniors.

## CHOOSING A PATH

Brubaker decided to pursue a career in medicine while he was a chemistry major at Goshen College in Elkhart, Indiana. He chose to attend Hahnemann, where he was offered a scholarship, and recalls having "a really great education experience there."

"When I moved on to residency and fellowship programs, I felt I could compete with anyone," he says. While his initial goal in medical school was to practice psychiatry, he found that he enjoyed obstetrics, pediatrics and adult medicine more and decided to pursue family medicine instead.

Later, his frequent care for nursing home residents stoked his interest in geriatrics and he decided to take a sabbatical from his group practice to complete a fellowship in geriatrics at the former Philadelphia Geriatric Center. "I found it amazing how much you could do to help older people and, after returning to my practice, I pursued many opportunities to enhance the care they receive, especially in nursing homes."

## MEETING THE NEED FOR GERIATRIC EDUCATION

In 2000, Brubaker left private practice to initiate a geriatric fellowship training program at Lancaster General Health System, now one of the largest in Pennsylvania. He considers this one of his major career achievements. "I know the need is really great to help families and relatives to deal with cognitive impairment, because we all are affected in some way with family members, friends and neighbors who are experiencing memory loss. Having the opportunity to improve care in my community gives me a great sense of satisfaction."

While running the fellowship program, Brubaker also continued caring for patients at the Masonic Village in Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, a large retirement community with 2,000 residents. In collaboration with the Masonic Village, he developed a tool for determining a person's capacity to make decisions in the face of memory loss.

"This is so important, because a person can have moderate memory loss but still be able to make decisions, and we need to respect that," he says. "Our decision-making tool assesses the person's ability in four key areas: understanding the problem, understanding possible treatment approaches, making choices and using solid reasoning while making choices."

Since retiring from the fellowship program nearly 10 years ago, Brubaker has continued working with the Masonic Village and the Pennsylvania Department of Aging part time as chief medical director.

"There's such a great need for more physicians in geriatrics!" he emphasizes. "The population group with the most rapid growth is now age 85 and older. People in this age group have a 40 to 50% chance of experiencing cognitive impairment. Some in that group will probably, at some point in time, have

behavioral issues as well. Most doctors and nurses have little or no training in how to deal with people who are disruptive and physically combative, and that's an educational need for all people who connect with people with dementia.

"We focus our education efforts on addressing the unmet needs of those with dementia," Brubaker continues. "They could be hungry, in pain or upset because they don't know where they are. We try to help them by focusing on what they were passionate about when they were younger, such as music or art, and we try to develop an experience in their home or long-term care setting that meets their needs in that area. I can tell you stories of people who were no longer talking at all and, when we played music they enjoyed in their youth, they started singing and dancing and talking. We also talk to them about their childhood memories, which are deeply embedded in the brain — these are the memories that last the longest."

## GIVING BACK AND ENCOURAGING STUDENTS TO PURSUE GERIATRICS

In addition to caring for the elderly, Brubaker is passionate about giving back to help young physicians in training. He and his wife, Pamela K. Brubaker, RN, BSN, MSW, have translated their shared passion into philanthropy aimed at encouraging the education of more physicians in the field. The J. Kenneth Brubaker, MD Endowed Scholarship Fund provides scholarship aid to promising but economically disadvantaged Drexel medical

students whose career choice is family practice, ideally geriatrics.

"My fellow alumni and I were all very fortunate to have had the chance to attend medical school," says Brubaker. "Now we have the chance to give back and help promising students to pursue the same kind of rewarding careers that we have enjoyed."

Working with Drexel planned-giving experts, Brubaker designed a Charitable Remainder Unitrust (CRUT) for his scholarship fund that offers several benefits: Donors can take a charitable deduction while supporting an institution they believe in, and yet for those who may need it, the law allows the money to generate an income stream for the donor while it is in the fund. Brubaker acknowledges an additional benefit made possible by the Schleyer Family Matching Gift Challenge for Scholarships in Medicine. For 10 years starting in 2011, the Schleyer program offered matching funds for scholarships created to support students who plan to go into primary care.

Brubaker also continues to give back to his profession and the community by serving as treasurer and board member of the AMDA Foundation for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine. He also serves on the Lancaster General Health Foundation board.

"Albert Schweitzer said, 'Example is not the most important thing in influencing others, it is the only thing,'" Brubaker recalls. "That's my motto. If I can encourage fellow alumni to give back to the College and help our young medical students, then I hope I've been a good example."

*Dr. Brubaker with Sheena Amin, MD '21, and Pamela K. Brubaker, RN, BSN, MSW, at the 2018 Benefactors Jazz Brunch.*

"My fellow alumni and I were all very fortunate to have had the chance to attend medical school. Now we have the chance to give back and help promising students to pursue the same kind of rewarding careers that we have enjoyed."



# SECOND ACTS:

## College of Medicine Alumni Find New Passion and Purpose in Retirement

By Elisa Ludwig

A blueberry farmer, a weaver, a brass musician and a fundraising/event planning maven walk into a bar — or rather, a Drexel reunion. The College of Medicine has many distinguished alumni with wondrous career achievements, but these four onetime physicians demonstrate that retirement doesn't have to signal the end of fulfilling work days, and that learning and growing are forever.



We want to hear how you are spending your retirement. Email [akh33@drexel.edu](mailto:akh33@drexel.edu) to share your story.

## HARVESTING CONTENTMENT

**Richard Coleman, MD, HU '72**

It's blueberry season on Richard Coleman's 11 acres in Glen, Michigan, a familiar site for the farmer/physician. Coleman grew up in the South Side of Chicago, spending summers and weekends at the country cottage his parents built on this very same land in 1942.

"It's about a two-and-a-half-hour drive from where we lived, so I knew both the city and what it was like out here," he says. "My mother was a botanist and my father was a chemist, and we worked together to grow fruit. In the 1950s and 1960s, we were growing peaches commercially, plus apples, pears and sour cherries."

Like his parents, Coleman became a scientist, initially getting his BS in microbiology from the University of Michigan and his MS in microbiology at the University of Arizona before he applied

to medical school on something of a whim. That whim led him to Hahnemann and Philadelphia, which became the foundation for his medical career and lifelong conviction that he was happier outside of the city. After graduating in 1972, Coleman eagerly returned to his native Michigan. He settled in Kalamazoo, where, for his internship, he joined a group of doctors who were establishing the specialty of emergency medicine. He practiced as an emergency physician and family medicine specialist until 1998, at which point he was ready for more predictable hours than the ER could provide. He took a job at American Axle and Manufacturing, which makes all the driveline, powertrain and truck axles for General Motors, where he ran the internal clinic and oversaw the health care of the company's workers.

All along Coleman had been coming back to his summer house and growing blueberries in his spare time, but in 2003, when he largely retired from medicine (he

still helps out neighbors and friends when needed) he finally had the chance to dedicate more hours to his avocation. Indeed, he turned it into a business for many years.

"I've been growing about two and a half acres of blueberries. To put it into perspective, a regular blueberry farm is at least 50 acres around here," he says.



With the help of migrant pickers, and more recently a picking machine, he was able to harvest enough to sell his wares. "Theoretically, farming is a good way to spend your life. Farmers really like their lives because they're their own boss. But it's difficult to really make a living doing it."

Technically, Coleman has now also retired from his retirement career, growing blueberries and apples for fun and enjoying a quiet life in a remote part of the country. "I've traveled all around the world and scuba-dived everywhere I went. These days, I don't do anything unusual. I'm just a retired farmer who used to work in the ER."

## PLAYING BY EAR

**Gerald Rothacker, MD, HU '76**

Gerald Rothacker learned to play music at an early age, inspired by his father, who was also a musician, and he pursued his passion through college. By the time Rothacker got to Hahnemann Medical College in 1972, however, he was married and had one son — a second was born during his first year in medical school. Between the commitments to his study and his growing family, he was too busy for music. Once the orthopedic surgeon completed his residency at the Mayo Clinic and started his practice at Orthopedic Associates of Lancaster, he was eager to get back to it.

As word got out in the hospital cafeteria, the multi-instrumentalist found that he was not the only doctor around Lancaster with musical talent. In 1985, several of his physician peers from a wide range of specialties got together and formed the Auscultation Brass Band, with Rothacker

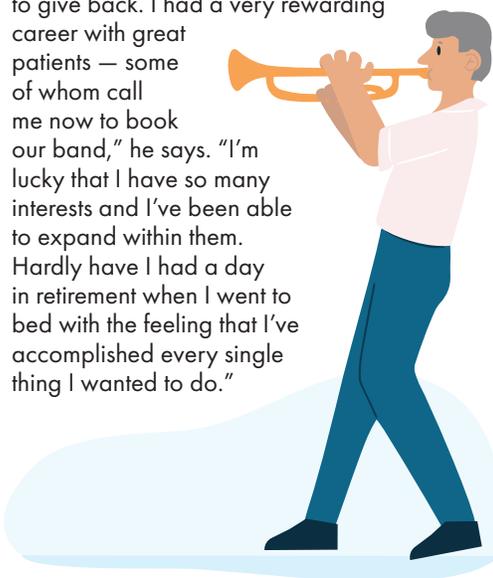
on trombone. Thirty-seven years later, Auscultation Brass Band is still going, practicing once a week and performing brass quintet or sextet music almost monthly at local events and retirement homes, though he says members have come and gone over the years. Auscultation Brass sponsored a scholarship for a brass musician through the Pennsylvania Academy of Music and invites the recipient to join them in their performances.

Retired since 2016, Rothacker finally has all the time in the world for music, and he is currently a member of three other bands. When he's not rehearsing or playing a gig, he takes part in medical mission work through his church, golfs and fishes with his grandsons. He has also been active as treasurer supporting the Lancaster Medical Heritage Museum. The museum, which recently moved into a new home in downtown Lancaster, has some 14,000 artifacts in its permanent collection and is open to the public.

Rothacker started out as a general

orthopedist who later came to specialize in total joint replacements. He and his wife have also created the Carla A. and Gerald Rothacker Jr. MD '76 Scholarship Fund at Drexel to support students with family responsibilities.

"When it was time to retire I wanted to give back. I had a very rewarding career with great patients — some of whom call me now to book our band," he says. "I'm lucky that I have so many interests and I've been able to expand within them. Hardly have I had a day in retirement when I went to bed with the feeling that I've accomplished every single thing I wanted to do."



To see photos of these retirees in action, visit [bit.ly/alumniretirements](http://bit.ly/alumniretirements).

## A GARDEN OF JOY

### Helen Horstmann, MD, WMC '72

Even during the peak of her career as a surgeon and mother of six daughters, Helen Horstmann had always been active in giving back, whether as a leader of a professional organization, as a volunteer on boards, or with philanthropic contributions. She'd always held a special place in her heart for the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (PHS) — so much so that she named one of her children after the organization's then-leader. A passionate home gardener, she regularly attended the organization's events and workshops.

Horstmann graduated in the last class of Woman's Medical College in 1972 before completing her residency in orthopedics at Jefferson. As an orthopedic surgeon at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, she specialized in cerebral palsy.

She joined the PHS board in 2016, and when she retired from her practice in 2018, she had the opportunity to get more involved. Early on, she was drafted to chair a fundraising event. And within a short time

after that she was chairing the Philadelphia Flower Show. PHS's flagship event, the annual Flower Show attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors and is estimated to generate \$60 million for the city every year. Horstmann still can't believe her luck.

"I'd always been a groupie for PHS and



now, here I am: the chair of the biggest event they have, overseeing 2,000 volunteers," she says. Of course, her tenure overlapped with the initial COVID-19 outbreak, which meant she was part of the decision to hold the Flower Show outside for the past two years. Changing up the venue for health and safety reasons presented its own logistical challenges, but she considers herself a problem solver with a zen-like ability to weather challenges — qualities she honed in the surgical suite.

To Horstmann, her new role and all she can accomplish with PHS is a point of pride — perhaps second only to raising her children, and being named as a recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award from Drexel University College of Medicine Alumni Association in 2022.

In a way, though, Horstmann feels she is just getting started.

"I think of Elton John, who launched his Goodbye Yellow Brick Road farewell tour in 2018, the same year I retired, and he's still doing it!" she says. "I'm just happy to be able to have some impact and do something meaningful at this stage of my life."

## A TEXTURED LIFE

### Susan Maturlo, MD, MCP '72

No one can say that Susan Maturlo has led a boring life, during her working years or since.

She grew up in a working-class family in Long Island, and graduated from Queens College before coming to Philadelphia for her medical education at Woman's Medical College. Early on, she became interested in internal medicine and community health work, always looking for ways to care for underserved patients.

After completing her fellowship in endocrinology at Montefiore Medical Center in the 1980s, she went into private practice in Danbury, Connecticut. A chance meeting with a retiring physician offered her and her husband the opportunity to move to New Mexico. She joined up with a local health clinic that met the broad needs of a rural community — acute care, emergency care and more. She later

landed in Provo, Utah, when she was invited to join a group practice of Latter-Day Saints, and where, she says, for the first time in her life she was working decent hours and making a good living.

Then, just as they were starting to enjoy their peace and prosperity, her husband died. She moved to Salt Lake City, where, reeling from her loss, she launched a grief support group in a nearby Episcopalian church, and led it as a volunteer for five years.

What really saved her, though, she says, is discovering the local weavers guild. Weaving — first in classes, and then on her own — became something of an obsession.

"My basement has five looms. It's been very healing for me, being able to express myself artistically, and just staying busy."

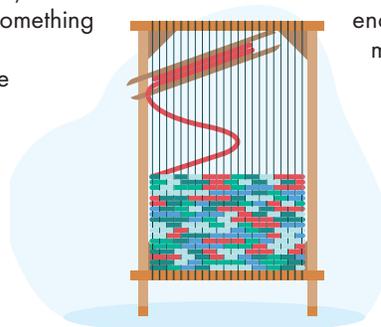
A cancer scare led Maturlo to take a trip

to Cuba sponsored by Drexel, where she met her current husband, who was a fellow traveler. Once married, she moved again to be with him — this time in Lake Tahoe, Nevada — and soon after retired from her medical practice in Carson City.

In Nevada, she got involved with the Reno Fiber Guild, which has been a welcome home away from home.

"There I met a woman who had her own weaving studio, and she saw some of my work and offered to design my garments. She said, 'If you make the fabric, I'll sew it into apparel.' Which is what we have been doing, and it's given me encouragement to continue my craft."

Maturlo's unexpected path has wound her across the country and into a patchwork of experiences, but textile arts is the thread she's following into her future.



# A LONG STORY SHORTENED

# AAHIP

By G.K. Schatzman

## THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HISTORY INFORMATION PROJECT

### THE IDEA

Histories rarely have just one beginning. For Claudia S. Plottel, MD, MCP '84, Alumni Association board member and immediate association past-president, the idea came during a conversation with fellow board member Tim Manzone, JD, MD, MCP '89.

"Tim mentioned to me how he and Ellie [Ellie Cantor, PhD pharmacology, MCP '79], both also Alumni Association past-presidents, kept going back to the fact that someone should be compiling the history of DUCOM legacy medical colleges' Alumni Associations," Plottel recounts.

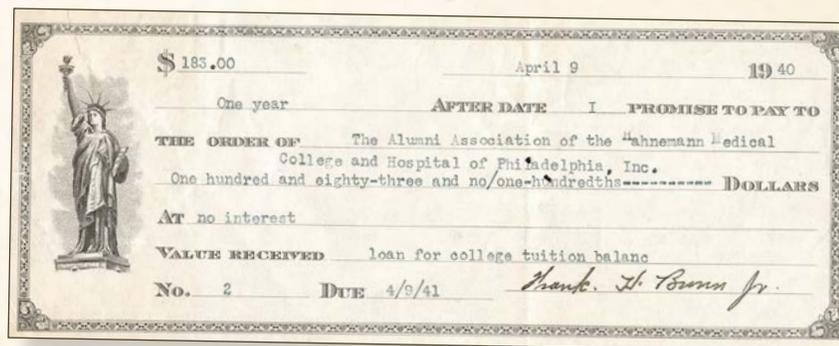
Manzone adds, "The roots of our Alumni Association stretch back nearly 150 years, originating from two separate institutions that merged during difficult times. We knew and felt fortunate that we had considerable archival information, and it was important to review and preserve this information for current and future alumni."

For Cantor, the idea of documenting the associations' legacy began to form years ago during a time of crisis for the university, when she found herself drawn back to her alma mater. "PhD alums tend not to see the Alumni Association in the same way as a group of med students who spent four years together as a cohort," Cantor explains. "We're much more attuned to our laboratory or our departments." To remedy that, the board had reached out to Cantor in 1997 to offer her an award and then invited her to join the board of the new combined Alumni Association of MCP-Hahnemann University. At one of her first meetings, the news was announced: "The university has gone bankrupt."

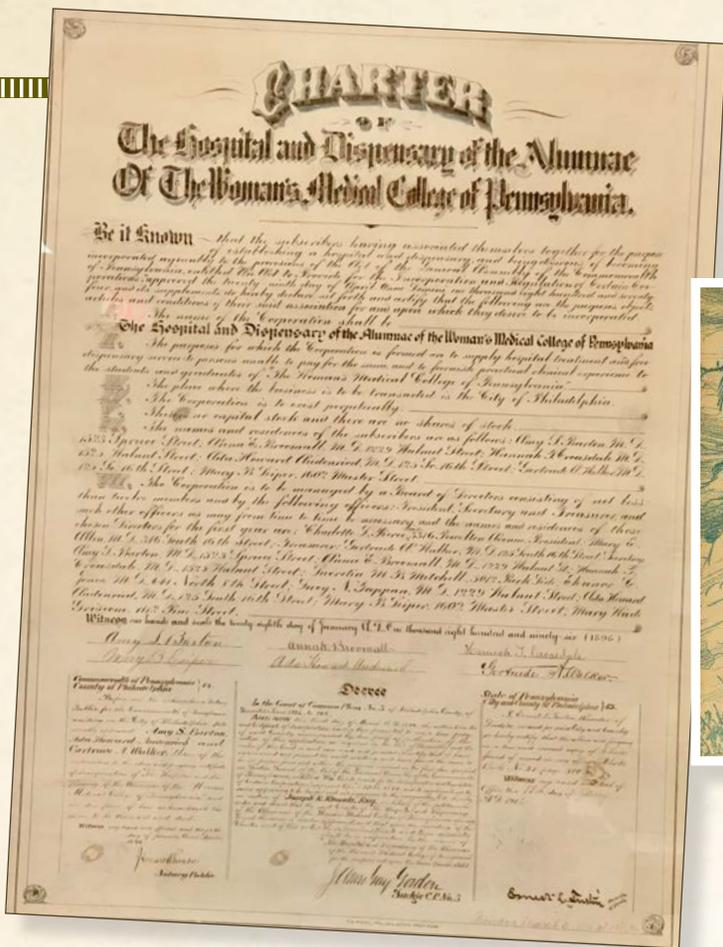
During the ensuing crisis years, leading up to Drexel's eventual incorporation of the school, members of the Alumni Association went all-hands-on-deck to manage alumni affairs in the absence of internal staffing support or funding. "We were the lifeboats," says Cantor. "You know when they have to cross a river in the military, and there's no bridge, and they have to use those floating pontoons? That's what we were. We all did everything. It was just a lot of hard-working people who cared."



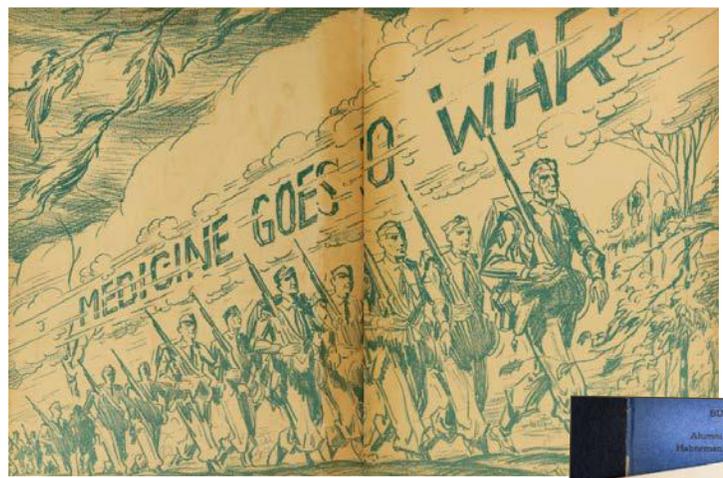
**Alumni Associations organized reunions, homecomings and other celebratory events like this 1953 WMC alumnae banquet, to bring students and graduates together.**



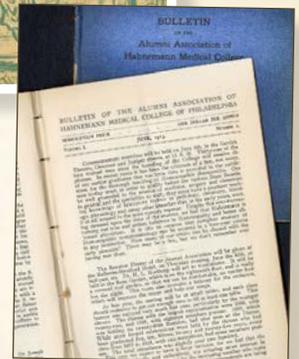
**A student loan check from 1940 for \$183. The Hahnemann Alumni Association established a fund for those who needed financial assistance.**



**Charter of the Hospital and Dispensary of the Alumnae of the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, 1896. In 1905, the dispensary was renamed The Amy S. Barton Dispensary after its founder.**



**The inside front cover of the 1943 Medic, the Hahnemann Medical College yearbook.**



**Bulletin of the Alumni Association of Hahnemann Medical College of Philadelphia, 1913.**

Today, Cantor says, that dedication to serving students and preserving experiences for future classes is still a foundational part of the board's organizational culture, even as new members cycle in. "Over the years, we have told this story over and over again. Those of us who lived through the bankruptcy, the restructuring and the Drexel merger have worked very hard to keep this history alive." It was a mission, she says, that Manzone shared.

"This is an exciting opportunity to formulate a unified historical narrative of the Alumni Associations, which have always served as the best link to the schools' legacies, histories and graduates," Manzone says.

Something clicked for Plottel as she heard Manzone and Cantor's ideas. Thinking back to a recent article from Drexel News<sup>1</sup>, featuring photos and documentation from The Legacy Center archives, on the role of Woman's Medical College in combating the 1918 flu pandemic, she saw a cornucopia of primary source materials that could help them systematically explore and document the history and the reach of the Alumni Associations of the legacy schools at the College of Medicine. "I said, 'If there are such precise records of the annual meetings from a hundred years ago, there must be more really good stuff to know about.'"

They agreed: The associations' 145-year history — the roles they played in dire times and the values that carried them through — should be explored honored, and preserved. "Instead of a couple of us informally digging through what papers Ellie and Tim might have, we decided we should develop a more formal project," Plottel says.

April 2021 brought the official beginning of the Alumni Association History Information Project (AAHIP for the syllable-conscious, pronounced "ah-hip"). Plottel presented the concept at the meeting of the Alumni Association Board of Directors, to a favorable response. Then, Plottel and Alumni Relations staff members Nikki Bromberg and Jennifer Carolina-Bell had a series of meetings with Legacy Center archives staff members Margaret Graham and Matthew Herbison.

"Everyone who we discussed the proposed project with was extremely enthusiastic, which made us all think that we were on to something," Plottel recalls. At its September 2021 meeting, the board voted to formally fund the AAHIP project, thanks to the Kate Campbell Hurd-Mead '88 Fund. "The idea was to create a project that would explore and document the history and the reach of the Alumni Associations of the legacy schools at the College of Medicine. We thought that this would be a very novel initiative and that The Legacy Center would be the perfect partner for the project."

## THE PROJECT

To lead the project, The Legacy Center's director, Margaret Graham, brought on Theana Noelle Kastens, an archivist teaching art history at George Mason University and Northern Virginia Community College. As it happens, Kastens is also something of a detective, a cornerstone quality when piecing together decades of never-told history.

Visit the exhibit now at:  
[bit.ly/AAHIP](https://bit.ly/AAHIP)

Follow the Legacy Center's findings:  
Twitter . . . . .@ducomarchives  
Instagram . . . . .@drexelmedarchives

For donations and inquiries,  
please contact the Legacy Center:  
[com\\_archives@drexel.edu](mailto:com_archives@drexel.edu)  
215.991.8340

Thanks to institutional records and donations from innumerable alums and their kin, The Legacy Center archives hold troves of documents, photographs, newspapers, rare books, textiles, audiovisual media, medical instruments, artwork, furniture and ephemera. Some boxes arrive neatly organized. Others are hastily packed by grieving family members with the countless little memories of their loved one's life. The Legacy Center takes everything that fits within their collection policy<sup>2</sup>, because everything tells a story.

Unearthing the history of the Alumni Associations at Hahnemann and Woman's Medical meant surveying 60 archival collections from institutional records and personal papers. "Laid end-to-end, it all came out to about 150 linear feet. To give you perspective, that's one and a half blue whales," Kastens says. Within that large body of artifacts run countless connections great and fine, crisscrossing the corpus like strands of nerve and tendon, that Kastens carefully mapped.

"Our office looked like a scene from *A Beautiful Mind* where Russel Crowe is hanging things up on the walls," she says. The stories emerged, and with the help of Suzanne Dreitlein, web manager for the College of Medicine, who turned Kastens' vision into an online exhibit, and Bromberg, who kept the project rolling forward, the stories took shape.

## THE EXHIBIT AND BEYOND

Exhortations to young women physicians abroad during the first World War. Efforts to preserve the study of homeopathic medicine in the United States. Powerful moments of collective action in the face of sexism throughout the decades. Summer retreats on Long Lake, Maine. "It became my mission to shed light on those voices and stories that hadn't been shared for so long," Kastens says.

The new exhibit creates paths to explore these narratives and plenty beyond, the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the history of the Alumni Associations. "Whenever I'd come across

materials that weren't directly related to activities, I had to pry myself away because I'd be so captivated," Kastens says. "Off the top of my head, I see two screenplays that could be written based off these stories. I just get lost in it."

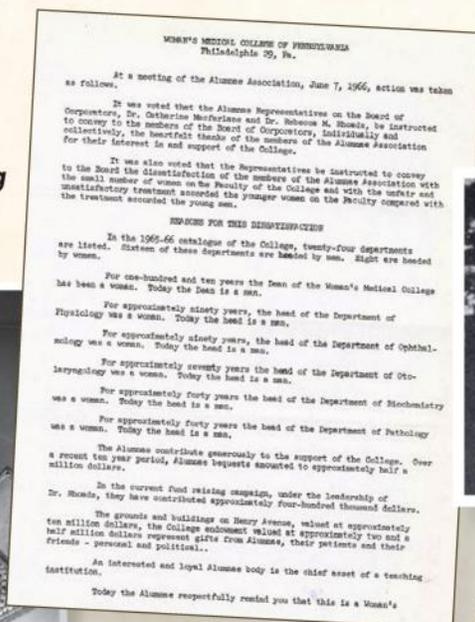
Not all of the stories are complete, of course; the location of the White Pines summer camp in the '50s, for instance, remains a mystery to Kastens. "There are gaps in the history," she says, "but because of the survey we know what those gaps are."

The special thing about these mysteries is that they are all solvable. Every missing link lies in someone's memory, in an old photo or a letter waiting, patiently, in an attic box beneath a blanket of dust. Perhaps you yourself have the missing end or forgotten beginning of an old story, though you might not know it until it finds its fellows. When the gang gets back together, all sorts of rusty tales turn up.

Time and again, the stories and historical records confirm what has long attracted alums like Cantor, Manzone and Plattel to the association: values of dedication, continuity and service driving graduates to give back to the school that helped shape their professional paths. In a way, looking back through the history of the Alumni Associations is like looking in a mirror. As Cantor says, "We're standing on the shoulders of people whose legacy we can carry forward."

1. Falcone, A. "In Their Own Words: The Front Lines of the 1918 Influenza Pandemic." Drexel News, September 24, 2020: [drexel.edu/newsarchive/2020/september/in-their-own-words-the-1918-influenza-pandemic](https://drexel.edu/newsarchive/2020/september/in-their-own-words-the-1918-influenza-pandemic)
2. Those interested in donating items to the Legacy Center archives should email [com\\_archives@drexel.edu](mailto:com_archives@drexel.edu) or call 215.991.8340.

**A set of homeopathy vials.  
By the 1930s, Hahnemann  
was one of only two remaining  
homeopathic schools.**



**A 1966 letter to the Board of Corporators  
articulating WMC Alumni Association  
members' displeasure with the lack of  
female representation on the faculty.**



**Between 1950 and 1960, WMC alumni could  
rent a summer camp on Long Lake, Maine.  
This photograph from the Alumni Newsletter  
is the only surviving image of the camp.**

# From One, Many:

## A Gender Equity Pioneer Whose Work Opened Countless Doors

By Christina Hernandez-Sherwood



Lynn Hardy Yeakel spent her career creating opportunities for women. She was a founder of Women's Way, the largest women's fundraising coalition in the country, and served as its chief executive for more than a decade. Inspired by Anita Hill, Yeakel ran for the U.S. Senate during 1992's "Year of the Woman," nearly upsetting a longtime incumbent. Later in life, Yeakel was director and Betty A. Cohen Chair of Women's Health at Drexel University College of Medicine's Institute for Women's Health and Leadership, where she remained until her death in January.

Early in her two decades at Drexel, Yeakel founded the Woman One Award and Scholarship Fund to offer significant tuition support to underrepresented Drexel students committed to practicing medicine in underserved communities. Since its 2003 inception, the Woman One program and the related D. Walter Cohen Shared Leadership Scholarship have granted 38 scholars nearly \$3 million in tuition support. Recently, four of those women offered their thoughts on the "door-opening" opportunity they shared, the importance of supporting the underserved, and the one woman who started it all. Their responses, compiled from separate conversations, have been edited for length and clarity.



*Woman One Scholars and guests, including members of the Yeakel family, at the 2022 Woman One Award Ceremony honoring Lynn.*

## What memories do you have of scholarship founder Lynn Yeakel?

**Alicia Howard, MD, MPH '13**, a hospitalist at Catawba Valley Medical Center in rural



North Carolina: Lynn was someone who carried herself with a lot of grace and class. She always had a pleasant disposition. We [scholarship recipients] would have conversations with her at the Woman One office to give updates about what we were doing. She really invested the time into the students she was funding.

**Annette Lopez, MD '08**, assistant chief of the emergency department at the Portland VA Medical Center in Oregon: A lot of the galas



and events for the scholarship included a who's who of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania. Lynn always made sure we [scholarship recipients] were included. She always made sure we met the honoree or the special guests. She always made sure we were given the spotlight.

**Veronica Ramirez, MD '09**, a pediatrician in a private group practice in Fresno, California: There was this one event in Center City — Lynn was hosting a reception for us — and Patti LaBelle was down the hall. Lynn went over to Patti LaBelle's room and asked if she would be interested in meeting her Woman One



scholars. She totally welcomed us, and we got a picture with Patti LaBelle... When we had these Woman One events, we were meeting just amazing people from the community and learning that skill of networking. Lynn was great

at this. She had this tremendous network from all of these different positions she'd held. She would make it a point to introduce us to new people. The skill of networking is something I truly began to understand and appreciate through Woman One.

## What did the Woman One Scholarship do for you?

**Jacqueline Koomson, MD '21**, a first-year radiology resident at Emory University in Atlanta: The Woman One Scholarship



changed the trajectory of my medical career. This scholarship gave me the freedom to explore whatever specialty I was interested in, as opposed to thinking of the financial constraints of medical school debt and feeling pressure

to start working early to pay off my loans. I ended up choosing radiology, which is a five-year residency and a one- to two-year fellowship. Not having the financial constraints of medical school allowed me the freedom to pick this six- to seven-year journey because my debt is a lot less.

**Howard:** We [scholarship recipients] had a chance to see other professionals who were actively working in the field of medicine, as well as other fields. It was inspirational to see that year after year. I realized when I left Drexel and started my own career that I wanted to have an impact... We also had the chance to talk with Lynn Yeakel and see her philanthropy in progress. Being able to see how she navigated and organized her philanthropic efforts each year had the most impact.

**Lopez:** One of the insurance companies that sponsored the scholarship gave me a job between my first and second year. I was assistant to a medical director for AmeriHealth. It helped me become familiar with admission and discharge criteria, which I use almost on a daily basis as I make decisions for patients at the hospital... We also got very familiar with interviewing and being in front of the cameras and ensuring we were able to effectively communicate. Now I'm the Spanish spokesperson for the Oregon Poison Center. I do all of the Spanish media, so that training helps.

## How do you continue to support women and underserved communities in your career?

**Ramirez:** I always make time to mentor students, usually through the Health Careers Opportunity Program (HCOP) affiliated with Fresno State, which is a program that I went through. It's a great support system. I had a sense of the same family connection the four years that I was part of Woman One as I had at HCOP. It was this network of colleagues who are going through the same thing at the same time and support one another in whatever way we can. I also mentor high school students who are part of a pipeline program called Doctors Academy. Students from rural and under-

served areas apply to this academically competitive program. These are kids who would otherwise have a disadvantage until we mentor them. A few of the students who meet certain criteria have guaranteed admission to medical school at UCSF. I'm really big on this pipeline. There are people who came before me who helped me, and it's important to me to give back.

**Howard:** I'm the board chair of a nonprofit called Sisters of the Dove, located in Charlotte. It's affiliated with the Psi Mu Zeta graduate chapter of Zeta Phi Beta sorority. Each year we raise money for local minority high school students who are graduating and going to four-year colleges. We're trying to pay it forward to these students, just like I was inspired [by Woman One] as a student.

**Koomson:** One of my big life aspirations is to create a mammography clinic in Ghana, where I was born, and improve women's health care access there. Breast cancer is very prevalent in Ghana, but a lot of women don't know they have it until very late because they don't get the screening. When I did a rotation in Ghana, I worked in the trauma and emergency room. One woman who came in had very late-stage breast cancer. Her breasts were deformed and inflamed. You could tell she had been suffering for so long but didn't have the access to breast care or affordable health care. I find it incredibly sad that large portions of the world aren't getting the basic access we've had for so long. I feel like I can do that for Ghana and make a small impact for the people that I'm culturally familiar with. That's where I hope my journey leads.

*Lynn Yeakel's legacy is living on through the dozens of women she has supported and inspired, and her influence will grow larger still as the Woman One program continues with a new leader. Because Yeakel had planned to retire in 2022, a search had already begun for her successor. Nancy Spector, MD, officially stepped into the role in August.*

# 2022 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARDS

The recipients of the 2022 Alumni Association Awards were honored at a virtual ceremony on June 4.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE DESERVING ALUMNI!

**MARYLOU BUYSE, MD, MCP '70**  
Boots Cooper, MD, Service Award

**LORETTA CHRISTENSEN, MD, HU '84**  
Boots Cooper, MD, Service Award

**RITA ALVAREZ, MD '10**  
Emerging Leader Award

**KRAFTIN E. SCHREYER, MD '13**  
Emerging Leader Award

**VANESSA S. BOYCE, PHD '07**  
Graduate Citation Award – Early Career or Young Investigator

**HEATHER J. PAINTER, PHD '08**  
Graduate Citation Award – Early Career or Young Investigator

**MARIAN BALDINI, MS, HU '77**  
Biomedical Sciences Graduate Recognition Award

**JEFFREY CARSON, MD, HU '77**  
HU Distinguished Graduate Award

**ANA PUJOLS MCKEE, MD, HU '79**  
HU Distinguished Alumnus/a Award (2021)

**NANCY STILES CURRY, MD, WMC/MCP '72**  
WMC/MCP Distinguished Graduate Award

**RYAN K. LEE, MD, MCPHU '00**  
Outstanding Medical Graduate Award

**ANTHONY J. PIRAINO, MS, HU '74; PHD, HU '76; MD, HU '84**  
Outstanding Biomedical Sciences Graduate Award

**HOWARD MILLER, MD, HU '74**  
Special Recognition Award

**FRANCES RUTH BATZER, MD, WMC '72; MBE**  
Lifetime Achievement Award

**HELEN MEEKS HORSTMANN, MD, WMC/MCP '72**  
Lifetime Achievement Award



*To give their fellow alums a chance to learn more about them, we asked them to answer a few questions.*

### WHO AT YOUR ALMA MATER INSPIRED YOU AND WHY?

**BALDINI:** Jonathan Morell, who was the former head of my program, inspired me. He truly expanded my appreciation for the social side of change management, which is essential to take evidence and use it effectively.

**BAYLSON:** My mother, Dr. Frances Marian Williams Batzer, inspired me.

**BOYCE:** Dr. Marion Murray inspired me through my graduate career and was one of my thesis committee mentors. Marion was head of the spinal cord group at Drexel and one of the few female professors in the department at the time. She was renowned in the field of spinal cord injury (SCI) and inspired me as a woman and as a leader in neuroscience and in the SCI field. Marion shared her insights on how to address the challenges faced by women in science. She was also a great sounding board for everything from experimental design to career goals.

**CARSON:** I worked and learned from many exceptional clinicians. I will mention two. Howard Miller was a young dynamic teacher and leader at the time of my clinical training. He was the residency director, a terrific role model who was extremely knowledgeable and communicated well with patients. The second was William Likoff. My recollection is of a polished, scholarly clinician who was respected nationally as an exceptional cardiologist and teacher. One of the legends was that he would cut the stethoscope of any student or resident who examined the patient from the wrong side of the bed. The other part of the legend was he would then pay for a new stethoscope.

**CURRY:** Betty Labovitz was a tough, smart, incredibly effective teacher and role model. Her nephrology savvy initially piqued my interest in the urinary tract. I also admired George Popky for his radiology skills and expertise, which also intrigued me. Later on, I was pleased to discover that he and I had become colleagues in the national Society of Uroradiology. Both helped influence my eventual choice of an academic career in uroradiologic and abdominal imaging and intervention.

**HORSTMANN:** Walter Rubin, MD, GI professor. Perhaps this is surprising that I'd pick a GI professor. When a Boston Hospital rotation fell through in senior year, Walter let me take GI with him at MCP. Later when I was on the MCP staff as an orthopedic surgeon we would frequently sit at lunch together with other greats such as June Klinghoffer, Phyllis Marciano and Oksana Korzeniowski. Walter was one of the

## WHAT'S ONE GREAT LESSON, PERSONAL OR PROFESSIONAL, YOU'VE LEARNED?

most balanced physicians I have ever met, a true role model with a delightful sense of humor, and he was a genius in his field.

**LEE:** Dr. Frank Lexa, former vice chair in the Department of Radiology, is someone who inspired me to get involved in the radiology community including national organizations such as the American College of Radiology. I have learned much from his leadership skills and feel fortunate to have had him as a mentor and sponsor.

**MCKEE:** Graduating from Hahnemann Medical College in 1979 as a student of color, I found the environment to be far from welcoming. Minority students felt compelled to study and work together, having little opportunity to collaborate or socialize with the majority of the white student body. There were exceptions but they were exactly that, exceptions. So, when I answer the question of inspiration, my response must be appreciated in that context: Dr. Bonita Falkner, a pediatric nephrologist, treated me with inclusivity and support, and provided inspiration.

**MILLER:** My mentor was Dr. Charles Swartz. Charlie was a nephrologist and he taught me how to apply physiology to a patient care model and how to think through every case individually, taking into consideration all of the current parameters affecting the patient. He taught me how to think, teach, and care for patients. I was honored to have been his personal physician. When he was reading the *Annals of Internal Medicine*. What a hero and doctor.

**PIRAINO:** The individual who influenced my growth and my career most was fellow HU alumnus Dr. John DiGregorio. John was my thesis advisor when I pursued my master's and my PhD degrees and, as a tenured professor of pharmacology at Hahnemann, he decided to apply to medical school. His bold initiative and his tireless work ethic inspired me to follow the same path, and that decision to pursue my MD degree literally changed my career and my life.

**SCHREYER:** The most inspiring people in my life, who also happen to have attended my medical school alma mater, are my parents, Drs. Ray and Nancy Schreyer. Both are inspiring for different reasons, but together, they instilled in me the motivation and work ethic that has, thus far, allowed me to accomplish anything I aimed to achieve.

**BALDINI:** The greatest lesson I've learned is one that applies to me both personally and professionally. Everyone is gifted in some way, but it is up to us to take the time to see it.

**BAYLSON:** You can please some of the people some of the time, but you cannot please all the people all the time.

**BOYCE:** I've learned to always advocate for myself and my career.

**CARSON:** I have been funded for many years by NIH to support my research. The peer review process is very difficult. A key lesson is never give up when you have an excellent idea. Keep applying and responding to the critiques until you win over the reviewers.

**CURRY:** Virtually every setback or seemingly negative event in my life, personal or professional, has been offset by freakish serendipity inevitably resulting in a favorable outcome. I learned that abiding by The Golden Rule seemed to facilitate that process.

**HORSTMANN:** Planning and persistence to reach a goal pays off far better than reliance

on just good luck. It is probably not easy for anyone. That's why it's called life.

**MCKEE:** Perseverance is king. (I really mean "queen"!)

**MILLER:** Take what you do seriously, don't take yourself seriously. This holds true in patient care, teaching, research and administration. Check your ego at the door.

**PIRAINO:** The greatest lesson I've learned is the power of persistence and determination. For example, I experienced multiple failures applying to medical school before finally succeeding. I received advice from many to abandon this pursuit. Clearly, despite all the effort and disappointment I encountered, I'm glad I remained resolute in my decision to become an MD. Similarly, my wife and I experienced years of infertility before having our four children. Persistence and determination have been hugely important in my personal and professional life.

**SCHREYER:** In both personal and professional settings, I've learned that you can't plan for everything, no matter how much you try. It's just as important to be flexible as it is to be prepared, because you never know what direction your life may take.

## WHAT KEEPS YOU GOING WHEN YOU FACE CHALLENGES?

**BALDINI:** Through any challenges I face, I have faith for the long-term ones, and determination for the shorter-term moments.

**BAYLSON:** W. H. Auden's poem "Precious Five," especially the last stanza, and Emily Dickinson's "Will There Really Be a Morning?"

**BOYCE:** My family and close friends have supported me through every challenge I have faced. Challenge can often provide an opportunity for growth, and my loved ones certainly continue to help me navigate these growing pains.

**CARSON:** The knowledge that my (our) work benefits others.

**CURRY:** Facing challenges requires finding allies, staying persistent and focused, and most importantly, working especially hard to overcome whatever obstacles arise.

**HORSTMANN:** My husband, my six daughters, my garden and prayer.

**LEE:** My family. Without my strong support system including my amazing wife, I would not have been able to come this far.

**MCKEE:** I am passionate about patient safety and with that passion comes a never-emptying barrel of fuel. When I approach a challenge, I take the time to understand all aspects of the issue, I listen to opposing views and move forward with the best information I have. I work with key stakeholders, apply my change management skills in order to make progress. At the end of the day, the results you want are that you applied the best solution and that everyone was engaged and respected throughout the process.

**MILLER:** Remember your original goals. Surround yourself with kind and caring and smart people who will help to direct you to a positive final outcome.

**PIRAINO:** Knowing that I've eventually been able to overcome the obstacles I've faced in my life has always been a source of strength and optimism. I truly never approach a task or problem thinking that I will not ultimately be able to achieve success.

**SCHREYER:** In my opinion, any challenge is manageable with a solid support system — whether that comes from family, friends or colleagues.

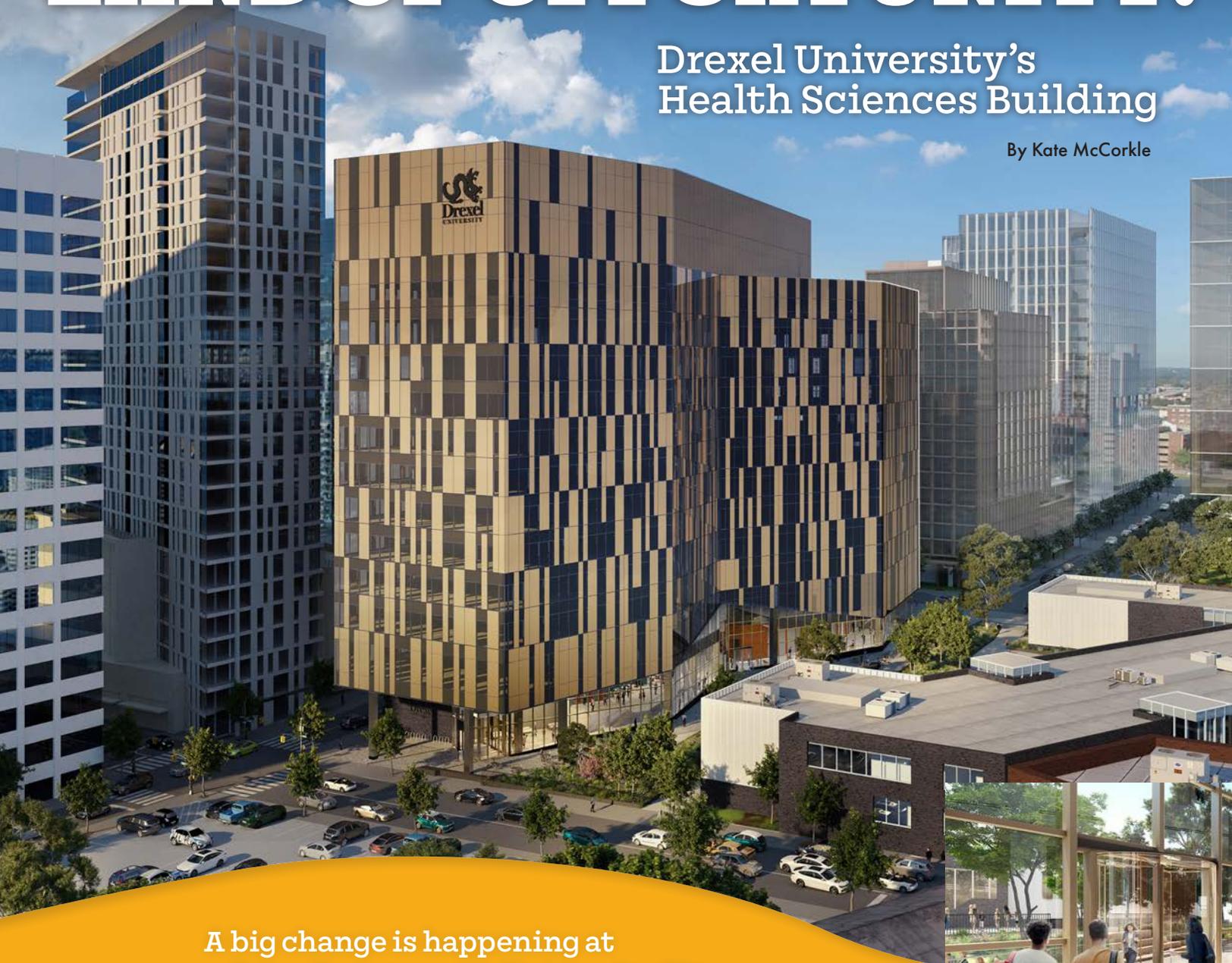
## WHAT IS A SNACK YOU ENJOY WHEN YOU'RE ON A LONG CAR RIDE?

We ran out of room for these wonderful answers. Visit [bit.ly/alumnisnacks](http://bit.ly/alumnisnacks) to see what they said!

# LAND OF OPPORTUNITY:

## Drexel University's Health Sciences Building

By Kate McCorkle



A big change is happening at Drexel's campus in University City.

This fall, students in the health professions will begin to move into a space where they will ultimately learn together under one roof: the new 12-story, 456,000-square-foot Health Sciences Building. The building represents not only the culmination of years of planning, but also a three-fold opportunity. The physical space facilitates opportunities for interaction and friendship among the medical, nursing and graduate students that in turn create opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration and partnership. There is also tremendous untapped opportunity thanks to the neighborhood itself.

First, the nuts and bolts: Construction began at 60 North 36th Street in 2020 by Wexford Science and Technology LLC. The building is part of Wexford and Drexel's 14-acre,

jointly developed uCity Square complex, which already has a presence in the area. The building was constructed using around 11,000 cubic yards of concrete, 3,941 tons of structural steel and the labor of more than 1,450 tradespeople.

The Health Sciences Building will house academics and administration for the College of Nursing and Health Professions (CNHP), the College of Medicine's MD program and portions of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Professional Studies, all of which were formerly located in Center City or the Queen Lane Campus in East Falls. CNHP students started classes at the new building in September 2022, with their MD and graduate student colleagues joining the following year.

"This is a phenomenal opportunity for our students and faculty," notes Charles B. Cairns, MD, the Walter H. and Leonore Annenberg Dean of the College of Medicine and senior vice president of medical affairs at Drexel University. "Seeing the building take shape over the last two years has instilled a sense of pride and connectedness with our peers at other Drexel colleges in University City — that's particularly welcome in a time when we have all felt separated in some ways from each other by the pandemic."

## Built for Collaboration

The physical layout of the Health Sciences Building is designed to cultivate interaction. In addition to large and small instructional spaces, there are also centrally located community/breakout spaces, multiple pantries, and wellness, faith and lactation rooms located on multiple floors.

For CNHP students, there's space for creative arts therapy (to support dance, music and art) and physical therapy (to support a Human Performance & Aging Research Center and a Primary Gait Lab & Running Center). The building also includes state-of-the-art simulation spaces, anatomy teaching spaces and wet labs. One particularly interesting feature is a 300-person active learning space capable of being subdivided into two 150-person spaces by way of a Skyfold wall that stacks into the ceiling. In addition to active learning and seminar rooms, there are standardized patient suites, health assessment and clinical skills space, and room for student activities.

Bringing Drexel's health-related programs together under one roof will enhance opportunities for interdisciplinary education. Donna M. Russo, PhD, HU '89, interim vice dean for educational affairs, William Maul Measey Chair in Medical Education, and professor of microbiology and immunology, says, "We hope to find opportunities where our students can learn together in an interprofessional environment. They will not be in the same courses as other health profession students, but they can still have sessions together geared to promote their growth and development as members of a health care team. That's really what's important about an interprofessional relationship in the future."

Alfred Sadler, MD, HU '66, has long stressed that strong teams benefit everyone. In the late '60s and early '70s, he was at the forefront of credentialing and licensure for a new profession designed to help solve the shortage of doctors — the physician assistant. He and Russo both point out that many departmental teams within a hospital rely on different professionals, such as nurses, EMTs, PAs, physicians

and physical therapists. Sadler emphasizes that these groups don't compete "but enhance one another."

He recalls an example of this "enhancement" from the early days of the physician assistant profession. In 1971, one his PA students at Yale was doing his emergency room rotation when a woman arrived who'd been in a major car accident. The student was told to examine the patient, who had a compound fracture of her leg. His thorough exam revealed that she also had a fractured skull. The woman was rushed to neurosurgery, her broken leg having become a secondary concern. The utility of PAs, even as students, was apparent.

Russo affirms that a collaborative learning approach has long been part of the College of Medicine's education. Both case-based and team-based learning bring students together in groups to learn and support one another. In the new Health Sciences Building, "There will be *formal* structured classroom interactions that promote formation of high-quality health care teams," she says. And also, "With students in the same building, you'll have *informal* collaboration. They're going to be utilizing some of the same study spaces, amenities, relaxation spaces. Hopefully there will be friendships forming. If those friendships develop while training and learning, it may promote more respect and understanding for the different professions."

Cairns adds, "Bringing this diverse group of learners and educators under one roof is a sign of our commitment to teaching interprofessionalism as a core part of our students' educations. Collegiality and collaboration are core to who we are as a college, and this is a step toward furthering those qualities in our students, trainees, faculty and professional staff."

## Opportunities for Engagement

The sense of opportunity, however, is not confined to the physical building. By moving to University City, more students in medical professions will have access to a vibrant neighborhood and the amenities offered by the University. There are dining options, shopping and entertainment, as well as Drexel wellness centers, cultural offerings and athletic events.

There is also a tremendous wealth of opportunity for students to really engage with the neighborhood. As Russo states, "Civic engagement is the cornerstone of our culture." Regardless of whether Drexel students were based at Queen Lane or Center City, community engagement is part of the educational experience. This tradition will continue at University City, yet with perhaps even more possibility since a STEM-focused school is adjacent to campus.

"The potential collaborations with the school are pretty key," Russo says. Drexel students are already involved in tutoring, mentoring, running health-type classes and acting as role models for students interested in STEM careers. But with a school presence literally on campus, the possibilities and opportunities are limitless. "I think we don't even know what can evolve out of that [proximity]," Russo shares. "I know our students will jump on that."

## Lessons in Pluck

In addition to his contribution to the development of the physician assistant profession, Alfred Sadler, MD, HU '66, recently authored *(P)luck: Lessons We Learned for Improving Healthcare and the World* (Silicon Valley Press, 2022) with his twin brother, Blair Sadler. The physician and lawyer duo were at the forefront of several pivotal moments in American health care, helping shape policies still in effect today. The book illustrates 15 principles or lessons that can be applied by anyone looking to lead a major change.



# ALUMNI WEEKEND

Alumni gathered to rekindle old friendships and create new ones at Alumni Weekend in May 2022. Milestone classes of 1992, 1982 and 1972 were joined by the classes of 1970 and 1971, who missed the chance to celebrate their Golden Dragon status in person due to the pandemic. All enjoyed good food and warm fellowship at events over the weekend.

Dean Charles B. Cairns, MD, (third from left) greets alumni at the luncheon during the tour of the College of Medicine's Legacy Center archives.



Golden Dragons exploring artifacts from the College of Medicine's Legacy Center archives.



Woman's Medical College MD class of '70:  
 Drs. Eileen Bazelon, Lourdes Corman, Gina Lopez Rosenberg, Barbara Schindler, Bonnie Marshall Tomkins, Wendy Weinstock Brown, Carol Felton Kunselman, Kathleen McCarten, Gertrude Scott Lefavour, Barbara Starrett, Marylou Buyse, Henrietta Kotlus Rosenberg, Susan Bray and Susan McLeer.

'70



'70-'71

Hahnemann University alumni and partners. Front row: J. Chriss Cancro, MD '70, Louise Lisi, MD '70, Charlene Bremer, RN '68 and Harry Bremer, MD '71; back: Donald Petroski, MD '70, Mary Petroski, Edward Kane, Joan Kane, MD '70, Pamela Brubaker and J. Kenneth Brubaker, MD '70.



# '71-'72



Woman's Medical College and Medical College of Pennsylvania alumni at the Legacy Center tour: Linda Palone Roberts, MD '72, Jane Reynolds Thayer, MD '72, Anne Splete Peters, MD '72, Nancy Stiles Curry, MD '72, Eva Balash-Deutsch, MD '72, Paula Frank Nadell, MD '72, Helen Meeks Horstmann, MD '72, Meriel Lee Wu, MD '72, Kathleen Van Aalten, MD '71, and Wilma Krause Brucker, MD '72.

# '70-'72

Woman's Medical College and Medical College of Pennsylvania alumni. Front row: Gertrude Scott Lefavour, MD '70, Meriel Lee Wu, MD '72, Anne Splete Peters, MD '72, Wilma Krause Brucker, MD '72, and Carol Currier, MD '72; back row: Paula Frank Nadell, MD '72, Bonnie Marshall Tomkins, MD '70, Kathleen McCarten, MD '70, Susan McLeer, MD '70, Barbara Starrett, MD '70, Barbara Schindler, MD '70, Lourdes Corman, MD '70, Wendy Weinstock Brown, MD '70, Gina Lopez Rosenberg, MD '70, Frances Ruth Batzer Baylson, MD '72, Ida E. Biddle-Mayer, PhD; MSN; RN '72, and Victoria Kurtz Coleman, RN '72.



Members of the Woman's Medical College and Medical College of Pennsylvania class of 1972. Front row: Drs. Wilma Krause Brucker, Paula Frank Nadell, Eva Balash-Deutsch, Marjorie Seltzer Stanek, Meriel Lee Wu and Linda Palone Roberts; and back row: Drs. Anne Splete Peters, Jane Reynolds Thayer, Helen Meeks Horstmann, Nancy Stiles Curry and Judith Gilmore.

# '72



# '72



Members of the Hahnemann University MD class of 1972. Front row: Drs. Christopher Thomas, Virginia Hall, Michael Mandarino, Louis Kandl, Phyllis Baer and Stephen Baer; and back row: Drs. Warren Israel, David Tinkelman, Gerald Miley, Michael Robinson, Edward Nardell, William Sivitz, Lawrence Clinton, Richard Coleman, Robert Pendrak, Clay Barclay and Michael Bolognese.

All photos from the weekend are available at [flickr.com/photos/drexelalumni/albums](https://www.flickr.com/photos/drexelalumni/albums).

# '82

Members of the Hahnemann University class of 1982 enjoying a Phillies game: Drs. Pam Dumpe, Kevin Dumpe, John Goodill, Lester Himmelreich, Al Zoda, James Nelson, Jeff Dieden, Stan Silverman, Steve Broman, Dean Smith, Lauren Freidus-Katz, Ronit Sugar, Mike Marcucci, Dom Coletta and Doug Beakes.



# '92

Members of the MCP MD class of 1992: Drs. Sherie Novotny, Lisa Moreschi Rock, Deborah Banskter, Erin O'Sullivan, Bernadette Davis, Kelly Anne Foley and Jack London.

MCP alumni (MD class of 1992 unless otherwise indicated): Drs. Naaz Fatteh, Arjun Kaji, Dilip Thomas, Ashesh Modi (MD, MCP '93), Deepak Gupta and Abha Amin.



# '92



MCP alumni (MD class of 1992 unless otherwise indicated). Front row: Drs. Vivian Miller, Anita Amidon, Kelly Anne Foley, Naaz Fatteh and Abha Amin; second row: Drs. Tamara Mohuchy, Kathryn Henick, Jack London, Deepak Gupta, Lisa Moreschi Rock, Erin O'Sullivan, Jane Wu, Deborah Banskter, Jennifer Phelps, Bernadette Davis, Jennifer Wyler and Sherie Novotny; and back row: Drs. Cary Dash, Daniel Fisher, Frank Hermantin, John Wengryn, Arjun Kaji, James Lee, Ashesh Modi (MD, MCP '93), Dilip Thomas and Peter Van Eerden.

## '50s

**Joseph E. Salvatore, MD, HU '55**, founder and chairman of Naval Air Station Wildwood Aviation Museum, was awarded the New Jersey Historical Commission's highest honor, the Richard J. Hughes Award, for his outstanding lifetime achievement in the field of New Jersey history. The award is given annually to an individual in recognition of a series of contributions in the areas of scholarship, public history, teaching, and conservation and preservation.

## '60s

**Elissa J. Santoro, MD, WMC '65**, joined the New Jersey-based Montclair Breast Center, part of Genesis Biotechnology Group and its new health care division, Genesis Health. A pioneer in breast surgery, Santoro has dedicated her practice to breast surgical oncology since 1976. She is a diplomate of the American Board of Surgery and has held various positions in professional societies, including: chairman of the New Jersey Division of the American Cancer Society; president of the N.J. American Cancer Society; chairwoman of the Essex County American Cancer Society; medical advisor to Research and Recovery, Post-Mastectomy Program, N.J. American Cancer Society; board of trustees, College of Saint Elizabeth; and medical advisory board of the Susan G. Komen Cancer Foundation.

**Thomas R. Bender, MD, HU '68**, a United States Public Health Service (USPHS) Commissioned Corps veteran, was featured as a Veteran of the Day in an article by Vantage Point, the website of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. During his USPHS career, Bender traveled around the world, taking care of outbreaks and conducting research as a medical and epidemiological investigator. He was also part of the team that responded to the Exxon Valdez oil spill. He has received many awards, including a special medal for achievement by authority of the Crown Princess Sirindhorn of the Royal Family of Thailand in 1991. Bender is the founder and medical director at Healthy Potentials LLC.

## '70s

**Edward A. Nardell, MD, HU '72**, received the Lifetime Achievement Award of the North America region of the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Diseases during the organization's 26th annual conference. Nardell is an expert on airborne transmission of infections in indoor spaces, including COVID-19. He authored "If We're Going to Live With COVID-19, It's Time to Clean Our Indoor Air Properly" in the February 1, 2022, issue of *Time* magazine.

**Laura Lippman, MD, MCP '75**, was one of the authors of the recently published book *Writing While Masked*, a collection of essays from different writers reflecting on the challenges of 2020. Lippman is a retired family physician who writes poetry and resides in Seattle, Washington.

**Kenneth Kosik, MD, MCP '76; MA**, joined the scientific advisory board of Herophilus, a leading biotechnology company developing neurotherapeutics to cure complex brain diseases. Kosik has more than 25 years of experience doing internationally renowned Alzheimer's disease research at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

**Kent Aikin, MD, HU '77**, will be retiring as the Montezuma County, Colorado, public health medical officer. Aiken spent most of his 45-year medical career in Montezuma County. He also owned his own practice, Mancos Family Medicine.

**Janet Haas, MD, HU '77**, chair of the William Penn Foundation, along with the Haas family, was featured in *Philadelphia* magazine's list of "The 76 Most Influential People in Philadelphia: Power Shifts." Haas was also listed on the "2021 Philly Power 100" list by *City & State Pennsylvania*.

**Richard Cohen, PhD psychiatry, MCP '78**, is the president and CEO of the Public Health Management Corporation, which announced that it will be acquiring Philadelphia Home Care, a nonprofit home health care provider and the parent company of the Visiting Nurse Association of Greater Philadelphia and the Visiting Nurse Society.

**Donald F. Denny, MD, HU '78**, was profiled in an article on the Tap Into Princeton community news website about his 30-year medical career and how retired physicians can continue to play an invaluable role in the lives of others. Now retired, Denny was a radiologist with Princeton Radiology Associates and served as senior vice president for medical affairs and chief medical officer for Princeton Healthcare System, now Penn Medicine Princeton Health.

**Michael M. Ferraro, MD, HU '78**, an obstetrician/gynecologist and fellow of the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, retired after serving the Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, area for 39 years. Ferraro maintains his administrative role with Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine as associate regional dean for the South Campus.

**William Hait, MD, PhD pharmacology, MCP '78**, has been appointed executive vice president and chief external innovation, medical safety and global public health officer at Johnson & Johnson. He had previously served as global head of external innovation at the company, and he was featured in an article in *Bloomberg* about the change in the company's leadership.

**Stephen K. Klasko, MD, HU '78; MBA**, was profiled by the *Philadelphia Business Journal* before his retirement from Thomas Jefferson University and Jefferson Health at the end of December 2021. He was also quoted in a November 2021 *Philadelphia Business Journal* article about Jefferson's acquisition of Temple University Health System's ownership stake in Health Partners Plans, of which Jefferson is now the sole owner. Klasko was listed on *City & State Pennsylvania's* "2021 Philly Power 100" list.

**Arthur Sagoskin, MD, MCP '78**, is a co-founding physician of Shady Grove Fertility in Rockville, Maryland. Now with locations across the country and having welcomed more than 100,000 babies, the practice recently celebrated its 30th anniversary. Sagoskin is board certified in obstetrics and gynecology with expertise in infertility, in vitro fertilization and operative laparoscopy. Dedicated to training the next generation of fertility specialists, he was instrumental in establishing four fellowship programs in reproductive endocrinology, at the National Institutes of Health, University of South Florida Morsani College of Medicine, University of Colorado and Eastern Virginia Medical School. In 2020, the Cade Foundation recognized Sagoskin for his work and advocacy within the infertility community. Additionally, he has been a longtime supporter of RESOLVE: The National Infertility Association, and he recently spearheaded the SGF Scholarship Fund, which awards scholarships to children born via infertility treatment. Sagoskin will retire at the end of 2022.

## '80s

**Trude Haecker, MD, MCP '80**, a pediatrician and president of the Pennsylvania chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, was quoted in a *Philadelphia Inquirer* article on the vaccination rates of children in Philadelphia and how a parent's main source of vaccines for their children are family doctors and pediatricians.

**Daniel R. Yanicko Jr., MD, HU '82; Orthopedic Surgery Residency, MCP '87**, an orthopedic surgeon, joined the medical team at Lake Cumberland Regional Hospital in Kentucky. He most recently worked for Franciscan Physician Network Orthopedics & Sports Medicine in Crawfordsville, Indiana.

**Scott Harad, MD, HU '83; Surgery Residency, HU '88**, a board-certified general surgeon, joined the medical team of Crossroads Specialty Clinic in Mount Vernon, Illinois.

**Deborah Anzalone, MD, HU '84**, announced that she has pledged \$400,000 to Penn State University to establish the Lucille E. Anzalone, RN, and Deborah A. Anzalone, MD, Early Career Professorship in Food Safety and Security in the College of the Liberal Arts. Penn State will add \$100,000 in matching funds. Anzalone retired in 2020 from her role as an executive medical director for AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals.

**Daniel Rader, MD, MCP '84**, received the Research Achievement Award from the American Heart Association at the association's Scientific Sessions in 2021. Rader is the Seymour Gray Professor of Molecular Medicine at the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, where he serves as the chair of the Department of Genetics and the chief of the Division of Translational Medicine and Human Genetics in the Department of Medicine. Rader is also associate director of Penn's Institute for Translational Medicine and Therapeutics and is co-director of the Penn Medicine Biobank. He was quoted in a *Philadelphia Business Journal* article about Penn Medicine's receipt of a \$9.5 million Warren Alpert Foundation grant to support efforts to increase diversity in genetic counseling through tuition and cost-of-living support for underrepresented students in genetic counseling programs.

**Michael Ackermann, PhD microbiology and immunology, MCP '85; MBA**, joined Revibe Technologies' board of directors. Ackermann is the co-founder, COO and business development lead at Arrivo Bioventures, a drug development company; he is also co-founder and president of AB Collaborative Investments, an angel investment firm focused on local and regional health care and IT start-ups. He recently joined Solas BioVentures as a managing director of business development.

**David J. Shulkin, MD, MCP '86; HD '19**, was quoted in a *Philadelphia Business Journal* article in which he expressed concern about the Department of Veterans Affairs' proposed \$2 trillion overhaul of the VA health care system that includes a recommendation to close the VA hospital in West Philadelphia. Shulkin is president of a local health care consulting firm, Shulkin Solutions.

**Howard J. Franklin, MD, MCP '88**, joined Finch Therapeutics Group Inc. as senior vice president and Late-Stage Development and Gastrointestinal Therapeutic Area lead. Franklin has more than 20 years of experience as a general surgeon and biopharmaceutical executive, with expertise in clinical development, regulatory strategy, medical affairs and product commercialization. He most recently served as chief medical officer at Salix Pharmaceuticals.

**Kurt Kaulback, MD, HU '88; Internal Medicine Residency, HU '91; Cardiology Fellowship, HU '92**, clinical director of network cardiovascular services at Inspira, was quoted in a *Philadelphia Business Journal* article about Inspira Medical Center Mullica Hill performing its first elective coronary angioplasties after the medical center received its percutaneous coronary interventions license.

**Kevin Claffey, MD, HU '89; Surgery Residency, HU '94**, a general surgeon, joined the medical team of Crossroads Specialty Clinic in Mount Vernon, Illinois.

**Peter Trevouledes, MD, HU '89**, joined the general surgery team with University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and will continue to serve patients in Muncy and eastern Lycoming County, Pennsylvania. Trevouledes is board certified by the American Board of Surgery and is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons. He specializes in abdominal surgeries including gallbladder and gastrointestinal cancer, appendectomies and hernias as well as minor surgical procedures and screenings including endoscopies and colonoscopies.

**Reginald Blaber III, MD, HU '89; Cardiology Fellowship, MCPHU '98**, is executive vice president and chief clinical officer for Virtua Health, which announced its partnership with Rowan University to create a new academic health system that will result in the formation of the Virtua Health College of Medicine & Health Sciences of Rowan University. Under the agreement, Virtua Health is making a philanthropic investment of \$85 million to Rowan University to create an endowment that will help support the partnership. Blaber was also mentioned in a *Philadelphia Business Journal* article about Virtua's "Nurturing Nurses" pilot program, in which Virtua will pay students enrolling in Rowan University's Bachelor of Science degree in nursing about \$14,000, the current price of tuition for the program, with the condition that all graduates commit

to working at Virtua for the number of years they spend at Rowan University.

## '90s

**Robert Corrato, MD, MCP '90**, founder and CEO of Versalus Health, was a part of the judging panel for the Philadelphia Alliance for Capital and Technologies' annual Lion's Den, a Shark Tank–like production with dozens of local startup founders pitching their ventures to local investors.

**James Tursi, MD, MCP '90**, joined Endo International as executive vice president of global research and development. Tursi previously held the role of chief scientific officer and executive vice president of development at Ferring Pharmaceuticals U.S.

**Martha Ghosh, MD, MCP '91; Internal Medicine Residency, MCP; Gastroenterology Fellowship, MCP**, was profiled in an article in the northeastern Pennsylvania publication *Happenings Magazine*. Ghosh is a gastroenterologist at Lackawanna Medical Group and has been practicing in this specialty for more than 20 years. In addition, she has worked at the veterans hospital in Wilkes-Barre for the past 12 years.

**Glenn W. Stambo, MD, HU '91**, chief of interventional radiology at AdventHealth Carrollwood, was elected to fellowship status in the Society of Interventional Radiology, the society's highest honor, which is bestowed on members who have made a significant contribution to the field of interventional radiology and to the society.

**Mark W. Feinberg, MD, MCP '94**, board certified in internal medicine and cardiology, was appointed chief medical officer at Bluejay Diagnostics Inc. Feinberg is a cardiovascular medicine specialist and director of cardiovascular RNA biology research at Brigham and Women's Hospital and an associate professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School. His clinical interests include noninvasive clinical cardiology, vascular medicine and cardiovascular disease prevention. He is also an affiliated faculty member at the Harvard Stem Cell Institute. Feinberg has held various leadership roles in cardiovascular research, including participating in national peer-review study sections, providing editorial services and serving as a co-chair of the Brigham Research Institute's Cardiovascular, Diabetes, and Metabolic Disease Research Center.

**Petros Levounis, MD, MCP '94; MA**, is the next president-elect of the American Psychiatric Association (APA). Levounis is the first openly gay psychiatrist elected to the presidency of the APA. He is professor and chair of the Department of Psychiatry and associate dean for professional development at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School. He is also the chief of service at University Hospital in Newark, New Jersey. Levounis came to Rutgers from Columbia University, where he served as director of the Addiction Institute of New York from 2002 to 2013.

**Stephanie Araheem-Waters, MD, HU '95**, a pediatrician, was highlighted as part of a *PennLive Patriot News* series featuring Black health care professionals in central Pennsylvania. Araheem-Waters has practiced at Carlisle Pediatric Associates since 2009.

**Deborah Lang, PhD molecular pathobiology, MCPHU '97**, associate professor of dermatology at Boston University School of Medicine, has been awarded a three-year \$544,390 grant from the LEO Foundation, one of Denmark's largest commercial foundations. The grant will support Lang's work on an experimental model that marks melanocyte stem cells, with the aim of providing new insights into these cells' function and flexibility to become other cell types.

**Jun Chon, MD, MCP '98**, joined Elizabethtown Community Hospital, part of the University of Vermont Health Network in Burlington, as chief medical officer. Most recently, Chon was the vice president of medical affairs at WellSpan Ephrata Community Hospital.

**Anne-Marie Martin, PhD microbiology and immunology, MCP '98**, was appointed to the board of directors of Cullinan Oncology Inc., a biopharmaceutical company focused on developing diversified therapies for cancer patients. Martin has more than 25 years of translational medicine and clinical research expertise and is currently senior vice president and global head of the Experimental Medicine Unit at GlaxoSmithKline.

**Rochelle Steiner-Friel, MD, HU '98**, wrote an op-ed piece, "She's an MD and Believes Southern Lehigh Schools Were Right to Make Masks Optional" for *The Express-Times*, the local newspaper in Easton, Pennsylvania. Steiner-Friel is board certified in obstetrics and gynecology.

**Kela Henry, MD, MCPHU '99**, best known for her award-winning book *Nia & The Numbers Game: A Teenager's Guide to Education, Relationships & Sex*, hosted four teenage girls, from various locations in the world, to speak to her audience on her "Let's Talk Thursdays with Dr. Kela," about being a teenager in today's challenging and ever-changing environment. The web series highlights Henry's passion for making a difference in the lives of teenage girls, focusing on girls of color and girls from less represented demographics. Henry specializes in family medicine and runs a practice that is part of the Emory Healthcare System in the metro Atlanta area. She has appeared on dozens of radio and TV programs including WABE Atlanta National Public Radio and "Closer Look With Rose Scott." She was awarded top honors at the 2019 National Association of Black Journalists Conference and Career Fair Author Showcase.

**Thomas N. Wang, MD; PhD molecular pathobiology, MCPHU '99; Surgery Residency, MCPHU '99**, a prominent researcher and nationally recognized author, has been named medical director of the Hoag Melanoma/Advanced Skin Cancer Program at Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian.

## '00s

**Ian B. K. Martin, MD, MCPHU '00; MBA**, professor with tenure and system chairman of the Department of Medicine at Medical College of Wisconsin, and emergency physician-in-chief for the Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin Health Network, was selected as one of six fellows for the American Association of Medical Colleges' Council of Deans Fellowship Program. The program was created to enhance the development of future leaders in academic medicine through mentorship.

**Dia Arpon, MD '01**, a psychiatrist with outpatient services at North Central Health Care in Wausau, Wisconsin, has been awarded the "Top Doctor" recognition from FindaTopDoc. Arpon sees patients at the Wausau Campus, where she provides specialty psychiatric care for children, adolescents and adults. She also works as an assistant clinical professor for the Medical College of Wisconsin, where she teaches and supervises psychiatry residents.

**Brian Holzer, MD '01**, was appointed CEO of Aware Recovery Care, a company challenging traditional approaches to the treatment of substance use disorder. Holzer comes to Aware with more than 20 years of experience in areas including strategy, operations, marketing and sales. Most recently, he was president of innovations at Kindred Healthcare in Louisville. In this role, he also founded and served as CEO of Lacuna Health, which provides patient engagement solutions to physician groups, hospitals and insurance providers.

**Katie E. McPeak, MD '01**, medical director of health equity at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, shared her thoughts on the COVID-19 pandemic's impact on women's employment in an article in the *Philadelphia Business Journal*.

**Trishna Goswami, MD '03**, joined IN8bio Inc., a clinical-stage biotechnology company, as chief medical officer. Goswami most recently served as vice president of clinical development at Gilead Sciences Inc., where she led a team that secured approval of Trodelvy for use in the treatment of bladder cancer and triple-negative breast cancer.

**Martha E. Wittenberg, MD '03; MPH**, joined Lindora Wellness Inc., a leading medically supervised weight loss and wellness practice, as chief medical officer. Wittenberg will be largely responsible for expanding Lindora's wellness services throughout the brand's Southern California clinics. She earned her master's in public health from MCP Hahnemann School of Public Health in 1998.

**Rebecca D. Edmonds, MD '04**, a surgical oncologist specializing in the treatment of diseases of the liver, pancreas, gallbladder, spleen, colon, thyroid and breast, joined the Allegheny Health Network Cancer Institute.

**Neha Reshamwala, MD '04**, has been recognized in *Marquis Who's Who*. In late 2020, Reshamwala, a seasoned allergist and immunologist, established her own practice, Frontier Allergy Asthma and Immunology, in Austin, Texas.

**Jennifer Vodzak, MD '06**, was a guest on WKOK's radio show "Sunrise" to talk about child vaccinations and vaccine-hesitant parents. Vodzak is a board-certified and fellowship-trained specialist in pediatric infectious diseases. Her clinical interests include general infectious diseases in children and antimicrobial stewardship. Her research interests include molecular diagnostics in infectious diseases; patient safety, quality and process improvement; and medical education.

**Tracy Foo, MD '07**, co-presented on the topic of vaccine hesitancy in different communities across Alaska at the State of Reform Health Policy Conference. Foo is the vaccines medical director at Pfizer. She is board certified in general preventive medicine and public health.

**Nicole Marcantuono, MD '07**, joined Hackensack Meridian Children's Health as chief of the Pediatric Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Section at K. Hovnanian Children's Hospital at Jersey Shore University Medical Center. She is board certified in pediatrics, pediatric rehabilitation medicine, and physical medicine and rehabilitation.

**Adam Holleran, MD '08**, an orthopedist, joined the medical team at Mee Memorial Healthcare System and will be practicing at its King City and Greenfield locations in California. Holleran previously practiced in San Diego. In addition, he has served as a qualified medical evaluator with the Division of Workers' Compensation Medical Unit, examining injured workers to evaluate disabilities and write medical-legal reports.

**Lisa Bartels, MD '09**, a family medicine physician at Beebe Medical Center, will be relocating her practice to the Cape Henlopen Medical Center in Lewes, Delaware. The new practice will be named Beebe Primary Care Cape Henlopen.

**Concetta Milano, MD '09; MS biological science '05**, wrote an article, "Heart Disease Is the Top Killer of U.S. Women, But Many Don't Know It" for the *Philly Voice*. Milano is a noninvasive cardiologist with Cardiology Consultants of Philadelphia and is affiliated with Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, Jefferson Methodist Hospital and Roxborough Memorial Hospital.

## '10s

**Barbara Nightingale, MD '10**, was named deputy director of clinical services for the Allegheny County Health Department. In her new role, Nightingale will oversee clinics for tuberculosis, immunization, sexually transmitted infections and HIV, as well as dental services and the department's emergency preparedness program. She formerly served as medical director of Latterman Family Health Center in McKeesport, Pennsylvania, where she treated patients for both medical and psychiatric conditions.

**Preethi Pirlamarla, MD '11**, traveled to provide care to refugees near the Ukraine-Poland border as a volunteer with an organization called SSF-Rescuers Without Borders, based in France. She returned to the U.S. in March. Pirlamarla is board certified in internal medicine, cardiovascular disease, nuclear cardiology, advanced heart failure and cardiac transplantation. She is an assistant professor at the Zena and Michael A. Wiener Cardiovascular Institute at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and a cardiologist at Mount Sinai Queens Hospital in New York City.

**Gregory Kanski, MD '15**, an orthopedic surgeon, joined the medical team at the University Orthopedics Center in Altoona, Pennsylvania, and will be performing orthopedic surgery at Conemaugh Memorial Medical Center and Conemaugh East Hills Outpatient Center, both in Johnstown, and Conemaugh Nason Medical Center in Roaring Springs.

**Agnes Pace, MD '15**, an anesthesiologist and pain management specialist, joined the pain management team at Columbia Memorial Health. Previously, she worked at Penn State Hershey Medical Center.

**Alexandra M. Hunt, MS interdisciplinary health sciences '17; MPH**, was featured in Technical.ly Philly's top 10 best-read stories of the year for her debut as a contender for Congress in Pennsylvania's 3rd District.

**Zachary Bacigalupa, PhD molecular and cell biology and genetics '18**, and colleagues at the College of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Temple University and Thomas Jefferson University authored "O-GlcNAc Transferase Regulates Glioblastoma Acetate Metabolism via Regulation of CDK5-Dependent ACSS2 Phosphorylation," which was published in *Oncogene* on February 22, 2022.

**Linda W. Cota, MD '18**, joined the Franklin Memorial Hospital medical staff as a physician at Franklin Health Livermore Falls Family Practice. She is a member of the American Academy of Family Physicians.

**Indigo De Jong, MS pathologists' assistant '18**, is a pathologists' assistant technical coordinator at University Hospitals in Cleveland, Ohio, handling specimens ranging from biopsies to complex resections. They also lead the hospitals' grossing and accessioning teams. De Jong appeared in a YouTube video describing their work as a pathologists' assistant, as part of the health system's "My Job" series.

**Julie Hyppolite, MD '18; MPH**, was one of the authors of "Underrepresented Minority Family Physicians More Likely to Care for Vulnerable Populations," which appeared in the March 2022 issue of the *Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine*. Hyppolite is family medicine physician at NYC Health + Hospitals, where she also serves as clinical director, social determinants of health.

**Austin Coley, PhD neuroscience '19**, a postdoctoral research fellow at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies in La Jolla, California, was awarded a Transition to Independence Fellowship by the Simons Collaboration on the Global Brain. The program supports neuroscience researchers from historically underrepresented backgrounds, providing \$495,000 over three years to help them become independent investigators and establish grant funding.

**Armaghan Soomro, MD; PBC quantitative principles of clinical research '19**, an interventional cardiologist, joined the medical team at Arkansas Heart Hospital. Soomro recently completed his clinical fellowship at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. A published researcher, he is board certified in internal medicine, adult echocardiography, nuclear cardiology and vascular ultrasounds.

## '20s

**Mitch Nothem, PhD pharmacology and physiology '20**, received the Research Society on Alcoholism's Junior Investigator Meeting Award for the society's 2022 scientific meeting. Nothem was also selected to present at the U.S.

Association for the Study of Pain's 2022 meeting in the Substance Use and Addiction special interest group. His talk was "Ethanol Antiallodynia and Reward Seeking in Mice With Spared Nerve Injury." Nothem is a postdoctoral scholar in the Department of Pharmacology & Physiology at Drexel University College of Medicine.

**Shasha Yang, PhD neuroscience '21**, and colleagues in the College of Medicine and Fudan University in China published "Prefrontal Cortical Control of Anxiety: Recent Advances" in *The Neuroscientists* on January 27, 2022.

**Emily Esquea, MS molecular and cell biology and genetics '21**, and **Michelle Swift, PhD molecular and cell biology and genetics '21**, were the inaugural recipients of the Jane Clifford Best PhD or MS Dissertation Award. The award was created to honor the contribution and service of Jane Clifford, PhD, former chair of the Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology. It will be given annually to students who best represent Clifford's scientific rigor and creativity.

**Genevieve Curtis, PhD neuroscience '22**, was one of the authors of "Sex-related Differences in Pattern of Ethanol Drinking Under the Intermittent-Access Model and Its Impact on Exploratory and Anxiety-like Behavior in Long-Evans Rats," which appeared in *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research* on May 1, 2022.

## Former Residents and Fellows

(alphabetical)

**Shahzad Ahmed, MD; Internal Medicine Residency, Drexel/Hahnemann '10; Cardiovascular Disease Fellowship, Drexel/Hahnemann '17; Interventional Cardiology Fellowship, Drexel/Hahnemann '18**, was profiled by FindaTopDoc. A prominent cardiologist, Ahmed provides care for patients in the Bucks County, Pennsylvania, area at BMC Cardiology at Lower Bucks Hospital. He is a fellow of the American College of Cardiology and the Society of Cardiovascular Intervention. He also holds certification as a registered physician in vascular interpretation or RPVI.

**Nirav Amin, MD; Orthopedic Surgery Residency, Drexel/Hahnemann '13**, joined the clinical advisory board of vTail, the first health care communications app that connects health care professionals to medical device and pharmaceutical manufacturers for sales, support and service. Amin is an associate professor at Pomona Valley Hospital. He has served as a principal investigator for nine projects and is involved in several FDA studies. He was recently named a candidate member of American Shoulder and Elbow Surgeons, and he leads several protocols on opioid-sparing techniques in orthopedic surgery.

**Frederick Buechel, MD; Orthopedic Surgery Residency, MCPHU '00**, a board-certified orthopedic surgeon and founder of the Robotic Joint Center in New York City, was named a 2022 Top Patient Rated New York Orthopedic Surgeon by Find Local Doctors.

**Arnold Eiser, MD; Internal Medicine Residency, MCP; Nephrology Fellowship, HU**, wrote an article, “Neurotoxins in the Environment Are Damaging Human Brain Health — and More Frequent Fires and Floods May Make the Problem Worse,” for *The Conversation*. Eiser is an emeritus professor of medicine at Drexel University College of Medicine and an adjunct fellow with the Center for Public Health Initiatives at the University of Pennsylvania. He is also the author of *Ethos of Medicine in Postmodern America: Philosophical, Cultural, and Social Considerations*.

**Carmen Febo-San Miguel MD; Family Medicine Residency, HU '73**, was profiled in an article in the *Philadelphia Inquirer* about her work as the former executive director of the arts nonprofit Taller Puertorriqueño.

**Marilyn Heine, MD; Medical Oncology Residency, MCP '89**, a clinical assistant professor of medicine at Drexel University College of Medicine, served as faculty for ACEP21, the yearly scientific assembly of the American College of Emergency Physicians. Heine presented three lectures on hematology and oncology emergencies: “How to Discharge VTE Patients Safely,” “Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors: Lifesaving, Yet Toxic” and “Common Cancer Conundrums and Five ‘Can’t Miss’ Oncologic Emergencies.”

**Jamil A. Hossain, DPM; Podiatry Residency, Drexel/Hahnemann '15**, opened a new Ankle and Foot Centers of America practice location in Hermitage, Tennessee. He has been practicing in Nashville for the last six years and is an expert in all varieties of foot and ankle pathologies.

**Jillian G. Kurtz, DO; Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility Fellowship, Drexel/Bryn Mawr Hospital '22**, joined the medical team at ORM Fertility, part of Oregon Reproductive Medicine in Portland. Kurtz is board certified in obstetrics and gynecology, and reproductive endocrinology and infertility.

**Mario Matos-Cruz, MD, Thoracic Surgery Residency, HU '96**, a board-certified cardiothoracic surgeon, joined Adena Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgeons’ location in Chillicothe, Ohio.

**Carmen McIntyre Leon, MD; Psychiatry Residency, MCP '94**, assistant professor and associate chair of community affairs in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences at Wayne State University School of Medicine, was appointed interim chair of the school’s Department of Neurosurgery. The chief medical officer of the Michigan Department of Corrections, McIntyre Leon is a member of the American Medical Association, the American Psychiatric Association, the Michigan Medical Association, the Michigan Psychiatric Society (of which she was president from 2021 to 2022), the Oakland County Medical Association, the American Correctional Association and the National Commission on Correctional Health Care.

**Shahram Jay Mirmanesh, MD, MBA; Pediatrics Residency, MCP '88**, joined Virtua Health’s board of trustees. Mirmanesh, who is fondly known as Dr. Jay to his patients, is a board-certified pediatrician, a pediatric educator and a specialist in newborn intensive care.

**Marc Rovito, MD; Internal Medicine Residency, MCP '91; Oncology Fellowship, MCP '93**, joined Penn State Health as vice president and physician leader for cancer services. Rovito most recently was St. Joseph Medical Center’s interim vice president of medical affairs. Since first joining the hospital in 2011, he has served as St. Joseph Cancer Center’s medical director and cancer liaison physician.

**Edwin Slade, DMD; Oral Surgery Residency, MCP**, joined the board of directors at the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care of Skokie, Illinois, as chairman. In addition, he is a fellow of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS) and the American and International College of Dentists. He has served in numerous leadership positions within oral and maxillofacial surgery, including president of both the Pennsylvania and Delaware Valley Societies of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and as trustee and treasurer of AAOMS.

**Daniel Small, MD; Obstetrics/Gynecology Residency, MCP**, received designation from the Surgical Review Corporation as a surgeon of excellence in minimally invasive gynecology. Small has practiced for more than 25 years at Lawrence OB/GYN Associates and now Capital Health OB/GYN. He was the first in the region to perform advanced minimally invasive gynecologic surgery and has been instrumental in developing that program at Capital Health, where he is currently the director of minimally invasive gynecologic surgery. He has been board certified since 1988 and is a fellow of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

**Alan Solinsky, MD; Ophthalmology Residency, HU '90**, joined the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Hartford Board of Directors. Solinsky is the CEO, managing partner and founder of Solinsky EyeCare LLC, a private practice based in West Hartford, with eight additional locations throughout Connecticut. He is a board-certified ophthalmologist and a member and diplomate of the American Academy of Ophthalmology and the National Board of Medical Examiners.

**Stephen Soloway, MD; Rheumatology Fellowship, MCP '93**, is an adjunct clinical associate professor at Drexel University College of Medicine, clinical associate professor at Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine and clinical educator in radiologic sciences at Cumberland County College. He is also chairman of the Division of Rheumatology at Inspira Health Network. In 2021, Soloway became an honorary fellow of the Federation of State Medical Boards. He also received a Congressional Proclamation from the U.S. House of Representatives in recognition of outstanding and invaluable service to the medical community. Soloway has been featured on numerous Top Doctor lists and was in the top 1% of America’s Most Honored Professionals according to American Registry. He was selected to present on a range of rheumatologic conditions at the 2021 American College of Rheumatology Convergence annual meeting, and he authored the 2020 book *Bad Medicine — The Horrors of American Healthcare*, published by Skyhorse.

**James Andrew Airoidi Sr., MD, MCP '93**, January 25, 2022  
**William W. Anderson, MD, HU '67**, November 18, 2021  
**Donald Edward Anderson, MD, HU '80**, June 27, 2022  
**Cynthia Jean Berg, MD, MCP '74**, March 6, 2022  
**Herbert M. Bergman, MD, HU '70**, May 14, 2022  
**Daniel F. Bevilacqua, MD, HU '70**, January 15, 2022  
**Virginia Bolmarcich, MD, MCP '71**, May 3, 2022  
**Thomas W. Bonekemper, MD, HU '69**, June 28, 2022  
**Robert I. Brandt, MD, HU '60**, March 23, 2022  
**Charles H. Brown, MD, HU '61**, March 27, 2022  
**Elizabeth Therese Cancroft, MD, WMC '62**,  
 February 4, 2022  
**Robert A. Capalbo, MD, HU '78**, March 13, 2022  
**Anna Julia Chorazy, MD, WMC '60**, February 12, 2022  
**Stanford B. Cooke, MD, HU '54**, April 27, 2020  
**Olivia Leola Torres Cruz, MD, WMC '62**, March 4, 2022  
**Bernadette "Bunny" DeArmond, MD, WMC '70; MPH**,  
 December 22, 2021  
**Robert S. English, MD, HU '59**, June 8, 2022  
**Alexis E. Finlay, MD, HU '81**, December 15, 2021  
**Irvin D. Franklin, MD, HU '71**, March 28, 2022  
**Donald J. Fraser, MD, HU '56**, April 11, 2022  
**Alan S. Geller, MD, HU '69**, April 2, 2022  
**Samuel C. Gottshall, MD, HU '57**, June 11, 2022  
**Conrad J. Granito, MD, HU '61**, July 6, 2022  
**Paul A. Gutlohn, MD, HU '60**, January 27, 2022  
**Kenneth R. Johnson, MD, HU '56**, May 28, 2022  
**Jeanne La Mont, MD, MCP '80**, May 2022  
**Joyce C. Lashof, MD, WMC '50; Hon. WMC '83**,  
 July 4, 2022  
**Elizabeth U. Laufer, MD, WMC '56**, June 11, 2022  
**Joseph A. Leone, MD, HU '67**, June 6, 2022  
**Robert S. Lewis, MD, HU '68**, October 2, 2021  
**Barry I. Loigman, MD, HU '62**, June 16, 2022  
**Joan Fluri Lundeen, MD, MCP '72**, February 5, 2022  
**Maribel McKelvy, MD, WMC '54**, March 7, 2022  
**Geraldine Strangio Meanor, MD, WMC '58**, May 4, 2022  
**Susan Annette Newcomb, MD, MCP '81**, June 24, 2022  
**Sara Jean Parks-Pendleton, MD, HU '49**, June 10, 2019  
**Donald Allen Patterson, MD, HU '69**, February 8, 2022  
**LaRue E. Pepperman, MD, HU '54**, May 17, 2022  
**Peter J. Periconi, MD, HU '69**, March 5, 2022  
**Larry S. Pressman, MD, HU '74**, July 2, 2022  
**Julie T. Raymond, MD, HU '89**, March 17, 2022  
**Jack V. Rozwadowski, MD, HU '64**, April 15, 2022  
**Mary Ryczak, MD, HU '80**, May 4, 2022  
**Patricia Emiko Saigo, MD, WMC '69**, February 21, 2022  
**David L. Sarrett, MD, HU '59**, April 25, 2022  
**Alice M. Savage, MD, MCP '72; PhD**, December 8, 2021  
**Thomas O. Savidge, MD, HU '60**, May 16, 2022  
**Vadim M. Schaldenko, MD, HU '71**, March 27, 2022  
**Arlyne Shockman, MD, WMC '53**, December 28, 2021  
**Joseph W. Slap, MD, HU '52**, May 9, 2022  
**George W. Sowerby Jr., MD, HU '81**, January 10, 2022  
**Ronald R. Straub, MD, HU '73**, April 1, 2022  
**Camilla Tatem, MD, WMC '62**, June 11, 2022  
**Robert E. Wagner, MD, HU '72**, July 1, 2022  
**Christine Wan-Ming Wu, MD, WMC '55**, March 30, 2022

**Mary B. Dratman, MD, WMC '45**, died on January 13, 2022, at the age of 101. She earned her undergraduate degree in chemistry from the University of Pennsylvania before attending Woman's Medical College, where she later became the founding director of the Division of Endocrinology. She was also professor of medicine and chief of endocrinology at Medical College of Pennsylvania. Dratman lectured about her research nationally and globally, and she was a prolific author. Her work mainly focused on the relationship between thyroid hormones and the brain, in particular cognitive and affective disorders. Many of her papers are housed at Drexel's Legacy Center. Dratman was also admired by peers and students for her groundbreaking role as a woman in science at a time when the field was heavily male-dominated. She is survived by her son, Ralph, a grandson and great-grandson, and was predeceased by her husband, Mitchell, and daughter, Victoria.

**George "Bud" Gardiner Sr., MD; Adult Psychiatry Residency, HU**, died on August 20, 2021. He was 86. Gardiner attended Tufts University School of Medicine and received postgraduate medical training at Boston City Hospital and the VA Hospital in Philadelphia. After practicing internal medicine and pulmonology, then serving as regional health administrator for the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, he completed a residency in adult psychiatry at Hahnemann University Hospital and subsequently joined the faculty. He had a passion for recruiting, retaining and mentoring trainees from minority groups that are underrepresented in medicine. He is survived by his wife, Margarita Hauser Gardiner, MD, MCP '85; three children, George Clarke Gardiner Jr., Leah Gardiner Gilliam and Jason Calhoun, and their spouses; and five grandchildren, Christopher and Saoirse Gardiner, Jonah Gilliam, and Jonathan and Jesse Calhoun.

**Marjorie Seltzer Stanek, MD, MCP '72**, died on June 20, 2022. After earning her MD, she completed residency training at the Rhode Island Hospital in Providence and at Hahnemann University, and a fellowship at Medical College of Pennsylvania. She joined the Cardiology Department at Einstein Medical Center in Philadelphia in 1977, becoming the first full-time female cardiologist on the staff. She remained at Einstein for 45 years. She was also an assistant professor of medicine at Jefferson Medical College. Stanek was predeceased by her first husband, Robert, and is survived by her longtime partner, Lowell Dubrow; her three children, Rachel, Susan and Steven, and their partners; and six grandchildren, Gabriel, Jonah, Morgan, Anna, Sabrina and Oscar.



# Q&A

Nancy Spector, MD, is executive director of the College of Medicine's Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine and Executive Leadership in Health Care programs, and the Institute for Women's Health and Leadership. She also holds the Betty A. Cohen Chair of Women's Health, and serves as senior vice dean for faculty and professor of pediatrics.

## Nancy Spector, MD

### WHAT IS THE ELAM PROGRAM, and how did it get started?

The Hedwig van Ameringen Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine® (ELAM) program for women in academic medicine, dentistry, public health and pharmacy was established in 1995 by D. Walter Cohen, DDS, as a mechanism to transform the face of academic health care. He and ELAM's co-founders, Page Morahan, PhD, and Patricia Cormier, EdD, conducted a needs assessment of medical school deans, and out of that assessment ELAM was established with its first class of 25 fellows from schools of medicine. We now have 1,274 ELAM graduates in leadership positions at more than 300 institutions around the country.

The program preserves Drexel University College of Medicine's strong heritage of advancing women in medicine. It offers an intensive one-year fellowship of leadership training aimed at expanding the national pool of qualified women candidates for leadership in their fields. The goal is to address the challenges of advancing women leaders in academic health centers, help sustain the success of women who achieved these leadership position and change the culture of academic health centers to value the contributions of women.

In 2022, we introduced a new program — Executive Leadership in Health Care (ELH), designed for senior-level women leaders interested in advancing to C-level positions in hospitals and health care systems.

### WHY IS GENDER DIVERSITY IN ACADEMIC MEDICINE and health care leadership important?

Diversity begets diversity, and with that

stronger organizations. With more diversity we achieve varied perspectives, which can lead to innovation, stronger teams and better outcomes for patients and communities. Ethically, it is simply imperative that leadership be diverse and representative of our patients and communities.

### HOW IS THE LEADERSHIP LANDSCAPE DIFFERENT for women now than it was previously?

We seemed to be moving in the right direction of achieving a critical mass of women leaders at every level until we were waylaid by the COVID-19 pandemic, which not only paused progress, but also allowed equity efforts to slip to the back burner. And even with the gains that were made pre-pandemic, women of color continued — and continue — to be dramatically underrepresented at every level.

While 75% of women deans of U.S. medical schools are graduates of ELAM, which is truly exciting, the landscape is clearly inequitable: 19% of U.S. medical school deans are women. Leadership in medicine remains predominantly white and male. This has to change. A linear forecast of trends in female representation among deans since 1992 demonstrates that it could take another 50 years to reach gender parity unless the rate of change accelerates.

### WHAT WORK IS STILL LEFT TO DO in terms of gender equity in these fields?

ELAM will continue to build programs that will support women who are seeking roles in the highest leadership spaces, and then support them once they are there, as they can often be vulnerable and one of very few

other women in that sphere. We are also very concerned about the additional challenges that women with intersectional identities face in academic medicine. We are working to create support mechanisms for these women, including women of color, members of the LGBTQIA community, those with disabilities and others who face additional hurdles.

We need to continue to push for male allyship in gender equity efforts. They are in the seats of power, and without their support it is very hard to move the needle. In addition, we need to recognize the importance of white women being allies for all women. I hope to continue to break down silos between organizations as ELAM continues its work as an active partner in national campaigns focused on gender equity. There are so many initiatives in the gender equity space, which is wonderful. But we need to work strategically together, utilizing each of our organizations' unique strengths to help move all of us forward.

### WHAT MAKES YOU HOPEFUL about the future?

Every week we receive the exciting news that one of our graduates has received a prestigious award, published in a high-impact journal or been promoted into a new leadership position. The successes of our graduates inspire us to continue to work to make the pathway to leadership open and equitable for all. We are also seeing more openness from current leaders to the idea of mentoring and sponsoring a much more diverse group of mentees and protégés. This will further increase the potential for the leaders of our institutions to be reflective of our communities and patient populations.

**THE COLLEGE OF MEDICINE IS**

# MAKING BIG MOVES

Read about our new Health Sciences Building on page 16. If you are interested in learning more about naming a space in the new building or supporting educational efforts at the College of Medicine, please contact Mary Waring at 484.678.2760 or [mow29@drexel.edu](mailto:mow29@drexel.edu). To make a gift in support of the building, visit [giving.drexel.edu/HSBmedicine](http://giving.drexel.edu/HSBmedicine).

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# Save the Date

# Feb. 10



The theme of this virtual event is  
"THE GREAT RENEGOTIATION."

Topics will include defining priorities and needs to achieve career and personal goals, individual and structural strategies to overcome inequities, and tools for negotiation, with a focus on women and people with intersectional identities.

FEBRUARY 10, 2023  
12-5 P.M. EST

Sponsored by the Women in Medicine and Science Committee



Visit [bit.ly/WIMSCsummit](https://bit.ly/WIMSCsummit) to learn more.